

It is admirably well observed by the Great Man *, who gives Lustre to Dignity, who by the Brilliance of his Virtues, and every Part of his serene Deportment, adorns the Robes which he wears, That the Defeat of the *French* Fleet " has been the Safety of *England* in this " Age of Glory ! " as the Destruction of the *Spanish* Armada had been in another.

This was the *Coup d'Eclat* which crowned the Distresses of the Enemy, and finished their Disgrace, more than if they had lost four Battles in *Germany*, and been driven behind the *Rhine*. So that we need not be afraid to aver, that their present Situation is owing to the Ruin of the better half of their Navy, built at such a prodigious Expence †. The dreadful Conflagration at *St. Maloes* on the Tenth of *June* 1758, the Demolition of the Harbour of *Cherburg*, that brilliant Gem of Cardinal *Fleury's* Ministry, the Reduction of their Settlements in the different Parts of the World, have exhausted them ; so that being stripped of their foreign Dominions, their Trade ruined, and they themselves shut up in every

* *Mr. Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons, in his Speech to Sir Edward Hawke on Monday, January 28, 1760.*

† *A Man of War in France is more costly than one of the same Force in Britain, as the French have the most Part of their Materials from Sweden and Russia ; whereas we are supplied with the Implements of Ship-building either within ourselves, or from our American Colonies.*