

Which place I undertook not so much out of the hope of doing any good, as out of a desire to prevent mischief & evil, w^{ch} God did see was eminent in the nation.

I say we were running headlong into confusion & disorder & w^{ch} necessarily runs into blood, & I was passive to those that desired me to undertake the place w^{ch} I now have & as far as I can I am ready to serve not as a King but as a Constable. For truly this hath been my constant & constant's fault in the troubles I have, as before God, thought it often, that I could not tell what my business was, nor what I was in the place I stood, save comparing it with a good Constable, to keep the peace of the parish.

I was a person that, from my 1st employment, was suddenly preferred & lifted up from labor to trust to of an. — And I did truly & plainly, & then in a way of foolish simplicity (as it was judged by very great & wise men & good men too) desire to make of my instruments to help me in this work &c.

At my 1st going out into this engagement I saw their men were beaten at every hand & I told him I would be serviceable to him, in bringing such men in, as I thought had a spirit that w^{ch} do something in the work. This is very true that I tell you; God knows I lie not. Your troops, said I, are most of them old decayed serving-men & tapsters and such kind of fellows. & I said I, their troops are

Gentle mens sons, younger sons & persons of Quality.
Do you think that the spirits of such base & milan
fellows will ^{be} ever able to encounter gentlemen, that
have honor, & courage, & resolution in them. Truly
I presented him in this manner conscientiously,
& truly I did tell him you must get many a spirit
& take it not ill what I say, I know you will not
of a spirit that is likely to go on as far as gen-
tle men will go, or else I am sure you will be
beaten still &c. He was a wise & pious
person & he did think that I talked a good notion, but
an impracticable one &c &c. — I raised such
men as had the fear of God before them, & made some
conscience of what they did &c. — Truly
this is a matter of praise to God, and it has some
instruction in it, to our men that are religious
& pious, & so many of them as are peaceably &
honestly & quietly disposed to live within Gov-
ernment & will be subject to those Gospel rules
of obeying magistrates & living under Authority
I reckon no Godly men without this. ☉

Then he goes on to apply this to show how im-
repensible it is that he should take the name of King
because among the truly Godly men there are some
that will be offended

for example he says "I tell you there are
such men in this nation Godly men of the same
spirit, men that will not be beaten down with a
worldly nor carnal spirit, while they keep their
integrity. and I cannot think that God will be an
unjustifier of any thing that will justly with cause
oppress them, or that they will be troubled without
cause. and a Capital! Noble! Intellectual! Deep!

Oliver Cromwells speech Enlilld His Highnesses
Answers of the Conference at the Committee at Whitehall
April 13, 1657.