

128 *GALLICA FIDES*: Or,

imagine the upon one of their largest Ships, which obliged her to retire, but afterwards ran ashore and was wrecked. The two Commanders in Chief were now very near, and the *Comte de Rous* gave the *Royal George* his Broad-Side; Sir *Edward* return'd the unenvied Salutation; but after two or three Exchanges of this Kind, the Marshal of France sheered off. The French Vice Admiral likewise gave Sir *Edward* his Fire, but soon follow'd the Example of his Superior; another and another did the same; but the fifth Ship escaped not so well; the *Royal George* poured her whole Fire into her at once, and repeating the same, down she went along Side of her. The *Royal George's* People gave a Cheer, but it was a fatal one: The honest Sailors were touch'd at the miserable Fate of so many hundred poor Creatures. She was named the *Superbe*, of 70 Guns, with upwards of 750 Men on Board, 10 of whom were only saved, taken up next Morning from the Wreck.

There were now several Ships upon the English Admiral, and her Situation would have been lamentable if the Enemy had preserv'd any Degree of Composure, or fired with any Sort of Direction; but their Confusion was so great, that amongst a 1000 Shot I don't believe that above 20 or 30 struck the Ship. Several Ships were crowding to the Admiral's Assistance, when the Obscurity of the Evening put an End to the Engagement. Happy Circumstance for the Enemy! as an Hour's Day-light more would have brought on their total Ruin.

By another Letter from the *Warship*, dated *Villaine Road*, Nov 28, 1759, we had these further Particulars relating to this Fight.

Mont. *Cassini*, with his powerful Squadron, neither shew'd the Bravery nor Conduct of M. *de la Clue*, with his little Fleet of seven Sail.

The Admiral of the *French* Squadron continued flying towards *Bellefleur* and its Confines, in the most irregular and confused Manner, without taking Time to Number his Enemies, and giving his Fleet no Form, neither to protect themselves, or annoy his Pursuers; but seem'd to avail himself with the Stratagem of leading our Ships into dangerous Rocks and Sands, thereby to favour his own Escape, which in some Measure succeeded, notwithstanding the prudent Behaviour of our gallant Commanders, who engag'd the Enemy mostly on the Leeward Side, thereby keeping the *French* nearest the Danger.