

know were burnt and consumed. This their doing was much marvelled at of vs, and so much the more, for that, as I sayd before, there had bene made some offer for the redemption and saving of the goods, and it was not to them unknown that this their offer was not misliked, but in all probability should have bene accepted. The common opinion was, that this was done either by the appointment of the Duke de Medina Sidonia, or els by expresse commandment from the higher powers.

Not long after the same time (three dayes as I remember) the gallees that were runne on ground, did quite themselves also out of that place, and by the bridge of the Island called Puente de Suago, made their way round about the same Island, and so by putting themselves to the maine sea, escaped to a towne called Rotta, not farre off, but something by towards the Towne of Saint Lucars, and there purchased their safety by that meanes.

Thus was this notable victorie, as well by sea as by land, both begonne and in effect performed, within the space of, in a manner, of fourteene houres: A thing in truth so strange and admirable, so that my judgement will rather bee wondered at then beleaved of possiblity. And if ever any notable exploit in any age was comparable to Caesars Veni, Vidi, Vici, certainly in my poore opinion it was this.

Here it is to be wished (and perchance of some too it is looked for) that every man should doe worthy acte in this dayes service, with the parties names also, should be put downe, that thereby both they and their good desert might be registered to all posteritie: and for my parte I would it were so, and wish I were able to doe it. But for that I confesse it is a matter that passeth my power, yea, and for that I thinke it also a thing impossible to be perfectly performed by any other, I am to craue pardon for that I rather leave it out altogether, then presume to doe it maynely: and in this point I referre the Reader onely to the Spie that is set forth of this journey, where it is in some parte conveniently touched and written.

The Towne of it selfe was a very beautifull towne, and a large, as being the chief see of the Bishop there, and having a goodly Cathedrall Church in it, with a right goodly Abbey, a Nunnerie, and an exceeding fine College of the Jesuites, and was by natural situation, as also by very good fortification, very strong, and tenable enough in all new opinions of the better iudgement. Their building was all of a kind of hard stone, even from the very foundation to the top, and every house was in a manner a kind of a sort of Castle, altogether flat-roofed in the toppe, after the Turkish manner, so that many men together, and that at ease, might walke thereon: having upon the house top, great beapes of weighty stones piled up in such good order, as they were ready to be thowen downe by every woman most easily upon such as passed by, and the streetes for the most part so exceeding narrow, (I thinke to avoide the intolerable great heat of the Sunne) as but two men or thre at the most together, can in a reasonable sort march thorough them, no streete being broader commonly then I suppose the narrowest streete in London to be.

The towne is altogether without glasse, excepting the Churches, yet with faire comely windowes, and with faire grates of iron to them, and have very large folding leames of wainscot, or of the like. It hath very fewe Chimnies in it, or almost none at all: it may be some one chimney in some one of other of the lower out roomes of less account, serving for some necessary uses, either to wash in, or the like, or els now and then perchance for the drying of a habill of meate, having as it should seeme unto me, alwayes a greater care and respect how to keep themselves from all kind of great heat, then how to provide for any sort of great cold. It is by report of them that should best knowe it, some foure thousand and more, of very good able fighting men, and five hundred horsemen at the least. No question but that they were well furnished with all things appertaining therunto, especially so many good ships lying there, and being so well stored with all manner of munition, shot, and powder, as they were.

Whether they had knowledge of our coming or no, I can say nothing to it: I thinke it giveth it out that they understood not of it, but onely by a Caravel that was at evening before came. But whether they knewe it or no, thus much I dare boldly affirme, that if the English had bene possessed of that of the towne, and had bene but halfe so well provided as they were, they would have defended it for some moneths at the least, against any power whatsoever in Christendome. But surely GOD was mightie GOD, and hath a wonderfull secret in all matters, especially of weight and moment. Whether they were well stored with powder, or whether they were amased at the invincible courage of the English, which was more then ordinary, caring no more for either small shot or great, then in a manner so many halfe-shots, or whether the remorse of a guilty conscience toward the English nation

for more dishonorable and more that easily begetter I know not, but he it spake more resolutely performed.

Of what wealth this towne, mine owne part, I had not much to say. Howbeit it should appear by the great goodly furnitures, that was not woorth the carrying a horse, Rapiers, Spicers, and some of the rather sort were such, it should appear that it was not of any such great wealth, but was most richly and very much to be lamented.

The Citizens say, that the disposing of all matters, all sort matters, thought in whole no such honourable things of every one were spoken of as women, should be of other molestacion.

to be in a manner as saye a of no wealth in the world, as Paulus is against the power, at the same instant others in some convenient manner, a hundred or more of the tower suffered to put upon it, but some convenient quantity of stone and degree.

Some of the most honourable Lozds of the towne, which is, Thats betwixt them and pearle or some things it is manifestly manifestly inferre, and most of them are, as they are, and they have sought, and doth in them hereth, to deface.

Upon Saturday being the 26 of the manner, so farre forth as the funerals the Maie discharge meete and convenient by the towne, such day being the sermon was made there by a preacher, a man of good learning before the sermon was made by General, And here I am to saye before, and some thre or four: but yet I have it best (and