

Crancé, commissary of war, d'Halinour and de Semerville, to hearken to the conversation in order to be able to make a report of it. He caused it to be cried out three times in English, "Are we in peace or at war?" The answer was, "We don't understand you." The same question was repeated in French; the same answer. M. Hocquart made it then himself; the Captain answered twice and very distinctly, "Peace, peace." M. Hocquart added, "What is the name of the Admiral?" "Admiral Boscawen," replies the Englishman. says M. Hocquart: "I know him, he is a friend of mine." To which the Englishman replied, "You, sir! what is your name?" "Hocquart." The time of uttering these words was the only interval between the word peace and the broadside, which declared war to us: we were then within half pistol-shot, the guns of the enemy were loaded with double balls and old iron of all sorts; that, together with the confidence which the word Peace uttered by, and coming from the mouth of a Captain, was the occasion of our losing a great number of men. Our fire suffered however no delay by this; we remained some time with our bowsprit across this ship, continuing a very hot fire of our cannons and small arms, which was directed on four or five vessels which were firing on us, among which were the Admiral and Rear Admiral: but what could we hope in the situation we were in? having
our