

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE MY SINGV- LAR GOOD LORD, THE LORD

CHARLES HOWARD, Erle of Nottingham,
Baron of Effingham, Knight of the noble Order
of the Garter, Lord high Admirall of England,
Ireland, and Wales, &c. one of her Maiesties
most honourable priuie Counsell.



Ight Honourable and my very good
Lord, after I had long since published in Print
many Naugations and Discoueries of Stran-
gers in diuers languages, as well here at Lon-
don, as in the citie of Paris, during my fūe
yeeres abode in France, with the woorthie
Knight Sir Edward Stafford your brother in
lawe, her Maiesties most prudent and carefull
Ambassador ligier with the French King: and
had waded on still farther and farther in the
sweet studie of the historie of Cosmographie,
I began at length to conceiue, that with dili-
gent obseruation, some thing might be gathered which might commend our na-
tion for their high courage and singular actiuitie in the Search and Discouerie of
the most vnknown quarters of the world. Howbeit, seeing no man to step forth
to vndertake the recording of so many memorable actions, but euery man to fo-
low his priuate affaires: the ardent loue of my countrey deuoured all difficul-
ties, and as it were with a sharpe goad prouoked me and thrust me forward into
this most troublesome and painfull action. And after great charges and infinite
cares, after many watchings, toiles, and trauels, and wearying out of my weake
body; at length I haue collected three seuerall Volumes of the English Nauiga-
tions, Traffiques, and Discoueries, so strange, remote, and farre distant coun-
treys. Which worke of mine I haue not included within the compasse of
things onely done in these latter dayes, as though litle or nothing woorthie of
memorie had bene performed in former ages; but mounting aloft by the space
of many hundred yeeres, haue brought to light many very rare and worthy mo-
numents; which long haue lien miserably scattered in mustie corners, & retch-
lessly hidden in mistie darkenesse, and were very like for the greatest part to
haue bene buried in perpetuall obliuion. The first Volume of this worke I haue
thus for the present brought to light, reseruing the other two vntill the next
Spring, when by Gods grace they shall come to the Presse. In the meane
season bethinking my selfe of some munificent and bountifull Patrone, I called
to mind your honorable Lordship, who both in regard of my particular obliga-
tion, and also in respect of the subiect and matter, might iustly challenge the Pa-
tronage thereof. For first I remembred how much I was bound, and how deep-
ly indebted for my yongest brother *Edmund Howards*, to whom for the space of
foure whole yeeres your Lordship committed the government and instruction
of that honorable yong noble man, your sonne & heire apparant, the lord *Wil-*