

ed an expedition against Louisbourg in great forwardness, she made the best of her way to carry immediate advice thereof to France; and a squadron under the command of M. Perrier was soon fitted out from Brest for the relief of Louisburg; la Renommée sailed in this squadron, she was an exquisite sailor, and at length taken by the Dover, 1747.

In May the † Vigilant, a French man of war of 64 guns and 560 men, with a good land-fall, instead of going directly into the harbour of Louisbourg, attacked a British man of war of 40 guns, the Mermaid, capt. Douglass; this prudent officer by a running fight decoy'd the French ship into the clutches of commodore Warren in the Superbe of 60 guns; in company were also the Eltham of 40 guns, the Massachussets frigate of 20 guns,

† Commanded by M. le Marquis de la Maison Forte, son-in-law to M. Chiconeau first physician to the French king. This gentleman was too rash in firing; as he met with British men of war, he should have made the best of his way to port, and only have put his men in a posture to prevent boarding, without firing, which stops the ship's way, and have received the fire of our ships silently. Notwithstanding this misconduct, the marquis was a man of good sense and observation; he made this good remark, that the French officers of Louisbourg, in bad policy, hindered the English from viewing at all times the strength of their forts; because if the English had been well informed of its strength, the most sanguine, rash, wrongheaded person, if not a natural fool, could not have imagined such a reduction without regular troops, and without artillery; our proper cannon (the 10 guns of 18 lb. shot lent us from New York excepted) were bad, old, and honey-comb'd, 4 of them split in firing. He further well observed, that our allowing the French officers prisoners freely to view Boston and the country of New England, would effectually discourage and forbid any French attempt to invade a country so well peopled.

Here we may observe, that the warlike names of the French men of war, sound more elegant, proper, and bold, than the flat appellations of the British men of war, by the names of counties, towns, and persons: for instance, in the French navy there are, le Terrible, l'Ardent, le Fougueux, le Mars, le Neptune, le Jason; le Vigilant, le Gloire, la Renommée, &c. In the English navy our names are flat, the Kent, the Devonshire, the Cumberland, the London, the Edinburgh, the Chester; the Prince Frederick, the Princess Mary, the Wager, &c.