

[ 1 ]  
THE

## English Mercantile.

Published by AUTHORITY.

For the Prevention of false Reportes.

Whitehall, July 23d, 1588.

**E**ARLIE this Morninge arrived a Messenger at Sir Francis Walsingham's Office, with Letters of the 22d from the Lorde High Admirall on board the *Ark-Royal*, containinge the followinge materiall Advices.

On the 20th of this Instant Capt. Fleming, who had beene ordered to cruize in the Chops of the Channell, for Discoverie, brought Advice into Plymouth, that he had descervied the *Spanish Armado* neare the *Lizard*, making for the Entrance of the Channell with a favourable Gale. Though this Intelligence was not received till near foure in the Afternoone, and the Winde at that time blew hard into the *Sound*, yet by the indefatigable Care and Diligence of the Lorde High Admirall, the *Ark-Royal*, with five of the largest Frigates, anchored out of the Harbour that very Eveninge. The next Morninge, the greatest Part of her Majestie's Fleet gott out to them. They made in all about eighty Sail, divided into four Squadrons, commanded by his Lordship in Person, Sir Francis Drake Vice-Admiral, and the Rear-Admirals *Hawkins* and *Forbisher*. But about one in the Afternoone, they came in Sight of the *Spanish Armado* two Leagues to the Westward of the Eddystone, sailing in the Form of a half-Moon, the Points whereof were seven Leagues asunder.