



In The News

Compton Chamberlayne

In the gallant exploit performed some time ago, in the Gulph of Euphemia, when the boats of the Thames frigate, Weazle and Pilot gun brigs captured a convoy of 31 vessels, laden with stores and provisions for Murat's army at Seylla, with seven large gun-boats and five scampavias protecting them, the enemy, on seeing our ships, had hauled their vessels high on the beach, under the town of Amanthea, and had thrown up an embankment outside the vessels, to prevent their being got off, and also one within them, to afford shelter for the numerous troops collected for the annoyance of our gallant tars. The Thames and the brigs ran along within grape shot, and having drove the enemy from their vessels were then dispatched, under the command of Lieut. Collier, of the Thames; the marines were landed, under Lieut. Mac-Adam. The enemy on shore, when driven from their entrenchment, fired from the walls of the town. Every difficulty was however surmounted, and in four hours the vessels were all in our possession. The gallant achievement was performed on the 25th of July.

The following is a list of the Officers employed in the boats on the occasion:

Thames – Lieut. Edw. Collier. First Lieutenant; Lieut. Francis Molesworth, second Lieutenant; Lieut. McAdam, Royal Marines; Messrs. Liddon, Wyvill, Veal, Murray, Hon. Trefusis Cornwall and Wilkinson, Midshipmen; Mr Mullins, boatswain; Mr Beckett, carpenter.

Weazle – Captain Prescott; Mr Cayne, Master; Messrs Holmes and Golding, Midshipmen.

Pilot – Lieuts. Penruddocke and Annesley; Thos. Haber, boatswain; Mr Lee, master's mate.

The total armed vessels and transports, taken and destroyed by his Majesty's ships Thames, Weazle, and Pilot, at Amanthea, on the 25th July, 1810, is 7 gun-boats, 7 scampavias, 28 transports and coasting vessels.

Return of killed and wounded

Thames – 1 marine killed, 2 seamen and 1 marine wounded.

Weazle – 1 seaman wounded, dangerously

Pilot – 1 seaman & corporal of marines wounded.

Lieut. Penruddocke, of the Pilot, one of the above heroes, is fourth son of the late Charles Penruddocke, Esq. of Compton Chamberlaine, M.P. for Wilts county, and brother of John Hungerford Penruddocke, Esq.

(Salisbury and Winchester Journal - 29 October, 1810)