

fancy took me to go to the *West-Indies* possess'd by the *Spaniards*, for I often heard them talk of the Beauty and Fertility of the Country, and the great Riches they draw from thence, but then I was at a loss how to bring it about, because 'tis very difficult for a Stranger, to get into those Parts ; but there happen'd a conjuncture which favour'd my Design, and gave me an opportunity to proceed in it, in the manner following.

In the Yeat 1654, *Oliver Cromwell* at that time Protector of the Commonwealth of *England*, sent Admiral *Blake* with a Squadron of Men of War towards the Coasts of *Algarve* and *Andalusia*, to wait for the *Spanish Gallions* which come yearly from the *Indies*. The *Spaniards* being advertis'd of it, resolv'd to equip a Fleet with all expedition to oppose the *English* and frustrate their design: To this end they set out 28 Men of War and 6 Fireships, under the Command of *Don Paul de Contreras*, whose Vice-Admiral was the *Amirante Castana*, on board whom was I. The Two Fleets came up with each other, near *Cape St. Vincent*, where they staid many Days ; but the *English* perceiving they