

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-108-01859-3 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 20  
Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur  
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The *Naval Chronicle*, published in 40 volumes between 1799 and 1818, is a key source for British maritime and military history, and is also sought after by those researching family histories. Six instalments per year were produced (and often reprinted with corrections) by Bunney and Gold, later Joyce Gold, in London, and bound up into two volumes per year. Printed economically, on paper of varying weights and often with very small type, the extant copies have been heavily used over the course of two centuries, present significant conservation challenges, and are difficult to find outside major libraries. This reissue is the first complete printed reproduction of what was the most influential maritime publication of its day. The subjects covered range widely, including accounts of battles, notices of promotions, marriages and deaths, lists of ships and their tonnages, reports of courts martial, shipwrecks, privateers and prizes, biographies and poetry, notes on the latest technology, and letters. Each volume also contains engravings and charts relating to naval engagements and important harbours from Jamaica to Timor, Newfoundland to Canton, and Penzance to Port Jackson.

### Volume 20

Volume 20 (1808), published at the start of the Peninsular War, contains numerous intelligence reports relating to Sir Arthur Wellesley's departure for Portugal and the aftermath of the Battle of Vimiero. The terms of the French surrender and departure from Portugal are also reproduced and discussed. Technical and professional articles include suggested improvements for lighthouses, and maps and descriptions of Penang Island, Malaysia and Plymouth.

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# The Naval Chronicle

*Containing a General and Biographical  
History of the Royal Navy of the United  
Kingdom with a Variety of Original Papers on  
Nautical Subjects*

VOLUME 20: JULY-DECEMBER 1808

EDITED BY JAMES STANIER CLARKE  
AND JOHN MCARTHUR



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# NAVAL CHRONICLE.



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THE  
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 CONTAINING A  
*GENERAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY*  
 OF  
 THE ROYAL NAVY  
 OF THE  
**United Kingdom;**  
 WITH A VARIETY OF ORIGINAL PAPERS ON  
 NAUTICAL SUBJECTS.

—  
 UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF SEVERAL  
*LITERARY AND PROFESSIONAL MEN.*  
 —

VOL. XX.

(FROM JULY TO DECEMBER.)

—  
 AS YOU VALUE THE GLORY AND SAFETY OF BRITAIN, SUPPORT THE SPANIARDS  
 WHILST THERE REMAINS A PATRIOT STANDARD TO RALLY ROUND.  
 —

LONDON:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY AND FOR JOYCE GOLD, SHOE-LANE;

And sold by Messrs. Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme, Messrs. Wilkie and Robinson, Messrs. Sherwood, Neeley, and Jones, and Mr. Walker, *Paternoster-row*; Mr. White, *Fleet-street*; Messrs. Vernon, Hood, and Sharpe, *Poultry*; Mr. Asperne, Mr. Richards, and Messrs. Richardson, *Cornhill*; Messrs. Black, Parry, and Kingsbury, *Leadenhall-street*; Messrs. Crosby and Co. *Stationers'-hall-court*; Messrs. Scatchard and Letterman, and Mr. Law, *Avemarie-lane*; Mr. Goddard, *Pall-mall*; Mr. Andrews, *Charing-cross*; Mr. Booth, *Duke-street, Portland-place*; Mr. Mottley, *Portsmouth*; Messrs. Congdon, Hoxland, and Platt, *Dock*; Messrs. Haydon, Rees, and Curtis, Smith, Rogers, and Nettleton, *Plymouth*; Messrs. Norton and Son, *Bristol*; Mr. Robinson, *Liverpool*; Messrs. Manner and Miller, Mr. Creech, and Mr. Constable, *Edinburgh*; Mr. Archer, *Dublin*; Mr. Turnbull and Mr. Lumsden, *Glasgow*; and the principal Booksellers in the different Seaport Towns throughout the United Kingdom.

