

Thursday the Nineteenth, standing with a small Gale S. S. W. the Wind at W. and W. and by S. hazey Weather, *Cape Barfleur* bearing then S. W. and by S. from me distant about Seven Leagues, between three and Four in the morning, we heard several Guns to the Westward, and in a short time I saw the two Frigats making the Signal of seeing the Enemy, with their Heads lying to the Northward, which gave me reason to think the Enemy lay with their Heads that way; upon which I ordered the Signal to be made for the Fleet's drawing into a Line of Battel; after which I made the Signal for the Rear of the Fleet to Tack, that if the Enemy stood to the Northward, we might the sooner come to engage; But soon after four a Clock, the Sun had a little cleared the Weather, and I saw the French Fleet standing to the Southward, forming their Line on the same Tack that I was upon; I then ordered that Signal for the Rear to Tack to be taken in, and at the same time bore away with my own Ship so far to Leeward, as I judged each Ship in the Fleet might fetch my Wake or Graine; then brought to again, lying by with my Fore-top-sail to the Mast, to give the Ships in the Fleet the better opportunity of placing themselves, as they had been before directed. By eight a Clock we had formed an indifferent Line, stretching from the S. S. W. to the N. N. E. the Dutch in the Van, the Red in the Center, and the Blue in the Rear. By Nine a Clock the Enemies Van-Guard had stretch'd almost as far to the Southward as ours, their Admiral and Rear-Admiral of the Blue that were in the Rear, closing the Line, and their Vice-Admiral of the same Division stretching to the Rear of our Fleet, but never coming within Gun-shot of them. About ten they bore down upon us, I still lying with my Fore-top-sail to the Mast. I then observed Monsieur *Tourville*, the French Admiral, put out his Signal for Battel; I gave order that mine should not be hoisted till the Fleets began to engage, that he might have the fairer opportunity of coming as near me as he thought convenient, and at the same time, I sent Orders to Admiral *Almonde*, that as soon as any of his Squadron could Weather the Enemies Fleet, they should Tack, and get to the Westward of them; as also to the Blue, to make sail and close the Line, they being at some distance a-stern; but as soon as the Fleet began to engage it fell calm, which prevented their so doing. About half an Hour after eleven, Monsieur *Tourville* in the *Royal Sun* (being within Three Quarters Musquet-shot) brought to, lying by me at that distance about an Hour and a half, plying his Guns very warmly; though I must observe to you, that our Men fired their Guns faster; after which time I did not find his Guns were fired with that vigour as before, and I could see him in great Disorder, his Rigging, Sails, and Top-sail Yards, being shot, and no body endeavouring to make them serviceable, and his Boats towing of him to Windward, gave me reason to think he was much gaul'd. About two the Wind shifted to the N. W. and by W. and some little time after that Five fresh Ships of the Enemies Blue Squadron came and posted themselves, three a-head of Monsieur *Tourville*, and two a-stern of him, and fired with great Fury, which continued till after three. About four in the Evening there came so thick a Fog, that we could not see a Ship of the Enemies, which occasioned our leaving off firing for a little time, and then it cleared up, and we could see Monsieur *Tourville* towing away with his Boats to the Northward from us; upon which I did the same, and ordered all my Division to do the like; and about half an Hour after Five, we had a small breeze of Wind Easterly. I then made the Signal for the Fleet to Chase, sending Notice to all the Ships about me, that the Enemy were running. About this time I heard several Broad-sides to the Westward; and, though I could not see the Ships that fired, I concluded them to be our Blue, that by the shift of Wind had weathered the Enemy; but it proved to be the Rear-Admiral of the Red, who had weathered