

of my conduct. To lose one's life or fortune, I consider but little; not so of my honour, which would be forfeit, were I to act otherwise; or else the circumstance would serve to immortalize the want of faith of Spaniards, in shewing that a general of an army, with all the principal men of your nation, were devoid thereof, as you are in the fair road to demonstrate." Upon this, they all answered: "Mons. de Chaste, you do us an injury in entertaining so bad an opinion of our faith; do not for an instant imagine, unless it be by voluntary consent of yourself and your people to accompany us to the glorious battle of Larache, where every good christian ought to be present to oppose the infidels, that the marquis would on any account oblige you, nor even break his treaty with you; and if he should be so disposed, our honour is so precious to us, we would rather forfeit our lives, than suffer him to do so." After this they immediately waited on the marquis, to whom they repeated the observations made by the commander, on his want of faith in taking him to Lisbon, after promising him shipping from Tercera to return to France. They represented to him, that if such were his intentions, the commander would have cause to complain; and that he would compromise not only his own reputation, but that of the whole Spanish nation. They besought him to keep his faith and promise, and ship the French from the island, before the Spaniards sailed: which the marquis agreed to do, upon condition that the commander should leave le Sieur d'Anguarques, the Maitre de Camp, with four captains and their companies; not being able to embark the whole for want of vessels. The commander, upon learning this, repaired to the marquis, and told him, that in the capitulation no mention of hostages was made; that such conduct was a retraction of promise; and that, if he by force or authority should be constrained to abide by those conditions, it should be himself who would remain as an hostage, and make good his retreat, running his chance. The marquis answered: "Mons. de Chaste, leave me the hostages I have required; I esteem you too much to consent to your ruin, as I should do, if, remaining as an hostage, you were to answer for the disorder which your soldiers might be guilty of, on passing through the territories of the king of Spain my master, from bad conduct: you must embark to-morrow with your people, in three Biscayan vessels, each of four hundred tons, and a bark for your sick and wounded; these shall be at your disposal, with provisions and people to conduct you to the French shores in the neighbourhood of Fonterabia; and as soon as I hear of the treatment which the said Biscayans may have received, and of their arrival in port, I will not fail to ship the remainder of your people, which, however, I shall take to Lisbon: this is all I can do for you; and on which I am resolved." "Very well, said the commander, the strongest, as you do, make the law, sir." When taking leave, he assured him of sailing with his people.

The next day, which was Saturday, 14th August, they went aboard in such confusion, that the vessels were full of French soldiers or sailors, and a great number were concealed belonging to the companies which remained as hostages, being apprehensive that this would be their last chance, which was the cause of a greater part dying of hunger and thirst, or the bloody flux, at sea, as we were two months on the voyage, which we reckoned upon effecting in a fortnight, if the wind had been favourable; but being contrary, and the vessels bad, we were in danger of foundering on Tuesday the seventeenth of the same month, and the men were consequently so much affected, that several dead were thrown into the sea, the remainder being very ill of the bloody flux, the consequence of the distress they had to combat with in the mountain of Tercera, before the capitulation, and on board continuing to live so wretchedly, that they had nothing to drink but a small sour wine, stinking water, broken biscuit made four years before at Milan, hard as a stone, and half worm-eaten, and some spoilt salt fish; so that the best entertainment the poor fellows who were sick and