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Whitehal, July 30. *This more particular Narrative of the late Great Action at Sea, as it came to our hands; we here give you in this following Journal.*

**O**N Monday, July 23. Our Fleet set sail from the Gunfleet with little wind Easterly, and variable, the Enemy plying Eastward before them. At eight at Night they came to an Anchor at *Orfordness*, being three Leagues and half off W. and by N. the enemy five Leagues S. E. and by E. from them.

July 24. The Night proving stormy, the *Forscy*, disabled by the Thunder, his Main Top-mast broken in pieces, and his Main mast split from the top almost to the bottom, was ordered into *Sheerness* to be repaired, and a Fireship receiving likewise some hurt, sent into *Harwich*. At six in Morning they weighed Anchor with a fresh gale at N. N. E. and N. E. and Anchored again at eight, it being hazy weather, that they could not see the Enemy. At two they weighed, and stood off; and at four discovered the Enemy standing with us, and had the wind, though not the courage to engage our Fleet, though at that time not in so perfect an order. In stirring to get a head, the *Rainbow* lost her Main Top-mast; and the *Happy Return* entangled with another ship, had her Main Sail torn in the middle: But the enemy tacked, and stood from our Fleet, which Anchored that Night at the Leeward Tide, as likewise did the Dutch.

July 25. This Morning it being a fine gale at N. N. E. our Fleet about 11 leagues off of *Orfordness*, weighed, and in two hours time discovered the Enemy four leagues S. E. by S. with whom they stood, intending to engage them Van to Van: By six of the Clock they got up within two leagues of them, the wind at N. and by W. The Dutch then drawing up their Fleet into the Form of an Half-Moon, their Ships at equal distance, partly to avoid our Fireships; but rather (as supposed) hoping to wear all, or a great part of our Fleet, with either the Van or Rear of theirs.

About half an hour after nine, the Vans on each side came near, the headmost of theirs fired at ours, which returned no shot till near half an hour after that they came close up with them, and then the *Anne* began to fire, and presently the whole Squadron of the White was engaged with their Van; within an hour after, the Red Squadron likewise engaged, and after them the Blew; so that by 12 a clock all the whole Fleet was in with them. Between 10 and 11 one of our Fireships going on board their headmost Admiral, was put off and burnt down with instant effect; and 11 the Van of their Fleet began a little to give way; and about one, their whole Van bore before the wind from ours: Near half an hour after, the *Royal Katherine*, the *St. George*, and another of the White, came out of the Line, and lay by to mend, as likewise did the *Rupert*; at which time, a ship in the enemies Line was observed to blow up.

About three, Sir *Robert Holmes* lay by to repair, both his Top-masts being disabled; between two and three, the *Resolution* was burnt by a Fireship sent aboard him by *Trump*. Captain *Hannam*, with much industry, clearing the Fire-ship, but could not quench the fire that was got into his ship, but himself, and most of his men, were happily saved by Boats sent from the next Ships. About the same time, one of *de Ruyters* Fireships was sunk by the *Sovereign*, and *de Ruyters* Top-mast shot down.

About three, the *Royal Charles* came out of the Line to meet, who with much bravery had within Market shoar, long

fought with *de Ruyter* hand to hand, leaving his place to the *Sovereign*; and after a little more than half an hours repairing, stood in again, engaging the second time so warmly with *de Ruyter*; that he forced him to give way; but was himself so disabled in his Tackle, that he had no Rope left him, and could not Reer, but was towed out of the Line by Boats. At this time a ship of theirs was observed to blow up about the middle of their Line; and not long after another near the *Royal Oak*.

About four, *de Ruyter* made all the sail he could, and ran for it; but made frequent Tacks to fetch off his maimed Ships, once hazarding himself very much in rescue of his second, who at last was so disabled, that he could not be got off, but then presently chopt to an Anchor, which brought ours to the Leeward of him, the Tide being so strong, that a Fireship could not come near him; and one that attempted to get up, was assailed by another from the Enemy, and both burnt; and now their whole Van began to give ground, and run for it; who were pursued by the Red and White Squadrons, who continued Chasing them till Night, the *Royal James* about seven at Night taking the *Tolon*, *Bankerts* ship of 60 Guns, a Vice-Admiral of *Zealand*, himself escaping aboard Captain *de Haes*; and soon after another, the *Snaek* of *Harlem* of 66 Guns, both new ships, which we afterwards burnt, leaving *Trump* with the Rear of their Fleet of 34 or 35 ships engaged with the Blew Squadron, who continued the Fight till the Night parted them.

