

can he possibly mean? Was an hospital ship wanted for the killed? or even for the wounded? Or does an admiral put the sick of his squadron into an hospital ship, unless, which is not pretended, there should be some epidemical and contagious distemper, the small pox or fever for instance, spread amongst them? Does there appear any malice to Mr. Byng, in the omission of these particulars? And was the sickly condition of our fleet, supposing his account to be true, a secret fit to be trusted, at that time, with our domestic and foreign enemies?

In the next paragraph of the same page, he goes on to say, "He would make sure of protecting Gibraltar, since it was found impracticable either to succour or relieve Minorca." How could he possibly tell? He had recalled the Phoenix and Chesterfield, "before they could get quite so near the harbour as to make sure what batteries or guns might be placed to prevent our having any communication with the castle." Then he knew nothing of its being either practicable or impracticable to succour the castle; for he never made a second attempt,