

West-Coast, Aug. 11. On Tuesday last three ships were brought in by the *Enoch* Ketch: The *Grand of Ostend*: The *St. Mary of Bridges*: And the *St. Anne of Newport*, all of them laden with Wine and Brandy from *Bourdeaux*.

Tarmouth, August 13. Yesterday came into our Roads two great Fly-boats of 400 Tuns burthen, taken by the *Dragon*, but brought in by the *John and Thomas*, a Kings Man of War, who touched here to land some sick and wounded men, and with his prizes is gone for *London*.

Plymouth, August 12. This day arrived a Merchant from *Lisbon*, in his way he discovered about twenty or thirty French Men of War, which were making for *Rochelle*, but his Vessel being nimble, kept out of their reach.

Paris, August 17. From *Basil in Switzerland* we are advised, That the Assembly of the Thirteen Cantons was broken up, having done two things very remarkable. First, To take the *Franciscan* Count in a strict Prison against whomsoever. The second to resolve to give a Summe with *France* to be paid unless the King shall before *Christmas* pay down the 22 Millions he owes them, of which five is due to that of *Berne* alone. And in fact, the Emperor and King of *Spain* have presented each of those Deputies with Gold Chains of good value. Which hath been much reflected on here, and immediately the Officers of that Nation have underhand had a good part of their arrears paid them.

There are some reports, that the Queen of *Portugal* landed at *Lisbon* the 24th past, and that our Fleet hath been seen on their way towards these Coasts, as far as the *Groyne*: But in a very ill condition, the ships foul, the men sickly, several of the best Captains dead, and the Vessels employed as Hospitals to the rest. Our Gallies are in the same state in the *Mediterranean*, the *Marquis de Termes*, Lieutenant General, and several other principal Officers dead: Two of the Gallies returned full of sick men into *Provence*.

Whitehal, Aug. 14. This day was with much devotion kept a day of Solemn Thanksgiving for the signal Victory it pleased God lately to give His Majesties Fleet over the Dutch: The Reverend Dr. *Dolben*, Clerk of the Closet to His Majesty, and Dr. *of Westminster*, having made an excellent Sermon before His Majesty upon that occasion, Which by His Majesties especial Command is to be made Publick.

Whitehal, Aug. 15. Last Night arrived here in Post Sir Philip Howard, dispatched Express from His Majesties Fleet off the *Ulic*, with a full account from his Highness Prince Rupert, and his Grace the Duke of Alenmales, of the late happy Success of Sir Robert Holmes his Expedition, in the burning and destroying more than 150 of the Enemies Ships in the *Ulic*; as also of the Town of *Bandar* on the Island of *Schelling*, consisting of about 1000 Houses, of which you will see elsewhere a Particular. In the mean time, you have the Sum of this glorious Success in the following Letter from Sir Robert Holmes his own hand.

Being ordered on Tuesday night last, by his Highness, and his Grace, to go into the *Ulic*, to burn that Island; in order therunto, on Thursday morning I got into the Channel, and being in *Schelling* Road, could espie a great Fleet, consisting of about 170 Sails, small and great, at Anchor in *Ulic* Road: I conceived it might be very good service to destroy them, and understanding there were not many men of War amongst them, and seeing that they rid very thick, I supposed it might be the sooner performed; I went therefore in with five Fireships, some Ketches, and one Fifth-rate Fregat, leaving some other Fregats in *Schelling* Road. I sent the Fireships a head, who soon burned two men of War, and other ships that stood defending the whole Fleet, and immediately sent all my Boats to burn the rest of the ships, which they did with good success, that in a short time the most of that great Fleet was in a flame, except a *Guinny* man of 24 Guns, and three small Privateers, that getting together in the Narrow of the Channel, protected five Sails more that were got a head of them, so that our Boats could not possibly come

at them; and the most of our Ketches being on ground, which hindered also the landing of our men upon the *Ulic*; which notwithstanding we resolved to do the next morning, and had accordingly proceeded in it, had not in the Night a Gullf happened with so much Rain, that spoiled a great many of our mers Arms and Ammunition on board the Hoyses, Ketches and Boats: However, I went with Eleven Companies on shore upon the *Schelling*, where we saw some scattering Fellows, but met with no great opposition; I burned the chief Town upon that Island, which, by all the Relation I could get, was very Rich; I had burnt all the Villages there, but that it was almost High-water; and could not see that opportunity of getting out again to Sea, which I thought to be more considerable, than to stay 24 hours at least, to demolish one or two small inconsiderable Villages; and the Channel between the Boyses very narrow, and not held without a flank wind. I can not give an exact Account of what damage the Dutch might sustain by us, but certainly it must be great. I suppose we may hereafter have a more full Account of that from *Amsterdam*: Our own loss was not very considerable, having not above 12 men killed and wounded. The number of the ships burnt, I suppose to be between 150, and 160 Sails: Upon the *Schelling* I kept with five Companies on the skirts of the Town, lest any Enemy should surprize us, whilst I sent five Companies more to burn it, leaving one Company to secure our Boats; whom finishing too slow in executing this Office, I was forced to set fire on some of the houses to the windward of the Town, to occasion the halting of our men away; which took good effect, that in half an hours time the most part of the Town was in a flame, otherwise it would have been a hard task to get our men away so suddenly.

The Ships that assisted in this happy Expedition, were,
The *Tyger*. Assurance. Dragon.
Hampshire. Advice. Fourth Rates,
Garland. *Pembroke*. Sweepstakes. Fifth Rates.
Ketches and Hoys Eleven.

Boats between Forty Five and Fifty.

Besides the Boats of the Ships that were sent in.

The *Advice* and *Hampshire* were left close without to guard the Boyses, lest any Vessel should come to take them away, whilst we were within at our Business.

The *Tyger*, *Assurance*, *Dragon*, *Garland*, and *Sweepstakes*, left in *Schelling* Road: The *Pembroke* and five Fireships, with three Ketches and Boats, went in upon the Fleet that rode at the *Uly*; the little Vessel that belongs to Prince Rupert, called the *Fanfan*, Sir Robert Holmes went in himself.

The Captains that commanded in the Action, each having a Company under him, were

Sir Robert Holmes with his own Company.
Sir Philip Howard with a Company of Volunteers.
Sir William Jennings.
Captain Bellayse.
Captain John Holmes.
Captain Hellyn.
Captain Gey.
Captain Wilteshire.
Captain Hammond.
Captain Butler.
Captain Haddock.

These Eleven Companies consisted of Twelve hundred men or upwards.

This is the sum of this great and memorable Action, the weight of which will be best learnt from *Holland* where it is felt: On our side we can only observe in it a Wise and prudent Counsell seasonably taken, and most vigorously executed; the whole by the blessing of God attended with admirable success, without any considerable loss in the attempt, the several Officers and Commanders in the occasion, bringing home a just reward of Glory and Reputation; and the common Seamen and Soldiers their pockets well lined with Duckets and other rich spoil, which was found in great plenty, as well on board the Merchants Ships, as in the Town they burnt, and was freely abandoned to them.

The Account of this Week's Bill runs thus. The Total 332. Of the Plague 48. Decreased in all 4. Increased of the Plague 6.