

may come by pikes and other inventions of fire, and if any shippe be oppressed with many shippes at once, and subiect by them to be bourded; I hold it a good course to strike his fire and mayne yards close to his decke, and to fight with sprit-saile, and mylon, and top-sayles loose: so shall he be able to hinder them from oppressing him.

Pollicies to a.
voyde bour-
dings.

Some haue thought it a good pollicy to launce out some ends of Mastes or yards by the ports or other parts: but this is to be vfed in the greater shippes, for in the lesser, though they be neuer so strong, the waight of the bigger will beate out the opposite sides, and doe hurt, and make great spoyle in the lesser. And in bourding, ordinarily the lesser shippe hath all the harme, which the one shippe can doe vnto the other.

Dispute con-
cerning ships
of Trade.

Here is offered to speake of a point much canvassed amongst Carpenters, and Sea Captaines, diversly maintained, but yet vndetermined: that is, whether the race or lostie built shippe, bee best for the Merchant, and those which imploy themselues in trading: I am of opinion, that the race shippe is most conuenient; yet so, as that every perfect shippe ought to haue two deckes, for the better strengthening of her; the better succour of her people; the better preferuing of her Merchandize at uall, and for her greater safetie from sea and stormes.

Concerning
the Prince his
shippes.

But for the Princes shippes, and such as are employed continually in the warres, to be built lostie I hold very necessary for many reasons. First for Maiekie and terrour of the enemy; secondly, for harbouring of many men; thirdly for accommodating more men to fight; fourthly, for placing and vling more Artillery; fifthly, for better strengthening and securing of the shippe, sixthly for ouertopping and subiecting the enemy; seuenthly, for greater safeguard and defence of the ship and company. For it is plaine, that the ship with three deckes, or with two and a halfe, shewes more pomp then another of her burthen with a decke and halfe, or two deckes, and breedeth greater terror to the enemy, discouering her selfe to be a more powerfull ship as she is, then the other; which being indeed a ship of force, seemeth to be but a Barke, and with her low building hideth her burthen. And who doubteth, that a decke and a halfe cannot harbour that proportion of men, that two deckes, and two deckes and a halfe can accommodate to fight; Nor carry the Artillery so plentifully, nor so commodiously. Neither can the ship be so strong with a decke and a halfe, as with two deckes; nor with two, as with three; nor carry her Mastes so taunt; nor spread so great a clue; nor contriue so many fightes, to answer

one