

*from www.dreadnoughtproject.org*

Later in life, Jellicoe noted:

In my early days, until I was 13 years old, my family lived at Southampton on account of my father's association with the Royal Mail Steam packet Company. For many years he acted as Superintendent of the Line at that Port. I spent a good deal of my spare time, as did my two brothers respectively two years older and two years younger than myself, in the docks or on the water front, and we had some experience of yachting both in small craft & large yachts, amongst the latter being the racing yacht belonging to Count Bathgany [Gusztáv Batthyány].

It is not therefore surprising that from my earliest days I never thought of any other career than that of the sea. My father himself went to sea at 12 years of age, and commanded a ship at the age of 21. My ambition was to join the Navy, and a nomination was given me in 1872 by Admiral Breck Hall, a friend of my father's, at that time Private Secretary to the First lord of the Admiralty.

*Source: British Library. Jellicoe Papers. Add. MSS. 49038. ff. 99-100.*