This night the Wind Veering from N. N. E. round Westward to the S. W. at Four in the morning, July 26. The Dutch had the wind, which was but little, our ships not being able to get up with them; but the *Fansan*, a Sloop lately built at *Harwich* for Prince *Rupert*, made up with her Oars to *de Ruyter*, and bringing her two little Guns to one side, continued for near an hour, plying Broadside and Broadside, to the great laughter of our Men, and indignation of the Dutch; to see their Admiral so stoutly Chaced; who still shooting his Stern Guns, in the end gave her two or three shot between wind and water, with which she retired. Our Fleet continued the pursuit, Chasing them over many Flats and Banks, till they came so near the shore, that our great ships could not follow; but left the lesser Fregats to attend them, till they got into the *Darlow* Channel of *Zealand*. *de Ruyters* own ship was much battered in this Chace by our Fregats, and if there had been wind enough for our great ships to have come up, our Fleet had certainly taken him, and destroyed most of those that were with him: But they had this advantage of us for their security in their flight, That there being but little wind, their ships drawing less water, sailed better then ours, and so escaped. At two this day, the wind Veering round Westward to the N. E. the Generals discovered *Trump*, with the remainder of the Dutch; in the *Offen*, Chaced by the Blew Squadron, who had the wind; so as at eight at night, the *Royal Charles* Tacking, to keep between *Trump* and home, stood in with them, and at Twelve at Night came to an Anchor, finding a Leeward Tyde, in design to bring the Dutch to him the next morning; but the rest of our Fleet not Anchoring so close, fell more to the Leeward.

July 27. Early in the morning, the Dutch appeared to the Windward (Sir *Jeremy Smith*, it seems, having the Night before laid by, for fear of *Shoale ground*, the Enemy in the mean time stealing away from him) to as the Generals Squadron could not get up with them, though they gave them a close Chace, till they had but Six fathom water off the *Isle of Scawen*. At Two in the Afternoon the wind favoured the Enemy, who stole in to the *Weyling*, to the rest of their Fleet.

F I I I

Fleet.

Fleet. At Four our three Squadrons joined about 3 Leagues off of *Scaxen*, where they remain Victorious, even in the allowance of the Enemy, having received little damage in the Fight, save only in some of their Rigging, which will easily be repaired.

This is in short the Journal of this glorious Action, which in all Senses will pass for a great and happy Victory, when we compute the Enemies loss: which besides that of their Honor and Reputation, which is indeed irreparable, will be found to have been very considerable, even in the grosser Notions of spoil and damage.

The first Survey taken of them at their appearing before *Zealand* on Friday last, as our Letters of that day from thence assure us, gives us this Account, That on Friday last the *Holland Fleet* was seen from *Blarckenbergh*, two Leagues and half N. E. 28 or 30 Sail within the *Saer*, and 33 or 34 without, small and great, and all without Call us: who betwixt four and five weighed, and stood all in for *Zealand*. Several Fishermen that have been aboard them, say, that they now confess themselves beaten. That *Everton* the *Zealand* Admiral, with the Admiral of *Friesland* *Tirk Heides*, and his Vice-Admiral *Coenders*, were killed, with many of their best Captains, whose names are not yet come to our hands. They have lost a great number of their men, *De Ruyter* out of his own ship 250. the *Frieze*, and *Zealand* Squadron especially thought to have lost the better half of theirs. Three of their Capital Ships lie before *Flushing*, hardly to be kept above water, most of the rest extremely shattered.

The number of their ships in their return was reckoned 78 though *De Ruyter* speaks of 80. by which account they miss more than they will seem willing to acknowledge: Their ill success has caused no small division amongst the Officers of their three Squadrons, who blame one the other, but *De Ruyter* first flying, hath alienated the hearts of *Zealand* from him, who now cry up *Van Tromp* fifteen of their Captains that are returned, are to be tried by a Council of War, and the seventh instant, S. N. at nine of the Clock the Hangman sailed towards the Fleet from *Flushing*, at which time a White Ensign was seen on the Admiral, in token of a Council of War.

This is what was known of the Enemies losses on Friday noon, when our last Intelligence came from *Zealand*. Of the Squadron under *Tromp*, which was but entering within the sands, nothing was yet said, that and other particulars will come hereafter. In the mean time it is most evident how inconsiderable our own damage is, indeed so very small, that we could not our selves in modesty believ it upon the first information, but after a more exact Review, we find only the *Resolution* wanting, which was fired, though her Commander Captain *Hannam* with most part of his Men saved, the rest of the Fleet are very well, and few need repairing besides the *Royal Charles*, who indeed beares honorable marks of that daies dangers, and such as will become the conquering valour of our Great Generals. Of all our Commanders only Captain *Seymour* in the *Forefight*, Captain *Martin* in the *East India London*, and as is reported Captain *Parker* in the *Yarmouth* are killed; none that we can here of very dangerously wounded, besides Captain *Saunders* in the *Breda*; not more then three hundred wounded Men in all yet known, upon every sober and knowing computation, by which we may judge of the number of those killed our right.

