

at length when the flames were released out of their letters, the English men would have set the said ship on fire, which Monsieur Gourdon the governor of Caleis, for feare of the damage which might thereupon ensue to the Towne and Haven, would not permit them to do, but drove them from thence with his great ordinance.

Upon the 29 of July in the morning, the Spanish Fleet after the foresayd tumult, having arranged themselves againe into order, were, within sight of Greueling, most haucily and furiously encountered by the English; where they once againe got the winde of the Spaniards: who suffered themselves to be deprived of the commoditie of the place in Caleis rode, and of the advantage of the winde nere unto Dunkerk, rather then they would change their array or separate their forces now consoynded and united together, standing onely upon their defence.

And albeit there were many excellent and warlike ships in the English fleet, yet scarce were there 22 or 23 among them all which matched 90 of the Spanish ships in bignesse, or could conveniently assault them. Wherefore the English shippes using their prerogative of nimble steege, whereby they could turne and wheel themselves with the winde which way they pleased, came often times very nere upon the Spaniards, and charged them so close, that now and then they were but a pikes length asunder: so continually giuing them one broad side after another, they discharged all their shot both great and small upon them, spending one whole day from morning till night in that violent kinde of conflict, untill such time as powder and bullets failed them. In regard of which want they thought it convenient not to pursue the Spaniards any longer, because they had many great bantages of the English, namely for the extraordinary bignesse of their ships, and also for that they were so nereley consoynded, and kept together in so good array, that they could by no means be fought withall one to one. The English thought therefore, that they had right well acquitted themselves, in chasing the Spaniards first from Caleis, and then from Dunkerk, and by that meanes to have hindered them from loyning with the Duke of Parma his forces, and getting the winde of them, to have driven them from their owne coasts.

The Spaniards that day sustained great losse and damage having many of their ships shot thorow and thorow, and they discharged likewise great store of ordinance against the English; who indeed sustained some hinderance, but not comparable to the Spaniards losse: for they lost not any one shippe or person of account. For very diligent inquisition being made, the English men all that time wherein the Spanish flauay sailed upon their seas, are not found to have wanted about one hundredth of their people: albeit Sir Francis Drakes shippe was pierced with shot about forty times, and his very cabben was twice shot thorow, and about the conclusion of the fight, the bodie of a certaine gentleman lying weare thereupon, was taken quite from under him with the force of a bullet. Likewise, as the Earle of Northumberland and Sir Charles Blunt were at dinner upon a time, the bullet of a demi-culvering broke thorow the middle of their cabin, touched their feet, and strooke betwixt two of the standers by, with many such accidents befalling the English shippes, which it were tedious to rehearse. Whereupon it is most apparent, that God miraculously preserved the English nation. For the L. Admirall wrote unto her Spacieltie that in all humane reason, and according to the iudgement of all men (every circumstance being duly considered) the English men were not of any such force, where by they might, without a miracle, dare once to appoach within sight of the Spanish Fleet: insomuch that they freely ascribed all the honour of their victoery vnto God, who had confounded the enemy, and had brought his counsels to none effect.

The same day the Spanish ships were so battered with English shot, that that very night and the day following, two or thre of them suncke right downe: and among the rest a certaine great ship of Bitcay, which Captaine Crosse assaulted, which perished even in the time of the conflict, so that very few therein escaped drowning; who reported that the gouernours of the same shippe slew one another upon the occasion following: one of them which would haue perished the shippe was suddenly slaine; the brother of the slaine party in reuenge of his death slew the murderer, and in the meane while the ship suncke.

The same night two Portugall galleons of the burthen of seven or eight hundred tunnes a piece, to w^t the Saint Philip and the Saint Marthew, were forsaken of the Spanish fleet, for they were so toyne with shot, that the water entered into them on all sides. In the galeon of Saint Philip was Francis de Toledo, brother vnto the Count de Orgas, being Colonel over two and thirty bands: besides other gentlemen; who seeing their mast broken with shot, they shaped their course, as well as they could, for the coast of Flanders: whither when they could not attaine, the principall men in the ship committing themselves to their skiffe, arrived at the next towne, which was Ostend; and the ship it selfe being left behinde with the residue of their company, was taken by the Englishers.

The great
fight before
Greueling the
29 of July.

Three Span-
nish shippes
suncke in the
fight.

Two galleons
taken and car-
ried into Ze-
land.

In the other galeon,
camp-master and colonel
other gentlemen and a
great number of bulles
of butt: set upper woth
tho shot and pierced in
not be stopped: whereu^{er}
that he might saue himse
courage, refused to do
night following he could
his ship on all sides; for
continually to labor at
taken & separated from
ders: where, being espied
same coast, he was aduon
ly assaulted by them altoget
same worse case then befo
sailed at length to yeeld hi
and his ship into Zeland;
merely after the greater
of the memory of this
these shippes to be set up in
that being fastened to the
About the same time ano
bout Blankenberg, was call
God would haue the Spani
but also of the Zelanders; e
they had bene to resist such
uence, and fortitude, pea, and
The 29 of July the Spar
ing close together under the
English ships till following
sea noine, they cut their main
ger to fight but to flee. For
Seymer with his Squadron of
Dutch ships, he might stop th
soph with his army. And he
cond of August, because he
very nere, yet did he not assa
fourth of August, the winde ar
themselves wholly to flight, a
(whereby they sufficiently decl
tempting for that purpose, wit
of the Northzen seas) the Eng
degrees, and being unwilling
selves, and because they want
for England; leaving behinde
Spaniards aloofe, and to obser
with great danger and indus
downe with a mighty tempest
great hurt vnto the Spanish fleet
with no going on shore, prouid
things expedient, that they mig
ed any more to returne. But
coule, they thought it best to lea
ne there to hunt after them.

The Spaniards seeing now th
maintained and sicke persons,
consulted among themselves, wha