

notwithstanding there was in port then, exclusive of his fleet, seventeen of the line and thirteen frigates ready for sea, and eleven of the line and nineteen frigates fitting: great part of which might also have been sent with him: for there was no armament at that time at *Brest* or *Rockfort*, but that designed for *Canada*: nor was there any necessity to keep one fourth of them at home to oppose any armament in the *French* ports upon the *Chanuel*; for there was not one man of war in them, and by authentic accounts, no more ships or boats of all nations at *Dunkirk*, *Graveline*, *Calais*, and *Boulogne*, than could possibly transport more than 6000 men, nor at *Havre* and *Dicppe* no more than common; nor was there at any one time during the alarm of an invasion, any more shipping, or any preparations for an embarkation, except measuring the vessels to know how many men they would carry. So that the danger of an invasion cannot excuse the long neglect of *Minorca*, nor the sending of so insufficient a force at last.

THAT it appears that the squadron of his Majesty's ships in the *Mediterranean* in the beginning of *December* 1755 consisted of one ship of 60, two of 50 guns, four frigates and one sloop and no more, and that the garrison of *Fort St. Philip*, in the said month of *December* according to the last returns made on the 31st of *July* 1755 consisted of 2860 men, officers included, and no more, and that after that time no

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