

But (as I have already observed) his Office is not purely military. He should have

in the *American Army*: From these, I shall only select two, which may serve as a Specimen of their general Character.

In the Year 1759, after the glorious Reduction of *Ticonderoga*, and after having seen that important Fortrefs of *Crown-Point* put on a respectable Footing, Mr. *Amherst* determined with his little Army to effect, if possible, a Junction with General *Wolfe*, in the River *St. Lawrence*; but many almost insurmountable Obstacles lay in his Way; amongst the rest some armed Ships of considerable Force; one of which was anchored about a Mile from the Shore. This, two common Soldiers, or non-commissioned Officers, undertook to set on fire. They were accordingly furnished with Machines, somewhat on the Principle of what I am told military Men call a Petard, which they were to carry in their Hats, as the only Means of preserving them dry: Thus accoutred, they swam silently to the Ship, and actually fixed one of them to its Stern; in the Operation, they were unfortunately discovered, and challenged by the Centinels on Deck; but notwithstanding this, they persisted, moved to the Head of the Ship, and repeated their Attempt; and, it is supposed, that they would actually have accomplished their Scheme, had there not been some unlucky Defect in the Composition, which would not take Fire; so the Miscarriage must be imputed alone to the Artillery Officer, who prepared the Composition. However, notwithstanding

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