

commanders, and there read both the papers and the vote; which done, and demanding their opinion, the seamen did all of them cry out "God bless King Charles!" with the greatest joy imaginable. That being done, Sir R. Stayner, who had invited us yesterday, took all the commanders and myself on board him to dinner; where dinner not being ready, I went with Capt. Hayward to the *Plimouth* and *Essex*, and did what I had to do there and returned, where very merry at dinner. After dinner, to the rest of the ships (I stayed at the *Assistance* to hear the harper a good while) quite through the fleet. Which was a very brave sight, to visit all the ships and to be received with the respect and Honour that I was on board them all. And much more to see the great joy that I brought to all men; not one through the whole fleet showing the least dislike of the business. In the evening, as I was going on board the Vice-Admirall, the Generall begun to fire his guns, which he did all that he had in the ship; and so did all the rest of the commanders, which was very gallant, and to hear the bullets go hissing over our heads as we were in the boat. This done and finished my Proclamation, I returned to the *Nazeby*, where my Lord was much pleased to hear how all the fleet took it; and in a transport of joy showed me a private letter of the King's to him and another from the Duke of Yorke in such familiar style as to their common friend, with all kindness imaginable. And I found by the letters, and so my Lord told me too, that there hath been many letters sped between them for a great while, and I perceive unknown to Monke. The King speaks of his being courted to come to The Hague, but doth desire my Lord's advice whether to come to take ship. And the Duke offers to learn the seaman's trade of him, in such familiar words as if Jack Cole and I had writ them. This was very strange to me, that my Lord should carry all things so wisely and prudently as he doth, and I was overjoyful to see him in so good condition; and he did not a little please himself to tell me how he had provided for himself so great a hold in the King.

4. After this to supper, and then to writing of letters till 12 at night and so up again at 3 in the morning. My Lord seemed to put great confidence in me and would take my advice in many things. I perceive his being willing to do all the Honour in the world to Monke and to let him have all the Honour of doing the business, though he will many times express his thoughts of him to be but a thick-skulled fellow; so that I do believe there is some agreement