

No.	Service:		Rank:	Names & Service Information:	Supporting Information:
2.	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb. 1837	27 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 1837.	Captain	<p><b>William Pryce Cumby, C.B., R.N.</b></p> <p><b>B. 20 Mar 1771</b>, Heighington, near Durham [or alternatively in Dover].  <b>D. 27 Sept 1837</b>. Aged <b>66</b>, died in post, on board the "<i>Royal Sovereign</i>", whilst off the Pater Yard.</p> <p><b>1784</b>. - Entered the Navy as a servant to the lieutenant commanding the cutter, "<i>Kite</i>".</p> <p><b>1792</b> - Promoted to lieutenant at 21years, fought in French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars.</p> <p><b>1804</b> - Appointed first lieutenant of the third rate "<i>Bellerophon</i>".</p> <p><b>Oct 1805</b> - Flag Lieutenant Collingwood's Division. <b>Battle of Trafalgar</b>, Cumby shared in the rewards after Trafalgar. He was promoted twice in rapid succession, to commander on <b>24 December 1805</b>, and to post-Captain on <b>1 January 1806</b>. Cumby advised his captain to remove his jacket because it made him a target for French snipers, but Cooke refused and sent Cumby below to direct the gunnery. A few minutes later, hearing the rush of battle above, Cumby ran up the ladders to the deck where he met the mortally wounded Overton who informed Cumby of Cooke's death in hand-to-hand combat with a French boarding party.</p> <p>"<i>Bellerophon</i>" rapidly found herself sandwiched between the Spanish "<i>Monarca</i>" and the French "<i>L'Aigle</i>", both pouring fire into the Cooke's last words had been ".....<i>Tell Lieutenant Cumby never to strike!....</i>" Realising that he was now in command of the ship, Cumby then withdrew his men from the poop deck and into the waist of the ship, where the threat from enemy grenades was not as high. He then ordered the guns trained on the French boarding parties, which they annihilated. This enabled Cumby to board the "<i>L'Aigle</i>", at one point picking up a lit grenade to extinguish it, and capture the vessel. Proclaimed a hero after the battle, Cumby was rewarded with promotion to Post Captain and given the "<i>Polyphemus</i>", another Trafalgar veteran. With this he conducted numerous raids on the coast of Santo Domingo from <b>1807 to 1809</b>.</p> <p>His service in the Caribbean culminated in his command of the squadron that blockaded the city of San Domingo. The operation was so successful that the city surrendered in short order, and Cumby was highly praised by his opponents for his gentlemanly behaviour following the surrender.</p> <p><b>17 Feb 1845</b> - Captain of "<i>Royal Sovereign</i>", Pembroke. And Captain Superintendent of the Pater Royal Dockyard.</p> <p><b>1845</b>. He died in the same year "in-office" at Pembroke Dock. Aged <b>66</b>, he was buried Park Street (South) graveyard, Pembroke Dock. The graveyard, now a recreational area, however Cumby's grave in part remains in place. A street near the royal dockyard was named Cumby Terrace in his honour. A commemorative plaque recounts</p>	 <p>Memorial in St. Michael's Church, Heighington, near Durham. A stone within the Park Street south Cemetery has the much the same wording. Captain William Pryce Cumby, C.B., died on board "<i>Royal Sovereign</i>" in <b>1837</b> and was buried in the old Park Street (South) Cemetery.</p>

			<p>his prominence, as does a similar, larger plaque at his local church St Michael's, where he was born. The Inscription on his tomb reads</p>	
			<p><b>Inscription on his stone:</b>  Here lie The Mortal Remains of Captain William Pryce Cumby, R.N., C.B. Of H.M. Yacht Royal “<i>Sovereign</i>” And Captain Superintendent of Pembroke Dock Yard An Officer Whose zeal and professional services At Trafalgar and St. Domingo Deserved and received the approbation Of his Country His active kindness in promoting the welfare of others procured him the affectionate regard Of all who knew him The loss of one so kind and good Has taught his relations and friends How vain is every consolation But that afforded by Religion By Christian submission By Christian Hope Born XXth March MDCCCLXXI Died XXVIIth September MDCCCXXXVII.</p>	<p><b>18 Aug 1897</b> South Wales Daily News and South Wales Echo and the Cardiff Times <b>21 Aug 1897</b>, all of the Newspapers wrote articles complaining of the state and condition of the local grave yard.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A HERO'S NEGLECTED GRAVE AT PEMBROKE.</b></p> <p>.....In the old disused church cemetery at South Park-street, Pembroke Dock, rest the mortal remains of numerous naval and military heroes. Amongst them <b>Captain William Pryce Cumby, R.N., C.B.</b>, is perhaps the most conspicuous. His tomb, which is of rudely-dressed limestone, is rectangular in shape, and is entirely devoid of artistic embellishment, unless a roughly wrought panel at each side can be so described. It is enclosed by an iron railing with the tomb of Arthur Dalhousie, son of <b>Captain Ramsay, R.N.</b>, afterwards Earl Dalhousie, a former superintendent of Pembroke Dock. <i>Young Ramsay died from injuries sustained by falling from the roof of one of the building sheds at the dockyard 40 years ago.</i> A large weeping willow, which grows close by, spreads its branches over both tombs and keeps them in perpetual shadow. Grass and ground ivy straggle about around them in a condition showing unmistakable evidence of neglect. Surrounding the tomb are the graves of the paymaster, surgeon, and boatswain of the <b>Royal Sovereign</b>, which was the last ship of which <b>Captain Cumby</b> had command, and that of Lieutenant Colonel Edward Baillee, of the Portsmouth Division of Royal Marines, commandant of the Pembroke Garrison, who died on June 15th, 1837. Very meagre details of <b>Captain Cumby's</b> family connections and personal history are available, but the few, of which record has been preserved, show him to have been a daring and skilful officer. He was first lieutenant of the <b>Bellophon</b>, in the action off Cape Trafalgar on October 21st, 1805, and on the death of Captain Cooke, who was killed in that action, he assumed command of the ship. He was eventually appointed to the <b>Royal Sovereign</b>, and became superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard. Several oil portraits of him are extant, one of which is in the possession of a cottager residing near Milton, Pembrokeshire. The inscription on <b>Captain Cumby's</b> tomb is as follows: - “Here lies the mortal remains of <b>Captain Wm. Pryce Cumby, R.N., C.B.</b>, of H.M. Royal yacht <b>Royal Sovereign</b>, and Captain-Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard. An officer, whose zeal and professional services at Trafalgar and St. Domingo deserved and received the approbation of his country. His active kindness in promoting the welfare of others procured the affectionate regard of all who knew him. The loss of one so kind and good has taught his relations and friends how vain is every consolation but that afforded by religion, by Christian submission, and by Christian hope. Born 20th March, 1771, died 27th September, 1837.” .....</p>