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THE EARL OF STIRLING'S
REGISTER OF THE ROYAL LETTERS

RELATIVE TO THE AFFAIRS OF SCOTLAND AND NOVA SCOTIA
FROM 1615 TO 1635.

*Impression restricted to One Hundred and Fifty Copies, of which Ten will be
printed on Large and Thick Paper.*

THIS Work was originally intended to be issued by the Bannatyne and Abbotsford Clubs, and was partially proceeded with for that purpose at the time they were dissolved; it has therefore been deemed advisable to produce the Work in a form which will range with the publications of these Clubs. In the opinion of competent persons who have examined the MS., it imparts more authentic and copious information on public affairs at the period which it embraces than any other record, apart from the Proceedings of the Privy Council. Of these Proceedings it is at once supplementary and illustrative. The EARL OF STIRLING, whose fame as a Poet has survived his reputation as a Statesman, was one of the most remarkable men of his time. From JAMES VI., in 1621, he received a Royal Letter authorising him to establish a Colony in the territory situated between New England and Newfoundland, whereupon followed a Royal Charter under the Great Seal, appointing him Lieutenant-General of the new Colony: Designated NEW SCOTLAND, the Colony embraced a large portion of Canada.

also that Settlement which, after a century and a half, produced the State of New York. Consequent on the plan for colonising New Scotland was founded the Order of Nova Scotia Baronets, of which the early history constitutes no unimportant part of "The Register."

"THE REGISTER" includes many entries illustrative of Scottish social and domestic life in the earlier portion of the seventeenth century; details relating to family history, and warrants appointing to public offices; also a narrative of leading contemporary events. The story of the debased coinage introduced by CHARLES I., and of the attempt made in the same reign to thrust on the Churches of both kingdoms a metrical translation of the Psalms, ascribed to KING JAMES, is related with admirable minuteness; while other strange episodes of attempted legislation are set forth with chronological precision. Among the details of general administration are numerous State Papers relating to educational and ecclesiastical affairs; also in relation to commerce, both at home and abroad, and the concerns of the Admiralty and Merchant Shipping. There are numerous entries connected with the administration of justice, appointments to offices of trust, and the levying of troops for foreign service. As many of the Letters were directly inspired by the King, the contents of "The Register" are, in relation to the personal history both of JAMES and CHARLES, especially valuable. Politically, no Scottish MS. of the seventeenth century is more essentially instructive.

Precious as one of the few authentic records of State Proceedings in Scotland, at a period when the will of the Sovereign was nearly paramount, and when royal favouritism had attained its zenith, "The Register" embraces a record of public transactions from the year 1615 to 1635, more especially for the latter half of that period. The Work, in other words, is a transcript of the Royal Letters, Proclamations, Warrants, Instruments of Gift, and other documents issued by LORD STIRLING when he held office as Secretary of State for Scotland. The Documents were entered in "The Register" by LORD STIRLING'S relative and amanuensis, ALEXANDER ALEXANDER, whose services were latterly compensated by his appointment to a Macership in the Court of Session. There are three folio volumes, of which two are preserved in the Advocates' Library, the third and most important in the General Register House. When, on the ruin of

his estate by his colonial enterprise, LORD STIRLING became embarrassed, two volumes of "The Register" fell to his creditors; these were at length deposited in the Advocates' Library. The remaining volume, in possession of WILLIAM TRUMBULL of East Hampstead, one of his descendants, was, in 1759, presented by that gentleman to Major WILLIAM ALEXANDER, the American claimant of the title. The volume afterwards got into the hands of Mr. JOHN CALEY, who, in 1792, presented it to Mr. THOMAS ASTLE, the Archæologist, by whom it was handed to the Lord Clerk-Register, for preservation in the Register House.

Prefixed to the Work is a Memoir of LORD STIRLING, together with an Historical Introduction embracing a narrative of the events recorded or proceedings described in "The Register." A copious Index of Persons, Subjects, and Places is appended to the Work. As the impression is strictly confined to *one hundred and fifty copies*, each copy will bear a number attested by the Publisher.

The two volumes are now offered to Subscribers at Five Guineas for Small Paper and Ten Guineas for Large Paper Copies; and as the impression is so limited, the Publisher has been instructed to reserve the right of shortly increasing the price.

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RELATIVE TO THE AFFAIRS OF SCOTLAND AND NOVA
SCOTIA FROM 1615 TO 1635

VOL. I.



EDINBURGH

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fifty copies, of which this is No. 50.*

INTRODUCTION.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER of Menstry, a pleasing poet, a vigorous prose writer, and an accomplished scholar, was not less remarkable as a politician. Fertile in device and expert in execution, and of an unswerving tenacity of purpose, he unhappily sacrificed patriotism to policy, and allowed a concern in his personal interests to overbalance loftier considerations. Yet his errors were in a manner the consequence of his surroundings, being more the result of untoward circumstances than of any absolute perversity. For he was raised from the condition of an inconsiderable landowner and travelling tutor to be the cherished friend and adviser of a sovereign at a court unadorned by any virtue, and which by tergiversation and king-craft had become utterly contaminating. Peccant as a politician, but illustrious as a pioneer of British colonisation, William Alexander is entitled to remembrance. And his public policy is bound up with his personal history.

Every considerable Scotsman has a pedigree,—William Alexander's is illustrious. Descended from a Norwegian viking, Conn Chead Chath of "the Hundred Battles," the renowned Somerled of the twelfth century dared to contest the sovereignty of the Western Isles with David I.; he was worsted, yet allowed to retain under the Scottish sovereign a measure of authority over the territory in which he had ruled. Twice married, Somerled had by his second wife, Efricia, daughter of Olave the Red, King of Man, three sons, Dougal, Ranald, and Angus. On Somerled's death, Dougal obtained the depute sovereignty of Mull, Coll, Tiree, and Jura; Ranald, of Isla and Kintyre; and Angus, of the Isle of Bute. From Dougal sprang the Mac-Dougals of Lorne, who styled themselves De Ergedia—that is, of Argyle—and his branch is represented by the ducal house of Argyle.

On the death of Dougal, the isles which he ruled, instead of descending to his children, were acquired by his brother Ranald, to whom were born two sons, Donald and Roderick. Roderick was a noted pirate. Donald, the elder son, was father of three sons, Roderick, Angus, and Alexander. The male descendants of Roderick became extinct in the third generation. Angus, the second son, some time resisted the arms of Alexander III., but, on the conquest of the Western Isles by that king, he transferred his allegiance from Norway to the Scottish crown; he died subse-

quent to 1292. Of his two sons, Alexander of Isla and Angus Oig, the former opposed, and the latter upheld, the claims of King Robert the Bruce, with the result that the King bestowed upon Angus his brother's possessions. Permanently to secure the royal authority in the Isles, King Robert erected on the isthmus of Tarbert a powerful stronghold. There he temporarily resided. Subsequently he placed the structure under the charge of a constable.¹ John, Lord of the Isles, grandson of Angus Oig, married, as his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Robert II. His third son by this marriage, Alexander, Lord of Lochaber, had two sons, Angus and Alexander. In 1481 James III. granted to Tarlach MacAlexander the stewardry of Kintyre, with the lands of Auchnaglek and Le Crag, in North Kintyre.²

Prior to 1264 the Campbells of Lorne obtained the lands of Menstry, in Clackmannanshire,³ and on these, under their powerful protection, the members of the family of MacAlexander, or Alexander of Tarbert, settled not long afterwards. To the Tarbert or Menstry family belongs Alexander de Alexandry, a Captain of the Scots Men-at-Arms, who in 1419 were stationed in France under command of Sir William Douglas.⁴

To an instrument of gift, whereby on the 8th September 1528 Queen Margaret and her husband, Lord Methven, granted to James Stewart the office of Captain of Doune Castle, one of the witnesses is Sir William Alexander, a Churchman.⁵

In a legal instrument, dated 6th March 1505, Thomas Alexander de Menstry is associated with sixteen others in an arbitration connected with the division of forty acres of land in Clackmannanshire, about which a dispute had arisen between the Abbot of Cambuskenneth and Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan.⁶

Andrew Alexander succeeded to the estate of Menstry. He married Katherine Graham, by whom he had a son, Alexander, who appears as owner of the lauds of Menstry prior to 1527. By his wife, Elizabeth Douglas, Alexander Alexander had three sons, Andrew, William, and John. William is mentioned on the 6th June 1564 as "sone lauchful to umquhile Alexander Alschunder in Menstrie."⁷ John obtained the lands of Pitgogar, near Dollar, and there died in November 1595. Andrew, the eldest son, is mentioned on the 20th April 1530 in a confirmed charter of Archibald, Earl of Argyle, as heir-apparent of Menstry.⁸ Succeeding to the paternal inheritance, he married Marion, daughter of Alan Coutts, by whom he had, with other children, four sons, Alexander, James, Archibald, and Andrew. James, the second son, received, on the 7th October 1582, from John, Earl of Mar, a charter of an annual rent of 100 merks Scots, "furth of the lands of Langlearse, in the barony of Alloway and shire of Clackmannan." This charter was confirmed under the Great Seal on the 30th May 1584.⁹ In the charter of confirmation he is styled "James Alschunder in Menstrie."

¹ Exchequer Rolls, I.; Preface, lxx-lxxii. 53-7.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. x., 9.

³ Exchequer Rolls, I.; Preface, xl. 24.

⁴ "Scots Men-at-Arms in France," by William Forbes Leith; Edin. 1882, 4to, vol. i. 13.

⁵ "Red Book of Menteith," by William Fraser; Edin. 1880, 2 vols. 4to, vol. ii. 389.

⁶ Chartulary of Cambuskenneth Abbey, p. 86.

⁷ Commissary Record, vol. i.

⁸ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxiii., 196.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xxxv. 929.

Archibald, the third son, engaged in merchandise at Stirling and Dunfermline, residing in the former burgh. In 1593 he was chosen one of the Magistrates of Stirling, and six years later was elected Dean of Guild. In 1601 he was returned to Parliament, and in 1606 he represented Stirling in the Convention of Burghs.¹ He died on the 13th September 1621, leaving issue.²

Andrew, fourth son of Alexander Alexander of Menstry, became a solicitor in Stirling, and obtained the lands of Southfield. He is named as "brother of Archibald Alexander" in 1606, as "brother to the gudeman of Menstrie" in 1616,³ and in 1629 as uncle to Sir William Alexander.⁴

Alexander, the eldest son of Andrew Alexander, succeeded to the lands of Menstry, and died on the 10th February 1580. By his wife, Marion, daughter of Graham, of the family of Gartmore, scions of the Earl of Menteith, he had, with two daughters, a son, William, afterwards Earl of Stirling.⁵

The date of Lord Stirling's birth is uncertain. The opinion commonly received, that he was born in 1580, is untenable; it rests solely on the circumstance that the words "ætatis suæ 57" are inscribed on his engraved portrait by William Marshall, included in his "Recreations with the Muses," published in 1637. But Lord Stirling's portrait was not specially engraved for this work, a few copies only containing it. With the engraver he was certainly acquainted in 1631, when the artist executed a decoration for his edition of the Psalms. Writing in 1638, Principal Robert Baillie, a relative, describes him as "old."⁶ The earliest authentic information

¹ Burgh Records of Stirling.

² Edin. Com. Reg.; Stirling Parish Register.

³ Protocol Book of John Muschet. Commissariat Court Book of Stirling, vol. i.

⁴ Commissariat of Dunblane: Decrets, vol. i.

⁵ In Stacie's "Funeral Escutcheons," a record preserved in the Lyon office, the Earl of Stirling's mother is described as "a daughter to Duncan Cample, the Laird of Glenorchie." Stacie, who was an Englishman, was, after being some years employed as a herald painter, appointed a herald in 1663, when he seems to have commenced his record. In assigning to the Earl of Stirling a maternal descent from the house of Glenorchy, he presents no authority, while the opposing evidence is not inconsiderable. In the testament of Alexander Alexander, the Earl's father (Edin. Com. Reg., vol. ix.), are these words—"Item, there was awand to the said umq^l Alex. Alschinder of Menstrie be William Graham of Gartavertane, his brothir in the law, the soun of 400 merkis money, restand of the soun of eight hundred merkis of tocher, contractit to the said umq^l Alex with Marion Graham, his spouse, in the Contract of Marriage; for the whilk sounne also the said William Graham is bound acit in the Commissary Books of Striveling, as the Act made threupon beirs." Now William Graham of Gartavertane succeeded his uncle Robert Graham in the estate of Gartmore, in Menteith, in 1577; he died about the year 1589, leaving a son, Robert, afterwards of Gartmore, and whose daughter, Agnes, succeeding to the estate in 1634, became the wife of John Alexander, fourth son of the Earl of Stirling. On the death of Agnes Graham in 1636, without issue, her husband and his father, the Earl, invested themselves in her lands, which afterwards passed to the Earl's creditors, and at their instance were, in 1644, sold to the Grahams for 13,300 merks. Had Alexander Alexander of Menstry been twice married, and his children been of a wife other than Marion Graham, it is nearly certain that some allusion to the fact would have occurred in his lengthened testament. Happily there exists a contemporary record of the Campbells of Glenorchy, embraced in the "Black Book of Taymouth," printed by Mr. Cosmo Innes in 1855, and in this there is no allusion to a matrimonial union between the families of Glenorchy and Menstry. More disposed to secure a quarter for the shield of the third Earl of Stirling, than any strict genealogical or historical accuracy, Stacie, the herald, had probably assumed that Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy, who in 1394 is recorded as possessing the lands of Menstry, was a kinsman of the Alexanders. (Memorials of the Earl of Stirling, Edin. 1877, 2 vols. 8vo, i. 6; "Red Book of Menteith," by William Fraser, 1881, 2 vols. 4to, vol. i., 314-315).

