

for little less than half a million. ^{C 7281} The prosperity
of the Operative Co. is shown that 2nd Joint stock
subscribed for '16, '17, & '18 was nearly 4 times as
much

What was the position of this time, by this time the
Eng had got a large share of the trade in pepper etc.
centred in Java but in their pursuit of the
finer & more valuable species, ^{from Amboyna} the Dutch
had outstripped them, had completely ousted
the Portuguese & put every obstacle in way of Eng
sharing in the business.

The Eng in fact ^{had} made no serious attempt to
unmake this Dutch monopoly but now with
their course capped at this point they began to
make their way to the possession of island not
substantly in possession of Dutch. Ho Dutchies at once
broke out, the Dutch maintained that they had
been at the cost of expelling Portuguese & not fair
that Eng should now benefit. & The Eng were almost
uniformly overpowered by the Dutch superiority of
force. There was simply too many Dutch ships
men for Eng to cope with. (The main? wh. men desired
in 17th century was how the Dutch had been so far ahead - in
Eng. Is & for all sorts of reasons & explanations were
given)