

26. Capt. *Laforey's* intrepid Conduct in the *July*. heroic Action of last Night was very justly rewarded with *Post* in *L'Echo* Frigate of 32 Guns, taken from the Enemy on the 15th of *June* last, as he was unfortunately obliged to set his own fine Capture *Le Prudent* on Fire, otherwise it is not doubted, that he would have been distinguished with the Command of that Ship—as Capt. *Balfour's* was with that of *Le Bienfaisant*, which was immediately repaired with all Diligence, to be sent to *England*.

About low Water this Day *Le Bienfaisant* was on ground, at the Place where she was secured in the dark of the Morning, upon a soft Mud: And, soon after she began to *heel*, her Main, Mizzen and Fore-topmasts had been so much wounded by the Shot from our Batteries, that they *went over* her Side, leaving her the horrid Appearance of a wrecked, as well as a conquered, Ship. Indeed, when our Ships came into the Harbour, there was hardly any Part of it, which had not the Appearance of Distress and Desolation, and presented to our View frequent Pieces of Wrecks and Remnants of Destruction—Five or six Ships *sunk* in one place with their Mast-Heads peeping out of the Water—the *stranded* Hull of *Le Prudent* on the muddy Shoal of the other side, burned down to the Water's Edge, with a great deal of her Iron and Guns staring us in the Face—Buoys of slipped Anchors *bobbing* very thick upon the Surface of the Water in the Channel towards the Town—a Number of small Craft and Boats towards that Shore, some intirely *under* Water, others with part of their Masts standing *out* of it; besides the *stranded* Hulls, Irons and Guns  
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