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Instructions sent one from the other in warlike maner, by discharging certain great peeces, but to know ledge no hurt done at all, or else very little. A careful and diligent watch was had all that night thorough out the whole armie, and on the morning being the 21. day, the winde and weather being become moderate and favorable, betwene flue and fire of the clocke in the morning, our ships in the name of almighty God, and in defence of the honour of England, without any farther delay, with all speed, courage, and alacritie, did set upon the Spanish ships, being then under sayle, and making out of the Bay of Cadiz, up toward Puente de Suazo on Granada side, being in number of the ships, with xix. or xx. Gallies attending upon them, sorted in such good order, and reasonable manner as they might kill annoy us, and alwayes relieue themselves interchangeably: hauing firste the Castle, Fortes, and Towne, continually to assist them and theirs, and alwayes ready to play upon us and ours.

For most mens opinions it seemed that the enemy had a wonderful auantage of vs, all circumstances being well weighed, but especially the straitnesse of the place, and the naturall forme and exceeding beautifull, so that from Cadiz to Poze S. Mary, is some vi. or vii. English miles over of there abouts, yet be there many rocks, shels, sands and shallows in it, so that very chanel & place for sea room, is not about 2. or 3. miles, yea and in some places, not so much as to be constrained to run for wise one on another. All this notwithstanding, with great and inuincible courage, the Loyses generall presently set upon them, and sorting out some such conuenient as to their honorable wisdomes seemed fittest for that times seruire, they were diuised to take some other course then before had beene by them intended. Wherefore vpon a graue consultation had by a select Councell, what great dangers might ensue vpon so mightie a disaduantage appeared in all probability, if it were not by good and sound iudgement prevented, & thereto in their singular wisdomes foreseeing that some great stratageme might be practised by some of the ships of honor in so narrow a place, thus with al expedition they concluded that the Vice Admirall, the L. Thomas Howard, that most noble L. Howard (whose exceeding great magnanimity, as is not able by me & my weaknes to be exprested, hath wonne him all the faithfull loyalty of as many as euer haue had any manner of dealing with him) This L. Thomas, I say, in his regard, for many his exceeding singular great vertues, right fortitude & great resolution in all matters of importance) in the Earl fight associated with diuers most famous voyagers, namely, Sir Francis Vere the L. Partall in the Rainbow, Sir George Cary of the Lion, and for perfect courage & discretion in all military actions, of as great praise & good fame as any gentlemen of his degree who soeuer, hauing with them some of the ships of London, and the two most noble Loyses generall with some others of their companies, should in their present time & order, second the maine battell. The fight being begunne and growen very hot, the L. Generall the Earle of Essex, (whose infinite princely vertues, with triumphant fame, hee to be immortalized) being on Poze S. Mary side, vpon a sudden & unlooked for of others, put himselfe among the foremost into the maine battell. The other most honorable L. Generall himselfe among the foremost in all respects are of such an excellencie & perfection, as neither can my pen nor most noble Earle to be in fight among them, & perceiving by the sight of his ship, the Arke that for lacke of water, it was not possible, that he might put any neerer, without farther delay presently for his pynnesse, and in the same pynnesse put himselfe, and his honorable ship, William Howard that now is, aboord the Honor de la mer, & there remained in the fight till the battell was ended. The fight was very terrible, and most hideous to the beholder by the discharge of those roaring thundering great peeces, in all sides, and so continued till about one or two of the clocke in the afternoone: about which time the Philip, whom they had all most fancie vnto, began to reele and giue over, her men that remained being for the most part, as they were able, and swimming and running a shoare with all the things they could possibly gett without, at the very same instant themselves fired their ship, in such a manner, as presently thereupon a great Argosie, with an other mighty great ship, fired them in like manner. Immediately hereupon the residue of the ships, ran themselves on ground,