

*July.* Bravery and Conduct of those who executed, the bold Design will also be a *new*, and perhaps a *seasonable* Conviction to the whole World, that, however *arduous*, however *apparently-impracticable* any purposed *naval* Attempt may be, the *English Seamen* are not to be deterred from it by any Prospect of Difficulty or Danger, but will exert themselves as far as *Men* can do, and at least *deserve* Success, when led on to it by such as are *worthy* to command them.

Whether it may be *useful*, is not so certain as, that it is *just*, to observe in this Place, that at the Time of this *naval Assault*, there was neither *Captain* or *Lieutenant* on board either of these Ships, but an *Ensign* only in each left with the Command:—That their Decks were strewed about a Foot high with *Tobacco Leaves*, and large Pieces of *Junk*, as a Precaution to lessen the violent Effects of our *smaller Shells* that might accidentally alight in them:—And, that all their Sides within, were nailed over with *thick Nettings*, to prevent some of the Mischiefs from Splinters occasioned by Shot through their Sides. They had much greater Experience of the real Use of the *latter* Expedient, than of the *former*, during the Course of this Siege: For, you have seldom seen Ships more shattered with Shot-holes, especially on one side, with their Masts *standing*, than these two were, at the time they fell into our Possession:—*Shells* indeed none of the Ships received many of; and what happened to hit them, were none of the *largest* Sort, and but by Accident could have done them the Mischiefs they suffered: