

# The London Gazette.

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Whitehal, June 4.

**T**he Seamen of the *Royal Charles* put on shore the last night by a Catch at *Harwich*, came hither this afternoon, who tell us, That in the Engagement on Friday and Saturday, we both days had the Enemy in chace, and had certainly given a very good account of them; but that on Saturday in the Evening they were re-inforced with the Succors of 16 fresh Ships. That on Sunday our Fleet began to stand over towards our own Coasts, finding themselves so much over-powred in number, and tired out with continual service, and their tackle much torn; but more especially hoping for the arrival of the Prince, of whose approach, His Grace, the Lord General, was informed by a Packet, dispatched by him from *Harwich*, by the same Vessel that brought on board the Earl of *Ossory*, with Sir *Thomas Clifford*; who to testifie to the world their great zeal for the service of their Prince and Countrey, in so eminent an occasion, arrived on board the Admiral on Saturday Evening.

In this retreat, which was managed with all imaginable care and prudence, the Lord General commanded the men out of the *St. Paul*, and two other Slug Ships, that seemed unserviceable, and might probably have otherwise fallen into the Enemies power, and for prevention set them on fire. Towards the Evening of that day, appeared the Princes Squadron; upon whose approach, the enemy leaving 50 Sail to make good against the General, sent out 30 other to intercept the Princes fleet; but the Prince waving them, made up to the General, at which time these two Seamen came away; but affirm, that we had then taken and fired fourteen of the enemies Ships: They say likewise, that they left the General well, having onely received a slight bruise on the Hand by a Splinter, and his Breeches shot through by another shot. That amongst other rencontres, he was attacked by a Vice-Admiral of the Enemy, who boldly attempted to board him, coming up so near, as that the Yard-Arms touched; but the General received him with so full a broad side, besides a volley of small shot, that the Enemy immediately fell to the Stern, and appeared no more, nor any other afterwards to take his place; yet so, as the General had between 30 and 40 men knocked down and killed in that salve. They say also, That on Saturday they saw four or five of the Enemies Ships on fire, whether by accident or otherwise, they could not tell; and that our men behaved themselves with infinite courage and resolution, they telling of near a dozen, who themselves were seen to bind up their shattered members, and presently to fall again to work upon the Decks.

The greatest part of this relation is confirmed by a Letter from Captain *Clark* of the *Glocester*, who arrived the last night at the *Gunfleet*, much endamaged by the fight, where he found the *Anne*, the *Bristol*, and *Antelope*: Capt. *Bacon* of the *Bristol* being killed, and Capt. *Holts* of the *Antelope* having lost an arm.

In another Letter from the *Lilly*, at the *North-Forland* of the same date, the Captain tells us, He saw Prince *Rupert* with his Fleet yesterday coming up to the General, and then all the *Hollanders* tackt to the Northward, and our ships after them; that Prince *Rupert* was within shot of the weathermost Yard of the Enemies Fleet, the wind being then S. S. East, and he heard Chace Guns all the forepart of the night, and saw one Ship on fire.

*Pembroke*, May 28. Two *Virginia* ships touched here, staying only one tide, and went away for *Bristol*: Several provision ships with a Fleet of Colliers about 40 sail, are under the Convoy of the *Martin* and a small Catch, bound

for *Portsmouth*; we are just now informed of the arrival of a Vessel of 200 Tuns, and eight Guns belonging to *Plymouth*, bound for *Bristol*. She formerly carried out from *Plymouth* to *Tangier*, thirty soldiers with Provisions; in her return she met with an *Hollands* Man of War of 24 Guns, whom she fought very bravely, and at last brought by the Lee, but had not Men enough to board her; she received many hundred shot, but no hurt save only in her Rigging and Sails.

*Falmouth*, May 30. The 26 instant, 24 or 26 sail were discovered off of *Fowey*, the Country people suspecting them Enemies, took some little alarm for their own security, but it presently passed over.

*Plymouth*, June 1. A private Man of War belonging to *London*, took out of this Harbor a pretended *Hamburger*, and two *Offenders* laden with French Wines, and carried them into *Fowey* as prizes, but they are there secured from further injury, till better proof be made what they are.

Yesterday we had a very violent storm, the wind at South East, which notwithstanding did no hurt to any of his Majesties Fregats, whereof there are now several at Anchor here, and in Harbor; but a *Portugal* ship of 200 Tuns laden with 400 Chests of white Sugar, and other rich goods, bound for *London*, was by its violence driven ashore upon the Rocks, and presently broken in peices, the goods all lost, and five of the Men, the rest saved.

*Harwich*, June 4. We have this farther account of the Fleet, from a maymed Ship brought in hither: That on Friday the first instant the Fleet engaged about one of the Clock, and the contest was hot till ten at night; The Duke had all his Tackle taken off by Chain-shot, and his Breeches to his Skin were shot off, but he Rigged again with Jewry Masts, and fell into the whole body of the Dutch Fleet; where he attacked *de Ruiter*. Four of their great Ships were sunk, and one fired of seventy six Guns, being a Vice-Admiral, whose Men we took up. The *Henry* was assailed by 3 Fire-ships, but he got them off, with the loss of 100 of his Men, and was so shattered that he was sent off to Harbor: The Dutch Fleet were reckoned seventy six Sail, and ten Fire-ships. On Saturday the Fight was again renewed with greater violence then before, they loosing three Sail more, and we wanting four, the *Swiftsure*, the *Spread-Eagle*, the *Loyal-George*, and small *Katharine*; the two last Merchant Ships, but all the men saved; We here not of any more lost in the whole Fight. On Saturday Morning, the Duke sent off the wounded Men, and the disabled Ships, whereby he had about forty Sail left, with which His Grace made good his Retreat with infinite prudence and gallantry towards our own Coast, in expectation of joyning the Prince; The wind was then very slack, when it increased the Dutch came up in two Bodies, one to the North of our Fleet, and the other to the Southward; but there were not many shot exchanged, there wanting wind; and at the last to our comfort, a fresh gale brought up the Prince with our other Fleet, who joyning us, the Dutch haled close upon the wind, one part Northwards, and the other Southwards, our Fleet standing after the greater Body, which took to the Northwards.

*Bristol*, June 2. On Thursday last arrived here the *Peter* of *Cork*, laden with Skins and Beef from *Cork*, who tell us, that the Caper of six Guns, taken ten days since by the *Saphire*, yielded upon the firing of one Gun; the bullet, which is observable, lighting upon an English Man aboard him, he being the onely one, took off his arm, without further harm to the ship or company. The *Forrester* has likewise taken two Dutch Merchants of 300 Tuns a piece well laden, and another Fregate upon their Coasts has seized a Dutch Vessel with Wine, Salt,

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