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TO  
ADMIRAL APODACA,  
AND THE BRAVE SPANISH PATRIOTS,  
THIS TWENTIETH VOLUME OF THE  
**Naval Chronicle**  
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED  
*BY THE PROPRIETOR AND EDITORS.*

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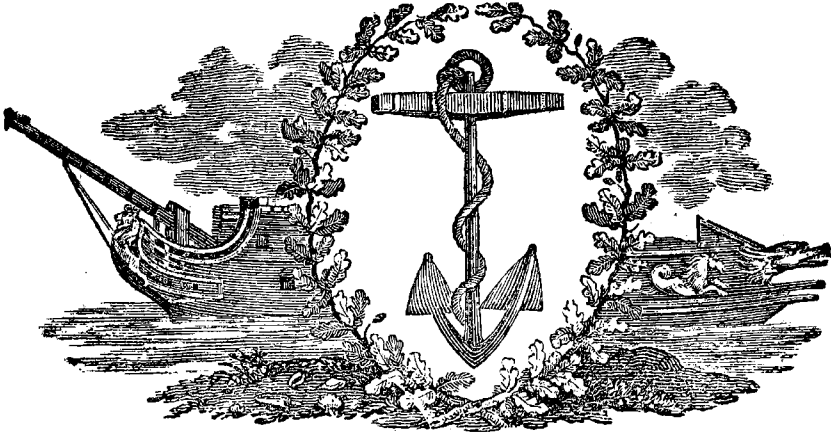


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## P R E F A C E

TO THE TWENTIETH VOLUME.

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THE great and lively interest which every true born Englishman cherishes for the glorious contest in which the Spaniards are engaged, and the general attention which has so liberally been paid by our government, and our honourable merchants, to the support of these high-minded patriots; has justified our dedicating this volume of the *CHRONICLE*, containing many events connected with their proceedings, to these brave Opposers of *NAPOLEON THE DESTROYER*, and his powerful band of plunderers and oppressors.

It is painful to observe, even in this early state of the struggle, which the Spaniards are making with the long experienced and veteran soldiers of the French tyrant, a disposition in our Country immediately to despond, whenever even reports prevail respecting a retreat, or a temporary check of the Spanish patriots. On the contrary, it is astonishing, that the raw, and, one would have thought, undisciplined troops of Spain, should have already made the resistance they have done; and, when the Corsican has hurried, in a great alarm, to command his soldiers in person: when such an overwhelming multitude has been marched, and still continues marching to the

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Spanish frontier. It is not ten defeats that will overcome the Spaniards: and it should be remembered, that what may be lost by them in the field, may be recovered by them in their mountains. When the great Alfred was defeated and his army entirely dispersed, the cause of liberty was not overcome. After a time it again blazed forth, and having gathered strength, became irresistible: That God may equally bless the glorious cause of the Spanish patriots, is the prayer of our Country, and, we trust, will soon become that of suffering Europe.

In the present volume we have been fortunate in receiving some private letters, illustrating these and other events in the war; which must prove of importance to the future historian, and have been, we trust, interesting to our readers. We particularly request our friends to favour us with a continuance of such correct information as comes under their immediate notice. In this respect we have been much indebted, amongst others, to our Correspondent, Tim. Weatherside, pages 304, 372, 440, and 451; and to our friend Splice-all, page 379. We also return our thanks to our Correspondent, A. F. Y. for his admirable letters "*On the present Management and Discipline of the Navy*," pages 23, 115, 202, and 296. To E. G. F. though he yaws about a little, particularly in his very long letter "*On the Parliamentary Duties of Naval Officers*," (page 29—34), nearly six pages; and, at page 299, in a letter of nearly five pages, becomes too general in his remarks: In answer to his fourth letter, page 125, we again repeat, what we advanced before upon indisputable authority: That we most sincerely wish, in common with the first characters in the service, and in the state, that the venerable Lord Barham and the determined Lord St. Vincent were again employed. Our Correspondent, E. G. F. has been pleased to repeat the common abuse of Earl St. Vincent; which, to evince our impartiality, we have inserted. We therefore trust, he will now allow us to add, that nothing but a very superior and great character could bear up, as his lordship's has so long done, against the torrent of abuse which has so very indiscriminately been showered upon him. To whom are we indebted for the present discipline of the Navy? Where shall we meet with an admiral who at such a distance from home, and finding such a difficulty, as he did, in procuring Supplies, will continue such a blockade as his lordship's, off Cadiz harbour? Or where shall we find such officers, as those who

