VOL. CCVIII.

1588.
Jan. 22. Holte. 16. Sir Edward Clere and Sir William Heydon to the Council. Report their proceedings for the restraining of the principal Recusants in the county of Norfolk. Many of the Recusants had absented themselves from their houses. *Inclosing,*

16. 1. *Certificate of the names of Recusants in the county of Norfolk.*

[Jan. 22.] 17. The conditions of the contract with Mr. John Hawkyns for the maintenance of the Navy.

Jan. 22. 18. Report by Peter Pett and Mathew Baker, Her Majesty's shipwrights, on examination of the contract of Mr. John Hawkyns for the maintenance of the Royal Navy, how far it is performed and accomplished.

Jan. 22. Wrest. 19. Earl of Kent to the Council. Report of his proceedings for restraint of the principal Recusants in Bedfordshire. Desires to know how he is to proceed against those women who are Recusants, some whereof are widows and others married to husbands that are conformable in religion.

Jan. 23. 20. Gilbert Giffard to Walsyngham (?). Has, by a wile, conveyed a letter to him, and one in French to his uncle Offley. All the malice of his enemies cannot prevail. Has suffered much, but would endure a thousand deaths rather than offend his honor. Is in want of money. Thus much by stealth.

Jan. 23. Paris. 21. Same to his uncle Hugh Offley. Has written to him, but never received any answer. Requests him to write to his father or to some of his relations. French.

Jan. 24. On board the Bear. 22. Lord Adm. Howard to Walsyngham. Does not know what to think of his brother Stafford's advertisement, for if it is true that the army of Spain was dissolved it would not be needful for Her Majesty to continue her present charges. The King of Spain did not think England would have been so well prepared to receive him. Advises the augmentation of the fleet in the Narrow Seas for three or four months.

Jan. 24. Butley. 23. The Deputy Lieutenants of Suffolk to the Council. Survey of the coast by Captain Turner. Names of the places necessary to be fortified and furnished with ordnance. Request that Her Majesty would be pleased to contribute 1,000*l.* towards the fortifying of Alborough and other places on the coast, and the county would contribute the rest. Order taken with the Recusants.

Jan. 24. Winchester. 24. Capt. Nicholas Dawtrey to Walsyngham State of Hampshire. Great difference of opinion between the Marquis of Winchester and the Earl of Sussex touching the defences of the shire. The county is not prepared as it ought to be. Has not been able to muster the forces of the shire, and doubted if he ever should, without strict commandment from the Council. It is thought the Earl of Sussex has made a dangerous choice of some captains for Portsmouth.