

of the centre till twenty minutes past ten, when there was a total cessation of firing for about ten minutes; after which it was revived till about three in the morning, when it again ceased.

After the victory had been secured in the van, such British ships as were in a condition to move had gone down upon the fresh ships of the enemy.

At five minutes past five in the morning, the two rear ships of the enemy, Le Guillaume Tell and Le Genereux, were the only French ships of the line that had their colours flying.

At fifty-four minutes past five a French frigate, L'Artemise, fired a broadside and struck her colours; but such was the unwarrantable and infamous conduct of the French Captain, that after having thus surrendered, he set fire to his ship, and, with part of his crew, made his escape on shore.

Another of the French frigates, La Sericuse, had been sunk by the fire from some of our ships; but as her poop remained above water, her men were saved upon it, and were taken off by our boats in the morning.

The Bellerophon, whose masts and cables had been entirely shot away, could not retain her situation abreast of L'Orient, but had drifted out of the line to the lee side of the Bay, a little before that ship blew up. The Audacious was in the morning detached to her assistance.

At eleven o'clock, Le Genereux and Le Guillaume Tell, with the two frigates, Le Justice and Le Diane, cut their cables, and stood out to sea, pursued by the Zealous, Capt. Hood, who, as the Admiral himself has stated, handsomely endeavoured to prevent their escape; but as there was no other ship in a condition to support the Zealous, she was recalled.

The whole day of the second was employed in securing the French ships that had struck, and which were now all completely in our possession, Le Tonnant and Timoleon excepted; as these were both dismasted, and consequently could not escape, they were naturally the last of which we thought of taking possession.

On the morning of the third the Timoleon was set fire to, and Le Tonnant had cut her cable, and drifted on shore; but that active Officer Captain Miller, of the Theseus, soon got her off again, and secured her in the British line.

The British force engaged consisted of twelve ships of 74 guns, and the Leander of 50.

From the over anxiety, and zeal of Captain Troubridge to get into action, his ship, the Culloden, in standing in for the van of the enemy's line, unfortunately grounded upon the tail of a shoal running off from the island on which were the mortar and gun batteries of the enemy; and notwithstanding all the exertions of that able Officer and his ship's company, she could not be got off. This unfortunate circumstance was severely felt at the moment by the Admiral, and all the Officers of the Squadron; but their feelings was nothing compared to the anxiety and even anguish of mind which the Captain of the Culloden himself experienced, for so many eventful hours. There was but one consolation that could offer itself to him in the midst of the distresses of his situation, a feeble one it is true—that his ship served as a beacon for three other ships, viz. the Alexander, Theseus, and Leander, which were advancing with all possible sail set, close in his rear, and which otherwise might have experienced a similar misfortune, and thus in a greater proportion still, have weakened our force.

It was not till the morning of the 2d, that the Culloden could be got off, and it was found she had suffered very considerable damage in her bottom; that her rudder was beat off, and the crew could scarcely keep her afloat with all pumps going.

The resources of Captain Troubridge's mind availed him much, and were admirably exerted upon this trying occasion. In four days he had a new rudder made upon his own deck, which was immediately shipped; and the Culloden was again in a state for actual service, though still very leaky.

The Admiral, knowing that the wounded of his own ships had been all taken care of, bent his first attention to those of the enemy. He esta-

blished a truce with the Commandant of Aboukir, and through him made a communication to the Commandant of Alexandria; that it was his intention to allow all the wounded Frenchmen to be taken ashore to proper Hospitals, with their own surgeons to attend them; a proposal which was well received by the French, and which was carried into effect on the following day.

The activity and generous consideration of Capt. Troubridge, were again exerted at this time for the general good. He communicated with the shore, and had the address to procure a supply of fresh provisions, onions, &c. which were served out to the sick and wounded, and which proved of essential utility.

On the 2d, the Arabs and Mamelukes, who during the battle had lined the shores of the Bay, saw with transport that the victory was decisively ours, an event in which they participated with an exultation almost equal to our own; and on that and the two following nights, the whole coast and country were illuminated as far as we could see, in celebration of our victory. This had a great effect upon the minds of our prisoners, as they conceived that this illumination was the consequence, not entirely of our success, but of some signal advantage obtained by the Arabs and Mamelukes over Buonaparte.

