BIOGRAPHIA NAVALIS;

OR,

IMPARTIAL MEMOIRS

OF THE

LIVES AND CHARACTERS

OF

OFFICERS OF THE NAVY OF GREAT BRITAIN,

FROM THE YEAR 1660 TO THE PRESENT TIME;

DRAWN FROM THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES, AND DISPOSED IN A CHRONOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT.

BY JOHN CHARNOCK, ESQ.

WITH PORTRAITS, AND OTHER ENGRAVINGS,
BY BARTOLOZZI, &c.

Nautæque, per omne
Audaces mare qui currunt, hâc mente laborem
Sese ferre, senes ut in otia tuta recedant.
HORACE, Sat. 1. Lib. 1.

VOL. V.

BEING THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE CONTINUATION.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR R. FAULDER, BOND-STREET.

1797.

2803 e 5

Digitized by Google

caſually met with at ſea. We do not find any mention* made of him in the ſervice after his appointment to the Rocheſter, and believe him not to have held any command for ſome years previous to his deceaſe. In the latter part of his life he was much diſtinguiſhed as a very active and upright magiſtrate, he having, moſt probably on his retirement from the navy, been put into the commiſſion of the peace, not merely, we believe, as is the common compliment paid to private gentlemen of fortune, but from an high opinion of the ſervice he was capable of rendering the community in a civic department. He died on the 22d of October, 1756.

NORBURY, Conningſby, — nephew to captain Con. Norbury, whom we have already noticed, vol. iv. p. 12. He was appointed captain of the Gibraltar frigate on the 17th of November, 1744. In 1748 he was captain of the Loo, a fifth rate of forty-four guns, on the Virginia ſtation, which, we are ſorry to ſay, is all the information we have been able to collect concerning him, till, in 1757, when we find him commander of the Hampſhire, of fifty guns. He retained this command ſome years, and in 1760 was on the Jamaica ſtation, under the orders of rear-admiral Holmes. He diſtinguiſhed himſelf very much in the month of October, in the attack of the French frigates† off Cape François, two of them, the Prince Edward and the Fleur-de-lys, of thirty-two guns each, being deſtroyed by captain Norbury. This gentleman appears to have cloſed his naval career with this action, not being mentioned as holding any command after his return to England before the cloſe of the laſt-mentioned year.

He retired about the year 1763 totally from the ſervice, and was conſequently not even put on the ſuperannuated liſt as a rear-admiral, having declined making any application for that purpoſe. We believe him to have died in the year 1786.

O'HARA, Patrick.—We are almoſt in the ſame predicament with regard to this gentleman as we were reſpecting the former. He was promoted on the 16th of November, 1744, from the rank of lieutenant to be cap-

* In the courſe of the month he is particularly mentioned as having captured eighteen ſmall veſſels, laden with proviſions and other neceſſaries for the uſe of the enemy's Italian army.

† See page 202.

Digitized by Google

tain of the Goſport. This, notwithſtanding we entertain not the ſmalleſt doubt of his having held many intervening commands*, is the only information we have been able to collect concerning him, till the month of October 1759, when he was made captain of the Loo, a forty-gun ſhip. At the latter end of the year 1762 he was put on the ſuperannuated liſt with the rank and half-pay of a rear-admiral. He died at his houſe in Park-ſtreet, on September 18, 1774, having been many years extremely infirm.

OSBORNE, James,—was, in the very beginning of the year 1744, promoted from the rank of lieutenant to be commander of the Merlin ſloop. On the 28th of September following he was advanced to be captain of the Shoreham frigate. He continued a long time in this veſſel, which was principally, if not wholly employed during that period as a cruiſer, a ſervice in which he met with no inconſiderable ſucceſs, having captured ſeveral ſmall privateers belonging to the enemy, which, though of inconſiderable force, were nevertheleſs capable of effecting great miſchief againſt the Britiſh commerce. He is not again mentioned till the year 1749, when he was captain of the Briſtol, and one of the members of the court-martial which was held on board the Invincible, for the trial of lieutenant Couchman and others, the mutineers on board the Cheſterfield. Captain Oſborne quitted the Briſtol at the end of the year 1751, and was appointed not long afterwards, as it is ſaid, † to a guardſhip, a ſecond rate. He died, not improbably in this very command, on the 14th of December, 1754.

PARRY, William,—was the deſcendant of a very ancient and noble Welch family. In 1732 and the following year he ſerved as midſhipman on board the Torrington, a fifth rate, on the Mediterranean ſtation. We find him to have been, in 1739, ſecond lieutenant of the Ruby, a 50-gun ſhip, then commanded by the unhappy capt. Goodere. The unfortunate conduct of his commander, contraſted, as we have already ſhewn in our account of him, with thoſe good qualities, and, indeed, virtues, which, till his laſt

* Particularly one in the Mediterranean, but we do not know the ſhip's name.

† Some accounts ſay the Duke, but theſe are erroneous, there being no ſhip of that name then in commiſſion.

melan-

Digitized by Google