

The Spanish Armada. Traffiques, and Discoueries.

593

to this Raue amounted unto the summe of 150. the one being sufficiently provided of furniture and victuals.

The number of Mariners in the saide Fleet were about 8000. of slaves 2088. of souldiers 10000. (besides noblemen and gentlemen voluntaries) of great cast pieces 2650. The foresaid ships were of an huge and incredible capacite and receiv. For the whole Fleet was large enough to containe the burthen of 60. thousand tunnes.

The Galeons were 64. in number, being of an huge bignesse, and very lately built, being of marvelous force also, and so high, that they resembled great castles, most fit to defend themselves and to withstand any assault, but ingulping any other ships the encounter farre inferior unto the English and Dutch ships, which ran with great verticall weild and turne themselves at all angles. The upper worke of the said Galeons was of thicknesse and strength sufficient to beare off the musket-shot. The lower worke was of thicknesse and strength sufficient to beare off the shot of planks and ribs foure or five foote in thicknesse, insonmuch that no bullets could pierce them, but such as were discharged hard at hand: which afterward proved true, for a great number of bullets were found to sticke fast within the massie substance of those thicke planks. Great and well pitched Cables were twined about the masts of their shippes, to strengthen them against the battery of shot.

The Gallies were of such bignesse, that they contained within them chambers, chapels, curtes, pulpits, and other commodities of great houses. The Gallies were rowed with great force, there being in each one of them 300. slaves for the same purpose, and were able to do great service with the force of their Dymance. All these together with the residue aforesaid were furnished and beautified with trumpets, streamers, banners, warlike ensignes, and other such like ornaments.

Their pieces of brasse ordnance were 1600. and of yron 1000.

The bullets thereto belonging were 120. thousand.

Item of gun-powder 5600. quintals, Of matche 1200. quintals,

Of muskets and halciuers 7000. Of haleberes and partisans 10000.

Moreover they had great store of canons, double-canons, culverings and field-pieces for land service.

Likewise they were provided of all instruments necessary on land to conueigh and transport their furniture from place to place, as namely of cares, wheeles, wagons, &c. Also they had spades, mattocks and baskets to set pioneers on worke. They had in like sort great store of mules and hies, and whatsoever else was requisite for a land-armie. They were so well stored of biscuit, that for the space of halfe a yeere, they might allowe each person in the whole Fleet halfe a quintall every mone.

Likewise of wine they had 147. thousand pipes, sufficient also for halfe a yeeres expedition. Of becom 6500. quintals. Of cheere thre thousand quintals. Besides fish, rise, beanes, pease, &c.

Moreover they had 12000. pipes of fresh-water, and all other necessary provision, as namely candles, lanternes, lampes, sailes, kempes, ore-hides and lead to stop holes that should be made with the battery of gunshot. To be hoie, they brought all things expedient either for a Fleet by sea, or for an armie by land.

This Raue (as Diego Pimentelli afterward confessed) was esteemed by the King himselfe to containe 32000. persons, and to cost him every day 30. thousand ducates.

There were in the said Raue five cerzaes of Spaniards, (which cerzaes the Frenchmen call leguions) under the command of five gouernours termed by the Spaniards, Masters of the Sicilie, Naples, and Terceira. Their Captaines or Colonels were Diego Pimentelli, Don Francisco de Toledo, Don Alonso de Lucón, Don Nicolas de Isla, Don Augustin de Mexia; and many hands also of Castilians and Portugals, euery one of which had their peculiar gouernment, as was not lawfull for any man, vnder grieuous penaltie, to carry any women or harlots in the Raue: for which cause the women hired certaine shippes, wherein they sailed after the Raue: The generall of this mightie Raue, was Don Alonso Perez de Guzman duke of Medina Sidonia, Lord of S. Lucar, and knight of the golden Fleete: by reason that the Marques of Santa Cruz appointed for the same dignitie, deceased before the time.

John Martines de Ricalde was Admirall of the Fleet.

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Francis