⁶ Baillie's Letters, vol. i., pp. 76-77.

concerning him is that, having gained reputation as a scholar, he was selected as travelling companion to Archibald, seventh Earl of Argyle, whom he accompanied to France, Spain, and Italy.¹ Now the seventh Earl of Argyle was son of Colin, the sixth Earl, by his second wife, Anne Keith, relict of the Regent, Earl of Murray. The Regent was murdered in 1570, and though the date of his widow's marriage to the Earl of Argyle is unrecorded, it may be assumed that it did not occur before the following year. Further, Archibald, the seventh Earl, commanded the royal troops at the battle of Glenlivet in 1594, which would imply that he had then attained his majority. We may thus assign his birth to the year 1572, and it may certainly be assumed that his guardians would select as his companion in continental travel one who was older and more experienced than himself. Assuming that Alexander was four years older than the Earl, we may therefore name the year 1568 as that of his birth. By the death of his father, about his thirteenth year, his upbringing devolved on his paternal uncle, James Alexander of Longcarse, who was by his father in his will nominated "tutor to his barnes."² Not improbably he was by James Alexander entrusted to the educational care of Dr. Thomas Buchanan, nephew of the celebrated George, who, prior to 1578, was rector of the Grammar School of Stirling, and was subsequently minister of Ceres, in Fife. According to William Drummond of Hawthornden, the Earl's education was completed at the University of Leyden, but this statement is unconfirmed.³

On the 4th March 1598 William Alexander was infeft by Archibald, Earl of Argyle, in "the five pund land" of the Mains of Menstry.⁴ From the Earl of Argyle he subsequently received the lands and barony of Menstry. In a contract, dated 4th May 1605, he resigned to the Earl of Argyle, and to Dame Agnes Douglas, his spouse, the lands of Menstry, wherein he stood infeft; whereupon, in consideration of 6000 merks paid by him, and of services rendered to the Earl "in foreign nations and at home," he obtained new infeftment to himself and his heirs-male in the whole lands and barony of Menstry, extending to a twenty pound land, for the yearly payment of 24 bolls of wheat, 6 score bolls malt, 52 bolls oatmeal, and 23 bolls oats, together with four dozen "sufficient capons, and two dozen hens, and 30 unclipped lambs, with 100 merks of money, and 40 merks at the entry of an heir, in place of the duplication of the feu-duty."⁵

Introduced at court by the Earl of Argyle, William Alexander was appointed tutor to the Prince Henry. By James VI. he was received with high favour, and he continued to retain an ascendancy over the vacillating humours of that pedantic sovereign. When James, in 1603, succeeded to the English throne, Alexander followed in his train. Soon afterwards

¹ Argyle Papers, Edin. 1834, 4to.

² Edin. Com. Reg., vol. ix.

³ Hawthornden MSS., Advocates' Library. An examination of the registers of the University of Leyden has been obligingly made by Dr. du Rien, Conservator of the Library, who has failed to discover any reference to William Alexander as *civis academicus*. It was a conjecture of Dr. David Laing that he may have studied at St. Andrews University, and quitted it before graduation. The conjecture is without support. His name does not appear among the matriculated students of any Scottish college.

⁴ Writs in the Menstry Charter-Chest.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. xlv., 84.

he was enrolled as one of the thirty-two gentlemen extraordinary of Prince Henry's private chamber.¹

He had already issued "The Tragedie of Darivs," which, in the form of a small quarto, appeared at Edinburgh in 1603, from the press of "Robert Waldegrae, Printer to the King's Maiestie." Along with the poem are included two sonnets in praise of the author, "by Jo: Morray" and "W. Quin," and it is dedicated: "To the most excellent, high, and mightie Prince James the 6, King of Scots, my dreade Sovereigae:

" Whose sacred brow a twofolde laurell beares;
To whom Apollo his owne harpe resignes,
And everlasting Trophies vertue reares."

In the following year the Prince's tutor produced a thin quarto, containing a poem of eighty-four stanzas, entitled "A Parænesis to the Prince," . . . "printed by Richard Field for Edward Blovnt, 1604." He also reprinted his "Darius," somewhat improved in style, along with his tragedy of "Crosus," under the title of "The Monarchieke Tragedies." In this work the dedication to the King was extended from three to thirteen stanzas; he also included his "Parænesis to Prince Henry."

In the "Parænesis" he administers to his royal ward wholesome counsels, setting forth that wicked princes may be dethroned. Another poetical work from his pen appeared in 1604, with the title, "Avrora, containing the first fancies of the author's youth," accompanied by "an epistle dedicatory" to the Countess of Argyle. In upwards of a hundred sonnets he celebrates the charms of a rural beauty, who rejected his pleadings, and gave her hand to another. The presentation copy of this work to the Prince Henry, in the original ornate binding, is now in the possession of Lieutenant-General Sir James Edward Alexander, C.B.

Sometime prior to 1603, the poet espoused Janet, only daughter of Sir William Erskine, younger brother of the family of Erskine of Balgonie, and commonly styled parson of Campsie, from his office as commendator of the bishopric of Glasgow. On the 8th May 1607, Sir William Erskine, described as "parson of Campsie," received a royal warrant for an Exchequer pension of £200 a year, to be shared with his son-in-law, William Alexander—a life annuity of half the amount being made payable to Alexander after Erskine's decease.²

Sir William Erskine purchased from the Earl of Argyle the annual duties payable by his son-in-law for the lands of Menstry. On the 6th June 1609, a royal charter passed under the Great Seal, confirming a charter of alienation and vendition from the Earl of Argyle, whereby Sir William Erskine obtained the lands and barony of Menstry in liferent, and Sir William Alexander and his spouse, Lady Janet Erskine, the lands in conjunct fee.³ The conditions of the charter remained unfulfilled; and nineteen years afterwards we find Sir William Alexander

¹ Dr. Birch's *Life of Henry, Prince of Wales*, p. 347.

² *Docquet Book of Exchequer*.

³ *Reg. Mag. Sig.*, lib. xlviij. 131.

consenting to a royal charter, whereby he received the lands and barony of Menstry from the Earl of Argyle, on an annual payment of £80 Scots.

Encouraged by his royal master, Alexander continued to woo the muse. He published, in 1605, "The Alexandrean: a Tragedy," which afterwards suggested to Arthur Johnston the following epigram:

"Confer Alexandros; Macedo victricibus armis
Magnus erat, Scotus carmine Major uter?"

Having composed a fourth tragedy, he, in 1607, issued a quarto volume, entitled "The Monarchicke Tragedies—Cæsus, Darius, The Alexandrean, Iulius Cæsar; newly enlarged, by William Alexander, Gentleman of the Prince's Priuie Chamber. *Carminè dij superi placantur, carminè manes.* London: Printed by Valentine Simmes for Ed. Blovnt, 1607."¹ To this edition was prefixed the following complimentary sonnet by his friend and associate, Sir Robert Aytoun

"Well may the programme of thy Tragic stage
Invite the curious pompe-expecting eies
To gaze on present shewes of passèd age,
Which iust desert Monarchick dare baptize
Crownes throwne from thrones to tombes, detomb'd arise,
To match thy muse with a Monarchick theame;
That whilst her sacred soaring cuts the skies,
A vulgar subiect may not wrong the same,
And what giues most advantage to thy fame;
The worthiest monarch that the sunn can see,
Doth grace thy labours with his glorious name,
And daignes protector of thy birth to be;
Thus all Monarchick: patron, subiect, stile,
Make thee the Monarch-tragick of this Ile."

In 1608 William Alexander and his relative, Walter Alexander, of the Prince's household, were authorised by patent to receive and uplift all arrears of taxes due to the Crown, from the first year of the reign of Edward VI. to the thirtieth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the arrears amounting to £12,000, of which they were to receive a commission of fifty per cent.

On the 25th May 1609, Sir William Alexander, described as "knight," received a charter of apprising against Sir James Schaw of Sauchie, for non-payment of 17,500 merks, according to a contract between Sir James on the one part, and Master Joseph Halden of Myreton and Sir William Alexander of Menstry on the other. The lands appraised comprehended the barony of Sauchie, and Wester Tillicultry, in Clackmannanshire, the lands of Gartinkeiris, Fifeshire, and the lands of Cowden, Caviltoun, and Burnthill, in the county of Kinross.²

¹ Of this work, a third edition was, in 1616, issued in duodecimo from the press of William Stansby.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. i. 185, fol. 134.

With his poetical contemporaries, Sir William Alexander had already attained considerable intimacy. To the "Heroicall Epistles" of Michael Drayton, published in 1611, he prefixed the following sonnet:

"Now I perceive *Pythagoras* divin'd
 When he that mocked maxims did maintain,
 That spirits, once spoil'd, revested were again,
 Though chang'd in shape, remaining one in mind;
 These love-sick Princes passionate estates,
 Who feeling reads, he cannot but allow,
 That *Ovid's* soul revives in *Drayton* now;
 Still learn'd in love, still rich in rare conceits,
 This pregnant spirit affecting farther skill,
 Oft alt'ring form, from vulgar wits retir'd
 In diverse idioms mightily admir'd,
 Did prosecute that sacred study still;
 While to a full perfection now attain'd
 He sings so sweetly that himself is stain'd."

The death of Prince Henry at the age of eighteen, on the 6th November 1612, evoked the tragic muse. Among the conspicuous elegiasts was Sir William Alexander, whose "Elegie," extending to four quarto leaves, was published at Edinburgh, by Andro Hart, in his shop "on the north side of the High Street, a little beneath the Crosse,"¹ and which, it is curious to find, was long afterwards, in a renovated form, the book-shop of Archibald Constable.²

The versification of the "Elegie on the Death of Prince Henrie" was conceived in the author's best manner; and, in token of appreciation, the King appointed him to the same position in the household of Prince Charles which he had occupied in that of the deceased prince. In 1613 the King conjoined him in a grant which held promise of emolument. In 1526 a company of German miners had obtained from James V. a grant for forty years of the gold and silver mines of Scotland. What measure of success attended the operations of this company does not clearly appear, but the results had not been quite fruitless, for, in 1593, Thomas Foulis, goldsmith in Edinburgh, accepted in payment of the sum of £14,594 Scots, which he had advanced in money and jewels to James VI. and his Queen, a grant of the gold, silver, lead, and other mines in Crawford Muir. A silver mine at Hilderston, in the neighbourhood of Linlithgow, was discovered in the year 1607, and in the following year Sir Bevis Bulmer was, by royal patent, appointed surveyor, with authority to work the mine on behalf of the Crown. In 1613 the King granted the mine at Hilderston to Sir William Alexander, Thomas Foulis, and Paulo Pinto, a native of Portugal, on their paying a royalty of a tenth portion of the refined ore.³ The mines of Crawford Muir ultimately proved unproductive, involving the industrious goldsmith who

¹ A second edition of the "Elegie" appeared in 1613. The only copies known to exist are preserved in the University and Advocates' Libraries, Edinburgh.

² Masson's *Drummond of Hawthornden*, p. 37.

³ *Acta Sec. Con.*, 17th March 1613.

worked them in serious loss, while the silver yielded at Hilderston was attended with such heavy cost in the process of refining it, that the mine was abandoned.¹

We learn from the Register that Sir William Alexander afterwards sought to compensate himself and the heirs of Thomas Foulis for those untoward speculations. John Foulis, a relative of the deceased Edinburgh goldsmith, was, in November 1626, appointed collector of wine duties at the several Scottish ports; while George Foulis, Master of the Coinage, another kinsman of Thomas Foulis, was, in 1630, recommended to the favour of the Commissioners of Exchequer.

