

From Maftricht both Armies continue in the same Situation, tho' 'tis said by some the French King will send his whole Army before Bergen but he will take it. Various are the Opinions of People on the Subject; in general, 'tis thought the French can't take it.

I forgot to observe, that on Sunday we had the good Fortune to fire two Carts of the French, in the Rear of their Lines, full of Powder, which did them considerable Damage.

### BOSTON, September 21.

Wednesday last about 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon an Accident somewhat surprizing happened at the South Part of this Town. — As a Blacksmith was striking a welding Heat in his shop, 'tis supposed a spark of Fire from the Iron got thro' some Crevice of a Partition, and entering the next shop fell into a small Keg of Gun Powder upon a shelf, 'tis supposed to be about ten Pounds, which in a Moment blew up, and shattered the said shop and the House in a terrible Manner, and the Goods therein were much burnt and spoil'd, to the Damage of several Hundred Pounds — Tho' the divine Favour no Person received any dangerous Hurt; a Child was something scorch'd. The Explosion was so violent as to break the Windows of some of the Houses opposite, and caused a shock to be felt at a great Distance like an Earthquake, with the Noise as of a Cannon.

We are inform'd by Capt. Austel, who arrived a few Days ago from Lisbon, that being lately at PortMahon, one Evening while he was lying there, a Fire broke out in the King's Captain House, a large Fabrick of 150 Feet in length, which entirely consumed the same, with all the Stores afloat, among which were two or three Suits of Sails belonging to four Men of War of 80 Guns, besides a great Quantity of Rigging, &c. so that the said Ships could not put to sea until they had got a Supply of Sails from other Men of War for which they were obliged to send to Gibraltar and other Places.

A Letter from a Gentleman at Amstedam, dated the 8th of July last, after giving a particular Account of the late Engagement in Flanders, adds, That the Duke very narrowly escaped being killed or wounded, and was by main Force pull'd away from most imminent Danger: — That the French, because they stay'd in the Field a Quarter of an Hour longer than we did, call'd it a Victory; but half a Dozen such Victories would ruin them. They did not pursue their Victory as they call it, a Foot; neither did we lose one Piece of Cannon in the Retreat. I dare say the French won't attack us again in haste. — They have lost a great Number of their Guns & Arms, and best Troops: — They say the Duke charg'd himself at the Head of the Cavalry.

### Extract of a Letter from St. George's Fort, dated Sept. 8. 1747.

I have to inform you, That Saturday last, being the 5th Instant, the Indians having observ'd the Morning steps of the Block house People going to Work at the Lime Rocks, artfully ambusht themselves in three Places, in order to surround them, and cut them all off, by cutting off their Retreat to this Garrison; but two of our People going before, oblig'd the Ambush to discover themselves sooner than they intended, by shooting those two dead, and firing briskly upon the rest, who returned it smartly, and preserved their Communication with this Garrison: At the same time Capt. Bradbury and about 20 of this Fort sallied out and came timely to their Assistance, and had a smart Engagement about an Hour and an half, and then the Indians drew off, leaving three dead on the spot, and lugging another with them, which no doubt they have hid near us, besides many appear'd halt and wounded, being supported and assist'd by others of them. In this Engagement, which was fought with Courage and Resolution on both sides, we had 4 kill'd and 3 wounded, but not mortally: Tho' our Loss is considerable, yet it is some Alleviation that the Indians have nothing to boast of, having not succeeded as in their former Attempts, but met with as good Artists among stumps as themselves. Had there been a sufficient Number of Men here to have sallied out and flank'd them, few of 'em could have escap'd; the most competent Beholders, as well as others engaged, think their Number did not exceed 30, and most, if not all, of Penobscot Tribe, the 3 dead being all of that Tribe, and well known to Capt. Bradbury, Capt. Bean, and many others: Our dead are two from the Westward, and two of our former Settlers, which next Day were decently interred at the Burying place near this Fort. The Names of those kill'd are, John Kippatrick, Nathan Bradley, John Vose and Benjamin Marvey, the two former of which they scalp'd.

