

MINISTERS may alter the Nature of their Design in an Hour, and send a Fleet which was originally equipping for one Part of the World, to another; they may purposely give out different Tales to cover their Intentions, or the Powers engaged against them may be left to divine its Intent only; these Circumstances may alter or conceal the true Place of its Destination. But no Change of Sentiment or Disguise can prevent a Fleet's being discovered in sailing out of that Port in which it is armed, whether destined to the *Baltic* or *Africa*, *America* or *Japan*, however dubious the Place of its Destination may be; neither of these can alter any thing in its Manner of leaving the Harbour in which it is prepared for the Seas.

SUPPOSING then the Strength of the *French* Fleet had been perfectly known, and Mr *Boscawen* had commanded a Force sufficient to have defeated it, which he might with Ease have had under his Command, there being at that Time twenty Ships of the Line at *Spithead* more than his Squadron, most of them fully mann'd. Is there a Boatswain of the Fleet who would have sent the Admiral to the Banks of *Newfoundland*, where Darkness palpable like