

PROOFS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

FROM

MANUSCRIPTS

IN

HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE,  
AND OTHER COLLECTIONS,

HITHERTO UNPRINTED.

## I.

### HUNTLY'S REBELLION, WITH ERROL, ANGUS, AND BOTHWELL.

Page 28.

On the 16th March, 1588-9, Elizabeth sent the following private letter to James, remonstrating with him against his misplaced lenity to Huntly and the Catholic faction. It was delivered to the King by the English resident Ashby, on the 21st March, as we learn by the following passage from that gentleman's letter to Lord Burghley. (St. P. Off.)

“The 21, early in the morning, I received a letter from your Honor, with the inclosed of her Majesty's; which I presented to him that day.” \* \* Ashby afterwards tells us the King liked the Queen's letter, and meant to prosecute the matter against the Catholic lords with severity. As to the Spaniards, against whose stay in Scotland Elizabeth so proudly remonstrated, calling them “the spoils of her wreck,” the same gentleman writes Burghley, “that it is thought as many as a thousand are dispersed over Scotland; and how they are to be transported, unless her Majesty go to charges, he cannot tell.” This fact is new.

#### ELIZABETH TO JAMES.<sup>1</sup>

“MY DEAR BROTHER.—I am driven, through the greatness of my care for your safe estate, to complain to yourself of yourself; wondering not a little what injurious planet against my nearest neighbours reigneth with such blindness, and suffereth them not to see their changing peril and most imminent danger. Shall I

<sup>1</sup> Warrender MS., vol. A., p. 196.

excuse them they know it not? I am too true a witness that ignorance cannot excuse, as having been a most near spy to find out those treacheries. Must I say they dare not? Far be it from kingly magnanimity to harbour within their breast so unseemly a guest. Have I no excuse to serve them for payment? Well, then must I wail that I cannot mend; and if there befall them mishap, I am not guilty of such disaster. Yet can I not desist, though I might be discouraged, to beseech you in God's name, not to overstep such happy occasions as it hath pleased God to reveal unto you: for if, when they be at your side, you will not make yourself a profit of their wreck, how will you catch them when they are aloof from you?

“Let too late examples show you for pattern, how dishonourable it is to prolong to do by right, that [which] after they are driven to do by extremity; yea, and perchance as being taught to take heed, they will shun the place of danger; and so your danger worse than the others.

“It had been for honour and surety never to have touched, than so slightly to keep them in a scorn in durance, to be honoured with your presence with all kindness, and soon after to be extolled to your dearest chamber. Good Lord! what uncouth and never-heard-of trade is that? You must pardon my plain dealing: for if my love were not greater than my cause, as you treat it, I should content myself to see them wrecked with dishonour that contemn all loving warning and sister-like counsel. I pray God there be left you time (you have dealt so untimely) to be able to apprehend and touch, such as dares boldly, through your sufferance, attempt anything they list, to bring you and your land to the slavery of such as never yet spared their own. I know not how gracious they will be to you and your realm. When they *get footing*, they will suffer few feet but their own. Awake, therefore, dear Brother, out of your long slumber; and deal like a king who will ever reign alone in his own. If they found you stout, you should not lack that would follow you, and leave rotten posts.

“I marvel at the store you make of the Spaniards, being the spoils of my wreck. You wrote me word not one should bide with you; and now they must attend for more company. I am sorry to see how small regard you have of so great a cause. I may claim by treaty that such should not be; but I hope, without such claim, (seeing your home practices,) you will quickly ride

your realm of them, with speed; which I do expect for your own sake, and not the least for mine; of whom you may make sure reckoning (if you abandon not yourself) to be protected by for ever.

“And thus I end with axing a right interpretation of my plain and sincere meaning; and wish ever to you as to myself; as knoweth the Lord, whom ever I beseech to preserve you with long and happy days.—xvi. Martii, 1588.”

“ELIZABETH R.”

Indorsed, Copie of a letter from the Queen, 1588.

## II.

Pages 49 and 51.

It appears by a letter of Mr R. Bowes, the English Ambassador at the Scottish Court, to Lord Burghley, dated at Edinburgh, 4th June, 1590, that on the 3d June he received the following letter of Elizabeth to James, and presented it next day (the 4th) to the King of Scots. “He received,” says Bowes, “her Majesty’s letter very friendly; showing himself much pleased and comforted therewith.” The person against whom Elizabeth had remonstrated, deprecating his being sent on so weighty and confidential a business, was Colonel Stewart, whom she suspected, on account of his former desertion of the Protestant party.

QUEEN ELIZABETH TO KING JAMES. MS. St. P. Off., Royal Letters, 29th May, 1590.

“My conceit, I perceive, my dear Brother, hath no whit swerved from your good intent: for now I well see Colonel Steward’s negotiation was not framed of his own brain, but proceeded from your earnest affection to so laudable a cause; and by your last letters, I find your earnest motion made to the two Dukes, together with their good and loving consent.

“All this moveth me to find you a redevable<sup>1</sup> Prince to a careful friend; and [I] do praise my judgment to have chosen so grateful a King, on whom to spend so many careful thoughts, as since your peregrination I have felt for your surety and your land’s wealth: and as my thanks are manifold, so shall the memorial bide perpetual.”

<sup>1</sup> “Redeivable,” Fr., beholden to; grateful.

“And for the Action, at the arrival of such a one as you are sending me, I will at large impart plainly my resolution therein, and considering it not your least regard of me, that you be heedful to deal no other ways than as may best content me. And [I] do assure you, that as I will never myself enter into it the first, yet I will ask nothing that shall not fit a King to demand, nor plead more innocency in all the cause, than my guiltless conscience, well showed by my actions, shall ever testify. And so you may be assured to get most honour, and never blot your fame with dealing in an action, when so great injury shall appear, and no just cause to enforce it.

“That I perceive the Governors of Denmark like well that other Princes of Germany should send their good consent, with joining their message, I must needs say, “the more the better” that desire such thing as is best for all Christendom ; although I had thought that you, with the King of Denmark, would have sufficed. Yet if the rest do make the knot the greater, I must think my Bond to them the more, and trust the pact will be the surer.

“In the choice of such as you mind to send, this I hope you will chiefly regard: that he be none such as whose own cause or affection to the adverse part may breed a doubt of performance of the sender’s will ; but be chosen even such a one, as whose honest and wise endeavour may much advance the end of so good a beginning.

“My good brother, I write this the plainer that you might clearly see what one I wish, and that may suffice for all. And for that the time requireth speed, I doubt not but you will use it.

“And so I leave scribbling, but never end to love you, and assist you with my friendship, care, and prayer to the living God to send you all prosperous success, and his Holy Spirit for guide.

“Your most assured faithful Sister and Cousin.”

Indorsed, 29th May, 1590. Copy of her Majesty’s letter, written with her own hand to the King of Scots, sent to Mr Bowes.

