

**THE LAST FIGHT OF THE
REVENGE. AND THE DEATH
OF SIR RICHARD GRENVILLE.
IN TWO VOLUMES. VOL. I**

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The Last Fight of the Revenge. And the Death of Sir Richard Grenville. In Two Volumes. Vol. I
by Various

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VARIOUS

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**The Last Fight of the
Revenge.**



*This Reprint is limited to 275 small-paper and 75
large-paper copies.*

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The Last Fight of
the Revenge.

AND

The Death of
Sir Richard Grenville.

(A.D. 1591.)

RELATED BY SIR WALTER RALEIGH, SIR
RICHARD HAWKINS, JAN HUYGEN VAN
LINSCHOTEN, LORD BACON, AND
SIR W. MONSON.

TOGETHER WITH

THE MOST HONORABLE TRAGEDIE
OF SIR RICHARD GRINUILE,
KNIGHT.

BY

GERVASE MARKHAM.

(1595.)

TO WHICH IS ADDED

SIR R. GRENVILLE'S FAREWELL.

(Circa 1543.)

Edited by EDMUND GOLDSMID, F.R.H.S.,
F.S.A. (Scot.)

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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VOL. I.  
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1886.



INTRODUCTION.



IN THE 31st of August, 1591, Old Style, an English Fleet, under Lord Thomas Howard consisting of the *Defiance* (Admiral), *Revenge* (Vice-Admiral), *Bonaventure*, *Lion*, *Fore-sight*, and *Crane*, six "victuallers of London," the barque *Raleigh*, and two or three pinnaces, was riding at anchor off Flores, one of the Azores. It had been sent by Queen Elizabeth to intercept, if possible, some of the galleons which had wintered the previous year at Havana. About 1 P.M. Howard received intelligence of the approach of the whole Spanish

Armada, fifty-five sail in all. He at once gave the signal to weigh anchor, but some delay occurred, owing to many men being on shore getting in water, etc. The last to leave the Island was the *Revenge*, with a nominal crew of about 260, but with at least one hundred sick and *hors de combat*. Accounts differ, as may be seen by the extracts given from Linschoten, Sir W. Monson, Sir Richard Hawkins, and Sir Walter Raleigh, as to whether Sir Richard Grenville purposely entered into combat with the whole Spanish Fleet, contrary to the Admiral's orders, but certain it is that for sixteen hours he maintained the unequal struggle, and only yielded when compelled to do so by his own crew. Sir Richard died of his wounds on board the *St. Paul*, of which *Don Alonso de Barzan* was Commander.

With respect to Sir Richard and his

family, Mr. Arber, who has reprinted the account here given, has compiled from the *Col. of State Papers, Elizabeth (Domestic) and Colonial*, from Lysons's *Magna Britannia Hakluyt's Collections*, and other authorities, the following succinct account. Where the authority is not given, the statement appears in the *Col. of State Papers*.

“The manor of Kilkhampton [in the extreme north of Cornwall] is supposed to have belonged to the Grenville family, from nearly the time of the Conquest; Dugdale says, that they were seated here in the reign of William Rufus. Richard de Grenville, who came over with William the Conqueror, is said, in the pedigrees of the family, to have been a younger brother of Robert Fitzhaman, Earl of Carbill, Lord of Thurigny and Granville, in France and Normandy; and to have been lineally descended from Rollo, Duke of Normandy. It is on record, that Richard de Grenville held certain knight's fees at Bideford in Devonshire, in the reign of Henry II. We have not found any record of the Grenvilles' possessions at Kilkhampton, of an earlier date than the *quo warranto* roll [1301 A.D.], but

it appears that it had at that time been long in the family: they continued to reside at Stowe, in this parish, for many generations, and frequently served the office of sheriff for the county. William Grenville or Grenfield, (as the name was at that early period generally written), son of Sir Theobald, became Archbishop of York, and distinguished himself as an able statesman; he died in 1315. Sir Richard Grenville, son of Roger (who was himself a captain in the navy, and lost his life, as Carew tells us, in the unfortunate *Mary Rose*,) was a celebrated military and naval commander in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He first distinguished himself [æt. 16] in the wars [in Hungary] under the Emperor Maximilian against the Turks, for which his name is recorded by several foreign writers." *Mag Britannia*. iii. *Cornwall*, p. 163, *Ed.* 1814.

Richard Carew of Anthony, notices Stow, at f. 118, in his *Survey of Cornwall*, finished on 23 April 1602.

1571. R. Grenville of Stow represents Cornwall in Parliament.

1577 or 1578. Having been High Sheriff for Cornwall he is knighted. See also S. Morgan's *Sphere of Gentry* iii. 90, *Ed.* 1661, under Richard Gri(n)field.