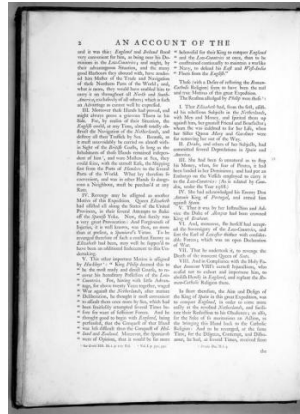




John Pine wanted to insure that the story told by tapestries hanging in the House of Lords, illustrating scenes from the Spanish-Armada sea battles between England Spain, would never be forgotten. To that end, he produced engravings of the tapestries and included them in a book.

Although many doubted the wisdom of such an endeavor, since the tapestries themselves told the story, Pine disagreed. What if something ever happened to those tapestries?

His idea was incredibly well conceived. Even doubters came round to Pine's way of thinking after a massive fire destroyed all the tapestries.

This image depicts the second page of Pine's *The Tapestry Hangings of the House of Lords Representing the several Engagements between the English and Spanish fleets in the ever memorable Year MDLXXXVIII*. In this section, Pine attributes motives for the Spanish Armada to King Philip II.

These motives, of course, are merely Pine's opinions (or the opinions of other individuals whom he quotes). Among them, are these:

III. These islands [that is, Britain] had proved, and might always prove a grievous Thorn in his [King Philip's] side...

IV. Revenge may be assigned as another Motive of the Expedition...

V. ...King Philip deemed this to be the most ready and direct Course, to recover his hereditary Protection of the Low Countries [i.e., The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg].

There is another motive which Pine attributes to Philip II:

These (with a Desire of restoring the Roman Catholic religion) seem to have been the real and true Motives of this great Expedition.

Then ... Pine compares and contrasts *his* perceived reasons with the reasons expressed by the King himself. Among those reasons are:

VII. That he [Philip II] undertook it, to revenge the Death of the innocent Queen of Scots [that is, Mary, Queen of Scots].

VIII. And in Compliance with the Holy Father [that is, the Catholic Pope] Innocent VIII's earnest Injunctions, who ceased not to exhort and importune him, to abolish Heresy [that is, the Protestant faith] in England, and replant the Roman-Catholic Religion there.

Pine thereafter summarizes all of Philip's motives:

In short therefore, the Aim and Design of the King of Spain in this great Expedition, was to conquer England, in order to come more easily at the revolted Netherlands, and facilitate their Reduction to his Obedience; as also, for the Sake of so meritorious an Action, as the bringing of this Island back to the Catholic Religion: And to be revenged, at the same time, for the Disgrace, Contempt, and Dishonour he had, at several times, received from the English nation; and for divers others real or pretended Injuries, which had made a deep Impression on his proud and revengeful Spirit.

Click on the image for a better view.

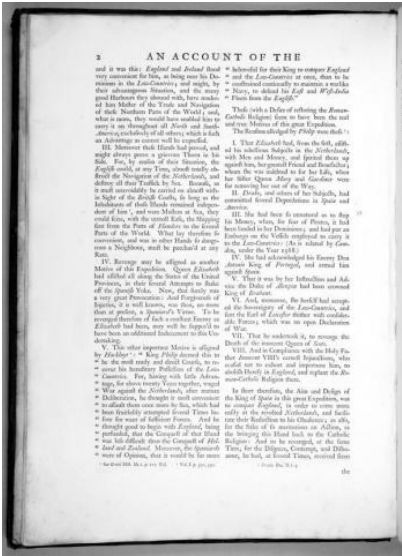
Credits:

Text image online, courtesy the The Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake which is maintained at the Library of Congress.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
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