

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.

*Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Anguilla to his Friend in St. Christophers, dated May 29. 1745.*

ON the 21st Instant, early in the Morning, we were surprized by a Fleet of French, consisting of two Men of War, one of 36 Guns, the other of 32, with 3 Privateers, and 2 Dutch Vessels, as Tenders. They had undiscovered put on Shore 750 Men at a Place called Rendezvous Bay: Their Success in Landing was a great Encouragement to them, and Discouragement to us; our whole Force being 97 Men only. These our Lieutenant Governor, Arthur Hodge, formed into three Divisions, and posted them in a very narrow Path (by which the French were to pass) secured with Breastworks, the first of which would contain but 22 Men, commanded by Captain Richardson; these engaged the Enemy, firing by Platoons regularly, and with so true an Aim, that every Shot took place, and the French fell so fast, that in less than ten Minutes they lost Courage, and fled with Precipitation, having in this short Action at least 100 Men killed and wounded, and drowned in getting into their Boats. We expected a fresh Onset the next Day, but it seems they had enough of it, for they went away quietly. We have buried 35 of their Dead, and are daily in search of such as have hid themselves in the Bushes, or died there of their Wounds, which latter we believe, by the Stench, to be many, but can give no certain Account of them, nor of the Drowned. Among the Dead are the second Captain of the Commodore, (Monsieur Le Touch) the first Lieutenant of the other Ship; Capt. Rolough, an old Privateer; Benar their Pilot, who married his Wife off this Island; the Governor of St. Bartholomew's Son, and several other Officers: The Commodore himself was wounded in his Arm and Thigh so much, that they were obliged to carry him on board, as they did 25 others. Some of these Particulars we learn by some Prisoners set on Shore by a Flag of Truce sent by the Commodore. They had landed several Hand Grenadoe Shells, Swivel Guns, fixed on Triangles, Beef, Cheese, Bread and Wine: The four last Articles were good Plunder for our Negroes. Every

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dead Man had in his Pockets, Nettles, or small Lines for pinioning our Negroes. We had not one Man hurt; and have got by this Expedition, besides two Pair of their Colours, a great many fine Buccaneer Guns, Cartouch-boxes, &c. which they left behind, and with which we intend to arm our most trusty and sensible Negroes, to strengthen our Island.

By way of Eustatia we hear, that the French at Martinico own they lost 250 Men in this Expedition.