Karteria Dec 29
1827
off Vasiladhi

My Lord
I have the honor to inform you, that after having transported the troops of General Church from Cape Papas to Dragomestie. I undertook the blockade of Vasiladhi for which purpose I put in requisition the small craft after mentioned and employed them to intercept all communication with Vasiladhi. This flotilla I placed under the orders of my first Lieutenant Mr Falanga & on the night of the 16th they entered & commenced the blockade, which has been so strictly observed up to this day that nothing had entered Vasiladhi: one boat with a letter & fresh provisions was captioned by our flotilla. I anchored, the gun boat Helvetia in company outside Vasiladhi. Your Lordship is aware that the Helvetia was aimed with a long 32 pounder (which in my opinion) is very inferior in every point of view to a 68, but indisputably [1] so for cannonading a fort only to be reduced by shells: for this reason, I changed her 32-pounder long gun for a 68-pounder cannonade. On the 22 I bombarded Vasiladhi alone (the gunboat having been detached with little effect, the weather being unfavorable; nor could I recommence until today when, considering the distance we were off (about 1 ¾ mile) & the diminutive size of the object fired at) better practice had rarely been displayed: four shells out of seven, from this Ship & gunboat exploded in & one blew up their Magazine. I immediately ordered an assault, in which all the boats took part. The Turks intimidated by the explosion & by our attitude of attack called for quarter, which I granted them although they had previously forfeited then lives, by firing on a flag of truce. I sent to them with terms of capitulation). I embarked the prisoners on board this ship & from them [2] conveyed them in safety to near Missolonghi. They were 30 in number & 1 Greek badly wounded; I have retained on hoard to be treated by our Surgeon. The original number was from forty to fifty, the deficit having been killed off, by our previous cannonading & by the explosion.
I am happy My Lord to testify by the exemplary conduct of the Greeks during the whole of this service - they have borne the fatigues & privations of a winter's blockade in open boats with extraordinary patience & the forbearance they displayed towards the Turks rendered any interference of mine in their favor superfluous. Of my officers Lieutenant Falanga & Capt. Hane - M.A. I have only to repeat the often-told tale of their meritorious conduct. To Mr. Fabricius commanding the Gunboat Helvetia I feel much indebted for his deal and activity, & I am happy to have so deserving an officer under my orders. The fort of Vasiladhi mounts 12 guns (three of which are of that remarkably useful piece of ordnance the Turkish [3] ticorne. I have offered to deliver the fort of Vasiladhi to General Church upon his remuneration for their services those employed in taking it.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your very obedient
very humble servant.
Frank Abney Hastings
Captain of the G.N. W
Karteria

To his Excellency
Admiral Lord Cehrane
et etc etc

List of small vessels employed in taking Vasiladhi:
A mistico Galaxidhioti. Capt Migiaki, the same sent with me into the Gulf of Lepanto, & who has served with me ever since.
A mistico Galaxidhioti A Bovee.
An aimed rowboat
Two of my pure launches aimed each with a nine pounder.
A Bratsiera
5 Monoxolies or canoes for the shallows