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ing that he was thus pressed, continued, on his part, to wear and to fire, first one broadside and then the other; to all this, however, Captain Hull paid no attention, but continuing to recieve the fire of the *Guerriere* without returning it, pressed forward, till he was now very near. The *Guerriere* then put before the wind, to make a running fight, and the *Constitution* followed on, directly astern, till finding that the *Guerriere* would outsail her, she spread more canvass, when she gained so fast upon the chase, that she was soon enabled to take her position upon the larboard side of her antagonist, and to deliver her fire at very close quarters, when the mizen-mast of the *Guerriere* was shot away. It was this crisis of the affair that excited so much admiration among the British officers. They imagined, that it was in the power of Capt. Hull, to choose whether he would tack, and lie across the stern of his adversary, so as to rake her with comparative impunity;—or to shoot along side, and thus give his antagonist an opportunity to defend herself. The *Constitution* had, as yet, sustained very little damage, and it was obviously the intention of her brave commander, not to give his fire, till he could come to close quarters. The British officers considered it as giving also to the *Guerriere*, an opportunity of defending herself. "It was the noblest thing (added a gentleman with whom I was conversing,) that was ever done in a naval conflict."—The compliment thus paid to the magna-