

1591.

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willing to relieve his necessity. The case, as put by Brune, is intricate. Requests his Lordship to commit the hearing to some men of judgment, to report on it, that Brune may receive a final answer. With his Lordship's warrant, will be ready to proceed as he directs.

Oct. 28. 50. Lord Burghley to Sir Thos. Sherley. Asks him to consider a
Westminster. letter enclosed (from Mr. Gilpin). Will confer with him as to how the inconveniences therein mentioned may be reformed.

Oct. 29. 51. Sir John Hawkins and W. Borough to Lord Burghley. Have
London. considered Mr. Quarles' demand, on account of the high prices he paid for victuals last May, June, and July, and find, by a book that he furnished, that he disbursed 438*l.* 14*s.* more than was allowed him; have abated 171*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* of his demand, and allowed him only one halfpenny a day increase upon the ordinary, and a penny extra per day in the extraordinary, which amounts to 266*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* As he has also 400*l.* worth of old beef upon his hands, which cannot be spent, they have allowed him 100*l.* on that; altogether 366*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*

Oct. 31. 52. H. Maynard [*Lord Burghley's secretary*] to Sir Robt. Cecil.
Strand. Reminded his Lordship of what Cecil forgot, touching Her Majesty's pleasure to have some honest person sent to Brittany, to view and report on the forces there, and that she had named Mr. Burnham; but his Lordship thinks him too weak in health, as he is troubled with the stone, and thinks Mr. Mills would honestly discharge the trust. Whoever goes, some reasonable allowance must be made for his entertainment. My Lord has had a bad night's rest, and the gout has now possessed both his hands.

Oct. 31. 53. [Thos. Phelippes to Thos. Barnes.] Suggests the following letter to be written to Paget. Received his letter of 3 October. Has been forced to absent himself, as his name was brought in question, and trotted about among the pursuivants and press-takers; some in trouble having named him, fears his adversaries on that side have purposely laid trains to make him fall into the hands of this State. Has been sought for as the practiser of a marriage between Arbella and the Duke of Parma's son, which is given out to be his errand to England; marvels at not hearing of these things from him. It is true that Morley, the singing man, employs himself in that kind of service and has brought divers into danger.

Can write no good news from hence; the loss of the *Revenge*, with Sir R. Grenfield is stale; they disguised it here with the sinking of so many of the King of Spain's ships and men; and besides she has since sunk in the sea, with many Spaniards that were in her; they condemn the Lord Thomas for a coward, and some say he is for the King of Spain. Supposes he has heard of the quarrel and offer of combat between the Lord Admiral and Sir Walter Raleigh. Seven prizes, part of the West India fleet, have been brought in by the merchants that went to second Lord Thomas. They report that the rest, with the King's ships of war, are drowned by a tempest, and only 26 arrived in Spain. The English greatly like