

obliged from the scarcity of provision, which was so great, that the portion of each soldier was reduced to about as much of stinking water as could be contained in the hollow of the hand, and about the size of a walnut of biscuit per day. But the commander being importuned to discharge them, gave his consent for that purpose to one hundred and twenty, the greater part of whom died in Spain, owing to the bad treatment they received, or the illness under which they laboured.

Tuesday, sixteenth of the month, the contrary wind appearing to change, gave an opportunity for weighing anchor, and setting sail, after the captain had put seven or eight casks of water on board; but in leaving the roads a fog arose, accompanied by a great storm which, shattered the main mast, and shivered all the sails in such manner, that we all imagined we were at the end of our afflictions; on this occasion the Biscayan captain shewed the baseness of his soul, and his avarice; for full of rage he exclaimed, "O God! wilt thou at last make me lose my dear ship which cost me ten thousand franks; rather than so, let the devil take me." On this occasion, all the others aboard invoked the assistance of the Almighty, who again preserved them from this misfortune, and quelled the storm; which separated the two other vessels and barks from the commander, and drove them, the commander du Mayet, who was in one, into Valentia, in Spain, thirty-six leagues distant from the commander; captain Carles, of Bordeaux, to the islands of Bayonne, twenty-four leagues distant; and captain Campagnol, who was with the sick on board the bark, away to sea a considerable distance from the commander; this contrary wind, which became more and more violent, tossed them about nearly a fortnight, during which time ten or twelve bodies were daily thrown overboard, from the commander's vessel, which had no longer any thing to eat on board, and very little to drink; so that without the interposition of the Almighty, who by earnest prayer was induced to send a favourable wind, we were upon the point of casting lots who should be devoured by the rest. After two days and one night in this condition, they arrived at the part of the town of Gueytarge to which the Biscayan captain belonged, where they immediately obtained bread and water, through the medium of a French gentleman who was better provided than his companions, and who lent the commander money. It was ten leagues by sea from there to Fontarabia, to which place the Biscayan captain was ordered to conduct us; he however told the commander, that he had not determined to carry him any farther, but that he might go by land if he pleased; upon this the commander immediately gave advice to the governor of Fontarabia, informing him of the little respect shewn by the Biscayan to the orders of the marquis of Santa Cruz, and that owing to his neglect his people were dying. Immediately upon this, the governor sent a man to the Biscayan, ordering him upon pain of death to proceed instantly to the village of Andaye, opposite to Fontarabia, there being only a small arm of the sea between, which separates France from Spain. He accordingly immediately prepared sloops and boats to carry the commander and his people to Fontarabia, and as they were passing this little arm, a Spanish gentleman came on the part of the governor, to offer to the commander provisions, money, horses, and clothes, stating that he had directions from his Spanish majesty, to shew every kindness in his power to him, and to his people; the commander thanked him but accepted nothing of him, but horses to transport him and those who were the most ill to Bayonne, about ten or twelve leagues distant. At length they landed at the village of Andaye, on the fourth of October, where the inhabitants of the place seeing them arrive so miserable and ragged received them into their houses, and treated them in the best manner they were able; the next morning the greater part of them brought their mules, and asses, to carry them to the trembling bridge, three leagues from there; and some women