Sept. 24. Last Tuesday Night came here by Land from New-York, Capt. Barnabas Binney, who informs, That on the 10th of July last, he sail'd from the West Indies, in a Sloop belonging to this Port, was taken the Day after by a Privateer Sloop of a Carrage and 12 Swivel Guns and 55 Men, fitted out from St. John's at Porto Rico, commanded by one Capt. Lucas, who carried him into that Port. — Immediately after he was taken, these Villians strip'd him and his Men of all their Cloathing, and put on him some of their nasty old Garments, and the Men out just enough to cover their Nakedness: After that the Captain of the Privateer, from a shew of Kindness, restored Capt. Binney his own Cloaths, but kept his Money: The Master on board the Prize, when they arriv'd into Porto Rico, desired our said Capt. Binney to go down into the Cabbin and shut himself in, in order to go before the Governor; and while there, the said Master with another of the Ruffians drew their Cutlasses and by Force oblig'd him to deliver to them all his Cloaths, Gold Buttons, &c. and gave him only an old Hat and Waistcoat and a pair of ragged Breeches. — Having continued at Porto Rico three Weeks, they fitted out the said Privateer as a Flag of Truce, and put on board her Capt. Binney and all his Men except the Mate, as also Capt. Randal of New London and his Men, who were taken by the same Privateer two Days after Capt. Binney: In this Flag of Truce they purpos'd for St. Thomas's; but in 30 Hours after their Departure the Vessel run ashore at a Key off the Island Passage, where she stranded, but the People got ashore upon the Key, and saw a small Schooner, a Turtler, at about a Mile Distance, to which they made signals of Distress, but the Turtler fearing to venture ashore, only return'd signs of Friendship; whereupon Capt. Binney and Randal with two others strip'd and swam from the Key about half a Mile to the Island, and they were round 4 Miles by Land and got to the schooner, which they were upon went to the Key and took all the English People on board, and two Priests which had with them about 10,000 Dollars, of whom they took but 25 Dollars each for their Passage: The rest of the Spaniards refusing to pay any Thing for their Passage. They left them upon the said Key, from whence by order of the Governor of St. Thomas they were fetch'd sooner in a Boat. — Capt. Binney came Challenger in Capt. Taylor to New-York. — We are also inform'd, that Capt. Benjamin Nichols of Rhode Island, who was taken by another Privateer from Porto Rico, was treated very cruelly; for, proposing to ransom his Vessel, they imagin'd he had a great deal of Money conceal'd on board; and in order to make him confess, they tortur'd him with Thumb Screws, whereby one of his Thumbs was crush'd to pieces, and the other, with a finger and bruise'd, by hard squeezing.

Sept. 28. We have Advice by a Vessel from Louisbourg 10 Days, That his Majesty's Sloop Hind, with the Schooner Spry, being on a Cruise the beginning of this Month, hit very hard Gales of Wind off Chepeaurouge Point, and with Difficulty that the Spry escap'd being drove ashore by a violent Gust of Wind which rose about 11 o'Clock at Night: The Hind, at Evening was near to the Spry, but was miss'd the next Morning; and by the Gratings of the Hatchway Coops, Boats, Oars, and sundry other Things seen floating afterward on the Water, 'tis concluded she foundered, and that the whole Crew, 'tis said above 100 Men, lost their Lives: The Spry got into Louisbourg the next Day; but nothing had been heard of the Hind when this Vessel sail'd, which was 5 Days after the Spry arriv'd.

We hear likewise from Louisbourg, That Capt. Crookshank late Commander of the Mark, is suspended and confin'd in his Cabbin, on Account of his late Misconduct, when the Warwick was engaging the Spanish Man of War, as lately mentioned; and that Capt. Hughes, Brother to the Capt. of the Hind, is made Commander in his Room.

Yesterday Capt. Brown arriv'd here in a Snow from Philadelphia. He was bound to Cape Fear, but unfortunately arriv'd on his Passage rather by a small Spanish Privateer Schooner from St. Augustine, who took seven of his Men from the Snow leaving him only his Mischant, Mate, and two Boys, and putting 6 Spaniards on board, with Orders to steer for St. Augustine, five Days after Brown happily found Means to fetch the Spaniards, without bloodshed, to whom he gave his Boat to carry them ashore, and we have since heard of their Arrival in North-Carolina.

We have a Report in Town, that the brave Capt. Fifield man of Penicook, and another Man, were lately waylaid and killed by the Indians, as they were returning from their Work in the Woods.