

Toulon) lost 100 pieces of cannon, all their tents &c and driven out of Roussillon. Of their operations at sea you will in part have heard: we have reduced all most all their W. India islands & almost without bloodshed. The capital of Corsica also surrendered, & Calvi, the only place of importance there, must also soon fall. But our most brilliant victory at sea is that obtained by Lord Howe on the 1st inst. with 25 sail of the line he attacked the French of 26, & after a most desperate engagement took seven sail of the line & sunk one: our loss was not inconsiderable—about a thousand men killed & wounded, one admiral lost his leg & another his arm: all the French ships were taken with their colours standing, they were nailed to the masts before action & the republicans swore never to strike them! they fought with wonderful, and indeed desperate courage, but were out done in dexterity of seamanship. You will judge of their temper, when it is affirmed that the Ship that sunk went down with her three coloured streamer[s] flying, that those who escaped the carnage which must have been dreadful, when they found her sinking, struck up their favourite national air of “ça ira,” gave three cheers, vociferated, “vive la nation, vive la republique” & then disappeared! Notwithstanding these successes, the critical situation of affairs on the continent, & the serious evils that obstruct & derange our commerce, which has suffered severely from the French cruisers, the people begin to see the impossibility of re-establishing monarchy in France & wish for peace. Besides the vessels taken by them in the East Indies, their depredations have been very great here. the Lisbon & Cadiz ships, Dutch & English consisting of about 60 sail were taken, together with two Dutch frigates having in specie about £90,000 on board. one of the frigates it is said got away afterwards, but whether the one with the specie or not is unknown. it was all insured at Lloyd’s. They took the Newfoundland convoy with the Caster frigate. they were retaken again by us, taken by the French a second time, retaken again & burnt by Lord Howe who could not spare men to man them. Several other