

Mr. Denham. I answered, that I had no pass, nor any acquaintance with any one of the Army; and that I doubted, that, if the King's party should come too thick upon them at first, those of the Army would be jealous, that they should have too many sharers in the places and preferments, which they might, perhaps, meditate to procure and preserve to themselves. His Lordship replied, That, if I were afraid to go into *England*, her Majesty and his Highness would serve themselves of some other person, because they conceived it necessary to employ some to the Army, that might be supposed to have greater trust, both with the Queen in *France*, and with the King in *England*, than either Sir Edward Ford or Mr. Denham had. I returned, That if, after a serious consideration, it should be judged of use to dispatch me into *England*, I would adventure, though I had not the honour to be very well known to his Majesty, and, therefore, could not expect any great trust from him. To that part, his Lordship replied, That there was an intention to send Mr. John Ashburnham after me; but, that he would not go without a pass, and therefore, that I should have it added to my instructions to procure him one. Within few days after, I had my dispatch, and went by the way of *Dieppe*, where I met with Mr. William Leg, of the Bedchamber to his Majesty. He embarked with me for *England*; we arrived at *Hastings*, and from thence went the next day towards *London*. Two miles on this side *Tunbridge* I met with Sir Ailen Apsley, who had been my Lieutenant-governor of *Exeter*, and afterwards Governor of *Barnstaple*, in the County of *Devon*. He told me, that he was going to me from *Cromwell*, and some other officers of the Army, with letters, and a cypher, and instructions, which were to this effect: "That he should desire me to remember, that, in some conferences with Colonel Lambert, and other officers of the Army, upon the rendering of *Exeter*, I had taken notice of the Army's bitter inveighing against the King's person, as if he had been the worst of men, and their excessive extolling the Parliament; both which being without any colour or ground, I had concluded, that those discourses were not out of any persuasion of mind, but affected to prepare

Cromwell and some other officers of the Parliament-Army, send letters to Sir John Berkley, offering to treat with the King for his restoration to the exercise of the Royal authority. In June, 1647.

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