

The French  
is Fire, but soon  
other and another  
not so well, the  
at once, and re-  
of her. The  
was a faint one :  
terrible Fate of so  
named the *Superbe*,  
on Board,—20 of  
morning from the

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of the shore, their Decks exposed never-  
theless, the Coasts of the *Tidje* and *Capitaine* being  
the lower Deck Ports, in the very Time  
the *Reine* had were thereby overlet in a Moment, very few  
of their Men could be saved, and not one Officer. The *Formi-*  
*dable* struck before Five, and had some of her Prisoners taken;  
the *Hero* struck soon after, but a heavy Gale of Wind suc-  
ceeding the whole Night, she could not be boarded. Nine  
Sail of the Enemy went for *Villain* River, and M. *Confiant*,  
with six Sail more, passed the Tower of *Croisie*, and the  
Mouth of *Namur* River, in order to acquaint M. *Boupart* at  
*Rochfort* how roughly he had been handled by Sir *Edward*  
*Hawke*, who had relieved all his Compliments thro' the French  
Fleet for *Confiant* in the *Le Soleil Royal*.

To the foregoing we may add what is mentioned in another Letter, that 7 or 8 others ran aground, but got off again at high Tide, and are now crept into the Entrance of the little River *Villains*, where we don't despair of setting them on Fire. Whether we succeed in this or not, we have Room to believe they received so much Damage, that very few of them will be able to put to Sea again, as they lay many Hours upon the Ground, and were obliged to throw their Guns overboard to lighten them. Capt. *Duffy* of the *Dorsetshire*, and Capt. *Spoke* of the *Redoubtable*, have gained immortal Honour; the Admiral told them, in the warmth of his Gratitude, they had behaved like Angels. There were many others who had a considerable Share in the Action, and will doubtless be honour'd by those who were more connected with them. It gives me very sensible Pleasure to assure you, that I do not hear of a single Imputation throughout the whole Squadron. The Glory of the British Flag has been nobly supported, while that of the Enemy is vanisht into Empty Air.

After the Fight, Sir Edward sent to the Town of *Croisfe*, a small Distance off, to ask Leave to send some Ships up the River *Villaine*, to burn and destroy those that had took Refuge there, and upon Refusal, threaten'd to bombard the Town. They however, ventur'd to refuse to give him Leave, and Sir Edward was as good as his Word, and threw 100 Bombs into the Town.

Sir Edward likewise sent a Ship to weigh up the Guns of the *Soleil Royal* which was burnt, but the Weather being very tempestuous, and the Tower of *Croix* firing upon her all the Time, she could get up but two, and was forced to cut her

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## Cables.