

there are so many doubts we must work by the likeliest ways, and leave unto God to direct for the best. And so I bid you most hearty farewell. From aboard her Majesty's good ship the Ark, the 6th of July 1588.

ELIZABETH.
1588.

Your assured loving friend,

HOWARD.

Sir Francis Drake to the Lord Henry Seymour.

Right Honourable and my very good Lord,

July 21.

I AM commanded by my good Lord, the Lord Admiral, to send you the carvel in haste with these letters, giving your Lordship to understand, that the army of Spain arrived upon our coast the 20th of the present, and the 21st we had them in chace; and so coming up to them, there had passed some common shot between some of our fleet and some of them; and as far as we can perceive, they are determined to sell their lives with blows. Whereupon his Lordship hath commanded me to write unto your Lordship and Sir William Winter, that those ships serving under your charge should be put into the best and strongest manner you can, and ready to assist his Lordship, for the better encountering of them in those parts where you now are. In the mean time, what his Lordship, and the rest following him, may do, shall be surely performed. His Lordship hath commanded me to write hearty commendations to your Lordship and Sir William Winter. I do salute your Lordship, Sir William Winter, Sir Henry Palmer, and all the rest of those honourable gentlemen serving under you, with the like; beseeching God of his mercy to give her Majesty, our gracious sovereign, always victory against her enemies. Written aboard her Majesty's good