

## 12 NAVAL HISTORY

noble defence, which gained time for another application to England<sup>o</sup>.

DURING this space, commodore *Rooke*, who had been sent with a squadron in the month of *May*, to the coast of *Ireland*, performed good service there, by keeping king *James* and his army from having any intercourse with the *Scots*; and on the eighth of *June*, he sailed in with the *Bonaventure*, *Swallow*, *Dartmouth*, and a fleet of transport-ships, under the command of major-general *Kirke*, who was come with this force to relieve *London-Derry*. The commodore concurred with him, as it was his duty, very chearfully in carrying on this service. When they came to examine the method taken by the enemy, to prevent their relieving the place, they found they had laid a boom cross the river, composed of chains and cables, and floated with timber, there being strong redoubts at each end well furnished with cannon. Upon a view of this, general *Kirke* resolved to make himself master of the *Inch*, an island in *Lough Swille*, in which the commodore assisted him so effectually, that on the sixteenth, he was in full possession, not only of that island, but of the pass to the main; and having performed this service, he returned to his station P.

HE continued there till the twenty-second, on which day he received by the *Portland* man of war, a letter from the

---

\*Dr. Walker, who was governor of *London-Derry*, published an exact account of the siege, under the title of "A true account of the siege of *London-Derry*. London, 4<sup>to</sup>. 1690. " 59 pages." Afterwards he wrote a vindication of this account, and from these, Burnet's history, and the detail I have had from living witnesses, I report these facts. P Burchet's naval history, p. 418. Columna rostrata.