In 1613 Sir William published a completion of the third part of Sir Philip Sidney's romance of "Arcadia," which, with the initials W. A., will be found in the fourth and subsequent editions of that work. In the same year he commenced a correspondence with William Drummond of Hawthornden, to whom he was attracted by his "Teares on the Death of Moeliades," an elegy on the death of Prince Henry, which Drummond had composed in his best manner. In 1614 Alexander was visited at Menstry by the bard of Hawthornden, who has, in a letter to one of his correspondents, presented the following account of his reception :

"As to my long stay in these parts, ye sal rather impute it to so sociable a companie, from whom I am even loth to depart, then to a wilful neglect of promisest coming to yow. Fortune this last day was so favourable, as be plaine blindnesse to acquent me with that most excellent spirit, and rarest gem of o^r North, S. V. A. [Sir William Alexander]; for coming neare his house, I had almost bene a Christiane father to one of his chidling. He acceptet me so kindlie, and made me so good entertainement (which, whatsomever, with him I culd not have thecht but good), that I can not well schow. Tables removed, efter Homer's fassion well satiat, he honord me so much as to schow me his bookes and papers. This much I wil say, and perchance not with out raison dar say, if the heauens prolong his dayes to end his 'Day,' he hath done more in One Day, then Tasso did al his lyff, and Bartas in his Two Weekes: tho' both the one and the other be most praiseworthy. I estimed of him befor I was acquent of him, because of his Workes; but I protest hencefoorth, I will estime of his Workes, because of his awne good courteous meeke disposition. He entreatet me to haue made longer stay; and, beleave me, I was as sorrie to depart as a new enamoret lover wald be from his mistress."

Alexander was now engaged in composing his longest and most ambitious poem. He published the first part of it in 1614, preceded by a commendatory sonnet from his friend of Hawthornden. The poem is thus entitled:—"Doomes-day; or, The Great Day of the Lord's Ivdgement, by Sr William Alexander, Knight. Printed by Andro Hart, and are to be solde at his shop on the north side of the High street, a little beneath the Crosse. Anno Dom. 1614. 4to." In its original form it embraced four books, or "hours;" these were, in 1637, extended to twelve, including more than 1100 verses. The poem epitomises the history of the ancient world, and indulges in many lofty flights and daring speculations; it is believed to have suggested to Milton the idea of his "Paradise Lost." James VI. was captivated by it; on its merits, he styled the author his "philosophical poet." Not unconscious, however, that the poet exhibited a certain artificiality of manner, he was led, at his expense, to compose the following sonnet:—

¹ Proceedings of Scot. Soc. of Antiq., vol. x., p. 236.

“THE COMPLAINTS OF THE MUSES TO ALEXANDER UPON HIM SELFE, FOR HIS INGRATITUDE TOWARDS THEM, BY HURTING THEM WITH HIS HARD HAMMERED WORDES, FITTER TO BE USED UPON HIS MINERALLES.¹”

“O holde your hande, holde, mercie, mercie, spare
 Those sacred nine that nurst you manie a yeare;
 Full ofte, apace, with comforte and with care,
 Wee bath'd yow in Castalia's founteyns cleare,
 Then on our winges aloft wee did yow beare,
 And set yow on our statelie forked hille,
 When yow our heavenlie harmonies did heare,
 The rockes resounding with their echos stille.
 Although your neighbours have conspir'd to kill
 That art that did the laurell crowne obteyne,
 Who borrowing from the Raven theyr ragged quille,
 Bewray their hard, harsh, trotting, tumbling veyne;
 Such hammering harde, *youre* mettes *harde* require,
 Our songes are fill'd with *smooth o'erflowing* fire.”

By the King, in 1614, Sir William was appointed Master of Requests, an office in which he proved serviceable by repressing the demands on the royal bounty of his unprosperous countrymen. As we learn from the Register, a royal letter was addressed to the Secretary of Scotland, dated the 11th April 1615, in which the King discharges “all maner of persones from resorting out of Scotland to this our kingdome, vnlesse it be gentlemen of good qualitie, merchands for traffique, or such as shall haue a speciall licence from our Counsell of that kingdome, with expresse prohibitioun to all masters of shippes that they transport no such persones.” The letter also bears that Sir William Alexander, Master of Requests, had received a commission “to apprehend all those idle and vagrant persones who by their misbehaviour here do both trouble and cause discredite their country.”

With the poet of Hawthornden Sir William Alexander continued a friendly correspondence. On the 4th February 1616 he despatched to Drummond the following letter:—

“TO MY VERY WORTHY FRIEND
 “MR. WILLIAM DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN.

“Sir—I have sent you here a sonnet which the King made the last week, moved by the roughness of the season, as you may perceive by his allusion to Saturn and Janus meeting. This forced the other from me. The last day being private with his Majesty, after other things, we fortun'd to discourse of *English* poetry; and I told one rule that he did like of exceedingly, which was this: *That to make a good sound there must still be first a short syllable and then a long, which is not long positively of itself, but comparatively, when it followeth a shorter; so that one syllable may be long in one place and short in another, accordiug as it is match'd; for a syllable seems short when it is, as it were, borne down with a*

¹ Sir James Balfour's MS. Collections in the Advocates' Library. The words of the sonnet printed in italics are corrections in the King's own handwriting.

longer. Though this letter would seem idle to some, yet I know it will prove serious to you; and I seek in this but to get your humour to whom I write. You will find this, by your own observation, better than a man can express it with words, though few or none have ever' remarked it. I have presently written a number of serious letters; and last of all, have recreated my mind with this, wherewith I end.—
Your brother, W. ALEXANDER.

"NEWMARKET, the 4th of February 1616."

"SONNET BY KING JAMES VI.

"How cruelly these captives do conspire
What loathsome love breeds such a baleful band
Betwixt the cankred king of *Crete* land,
That melancholy old and angry sire,
And him who wont to quench debate and ire
Amongst the Romans, when his ports were closed;
But now his double face is still disposed,
With Saturn's help, to freeze us at the fire.
The earth, o'covered with a sheet of snow,
Refuses food to fowl, to bird and beast;
The chilling cold lets everything to grow,
And surfeits cattell with a starving feast.
Curse be that love, and mought continue short,
That kills all creatures, and doth spoil our sport."

"SIR W. ALEXANDER'S REPLY TO THE KING.

"When Britain's monarch, in true greatness great,
His council's counsel did things past unfold,
He (eminent in knowledge, as in state),
What might occur oraculously told;
And when, far raised from this terrestrial round,
He numbrous notes with measured fury frames;
Each accent weighed, no jarr in sense or sound;
He Phœbus seems, his lines Castalian streams,
This worth (though much we owe) doth more extort;
All honour should, but it constrains to love.
While ravished still above the vulgar sort,
He prince, or poet, more than man doth prove;
But all his due who can afford him then,
A god of poets, and a king of men?"

"This day design'd to spoil the world of peace,
And accessory to so foul a crime,
Why should it rest in the records of time,
Since stained by treason, forfeiting the place?
Oh! but those err who would it odious make
This day from danger Britain's monarch saved;
That day when first the mischief was conceived,
Let it accurst, still clad with clouds, look black,
Then happy day to which (by heaven's decree,
A consecrated) festival pomp is due;
Long may thy saint (a living martyr) view
All hearts for love of him to honour thee.
More length we wish, but what thou want'st of light
Shall be by fire extorted from the *night*."

Writing to Michael Drayton in 1618, Drummond has these words:—"I am oft with Sir W. and you in my thoughts, and desire nothing more than that by letters we may oft meet and mingle our souls." In a letter dated 20th December 1618, and addressed to Sir William Alexander, the poet of Hawthornden uses these words: "Never any friendship of mine went so near my thoughts as yours, because I never thought any so worthy. It is all the treasure and conquest, when death shall remove this pageant of the world from me, that I have here to vaunt of; neither would I wish another epitaph and *hic jacet* over my grave, than that you esteemed me worthy of your friendship. There is nothing I long so much for as to see the perfection of your works. May fortune one day be ashamed to see such a spirit so long attend the ungrateful court, that deserves to have the sovereignty of all Parnassus!"¹

In his "Pilgrimes Farewell," published in 1618, William Lithgow celebrates the bards of Menstry and Hawthornden in the following couplet:—

" Amongst these long Goodnights, farewell yee Poets deare,
Graue Menstrie, true Castalian fire, quick Drummond in his sphaere."

In a letter addressed to Drummond, dated 9th November 1619, Drayton writes:—"Little did you think how oft that noble friend of yours, Sir William Alexander (that man of men), and I have remembered you before we trafficked in friendship."

In his metrical epistle "On Poets and Poetry," published in 1619, Drayton commends Alexander and Drummond in these lines:—

" So Scotland sent us hither for our own,
That man whose name I ever would have known
To stand by mine, that most ingenious knight,
My Alexander, to whom in his right
I want extremely. Yet in speaking thus
I do but show the love that was 'twixt us,
And not his numbers, which were brave and high;
So like his mind was his clear poesy;
And my dear Drummond, to whom much I owe
For his much love; and proud was I to know
His poesy. For which two worthy men
I Menstrie still shall love, and Hawthornden."

To Sir William Alexander, whom he styles "my worthily beloved," John Davies of Hereford addressed the following epigram:—

" Great Alexander (whose successful Sword
Made him a god with men) achieved no more
Then thy as happy *Pen* hath well assur'd
Vnto thy Name, which Glory doeth decore.

¹ Masson's *Memoir of William Drummond*, p. 84.

INTRODUCTION.

I know thee not ; but I know I should do ill
 Not to take knowledge of what is in Thee,
 When thou hast publisht it with so great skill,
 Which makes Thee ore thy *Monarches* Soueraigne bee :
 For they, beeing happy, prou'd vnhappy men,
 Whome thou hast made most happy with thy pen."¹

King James had long intended to compose a metrical version of the Psalms, which he hoped would be adopted by both the English and the Scottish Churches. In his "Poetical Exercises at Vacant Hours," published in 1591, he informs the reader that, should his verses be well accepted, he would proceed to publish "such number of the Psalms" as he "had perfited," and would be encouraged "to the ending of the rest." In a General Assembly held at Burntisland in 1601, he set forth the importance of improving the version then in use.² In his project the king invited Alexander's assistance, but was, on the whole, disposed to follow his own method. Acknowledging a psalm which had been sent him by Drummond for the royal approval, Alexander writes³—

"BROTHER—I received your last letter, with the psalm you sent, which I think very well done. I had done the same long before it came ; but he prefers his own to all else, though, perchance, when you see it, you will think it the worse of the three. No man must meddle with that subject, and therefore I advise you to take no more pains therein ; but I, as I have ever wished you, would have you to make choice of some new subject worthy of your pains, which I should be glad to see. I love the muses as well as ever I did, but can seldom have the occasion to frequent them. All my works are written over in one book, ready for the press, but I want leisure to print them. So referring all further to our old friend Sir Archibald Acheson,⁴ who is coming home, I continue, your loving friend,

"W. ALEXANDER."

"London, 13th April 1620."

Sir William Alexander was now to engage in a colonial enterprise, through which he hoped to derive power, emolument, and fame. Discovered by Sebastian Cabot in 1497, Canada was made to receive a European settlement in 1541, under the direction of Jacques Cartier, a French navigator. Consequent on the loss at sea, in 1549, of M. de Roberval, Viceroy of Canada, with a train of adventurers, the government of France abandoned further attempts at colonisation for nearly half a century. At length, in 1598, Henry IV. appointed the Marquis de la Roche Lieutenant General of Canada ; but that nobleman having unwisely attempted a settlement on the Isle de Sable, and made an unsuccessful cruise upon the coast, returned home in disgrace. In 1602 the English sought to plant a colony, but the French, in 1603, took possession of the occupied territory, under Mons. de Mont, as forming part of New France. By Henry IV., De Mont was appointed governor of the district, extending from the fortieth to the forty-sixth degrees of north latitude—that is, from Virginia to near the head of Hudson's Bay, and which was then known as

¹ "The Scourge of Folly," by John Davies of Hereford ; Lond. 1611-14.

² Spotswood's History, p. 446.

³ Drummond's Works, 1711, p. 151.

⁴ Sir Archibald Acheson of Gosford, Haddingtonshire, was a cherished friend of Sir William Alexander. They became associated in the office of Secretary of State for Scotland. In 1611 Acheson obtained a large grant of lands in Ireland, and his expected return from that kingdom is referred to in Alexander's letter. From him descend the Earls of Gosford.

La Cadie. To Poutrincourt, his associate in adventure, De Mont granted that part of the district in which they found the spacious harbour near the Bay of Fundy, then called La Baye François, and afterwards known as Port Royal. The grant to Poutrincourt being confirmed by the King of France, a fort was reared, which became the head-quarters of the French colonists. In 1613, on the ground of an alleged encroachment on the English limits of Virginia, Captain, afterwards Sir Samuel Argall, seized the fort, and dislodged the French,—a proceeding which led Montmorency, Admiral of France, to address a strong remonstrance to King James, while the French Ambassador in London also presented a vigorous complaint.

