

torians, We are informed that this Project was of an older Date; that the Earl of *Nottingham*, previous to his Resignation of the Post of Lord High-Admiral of *England*, had earnestly solicited the King to engage in Preparations for such an Enterprize; that Sir *Robert Mansel* had strongly intimated to *Buckingham* that it would reflect the highest Lustre on his Abilities in the naval Department, if the Expedition took Place, at the Dawn of his Administration. As this fortunate, and aspiring Favourite too easily induced the Sovereign to consent to the Gratification of all his Wishes, it is reasonable to suppose that, through his Influence, the Project was carried into Execution; notwithstanding that Sir *William Monson*, who had been consulted, delivered an Opinion, supported by strong, and clear Arguments, that it was rash, and ill-founded; and that, instead of raising the Reputation of the naval Power of the *English*, it would only contribute to render them ridiculous, as the whole World would observe the Disappointment; whereas but Few could judge of its real Causes, or of the Injustice of measuring thereby the maritime Strength of *Britain* (

On the twelfth of *October*, in the Year, one thousand, six hundred, and twenty, the Armament (c) set Sail

(b) Sir William Monson's naval Tracts, p. 253.—Campbell's Lives of the Admirals, V. 2. p. 31.

(c) The following is a LIST of the FLEET.

#### ROYAL NAVY.

SHIPS.	BURTH.	MEN.	Brafs GUNS.	COMMANDERS.
	Tons.			
The <i>Lion</i> , Admiral	600	250	40	Sir Rob. Mansel.
<i>Vanguard</i> , Vice-Admiral	660	250	40	Sir Rich. Hawkins.
<i>Rainbow</i> , Rear-Admiral	660	250	40	Sir Thomas Butten.

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