

allegiance due to his Prince and Countrey: but rather to ransom him for his moneths pay. And this is that which I have knowne practised in our times, in generall amongst all civill and noble Nations. But the English, haue enlarged it one point more towards the Spaniards rendred a *Buena guerra*, in these warres; haue ever delivered them, which haue beene taken vpon such compositions, without ransom: but the covetousnes of our Age hath brought in many abuses, and excluded the principall Officers from partaking of the benefit of this priviledge, in leaving them to the discretion of the Victor, being many times poorer, then the common Souldiers, their qualities considered, whereby they are commonly put to more, then the ordinary ransom, and not being able of themselues to accomplish it, are forgotten of their Princes, and sometimes suffer long imprysonment, which they should not.

The noble
viage of the
English,

But abused in
these dayes,

With this, *Don Beltran* sayd, This ambiguitie you haue well resolved; And like a worthie Gentleman (with great courtesie and liberalitie) added; *Let not the last point trouble you: but bee of good comfort, for I heere giue you my word anew, that your ransom (if any shall bee thought due) shall be but a cople of Grey-hounds for mee; and other two for my Brother, the Conde de Lemes, And this I sweare to you by the habit of Alcautera.* Provided alwayes, that the King my Master leaue you to my dispose, as of right you belong vnto me.

Don Beltran
satisfied
And
answereth,

For amongst the Spaniards in their Armadoes, if there bee an absolute Generall, the tenth of all is due to him, and he is to take choise of the best: where in other Countries, it is by lot, that the Generalls tenth is given; And if they be but two shippes, he doth the like, and being but one, shee is of right the Generalls. This I hardly believed, vntill I saw a Letter, in which the King willed his Vice-roy, to giue *Don Beltran* thanks for our shippe and Artillerie, which he had given to his Maiestie.

I yeelded to the Generall, most heartie thanks for his
great favour, wherewith hee bound mee ever
to seeke how to serue him, and
deserue it.