On the 3d November 1620 Sir Ferdinando Gorges, Governor of New Plymouth, received from King James the famous patent, by which forty English subjects, incorporated as “The Council for planting, ruling, and governing New England,” obtained possession of a territory extending from the fortieth to the forty-eighth degree of north latitude, and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. The colonists found on their northern frontier some French colonists who professed the Romish faith, and on their behalf Gorges entreated the English government to proceed to their dislodgment. On this subject James VI. consulted his “philosophical poet,” who considered the opportunity favourable for his personal enterprise. In a work afterwards issued, Sir William Alexander, referring to his first connection with the scheme, wrote thus:—“Being much encouraged hereunto by Sir Ferdinando Gorges and some utheris of the undertakers for New England, I shew them that my countrymen would never adventure in such an enterprise, unless it were as there was a New France, a New Spaine, and a New England, that they might likewise have a New Scotland.”

Resolving to attempt a settlement in Canadian territory, Sir William Alexander obtained the royal sanction that his field of operation should be designated New Scotland. The company of New Plymouth having made the necessary surrender, Sir William procured a royal grant of that vast district, which embraces Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Gaspè Peninsula. In the following letter, dated 5th August 1621, King James communicated his royal purpose to the Scottish Privy Council.

“JAMES R.

August 5, 1621.

“Right trusty and welbeloned Cosens and Counsellours, and right trusty and welbeloned Counsellours, Wee greete you well. Haneing euer bene ready to embrace anie good occasion whereby the honor or proflete of that our Kingdome might be advance, and considering that no kynd of conquest can be more easie and innocent than that which doth proceede from Plantationes, specially in a countrey commodious for men to live in, yet remayneing altogether desert, or at least onely inhabited by Infidells, the conversion of whom to the Christian fayth (intended by this meanes) might tend much to the glory of God; since sundry other Kingdomes, as likewise this our Kingdome of late, virtuously aduentring in this kynd, have renned their names, imposing them thus vpon new lands, considering (prayed to God) how populous that our Kingdome is at this present, and what necessity there is of some good meanes wherby ydle people might be employed preventing worse courses, Wee think there are manie that might be spared who may be fit for such a forraine Plantatioun, being of mynds as resolute and of bodyes as able to overcome the difficulties that such aduenturers must at first encounter with as anie other nation whatsoever, and such an

enterprise is the more fitt for that our Kingdome it doth craue the transportation of nothing from thence, but only men, women, cattle, and victualls, and not of money, and maie giue a good returne of other commodities, affording the meanes of a new trade at this tyme when traffique is so much decayed. For the causes abouespecifeit, Wee haue the more willingly harkened to a motion made vnto vs by o^r trusty and wellbeloued Counsellour, Sir William Alexander, Knight, who hath a purpose to procure a forraine Plantation, haueing made choice of landes lying betweene our Colonies of New England and Newfoundland, both the Gouernours whereof haue encouraged him thereunto: Therefore, that he and such as will vndertake with him by getting of good security maie be the better enabled hereunto, Our pleasure is, that after due consideratione, if you find this course, as Wee haue conceaued it to be, for the good of that our Kingdome, That yow graunt vnto the sayd Sir William, his heires and assignes, or to anie other that will joyne with him in the whole, or in any part thereof, a Signatour vnder our Great Seale of the sayd lands lying betweene New England and Newfoundland, as he shall designe them particularely vnto yow, to be holden of vs from our Kingdome of Scotland as a part thereof, united therewith by anie such tenure, and as freely as yow shall finde vs to haue formerly granted in the like case here, or that yow shall think fitt for the good of the sayd plantation, with as great priuiledges and fauours for his and their benefite both by sea and land, and with as much power to him and his heires and their deputies, to inhabite, gouerne, and dispose of the sayd lands, as hath at anie tyme bene graunted by vs heretofore to anie of our subjects whatsoever for anie forraine plantatioun, or that hath bene graunted by anie Christian prince of anie other Kingdome for the like cause, in giueing authority, power, benefite, or honour within the bounds to be plantued to them, or by warranting them to conferre the like vpon anie particular enterpryser there who shall deserue the samen, adding any further conditiones for the furtherance hereof as yow shall think requisite, and that the said Signatour be past and exped with all expedition: And likewise Our pleasure is, that you giue all the lawfull ayde that can be afforded for furthering of this enterpryse, which Wee will esteeme as good seruice done to vs; for doing wherof these presents shall be your warrant.—From our Court at Beauer, the 5th of August 1621.”

The Privy Council having acceded to the royal request, a warrant for a charter was, on the 10th September 1621, granted at Windsor Castle. On the 29th day of the same month a charter passed under the Great Seal, appointing Sir William Alexander hereditary lieutenant of the new colony. In face of the patent was denoted the importance of the transaction; the initial letter contained portraits of the king and his lieutenant, the former seated on his throne, and in the act of handing the charter to the latter. The border of the instrument was decorated with embellishments, illustrating the productions of the colony, such being executed by Edward Norgate, an accomplished illuminator.¹

Having obtained his patent, Sir William entered into an arrangement with his friend Sir Robert Gordon of Lochinvar, by means of which the latter obtained possession of the territory at Cape Breton, originally included in the province of New Scotland. To this territory, styled the barony of New Galloway, Sir Robert Gordon, and Robert, his second son, obtained a royal charter, dated 8th November 1621.

In March 1622 Sir William Alexander provided a ship at London, which he sent round the coast to Kirkcubright. There he hoped, through the influence of Sir Robert Gordon, whose

¹ Edward Norgate died at the College of Arms on the 23d December 1650 (Horace Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*, Lond. 1871, 12mo, p. 121).

lands lay in the district, to recruit a body of emigrants. The inducements held out were inconsiderable. Purchasers of land only were to have a right in the soil. Farmers might obtain leases. The lieutenant was, after a specified time, to receive a thirteenth portion of the land revenues. Artisans were to receive free holdings, but during their lives only. None possessing ordinary comforts at home were likely to incur the risk of migrating to unexplored wastes on inducements so meagre. Only one artisan, a blacksmith, and one educated person, a Presbyterian minister, consented to join the expedition. The other emigrants were agricultural labourers of the lowest grade. There was a further drawback. Provisions had lately increased in price, while the means of procuring them had diminished. The vessel, however, weighed anchor in the end of June, proceeding first to the Isle of Man. Early in August the voyage was resumed, and about the middle of September the emigrants sighted St. Peter's Island, to the south of Newfoundland, sailing westward, they approached the shore of Cape Breton, but were by a storm driven back to Newfoundland, where they sought refuge in the harbour of St. John. There they resolved to pass the winter, while, for new supplies, the vessel was despatched to Britain.

These experiences, discouraging as they were, did not depress the ardour of the spirited lieutenant. A ship, the *St. Luke*, was in the end of March despatched from London with additional colonists and needful supplies. By contrary winds the vessel was detained at Plymouth till the 28th of April, and it did not reach St. John's harbour till the 5th of June. About eight months had passed since the Scottish emigrants landed at that port. The clergyman and the mechanic were both dead. The others were scattered—a portion earning a scanty subsistence as fishermen.

Dreaming of prosperity, the Lieutenant of New Scotland added to his family estate. He purchased the lands of Tillicoultry, bordering Menstry on the east, borrowing the purchase money from Walter Cowan, an opulent burgess of Stirling, who on the 25th June 1623 received from him, "with consent of Andro Alexander, his father's brother," an acknowledgment of the loan; Cowan was also "infest with Walter, his eldest son, in an annual rent of 700 merks furth of the lands of Tullicoultrie, under reversion."¹

Meanwhile the voyagers in the *St. Luke* were endeavouring to bear up against failure. Ten of their number were selected to proceed to New Scotland, there to fix on a suitable place for planting a colony. On the 23d June they sailed from St. John, but, impeded by fogs and contrary winds, they did not see land for two weeks; they afterwards sailed along the coast, which they partially surveyed. Reaching Port de Mouton, they, in its vicinity, discovered three harbours, in one of which, four leagues west of Port Mouton, they landed, naming the spot St. Luke's Bay. Two leagues further to the west they found another harbour, with a fine river, known as Port Jolly. Having coasted twelve leagues further, they terminated their explorations at Port Negro. On their return they further examined Port de Mouton, and then hastened to Newfoundland. The *St. Luke* shipped a cargo of fish for the home voyage, and finding other vessels, the explorers returned to England.²

¹ Reg. of Deeds, vol. 374.

² "Encouragement to Colonies," *passim*; Slafter's "American Colonisation," pp. 46-47.

By these two expeditions, Sir William Alexander, instead of increasing his fortune, sustained serious loss. That loss was estimated at £6000 sterling, and for its repayment a royal warrant was directed to the Exchequer. Meanwhile Sir William persevered steadily. In 1624 he issued his "Encouragement to Colonies," which was dedicated to Prince Charles. In this work he maintains that the discovery of America was a call to Great Britain by Providence, entreating her to extend her boundaries. He commended Spanish enterprise in effecting Transatlantic settlements. He celebrated King James in checking rebellion and restoring tranquillity in Ireland, and expressed a hope that the dignity of his sceptre would be further maintained by the plantation of New Scotland. Colonists would, he remarked, be enabled to carry into unexplored tracts the civilising influences of British culture, and the elevating doctrines of the Christian faith. In glowing terms he expatiated on the success which had attended the colony of New England and the plantation of Virginia. Depicting the region of New Scotland, Sir William described "the very delectate meadowes" "with roses white and red," and "the very good fat earth" which the voyagers in the *St. Luke* had found along the coast. Appealing to Scotland, he remarked that, like a bee-hive, it yearly sent forth swarms of her people, who had heretofore expended their energies in war. Now Scotsmen were invited to settle in a country where the merchant might prosecute successful commerce, the sportsman enjoy abundant recreation, and the Christian have ample scope for missionary enterprise.

By his "Encouragement to Colonies" Sir William Alexander failed to arouse a colonising ardour, and the English Treasury refused to grant compensation for a loss in which they had no real concern. To effect his purpose, the Lieutenant of New Scotland fell upon a new method. Since his accession to the English throne, King James had systematically replenished his royal revenues by the sale of titles. In July 1603 a summons was issued at Hampton Court, charging all who owned land to the value of £40 a year to proceed to the royal presence to receive knighthood, or to compound with the King's Commissioners.¹ About the same period, the King proposed to constitute an order of *Golden Knights*,—that is, to bestow knighthood on all who would disburse £300, to be expended by Sir Bevis Bulmer in a search for gold mines.² He devised a more advanced scheme in 1611, when, to further the colonisation of Ireland, he created an order of knights baronets, who received their honours on paying into exchequer a sum equal to £1100. Though styled Baronets of Ulster, the new hereditary knights were really English landowners without connection with the country from which they derived their titles.

These precedents, especially the last, suggested to Sir William Alexander a mode by which he might accomplish his undertaking and relieve his embarrassments. From 1611 to 1622, 205 English landowners had become baronets of Ulster, with a benefit to the Exchequer of £225,000. On terms less costly, Sir William estimated that Scottish landowners, or the younger sons of the nobility, might enrol themselves in a new order—the Baronets of New Scotland. Accordingly, on his recommendation, a royal letter was issued from his Majesty's Court at Roystoun, informing the Privy Council of Scotland that the King had resolved to make the colonisation of New

¹ Rymer's "Fœdera," xvi. 529.

² Atkinson's "Discoverie of the Gold Mines," *passim*.

Scotland his own special work, and in connection therewith to establish an order of Baronets. The Privy Council were invited to assist in carrying out the royal intention, and instructed to offer no opposition to it.

Under the guidance of Sir William Alexander, the Privy Council approved the royal order; and in the following letter proceeded to indicate a scheme whereby the royal intention might be carried out:—

“MOST SACRED SOUERANE—We haue considerit of your Maiestie’s letter concerning the Barronetis, and doe therby persave your Maiestie’s great affection towards this your ancient Kingdome, and your Maiestie’s most judicious consideratioun in making choise of so excellent meanes, both noble and fit for the goode of the same, wherein seing your Maiestie nicht haue procedit without our advyce, and unacquenting vs with your Maiestie’s royall resolutioun therein, we are so muche the more boundin to rander vnto your Maiestie our most humble thanks for your gracious respect vnto vs, not onlie in this, but in all other things importeing this estate outhir in credite or profit. And we humble wisse that this honour of Barronet should be conferrit vpon none but vpon Knichtis and Gentlemen of chiefe respect for their birth place or fortunnes, and we haue taken a course by Proclamatoun to mak this your Maiestie’s gracious intentione to be publicklye knowen that non heirafter pretending ignorance take occasion inwardlye to compleyne as being neglected, bot may accuse thameselfis for neglecting of so fair an opportunitie. And whereas we are given to vnderstand that the country of New Scotland being dividit in twa Provinces, and each province in severall Dioceses or Bishoprikis, and eache diocese in thrie counteyis, and each countey into ten Baroneis, every baronie being thrie mile long vpon the coast, and ten myle vp into the countrie, dividit into sex parochies, and each parochie contening sax thousand aikars of land; and that everie Baronett is to be ane Barone of some one or other of the saidis Barroneis, and is to haif therein ten thousand aikars of propertie, besid his sax thousand aikars belongeing to his bur^h (burgh) of baronie, To be holdin free blanshe, and in a free baronie, of your Maiestie as the baronies of this Kingdome, ffor the onlie setting furth of sex men towardis your Maiestie’s Royall Colonie, armed, appareld, and victualld for two yeares, And every Baronet paying Sir William Alexander, Knicht, ane thousand merkis Scottis money only towards his past charges and endeouris: Thairfore our humble desire vnto your Maiestie is, that care be taken by suirtie actit in the bookis of Secret Counsall, as was in the Plantatioun of Vlster, that the said number of men may be dewlie transported thither, with all provisions necessar, and that no Baronet be maid but onlie for that cause, and by some such one particular course onlie as your Maiestie sall appointe, and that Artieles of Plantatioun may be set furth for encouraging and inducing all others who hes habilitie and resolutioun to transport themselfis hence for so noble a purpose.