### III.

The following letter, written by Elizabeth to Henry the Fourth, at the time that she sent her favourite Essex with four thousand men to his assistance, is highly characteristic. It is taken from a contemporary copy preserved in the Collection of Royal Letters

in the State Paper Office. See Camden's Elizabeth, in Kennet, vol. ii. pp. 562, 563 :—

ELIZABETH TO HENRY IV., 27th July, 1591.

“Selon la promesse que toujours je garderay endroit, très cher frere, je vous mande l'aide de 4000 hommes, avec un Lieutenant qui comme il m'appertient de bien près, aussy est-il de telle qualité, et tient tel lieu chez moy, que de coustume ne se souloit esloigner q'avec nous. Mais toutes ces raisons j'ay oublié, les proposant toutes a votre occasion, preferant vostre necessité et désir, à mes particulières considerations. A laquelle cause je ne doute nullement que vous y respondiez, avec un honorable et soigneux respect de vñe grandeur, a luy faire l'accueil et regard que tant d'amitié merite : vous pouvaut assurer, que si (que plus je craigne) la temerité que sa jeunesse luy donne, ne se fait trop se precipiter, vous n'aurez jamais cause de doubter de la hardiesse de son service, car il n'a fait que trop souvent preuve qu'il ne craint hazard quelque qui soit. Et vous suppliant d'en avoir plustost de respect, qu'il est trop effroné q'on luy donne la bride.

“Mais, mon Dieu, comment reve-je, pour vous faire si deraisonnable requeste, que vous voyant tant tarder à vous conserver la vie, je fus si mal appris de respecter une plus simple creature. Seulement je vous prononce quil aura plus besoin de bride que d'esperon. Et non obstant j'espère que vous le trouverez assez habile pour conduire ses troupes à vous faire service tres agreable. Et j'ose promettre, que nos sujets y sont de s'y bonne dispositions et ont les coeurs si vaillants qu'ils vous feront services qui vous ruineront beaucoup l'ennemy si leur bonne fortune respondra à leurs desirs. Et pour salaire de toutes ces Compagnies je vous demande ces deux requestes : la premiere, que leur vie et sang vous soyent si à coeur que rien soit omis pour leur regard ainsi qu'ils soyent cheries comme qui servent, non comme mercenaires, mais franchement, de bonne affection. Aussi qu'ils ne portent le faits de trop violents hazards n'y de nre [n'être] bien au double accompagnés et secondés. Vous etes si sage Prince, que m'assure que n'oubliez que nos deux nations n'ont trop souvent si bien accordés, qu'ils ne se souviennent de vielles descordances, ne se pensent de même terre, mais separés d'une profonde fossée. Et pourtant y tiendrez sy bien la main, que nul inconvenient leur arrive. Ayant de ma part bien instruits nos gens d'assez

bonnes leçons, lesquelles je m'assure qu'ils observeront. Et pour ne vous fatiguer de longue lettre, je finiray cet adresse, le seul memorial qu'en vous approchant près de nos quartiers, vous n'oublier de boucher chemin à Parma, de toutes parts au il doit entrer. Car je m'assuere, qu'il à reçu commandement d'omettre plustot les pays-bas que la France.

“Vĩtre très assurée bonne sœur et cousine,

“E. R.”

#### IV.

The following striking and characteristic letter of Elizabeth to the Scottish King, written with her own hand, was received by Bowes, accompanied by two letters of the 14th and 17th of the same month from Lord Burghley. James was then at Dumbarton, in progress, whither the English Ambassador proceeded; and (as he informs the Lord Treasurer in his letter from Edinburgh, dated 27th August,) “delivered her Majesty's letter, accompanying the delivery thereof with report of your Lordship's opinion in the weighty contents flowing suddenly from her Majesty's pen in your Lordship's sight.” “The King,” continues Bowes, “oftentimes perused and gravely noted the frame and substance of this letter; and with pleasant countenance and signs, well declaring his good acceptance, he entered into right high commendation of the excellent order, singular wisdom, and rare friendship that he found therein.”

QUEEN ELIZABETH TO THE KING OF SCOTS, 12th August, 1591.

Page 63.

“Many make the argument of their letters of divers subjects. Some with salutations; some with admonitions; others with thanks: but, my dear brother, few, I suppose, with confession: and that at this time shall serve the meetest for my part.

“I doubt not but you wonder why it is, that in time so perilous to your person, so dangerous for your State, so hateful to the hearers, so strange for the treasons, you find me, that from your birth held most in regard your surety, should now neglect all, when it most behoveth to have watchful eyes on a most needy Prince. Now hear thereof my shrift:—It is true that my many counsels I have known oft thanked, but seldom followed. When I wished

you reign, you suffered other rule: if I desired awe, you gave them liberty. My timely warnings became too late performance. When it required action, it was all to begin; which when I gathered, as in a handful of my memory, I will now try, quoth I, what, at a pinch, he will do for himself: for nearer than with life may no man be assailed. And hearing how audacity prevailed in so large measure, as it was made a question whether a witch for a King's life might serve for a sufficient proof, and that the price of a King's blood was set at so low a rate, with many wondering blessings I, in attentive sort, attended the issue of such an error; and not seeing any great offence laid to so slight a case, I fearfully doubted the consequence of such an act; yea, when I heard that, quakingly, men hastened to trial of such guilt, I supposed the more loved where least it became, and the most neglected to whom they owed most bond.

“Well [1] was assured, that more addition could never my warning make; and to renew what so oft was told, should be but *petitio principii*. With safe conscience having discharged my office, I betook you to your best actions, and thought for me there was no more remaining. And now I trust that this may merit an absolution, I will make you partaker of my joy, that I hear you now begin (which would to God had sooner been!) to regard your surety, and make men fear you, and leave adoring false saints. God strengthen your kingly heart, and make you never fail yourself; for then who will stick to you? You know me so well as no bloody mind ever lodged in my breast: and hate bear I none to any of yours, God is witness. But ere your days be shortened, let all yours be. This my charity.”

Royal Letters, St. P. Off., 12th August, 1591. Indorsed, Copy of her Majesty's letter to the K. of Scots. Written with her H. hand.

## V.

This indignant and characteristic letter of Elizabeth was written to express her deep resentment of the manner in which Henry had treated her auxiliary force sent under the command of Essex. Camden, p. 563.

ELIZABETH TO HENRY IV., 9th November, 1591.

“Ma plume, ne toucha jamais papior, qui se fits sujet à argument



si estrange, pour monstrer ung nouvel accident d'une mal injuriée amitié, par tel a qui le seul appuy, a estre ministré par la partie la plus offensée. De nos ennemis, nous n'attendions que tout malencontre : Et si aultant nous presentent les amis, qu'ell difference en trouvons nous ? Je m'estonne, qu'il est possible que celuy qui tient tant de besoing d'aide, paye en si mauvaise monnoye ses plus assureés. Pouvez vous imaginer, que mon sexe m'aridit le courage pour ne me ressentir d'ung public affront. Le sang royal, si j'en ay, ne l'endureroit du plus puissant Prince en la Chretieneté, tel traistement, qu'en ces trois mois vous m'avez presté. Ne vous desplaisse que je vous dise rondement, que si ainsi vous traister vos amis, qui librement de bonne effects vous servent en temps le plus important, vous en faillerez doresnavant, en vos plus grands besoins. Et j'eusse presentement revoqué mes troupes n'eust été que votre ruine me semble se présenter, si par mon exemple les aultres, doubtaints de semblable traitement, vous delaisissent. Ce qui me pour quelque peu de tems [fait] prolonger leur demeure, me rougissant que je suis faicts spectacle du monde de Princesse meprisee, Priant le Createur vous inspirer meilleur mode de conserver vos amis.

