

fect resolution. For before he attempted the same it was a matter doubtfull & reported the extremest lymit of danger to sayle vpon those coastes. So that it was generally in dread among vs, such is the slownes of our nation, for the most part of vs rather ioy at home like Epicures to sit & carpe at other mens hassardes, our selues not daring to giue any attempt. (I meane such as are at leisure to seeke the good of their cuntry not being any wayes imployed as paynfull members of a common weale,) then either to further or giue due commendations to the deseruers, howe then may Syr Iohn Hawkins bee esteemed, who being a man of good account in his Country, of wealth & great imp'oyment, did notwithstanding for the good of his Countrey, to procure trade, giue that notable & resolute attempt. Whose steps many hundreds following sithins haue made themselues men of good esteeme, & fit for the seruice of her sacrid maiestie.

And by that his attempt of America (wherof West India is a parte) is well prooued to be many hundred leagues distant from any part of Afric or Europe.

Then succeeded Syr Francis Drake in his famous & ener renowned voyage about the world, who departing from Plimouth, directed his course for the straightes of Magillane, which place was also reported to be most dangerous by reason of the continuall violent & vnresistable current that was reported to haue continuall passage into the straightes, so that once entring therein there was no more hope remayning of returne, besides the perill of shelles, straightnes of the passage & vncertaine wyndinges of the same, all which breed dread in the highest degree, the distance & dangers considered. So that before his revealing of the same the matter was in question, whether there were such a passage or no, or whether Magillane did passe the same, if there was such a man so named, but Syr Francis Drake, considering the great benefit that might arise by his voyage through that passage, & the notable discoueries, that might be thereby performed, regarded not these dastardly affections of the idle multitude, but considering with iudgement that in nature there could be no such perpetuities of violence where the ocean is in no sorte straighted, proceeded with discreet prouision & so departing from England arriued vnto the same, & with good successe (through Gods most fauorable mercy passed through) wherein his resolution hath deserued everlasting commendations. For the place in viewe is dangerous & verie vnpleasing, & in the execution to passe Nothing may seeme more doubtful, for 14 leagues west within the cape of Saint Maria lyeth the first straight, where it floweth & ebbeth with violent swiftnes, the straight not half a mile broad, the first fall into which straight is verie dangerous & doubtfull. This straight lasteth in his narrownes, 3 leagues, then falling into another sea 8 leagues broad & 8 leagues through there lyeth the second straight due west South West from the firste, which course being vnkowne it is no small perill in finding this second straightes, & that agayne is not a myle broad & continueth the bredth 3 or 4 leagues Southwest, with violent swiftnes of flowing & reflowing, & there agayne he falleth into another Sea, through which due, South South West, lyeth the cape Froward, & his straight (so rightly named in the true nature of his peruersnes, for be the wind neuer so fauorable, at that cape it will be directly agaynst you with violent & daungerous flaughes) where there are three places probable to continue the passage. But the true straight lyeth from this cape West Nor West, where the land is very high all couered with snowe, & full of dangerous counter-windes, that beate with violence from those huge mountaines, from which cape the straight is neuer broder then 2 leagues & in many places not halfe a mile, without hope of ancorage, the channell beeing shore deepe more then tow hundreth faumes, & so continueth to the South sea forty leagues only to bee releued in little dangerous coues, with many turnings & chang of courses; how perilous then was this passage to Syr Francis Drake, to whom at that time no parte thereof was knowne. And being without reliefe of ancorage was inforced to follow his course in the hell darke nights, & in all the fury of tempestious stormes. I am the bolder to make this particuler relation in the praise of his perfect constancy & magnanimitie of spirite, because I haue thrise passed the same straightes & haue felt the most bitter & mercyles fury thereof. But now knowing the place as I doe (for I haue described enery creke therein) I know it to be a voiage of as great certaynty, pleasure & ease, as any whatsoeuer that beareth but $\frac{1}{4}$ the distaunce from England that these straightes