

that the Pilot cleared up to the Council, that the Frigates could come near enough to the Shore to protect the Landing.

Q. When they came upon the Spot, did they find it possible to bring the Men of War near enough to the Shore to protect the Landing?

A. Certainly not.

Q. Mention having been made by Vice-Admiral Knowles of the Council of War of the 5th having broke up at 12 unfinished,—At what Time did that Council of War meet, and how long they sat?

A. He, with Sir John Mordaunt, went on the 25th early in the Morning on board the *Neptune*, and the Result of that Council was not actually finished that Night; they had chiefly come to a Resolution over Night, but the Result was wrote out fair, and signed on board the Deponent's Ship the next Morning.

Q. What Time, he imagines, it would have taken up to have made the whole Landing of the Troops?

A. That at the last Council of War, in which it was determined to land, he made a Proposal to the General Officers, in order to save Time, that, if they approved of it, he would immediately order all the Transports as close to the Shore, as they could possibly go, and the Frigates within them, at the Place where the Troops were to land, that they might get on Shore with the greater Expedition: This Proposal was seconded by Mr. Knowles, and by the rest of the Sea-Officers, but was objected to, principally by Major-General Conway, who urged, that to send the Transports in there in the Afternoon, would point out to the French the Place, at which they intended to land; he does not remember Sir John Mordaunt said any thing on the Subject, and thence concluded, he agreed in Opinion with Major-General Conway. The Deponent explained, that the Frigates were meant as a Protection to the Transports, to preserve them from being fired, or receiving any Injury. He remarks one other Thing, that although landing Troops in the Night