“Last we consave that if some of the Englishe who ar best acquainted with such forrayn enterprises wald joyne with the saidis Baronetts heir (as it is likelie the lyker condition and proportioun of ground wald induce them to doe), that it wald be ane grite encouragement to the furtherance of that Royall worke quhilk is worth[ie] of your Maiestie’s care, and we doubt not sindrie will contribute their help heirvnto. So expsecting your Maiestie’s forder directioun, and humble submitting our opinioun to your Maiestie’s incomparable judgement, we humble tak our leave, praying the Almightie God to blisse your Maiestie with a long and happie reigne. From Edinburgh, the 23 of November 1624.”

On the 30th November 1624 the Scottish Privy Council issued the following proclamation:—

“At Edinburgh, the last day of November, The yeir of God 1600 Twentie-four yeiris—Our Soueraine Lord being formarlye gratiuslye pleased to erect the heritable honnour and title of ane Baronet as ane

degree, state, and place, next and immediatlie following the younger sones of Vicountes and Lordis Baronis of Parliament, as ane new honnour whairwith to rewarid new meritis, Haveing conferrit the same honnour, place, and dignitie upoun sundrie of the Knights and Esquyris of England and Ireland, to thame and thair airis maill for ever, in consideration of thair help and assistance toward that happie and successfull plantatioun of Ulster in Ireland, to the grite strenth of that his Maiestie's Kingdome, incesse of his Hiene's revenues, and help to manie of his Majestie's goode subjects. And quhairas our said Sovereane Lord being no les hopefull of the plantatioun of New Scotland, in the narrest part of America already discovered and surveyed be some of the subjects of his Majestie's Kingdome of Scotland, joyning unto New England, quhairin a grite part of his Hiene's nobilitie, gentrie, and burrowis of Ingland are particularlie interessid and hes actualle begun thair severall Plantatiouns thairof; And for that conceaving that manie his Majestie's subjects of this his ancient Kingdome, emulating the vertewis and industrious interpryssis of utheris, and being of bodieis and constitutions most able and fitt to undergoe the Plantatioun thairof and propagatioun of the Christiane religion, will not be deficient in anie thing quhilk may ather advance his Majestie's Royall intencion towards that Plantatioun, or be beneficial and honourable to this his Hiene's ancient Kingdome in generall, or to thameselfis in particular; The samyn being ane fitt, warrandable, and convenient means to disburding this his Majestie's said ancient Kingdome of all such younger brether and meane gentlemen quhois moyens ar short of thair birth, worth, or myndis, who otherwayes be most troublesome to the houses and freindis from whence they ar descendit (the common ruynes of most of the ancient families), Or betak thameselfis to forren warke or baisser chifts, to the discredite of thair ancestouris and cuntry, and to the grite losse of manie of his Majestie's goode subjects who may be better preservit to his Hiene's use, honour of thair freindis, and thair awne comfort and subsistence, gif transplantit to the said cuntry of New Scotland, most worthie and most easie to be plantit with Christiane people, and most habil by the fertilitie and multitude of commodities of sea and land, to furnish all things necessarie to mainteine thair estaitis and dignitie as Landslordis thairof, and subjects to his Majestie, to be governed by the Lawis of this his ancient Kingdome of Scotland: And our said Sovereane Lord being most willing and desyreous that this his said ancient Kingdome participate of all such otheris honnouris and dignities as ar erected in anie of his Majestie's otheris Kingdomes, To the effect that the Gentrie of this his Hiene's said ancient Kingdome of Scotland may both haif thair dew abroad among the subjects of utheris his Majestie's Kingdomes, and at home among thameselfis, according to thair degree and dignitie: As alsua his Majestie being most graciouse pleisit to confer the said honnour of heretable Baronet as ane speciall mark of his Hiene's princelie favour vpon the Knights and Esquyris of principall respect for thair birth, worth, and fortouns, togidder with large proportionis of Landis within the said cuntry of New Scotland, who sall be generouse pleisit to set furth some men in his Hiene's Royall Colonie, next going thither for that plantatioun: Thairfore his Majestie ordaines his Hiene's lettres to be direct, charginge Herauldis, Pursevantis, and Messengeris of Armes to pas to the Mercat cros of Edinburgh, and vtheris placeis neidfull, and thair, be oppin proclamatioun, to mak publicatioun of the premises, and that it is his Majestie's princelie pleasure and expres resolutioun to mak and creat the number of ane hundreth heretable Baronettis of this his Hiene's Kingdome of Scotland be patentes vnder his Majestie's grite seale thairof, who and thair airis maill sall haif plaice and precedencie next and immediatlie after the youngest sones of the Vicountes and Lordis Barronis of Parliament, and the addition of the word Sir to be prefixed to thair proper name, and the style and title of Baronett subjoynd to the surname of everie ane of thame, and thair airis maill, together with the appellatioun of Ladie, Madame, and Dame to thair Wyffis, in all tyme coming, with precedencie befor all otheris knights alsweil of the Bath as Knights Bacheloris and Bannarettis (except those onlie that beis Knighted be his Majestie, his airis and successouris, in proper persone in ane oppen feild, with banner displayed with new additioun to thair armes and haill vtheris prerogatives formarlie grantit be our said Sovereane Lord to the saidis

Baronettis of England and Ireland, conforme to the printed patent thairof in all poynts): And that no persone or personis whatsumevir sall be created and maid Baronettis, bot onlie such principall Knights and Esqyris as will be generoslie pleasit to be Undertakeris of the said Plantatioun of New Scotland, And for that effect to act thameselfis, or some sufficient cautioneris for thame, in the buikis of Secreit Counsall befor the first day of Apryll nixt to come in this insuing yeare of God, 1625 yearis, to set furth sex sufficient men artificeris or labourcis sufficientlie armet, apparelit, and victuallit for tua yeiris, towards his Majestie's Royal Colonie to be established, God willing, thair, for his Hienes' use durning that space, and that within the space of year and day efter the dait of the said Actis, under the pane of tua thousand merkis usual money of this realme."

The proclamation proceeded to recapitulate the proposals made in the Privy Council's letter to the King as to the payment to be made by intending undertakers to the Lieutenant, and invited all who sought to possess lands in New Scotland, along with the title and dignity of baronet, to repair for enrolment, either personally or by agent, to the Lords of the Council.¹

The manifesto evoked no response; yet, as a collapse of his undertaking would have proved utterly overwhelming, Sir William Alexander renewed his appeal by a royal mandate. This instrument, dated 23d March 1625, informed candidates for baronetcies that they should at once negotiate with him or his deputy. The proposal that each undertaker should pay a thousand merks to meet past losses was omitted, while the sum of two thousand merks previously mentioned as purchase-money, it was now provided should be strictly applied to colonial purposes. In evidence of sincerity it was intimated that the baronets or undertakers might appoint delegates to superintend the application of the funds.

The operations of the Lieutenant were again retarded; for, on Sunday the 27th March, King James expired at London. Proceedings were resumed on the 28th of May, when three persons, under Sir William Alexander's direction, were created baronets. These were Sir Robert Gordon, son of the Earl of Sutherland, William, Earl Marischal, and Alexander Strachan of Thornton. On the following day five others were added, these being Sir Duncan Campbell of Glenorchy, Robert Innes of Innes, Sir John Wemyss of Wemyss, David Livingstone of Dunipace, and Sir Robert Douglas of Glenbervie.²

According to the new arrangement, the lands included in the baronies of New Scotland were resigned by Sir William Alexander into the hands of the king, who regranted them to the knights baronets. Thus the lands and titles were obtained directly from the sovereign. Infektment, it was ruled, should be "expede" at the Castle of Edinburgh.

The patent constituting Sir William Alexander Lieutenant of New Scotland, though approved by the Scottish Privy Council, had not been ratified by Parliament, which had not assembled between the date of its issue and the close of the late reign. Accordingly a charter of *novodamus* was granted to Sir William by Charles I., and which, on the 12th July 1625, passed under the Great Seal; the former charter being recited, with additional clauses respecting the

¹ Reg. Sec. Con. Acta; Jan. 1621, Mar. 1625, fol. 218.

² Reg. Precep. Cart. pro Baronettis Nov. Scotie.

order of baronets,¹ and a promise made that the former grant would be confirmed by Parliament.² On the 19th day of the same month the King informed the Privy Council that certain baronets of New Scotland had been created, to each of whom he had granted territory in that country six miles in length by three in breadth. His Majesty further authorised the Council to confer baronetcies on intending undertakers, without subjecting them to the inconvenience of proceeding to London, so that a colony might be despatched to New Scotland in the following spring. On the 31st August the Privy Council by a lengthened proclamation confirmed the royal promise.

Sir William Alexander had now to encounter in his colonial enterprise some political opposition. To a Parliament which assembled at Edinburgh in November 1625, the lesser barons presented a memorial, complaining that the precedency granted to the new order of baronets interfered with their hereditary dignities, and was otherwise unjustifiable. And as, by a majority, Parliament approved the sentiments of the memorialists, a resolution to that effect was passed for transmission to the King. In the memorial it was set forth that, whereas Sir William Alexander had alleged that the precedency of the baronets was essential to his undertaking, they held such an assertion to be unwarranted, offering, in the event of the plantation of the colony being found expedient, to carry it out without charge or honorary recompense.³

What they offered to do the Estates well knew they could not accomplish, and would not seriously attempt. But the rapid advancement at court of a small landowner had moved them with indignation. Their leader was Thomas Hamilton, Earl of Melrose, a favourite of the late King, and who now held office as principal secretary. He was summarily ejected from office, while the Lieutenant was nominated to his post. On the 28th January 1626 the King notified Sir William's appointment to the Vice-Chancellor, with the request that it might forthwith be duly recorded.⁴

Having crushed a dangerous opponent, Sir William Alexander suddenly attained a pitch of greatness. Lieutenant of New Scotland, he also bore high rule in his native kingdom. His determination to maintain his order of baronets, and assert his prerogative, is evinced in a royal letter which on the 12th February he despatched to the Privy Council. In this letter the Lieutenant of New Scotland was authorised to do further honour to his baronets by conferring knighthood on their eldest sons.

Though the wishes of Scottish barons, as expressed both in Parliament and by the Privy Council, had been rejected, it was found inexpedient to wholly disregard public sentiment in the north. The last creation of baronets had occurred on the 28th December 1625; and unless conciliatory measures were adopted, an obstructive policy in Scotland might, it was felt, retard the applications for the new dignity. So by royal letter dated 24th March 1626, the Earl

¹ The order was restricted to one hundred and fifty.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. li. 23.

³ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., pp. 185-188.

⁴ The letter will be found in the Register, page 18. Though commanded to proceed "with all diligence," the Clerk Register did not record Sir William Alexander's appointment as "principal secretary for life," in the Register of the Great Seal till the 20th October 1627, or nearly two years after the date of the precept (Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. ii. 439).

of Melrose was informed that he had not been deprived "by sinistrous suggestions and calumnies of informers," but owing to the necessity that the King experienced of having a secretary for Scottish affairs resident at court. He was also assured that the change in the secretaryship should not otherwise "derogate from his grant or privileged."¹ On the same day a royal letter was addressed to the Chancellour, Sir George Hay of Kinfauns, afterwards Earl of Kinnoull, authorising him to confer knighthood on the eldest sons of baronets at majority, "without putting them to any charges."²

There were other grumblers. Of these the most conspicuous was Sir John Stuart of Traquair, subsequently Earl of Traquair. A leader in Parliament, he had steadily resisted the precedence assigned to the New Scotland baronets, with the result that on the 24th March he was commanded to assume the title which he affected to despise.³

Two other malcontents, the Laird of Waughton and the Laird of Wemyss, also received summonses. The former was informed that his being willing to receive a baronetcy would do his sovereign "acceptable pleasure;" while the Laird of Wemyss was assured that his accepting a baronetcy would prove "a next steppe to a further title." These commands, though proceeding in the King's name, bore evidence of their origin too closely to effect the intended purpose. Both lairds refused the proffered titles.⁴

Sir William Alexander persisted vigorously. Consequent on a royal warrant, dated 12th of February, the Privy Council issued, on the 30th March, the following proclamation:—

"APUD HALYRUDHOUS, *Penultimo Martii* 1626.

