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yet I wish those were there that should embark at Sedwick. I have written to Sir Rich. Leveson to speak with the Admiral of the Low Countries to send over some of his men-of-war for that service. I am glad the materials for fireworks will not be wanting here. Mons. Caron sent yesterday to the Foreland a Holland man-of-war to attend the men sent out of Kent, of whose quick shipping away for Ostend I wish to hear. Advertise what becomes of him, and send this letter to Sir Fras. Vere when you can. [*Draft, 1½ pages.*] *Encloses,*

50. I. *Sec. Cecil to Sir Rich. Leveson. My Lord Admiral has left me his proxy to answer his despatches. Her Majesty well liked the letters signed by you and Sir Robt. Mansell, because there appeared the resolution and discretion which she expected at the hands of men of your quality, for which we are to give you thanks.*

I am loth to be backward in times of suspicion, and have therefore joined with my Lord to further the setting forth of more ships, and willingly allow your purpose to keep a good body together, and not to divide yourselves for convoys. The noise of the preparation is too great for Ireland, and it were easy for the Queen, with the help of the Low Countries, in all this warning they have given us, to keep them from landing either at Dunkirk or Sluys; I cannot expect them on the main of England.

We have expostulated with Mons. Caron that the States' fleet cannot find in their heart to come over to this coast, to waft soldiers for their own service; if the men be not gone, send some of those men-of-war of Holland over to Sir Henry Palmer, who can direct him where those men are to be embarked. Commend me to Sir Robt. Mansell, and thank him for his letter. I shall tell Her Majesty how fit he is to do her service. [*2½ pages, draft.*]

Aug. 11. 4 A.M. Fowey.

51. Capt. Wm. Parker to Lord Admiral Nottingham and Sec. Cecil. A ship of Plymouth was chased by a Spanish ship of 400 tons, off Scilly. They also saw another ship of great burden, as full of men as they could stand on the deck; and some days since, they spoke with one King, who reported 120 ships at Lisbon and 15,000 men ready to set sail. I take these two great ships to be some of the King's fleet dispersed by the foul weather. I will send my pinnace to the Narrow Seas to discover further. [*1 page.*]

Aug. 13. Ascot.

52. John Chamberlain to Dud. Carleton, at Paris. There has been a dry season till lately, and scarcity of all kinds of fruit. Sir Edward and Lady Norris came to Ascot on their way to the funeral at Rycott; they were kindly received there. Mr. Dormer and I returned the visit a week after at Beckley Park, coursing and killing, but carrying nothing away. I hear there was some dispute between Sir Edward and Mr. Controller at the funeral [of Lord Norris] about the stewardship or some such place in Sunning. We had great sport with Sir Harry Lea, at Woodstock, all last week.