

In danger on
the North
Shore among
Rocks and
Islands.
Eight Trans-
port Ships lost.

but, on the contrary, as they lay with their Heads Southward, and the Winds Easterly, in two Hours time he found himself on the North Shore, among the Rocks and Islands, at least fifteen Leagues farther than the *Log-Line* gave, where the whole Fleet had like to have been lost, the Men of War escaping the danger with the utmost difficulty, but eight Transport Ships were cast away, and almost nine hundred Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen perished.

The *French* Pilot (who, as it was said, had been forty Voyages in this River, and eighteen of them in Command) informed him that when it happens to be so foggy as to prevent the sight of the Land, it is impossible to judge of the Currents, or to steer by any Course, for that he himself had lost two Ships, and been another time cast away upon the North Shore when he judged himself near the South, inasmuch that it was extreme difficult to procure Men in *France* to proceed on so dangerous a Navigation, since almost every Year they suffered Shipwreck.

Observation.

Thus it appeared how much things had been misrepresented in *Great Britain*, by those who pretended to aver that Fleets of Ships might safely proceed up the River to *Quebec*, and it was demonstrable that the People of *Boston* knew not any thing of what they proposed, when Schemes were laid for such an Expedition.

A Council of
War called.

Judge'd im-
practicable to
get up to Que-
bec.

After this unhappy Disaster, and when Sir *Hovenden Walker* had plied two Days with very fresh Gales between the West and the South, to save what Men, and other things he could, he called a Council of War, and upon enquiring of the Pilots, (who had been forced on board the Ships by the Government of *New England*) and duly examining into every Circumstance, it was judged impracticable for a Fleet to get up to *Quebec*, since there were so many apparent Dangers, and no Pilots qualified to take the Charge; besides, it was the Opinion of them all, both *English* and *French*, that had the Squadron been higher up the River, with the hard Gales they met with, all the Ships would inevitably have been lost. At this Council of War there were, besides the Rear-Admiral, Captain *Joseph Soanes*, Captain *John Mitchel*, Captain *Robert Arris*, Captain *George Walton*, Captain *Henry Gore*, Captain *George Paddon*, Captain *John Cockburn*, and Captain *Augustine Rouse*.

Sir Hovenden
Walker re-
pairs to Spa-
nish River.

The Consultation being over, the *Sapphire* was sent to *Boston* with an Account of the Misfortune, and the *Mountague* to find out the *Humber* and *Devonshire*, and to stop all Ships bound up to *Quebec*; and the *Leopard* being left with some Sloops and Brigantines, to take any Men from the Shore that might be saved, and to endeavour to weigh some Anchors left behind, he proceeded to *Spanish* River in the Island of *Breton*, the Rendezvous he had appointed, there to be perfectly informed of the State of the Army and Fleet, and to settle Matters for their farther Proceedings, but all the Ships did not join till the 7th of *September*.

A Council of
Sea and Land
Officers.

The 8th Day, by Consent of the General, he called a Council of War of Sea and Land-Officers, where it was considered whether, under their present Circumstances, it was practicable to attempt any thing against *Placentia*, which all of them very much inclined

to;

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to; but the Men Weeks at less, so that could be Transport barely Pro any Prosp Year being the World Officers of lonel *Wi* Colonel *A* lonel *Vet* raised in a

Pursuan ed the 16th ber; and from which how unad fallc Sugg drawing f the Duke stead of b cious Con be added happen'd Squadron at an An blew up,

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