“Vtre soeur qui plus merite qu'elle n'a,

“E. R.”

## VI.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, 25th November, 1591.—Page 63.

“As my care for your weal, my dear brother, hath been full long the desire of my endeavours, so though my many letters do not oft cumber your eyes with the reading them, yet my ever-living watchfull head hath never been neglected ; as by proof, even now, the errand that this bearer brings you, may make you know ; which being even that nearly doth touch your surety and state, I conjure you, even for the worth that you prize yourself at, that you *forslowe*<sup>1</sup> not (after your usual manner) this matter, as you too much, ere now, have done such like : and ever remember, that the next step to overturn a Royal seat, is to make the subject know, that whatever he doth may be either coloured or neglected ; of which either breeds boldness to

<sup>1</sup> To *forslowe*; to omit, or lose by deferring.

shun the pain, whatsoever the offence deserves. Far better it were, that all pretence of cause be debarred, than threaten, ere one strike, and so the prey escape. Shun in the handling of my overture [speaking] of what is meant; but after wise resolution of what behoves, let few or, if possible, none know, afore that be ended which is thought to be done. This is, in short, my advice; as she that too plainly sees, that if you defer, you may fortune repent. Yea, and you trust too much some, that can have many cords to their bow: these may, perhaps, overthrow the mark, or you hit the blank. Excuse my plainness, and let good will plead my pardon. God bless you.

“Yo<sup>r</sup> most assured Sister,

“ELIZABETH R.”

Royal Letters, St. Paper Office. Indorsed, 25th November, 1591. Copie of her Ma<sup>ties</sup> Lfe to the K. of Scotts, by Mr Hudson.

## VII.

A short sentence of the following letter from Elizabeth to James has been already given in the text, (p. 63;) but the whole epistle, which is preserved in Sir George Warrender's MSS., and written wholly in the Queen's own hand, is too characteristic to be omitted. I have, generally, in Queen Elizabeth's letters, modernized the spelling: this, for the reader's amusement, I give in her own peculiar orthography:—

QUEEN ELIZABETH TO KING JAMES VI., 4th December, 1592.

Page 81.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—If the misfortune of the messenger had not protracted so longe the riciate of my lettars, I had sonar received the knowlelege of such matter, as wold have cried my sonar answer to causes of suche importance; but at length, thoght longe:

“First, I perceave how to the privy snaris of your seeming friends, yow have so warily cast your yees as that your [mind] hath not been trapped with the fals shewis of such a kindness, but have wel remembred, that proved cares and assured love aught of mere justice tafe [to have] the upperhand, of begiling debaits, and colored treasons.

“ Yow forget not, I perceave, how yow should have served ons [once] for prey to enter the hands of a foreaner’s rule, even by the intisement of him, that offars you that he cannot get; wiche if he ever [got], should serve *his* trofe, not *yours*, whose land he seakes but to thrale both. Hit glads me much, that yow have more larger sight than the [they] supposed that wold have limed you so. And for my part, I rendar my many thankis to your selfe for your selfe, as she that skornis his malice, and eanvies not his intent.

“ My enemy can never do himself more skar, than to wil my gittles wrack, who or now, himself knowes, hath preserved him his cuntries, who since hath sought mine. Suche was his reward. God ever shild you from so crouked a wil as to hazard your own, in hope of saiving another.

“ Yow know right wel, ther is a way to get, that doth precede the attempt. Whan he hath won the entry, you shal have lest part of the victory, who sekes to make (as oft hath bin) your subjects theirs. Suppose, I beseeche you, how easely he wyl present yow the best, and kepe the worst for him. This matter is so plain, hit nedes smal advis.

“ Preserve yoursef in such state as you have. For others begile not your selfe, that injuriously you may get. There is more to do in that than *wiles and wiches*. Look about with fixed yees, and sure suche to yow, as sekes not more yours than you. Draw not such as hange their hopes on other stringes than you may tune. Them that gold can corrupt, thinke not your gifts can assure. Who ons have made shipwrack of ther country, let them never injoy hit. Wede out the wedes, lest the best corn festar. Never arm with powere suche whos bettarnis must folowe *after* you; nor trust not to ther trust, that, undar any coular, wyl tral [thrall] their own soile.

“ I may not, nor wol conciel, overturs that of late hath ful amply bene made me, how you may playnly knowe, all the combinars aganst your State, and how yow may intrap them, and so assure your kingdom; but . . . . . not presenting [permitting] hit a spoile to st . . . . . courtsey, one or more of ther owne—is this actor, and therefore [know you] best in whiche he standeth to your<sup>1</sup> . . . . . Wither if this be, he may desarve surty of life, or of land, nor livhode; but suche as may praserve brethe to spend whan best

<sup>1</sup> The original is here torn and illegible.

shal please you.<sup>1</sup> My answer was whan I se the way how, I wil impart hit to whom hit most apartanis.

“Now bethink, my deare brother, what furdar yow wyl have me do. In meanwhile, beware to give the raines into the hands of any, lest hit be to late to revoke suche actions done. Let no one of the Spanishe faction in your absence, yea, whan you were present, receave strengt or countenance. Yow knowe, but for you, al of them to be alike to me for my particular; yet I may not deny but I abhorre suche as sets their country to sale. And thus committing yow to God’s tuition, I shal remain the faithful holdar of my vowed amitie without spot or wrinkel.

“Your affectionat Sistar and Cousin,

“ELIZABETH.”

This letter is directed “To our dearest Brother the King of Scots.” It is indorsed in a small hand of the time, “Delivered be Mr Bowes, 4th Decem. 1592.” See *Historie of James the Sext.* p. 261.

### VIII.

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE NOBILITY IN SCOTLAND. 1st July, 1592.<sup>2</sup>—Page 87.

<i>Earls.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Duke of Lennox	Stewart	Prot.	Of 20 years. His mother, a Frenchwoman. Married the third daughter of the late Earl of Gowrie. She is dead. His house, castle of Methven.
Arran	Hamilton	Prot.	Of about 54 years. His mother, Douglas, daughter to the Earl of Morton who was earl before James the Regent. His house, Hamilton; and married this Lord Glames’ aunt.
Angus	Douglas	Doubtful	Of 42 years. His mother, Graham, daughter to the Laird of Morphy. Married the eldest daughter of the Lord Oliphant. His house, Tantallon.

