

perceiving her error, in getting sternboard, filled away with an intention of tacking athwart the bows of the Constitution, and the ship on the stern fell off, perfectly unmanageable. The Constitution then filled away, in full pursuit of the former, came within 100 yards of her, and gave her several raking broadsides. She made all sail before the wind, with a view to escape, and captain Stewart knowing her crippled situation would enable him to overhaul her, at any time after securing her consort, wore round, and ranged along side the latter ship, from which a gun was fired to leeward, to signify that she had surrendered. Possession was then taken, by lieutenant Hoffman, of his Britannic majesty's frigate Cyane, captain Gordon Falkon, of 34 guns, 32-pound carronades. Her commander and officers being brought on board, captain Stewart sailed in chase of the other vessel, and in a short time discovered her, standing for him on the weather bow. In a few minutes the enemy fired a broadside, which being instantly returned, he tacked ship, made all sail, and at that moment received a rake from the starboard broadside of the Constitution. Upon gaining his wake, captain Stewart opened a fire from his gun deck chase guns, with such effect, that the enemy hove too, and surrendered, with five feet water in his hold, his masts tottering, and nothing but the smoothness of the sea preventing them from going overboard. Lieutenant Ballard was sent on board, and took possession of his Britannic majesty's ship *Levant*, capt. Douglass, of 18 32-pound carronades, and 2 large 12-pounders. The loss on board the *Cyane* and *Levant* amounted to 40 men killed, and nearly double that number wounded; on board the Constitution, where no other spar was lost than the fore top gallant yard, 4 men were killed and 11 wounded. On the 10th of March, captain Stewart entered the harbour of Port Praya, with his prizes, and on the 11th, a British squadron, consisting of the *Leander*, sir George Collier; the *Newcastle*, lord George Stewart, neither of them carrying less than 60 guns; and the frigate *Acasta*, captain Kerr, of 44 guns, which had sailed from the eastern coast of the United States, in quest of the Constitution, appeared off its entrance. Captain Stewart immediately made sail, escaped from the harbour with his squadron, and was closely pursued

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