

grance.—A story goes about here, which is related thus, having a few Days since taken a Lieutenant of Roth's Regiment, as he was out a Foraging, they bored Holes in his Hands and Feet, and nailed him to a Tree, after which they opened his Belly and took out his Entrails, leaving him to die in the extremest Agonies.

L O N D O N, June 4.

They write from stockholm, that the high court of Justice had pass'd sentence of Death on an English Physician, capt. Blackwell, for a conspiracy, which was, that his Heart be taken out of his body and burnt, that his Head be sever'd from his body and placed on a Pole near the Gallows, and his body to be quartered.

It is said by private Letters, that a Conspiracy has been discovered in Holland, to assassinate his Serene Highness the Prince Stadtholder, as his Election to that Dignity is likely to obstruct the Arbitrary and Ambitious Views of France.

July, 7. On Thursday last a Court Martial was held on Board the Duke Man of War in Portsmouth Harbour Capt. Chambers being President, for the Trial of the Mutineers on board the Namure Man of War, who rose on account of their being denied Leave to come ashore; which ended on Saturday, when three, viz. two Sailors and a Marine received sentence of Death; twelve were ordered to be whipt from ship to ship, and thirty eight acquitted. The Ringleader of them died during his Confinement.

On Saturday Night last arrived an Express at the Admiralty, with an Account that his Majesty's ship the Portland, capt. Stevens, arrived at Plymouth the 2d Instant and brings Advice, that on the 21st past Sir Peter Warren, with the Squadron under his Command, being to the Westward of Cape Finisterre, decri'd six Sail, to which he gave Chace, they proved to be the Etoile, a French Man of War of 40 Guns, with five Merchant ships, part of the Fleet of eleven sail that came out of St Domingo the 5th of April last; the Enemy observing they were in Danger, stood for the shore, and got into the Bay near Sezarga: Whereupon the Admiral sent the Monmouth, Portland, and Ambuscade Men of War in after them; and before the Commanders could man their Boats, the French set Fire to a fine Brigantine, which communicated itself to the Etoile Man of War, which last blew up; but they brought out the other four, which are safe arrived at Plymouth, with the Portland.

The Portland also brings Advice that a small Cutter Privateer join'd Sir Peter Warren the 20th, and inform'd him, that he had chas'd about 20 little coasters laden with Stores into Sedere, a small Bay to the Westward of Cape Ortugal, where, with a little Assistance, he said he could destroy them. Sir Peter thereupon sent the Viper Sloop and the Hunter Dogger, with the privateer, with Orders to capt. Roddow of the Viper, to attempt the Thing, if he judg'd it practicable. In two Days after they rejoind the Admiral, and brought with them a small French privateer and five little Barks, laden chiefly with Iron, Rozin, &c. which he took in the said Bay, where he had burnt 28 more of the same sort, which they could not conveniently bring off; and also destroyed a Battery of three Guns.

Yesterday an Express arrived from Plymouth, with Advice that the Lyon Man of War, capt. Brett, (the only ship that remained at Sea of Commodore Moxson's Squadron) was come in there, and brought with her four more of the French West-India Fleet.

The whole Number of Merchant Ships brought into the English Ports is Fifty-one, and one burnt with the L'Etoile Man of War.

As there is a great Quantity of Indigo on board the Ships taken, 'tis certain their whole Value must amount to 600000l. Sterling.

B O S T O N, August 20

An Account of a late Engagement between his Majesty's Ship the Warwick, of 60 Guns, Capt. Erskine Commander, and a large Spanish Man of War; as communicated to us by a Gentleman who was then on board the Warwick.

July 14. Being off the Western Isles, in Company with his Majesty's Ship the Lark of 40 Guns, capt. Crookshanks Commander, and thirteen Sail of Merchant Men under Convoy bound to North-America, in the Morning they saw a Sail, and the Lark having the Command, made the signal to chase.

Being both but indifferent sailors, tho' they gained upon the chace, they could not come up with her that Day, and probably would have lost her in the Night, if it had not been for

the gallant Behaviour of capt. Conally, who being in a small Vessel in the Ordnance Service, and a prime Sailor, got up with the Chace in the Evening, kept her in sight all the Night, and by firing Guns and shewing false fires, directed us how to pursue.