<sup>1</sup> This sentence is evidently imperfect, but so it runs in the original.

<sup>2</sup> MS. St. P. Off. There is also a copy in Brit. Mus., Caligula, D. II., 80.

<i>Earls.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
		1	
Huntly.	Seton-Gordon	Papist	Of 33 years. His mother, daughter to Duke Hamilton. Married the now Duke of Lennox's sister. His house, Strabogy.
Argile	Campbell	Young	Of 17 years. His mother, sister to the Earl Marshall, this Earl's father. Not yet married. His house, Dynoon.
Athol	Stewart	Prot.	Of 32 years. His mother, daughter to the Lord Fleming. Married this Earl of Gowrie's sister. His house, Dunkeld.
Murray	Stewart	Young	Of 10 years. His mother, daughter to the Earl of Murray, Regent, by whom this Earl's father (slain by Huntly) had that Earldom. Not Married. His house, Tarnaway.
		2	
Crawford	Lindsay	Papist	Of 35 years. His mother, daughter to the Earl Marshall. Married first the Lord Drummond's daughter, and now the Earl of Athol's sister. His house, Finhaven.
		3	
Arrol	Hay	Papist	Of 31 years. His mother, Keith, daughter to the Earl Marshall. Married first the Regent Murray's daughter, next Athol's sister, and now hath to wife Morton's daughter. His house, Slanes.
Morton	Douglas	Prot.	Of 66 years. His mother, Erskine, daughter of the Lord Erskine. Married to the sister of the Earl of Rothes. His house, Dalkeith.
Marshall	Keith	Prot.	Of 38 years. His mother, daughter to the Earl of Errol. Married this Lord Hume's sister. His house, Dunotter.

<i>Earls.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Cassillis	Kennedy	Young	Of 17 years. His mother, Lyon, aunt to this Lord Glames, and who now is the Lord John Hamilton's wife. Not married.
Eglinton	Montgomery	Young	Of 8 years. His mother, Kennedy, daughter to the Laird of Barganie. Unmarried.
Glencairn	Cunningham	Prot.	Of 40 years. His mother, Gordon of Lochinvar. Married the Laird of Glenurchy's daughter, Gordon. His house, Glencairn.
Montrose	Graham	Papist	Of 49 years. His mother, daughter of the Lord Fleming. Married the Lord Drummond's sister. Auld Montrose, in Angus.
Menteith	Graham	Young	Of 19 years. His mother, daughter to the old Laird of Drumlanrig. Married to Glenurchy's daughter. Kylbride.
Rothes	Lesly	Prot.	Of 65 years. His mother, Somerville. Married first the sister of Sir James Hamilton, and then the sister of the Lord Ruthven. Castle of Lesly.
Caitness	Sinclair	Neut.	Of 26 years. His mother, Hepburn, sister to Bothwell that died in Denmark. Married this Huntly's sister. Tungsbeay.
Sutherland	Gordon	Neut.	Of 36 years. His mother, sister to the Regent Earl of Lennox. Married the Earl of Huntly's sister, this Earl's aunt. His house, Dunrobyn.
Bothwell	Stewart	Prot.	Of 30 years. His mother, Hepburn, sister to the late Earl Bothwell. Married the sister of Archibald Earl of Angus. He stands now forfeited. Crichton.
Buchan	Douglas	Young	Of 11 years. His mother,

<i>Earls.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
			Stewart, heretrix of Buchan. Unmarried.
Mar	Erskine	Prot.	Of 32 years. His mother, Murray, sister to the Laird of Tullybarden. A widower. His house, Alloway.
Orkney	Stewart	Neut.	Of 63 years. Base son of King James the Fifth. His mother, Elphingston. Married to the Earl of Cassillis' daughter.
Goury	Ruthven	Young	Of 15 years. His mother, sis- ter to unquhile Lord Methven. Unmarried. Ruthven.
<i>Lords.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Lyndsay	Lyndsay	Prot.	Of 38 years. His mother, sis- ter to the Laird of Lochleven. Married the Earl of Rothes' daughter. His house, Byers.
		5	
Seaton	Seaton	Papist	Of 40 years. His mother, daughter to Sir Wm. Hamilton. His wife is Montgomery, the Earl's aunt. His house, Seaton.
Borthwick	Borthwick	Prot.	Of 22 years. His mother, daughter of Buccleugh. His wife, the Lord Yester's daughter. Borthwick.
Yester	Hay	Prot.	Of 28 years. His mother, Car of Fernyhirst. His wife, daugh- ter of the L. of Newbottle. Neidpeth.
		6	
Levingston	Levingston	Papist	Of 61 years. His mother, daugh- ter of unquhile Earl of Morton. His wife the Lord Fleming's sister. Calendar.
Elphinston	Elphinston	Neut.	Of 63 years. His mother, Erskine. His wife, the daughter of Sir John Drummond. Elph- inston.

<i>Lords.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Boyd	Boyd	Prot.	Of 46 years. His mother, Colquhoun. His wife the Sheriff of Air's daughter. Kilmernok.
Semple	Semple	Prot.	Of 29 years. His mother, Preston. His wife, daughter of the Earl of Eglinton. Sempell.
Ross	Ross	Prot.	Of 30 years. His mother, the Lord Semplis daughter. His wife, Gavin Hamilton's daughter.
Uchiltree	Stewart	Prot.	Of 32 years. His mother, sister to the Lord Methven. His wife, Kennedy the daughter of the Laird of Blawquhen. Uchiltree.
Cathcart	Cathcart	Prot.	Of 55 years. His mother, Semple. His wife Wallace, daughter of the Laird of Cragy-Wallace. Cathcart.
		7	
Maxwell	Maxwell	Papist	Of 41 years. His mother, daughter to the Earl of Morton that preceded the Regent. His wife, Douglas, sister to the Earl of Angus.
		8	
Harris	Maxwell	Papist	Of 37 years. His mother, Harris, by whom he had the lordship. His wife is the sister of Newbottle. His house, Ter-ragles.
		9	
Sanqhar	Crichton	Papist	Of 24 years. His mother, daughter of Drumlanrig. Unmarried. His house, Sanqhar.
Semervill	Somervill	Prot.	Of 45 years. His mother, sister to Sir James Hamilton. His wife, sister to the Lord Seaton. Carnwath.
Drummond	Drummond	Prot.	Of 40 years. His mother, daughter to the Lord Ruthven. His wife, Lyndsay, daughter of the Laird of Edzell. Drummond.



