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978-1-108-01867-8 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 28  
Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur  
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### Volume 28

Volume 28 (1812) concentrates on the Anglo-American War of 1812. It discusses events surrounding the war, and reprints state papers detailing America's grievances with Britain and the British declaration of war itself. It also describes the proposed construction of a breakwater in Plymouth Sound and its estimated costs, and includes a chart and description of the Cape of Good Hope.

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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 28: JULY-DECEMBER 1812

EDITED BY JAMES STANIER CLARKE  
AND JOHN MCARTHUR



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## NAVAL CHRONICLE.

VOL. XXVIII.

*Bucon Jun<sup>r</sup> del.*

*Erected at the public expence, to the Memory of  
 Capt.<sup>n</sup> George Duff;  
 who was killed the 26<sup>th</sup> of Oct.<sup>r</sup> 1805;  
 commanding the Mars,  
 in the Battle of Trafalgar:  
 in the 42<sup>d</sup> Year of his Age, and the 29<sup>th</sup> of his Service.*

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THE  
**Naval Chronicle,**  
 FOR 1812:  
 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. XXVIII.  
 (FROM JULY TO DECEMBER.)

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*To regere imperio populos Britanne memento  
 Hæc tibi erunt artes*

“ These are imperial arts, and worthy thee.”

---

LONDON:

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TO  
THE RIGHT HONORABLE  
ALEXANDER ARTHUR HOOD,  
VISCOUNT AND BARON BRIDPORT, OF CRICKET-ST. THOMAS,  
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET,  
KNIGHT OF THE MOST HONORABLE AND MILITARY ORDER  
OF THE BATH,  
ADMIRAL OF THE RED SQUADRON, VICE-ADMIRAL OF  
ENGLAND, AND GENERAL OF MARINES :

THIS TWENTY-EIGHTH VOLUME OF THE

**Naval Chronicle**

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

*BY THE PROPRIETOR,*

*Joyce Gold*

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## PREFACE

TO THE TWENTY-EIGHTH VOLUME.

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**I**N Prefaces, the pomposity of literature, and the literary cant of humility, are alike obnoxious to censure. If the writer of a Preface be deficient in respect for himself, it is impossible for him to be entitled to that of his readers; and, if he enjoy not the grateful consciousness, that his exertions deserve, though they may not command success, he ought not to stand forward as a candidate for public favour. Unlike those imprudent authors, to whom the quaint Spanish proverb applies—"Aviendo pregonado vino, venden vinagre" (having cried up their wine, they sell us vinegar)—the conductors of the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* would not, by injudicious boasting, bespeak attention, and expose imagination to disappointment; but, aware of what is reciprocally due, between themselves and the public, they only wish to attune the minds of their readers into a proper harmony of ideas, so that their tone may respond to the emotions which they are anxious to excite;—that the want of such a publication as the present may be felt, as a desire not elsewhere to be gratified.

As the Editors of the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* have only two opportunities, in each year, personally to address its readers, they avail themselves of the present, to solicit co-operation, on their parts, both in point of contribution, and in that of extending the publicity of the work. On the latter point, the Editors take leave to observe, that, as the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* is only occasionally advertised in the daily prints, and is left to maintain its ground, and to make its way by its own intrinsic merits and utility, there is reason to believe, that, from the necessary dispersion of so fluctuating a body as the navy, its very existence, even at the end of fourteen years, is unknown to many naval men. It is, therefore, respectfully requested, that every officer, of whose library it may form a part, will bear this in mind; and, as an equitable and liberal return for the amusement, or instruction, which he may have derived from it, that he will grant it his patronage—at least so far as the making of it known to his messmates, or other professional associates, by mentioning it in such terms as he may think it deserves, or,

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more particularly, by allowing it to be seen by the junior members of the body.

It may here not be deemed improper to remark, that the *NAVAL CHRONICLE*, from its commencement, in the year 1799, contains a general and biographical history of the Royal Navy, with a variety of original papers on nautical subjects; that it is specially devoted to the interests of the British Navy, of the Royal Marines, &c.; that it also pays due attention to those valuable branches of the nautical profession, the Honourable East India Company's Marine, and the mercantile shipping interest; that the monthly lists of promotions, appointments, births, marriages, and deaths, at home and abroad, which are diligently and faithfully recorded in the *Chronicle*, are found particularly interesting to, and worthy of the attention of naval families in general; that the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* forms, in itself, a comprehensive nautical library, not only for mariners, but for every one interested in maritime affairs; and that, consequently, merchants, and gentlemen in their employ, cannot take out a venture more likely to sell to advantage, particularly in the East and West Indies, the Continent of America, &c.

The Editors take leave to add, that, although the Volumes of the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* are numbered, from I. to XXVIII. that circumstance does not entail the absolute necessity of commencing a Subscriber, from the beginning; for each Volume (any of which may be had separate), instead of being a mere fragment of a voluminous work, constitutes a whole in itself, and forms a complete naval history of the time to which it refers. Another advantage is, that, from the reprint which the respective volumes and numbers of the work, from time to time undergoes, particular parts, lost at sea, or otherwise, may at any time be replaced.

