

Soueraigne: of all which accompt your selues for euer depriued, if this proposition should be put in execution; But for all these, and for the loue and respect you owe me, and for al besides that you esteeme and hold deare in this world, and for him, that made vs and all the world, banish out of your imagination, such vaine and base thoughts; and according to your wonted resolution, prosecute the defence of your shippe, your liues, and libertie, with the liues and libertie of your companions; who by their wounds and hurts are disabled and depriued of all other defence and helpe, saue that which lyeth in your discretions and prowesse. And you Captaine, of whom I made choise amongst many, to be my principall assistant, and the person to accomplish my dutie, if extraordinary casualtie should disable me, to performe and prosecute our voyage. Tender your obligation, and now in the occasion giue testimony, and make prooffe of your constancie and valour, according to the opinion and confidence, I haue euer held of you.

Whereunto he made answer; my good Generall, I hope you haue made experience of my resolution, which shall be euer to put in execution, what you shall be pleased to command me; and my actions shall giue testimonie of the obligation wherein I stand bound vnto you. What I haue done, hath not proceeded from faintnesse of heart, nor from a will to see imaginations put in execution (for besides the losse of our reputation, liberty, and what good else we can hope for.) I know the Spaniard too too well, and the manner of his proceedings, in discharge of promises, but only to giue satisfaction to the rest of the Company, which importuned me to mooue this point. I condescended to that, which now I am ashamed of, and grieue at, because I see it disliking to you. And here I vowe to fight it out, till life or lymmes faile me. Bee you pleased to recommend vs to Almighty God, and to take comfort in him, whom I hope will giue vs victory, and restore you to health and strength, for all our comforts, and the happy accomplishing and finishing of our voyage, to his glory.

I replied: this is that which becometh you; this sorteth to the opinion I euer held of you; and this will gaine you (with God and man) a iust reward. And you the rest (my deere companions and friends) who euer haue made a demonstration of desire to accomplish your duties, remember, that when we first discryed our enemy, you shewed to haue a longing to prooue your valours against him: Now that the occasion is offered, lay hold of the forelocke. For if once shee turne her backe, make sure accompt neuer after to see her face againe; and as true English men, and followers
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