

The great joy
of the Spaniards.

tidings; placing many lights in their Churches, in their windowes, and Galleries, and corners of their houses; which being in the beginning of the night, and the Cittie close by the sea shore, showed to vs (being farre off) as though the Cittie had beene on a light fire.

About eight of the clocke all the Artillerie of the Cittie was shott off, which wee might discerne by the flashes of fire, but could not heare the report: yet the Armado being advised thereof, and in a readinesse, answered them likewise with all their Artillery: which taking ende (as all the vanities of this earth doe) The Generall settled himselfe to dispatch advise for the King, for the Vice-roy of *Peru*, and for the Vice-roy of the *Nova Spina*, for hee also had beene certified of our being in that sea, and had fitted an Armado to seeke vs, and to guard his coast.

Note

But now for a farewell, (and note it) Let me relate vnto you this Secret; How *Don Beltran* shewed mee a Letter from the King his Master, directed to the Vice-roy, wherein he gaue him particular relation of my pretended voyage; of the shippes; their burden; their munition; their number of men, which I had in them, as perfectly as it he had scene all with his owne eyes; Saying vnto me: *Heereby, may you discerne, whether the King my Master haue friends in England, and good and speedie aduice of all that passeth.*

Whereunto I replied; It was no wonder, for that he had plenty of gold and silver, which worketh this and more strange effects: for my iourney was publique and notorious to all the Kingdome, whereunto hee replied, that if I thought it so convenient, leaue should be given me to write into England to the Queenes Maiestie my Mistresse, to my Father, and to other personages, as I thought good; and leaving the Letters open; that hee would send some of them, in the Kings Packet, others to his Vncle *Don Rodrigo de Castro*, Cardinall and Archbishoppe of *Seuill*, and to other friendes of his: Not making any doubt but that they would be speedily in England. For which I thanked him, and accepted his courtesie, and although I was my selfe vnable to write, yet by the hands of a servant of mine, I wrote three or foure coppies of one letter to my Father, Sir *John Hawkins*. In which I briefly made relation of all that had succeeded in our voyage.

The dispatches of *Spaine* and *new Spaine*, went by ordinary course in ships of aduise; but that for the *Peru* was sent by a kinsman of the Generalls, called *Don Francisco de la Cuena*.

Which being dispatched, *Don Beltran* hastied all that ever hee could, to put his shippes in order, to returne to *Lyma*. Hee caus'd the