

Ld. Sandwich

Report from  
Lieutenant Bayne

Fortescue 3095

3896

July 2<sup>d</sup>: 1780.

Lieutenant Bayne reports that on Wednesday last in the evening he fell in with the *Alfred* & *Proserpine* part of admiral Gearys fleet, which was then in sight; the captain of the *Proserpine* recieved on board Mr Baines dispatches for the said admiral, & in passing him said that the French fleet were then off Belleisle to the number of 20 sail of the line, & advised him to return to Plymouth, as he was of opinion that the admiral knew of, & was then in pursuit of the French fleet; at nine the *Proserpine* & the body of the fleet were out of sight, the rear of the fleet with their studdying sails set supposed



to be standing after the French Fleet with  
all the sail they could carry; when  
then bore N. E. 12 or 14 leagues.

While Mr Bayne was in company with  
the Alfred; the admiral made a signal  
by hoisting a blue & white flag at his  
Mizen peak & firing two guns, which  
was repeated by a frigate; then the  
Alfred made all the sail she could to  
join the headmost ships; & it was ~~that~~<sup>at</sup>  
this time that she sent the Proserpine  
down to Mr Bayne to receive his dispatches.