Next Morning early we got sight again of the Chace, which appeared to be a very large ship, at about 4 or 5 Miles distance, and all Things were got ready to engage accordingly. About 11 o'Clock capt. Conally gave us no small Diversion, as he kept along with the Chace: He durst not venture very near to her, for two or three of her Guns would have tore him all to pieces, but he kept at a proper distance from her to the Windward, and every now and then peep'd his four Pounders at her under English colours, hoping perhaps to make her shew her colours, or cut some of her Rigging, or to provoke her to bear down upon him, and so retard her Course. The enemy (for then we were sure she was one) would not for all that Conally could see, shoot any colours, but now and then returned his fire, and stood on. About 11 at Night, being near a breast of the Enemy to the Leeward, and the Lark a little way a-head of us, at about half a Mile Distance, we gave the Enemy a Broadside, which she briskly returned under Spanish colours, and then she lay to, and we lost sight of her.

Capt. Erskine thinking himself too far from the Enemy to be Execution, in order to get nearer, tack'd and stood to the Northward about eight or ten Minutes. At the same Time the Enemy put in Stays, and capt. Erskine gave him his starboard broadside, and tack'd him fore and aft, and clap'd about again, and stood within Pistol shot, and again discharg'd his starboard broadside into him, with a Volley of small Arms as we pass'd, all which the Enemy smartly return'd, and stood on; and during the whole Action, the enemy seem'd to be on the Defensive, and to want rather to get away than to fight. As soon as possible the Warwick tack'd after her, ran along side of her within Pistol shot, and began to engage her large, and sometimes before the Wind, and all the Time after that within Pistol-shot; so that the Wadding of the Enemies Guns fell thick upon our Deck and threatened to set fire to our sails and Rigging.

Our People seeing the Enemy to be a much larger ship than the Warwick, with a greater Number of Guns, which she play'd well; and the Lark keeping at a great Distance, and giving us no manner of Assistance, were somewhat discouraged. But then again reflecting, that if they could make the Enemy strike without the Assistance of the Lark, the greater would be their Glory, they express the greatest Resolution and Bravery, and continued a dreadful fire till about 3 in the Morning, during the whole Action, between 25 and 30 Broadides.

Then the Warwick, torn and shattered to Pieces in her Main Yards, Sails and Rigging, and the ship lying like a Wreck, did not in a continuation to make a farther Attack, nor to retreat, fell off to the Southward, which the Enemy no sooner observed than he tack'd to the Northward, having all his Main standing.

Indeed the Number of our Men killed and wounded was not very great, four only being kill'd and nineteen wounded, which is imputed partly to the Enemy's firing chiefly at our Rigging and sails, and partly to their over-charging their Guns; for we found a vast many of their shot, sticking in the sides of our Ship, and but few came quite thro'. But at the beginning of the Engagement the Warwick was between 40 and 50 Men short of her Complement, and many of her Hands were raw and inexperienced, and 20 of them mere boys.

As the enemy lay along side of us, all our Company agree, that she look'd much tougher than the Warwick, and their shot, which we found on board, when the Engagement was over, are double-headed 58 Pounders, round 25, 20 and 16, whereas the Warwick's Guns are only 24 Pounders on the lower Deck, 9 Pounders on the main Deck and 6 on the Quarter. And some Gentlemen on board the Lark and some of the Merchant Men, have told us, that as the Enemy and we lay along side of each other, she appear'd as much larger than the Warwick, as the Warwick is larger than the Lark; and 'tis suppos'd she carries 74 or 80 Guns.

The Lark join'd us about 6 in the Morning, but did not think fit to pursue the Enemy, who was still in sight, as we were incapable of going along with him. Afternoon we were inform'd by one of the convoy, who had run close to the Enemy after the Engagement, that she was likewise in a very shattered Condition, with her Foremast gone, and her Sails and Rigging cut in Pieces. This seem'd to give the captain of the Lark some courage, and he propos'd to capt. Erskine to go after her again, which that brave and prudent commander did, as soon as he