

bance on the death of the queen, or opposition to the design the ministry had formed, of immediately proclaiming king *James*, and bringing him with all convenient speed to *London*.

IN the methods made use of for this purpose, the wisdom of the great men by whom they were concerted was very conspicuous. For, in the first place, care was taken that the lieutenants in the northern counties, and all who had any authority in those parts, were either well affected to king *James*, or absolute dependants on the administration^s. Then, as to the fleet, which was of mighty consequence at such a juncture, provision was made for its security without the least jealousy given, that this was the council's intention. For, it having been found of great benefit to the nation, to have a strong squadron of ships on the *Spanish* coast from *February* to *November*, there could be no umbrage taken at the increasing of these in the spring of the year 1602, because the war with *Spain* still continued; and though the lords had little confidence in Sir *Richard Leveson*, who for some years had been intrusted with this command, yet they would not remove him, but contented themselves with appointing sir *William Monson*, on whom they could depend, his vice-admiral, giving him, however, the command of a better ship than the admiral himself had. They likewise intimated to sir *William*, when he went to his command, (the queen being then so low that her recovery was not expected) that in case of any stir, lord *Thomas Howard* should immediately come and take charge of the fleet, by entering sir *William Monson's* ship, and sir *William* go on board sir

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Richard

^s Speed, Echard, Rapin.