

1645.

two of our Committee more, are sent into Scotland to meet with some of the Committee of Estates whom we desired from the army. This meeting (which we desired might be at Jedburgh or Dunse) is to resolve with them what use our country had of us. We hope we shall not be interrupted in our assistance and service to the kingdom of England. Our soldiers are much wearied and naked, but when they are refreshed and clothed they will be ready for any march or service. We have written to our Commissioners at London to desire clothes may be provided, and that money may be sent to them, and to the officers who since our coming into England have only received two months' pay. You have always been such a friend to our nation that I know you will concur with your power in the Parliament for [the accomplishment of] our desires, and in doing it you will advance the public service, for I write freely to you, that in the condition our army is in they cannot stir towards any place. I shall, in what I am able, put forwards our army for the service of the Parliament of England, for besides the bond and tie of our Covenant I have one extraordinary and particular [obligation], that by their favour under God I am at liberty to do them service. I must always upon all occasions acknowledge your favours to my father and myself. I will come, God willing, and wait upon you at Berwick to acknowledge them personally. [Seal with arms and coronet. 3 pp.]

Sept. 26.
Castle
Elizabeth.

152. Decree of the Royal Court of the Isle of Jersey, deposing Thos. Lemprière, a Jurat of that island, from his office, for siding with the authors of the late rebellion. *Underwritten,*

152. I. *Notice that the Bailiff and Messrs. the Justices having considered the order and warrant of the Commissioners, find it expedient that a good and capable man, well affectioned to the service, be chosen to exercise the charge of Jurat in the Royal Court in place of Mr. Thos. Lemprière, and have fixed Sunday next for the election, when the suffrage of the people will be taken after Divine Service. [French and English. ¼ skin of parchment.]*

Sept. 26.
Denbigh.

153. George Lord Digby to, his brother Secretary, Sir Edw. Nicholas. I have nothing to add to the large relation herewith sent of our present condition, but only to tell you and my Lord Treasurer [Cottington] in private that whatever face we make toward Anglesey or discourse we raise of the King's taking ship for Scotland, his Majesty's resolution is with 500 choice horse presently to steal or break through to Newark, from whence by God's blessing we make no doubt of joining Montrose. Sir Thos. Glemham will be sent to you as soon as is possible. As for Will. Legg, if once Prince Rupert were gone, the King will be willing to afford him more liberty, and perhaps leave to go travel also. And as soon as I can come at my papers which were left with [Robert] Stanier and all my other necessaries at Worcester, [I] conceiving that we should have come back thither, I shall send you the par-

1645.

ticulars of such cautions concerning him as, joined to those which you have also had, will justify the King to all the world that in prudence he could not do less than secure him [Legg] till the Prince [Rupert] were gone and the government of Oxford well settled. I will not say but there may be proofs produced as well as informations. This is all at present, more than to assure you that the King is very well pleased with the careful execution of his commands, and that the Lords [of the Privy Council] are so well satisfied with his care of them and of that place [Oxford]. [Draft. 1 p.]

Sept. 26.
Denbigh.

154. The same to John Lord Byron. His Majesty is very well pleased with the resolution expressed by the town of Chester, and sends them herewithal a letter of thanks. Here is now with his Majesty the Archbishop of York, Sir John Owen, and diverse others, with whom he has taken the best order he can for the supply of Chester with provisions, viz., butter, cheese, and cattle out of those countries, as also of corn out of these. The King likewise resolves to send Sir Wm. Blakestone to you to Chester with a good proportion of horse, and to have a considerable body under Sir W. Vaughan for the keeping of the Welsh side [of Chester] open. I beseech you encourage the town all you can, for I do not despair but we may ere long find means to ease you of your ill neighbours, in the meantime I earnestly desire you to give us all the intelligence you can of the enemy's motions. [Draft. ½ p.]

Sept. 26.
Denbigh.

155. The same to the Marquis of Ormond. I have received your Excellency's despatch by Sir Nicholas Byron, and his Majesty commands me to return you his full approbation of all your proceedings in the Treaty of Ireland, of which he is very impatiently desirous to hear the issue, his affairs depending so highly upon it, being by the strange delivery up of Bristol by Prince Rupert, after so many other misfortunes, brought to so low a condition, as, were it not for the Marquis of Montrose's successes and the hopes of assistance out of Ireland, we should almost despair. His Majesty conceives that the reducement of Scotland to his obedience will have two notable effects of advantage in order to Ireland, the one of making the Scots there submit to the peace, the other of affording safe transportation and landing in Scotland to such forces as may be had from Ireland, which it would be almost impossible to transport with any safety into England. I have written to the Marquis of Montrose upon both these subjects. Your Excellency will be pleased to correspond with him, and to agree upon particulars, since we must set up all rests to make a strong war upon the rebels this winter, in which their London forces will be hardly kept from their homes, but if we give them leisure till the next spring they will swarm against us. This enclosed relation of our condition [printed in Carte's Ormond Papers i., 90-95] will let you see the danger of Chester, which is somewhat more than is there expressed, through want of powder. You are conjured to hasten over some supply thither of ammunition, and if possible of