<i>Lords.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Oliphant	Oliphant	Prot.	Of 65 years. His mother, Sandielands. His wife is Errol's sister. Duppline.
Gray	Gray	Papist	Of 54 years. His mother, the Lord Ogilvy's daughter. His wife, the Lord Ruthven's sister. Fowlis.
Glames	Lyon	Young	Of 17 years. His mother, sister to the Lord Saltoun. Unmarried.
Ogilvy	Ogilvy	Papist	Of 51 years. His mother, Campbell of Caddell. His wife, the Lord Forbes' daughter. No castle but the B. of Brichen's house.
Hume	Hume	Suspect.	Of 27 years. His mother, the L. Gray's daughter. His wife, the Earl of Morton's daughter. Hume.
Fleming	Fleming	Papist	Of 25 years. His mother, daughter of the Master of Ross. His wife, the Earl of Montrose's daughter. Bigger.
Innermeith	Stewart	Prot.	Of 30 years. His mother, the Lord Ogilvy's daughter. His wife, Lyndsay the Laird of Edzell's daughter. Redcastle.
Forbes	Forbes	Prot.	Of 75 years. His mother, Lundie. His wife, Keith.
Salton	Abernethy	Young	Of 14 years. His mother, Athol's sister, this Earl's aunt. Saltoun.
Lovat	Fraser	Prot.	Of 23 years. His mother, Stewart, aunt to Athol. His wife, the Laird of M'Kenzie's daughter.
Sinkler	Sinkler	Prot.	Of 65 years. His mother, Oliphant. His wife, the Lord Forbes' daughter. Ravens-Crage.
Torpichen	Sandilands	Young	Of 18 years. His mother,

<i>Lords.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Thirlstane	Maitland	Prot.	daughter of the Lord Ross. His house, Calder or Torpichen. Of 48 years. Married the Lord Fleming's aunt. A new house in Lowther or Lethington.

## HOUSES DECAYED.

Methven	Stewart	Decayed by want of heirs; and coming to the King's hands, he hath disposed it to the Duke.
Carlisle	Carlisle	The male heirs are decayed. There is a daughter of the Lord Carlisle's married to James Douglas of the Parkhead, who hath the living, but not the honours.

LORDS OR BARONS CREATED OF LANDS APPERTAINING TO  
BISHOPRICKS AND ABBACIES.

<i>Lords.</i>	<i>Surnames.</i>	<i>Religion.</i>	<i>Ages.</i>
Altrie	Keith	Prot.	Of 63 years. His mother, Keith. His wife, Lauriston. This lordship is founded on the Abbot of Dere.
Newbottle	Ker	Prot.	Of 39 years. His mother, the Earl of Rothes' sister. His wife, Maxwell [sister] to this Lord Harris. This lordship is founded on the Abbey of Newbottle. His house, Morphale or Preston-Grange.
Urquhart	Seaton	Papist	Of 35 years. The Lord Seaton's brother. His wife, the Lord Drummond's daughter. Founded on the Priory of Pluscardy.
Spinay	Lyndsay	Prot.	Of 28 years. The Earl of Crawford's third brother. His wife, Lyon, the Lord Glamis' daughter. This is founded on the Bishoprick of Murray. His

house is Spynay. But Huntly is heritable constable in that house.

Indorsed, "Of the Nobility in Scotland." Burghley, who had studied the paper, and marked the names of the Papists, has added, in his own hand, "A Catalogue," the date 1<sup>mo</sup> Julii, 1592; the figures over the Papists' names are also in Burghley's hand.

## IX.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, June 1594.—Page 156.

The following letter of Elizabeth to James was sent immediately\* previous to the baptism of Prince Henry.

"MY GOOD BROTHER,—You have so well repaired the hard lines of menacing speech, that I like much better the gloss than the text; and do assure you that the last far graceth you better, and fitteth best our two amities. You may make sure account, that what counsel, advise, or mislike, my writing can make you, receiveth ever ground of what is best for you, though my interest be least in them. And, therefore, having so good foundation, I hope you will make your profit of my plainness; and remember that others may have many ends in their advices, and I but you for principal of mine.

"I render you many thanks, for bond of firm and constant amity, with most assurance of never entering with my foes in treaty or good will, until constraint of my behalf cause the breach. It pleaseth me well that this addition may assure me a perpetuity; for never shall my act deserve so foul an imputation. But I muse what such an Horace his but should need to me, whose solid deeds have never merited such a halfed suspicion. Put out of your breast therefore, my sincere heart intreats you, so unfit a thought for a royal mind; and set in such place the unfeigned love that my deserts have craved, and make a great distance betwixt others not tried, and mine so long approved.

"It gladdeth me much, that you now have falsified such bruits as forepast deeds have bred you: for tongues of men are never bridled by kings' greatness, but by their goodness; nor is it enough to say they will do well, when present acts gainsay their belief.

“ We Princes are set on highest stage, where looks of all beholders verdict our works; neither can we easily dance in nets, so thick as may dim their sight. Such, therefore, our works should be, as may praise our Maker and grace ourselves. Among the which I trust you will make one whose facts shall tend to strengthen yourself, whoso you feeble, and count it best spent time to govern your own and not be tutored. And since no government lasts, where duly pain and grace be not inflicted where best they be deserved, I hope no depending humours of partial respects shall banish from you that right. And as you have, I may so justly say, almost alone, stood princely to your own estate, without prizing others' lewdness, that scarcely could afford a grant to a true request, or an yea to well tried crimes: so I beseech you comfort your self with this laud, that so much the more shineth your clearness thorough the foil of dim clouds, as their spot will hardly be blotted out, when your glory remains. And by this dealing, you shall ever so bind me to be your faithful Watch, and stanch Sister, that nothing shall I hope pass my knowledge, that any way may touch you, but I will both warn and ward in such sort, as your surety shall be respected, and your state held up, as God, that best is witness, knoweth; whom ever I implore to counsel you the best, and preserve your days.

“ Your affectionate Sister and Cousin,

“ E. R.

“ Such remembrance of my affection as I send, take in good part, as being, such my affairs as now they be, more than millions sent from a richer prince, and fraughted with fewer foes; which I doubt not but in wisdom you can consider, and as, in some part, I have at length dilated to this gent.”

Royal Letters, State Paper Office, Indorsed, June 1594. M. of her Ma<sup>ty</sup>. L<sup>re</sup> with her owne hand to the K. of Scotts.

## X.

The following letter is taken from the original in the Warrender MSS., written entirely in the Queen's own hand:—

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, [probably 1593.]—Page 125.

“ When I consider, right dear Brother, that all the chaos whereof

this world was made, consisted first of confusion, and was after divided into four principal elements, of which if either do bear too great a superiority, the whole must quickly perish; and when I see that all our beings consist of contrarieties, without the which we may not breath; I marvel the less that there do fall in your conceit, an opinion, that you could *accord* with a *discord*. It is true that, in music, sweet disorders be good rules; but in trades of lives, which bide not for moments but for years, it seld is taken for good advice: the more, I grant, is their bond, that on so dangerous foundation find a builder to venture his work.

