

either of the Town, or of the Castle, the former of which the *English* saluted, but were not answered by a single Gun. On the Day following, the Admiral sent an Officer, with a white Flag, on Shore, in Order that he might acquaint the Vice-Roy with the Reasons which gave Occasion to the Arrival of the Fleet. Soon afterwards, four *Turks* returned, and declared that the Vice-Roy had received Orders from the *Grand Seignior*, to treat the *English* with the most inviolable Respect, and to permit them to disembark, whensoever they thought proper, and purchase such Provisions as they might want. They, also, promised that if the Admiral would, on the following Day, send on Shore a Person of Distinction, with the Letters from the King of *England*, sufficient Hostages should be given for his Safety (*d*).

On the twenty-ninth, an *English* Officer disembarked, and informed the *Turks* what Pledges were demanded for those Persons who were in Readiness to wait on them with the King's Letters. At four in the Afternoon, the Signal-Gun was fired from the *Lion*, and, soon afterwards, Captain *John Roper*, attended by several of the chief Persons belonging to the Fleet, proceeded in his Barge, for the Purpose of delivering the royal Credentials to the *Bashaw*, and the *Divan*. As he approached the Shore, he was informed, by a Messenger, that the principal *Turks* were absent, and the Hostages not ready; but that, on the Morrow, all Delays should be removed; yet no Regard was paid to these Promises.

On

(*d*) During the Night, the Pirates brought into Algiers, three Prizes; a *Flemish*, and two *English* Vessels; the one bound from *Plymouth*; and the other from *North-Yarmouth*.