

Facsimile of Lord Nelson's last letter.

Victory Oct. 19th 1805
 North Cadiz ESE 16 Leagues

My Dearest beloved Emma the dear
 friend of my bosom the signal has
 been made that the Enemies combined
 fleet are coming out of Port, we
 have very little Wind so that I have
 no hopes of seeing them before tomorrow
 May the God of Battles crown my
 endeavours with success at all events
 I will take care that my name shall ever
 be most dear to you and Horatia both
 as home I love as much as my own
 life, and as my last writing before the
 battle will be to you so I hope in God that
 I shall live to finish my letter after the

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Facsimile of Lord Nelson's last
 letter to Lady Hamilton.

Oct. 19-20 1805

Battle, may Heaven bless you pray
your Nelsons route, Oct. 20th in the
morning we were close to the mouth of the
Strait but the Wind had not come far
enough to the Westward to allow the combined
force of Weather the Shoals off Trafalgar but
they were counted as far as forty sail of ships
of War which I suppose to be 3/4 of the Line
and six frigates, a group of them was
seen off the Lighthouse of Lady this Morn^g
but it blows so very fresh I think Weather
that I rather believe they will go into
the Harbour before night, May God
almighty give us success over these fellows

and enable us to get a Peace

This letter was found open on
His Clerk L. Boyd to
Lady Hamilton by

Captain Hardy

Oh miserable wretched
Emma
Oh glorious & happy Nelson

On the morning of the 19th of October, 1805, the combined fleets of France and Spain lying in Cadix harbour, began to get under weigh. At half past 9 am. a signal was made that the Enemy's fleet were coming out of Port. At 3 pm. Nelson received the long wished for intelligence that they were at Sea. It was then, that, rejoicing at the near approach of that moment he had so ardently coveted, Nelson perused the interesting document of which (by the kind permission of the Trustees of the British Museum,) we here present a facsimile. It was found open on his desk, together with one addressed to his daughter, Miss Horatia Nelson Thompson, now in the possession of Mrs H. N. Ward. In the last writing of Nelson Lady Hamilton has added: "This letter was found open on his desk, and brought to Lady Hamilton, by Captain Hardy. Oh miserable wretched Emma, Oh glorious and happy Nelson." The Envelope containing these letters is superscribed "The enclosed letters were found after the action, and sealed up in the presence of the Rev^d Mr. Scott, - signed I.M. Hardy."

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Facsimile of H. Nelson's last
letter to Lady Hamilton.

Oct. 19 - 20 1805