“I will shun to be so wicked, as to turn to scorn that I suppose is grounded on ignorance; neither will I misjudge that any derision is meant, where I hope there reigns no such iniquity: therefore, I will have recourse to my best judgment, which consisteth in this thought,—that some that saw my outward show, looked not on the calends of my years; and so, through fame of seeming appearance, might delude your ears, and make suppose far better than you should find. But as my obligation is so great in your behalf, as it may permit no disguising, no more than in anything else that may concern you will I abuse you with beguiling persuasions; and thereon mind to deal with you as merchants that have no ready money; then they fall to consider of those wares that suits best their countries, and by interchange of equal utilities, makes traffic to other's best avail; procuring a continuance of friendly trade, and true intelligence, of fair good will; which is the way I choose to walk in, and even in so smooth a path as my works shall perform my word's errand; and do promise, on the faith of a king, if I find correspondence in your actions, my eyes shall give as narrow a look to what shall be your good, as if it touched the body that bears them. But if I shall find a double face of one shoulder, I protest I shall abandon my care, and leave you to your worst fortune.

“This gentleman, for your allowance and good favour, not for his good will to me, nor many practices perilous to me, of which, if he list, he may speak, I admit to my presence; whom, I assure you, I find even such as fits the judgment of your place, to esteem with no temporary honour. You may believe my judgment, that have had no cause to give him a partial censure. I perceive that God bestowed his gifts on him with no sparing hand; but even with his dole was amply enlarged.<sup>1</sup> But, above all, I commend his faith<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> So in the original; but I cannot make out the sense.

to you; for whom, I see, he neglects and loseth his greatest hopes ere now, and in all your requests rather overcarries it, as though nothing must be denied your request.

“And for that part of his charge, that toucheth my particular, though at your commandment he followeth your laws, yet found I my wants such, as are far short from such an election as your choice should make you, where both youth and beauty should accompany each other; of which, though either fail, yet let not such defects make diminution of my friendship’s price, which I trust to make of so true a value, that no touchstone shall try any mixture in that compound, but such as fears not trial.

“To conclude: this bearer hath well satisfied my expectation, as one that ought to make some amends for former wrongs,—to [whom] I have bequeathed the trust to lay open unto you my griefs and injuries, which, through lewd advice, you have wrought; though, I trust, coming amends may easily blot out of my memory’s books. This I bequeath to the safe keeping of God: who give some wisdom to sever a sincere advice from a fraudulent counsel, and bless you from betraying snares, who takes the feet off of the hare!<sup>1</sup>

“Your assured careful Sister and Cousin,

“ELIZABETH R.”

## XI.

### KINMONT WILLIE.—Page 223.

Lord Scrope, on the morning after the enterprise, wrote both to the Privy Council of England and to Lord Burghley, entreating them to move the Queen to insist on the instant delivery of Buccleugh, to be punished for this proud attempt, as he deserved. In his letter to the Privy Council, he thus describes the enterprise:—<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This letter is not dated, and is therefore placed at the end of the correspondence; but it appears to have been sent at the time when James was (as Elizabeth thought) acting with inconsistent lenity to Huntly and the Catholics, probably some time in September, 1593. See page 125.

<sup>2</sup> State Paper Office, Border Correspondence, Lord Scrope to the Council, 13th April, 1596.

“ Yesternight, in the dead time thereof, Walter Scott of Hardinge,<sup>1</sup> and Walter Scott of Goldylands, the chief men about Buclughe, accompanied with 500 horsemen of Buclughe and Kinmont's friends, did come, armed and appointed with gavlocks and crows of iron, hand-picks, axes, and scaling-ladders, unto an outward corner of the base court of this Castle, and to the postern-door of the same ; which they undermined speedily and quickly, and made themselves possessors of the base court, brake into the chamber where Will of Kinmont was, carried him away ; and in their discovery by the watch, left for dead two of the watchmen ; hurt a servant of mine, one of Kinmont's keepers ; and were issued again out of the postern, before they were descried by the watch of the inner ward, and ere resistance could be made.

“ The watch, as it should seem, by reason of the stormy night, were either on sleep, or gotten under some covert to defend themselves from the violence of the weather, by means whereof the Scots achieved their enterprize with less difficulty.

If Buclughe himself have been thereat in person, the captain of this proud attempt, as some of my servants tell me they heard his name called upon, (the truth whereof I shall shortly advertise,) then I humbly beseech, that her Majesty may be pleased to send unto the King, to call for, and effectually to press his delivery, that he may receive punishment as her Majesty shall find that the quality of his offence shall demerit ; for it will be a dangerous example to leave this high attempt unpunished. Assuring your Lordships, that if her Majesty will give me leave, it shall cost me both life and living, rather than such an indignity to her Highness, and contempt to myself, shall be tolerated. In revenge whereof, I intend that something shall be shortly enterprised against the principals in this action, for repair thereof, if I be not countermanded by her Majesty.”

“ These names were taken by the informer at the mouth of one that was in person at the enforcing of this Castle, the 13th April, 1596.

The Laird of Buclughe.

Walter Scot of Goldielands.

<sup>1</sup> Walter Scott of Harden, who, under Buccleugh himself, seems to have been the principal leader in this daring and successful enterprize, was the direct ancestor of the present Lord Polwarth.

Walter Scot of Hardinge.  
 Walter Scot of Branxholme.  
 — Scot named Todrigge.  
 Will. Elliott, Goodman of Gorrombye.  
 John Elliott, called of the Copshawe.  
 The Laird of Mangerton.  
 The young Laird of Whithaugh, and his sonne.  
 Three of the Calfhills, Jocke, Bighams, and one Ally, a bastard.  
 Sandy Armstronge, sonne to Hebbye.  
 Kinmont's Jocke, Francie, Geordy, and Sandy, all brethren, the  
 sonnes of Kinmont.  
 Willie Bell, redcloake, and two of his brethren.  
 Walter Bell of Godesby.  
 Three brethren of Twada Armstrong's.  
 Younge John of the Hollace, and one of his brethren.  
 Christy of Barneglish, and Roby of the Langholm.  
 The Chingles. ?  
 Willie Kange, and his brethren, with their complices.

“The Informer saith, that Buclughe was the fifth man which entered the castle; and encouraged his company with these words — ‘Stand to it; for I have vowed to God and my Prince, that I would fetch out of England, Kinmont, dead or quick; and will maintain that action when it is done, with fire and sword.’”

The date on the back, April 13, is in the hand-writing of Lord Burghley.<sup>1</sup>

## XII.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, April 1596.—Page 223.

“I am to speak with what argument my letters should be fraught, since such themes be given me, as I am loath to find, and am slow to recite. Yet, since I needs must treat of [them,] and unwillingly receive, I cannot pretermit to set afore you a too rare example of a seduced King by evil information. Was it ever seen, that a Prince from his cradle, preserved from the slaughter, held up in royal dignity, conserved from many treasons,

<sup>1</sup> MS. St. P. Office, April 13, 1596. Border Correspondence.



maintained in all sorts of kindness, should remunerate, with so hard measure, such dear deserts, with doubt to yield in just treaties response to a lawful friend's demand? Ought it to be put to a question, whether a King should do another his like the right? Or should a Council be demanded *their* good pleasure what *he himself* should do? Were it in the non-age of a Prince, it might have some colour; but in a Father-age, it seemeth strange, and, I daresay, without example. I am sorry for the cause that constrains this speech, especially in so apert a matter, whose root grows far, and is of that nature that it (I fear me) will more harm the wronger than the wronged; for how like regard soever be held of me, yet I should grieve too much to see you neglect yourself, whose honour is touched in such degree, as that our English, whose regard, I doubt not, you have in some esteem, for other good thoughts of you, will measure your love by your deeds, not your words in your paper.