"Forsanekle as our Sovereane Lordis unquhile darrest Father, of blisسد and famous memorie, out of his princelie and tender regard of the honnour and credite of this his ancient kingdome of Scotland, and for the better encouraging of the gentrie of the said Kingdome, in imitation of the virtuous projectis and enterprises of othis, to vndertak the Plantatioun of New Scotland in America, determined, with advise of the Lordis of his Privie Counsell, the creating of ane new heretable title of dignitie within the said Kingdome callit Knight Barronet, and to confer the same vpon suche personis of goode parentaige, meanis and qualitie, as wald be vndetakeris in the said Plantatioun. And of this his Royall and princelie resolution, importing so far the honnour and credite of the Kingdome, publicatioun and intimatioun wes maid be open proclamatioun, with all solempnitie requisite, to the intent those of the best not knawing the same might haif had tyme first to begin and to haif bene preferrit to othis, and then through ther awne default or negligence the want of the said honnour to haif bene imputt to thameselfis, like as a competent tyme wes appoyntit and assignit be the saidis Lordis vnto thame for that effect, whairthrow they might the more advisedlic haif resolved thairin. And oure Souerane Lord, following his said darrest Fatheris resolutionis in this poynt, causit not onlie renew the said Proclamatioun, bot for the ease of his Ma^s subjectis and sauling of thame from needles and unnecessair travell, chargeis, and expensis, grantit ane commission vnder his Grite Seale, whairby the saidis Knightis Barronettis might be created and thair patentis expedt in this Kingdome. Like as accordingle sundrie Gentlemen of the best sort embraced the conditionn of the Plantatioun, wer admitit to the said dignitie of Barronet, and no question or objectioun wes moved aganis the same till the worke wes brought to a perfectioun, then some of the gentrie repynning at the precedence done to thir Barronettis, whilk procedit vpon thair awin

¹ Register, p. 23.

² *Ibid.*, p. 29.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 30.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 30.

sleughe and negligence in not tymous imbraceing the conditionis of the said Plantatioun, they maid some publick oppositioun aganis the precedencie done to thir Barronettis, and so did what in thame lay to haif hinderit the Plantatioun afoirsaid; whairof informatioun being maid to his Majestie, and his Majestie considering the goode and necessar groundis whairby first his said darrest Father and then himself wer moved to creat the dignitie and ordour foirsaid of Barronettis, and his Majestie continewing in a firme and constant purpois and resolution that the worke foirsaid sall yett go forward and no hindrance maid thairvnto, Thairfore his Majestie, with advyse of the Lordis of his Secretit Cousell, ordanis letters to be direct chargeing Officieris of armes to pas to the Mercat Croce of Edinburgh and otheris places neidfull, and thair be opin publicatioun mak said publicatioun and intimatioun of his Majestie's royall will and pleasur that the course so advysedlic prescryued be his Majestie to the effect foirsaid sall be yitt followit oute; And thairfore to wairne all and sundrie the gentrie of this kingdome, that they either procure the said dignitie for thameselfis or not repyne at otheris for doing of the same. And to command, charge and inhibite all and sundrie his Majestie's leiges and subjects that nane of thame presooome nor tak vpoun hand to wrong the saidis Knightis Barronettis in any of thair priviledgeis, nor to doe nor attempt any thing contrair to thair grantis and patentis, certifieing thame that sall failzie or doe in the contrair, that they salbe punist as contempnaris of his Majestie's inclinatioun, and disturbaris of the publick peace."

An early adventurer in the plantation of Newfoundland was Sir William Vaughan,¹ younger brother of Sir John Vaughan of Golden Grove, Caermarthenshire, afterwards Earl of Carberry. Sir William Vaughan was LL.D. of Oxford, and a poet and elegant scholar, but, like his contemporary Sir William Alexander, he was also ambitious of political distinction. Obtaining from James I. a grant of land at the south-eastern angle of Newfoundland, he gave it the name of Cambriol, and there planting a colony from Wales, took up his residence in the settlement. During a visit which, in the spring of 1626, he made to London, Sir William Alexander invited him to an interview. In a work entitled "The Golden Fleece,"² published the same year, Vaughan has expressed the substance of Sir William Alexander's conversation in these words:—

"This learned knight, with a joyful countenance and alacrity of mind, taking me by the hand, thus began: 'I have oftentimes wished to confer with you, but until this present I could not find the opportunity. It is necessary, and this necessity jumps with the sympathy of our Constellations (for I think we were both born under the same Horoscope), that we advise and devise some Project for the proceedings and successful managing of our plantations. As you obtained a Patent of the Southernmost part of Newfoundland, and transplanted thither some of your countrymen of Wales, baptising the same by the name of Cambrioll; so have I got a Patent of the neighbouring Country unto yours, Westward beyond Cape Breton, Christening it New Scotland. You have spent much, and so have I, in advancing these hopeful Adventures.

"'But as yet neither of us [have] arrived at the Haven of our expectations. Only, like a wary Politician, you suspend your breath for a time, until you repair your losses sustained by some of Sir Walter Raleigh's Company in their return from Guiana; while your neighbours, the Right Honourable the Lord

¹ Sir William Vaughan was born at Golden Grove, Caermarthenshire, in 1577. He became a commoner of Jesus College, Oxford, in 1591. Among his publications are "Varia Poemata de Sphaerarum Ordine," Lond. 1589; "Canticum Cantioorum Salomonis," 1597; "Poemata continent Econ Roberti Comitiss Essex," 1593; "The Golden Grove," 1600; and "Directions for Health," 1617.

² "The Golden Fleece, transported from Cambrioll Colchos out of the southernmost part of the Island, commonly called New-found-land." By Orpheus Junior. Lond. 1626. 4to.

Viscount Falkland and my Lord Baltimore, to whom you assigned the Northernly part of your Grant, do undergo the whole burden, supporting it with brave resolution and a great deal of expense, which otherwise you were obliged to performe. The like inconveniences I have felt, even in the infancy of my attempt; whether the effects proceeded through the late season of the year, when we set out the Colony, or by the slowness of our people, who, wearied in their passage at sea by reason of contrary winds, rested themselves too long at St. John's Harbour, and at my Lord of Baltimore's plantation, I knowe not; but sure I am, it cost me and my friends very dear, and brought us into much decrements; and hath well nigh disheartened my poor Countrymen, if, at my humble suit, our most noble and generous King Charles had not, out of his Royal magnificence and respective care to us and our Posterities, restored and revived our courages, by conferring such monies as might arise by the creation of Knights Baronets in Scotland, towards the erecting of this new fabrick and heroical action. And yet I fear all this will not suffice and defray the charge.

“‘ In such abundance doth my native country of Scotland overswarm with people, that, if new habitations be not suddenly for them, as Hives for Bees, they must either miscarry of want, or turn drones unprofitable to the owner, as you well remembered in your Poetical works which you termed ‘Cambrenium Caroleia.’

“‘ Si nova non apibus condas, Rex, alvea; Fuci
Ignavi fient, nec tibi lucra ferent.’

“‘ We need not complain, with our Saviour in the Gospel, that the Harvest is great and the Labourers few; for we have many Labourers which would willingly manure this maiden soil, and with the painful sweat of their brows reap what they sow. But the charge of transporting them, with such implements and domestical cattle as must be had now at the first, cannot but grow to an excessive cost. To expect more helping than it pleased our most bountiful king already to bestow upon us, will be in vain, I doubt, considering the scarcity of money in these days, which not only in Scotland, but likewise all his Majesty's Dominions, do affirm to be true. The native and genuine salt of the earth, which fructified our cornfields with so many infinite ploughings of our ancestors, and ours, is spent; nor will lime or marle ever recover them to the pristine and antient vigour and fertility. English Cloth, which heretofore was dignified with the title of the Golden Fleece, grows out of request, yea (and with inward grief I speak it) in contempt also among the owners and inhabitants themselves. Our Tin, Lead, and Coal Mines begin to fail. Our Woods which Nature produced, and our Fathers left us for firing, for reparations of decayed houses, ploughs, and shipping, are lately wasted by the covetousness of a few Ironmasters. What, then, remains in this famous Isle? Except we relieve our wants by Navigation, and these must be by fishing by hook or by crook, by Letters of Mart, by way of reprisals or revenge, or else by traffick and commerce with other nations besides Spaniards. I would we could invent and hit upon some profitable means for the settling of these glorious works, whereto it seems the Divine Providence hath elected us as instruments under our Earthly Sovereigne.”

By a royal letter, dated Outlands, 28th July 1626, the Privy Council are informed that the Baronets of New Scotland were exempted from payment of fees to the heralds at the Lyon office.¹

In a royal letter directed to the Barons of Exchequer on the 17th January 1627, “Sir William Alexander intimated that of all money he had received or might receive from the Baronets, he would use two parts in the well-ordering of the colony; and further, that, having a ship of large burden lying at Dunbarton ready for a new expedition, the same should be examined, and the value of its furnishings and provisions estimated for a future settlement with the Baronets.² Funds for the expedition were urgently required. Accordingly, Sir James Baillie, the Treasurer

¹ Register, p. 63.

² *Ibid.*, p. 118

of Marine, was, in a royal letter, informed that as the sum of £6000 sterling due to the Lieutenant-Governor might be "more convenientlie" paid in Scotland than out of the English revenue, such should forthwith be discharged out of the earliest prize-money. There being no response, it was hoped that an appeal to the Earl Marischal, requesting him to select for creation as Barouets such as he might "think fitt," would tend to secure a portion of the money. That he might render prompt compliance, the Earl Marischal was provided with a roll of the "ancient gentrie;" also of "persones who have succeeded to good estates, or acqyred them by ther owin industrie." On the 3d March 1627 a royal letter (unaddressed, but evidently intended for the Privy Council) urged that the work of baronet-creating be brought to "perfection," since otherwise the Lieutenant-Governor was "lykely to be vtterlie vndone in his estate."

On this occasion Sir William Alexander was partially successful, and on the 10th March, the High Treasurer of England was requested to allow to pass from the Thames free of custom "the good shipp called the Eagle, of the burthen of one hundereth and 20 tunnes, . . . : now lying in the River of Thames, . . . loaden with powder, ordonance, and other provisions, for the vse of a plantation, ordained to be made in New Scotland." ¹

Meanwhile the Lieutenant of New Scotland was oppressed by alarming tidings. On the counsel of Cardinal Richelieu, the French had determined to re-assert their title to La Cadie, which included every portion of New Scotland. By the Cardinal was formed "The Company of New France," destined to occupy Port Royal, and there plant several hundred tradesmen as pioneers, while thereafter one thousand colonists were to be yearly despatched to the province. Captain David Kertch, a French Calvinist, who communicated this intelligence, undertook, if entrusted with the command of Sir William's fleet, to oppose the Cardinal and his projected settlement. His services being accepted, he recommended that Sir William should be constituted Admiral, as well as Lieutenant, of New Scotland. For this purpose a royal commission was opened, Sir William, as Admiral of New Scotland, receiving power to "seize vessels belonging to the King of Spain, the Infanta Isabella, or others the king's enemies."² No special authority was given to contend with the French, as, notwithstanding the evil rumours, the two countries were in perfect amity.

Captain Kertch was named Depute-Admiral, with all the powers vested in his chief. With a small force he attacked the French squadron, which he defeated, securing as prizes eighteen transports, along with 135 pieces of ordnance destined for the fortification of Port Royal and Quebec.² The tidings of this success gave a prestige to Sir William Alexander's undertaking which it had not heretofore attained. Between the 18th October 1627 and the 22d February 1628, fourteen patents of baronetcy were issued and recorded. Sir William applied the proceeds in chartering vessels. Further to indicate his sincerity in establishing the colony, he intimated that his eldest son would accompany the fleet.

To a young man of superior culture and considerable energy, the prospect of opening up a new field for colonial enterprise was no doubt attractive. William Alexander the younger was

¹ Colonial Papers Calendar, p. 84.

² Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. I., p. 43.

introduced at court, and honoured with knighthood. Constituted Knight Admiral of New Scotland, a seal for his special use was, by authority of the Scottish Privy Council, prepared by Charles Dickieson, "sinkear of his Majesteis yrnies." This seal, the Privy Council instructed, was to display "a shippe with all her ornaments and apparrelling, the mayne saile onelie displayed with the armes of New Scotland, bearing a saltoire with ane scutecheon of the ancient armes of Scotland, and vpon the head of the said shippe careing ane vicorne sittand, and ane savage man standing vpoun the sterne, both bearing St. Andrew's Croce."

