

construction would have failed in safety; add to which, in a high sea they sail better. The reasons, it is supposed, why the larger ships have obtained, are, that they are certainly more respectable from carrying more men and guns, and sailing better in *smooth water*; and when upon a wind, are (in weather when they can carry sail) more *weatherly*. All which is granted; but *numbers* being wanted to protect numerous Islands, &c. and as the expence in the various articles of rigging, timber, &c. being perhaps one-third more from their being all in the *extreme*, and indeed *hardly to be procured*, it is but reasonable to start the question, Whether the small deficiency of guns might not be compensated by the advantages before-mentioned? And as what is advanced of the superior quality of our old 70 gun ships coincides with the opinion of one of our *most favourite* Admirals, perhaps the sooner we return to the former Plan, the better; for we could in that case send *more* ships of the line to sea at the same expence we are now at, and without requiring a greater number of seamen.

T H E E N D.

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E R R A T A.

Page 49, for *May 25th*, read *August 5th*.