VOL. CCXLV.

1593.

June 25. Portsmouth. 34. Estimate by Geo. Nevy, surveyor of Portsmouth, of the cost for a stone wall between the quay and dock there, and a stone travers at the point of the Green bulwark; total, 552*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* Endorsed, "To be considered by your Lordship [*Burghley*], and allowed as your Lordship shall see cause, being very needful."

June 30. 35. List of ordnance stores required for Portsmouth. With endorsement similar to the preceding.

June 30. 36. [Earl of Sussex? Governor of Portsmouth, to Lord Burghley]. When last in London, saw, on the Tower wharf, four demi-cannons and six culverins of cast iron, which had been taken out of some ships as too short, yet are excellent ordnance; asks for them to flank without the Brays at Portsmouth, as those that are there are so old that he dares not shoot out of them, for fear of breaking them, and hazarding the lives of the men; these are lighter and finer than those in the town; the ordnance officers will further his having them. With note of the ordnance already there, and its defects. With similar endorsement to the preceding.

June 30. Oatlands. 37. The Queen to [Sir Thos. Sherley], treasurer at war. Sir Charles Blount having been stayed to attend upon her, was forced to be absent from his charge in Brittany, and has therefore, by established orders, been checked for the absence of himself and some of his servants, from 12 April until this day. Orders payment to him, out of the check of her forces in Brittany, of 200*l.*, and his usual entertainment of himself and such a number of servants as has been allowed and checked, from 14 April 1593, during pleasure. [*Copy.*]

June? 38. Geo. Dingley to Lord Keeper Puckering. Stayed a fortnight about the city, hoping to meet with some of his acquaintance, but did not do so until last Monday night, when he met one Watts *alias* Robert Gray. Complained of the small respect the Catholics seemed to have of him, seeing that he could not speak with any since he had had his liberty; he replied that they shunned him, as suspecting he did not mean well; that there was no precedent of a like case in Her Majesty's time; that the Council would not have spoken so often with him unless he had promised to perform somewhat against Catholics; that Mr. Young had reported that he knew him by means of a merchant; and that he remained about town so long, which he would never do, lest he should be taken again, except he were warranted by some of authority. Watts frequents Southampton House, Holborn; after they parted, followed him and lost sight of him thereabouts, it being late at night. Asked him if there were any other Catholics about town, but he only knew of Standish, whom he described, who resorts to Mrs. Gardiner in Fleet Street. It will be hard to do good service here, seeing they have entered into this suspicion. Wishes to ride down to the North, the better to stay this rumour, but expects to find trouble there, unless granted a protection to go where he likes, without the encumbrance of officers. Asks how to send his letters. Requests an interview.