

of the steppes of our forefathers, in vertue and valour, sell your bloods and liues deere, that Spaine may euer record it with sadnesse and griefe. And those which suruiue, reioyce in the purchase of so noble a victory with so small meanes against so powerfull an enemy.

Hereunto they made answer; that as hitherto they had bene conformable to all the vndertakings, which I had commanded or counsell'd, so they would continue in the selfe same dutie and obedience to the last breath: vowing either to remaine Conquerours and Free men, or else to sell their liues at that price, which their enemies should not willingly consent to buy them at. And with this resolution, both Captaine and company tooke their leaue of me, euery one particularly, and the greater part with teares, and and imbracings, though we were forthwith to depart the world, and neuer see one the other againe, but in heauen; promising to cast all forpast imaginations into oblivion, and never more to speake of surrendry.

In accomplishment of this promise and determination, they persevered in sustaining the fight, all this night, with the day and night following, and the third day after. In which time the Enemy never left vs, day nor night, beating continually vpon vs, with his great and small shot. Saving that every morning an hour before breake of day, hee edged a little from vs, to breath, and to remedie such defects as were amisse; as also to consult, what they should doe the day and night following.

This time of interdiction, we employed, in repaying our sayles, and tacklings, in stopping our leakes, in fishing and wolling our mastes and yards, in mending our pumpes, and in fitting and providing our selues for the day to come: though this was but little space for so many workes, yet gaue it great reliefe and comfort vnto vs, and made vs better able to endure the defence: for otherwise, our shippe must of force haue suncke before our surrendry, having many shot vnder water, and our pumpes shot to peeces every day: In all this space, not any man of either part tooke rest or sleepe, and little sustenance; besides bread and wine.

In the second dayes fight, the Vice-admirall comming vpon our quarter, *William Blanch*, one of our Masters mates, with a luckie hand, made a shot ynto her, with one of our sterne peeces; it cari'd away his maine Mast close by the decke: wherewith the Admirall beare vp to her, to see what harme shee had received, and to giue her such succour, as shee was able to spare: which we seeing, were in good hope, that they would haue now left to molest vs a-

They resolve
to fight it out.

The Enemy
breatheth,

The English
repare their
defects.