Although it is natural to suppose that the time and attention of the Admiral, and all the Officers of his Squadron, were very fully employed in repairing the damages sustained by their own ships, and in securing those of the enemy, which their valour had subdued, yet the mind of that GREAT and GOOD MAN felt the strongest emotions of the most pious gratitude to the SUPREME BEING, for the signal success which, by his Divine Favour, had crowned his endeavours in the cause of his country, and, in consequence, on the morning of the second, he issued the following Memorandum to the different Captains of his Squadron.

MEM. "Vanguard, off the Mouth of the Nile, 2d day of August, 1798.

ALMIGHTY GOD having blessed his Majesty's Arms with victory, the Admiral intends returning Public Thanksgiving for the same, at two o'clock this day, and he recommends every ship doing the same as soon as convenient.

"To the respective Captains of the Squadron."

At two o'clock accordingly on that day, Public Service was performed on the quarter deck of the Vanguard, by the Rev. Mr. Comyn, the other ships following the example of the Admiral, though perhaps not all at the same time.

The solemn act of gratitude to Heaven seemed to make a very deep impression upon several of the prisoners, both Officers and men, some of the former of whom remarked, "that it was no wonder we could preserve such order and discipline, when we could impress the minds of our men with such sentiments after a victory so great, and at a moment of such seeming confusion."

On the same day the following Memorandum was issued to all the ships, expressive of the Admiral's sentiments of the noble exertions of the different Officers and men of his Squadron.

"Vanguard, 2d day of August, 1798, off the Mouth of the Nile."

"The Admiral most heartily congratulates the Captains, Officers, Seamen, and Marines of the Squadron he has the honour to command, on the event of the late action; and he desires they will accept his sincere and cordial thanks for their very gallant behaviour in this glorious battle. It must strike forcibly every British Seaman, how superior their conduct is when IN DISCIPLINE and GOOD ORDER, to the riotous behaviour of lawless Frenchmen.

"The Squadron may be assured the Admiral will not fail with his dispatches, to represent their truly meritorious conduct in the strongest terms to the Commander in Chief.

"To the Captains of the ships of the Squadron."

The praise expressed in this memorandum could not fail to be highly acceptable and gratifying to every individual in the Squadron; and the observation which it endeavoured to impress upon the minds of all, of the striking advantages derived from DISCIPLINE and GOOD ORDER, was so much the effect of re-

cent experience, that every heart immediately assented to its justice.

The benefit of this important truth will not we trust, be confined to any particular branch of the British Navy; The sentiment of the Hero of the Nile must infuse itself into the heart of every British seaman, in whatever quarter of the globe he may be, in extending the glory and interests of his country, and will there produce the conviction that courage alone will not lead him to conquest, without the aid and direction of exact discipline and order. Let those who desire to emulate (as every British seaman must,) the glory acquired upon this signal occasion, pursue the same means which principally led to its acquisition. Let them repose the most perfect reliance in the courage, judgment and skill of their superior officers, and let them aid the designs of these by uniformly submissive obedience and willing subordination—so shall the British Navy continue to be the admiration of the world, till time shall be no more!

Immediately after the action, some Maltese Genoese, and Spaniards, who had been serving on board the French fleet, offered their services in ours, which were accepted; and they expressed the greatest happiness at thus being freed, as they themselves said, from the tyranny and cruelty of the French.

On the 4th day after the action, Captain Berry, of the Vanguard, sailed in the Leander, of 50 guns, with the Admiral's dispatches to the Commander in Chief, Earl St. Vincent, off Cadiz, containing intelligence of the glorious victory which he had obtained.

[Here ends the Journal from which THIS NARRATIVE has been compiled. We consider it unnecessary here to restate the line of battle of the two fleets, or to repeat the lists of the killed and wounded, &c. as these have already been so fully given to the public through the official channel of the Admiral's dispatches.

It would to us, however, appear a want of just feeling and sentiment were we to send a Narrative into the world, so authentic and circumstantial, without attempting to express, however inadequately, our homage for the splendid talent and heroic energy by which the glorious event of which it is descriptive was achieved. The daring enterprise of the attack could only be rivalled by the persevering courage with which it was supported, and the unparalleled success with which it was crowned.