Towards the close of March 1628, Sir William Alexander the younger, in command of a fleet of four vessels, sailed for Scotland.

When he had reached the Scottish coast, many persons accepted bounties from him, but of these a considerable number deserted and fled. In May the fleet left Scotland, carrying upwards of seventy colonists, all of whom were landed safely at Port Royal. Among the prisoners captured by Captain Kertch was Claude de La Tour, a person of some fortune and considerable enterprise. From the French Government he had lately obtained an extensive grant on the river St. John, but, being a Protestant, he was not indisposed to meet the wishes of his new masters.¹

The success of Captain Kertch aroused the cupidity of not a few English adventurers, who sought at court to procure a right of trafficking with the new colony. To defeat their efforts, Sir William Alexander the younger returned to Britain. Concerning him we have some particulars in a letter, despatched on the 23d November 1628, by Mr. William Maxwell of Edinburgh to Sir John Maxwell of Pollok. The letter reads thus:—"It is for certaintie that Sir William Alexander is come home againe from Nova Scotia, and hath left behind him 70 men and tua weemen, with provision to serve thame be the space of ane yeir, being placet in a pairt of the countrie quhilk is a naturall strenthe, togethir withe some cannoun, muskett, pouder, and bullet, in caice of some suddent invasioun, togethir withe all thingis necessar for thair present vse; and is to goe hither againe in the spring with a new plantatioun. Bot since he came home the Englesche men ar suiten of his Majestie to plant and possesse quhatsumever lands thair of quhilk they please, and there to be halden of the Crowne of England. Quhat salbe the event I know not."²

Sir William Alexander communicated with the Scottish Privy Council, entreating their support. Accordingly, on the 28th November, that body addressed a memorial to the King, setting forth that a petition had been presented to them, "in the name of some interested in New Scotland and Canada," showing that they had "adventured soums of money for setting furth of a colonie to plant there, and that they understood that by reason of a voyage made by ane Captain Kercht thither this last sommer, there are some making sute for a new patent to be held of the Crown of England." The Council desired that the original grant to Sir William Alexander, and the undertakers under his authority, should be confirmed, and that nothing should be done "derogatory to their ancient kingdom."

¹ Haliburton's *Nova Scotia*, vol. i., p. 43.

² The Maxwells of Pollok, edited by William Fraser, vol. ii. p. 200.

The English adventurers were frustrated, and a patent was granted to Sir William Alexander the younger, and others, incorporating them as "sole traders" in the Gulf and River of Canada. These traders were further empowered to settle a plantation "within all parts of the gulf and river above those parts which are over against Kebeck [Quebec] on the south side, or above twelve leagues below Todowsack on the north side," while all others were prohibited from making any voyage into the said gulf or river, "upon payne of confiscation." Sir William Alexander the younger was also authorised to "make prize of all French or Spanish ships and goods at sea or land, and to displant the French." This royal patent was accompanied with a special commission to Sir William Alexander and others, dated 4th February 1629, by which they were empowered "to make a voyage into the Gulf and River of Canada, and the parts adjacent, for the sole trade of beaver wools, beaver skins, furs, hides, and skins of wild beasts."¹

In his private affairs the Lieutenant of New Scotland seemed on the verge of prosperity. On the 27th August 1627 he had obtained a royal signature, which, by prohibiting his docketing any paper proceeding in the King's name without special authority, enabled him to exact terms for completing many delicate transactions. He was also appointed Keeper of the Signet, the duties being discharged by a deputy at Edinburgh, while the fees were payable directly to himself. By these arrangements no Scotsman could be introduced at court, obtain a royal warrant, or pursue an action in the Scottish law courts, without contributing to his revenues. At Edinburgh he established a printing office, by which he hoped to derive profits on the issuing of public proclamations and other legal documents. At court he obtained further emolument. James Douglas, his predecessor as resident secretary, had an allowance as alimont of "three dishes." But Douglas was a deputy, whereas Sir William was head of his department; hence, by reason of his superior dignity he was allowed, in commutation, £500 per annum.

Anticipating the success of his Canadian enterprise, Sir William Alexander resolved to establish a shipping port on the west coast of Scotland. Accordingly, he obtained a royal charter of the lands and muir of Largs, at the mouth of the river Clyde. This charter, dated 11th April 1627, set forth, that whereas the lands of Largs and Largs Muir, and the town and village of the same, belonged to the King, as Prince and High Steward of Scotland, his Majesty, "considering the great and manifold services rendered to his father and himself by his well-beloved counsellor Sir William Alexander," more especially "his care, toils, and endeavours for establishing and founding his colony of America called Nova Scotia," granted him and his heirs the whole of the said territory, which was also erected into a free barony, to be called the burgh of Largs. In this charter Sir William was further empowered to build a free port and haven at Largs for "advancing trade and commerce" between Scotland and Nova Scotia.²

Since the plantation of Ulster in 1609, several Ayrshire landowners had improved their shattered fortunes by acquiring lands in that province. These lands were procured on almost nominal terms, the "undertakers" becoming bound to protect their estates from the native Irish, and to plant them with British operatives. It occurred to Sir William Alexander that his

¹ Colonial Papers, p. 96.

² Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lii. 223.

intended port of Largs might prove serviceable in shipping men and goods both to New Scotland and Ulster. In January 1628 he accepted Irish citizenship, with a grant of a thousand acres in the county of Armagh. His grant included the lands of "Mullalelish, Ballyloghan, Ballyhinche, Ballylaney, Ballibreak, Mulladroy, Dromnehunchin, Dromard, Ballykedemore, Ballycagait, Durichele, Leggacony, and others."¹

New Scotland proved a perpetual drain. By a royal letter, dated 28th December, Sir James Baillie, Treasurer of Marine, was empowered to receive, as for the King, prize-money on captured vessels, and to convey the same to Sir William Alexander, till his claim for £6000 granted him by the Crown was fully discharged. Sir James was further informed that Sir William had induced certain of his Majesty's subjects to increase the quota of prize-money payable to the Crown; and he was called upon to persuade others to pay proportionally. Sir James having made no response, a royal letter was addressed to the Commissioners of Exchequer, on the 23d May 1628, in which he was charged with having applied to ordinary purposes the proceeds of the Lubeck ship, instead of employing them in liquidating the debt due to the Lieutenant of New Scotland. The Commissioners were instructed to cause Sir James to pay Sir William the balance of prize-money in his hand, with all penalties, as in 1621 had been provided by Act of Parliament. On behalf of the Commissioners and Sir James Baillie, the Treasurer-Depute reported that various sums had been paid out of the Exchequer which ought to have been defrayed by the English Treasury, and he demurred to further exactions. His letter was forwarded to the High Treasurer of England, who, on the 30th June 1628, was required to consult with Sir William Alexander, and thereafter to prepare a report. The English Treasurer dismissed the application, while on the 11th July the Scottish Secretary intimated to the Commissioners of Exchequer that he had been appointed one of their number. On the 7th November 1628 Sir William's claims were, in a royal letter, urged upon the Commissioners.

Under the belief that the royal grant was paid, Robert Hayman, the English poet, thus expressed his congratulations:—

“Great Alexander wept and made sad mone
 Because there was but one world to be wonne;
 It joyes my heart, when such wise men as you
 Conquer new worlds, which that youth neuer knew.
 The King of Kings assist, blesse you from Heauen,
 For our King hath you wise assistance giuen;
 Wisely our King did aide on you bestow,
 Wise are all Kings who all their gifts giue so;
 'Tis giuen well, that is giuen to such a one
 For seruice done, or seruice to be done;
 By all that know you 'tis well vnderstood
 You will dispend it for your countrie's good;
 Old Scotland you made happy by your birth,
 New Scotland you will make a happy earth.

¹ Records of the Rolls, Ireland, vol. v., p. 107.

“ You are a Poet ; better ther's not any,
 You have one super-vertue 'mongst your many :
 I wish I were your equall in the one,
 And in the other your companion ;
 With one I'd giue you your deserved due,
 And with the other serue and follow you.”¹

In acquiring land, and projecting a shipping port on the Ayrshire coast, Sir William Alexander had been much encouraged by James Stewart, fifth Lord Ochiltree, who, till his recent embarrassments, had taken active part in the colonisation of Ulster. In the hope of retrieving his shattered fortune, Lord Ochiltree consented to join Sir William Alexander the younger in his second expedition to New Scotland. In May 1629, Charles I. authorised £500 sterling to be borrowed for his Lordship's use, in connection with “ his present expedition to Cape Bretton, for planting of a colony there.” He sailed in June, and, with his followers, reached his destination safely.²

With considerable prosperity at home, and good prospects abroad, the Scottish Secretary proceeded to extend the family estate. By a charter under the Great Seal, on the 31st July 1629, he received the lands and barony of Tullibody, adjoining the lands of Menstry on the south and east.³

The creation of baronets was resumed. On the 2d May 1629 a commission was granted to the Earl of Menteith, President of the Council, and to Sir William Alexander the elder, and Sir Archibald Acheson, Under-Secretary of State, to expedite the passing of New Scotland patents. To induce persons of opulence to seek the new honours, the Commissioners were empowered to fill up the dates of patents at their discretion, so that those unwilling to occupy a lower place on the roll might be reckoned among the earlier creations. The expedient did not avail, for a royal letter, dated 17th October 1629, authorised the Privy Council to institute “ a voluntary contribution ” for transplanting to the colony members of the Highland clans.

The Council remained inactive, and Captain Kertch reported from Port Royal, that without immediate supplies the colony could not be maintained. On the 17th November the King, by mandate, urged “ contractors for baronets ” to proceed with their work diligently, “ so that the next supplie ” for New Scotland “ may go out in time.” On the same day the Scottish Privy Council were informed by royal letter that his Majesty was pleased to “ authorise and allow the Lieutennant and Baronettis to weare a carfe about their neckis,” consisting of “ ane orange tanney silk ribbane, whareon shall hing pendant in a scutcheon *argent* a saltoire *azeier*, thareon ane inscutcheone of the armes of Scotland, with ane imperiall croune above the scutcheon,” and also bearing the motto—*FAX MENTIS HONESTÆ GLORIA*.

The privilege of wearing an orange ribbon failed to attract those who were otherwise indifferent to the new honours. In a letter to the Privy Council, dated 26th November of the

¹ R. Hayman's “*Quodlibets*”: Lond. 1628, book ii., p. 85.

² Colonial Papers, p. 106.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. lii. 222.

same year, the King intimated that he would advance to higher honours those who accepted present favours. The letter contained a clause for those who held heritable offices, warning them that only by aiding Sir William Alexander's colonial enterprise would they acquire a claim to have their privileges recognised. Two weeks later, Mr. David Fullerton, Receiver of Crown Rents, was commanded to pay the Lieutenant the balance of £6000 described as due to him by the Exchequer. He kept silent.

On the 23d April 1629 a treaty of peace was concluded between France and England, in which it was provided that while prizes taken during the war should remain with the captors, whatever was seized on either side for two months after the signing of the peace should be restored. Proceeding on these articles, Captain Daniel of Dieppe claimed for the Company of New France the country at Cape Breton, and on the 10th September dispossessed the settlers under Lord Ochiltree. Some of these were permitted to return to Britain, but Lord Ochiltree and seventeen others were detained in France. After much harsh treatment, Lord Ochiltree was released on the interference of Sir Thomas Edwards, the English ambassador.¹ Liberated about the end of January 1630, he laid before the English Government the following statement:—

“The King of France, by his commission, doeth assure to himself all that part of America which lyth eleuation from the fortie to sixty degree, whereby he doeth includ the River of Canada, all Acady, which includs all New England and New Scotland, theas lying in lenth by the sea coast some six hundrithe myllis. By this he assumis to himself the sole priuiledge and benefit of fishing, at this tyme the cheef commerce of France, whereby in a few yeeris he wilbe able to nourish ane seminary and nursery of saillers and seamen above any king in the world. And in this land he hathe bothe the commerce as also the occasioun and means of building, or causing boold, what schips he pleasis, and al thair furnitur, and the brauest harborys in the world, so that he may frame his schips of what burding he pleases. He intends, as Captain Danyell hes publickly confessit and professed, the supplantatioune of theas Colonies of the Inglis in New England, and the making pryss of all the English schipps going thither: and to this effect he goeth in ane schipp of the King of Frances this zeir, accompanied with two other smaller schipps, and two hundrethe men in eury of them.

“That the Kyng of Britane hath as guid right to theas lands as to England, I hoop the estate of England knowes it; and I know it can be instructed: and I know it is better than England and Scotland, bothe in respect of the climat, the goodness of the soylls, and riche contrie, iff it were peopled, which is easy to the King of Great Britane to doe, hauing already in theas parts aboute seven thousand of his Majestie's subjects.

