

to reforme, both in the *Peru*, and also in the Counsels of *Spaine*, and amongst the Chieftaines, souldiers, and better sort, with whom I came to haue conversation; Alladging that a Pirate, or *Corfario*, is he, which in time of peace, or truce spoyleth, or robbeth thole, which haue peace or truce with them: but the English haue neither peace nor truce with *Spaine*, but warre; and therefore not to be accounted Pirats. Besides, *Spaine* broke the peace with *England*, and not *England* with *Spaine*; and that by *Tumbargo*, which of all kinds of dehances, is most reprov'd, and of least reputation; The ransoming of prysoners, and that by the Cannon, being more honorable, but about all, the most honorable, is with Trumpet and Herald, to proclaime and denounce the warre by publicke defiance. And so if they should condemne the English for Pirats, of force, they must first condemne themselves.

What a Pirate is.

3. Sorts of dehances.

Moreover, Pirats are thole, who range the Seas without licence of their Prince; who when they are met with, are punished more severely by their owne Lords, then when they fall into the hands of strangers: which is notorious to be more severely prosecuted in *England* (in time of peace) then in any the Kingdomes of Christendome.

But the English haue all licence, either immediately from their Prince, or from others therevnto authorized, and so cannot in any sence be comprehended vnder the name of Pirats, for any hostility vndertaken against *Spaine*, or the dependancies thereof.

And so the state standing as now it doth; if in *Spaine* a particular man should arme a shippe, and goe in warre-fare with it against the English, and happened to be taken by them: I make no question, but the Company should bee intreated according to that manner, which they haue ever vsed since the beginning of the Warre: without making further Inquisition.

The Custome of *Spaine* for of warre.

Then if hee were rich or poore, to see if hee were able to giue a rancome, in this also they are not very curious. But if this Spanish shippe should fall a thwart his Kings Armado, or Gallies, I make no doubt but they would hang the Captaine and his Companie for Pirats. My reason is, for that by a speciall law, it is enacted: that no man, in the kingdomes of *Spaine*, may arme any shippe, and goe in warre-fare, without the Kings speciall licence and commission; vpon paine to be reputed a Pirate, and to bee chastised with the punishment due to *Corfarios*. In *England* the case is different, for the warre once proclaimed, every man may arme that will, and hath wherewith; which maketh for our greater exemption, from being comprehended within the number of Pirats.

The Custome of *England*.