

and block up the French Fleet in Brest Harbour; the other, under Admiral Boscawen, to be stationed in the Mouth of *Toulon*, to block up that Harbour in which lay *M. de la Clae* with a large Fleet, ready to put to Sea, being desir'd to join that at Brest.

Sir Edward Hawke, on his Arrival in the Bay, stationed Capt. *Hervey*, with some Ships, near the Entrance of the Harbour, while himself and the rest of his Squadron, kept at a greater Distance, yet so as to be within Call. Capt. *Hervey* was so extremely vigilant in his Station, that, though the French made several Attempts to get out, yet he always drove them back, and never suffered any to pass him. While the Fleet lay in this Situation, an Occasion offered to insult the French in an extraordinary Manner. Sir Edward, on the News of the great Victory obtained by Prince Ferdinand in the Plains of *Minden*, on the First of August, where British Courage shone forth in all its Glory; made his whole Fleet stand in close to the Mouth of the Goulet of *Brest-water*, and saluted them with a Discharge of 21 Guns from each Ship, as a *Feu de Joye*.

Mean while, Admiral Boscawen kept as good a Look-out in his Station off *Toulon*. Having continued there a Month, he began to be in Want of Water and Provisions; to supply which he went with his Fleet to *Sala* near *Barcelona*, and from thence to *Gibraltar* to refit, planting Cruisers in proper Stations. *M. de la Clae* took this Opportunity of slipping out of *Toulon* Harbour, and was making the best of his Way down the *Strait*, but being observed by the *Gibraltar* Frigate, immediate Notice was given to the Admiral, who instantly pursued, and on the 18th of August came up and engaged them. His own Ship, the *Namur* soon lost her Mizzen-mast, and both Top-sail-yards, upon which he shifted into the *Newark*. The *Censeur*, of 74 Guns, struck; the *Ocean* run among the Breakers and was burnt; the *Temeraire* of 74 Guns, was taken; the *Redoubtable* was burnt, and the *Madeira*, of 64 Guns, was brought off little damaged. This Engagement happened off *Lagos* on the Portuguese Shore; and the rest of Fleet that escaped, got into *Cadix*, where they were soon blocked up by Admiral *Bradrick*. The Admiral having done his Country this Service, returned Home with his Prizes.

While the two Admirals, Hawke and Boscawen, werethus employed, Rear-Admiral *Rodney* was sent with a Squadron to the Coasts of France, along the Channel, and on the 3d of July anchored in the great Road of *Houve de Grace*; and having stationed his Bombs continued to bombard the Town for 52 Hours, which several Times appeared in Flames, and their Magazines of Storm for the flat-bottomed Boats burnt with great