VOL. CCXIV.

1588.

Aug. 1. The Rainbow, Harwich. 3. Lord Henry Seymour to Sir Fr. Walsyngham. Has written to Her Majesty. Had joined his forces with the Lord Admiral's; had done his uttermost, to the venture of his life, to distress the Spaniards, which was thoroughly performed on the 29th of July. The Lord Admiral has commanded him to remain and guard the English coasts, which have long been threatened by the Duke of Parma. Has received intelligence from Sir Wm. Russell that Justinian de Nassau has come forth himself with 30 sail.

Aug. 1. The Rainbow, Harwich. 4. Same to same. Desires to know if Mr. Nicholas Gorges and the seven merchant ships from London should be employed in the Narrow Seas or be sent to the Lord Admiral. Mr. Gorges is frequented with his old infirmity of bleeding.

Aug. 1. 5, 6. Note of the ships on the seas with Lord Henry Seymour. [*Two copies.*]

Aug, 1. The Vanguard, Harwich. 7. Sir Wm. Wynter to Walsyngham. Giving an account of the junction of Lord Henry Seymour and himself with the Lord Admiral, being very short of victuals. The vast size and number of the Spanish ships made it impossible to attack them by any other means than fire ships, and so to drive them from their anchors, which he suggested to the Lord Admiral. Success of that scheme. Chase of the enemy, their fleet, in the shape of a half-moon, being off Gravelines. Another engagement with them, and great was the spoil and harm done unto them. Wynter hurt. Lord Seymour to protect the English coasts; their return to Harwich. The Spanish fleet gone northwards, pursued by the Lord Admiral.

Aug. 1. 8. Memoranda by Lord Burghley of the prices of armour in the Tower.

[Aug. [1 ?] 9. [Anonymous] to Walsyngham. Suggestions how most effectually to resist the forces of the King of Spain on land. By the prompt and skilful training of our troops, and by the re-introduction of the bow, the crossbow, and the steel bow, as weapons terrible and unused by the enemy. The bow, our natural weapon, good at home but naught abroad; the crossbow flieth far and striketh forcibly, but above all the steel bow, which flieth 20 score [400] yards, and can be discharged twice as fast as the crossbow. The most powerful weapon of all against this enemy is the fear of God.

Aug. 1. Paris. 10 Gilbert Gifford to his father, John Gifford. Acknowledges the receipt of 100 crowns from his uncle, Hugh Offley, by the hands of Bartholomew Martin.

Aug. 2. Weymouth and Melcomb Regis. 11. Richard Pitt, Mayor, and the Burgesses of Weymouth to the Council. Request that a portion of the ordnance taken in the Spanish carack may be assigned for the defence of their town and the adjoining coast. Advise care to be taken of the perishable goods in that ship.