Where the Services of ALL upon this great occasion were so eminently marked by the most animated gallantry, it would not only be invidious, but perhaps impossible, to make a selection of individual pre-eminence. If every man had not done his duty to the utmost stretch of his ability, it seems impossible that an inferior force should have obtained so signal a victory over one so very considerably superior. The different situations, however, of the different ships, certainly placed some in circumstances of more arduous and unequal combat than others, the undaunted magnanimity with which the Bellerophon was placed alongside L'Orient, excited at the moment the highest admiration, and the perseverance with which she retained her situation, must ever be the theme of eulogium with every officer and man in the British Squadron. Other instances which gave room for a more peculiar display of heroism might be adduced, but where ALL were heroes, the praise of HEROISM is JUSTLY DUE TO ALL.

In the Chief Commander, upon this occasion, it is evident, that the high gallantry of his spirit is the least striking qualification for the command with which he had so judiciously been invested. To fight and to conquer had been familiar to him; but he was now called upon for the exercise of qualities which raise the true Hero above the level of the general mass of mankind, and constitute the character of a great Commander.—These, it has been seen, he not only fully possessed but most admirably exerted. He pursued to every point in which there seemed the best chance of finding his enemy—he suffered uncertainty and disappointment with unshaken firmness; and the delay which occurred in the gratification of his wishes, only added to the heroic feeling from which they arose.

An idea has gone abroad, that the attack in Aboukir Bay was directed by accident. No idea can be more unfounded, or more derogatory to the professional character of the gallant Admiral. It is proved from this narrative, that his mode of attack was the result of deep and deliberate cogitation, and so clearly had he explained himself to those who were to bear their respective shares in the execution of his plans, that when they discovered their enemy, little remained to be done but to commence the premeditated attack. How well the plan for the attack at anchor was concerted, the event has fully proved; and there is certainly every just ground for the conclusion, that wherever, or in whatever situation the British Squadron under Rear Admiral Nelson, had fallen in with the enemy, the result would have been successful and glorious in a superlative degree.

As it was—no battle was ever more desperately fought—no victory was ever more complete in itself, or more important in its consequences; and when the superiority in force of the enemy, and his advantages of situation, are considered, it must be pronounced to be the most daring enterprise, under the conduct of reason and skill, that ever was attempted; and THE BATTLE OF THE NILE, which now fills all Europe with sensations of astonishment and admiration, must continue to be our favourite theme of panegyric, our PRIDE and our BOAST, while generous and heroic feelings, shall continue to be cherished by the British Nation.]

LONDON,

December 10.

Advices were yesterday received from Amsterdam to the 24th ult. which state that the French have demanded from the Dutch a further supply of money, to the amount of twenty millions of Guilders, under the pretence that this sum was necessary to enable them to defray the expenses incurred by the rebellion in Belgium. Twenty millions of Guilders is about 1,800,000 sterling.

Last night an express from Dover arrived with the Paris Papers to the 23d inst. inclusive. It is said they are the last which the Directory will suffer to come to England, as the most positive orders have been sent from Paris to have the cartel vessels strictly searched, in order that no Paris Journals may be put on board them. The French have no more triumphs to boast of, and probably it is now become a matter of prudence to conceal their reverses of fortune as long as possible.

Yesterday arrived a mail from Dublin, by which we learn that the project of the Union is now universally acknowledged. On a subject which is so likely to assist or compress the views of particular individuals, it is not to be wondered that a great difference of opinion should prevail; but the opinion of Mr. Foster, the Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, who is now in London, is looked up to with more than common reverence, and his conduct will be the guide to the ultimate decision of a very numerous and respectable body of people. Many of the Roman Catholics are adverse to the measure; but there is reason to believe that it is generally approved of, by men who have no particular interests to serve by the present order of things, and who view the subject in the light of a great political question, which is likely to lead to the most solid and important benefits to both countries.

General Tarleton is appointed to the command of the English cavalry in Portugal, to which situation he is to set out immediately. If report speaks true, there will be something more to do than mere exercise.

Extract of a Letter from Hamburgh, dated November 23.

"Every thing wears at present a warlike appearance. France refuses to cede to Prussia the island of Buderich, opposite to Wesel, and also rejects the proposition made by the Prussian Embassy at Rastadt, in regard to the limits of the French Republic on the Lower Rhine. Denmark has likewise protested against the suppression of the Elfish toll, nor will Russia consent to its suppression. The latter Power, we are