

No. III.

ELIZABETH.
1588.

Letters from the Commanders of the Fleet, about the Spanish Armada.

From the originals in the Paper-office.

[The zeal and activity which these great seamen exerted at this important crisis, will always endear their memory to the nation.]

From Sir Francis Drake to Secretary Walsingham, from aboard the Revenge.

June the 24th, 1588.

ALTHOUGH I do very well know, that your Honour shall be at large advertised by my very good Lord, the Lord Admiral, that the Spanish forces are descried to be near at hand, in several companies, on our coast; as it is reported for certain by three barks, unto whom they gave chase and made shot; yet have I thought it good also to write these few lines unto your Honour, nothing doubting but that (with God's assistance) they shall be so sought out, and encountered withall, in such sort, as I hope will qualify their malicious and long pretended practices. And therefore I beseech your Honour to pray continually for our good success in this action, to the performance whereof we have all resolutely avowed the adventure of our lives.