**L110-001 Two letters from Maurice Nelson to Alexander Davison, Esq, October 2nd and 3rd 1798**

***CONTEXT BACKGROUND TO THE LETTER:***

*Maurice Nelson (1753-1811) was Horatio Nelson’s younger brother (incidentally, Horatio ‘employed’ Maurice as Royal Navy Chaplain on his frigate HMS Boreas**when he served in the Leeward Islands squadron in the West Indies in the 1780’s, but Maurice wasn’t happy in Antigua so came home, but was still ‘employed’ on the ship!). This letter was written to Nelson’s Prize Agent, Alexander Davison, giving him the news that Horatio had won the mighty Battle of the Nile, off Aboukir Bay on the Nile Delta of Egypt, against Napoleon’s French Mediterranean Squadron. The battle took place on the 1st to the 3rd of August, 1798. The letter encloses a note from Horatio which relates to the number of ships he has captured during the battle (Prizes).*

**L110-001**

Alexander Davison Esq

Swarland

Near Morpeth

Northumberland

**L110-002**

Navy Office 3rd Octr 1798/

My Dear Sir/

The enclosed I have this day received

from my Brother altho’ it is probable you will hear

by the same conveyance yet I think it proper to give

you the information not any thing is necessary to

be done at present.

Yours most truly

Maurice Nelson

**L110-003**

Alexander Davison Esq

Swarland

Near Morpeth

Northumberland

[*Written vertically, top-to-bottom, down the side of the page**by Nelson*]

No Gazette in time for the Post – therefore inform

you 9 Sail of the Line & 2 frigates are taken 2 Sail of the

line Burnt 2 Sail of the line & 2 frigates escaped, The

French Admiral & his Captn are killed – we have lost

Captn Westcote of the *Majestic* – Sir James

*[page torn here; letter is incomplete – see L110-005]*

**L110-004**

Navy Office 2nd Octr 1798

My Dear Sir/

My mind is so agitated I cannot

write have therefore enclosed you a Gazette which I

hope will give you first tidings of the signal

Victory obtained by my Brother he is slightly

wounded & was well when Captn  Capel left him, but

he has written to Lady Spencer to say that his

Surgeon has advised him to return to England so

that I hope we shall soon see him again I now

think he has done enough & I hope the Country will

think so too. The Prizes are on their passage home

under convoy of the ships that have suffered most.

Pray present my best complts  to Mrs Davison and believe

me to be with great truth

Yours most truly

Maurice Nelson

Alexr Davison, Esq. Swarland turn over/

**L110-005**

[*Nelson’s note repeated but including missing line from above L110-003*]

No Gazette in time for the Post – therefore inform

you 9 Sail of the Line & 2 frigates are taken 2 Sail of the

line Burnt 2 Sail of the line & 2 frigates escaped, The

French Admiral & his Captn are killed – we have lost

Captn Westcote of the *Majestic* – Sir James Saumarez & Captn

Darly slightly wounded we have not lost a ship./