

mies, and animating of vs. For although shee was as long, or rather longer then our shippe, being rarely built, and vterly without fights or defence; what with our Muskets, and what with our fire-works we cleered her deckes in a moment; so that scarce any person appeared. And doubtlesse if we had entred but a dozen men, we might haue enforced them to haue rendred vnto vs, or taken her, but our company being few, and the principall of them slaine, or hurt, we durst not, neither was it wisdome, to aduenture the separation of those, which remained: and so held that for the best and soundest resolution, to keepe our forces together in defence of our owne.

The Viceadmirall seeing himselfe in great distresse, called to his Admirall for succour: who presently laid him abourd, and entred a hundreth of his men, and so cleered themselves of vs.

And take a
new resolution

In this bourding the Viceadmirall had at the least thirtie and sixe men hurt, and slaine; and amongst them his Pilote shot through the body, so as he dyed presently. And the Admirall also receiued some losse; which wrought in them a new resolution; only with their Artillery to batter vs; and so with time to force vs to surrender, or to sinke vs; which they put in execution; and placing themselves within a Musket short of our weather quarter, and sometimes on our broad side, lay continually beating vpon vs without intermission; which was doubtlesse the best and securest determination they could take, for they being rare shippes, and without any manner of close fights, in bourding with vs, their men were all open vnto vs, and we vnder couert and shelter. For on all parts our shippe was Musket free, and the great Artillery of force must cease on either side (the shippes being once graped together) except we resolved to sacrifice our selues together in fire. For it is impossible, if the great Ordinance play (the shippes being bourded) but that they must set fire on the shippe they shoote at; and then no surety can be had to free himselfe, as experience daily confirmeth. For a peece of Artillery most properly resembleth a thunderclap, which breaking vpwards, or on the side, hurteth not; for that the fire hath scope to dispence it selfe without finding resistance, till the violence which forceth it taketh end, and so it mounts to its center: but breaking downe right or stooping downwards, and finding resistance or impediment (before the violence that forceth it take end, being so subtrill and penetrable a substance) passeth and pierceth so wonderfully, as it leaueth the effect of his execution in all points answerable to his leuell and highnesse. For if the clouds be nigh the earth (as some are higher, some lower) and
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