Oliver Cromwell, QUOTES

**By Oliver Cromwell:**

“if the remonstrance had been rejected i would have sold all i had the next morning and never have seen England more, and i know there are many other modest men of the same resolution.”  
  
Oliver Cromwell on parliament’s passing of the revolutionary grand remonstrance, quoted in the earl of Clarendon, a history of the rebellion. The English civil war.

“we study the glory of god, and the honour and liberty of parliament, for which we unaminously fight, without seeking our own interests....i profess i could never satisfy myself on the justness of this war, but from the authority of the parliament to maintain itself in its rights; and in this cause i hope to prove myself an honest man and single-hearted.”  
  
Oliver Cromwell to Colonal Valentine Walton. 5 or 6 September 1644.

“i tell you we will cut off his head with the crown upon it .”  
  
Cromwell to one of the judges at the trial of King Charles I.1648.

“i need pity. I know what i feel. Great place and business in the world is not worth looking after.”  
  
On himself, letter to Richard Mayor, July 1650.

“the people would be just as noisy if they were going to see me hanged.”  
  
Cromwell referring to a cheering crowd.1654

“necessity hath no law.”  
  
Speech to parliament, Sept. 1654.

“mr lely, i desire you would use all your skill to paint your picture truly like me, and not flatter me at all; but remark all these roughness, pimples, warts, and everything as you see me; otherwise i will never pay a farthing for it.”  
  
Cromwell on having his portrait painted, in Horace Walpole, anecdotes of painting.  
The Oxford dictionary of quotations.

**About Oliver Cromwell:**

“During a great part of the eighteenth century most Tories hated him because he overthrew the monarchy, most Whigs because he overthrew Parliament. Since Carlyle wrote, all liberals have seen in him their champion, and all revolutionists have apotheosized the first great representatives of their school; while, on the other side, their opponents have hailed the dictator who put down anarchy. Unless the socialists or the anarchists finally prevail- and perhaps even then - his fame seems as secure as human reputation is likely to be in a changing world.”  
  
W.C Abbott, Writings and Speeches of Oliver Cromwell.  
The Dictionary of Biographical Quotation.

“Cromwell wore a suit of plain cloth which seemed to have been made by an ill country tailor.”  
  
A fellow MP on Cromwell’s style of dress.  
In, Oliver Cromwell, British History Makers.

“When he quitted the Parliament, his chief dependence was on the Army, which he endevoured by all means to keep in unity, and if he could not bring it to his sense, he, rather than suffer any division in it, went-over himself and carried his friends with him into that way which the army did choose, and that faster than any other person in it.”  
  
Sir John Berkley, Memoirs of Sir John Berkley.  
The Dictionary of Biographical Quotations.

“.. A devotee of law, he was forced to be often lawless; a civilian to the core, he had to maintain himself by the sword; with a passion to construct, his task was chiefly to destroy; the most scrupulous of men, he had to ride roughshod over his own scruples and those of others; the tenderest, he had continually to harden his heart; the most English of our greater figures, he spent his life in opposition to the majority of Englishmen; a realist, he was condemned to build that which could not last.”  
  
John Buchan, Oliver Cromwell.  
The Dictionary of Biographical Quotations.

“Saw the superb funeral of the Protector:...but it was the joyfullest funeral that I ever saw, for there were none that cried, but dogs, which the souldiers hooted away with a barbarous noise; drinking and taking tobacco in the streets as they went.”  
  
John Evelyn, Diary. 22 November 1658.  
The Dictionary of Biographical Quotations.

“That slovenly fellow which you see before us, who hath no ornament in his speech; I say that sloven, if we should ever come to have a breech with the King (which God forbid) in such case will be one of the greatest men of England.”  
  
John Hampden, Speaking to Lord Digby in the house of commons, overheard by Sir Richard Bulstrode.  
The Dictiuonary of Biographical Qupotations.