

Of Shipping. For this purpose in the end of Anno 1588. returning from the journey against the Spanish *Armado*, I caused a Ship to be builded in the river of *Thames*, betwixt three and foure hundred tunnes, which was finished in that perfection as could be required. For shee was pleasing to the eye, profitable for Stowage, good of Sayle, and well conditioned.

The day of her Lanching being appoynted, the Lady *Hawkins* (my Mother in Law) craued the naming of the Ship, which was easily granted her: who knowing what Voyage was pretended to be vnderaken, named her the *Repentance*: what her thoughts were, was kept secret to her selfe; And although many times I expostulated with her, to declare the reason for giving her that vncouth name, I could never haue any other satisfaction, then that repentance was the safest Ship we could sayle in, to purchase the haven of Heaven. Well, I know, shee was no Prophetesse, though a religious and most vertuous Lady, and of a very good vnderstanding.

Yet too propheticall it fell out by Gods secret Iudgements, which in his Wisdome was pleased to reveale vnto vs by so vnknowne a way, and was sufficient for the present, to cause me to desist from the Enterprise, and to leaue the Ship to my Father, who willingly rooke her, and paid the entire charge of the building and furnishing of her, which I had concorted or paid. And this I did not for any superstition I haue in names, or for that I thinke them able to further or hinder any thing; for that all immediately dependeth vpon the Providence of Almighty God, and is disposed by him alone.

Improper
Names for
Shipping.

The Revenge.

Yet advise I all persons ever (as neere as they can) by all meanes, and in all occasions, to presage vnto themselves the good they can, and in giving names to terrestriall Workes (especially to Ships) not to giue such as meerly represent the celestiaall Character; for, few haue I knowne, or seene, come to a good end, which haue had such attributes. As was plainly seene in the *Revenge*, which was euer the vnfortunatest Ship, the late Queenes Maiestie had during her Raigne; for comming out of *Ireland*, with Sir *Iohn Parrot*, shee was like to be cast away vpon the *Kentish* Coast. After in the Voyage of Sir *Iohn Hawkins* my Father, Anno 1586. shee stricke a-ground comming into *Plimouth*, before her going to Sea: Vpon the coast of *Spaine*, shee left her Fleete, readie to sinke with a great Leake: At her returne into the Harbour of *Plimouth*, shee beate vpon *Winter stone*; and after in the same Voyage, going out of *Portsmouth* Haven, shee ranne twice a-ground; and in the latter of them, lay twentie two houres beating vpon the shore, and at length with