

The English,
Authors of
Sea discipline.

ther men of warre anchored, before all the Fleet was in safetie; and then they placed themselves round about the Fleet; the Vice-Admirall Seamost and Leemoost; which we haue taught vnto most Nations, and they obserue it now a dayes better then we, to our shame, that being the Authors and reformers of the best Discipline and Lawes in Sea causes, are become those which doe now worst execute them.

By them againe neglected.

And I cannot gather whence this contempt hath growne, except of the neglect of Discipline, or rather in giuing commands for fauour to those, which want experience of what is committed to their charge: Or that there hath beene little curiolitie in our country, in writing of the *Discipline of the Sea*; which is not lesse necessary for vs, then that of the *Law*; And I am of opinion, that the want of experience is much more tollerable in a *Generall* by Land, then in a *Gouernour* by Sea. For in the field the Lieutenant Generall, the Sergeant Maior, and the *Colonels* supply what is wanting in the Generall; for that they all command; and ever there is place for Counsell, which in the Sea by many accidents is denied: and the head is he that manageth all, in whom alone if there be defect, all is badly governed; for, by ignorance how can errors be iudged, or reformed? And therefore I wish all to take vpon them that, which they vnderstand, and refuse the contrary.

The modesty
of Sir Henry
Palmer.

As Sir Henry Palmer, a wise and valiant Gentleman, a great commander, and of much experience in Sea causes, being appoynted by the Queenes Maiesties Counsell, to goe for Generall of a Fleet for the coast of *Spain*, Anno 1583. submitting himselfe to their Lordships pleasure, excused the charge, saying, that his trayning vp had beene in the narrow Seas; and that of the other, he had little experience. And therefore was in dutie bound to intreate their Honours, to make choice of some other person, that was better acquainted, and experimented in those Seas; that her Maiestie, and their Lordships might be the better served. His modestie and discretion is doubtlesse to be had in remembrance, and great estimation; For the ambition of many which cover the command of Fleetes, and places of government (not knowing their Compasse, nor how, nor what to command) doe purchase to themselves shame; and losse to those that employ them: Being required in a Commander at Sea, a sharpe wit, a good vnderstanding, experience in shipping, practise in mannagement of Sea busines, knowledge in Navigation, and in command: I hold it much better to deserue it, and not to haue it, then to haue it not deseruing it.

Parts required
in a Commander at
Sea.

S. C. T.