The expediency and importance of rendering the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* the common centre for all nautical information, has been repeatedly urged. Nothing can so certainly promote, or effectuate this object, as the exertions of individuals. Professional contributions are, at all times, peculiarly acceptable; and, as most officers, in the course of service, meet with occurrences deserving of record, conceive ideas which are entitled to publicity, and form plans which ought to be promulgated, the surprise is, not that the *NAVAL CHRONICLE* has made so conspicuous a figure in this light, as it has of late done, but, that its pages have not been crowded with communications. Particular pleasure will always be felt, in diffusing, through the medium of those pages, the opinions and suggestions of well-informed men, upon subjects relating to, or connected with, their profession; and, howsoever bold may be the truths, which

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such persons may sometimes find it necessary to advance, their communications, when expressed in terms of due respect to constituted authorities, will never be rejected.

Among the Correspondents, whose miscellaneous contributions enhance the value of the present Volume, the thanks of the Editors are particularly due to **MULCIBER**, for Captain Tillard's narrative, relating to a sub-marine volcano, near the island of St. Michael; to **Mr. Bampfied**, surgeon of **H. M. S. Warrior**, for his account of the mode adopted by him for preserving the health of mariners on long voyages; to **C. Y.** for his remarks on the situation of Masters in the Royal Navy; and to **A FRIEND TO NAVAL MERIT**, and to **OCEANUS**, for their various favours. Many others are also entitled to acknowledgment; but a deficiency of space precludes the pleasure of enumerating them.

Naval Biography, so interesting to the profession in particular, and to the public at large, has uniformly experienced a cordial attention from the Editors of the **NAVAL CHRONICLE**. Those who are desirous of assisting them in this branch of the work, will find their labours materially facilitated, by attending to the *Biographical Interrogatories* of **PLUTARCH**, inserted at page 114.

Two of the memoirs in the present Volume, it is presumed, have been particularly well-timed. At the commencement of a contest so important in its nature, as that which has unfortunately taken place between Great Britain and America, any documents that were calculated to elucidate the cause of quarrel could not be otherwise than acceptable. The memoir of Captain Whitby, who commanded the *Leander*, at the time when an American seaman was alleged to have been killed by a shot from that ship; and the memoir of Captain Humphreys, who commanded the *Leopard*, when Admiral Berkeley's orders for her searching the U. S. S. Chesapeake, were executed, will, in this light, be found of material moment.—Much interesting and original information, relating to Captain Stewart's services in the Levant Seas, &c. will be found in the life of that lamented officer. The memoir of Admiral Lord Dartmouth, an ancestor of the present Admiral Legge; and that of Sir John Balchen, will be read with satisfaction by those who love to dwell upon the recollections of past times. Mr. Horsburgh, to whose labours in hydrography the British nation is eminently indebted, is the subject of the last biographical sketch in the volume.

On the subject of Hydrography, the Editors again solicit all persons, whether in the Royal Navy, in the service of the East India Company, or in the mercantile marine, who may possess information respecting the situation of any rock, shoal, or danger, yet unpublished, to transmit the same to the Hydrographer

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of the **NAVAL CHRONICLE**, and to state the authority on which their information is grounded.—Captains Byng and Flinders, and J. S. S. are particularly entitled to the acknowledgments and thanks of the Editors, for their attentions in the course of the present volume.

The **NAVAL CHRONICLE** is the only publication which has taken due notice of that great national work, the Breakwater at Plymouth. In addition to an engraved plan, copied from that which was published by order of the House of Commons, it contains various documents, letters, &c. elucidatory of the nature and extent of the undertaking.

The State Papers, in the present Volume, are more than usually numerous and important. The value, and general utility of such documents are self-evident.

Of the original miscellaneous articles in the succeeding sheets, the Editors have room only to direct the attention of the reader to Lieutenant O'Brien's Narrative, which, in its progress, will record some of the most extraordinary adventures and escapes, that ever fell under the cognizance of the public.

The Editors of the **NAVAL CHRONICLE** have now only to repeat their exhortation, that every friend of the work—and they are not conscious that it possesses, or ought to possess, a single enemy—will unite in their endeavours to promote its circulation; on the double ground of affording benefit to the nautical world, and of presenting a just reward for the pains and perseverance of its Proprietor.

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\* \* \* As a medium of advertisement for scientific literature, for the sale of naval articles, and for the circulation of maritime information, by Navy Agents, Ship Owners, Ship Brokers, Dealers in articles of naval outfit, and publishers of nautical works, the wrappers of the **NAVAL CHRONICLE** are found peculiarly advantageous.

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+++ Authors or publishers of Naval Works are invited to transmit them to the **NAVAL CHRONICLE** Office, for the purpose of being reviewed; and a continuation of contributions from our kind Correspondents, is requested, which will always meet with early attention.—For the accommodation of Correspondents, &c. at the west end of the town, a letter-box is open at Mr. Andrews's, Naval print-seller, Charing-Cross.

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CAPT. JOHN

STEWART R.N.

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