*Hague*, Aug. 5. Yesterday was heard some shooting, but none this day, which makes us hope we are in chace of the English. Five ships were said to be seen off of *Scheveling*, supposed to be some of ours disabled.

Our last Letters from *de Ruyter* were of the 24. with which was sent off *Hutenhous* Ship, having her Main-mast split with the Thunder; as also that of *Clant* full of sick men. *De Ruyter* says, he hath received the last Fireships, but ill conditioned; that his men were much dissatisfied that they had not their rewards, for which the Receiver *Dablet* is blamed; and he clears himself, by alleadging money was not to be got.

Overysse neglecting, or not being able to repair the Dike called *Cuenderdike*, a considerable part of their Province is overflowed.

*Madrid*, July 15. The fourth Instant, the Lord Ambassador *Fanshaw*'s body Embalmed, with a great part of his Family, went hence for *Bilbao*, his Lady, Children and Train following the eighth. The next day, his Excellency the Earl of *Sandwich*, with the Secretary of the Ambassie, had their first meeting. By an Express we are told, That our Armada have taken 11 Swedes and *Hamburgers* going for *Lisbon* with Provision and Ammunition. The Constable of *Castille*, after all his Threats to invade *Portugal*, has by an Express sent word, That 'tis impossible for him to go this Year into the Field. The *Portuguese* have broken up their Army at *Aronches*, which consisted of 10000 Foot, and 5000 Horle, and are disposing them into Quarters.

*Paris*, July 30. The Spanish Ambassador has made great Complaints to his Majesty of *De Beauforts* forcible Entry upon their Rivers, and obliging them to strike Sail upon their own Coasts; which his Majesty (tis said) disavows, as done without Order. The English, with some Spaniards of *St. Sebastian*, have seized a French ship coming from *Bayonne*, at which this King is highly displeas'd. The *Sieur Dandjox* is now more than ever troublesome in *Bearne*, killing all the *Gabellors* he meets, punishing those that protect them; burning the houses of those that escape him, and destroying their Vineyards.

*Falmouth*, July 25. This day Captain *Manaing*, and Captain *Hall* sent into this Harbor a Prize laden with Wine and Brandy of 100 Tuns, belonging to the Skipper confes'd, to *Rotterdam*. She was taken at Anchor near *Cuquerque Road*: They have taken likewise a small *Brittain* Vessel of 20 Tun with Salt, which is not yet arriv'd.

*Plymouth*, July 27. The twenty fifth instant, the *Milford*, *Success*, and *Mermaid*, set sail for the Fleet, carrying with them many able Seamen, formerly employed in the *Virginia* and *Barbadoes* Merchants. The *Victory* is this day returned from the Coasts of *Ireland*, and an *Hamburgber*, arriv'd with French Wine from *Bordeaux*.

*Barnstable*, July 27. Three Vessels of this Harbor, bound for *Ireland*, too rashly adventuring without Convoy, as unfortunately fell into the power of a Dutch Caper, by whom they were riss'd and dismiss'd; only one of them, the *George* of *Bideford*, put to ransom for 50 l.

*Harwich*, July 28 Yesterday at noon our Fleet was lying off of *Middlebourg*. Here are come in the *Elizabeth*, *Adventure*, and *Breda*, Kings ships: with the *London-Merchant*, and *Richard* and *Martha* hired Merchants, that are to be speedily refitted.

*New-castle*, July, 28. From the North we are inform'd that four Scotch Privateers, meeting with seven *Hollanders*, after a sharp dispute took four of them, and chased the other three, and that Captain *Hamilton* is killed, but of this we expect a better account.

*Bristol*, July 28. On Tuesday last the *St. Patrick* of this Town, an excellent saylor, full of Men and Courage, set sail from this Town, of whom a Coaster arriving this morning reports, That he happily engaged with six or seven French Privateers, with such success, that he sunk three of them, and has taken the rest; of which we expect confirmation.

*West-Comes*, July 30 Three French Pickaroons about *Dartmouth* had lately seized on three small English Vessels; two of which were happily rescued by a Company sent from *Dartmouth*. Several Pickaroons infest our Coasts, but have not yet met with any Booty.

*Whitehall*, Monday July 30. This afternoon His Majesty went from hence to *Tunbridge*, in a visit to her Majesty, from whence he is expected on Thursday next.

*Harwich*, July 30. The *Royal Charles* having received some injury in the late Engagement, the Generals are removed out of her into the *Royal James*; and by two Ketches arriving from thence the last night, we are inform'd, that they set sail this day from the *Widdings* to the *Texels*, intending to send home the *Royal Charles* to be speedily repaired.

The Account of this Weeks Bill runs thus The Total 341. Of the Plague 38. Increased in all 25. Decreased of the Plague 10.