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18th SHIP BUILDING

1737

Remarks on the Navies of the English and the Dutch

Blaise Ollivier David H. Roberts In 1737, Blaise Ollivier, Master Shipwright at Brest, was ordered by Maurepas, the French Minister of the navy, to go to Engnand and Holland in order to find out everything possible about how ships were build there, and what France might usefully imitate. Ollivier's secret mission lasted nearly five months, during which time he visited all the major naval dockyards of both country except Plymouth. At the conclusion he wrote a 360-page report entitled "*Remarks on the navies of the English and the Dutch*", discussing everything he had seen in meticulous details, evaluting English and Dutch practices and comparing them with techniques used in France, illustrating his findings with 13 sheets of drawings and plans.

Blaise Ollivier's report provides a remarkable insight into shipbuilding in the 1730's, a period about which relatively little is know.

The book containt the full texte of the "Remarks" in both the original French and in translation, fully annotated and with a lenghly explanatory introduction. It is lavishly illustrated with nearly 100 contemporary engraving, plans, ship draughts and other iconographic material.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

24 x 31cm format, full green cloth II binding, sewn section with headband. 380 pages, 135 gr paper, with nearly 100 illustrations and iconographic material.

Introduction Preamble Source of the manuscript The Translation Explanations regarding the Notes Historical Background Published writings on shipbuilding The Originality of the Remarques Blaise-Joseph Ollivier: a Biography Blaise Ollivier as a Civil Engineer "Espionage" Blaise Ollivier's Mission, and its Impact on French Shipbuilding The Rebuilding of Ships in the English Navy The Establishments

- Remarks on the English Navy Deptford Dockyard Timbers, scantlings and shipbuilding methods Woolwich Dockyard Timbers, scantlings and shipbuilding methods Chatham Dockyard Timbers, scantlings and shipbuilding methods Dockyard installations Dry-docks Method of Floating Ships into the Docks Portsmouth Dockyard Dimensions of Ships Moulds of the Fore Body and Afterbody Timbers, scantlings and shipbuilding methods Repairs and Breaking Ladrone Sheerness Dockyard The new Manner of Building of the English English Books on Shipbuilding Plymouth Dockyard
- III List of English ships in 1737
- IV Table of Subjects Contained in the Remarks on the English Navy (by Ollivier)

- Remarks on the Dutch Navy Amsterdam Dockyard Rotterdam Dockyard Flushing Dockyard Veere Dockyard Hellevretsluijs Dockyard Dimensions of ships Timbers, scantlings and shipbuilding methods Divers practices of the Dutch Repairs and graving Masts & Rigging Timber
- VI Remarques sur la Marine des Anglois & des Hollandois (French text)

Appendix I: Appendix II: Appendix III: List of Dutch Ships in 1737 Bibliography and Sources Glossary of Shipbuilding Terms, by Blaise Ollivier

Extracts from the pages



