

EARL OF NOTTINGHAM. 9

the public voice would approve her favour; as, in this case, it loudly did. At the first Introduction of the earl of Nottingham into the house of lords, he was received with such unusual marks of joy as amply testified the high opinion which that assembly had conceived of him; nor did they less applaud the conduct of the queen, when, not satisfied with having advanced him to one dignity, she, almost immediately, appointed him justice-itinerant (for life) of all the forests, south of Trent (y). The next great office conferred upon him appears to have been that of lord lieutenant-general of all England (z), at a period (a) when a suspected invasion from the Spaniards, and the conduct of the earl of Essex, in Ireland, had exceedingly alarmed the kingdom.

It may, in this place, be necessary to remark, without entering into a tedious relation of the desperate conspiracies of Essex, that Nottingham (who had been accused by that lord, of having sacrificed to Spain the interests of his country,) was intrusted with the command of an armed body of the nobility, citizens, and soldiers, when having surrounded both from the street, and gardens, the house to which the insurgents had retired, he summoned Essex to surrender (b). At first, yield-

brook the insinuation that Nottingham had equally contributed with himself, to the success of the enterprize before Cadiz. He even assumed the unwarrantable liberty of proposing that the patent should be cancelled; and threatened, in case of a refusal, to challenge Nottingham, or any of his sons, to single combat.—Bacon's papers, p. 365.

(y) Pat. 39. Eliz. P. 1.

(z) Camden. Annal. p. 794.—Stowe's Annals, p. 778.—Speed.—Sir William Monson's Naval Tracts.—Campbell's Lives of the Admirals, V. 1. p. 517.

(a) Volume the second, from page 425, to page 427.

(b) The earl resided, then, at Temple-bar; and, on that spot where Devereux-court, and Essex-street now stand.