

wrought in her Bottom for that Purpose when building, on each Side near the Vessel's Quarters, and as far aft as can be*.

C H A P. IV.

Of joining three Vessels together, to be of sufficient Force for carrying large Cannon, both to annoy the Enemy and protect Troops in landing or embarking, when the Water is smooth and shallow, as mentioned in the last Chapter.

THE ingenious Shipwright is here again to be informed, that a third Property will be requisite in the Vessels treated of in the foregoing Chapter, in order to make them answer our further Purposes; namely, that they be formed strait or Wall sided, in order to lye close along side each other, when two or three of them are fastned together; but as I am somewhat suspicious that it will be scarce practicable to construct Bodies which will answer all these several Ends thoroughly, I should rather advise, considering that the Expence will be trifling, when compared with the great Advantages resulting from them, that Vessels be built on purpose, of about the same Dimensions as those last treated of: for example, sixty Feet

* It may be presumed that it will seldom be attempted to land Troops in a Sea that will not admit of Boats full of Men to go ashore with Safety; in a moderate Sea the rising of the Vessel will not lift the Stakes out of the Ground, but the Vessel will slip up and down the Stakes by the Action of the Swell, and an Anchor out to Sea will secure her from thwarting. If on the ebb Tide the Vessel be in danger of grounding, the Stakes may easily be hove out of the Ground by the Capstans and Pulleys fixed between Decks, and when she is hawled into deeper Water, the Stakes may be let down in a Moment.