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978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33

Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur

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### Volume 33

Volume 33 (1815) contains reports of naval engagements with American ships and the terms of the Treaty of Ghent which ended the Anglo-American War begun in 1812. Napoleon's return to power is discussed and at the end of the volume the publishers 'stop the press' to announce his 'abdication' in the face of a 'desperate situation'. An analysis of the Battle of New Orleans and maps and descriptions of Tahiti and Valenciennes are also included.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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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 33: JANUARY-JUNE 1815

EDITED BY JAMES STANIER CLARKE  
AND JOHN MCARTHUR



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Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

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WITH A VARIETY OF ORIGINAL PAPERS ON  
NAUTICAL SUBJECTS.

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

VOL. XXXIII.  
(FROM JANUARY TO JUNE.)

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“ O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea,  
Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free,  
Far as the breeze can bear, the billows foam,  
Survey our Empire, and behold our home !  
These are our realms, no limits to their sway.”—(BYRON.)

---

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978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33  
Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

TO  
**SIR JOHN COLPOYS, K.G.C.**  
ADMIRAL OF THE RED SQUADRON,  
THIS THIRTY-THIRD VOLUME OF THE  
**Naval Chronicle**  
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,  
*BY THE PROPRIETOR,*

*Joycelgold*

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978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33

Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## PLATES IN VOLUME XXXIII.

*From Original Designs.*

PLATE	<i>Page</i>
CCCCXXVIII. Portrait of Sir PHILIP BOWES VERE BROKE. Engraved by BLOOD, with permission of the Proprietors of the East Anglian Magazine .....	1
CCCCXXIX. Chart of the Strait of Sunda, by Wm. M'Kellar, Mas- ter of H.M.S. <i>Belliqueux</i> , under the direction of George Byng, Esq. Captain, in 1811 .....	57
CCCCXXX. The capture of four French gun-vessels, by a boat party, commanded by Lieutenant Blyth, R.N. Engraved by BAILY, from an original painting in the possession of Mrs. BLYTHE .....	145
CCCCXXXI. Chart of the Island of Otaheite, in the Pacific Ocean.	152
CCCCXXXII. Portrait of Sir CLOUDESLEY SHOVEL, Knt. Rear- admiral of England. Engraved by BLOOD .....	177
CCCCXXXIII. View of Rokol Rock. Engraved on wood, by BERRYMAN .....	230
CCCCXXXIV. A Virginia Pilot-Boat, with a distant View of Cape Henry, at the entrance of the Chesapeak. Engraved by BAILY, from a drawing by G. T. 1795. ....	304
CCCCXXXV. Carte Du Detroit de la Sonde, from a Survey by Captain Krusenstern, of the Imperial Russian Navy, in 1813. Engraved by ROWE.	321
CCCCXXXVI. Portrait of the late THOMAS MACKENZIE, Esq. Rear- admiral of the Blue Squadron. Engraved by BLOOD, from a painting by BOWYER. ....	353
CCCCXXXVII. Chart of Valenciennes, Conde, St. Amand, &c. in France. ....	392
CCCCXXXVIII. Portrait of Sir GEORGE ROOKE, Knt. Vice-admiral and Lieutenant of the Admiralty of England, &c. &c. &c. Engraved by BLOOD, from an original painting .....	441
CCCCXXXIX. Sketch of the position of the British and American Forces during the operations against New Orleans, from 23d December, 1814, to 18th January, 1815. Engraved by Rowe, from a drawing by J. E. ....	484

Cambridge University Press  
978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33  
Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

## PREFACE

TO THE THIRTY-THIRD VOLUME.

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**T**HE number itself of the present Volume of the NAVAL CHRONICLE, carries with it an ample recommendation to its readers. But our confidence in its favourable reception is founded in the consciousness, that our endeavours have been earnestly directed to the end of rendering it worthy of the very respectable patronage by which it continues to be honoured, and to induce an extension of it, by adhering, as far as they can be consistently maintained, to the leading principles under which it commenced its publication—" To do good ; and to give pain to no one ; to render justice unto those who deserve praise, and have experienced neglect ; to cheer the uniformity of which the mariner complains, and to render him sensible of the sources from whence much amusement and instruction may be derived ; and also to enable the public to form a more correct and enlarged idea of that profession, by whose exertions Great Britain stands pre-eminent in the scale of political importance." Such are the principles of the NAVAL CHRONICLE, whose pages are always open in the practical application of them, for the publicity of naval grievances, whether of general or individual relation, respectfully stated (and surely in no other form of statement can redress be considered as its object) ; Biography, as commemorating distinguished acts of naval service ; suggestions tending to naval improvements ; articles of Hydrographical, Geographical, or Philosophical information ; interesting Narratives of Shipwreck, or other relations of naval danger or enterprise, tending to display the relative resources of security or extrication ; observations on Commerce, as to its varieties of place, and views of profit, &c. &c.

Of this valuable assemblage of various information, we are now to notice that portion contained in the present Volume, and



Cambridge University Press  
 978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33  
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 Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

respectfully to acknowledge our grateful obligations to those gentlemen by whom it has been so kindly communicated.

