

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

liam Howard, of whose high spirit and wonderfull towardlinesse full many a time hath he boasted vnto me. Secondly, the bounden duetie which I owe to your most deare sister the lady *Sheffield*, my singular good lady & honorable mistresse, admonished me to be mindfull of the renoumed familie of the *Howards*. Thirdly, when I found in the first Patent graunted by Queene *Marie* to the *Moscovie* companie, that my lord your father being then lord high Admirall of England, was one of the first fauourers and furtherers, with his purse and countenance, of the strange and wonderfull Discouerie of *Russia*, the chiefe contents of this present Volume, then I remembred the sagesaying of sweet *Isocrates*, *That sonnes ought not onely to be inheritors of their fathers substance, but also of their commendable vertues and honours*. But what speake I of your ancestors honors (which to say the trueth, are very great, and such as our *Chronicles* haue notably blazoned) when as your owne Heroicall actions from time to time haue shewed themselves so admirable, as no antiquitie hath afforded greater, and the future times will not in haste (I thinke) performe the like. To come to some particulars, when the Emperors sister, the spouse of *Spaine*, with a Fleete of an 130. sailes, stoutly and proudly passed the narrow Seas, your Lordship accompanied with ten ships onely of her Maiesties Nauie Roiall, enuironed their Fleet in most strange and warrelike fort, enforced them to scoope gallant, and to vaile their bonets for the Queene of England, and made them perfectly to vnderstand that olde speech of the prince of Poets;

*Non illi imperium pelagi sanuimq, tridentem,
sed tibi forte datum.*

Yet after they had acknowledged their dutie, your lordship on her Maiesties behalfe conducted her safely through our English chanell, and performed all good offices of honor and humanitie to that forren Princeesse. At that time all England beholding your most honorable cariage of your selfe in that so weightie seruice, began to cast an extraordinarie eie vpon your lordship, and deeply to conceiue that singular hope which since by your most worthie & wonderfull seruice, your L. hath more then fully satisfied. I meane (among others) that glorious, triumphant, and thrife-happy victory atchieued against that huge and haultie *Spanish Armada* (which is notably described in the ende of this volume) wherein being chiefe and sole Commander vnder her sacred and roiall Maiestie, your noble gouernment and worthy behaiour, your high wisdom, discretion and happinesse, accompanied with the heauenly blessing of the Almighty, are shewed most euidently to haue bene such, as all posteritie and succeeding ages shall neuer cease to sing and reſound your infinite prayse and eternall commendations. As for the late renoumed expedition and honorable voyage vnto *Cadiz*, the vanquishing of part of the king of Spaines *Armada*, the destruction of the rich *West Indian* Fleete, the chasing of so many braue and gallant Gallies, the miraculous winning, sacking, and burning of that almost impregnable citie of *Cadiz*, the surprising of the towne of *Faraon* vpon the coast of *Portugal*, and other rare appendances of that enterprize, because they be hereafter so iudicially set downe, by a very graue and learned Gentleman, which was an eye witnesse in all that action, I referre your good L. to his faithfull report, wherein I trust (as much as in him lay) he hath wittingly deprived no man of his right. Vpon these and other the like considerations, I thought it fit and very conuenient to commend with all humilitie and reuerence this first part of our English Voiages & Discoueries vnto your Honors fauourable censure and patronage.

And here by the way most humbly craving pardon, and alwayes submitting my poore opinion to your Lordships most deep and percing insight, especially in