

Shore one Night, and walked two Miles up the Country without Interruption. Every Part of the Beach was found by him and his Company to be firm and dry; no Incampment, no Troops, no Batteries upon it. All, upon their Return to the Fleet, pressed the Landing of the Troops with great Warmth; and, to the very last, there did not appear to be any great Body of Men near the Shore, though something looked like an Incampment.

As it was practicable to land; as no sufficient Body of the Enemy's Troops or Batteries were discovered to prevent it; as there was no Difference in the Situation of *Rochfort*, contrary to the Intelligence given at Court; the Failure of the Expedition seemed to be chiefly grounded on not taking or attacking Fort *Fouras*. This was certified by the brave WOLFE; who took the Liberty, as he says himself, of suggesting his Opinion to Sir *Edward Hawke* and Sir *John Mordaunt*, That he did not doubt but a Ship of War might batter Fort *Fouras*, and that a Body of Troops might be landed at the same Time, and attack it with Success: He took the Liberty also to mention, as he only had seen the Fort, that, if Sir *Edward Hawke* thought proper to make a Diversion near *Rochelle* at the same Time, it might engage the Attention of the *French*, and give an Opportunity of making a Descent between: He further hinted his Opinion, as to sending the Bomb-Ketches out, not knowing but Bombs might be thrown into *Rochelle*; and he mentioned another Circumstance, in Regard to sending for the Pilot of the *Magnanime*, who would inform Sir *Edward* if there was Depth of Water sufficient to carry a Ship up to *Fouras*; adding, from the indifferent Opinion he had of the Fort, a forty or fifty Gun Ship might at least annoy the Fort, so as to give an Opportunity of landing.

HERE were Dispositions worthy of the most experienced General; Dispositions which in all Probability would have been attended with Success in the Execution, if they had been hearkened unto with a real Intention of doing effectual Service. The generous Heart of WOLFE could not help testifying its Regret for such a Stagnation in Resolution, which appeared but too sensibly: And, as he sincerely wished well to his Country, what indignant Emotions must have filled his Breast, to see an expensive and formidable Armament serve
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