

Halifax 1779

U.N.B. ARCHIVES

have fallen into the Enemy's hands — That Admiral Saltonstall had taken effectual care to prevent their taking any more —

— The means he took were effectual indeed for he burnt them all — — This is a most curious way of deceiving the Publick — ~~the~~ ^{the} truth is told — — tis reported in town that they design another attack — —

Thursday 4th 16. about 12 o'clock at noon a small american Schooner Privateer took a large Brigg about 4 miles below Mauger's Beach in sight of the whole Town — for every body was looking at her — among the rest — The Capt. of 3 men of War were looking thro' his glasses & seeing it American carry off his prize unmolested — at last it Commodore & renowned Capt J. of the D-f-e ordered out some armed boats — but not without evidently showing that he knew not what method to take — the ~~idea~~ ^{idea} of armed boats — was murmuring from every one's mouth — at last penetrated his wooden head — & they were sent out more than 2 hours ~~after~~ later than they might have been —

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Tis amazing Strange! — that notwithstanding the repeated Insults of this kind — no effectual method is taken to prevent it — when tis beyond all dispute that one Frigate & two ~~schooners~~ Schooners or Sloops that were good Sailors would be fully sufficient — — The complaint is for want of men for the small vessels — Why in the name of ~~all~~ Common Sense may they not be manned by detachments from the large Ships when they are here — —

The Naval Commanders on this Station in general seem to be the most brainless set of Animals existing — — what a stupid piece of Conduct was C- & guilty of — who commanded it fleet with went with relief for Gen. M'Lean — — when it was known that it General's Situation was exceedingly dangerous — to return to Halifax with his whole fleet because he carried away his main & mizen Topmasts — & had lost his main Top — & this when not more than 30 leagues from Penobscot & a fair wind
Stupid very Stupid fellows!