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have been brought up in the school of St. Vincent?—To Sir J. Senhouse our thanks are due, for his remarks, “*On an Improvement in Light-houses*,” page 281. Our friend *Robar* has recorded some early instances of our naval character, at pages 28, 129, and 380. The letter of our Correspondent, C. D. L. or rather the account which he had kindly taken the trouble to copy of the late Mr. Dalrymple, was inserted at page 210. But we totally and entirely differ from that partial notice of him. They, who wish to know more of Mr. Dalrymple, may refer to what Dr. Hawkesworth said, in the preface to his octavo edition of *Cook’s Voyages*. The Admiralty Board have acted throughout the whole of Mr. Dalrymple’s dismissal, in a manner that reflected on them the greatest credit. Captain Hurd, who succeeded Mr. Dalrymple, is well calculated for the situation: We could, however, have wished, as the service had reason to expect, that Mr. J. Whidbey, the very able master attendant of Woolwich dock-yard, and the first navigator we have, had been placed in that situation.—We are indebted to Captain Ricketts for his communication, entitled, “*New Nipper*,” page 446, and trust this experienced Officer will often contribute to our pages.

In our NAVAL BIOGRAPHY appear, amongst other Memoirs, an interesting life of the late Captain W. H. Jervis, nephew to Earl St. Vincent, page 1. One of Sir Charles Brisbane, page 81. Of Captain G. N. Hardinge, pages, 257, 383, and 430; and of the late Sir Charles Saxton, page 425. In this very difficult department of our CHRONICLE, we particularly request the assistance of our Correspondents. At the suggestion of a friend, we have in this volume changed the title of our biographical sketches, to a Memoir of the public services of naval officers; which we trust no one, however modest, would wish to be buried in oblivion.

In NAVAL POETRY, we inserted at page 53, the Hon. W. Herbert’s “*Song of Harold the Valiant*,” translated from the Icelandic language; and were sorry to perceive, when printed, that some of Mr. Dibdin’s admirable naval ballads had been inserted without his name affixed, viz. pages 50, 226, 228, and 405.—There are still some old naval songs and poetry, which we have never been able to recover.

Our PHILOSOPHICAL PAPERS in the present volume, are,  
 1. An account of a singular instance of Atmospheric Refraction, page 41, from the Philosophical Transactions. 2. An account of the Magnetic Mountain of Cannay, page 134.  
 3. Mr. F. Little, on the Aurora Borealis, page 222. 4. Improvements in Naval Architecture, by Mr. J. W. Boswell,

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page 305. And the late Admiral Sir C. Knowles' Disquisitions on Ship Building, page 387. Captain Ricketts, in his remarks on Water Spouts at Sea (page 392), very skilfully has directed the attention of the profession to that phenomenon. Captain Ricketts will find some additional remarks on that subject in Mr. Clarke's notes to his edition of Falconer's Shipwreck, page 178 ; and in the description of Mr. Pocock's representation of a Water-spout, at page 51.

Such are some of the leading contents in our twentieth volume ; which, with all its faults, will, we trust, contain some valuable and interesting pages, that may make amends for those defects, that are inseparable from every periodical work : When those pages, however few, are multiplied by 20, we trust we have not altogether proved unprofitable servants to the public.

Would it were possible, in concluding our Preface, effectually to *pipe all hands* on board our good old Ship ; which has so many enemies to oppose, such innumerable shoals and rocks to avoid, and such an infinite variety of expences to support. In the midst of which they talk of another change of masters ; that the board is to have a new helmsman, and, as is the fashion, that helmsman to be a landsman. We hope, in that case, he will soon find his *sea legs* ; and as he is likely to chew a bitter quid or two, if he remains long at his post, we trust that he will look the tempest well in the face, and ever remember the last words of the late Admiral Villeneuve, before he left England to have his throat cut by Napoleon : "*Whatever object Buonaparte may appear to be engaged in, however distant it may seem from this Country ; remember, Englishmen, it is alone directed against you. Whether at peace, or at war, Buonaparte will never rest, until he has either subdued you, or himself.*"

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