

Reference

Encyclopedia Britannica ; Vol. 4 ; 274

Dundonald, Thomas Cochrane, 10th earl of.
author of "Autobiography of a Seaman", 2 Vol. (1860-61)

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18 year old

In 1793, upon Great Britain's resumption of the war with France after the beheading of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, audacious Lord Cochrane was commissioned as a midshipman in the Royal Navy on board HMS HIND, a frigate commanded by his uncle Alexander Cochrane, armed with a single tier of twenty-eight 9 pounders, where he received a rigorous introduction to seamanship, and ultimately was assigned to operations in the Mediterranean Sea. After his refusal to refrain from ^{threatening to} criticize Lord Gambier at the admiral's court martial ^{in 1809}, plus his continuing attempt to eliminate parliamentary favoritism in promotions, the admiralty tried to silence him by denying him seagoing assignments. In February 1814 however, the Admiralty was able to implicate him in a plot by his ^{uncle} cousin Archibald to manipulate stock prices by spreading false rumors of Napoleon's death. Once more a court martial was convened, and by using bribed witnesses ^{and jurors} and antagonistic judges, the biased magistrate could sentence both Lord Cochrane, and Archibald, Vice Admiral Cochrane's younger brother, to spend twelve months in prison plus expulsion from parliament, cancellation of his Order of the Bath, and physical ejection of both men into the street in front of Westminster Abbey, all without informing Vice Admiral Cochrane. (?)

Ref. Thomas Cochrane; 221-229

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* The Naval Journal Vol. x xvi - 1814 only reported that Lord Cochrane had been refused command of the frigates being sent to Bermuda as being

July 8-11
1814

his banner of Knight Commander of the Bath taken down from its place in King Henry VII's Chapel in Westminster and ceremonially paraded out of the chapel & down the Prince Regent gave personal command to remove Cochrane from the Navy List and also ordered him stripped of his Order of the Bath by hacking off the spurs of knight hood using a butcher's cleaver

£1000 and placed in the gallery opposite the Royal Exchange for one hour

* subsequently remitted for the three offenders

sarcastically "for energetic" a response for the Admiralty