“Wherefore, for fine, let this suffice you, that I am as evil treated by my named *friend* as I could be by my known foe. Shall any castle or habytacle of mine be assailed by a night largin, and shall not my confederate send the offender to his due punishment? Shall a friend stick at that demand that he ought rather to prevent? The law of Kingly love would have said nay; and not for persuasion of such as never can or will stead you, but dishonour you to keep their own rule, lay behind you such due regard of me, and in it of yourself, who, as long as you use this trade, will be thought not of yourself ought, but of conventions what they will. For Commissioners, I will never grant for an Act that he cannot deny that made; for what so the cause be made, no cause should have done that; and when you with a better-weighed judgment shall consider, I am assured my answer shall be more honourable and just; which I expect with more speed, as well for you as for myself.

“For other doubtful and litigious causes in our Border, I will be ready to point Commissioners, if I shall find you needful; but for this matter of so villanous a usage, assure you I will never be so answered, as hearers shall need. In this, and many other matters, I require your trust to our Ambassador, which faithfully will return them to me. Praying God for your safe keeping,

“Your faithful and loving sister,

“E. R.”

Indorsed, Copie of Her Maj. Letter to the King of Scots,  
of her own hand.

## XIII.

AFTER KINMONT WILL'S RESCUE AND DELIVERANCE BY  
BUCCLEUGH, 1596.—Page 226-227.

## ELIZABETH TO JAMES.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—That I see a King more considerate of what becometh him in the behalf of his like, than Councillors, that never being of such like estate, can hardlier judge what were fittest done, I marvel no more than I am glad to find yourself as greatest, so worthier of judgment, than such as, if they were as they ought, you need not have had the glory of so honourable a fact alone. But you have made me see that you can prize what were meetest, and deem how short of that they showed, who have displayed their neglect, in leaving you destitute of good advice, by their backwardness in that was their duty. And I hope it will make you look with a broad sight on such advisers, and will warn you by this example not to concur with such deceitful counsel, but will cause you either to mind their custom, or to get you such as be better minded, than to hazard you the loss of your most affectionate, in following their unseemly advice.

“For the punishment given to the offender, I render you many thanks; though I must confess, that without he be rendered to ourself, or to our Warden, we have not that we ought. And, therefore, I beseech you consider the greatness of my dishonour, and measure his just delivery accordingly. Deal in this case like a King, that will have all this Realm and others adjoining see how justly and kindly you both will and can use a Prince of my quality; and let not any dare persuade more for him than you shall think fit, whom it becomes to be echoes to your actions, no judgers of what beseems you.

“For Border matters, they are so shameful and inhuman as it would loathe a King's heart to think of them. I have borne for your quiet, too long, even murders committed by the hands of your own Wardens; which if they be true, as I fear they be, I

hope they shall well pay for such demerits, and you will never endure such barbarous acts to be unrevenged.

“I will not molest you with other particularities; but will assure myself that you will not easily be persuaded to overslip such enormities, and will give both favourable ear to our Ambassador, and speedy redress, with due correction for such demeanour. Never think them meet to rule, that guides without rule.

“Of me make this account, that in your world shall never be found a more sincere affection, nor purer from guile, nor fuller fraught with truer sincerity, than mine; which will not harbour in my breast a wicked conceit of you, without such great cause were given, as you yourself could hardly deny of which we may speed, I hope, *ad calendæ græcas*.

“I render millions of thanks for such advertisements as this Bearer brought from you; and see by that, you both weigh me and yourself in a right balance: for who seeks to supplant one, looks next for the other. This paper I end with my prayers for your safety, as desireth

“Your most affectionate Sister,

“ELIZ. R.”

Royal Letters, St. Paper Office. Indorsed, Copie of her Mats. Lfe to the K. of Scotts, of hir own hand, for Mr Bowes.

#### XIV.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, 1st July, 1598.—Page 279.

ON THE SUBJECT OF VALENTINE THOMAS.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—Suppose not that my silence hath had any other root, than hating to make an argument of my writing to you, that should molest you, or trouble me; being most desirous that no mention might once be made of so villanous an act, specially that might but in word touch a sacred person; but now I see that so lavishly it hath been used by the author thereof, that I can refrain no longer to make you partaker thereof sincerely, from the beginning to this hour, of all that hath proceeded; and for more speed have sent charge with Bowes, to utter all, without fraud or guile; assuring you that few things have dis-

pleased me more since our first amities ; and charge you in God's name to believe, that I am not of so viperous a nature, to suppose or have thereof a thought against you, but shall make the deviser have his desert, more for that than ought else ; referring myself to the true trust of this Gent : to whom I beseech you give full affiance in all he shall assure you on my behalf. And so God I beseech to prosper you with all his graces, as doth desire,

“ Your most affectionate Sister,

“ E. R. ”

Royal Letters, St. Paper Office. Indorsed, 1598. Pr<sup>mo</sup>.  
July. Coppie of her Mats. Lre to the Kinge of Scots,  
w<sup>t</sup> her owne hande, concerninge Val. Thomas.

## XV.

The following letter was sent by the Earl of Mar, and the Abbot of Kinloss.

JAMES TO ELIZABETH, 10th February, 1601.—Page 374.

“MADAM AND DEAREST SISTER,—As the strait bonds of our so-long-continued amity do oblige me, so, your daily example used towards me in the like case, does invite me, not to suffer any misconstrued thoughts against any of your actions to take harbour in my heart ; but by laying open all my griefs before you, to seek from yourself the right remedy and cure for the same.

“And since that I have oft found by experience, that evil-affected or unfit instruments employed betwixt us, have often times been the cause of great misunderstanding amongst us, I have therefore, at this time, made choice of sending unto you this nobleman, the Earl of Mar, in respect of his known honesty and constant affection to the continuance of our amity ; together with his colleague the Abbot of Kinloss (a gentleman whose uprightness and honesty is well known unto you ; ) that by the labours of such honest and well-affected Ministers, all scruples or griefs may on either side be removed, and our constant amity more and more be confirmed and made sound.

“Assuring myself, that my ever honest behaviour towards you shall at least procure that justice at your hands, to try or<sup>1</sup> ye trust any unjust imputations spread of me, and not to wrong yourself in

<sup>1</sup> Or ; ere.

wronging your best friend; but in respect of the faithfulness of the bearers, I will remit all particulars to their relation; who, as they are directed to deal with you in all honest plainness, (the undis severable companion of true friendship,) so do I heartily pray you to hear and trust them in all things as it were myself, and to give them a favourable ear and answer, as shall ever be deserved at your hands by

“Your most loving and affectionate Brother and Cousin,  
“JAMES R.<sup>1</sup>”

“From Holyrood House, the 10th February, 1601.”

