



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1794.

*Admiralty-Office, April 28, 1794.*

**T**HE Letters, of which the following are Extracts, were this Day received from Rear-Admiral Macbride.

*Minotaur, Plymouth Sound,  
April 26, 1794.*

S I R,

**B**E pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Echo Sloop arrived here Yesterday Morning, bringing with her a Letter from Sir John Warren, of His Majesty's Ship Flora, who was on his Passage to Portsmouth, with the Pomone and La Babet, French Frigates, captured by the Squadron detached under his Command.

The Concorde and La Nymphé arrived Yesterday Evening with L'Engageante, another French Frigate, captured by the Concorde. Inclosed are the Letters from the Captains, Sir John Warren and Sir Richard Strachan, to me on the Occasion. The Refolu, another Frigate

that was in Company, escaped, by her outfailing the Melampus and La Nymphé, who chased her into Morlaix.

I am, S I R,

Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant,  
**JOHN M'BRIDE.**

*Philip Stephens, Esq;*

*Flora, at Sea, April 24, 1794.*

S I R,

**I**N Pursuance of your Orders, I proceeded with the Ships named in the Margin to cruize on the Coast of France; and on the 23d Instant, from variable Winds being to the Westward of Guernsey, Rock Dover bearing E. by S. Four or Five Leagues, the Seven Islands S. S. W. Four or Five Leagues, Guernsey N. E. Half East Seven or Eight Leagues, I discovered at Four in the Morning Four Sail, standing out to Sea upon the Larboard Tack, the Wind S. S. W. and, as the Morning began to break, I saw from their

*Arethusa,  
Melampus,  
La Nymphé,  
Concorde.*

[ Price Four-Pence. ]

their Manœuvres and Firing of Guns they were some of the Enemy's Ships of War. They soon afterwards appeared in a Line of Battle on the Larboard Tack, and as our Ships, from having chased, were not collected, I made the Signal to form in Succession. We crossed each other on contrary Tacks, and the Enemy began the Action at a considerable Distance; their Sternmost Ship having passed over, they again tacked; but the Wind changing Two Points in our Favour, I perceived it was possible to weather them, and therefore made the Signal for the Ships to engage as they came up, so as to prevent the Enemy gaining their own Shore, and to oblige them to come to a close Action: I am happy to say we succeeded in this Object.

The Engagement lasted nearly Three Hours, when Two of the Ships struck: I then made the Signal for those who were coming up to pursue and engage the Enemy, as from the Situation of this Ship, having led the Line into Action, she was incapable of continuing the Pursuit.

I am much indebted to Sir Edward Pellew in the Arethusa, who was my Second aftern, and to the other Officers and Ships under my Command, who exerted themselves in engaging and pursuing the Enemy.

I have since been informed that another of the Enemy's Ships struck to the Concorde, Sir Richard Strachan, in the Evening; but, as that Ship and the Nymphé have not yet joined me, I cannot yet make any Return of their State and Condition.

The French Squadron consisted of L'Engageante, 36 Guns, 18 Pounders, 300 Men, Monsieur Desgarceaux Chef D'Escade; La Pomone, 44 Guns, 24 Pounders, 400 Men; Le Resolue, 36

Guns, 18 Pounders, 320 Men; La Babet, 22 Guns, 9 Pounders, 200 Men: They sailed from Concalle Bay the Evening before we met them.

I owe every Obligation and Acknowledgment to the Officers and Crew of this Ship for their Zeal and Exertions upon this and every former Occasion in the Service of their King and Country, and trust you will recommend them to their Lordships Notice and Protection.

Enclosed are Lists of the Killed and Wounded, and also of the Ships taken from the Enemy.

I have the Honor to remain,

S I R,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

Rear-Admiral Macbride.

*A List of Killed and Wounded on Board His Majesty's Ships Flora and Arethusa, on the 23d of April, 1794.*

Flora.	1 Seaman killed.
	3 Ditto wounded.
Arethusa.	1 Master's Mate killed.
	2 Seamen killed.
	5 Seamen wounded.

*A List of the Killed and Wounded on Board the Conventional Frigates La Pomone and La Babet, on the 23d of April, 1794.*

La Pomone.	Between 80 and 100 killed and wounded.
La Babet.	Between 30 and 40 killed and wounded.

John Warren, Captain.

Flora, at Sea, April 24, 1794.

*An Account of the Conventional Frigates taken by the Squadron under the Command of Sir J. B. Warren, Bart. on the 24th of April, 1794.*

La Pomone.	44 Guns, 24 Pounders; 400 Men. 143 Feet, Keel. 42 Feet, Beam. 1100 Tons. Five Years old, and supposed to be the finest Frigate they had.
La Babet.	22 Guns, 9 Pounders; 200 Men.

(Signed) J. B. Warren, Captain.

Flora, at Sea, April 24, 1794.

*La Concorde, Plymouth Sound,*

S I R,

*April 25, 1794.*

I Have the Honor to acquaint you of my Arrival here with His Majesty's Ship under my Command, with a French Frigate which we took in the Afternoon of the 23d Instant. The early Transactions of that Day has been detailed to you by Sir John Warren, but as the Flora was at too great a Distance to observe my Proceedings in the Afternoon, I beg to relate the Particulars of my Conduct from the Time we passed the Pomona after she had surrendered. About Eleven A. M. we were near enough to receive and return the Fire of the Enemy's Two Frigates which were making off. It was my Intention to endeavor to disable the sternmost, and leave her for the Ships of His Majesty which were following us, and push on to attack the leading Ship; but in this I was disappointed, for the leading Ship bore down, and closed to support his Second, and laying herself across our Bows, soon disabled us in our Sails and Rigging so much, that we dropped astern. We soon got our Sails on the Ship again, and I purposed to keep the Enemy's Two Ships in Checque till our's arrived, as the only Means of taking them both; but finding the Day far advanced, and little Probability of our being assisted, as our Ships rather dropped, and expecting our Maintop-mast, which was shot through, to go every Minute, knowing that if our Mast went, both the Ships must escape, I determined to secure the one I was nearest. She was assisted for some Time by her Second, but, changing Sides in the Smoke, it prevented him from annoying us. She was defended with the greatest Bravery from Twelve till a Quar-

ter before Two P. M. when being silenced, and totally unmanageable, they called they had surrendered. She proved to be L'Engageante, of 34 Guns and 4 Cannonades, with 300 Men. The other Frigate, Le Resolue, after firing a few Shot, stood on, and our Ship, much cut up in her Sails and Rigging, was not in a Condition to follow her. The Mast of the L'Engageante, in the Evening, as we attempted to tow her, fell; and expecting our's to go also, I availed myself of seeing the Nymph and Melampus, returning from the Chace of the Resolue, to make the Signal for Assistance. The Nymph joined us at Night, and we steered for this Port.

I must request you will please to inform their Lordships, that the zealous, cool and steady Conduct of the Officers and Ship's Company was highly meritorious in the Action; and their Efforts in refitting the Ship, after the Fatigue they had experienced, exceeded any Exertion I ever saw before. As the First Lieutenant, Charles Aphorp, was mostly with me, I had an Opportunity of observing the Spirit of Enterprize which pervaded his Conduct, and I must acknowledge the great Assistance he was of to me from the able Manner in which he performed the various Duties I employed him upon; and am convinced also of the good Conduct of Lieutenants Boys and Evans, who commanded on the Main Deck. I enclose a Report of the Damages and State of the Ship. And have the Honor to be, &c.

R. J. STRACHAN.

*Rear-Admiral Macbride,**&c. &c. &c.*

