

The first discoverers of these Ilands.

for the seege caused by the Ocean sea, which alwayes is forcible, and requireth great circumspection; whosoever hath not vrgent cause, is either to goe to the East-wards, or to the west-wards of all these Ilands, as well to avoyd the calmes, which hinder sometimes eight or ten dayes sayling, as the contagion which their distemperature is wont to caule, and with it to breede Calenturas, which wee call burning Fevers. These Ilands are sayd to be first discovered by a French-man, called *John de Betancourt*, about the yeare 1405. They are now a Kingdome subiect to Spaine.

S E C T. XIII.



Being cleare of the Ilands, wee directed our course for Cape *Blance*, and two howres before Sunne set, we had sight of a Carvell some League in the winde of vs, which seemed to come from *Gynea*, or the Ilands of *Cape de Verde*, and for that hee, which had the fery-watch, neglected to look out, being too lee-ward of the Ilands, and so out of hope of sight of any shipp, for the little trade and contrariety of the winde, that though a man will, from few places hee can recover the Ilands: comming from the south-wards, wee had the winde of her, and perhaps the possession also, whereof men of Warre are to haue particular care: for in an houre and place vnlookt for, many times chance accidents contrary to the ordinary course and custome, and to haue youngers in the top continually, is most convenient and necessary, not onely for descrying of sayles and land, but also for any sudden gust or occasion that may be offered.

Note.

Exercises vpon the South-wards of the *Canaries*.

Seeing my selfe past hope of returning backe, without some extraordinary accident, I began to set order in my Companie and victuals. And for that, to the south-wards of the *Canaries*, is for the most part an idle Navigation, I devised to keepe my people occupied, as well to continue them in health (for that too much ease in hott Countries is neither profitable nor healthfull) as also to divert them from remembrance of their home; and from play, which breedeth many inconveniences, and other bad thoughts and workes which idlenes is cause of; and so shifting my company, as the custome is, into Starboord and Larboord men, the halfe to watch and worke whilst the others slept, and take rest; I limited the three dayes of the weeke, which appertayned to each to be imployed