## XVI.

The following letter from the English Queen, is an answer to James' letter to Elizabeth, sent by his Ambassadors the Earl of Mar and the Abbot of Kinloss.—See this volume, p. 374.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, May 1601.—Page 381.

“MY GOOD BROTHER,—At the first reading of your letter, albeit I wondered much what springs your griefs might have of many of my actions, who knows myself most clear of any just cause to breed you any annoy; yet I was well lightened of my marvel when you dealt so kindly with me not to let them harbour in your breast, but were content to send me so well a chosen couple, that might utter and receive what you mean, and what I should relate.

“And when my greedy will to know, did stir me at first access to require an ease with speed of such matters, I found by them that the principal causes, were the self same in part, that the Lord of Kinloss had, two years past and more, imparted to me: to whom and to other your ministers I am sure I have given so good satisfaction in honour and reason, as, if your other greater matters have not made them forgotten, you yourself will not deny them.

“But not willing in my letter to molest you with that which they will not fail but tell you, (as I hope,) together with such true and guileless profession of my sincere affection to you, as you shall never have just reason to doubt my clearness in your behalf; yet this I must tell you—that as I marvel much to have such a sub-

<sup>1</sup> Wholly in James' hand. Royal Letters, St. P. Off., sealed with the King's signet-ring.

ject that would impart so great a cause to you, afore ever making me privy thereof, so doth my affectionate amity to you, claim at your hands that my ignorance of subjects' boldness be not augmented by your silence; by whom you may be sure you shall never obtain so much good, as my good dealing can afford you.

“Let not shades deceive you, which may take away best substance from you, when they can turn but to dust or smoke. An upright demeanour bears ever more poise than all disguised shows of good can do. Remember that a bird of the air, if no other instrument, to an honest king, shall stand in stead of many feigned practices, to utter aught may any wise touch him. And so leaving my scribbles, with my best wishes that you scan what works becometh best a king, and what in end will best avail him.

“Your most loving Sister that longs to see you deal as kindly as I mean.

“ELIZABETH R.”

Royal Letters, State Paper Office, Indorsed, Copie of her Mat<sup>ty</sup>s Letter to the King of Scots, written with her own hand.

## XVII.

The following letter was entirely written in the Queen's own hand, and sent to the King by the Duke of Lennox.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, 2d December, 1601.—Page 385.

“MY DEAR BROTHER,—Never was there yet Prince nor meaner wight, to whose grateful turns I did not correspond, in keeping them in memory, to their avail and my own honour; so trust I, that you will not doubt but that your last letters by Fowles and the Duke are so acceptably taken, as my thanks can not be lacking for the same, but yields them you in thankful sort. And albeit I suppose I shall not need to trouble any of your subjects in my service, yet, according to your request, I shall use the liberty of your noble offer, if it shall be requisite.

“And whereas your faithful and dear Duke hath at large discoursed with me, as of his own knowledge, what faithful affection you bear me, and hath added the leave he hath received from you, to proffer himself for the performer of my service

in Ireland, with any such as best may please me under his charge; I think myself greatly indebted to you for your so tender care of my prosperity; and have told him that I would be loath to venture his person in so perilous service, since I see he is such one that you make so great a reckoning of, but that some of meaner quality, of whom there were less loss, might in that case be ventured.

“And sure, dear brother, in my judgment, for the short acquaintance that I have had with him, you do not prize with better cause any near unto you: for I protest without feigning or doubling, I never gave ears to greater laud, than such as I have heard him pronounce of you, with humble desire that I would banish from my mind any evil opinion or doubt of your sincerity to me. And because though I know it was but duty, yet where such show appears in mindful place, I hold it worthy regard; and am not so wicked to conceal it from you, that you may thank your self for such a choice. And thus much shall suffice for fear to molest your eyes with my scribbling: committing you to the enjoying of best thoughts, and good consideration of your careful friend, which I suppose to be,

“Yo<sup>r</sup>. most aff. Sister,

“ELIZABETH R.”

Royal Letters, State Paper Office. Indorsed, 2d December, 1601. Cop. of her Ma<sup>ty</sup>. I<sup>r</sup>e to the King of Scot. by the Duke of Lennox.

### XVIII.

ELIZABETH TO JAMES, 4th July, 1602.—Page 397.

“MY GOOD BROTHER,—Who longest draws the thread of life, and views the strange accidents that time makes, doth not find out a rarer gift than thankfulness is, that is most precious and seldomest found; which makes me well gladdened, that you methinks begin to feel how necessary a treasure this is, to be employed where best it is deserved; as may appear in those lines that your last letters express, in which your thanks be great, for the sundry cares, that of your state and honour, my dear friendship hath afforded you; being ever ready to give you ever such subjects

for your writing, and think myself happy when either my warnings or counsel may in fittest time avail you.

“Whereas it hath pleased you to impart the offer that the French King hath made you, with a desire of secrecy: believe, that request includes a trust that never shall deceive: for though many exceed me in many things, yet I dare profess that I can ever keep taciturnity for my self and my friends. *My head may fail, but my tongue shall never*; as I will not say but yourself can in yourself, though not to me, witness. But of that no more: *preterierunt illi dies*.

“Now to the French: in plain dealing, without fraud or guile, if he will do as he pretends, you shall be more beholding to him than he is to himself, who within one year hath winked at such injuries and affronts, as, ere I would have endured that am of the weakest sex, I should condemn *my* judgment: I will not enter into *his*. And, therefore, if his *verba* come *ad actionem*, I more shall wonder than do suspect; but if you will needs have my single advice, try him if he continue in that mind. And as I know that you would none of such a League, as myself should not be one, so do I see, by his overture, that himself doth: or if for my assistance, you should have need of all help, he would give it; so as since he hath so good consideration of me, you will allow him therein, and doubt nothing but that he will have me willingly for company; for as I may not forget how their league with Scotland was reciproke when we had wars with them, so is it good reason that our friendships should be mutual.

“Now, to confess my kind taking of all your loving offers, and vows of most assured oaths, that naught shall be concealed from me, that either Prince or subject shall, to your knowledge, work against me or my Estate; surely, dear brother, you right me much if so you do. And this I vow, that without you list, I will not willingly call you in question for such warnings, if the greatness of the cause may not compel me thereunto. And do entreat you to think, that if any accident so befall you, as either secrecy or speed shall be necessary, suppose yourself to be sure of such a one as shall neglect neither, to perform so good a work. Let others promise, and I will do as much, with truth as others with wiles. And thus I leave to molest your eyes with my scribbling; with my perpetual prayers for your good estate, as desireth your most

“Loving and affectionate Sister.

“ELIZABETH R.



“As for your good considerations of Border causes, I answer them by my agent, and infinitely thank you therefor.”

Royal Letters, State Paper Office. Indorsed, 4th July, 1602. Copie of her Maties. Lre to the King of Scotts, sent by Mr Roger Ashton.

THE END.