Whatever be the merits of the Biographical part of the Volume, we cannot go far into them without either subjecting ourselves to the imputation of (if we may be excused another fracture of poor Priscian's head) *Egotism*, and of the most revolting kind—or of a certain degree of reputational suicide—therefore of ourselves we would rather hear than speak.

The Correspondence of this Volume will be found unexceptionably good; differing, indeed, in degrees of interest, but rather as resulting from the subject-matter than the talents of the writers. To Arion we are greatly indebted: his excellent letters II. and III. to Lord Melville, on the justice and necessity of affording to the declining age of naval officers a more efficient support, will be found at pages 28 and 115. His remarks on the conclusion of the war with America, as also those on the resumption of the government of France by Buonaparte, at pages 127 and 296, are just and interesting. At page 380, is his fourth letter to Lord Melville, on the hardship of continuing the deduction of property-tax from the half-pay of naval officers.

The contributions of Albion, Nestor, and Alfred, on the regulation of the navy, at pages 43, 221, 222, and 223, evince a truly laudable zeal for its improvement, by showing the absolute necessity of it, and pointing out the way. Albion's consideration of the failure at New Orleans, page 295, may be compared with the account of that unfortunate expedition, at page 385, a very interesting article, and which seems to account for it circumstantially, and in a manner which calls imperiously for inquiry respecting the truth of the statement. Nestor's observations, page 301, on the re-entry of Buonaparte into France, and his consequent naval remarks, must obtain the assent of every rational and unprejudiced reader. Sisyphus, on the loss sustained by captured naval officers, in the exchange of pay, &c. page 43, as true in his statement, and in his reasoning conclusive, was

## PREFACE.

vii

entitled to the consideration of those to whose province it belonged to redress the grievance, and we flatter ourselves that he did not write in vain. The like grievance attending the pay of seamen on foreign stations, is ably stated by Philo-Nauticus, page 133. Mentor, on the loss incurred by naval officers in the case of Shipwreck, page 228, is equally entitled to notice, and we hope to see these causes of complaint likewise removed. The observations of A Constant Reader, on the renewal of the East India Company's Charter, at page 290, will be read with interest as the remarks of an apparently well-informed writer. A course of very conclusive argument on the admission of India-built ships to British registry, will be found at page 382. To A Reader of the N. C. at page 474, for his remarks on the Memoir of Lieutenant Peshall. To J. C. for his truly patriotic letter, page 479. To Nestor, for his letter, page 470, on the expedition to New Orleans. To An Observer, for his observations on the piratical depredations of the Algerines, at page 472. To Orion, for his letter, page 472; and to all our worthy Correspondents, our thanks, though generally expressed, we wish to be received as addressed individually, with a due sense of the favours conferred.

In the Nautical Selections, we have been directed in our choice by a desire to unite the *utile cum dulce*; and considering it as a department of the work peculiarly adapted to the reception of miscellaneous information, and amusing anecdote, we invite our kind Correspondents to the communication of such articles of suitable pith and brevity, as it may be in their power to collect or recollect. For this purpose, all hours are favourable, whether of business or leisure, of retirement or sociality; the various characters and pursuits of men, to the eye and mind of a diligent observer, may prove an ample source both of information and amusement, if the occurrence of word or action, of wit or invention, be accurately noticed and timely registered—we are at the same time not to be understood as encouraging the notice of crude

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01872-2 - The Naval Chronicle, Volume 33

Edited by James Stanier Clarke and John McArthur

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

## PREFACE.

remarks, or common-place wit, or barren relations of ordinary occurrences ; but seamen are naturally narrative—the variety of scenes through which their profession leads them, and the felicity of expression which many of them possess, may easily account for it ; and as such men are always heard with pleasure, with pleasure they would undoubtedly as often be read.

We could have wished that our Letters on Service had worn a prouder aspect—yet still in that which they present may be seen features of real dignity, and eminently significant of the British character. It is not in the nature of human affairs to be always prosperous—success on one side generally implies adversity on another—and in the hands of Impartial Justice the scales must vacillate.

In the Hydrographical department of the Volume, will be found various subjects of peculiar information and considerable interest ; and to our respected friend the Hydrographer, our thanks are justly due for the regularity of his obliging communications.

Of the work, generally, may we presume to say, that considering its impartiality, there never was a public literary vehicle within the sphere of its profession, so deservedly entitled to the general countenance and support of the navy. Being alike promulgatory of the *pro* and *con* of all naval questions of whatever kind, its capability of service is of infinite extent ; while its means of access are accommodated to every species of convenience ; and our endeavours to increase its general interest and value in every thing which regards the improvement and prosperity of the British Navy, will, we doubt not, obtain for the NAVAL CHRONICLE that general and liberal patronage in it to which, by its exclusive dedication, it is so justly entitled.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)



*Blood, sc*

*Sir Philip Bowes Vere Broke Bar.<sup>t</sup> K.C.B.  
Captain R.N.*



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