“Captain Danyell is the whole projector of this to the state of France: he is to secound the Jesuits in this cours, he the agent & they the plotters: he is to part from Diep betwix the twenty of February with theas his thrie schipps. If he resaeue nocht interruptioun in his cours this zeir, it will be with moir difficulty and damage both heirafter; for he hathe professed, which shalbe verified befor Captan Feuer and the Lord Ocheltrie, that the King of France did mynd nothing by the peace with England, bot to endure for two zeiris till he secured America, and peccably possessed himself therein.”

Lord Ochiltree reckoned his losses at £20,000; he obtained no compensation, but, on the 24th of April 1639, was created a Baronet of New Scotland.

¹ Colonial Papers, pp. 104-106.

When Sir William Alexander the younger arrived at Port Royal in the summer of 1629, he found that thirty of the Scottish colonists had perished from exposure; otherwise the prospects of the colony were satisfactory. The native Indians, entering into an alliance with the Governor, selected Sagamore Segipt, one of their number, to proceed to England, to crave protection against the French. In December 1629, a royal letter was directed to Sir James Bagg, Governor of Plymouth, requesting him to conduct to court "one of the commanders of Canada, attended by some others of that countrie." Sagamore Segipt's appearance in London is, by the Rev. Joseph Mead, in a letter dated Christ College, 12th February 1630, thus described:—

"There came last week to London the king, queen, and young prince of New Scotland, which is the west part of that tract which was in the patent which Sir Ferdinando Gorges had for New England, but he consented that Sir William Alexander, a Scot, should have a patent thereof from King James, anno 1621, but to be governed by the laws and depend upon the king of England. This king comes to be of our king's religion, and to submit his kingdome to him, and to become his homage for the same, that he may be protected against the French of Canada. Those savages arrived at Plymouth, were a while entertained at my Lord Poulet's in Somersetshire, much made of, especially my lady of the savage queen. She came with her to the coach, when they were to come to London, put a chain about her neck, with a diamond valued by some at near £20. The savages took all in good part, but for thanks or acknowledgment made no sign or expression at all."¹

In the autumn of 1629, Claude de la Tour, the former Governor of Port Royal under the French, visited England. Introduced at court, he married, as his second wife, one of the Queen's maids of honour. On the 30th November he received a patent as a Baronet of New Scotland; and on the payment of a sum of money,² obtained from Sir William Alexander a grant of territory, extending from the sea inland thirty or forty miles, and reaching from the site of the present Yarmouth north-easterly to Lunenburg, comprising the present counties of Shelburne and Queen's, and half the county of Lunenburg. In accepting these lands, Sir Claude bound himself to become a good and faithful subject of the British sovereign. With two ships of war he sailed for New Scotland in May 1630, and landed at Cape Sable. To his son, Charles de Saint Estienne, who commanded the French garrison at Cape Sable, he bore a patent of baronetcy, with a commission authorising his continuance in office, on his submitting to British rule. Indignant at an offer which implied treachery to his own government, Saint Estienne rejected the proposal, and offered to defend the fort with his life. Returning to his ship, Sir Claude again affectionately entreated his son to surrender himself. Meeting a second refusal, Sir Claude landed his men. For two days he attacked the fort vigorously, but was compelled to return to his ship. Throwing himself on the clemency of his son, he and his wife received permission to reside in the neighbourhood, but were prohibited from entering the fort.³

¹ Birch's Court and Times of Charles I. Lond. 1849, vol. ii., p. 60.

² Sir John Scot of Scotstarvet alleges that "Sir William Alexander got a great sum of money from the King of France to quit his interest in Nova Scotia." The report may have arisen from his receiving a boon from Claude de la Tour.—(Scot's "Staggering State," p. 76. Edin. 1872.)

³ Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 45.

Inspired by Cardinal de Richelieu, the government of France resolved not to abandon La Cadie to the Scottish settlers. Accordingly, Monsieur de Chasteauneuf, the French ambassador, claimed, on the Articles of April, an immediate surrender of the province of New Scotland. To the English government he, on the 1st February 1630, presented the following note :

“The Ambassador of France prays his Majesty of Great Britain that he may please to ordain and consent to what has been promised and granted by the Articles of the 23d April last, to Captain Quersch (Kirk) and Sir William Alexander, and certain others, his subjects, who are resident, or shall hereafter reside, in New France ; that they withdraw themselves therefrom, and restore into the hands of those whom it may please the King his Master to send out, and who shall be bearers of his commission, all places and spots which they have occupied and inhabited since the last troubles, and, in particular, the fortress and settlement of Quebec, Coast of Cape Breton, and Port Royal, taken and occupied ; to wit, the Fortress of Quebec by Captain Quersch, and the Coasts of Cape Breton and Port Royal by Sir William Alexander, the Scots noblemen, since the 23d April last. And that they restore them in the same condition as they found them, without dismantling the fortifications, or destroying the foundations of the houses ; or carrying off any arms, munitions, merchandise, or chattels therefrom from such as were there at the time of the capture ; and that they shall be bound to restore them, and make restitution of all the furs which they may have taken away since ; together with the pinnace, commanded by the captain from Caen, which was conveyed to England ; as also the ship named the Mary of St Jean de Luz, of seventy tons burthen, which was captured by the said Sir William Alexander, with whalebone from Cape Breton, and part of the crew brought here [by] Captain Pomerey.”

Finding the King unwilling to prolong the rupture with his brother-in-law, the French monarch, Sir William Alexander sought, by a different method, to maintain his privileges. The following letter, addressed by the Earl of Nithsdale to his agent Mr. Scott in Holburn, would indicate that, on Sir William's behalf, an attempt had been made to induce the French ambassador to forego his claims :

“FROM MY CHALMER IN KING'S STREIT,
“the 19 of March 1630.

“[W]OR^THIE FRIEND,—I must agene earnestlie desyir you will [be s]peik the Ambassador, as I tould you, and deall with [him], that as he haith shonne him selfe a wyse man . . . hertile, that he wald behaue him selfe soe as he [may] mack a fair retreit ; seeing I assure yow thar [is] nothing moir desyired wpon his part ; whom the Ambassador seems to mistrust without caus ; and [let] him consider what should be thought of him if anie [ru]b should be procured be his cariage in that friendship between our maisters, soe much wished for be all that love thame. For the mater of Canada he will get contentment for that which [is] in the pouer of the Counsell of England ; and for Sir William Alexander's part, I know thar is means used be the man he fears, that the King may giue satisfaction leykweyis ; and I hope itt sall prevaill. Lett him, as I spoke, behaue him selfe kyudlie to the man I taulld, for I assure you he is mistene. I persave thar is ryche gifts prepared for him, both from the King and Quein, at his perting, which I sall desyer may be to his honir, which I question nothing if he be nocht the hinder him selfe. So, this expect-
yow will not faill, I rest, your freind to serve yow,
NITHSDAILL.”¹

¹ Fraser's "Book of Carlawerock," vol. ii., p. 119.

Notwithstanding the prospect of "rich gifts," Monsieur de Chasteauneuf held firmly to his purpose. On the subject of his note, Secretary Viscount Dorchester, on the 15th April, communicated with the ambassador at Paris in these terms:—

"In only one point Monsieur de Chasteauneuf seemed to goe away ill satisfied, that he could not obtayne a direct promise from his Majesty for the restoring of Port Royall, joyning to Canada, where some Scottishmen are planted, vnder the title of Nova Scotia. This Plantation was authorized by King James, of happy memorie. . . . True it is, it was not begun till towards the end of that war with France, when some of his Majesty's subjects of that Kingdome went to Port Royall, and there seated themselves in a place where no French did inhabite, Monsieur de Chasteauneuf pretending (rather out of his oune discourse, as we here conceive, then by commission) that all should be quit in state as it was before the warre, and by consequence those men withdrawne, hath pressed his Majesty earnestly for that purpose; and his Majesty, without refusing or granting, hath taken time to aduise of it, letting him know thus much, that unles he found reason as well before, as since the warre, to have that place free for his subjects' plantation, he would recall them; but in case he shall find the Plantation free for them in time of peace, the French will have no cause to pretend possession thereof, in regard of the warre, meanwhile Kebec (which is a strong fortified place in the River of Canada, which the English tooke) his Majesty is content should be restored, because the French were removed out of it by a strong hand; and whatsoever was taken from them in that Fort shall be restored likewise, whereby may appear the reality of his Majesty's proceedings; and thus I advertise your Lordship for your information, not that it should be needfull for you to treat or negotiate in it, but to the end that, if it should be spoken of vpon Monsieur de Chasteauneuf returne, you should not be ignorant how the businesse passed."¹

Notwithstanding the treaty of April, subsequent proceedings serve to show that the Government of Charles I. did not contemplate that the French should obtain possession of Port Royal. In a royal letter, dated 13th May 1630, the King thanked Sir William Alexander the younger for his "carefull and provident proceedings for planting a colonie at Port Royall," and desired him to continue as he had begun, that the work might be brought to perfection; he further charged him to appoint a deputy during his absence. On the 3d July the Governor was further informed of the King's desire to maintain the patents, while, in reference to French claims, information was sought as to how far the settlers were desirous of retaining connection with the mother country. Of the same date the King informed the Parliament of Scotland that Sir William Alexander was appointed his royal commissioner, to consult with them on public affairs. For the entertainment of the commissioner, on his arrival in Scotland, the Earl Marischal was, by a royal warrant dated Whitehall, 1st July 1630, commanded "to kill a brace of fat buckis."

It was needful first to satisfy the Baronets of New Scotland that their titles were secure. For this purpose the commissioner requested Parliament to ratify their patents. This being done, he proceeded, on behalf of the Baronets, to urge the importance of maintaining the settlement. At his recommendation, Parliament agreed to petition the Crown to retain the colony.² Their petition was accompanied by the following narrative, prepared by the commissioner:—

¹ Colonial Papers, p. 113.

² Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., pp. 208, 223, 224.

“Immediately about the time that Columbus discovered the Isle of Cuba, Sebastian Chabot, set out from England by Henrie the Seventh, did first discover the continent of America, beginning at Newfoundland, and thereafter going to the Gulph of Canada, and from thence having seen Cape Bretton, all along the coast of Florida: By which discovery his Majestie hath the title to Virginia, New England, New Scotland, as being then first discovered by Chabot, at the charge of the King of England.

“The French after this, neglecting the knowledge they had thereafter by Jaques Cartier, of the River of Canada as a cold climat, or, as it may bee, in regard it was challenged as first discovered by the English, having a great desire to possess themselves in some part of America, they planted first a Colony under the charge of Monsieur Villegagnon in Brasill, and another vnder the charge of Monsieur Landoufiere in Florida, from both of which they were expelled by the Spaniards.

“Then giving ouer all hope of attempting anything that was belonging to the Spaniards, and pressing by all meanes to haue some interest in America, notwithstanding that the English (though they were not able to possess the whole at first) had possessed themselves of that Continent, discovered by them, by a Colonie in the south part thereof, now called Virginia, and by another in the north part thereof, now called New England and New Scotland, planted by Justice Popham. The French, in the time of Henry the Fourth, under the charge of Monsieur Poutrineourt, having seen all the coasts of New England and New Scotland, to both which parts they did then beginne to claim right; they seated themselves in Port Royall, out of which, as soon as it was made known to the English, they were displanted by Sir Samuel Argall, as having wrongfully intruded themselves within those bounds that did belong to this Crowne, both by discovery and possession.

“The remainder of this French Collony, not hauing occasion to be transported to France, stayed in the contrie. Yet they were neglected by the State not owning them any more, and hardly supplied in that which was necessary for them by voluntary aduenturers, who came to trade, in hope of their comodities, in exchange of what they bought: And during the time of King James there was no complaynt made vpon Sir Samuel Argall for hauing displanted them, and they were now lately glad to demand that protection from his Majestie, which was not afforded them from any other. Whereby it may euidentlye appear that his Majestie's title was thought good; otherwise it is likelie the French King, if any wrong had been done vnto him, would haue sought to haue the same repaired, either by treatie or otherwise. But without making either any priuat complaynt, or yet doing any publick act against the same, they went next and seated themselves vpon the north side of the River of Canada at Kibeck, a place whereunto the English, by a preceding title, might likewise have claimed right: But small notice was taken thereof, till, during the time of the late warre, a Commission was given by his Majestie to remove them from thence, which was accordingly performed; the place being taken a little after the peace was concluded, which, at that time, had not come to the taker's knowledge; and a Colonie of Scottish was planted at Port Royall, which had never bene repossessed nor claimed by the French since they were first removed from the same.

“This businesse of Port Royall cannot be made lyable to the Articles of the Peace, seeing there was no act of hostilitie comitted thereby; a collony onely being planted vpon his Majestie's owne ground, according to a Patent granted by his Majestie's late deare father and Majestie's selfe, having as good a right thereto as to any part of that Continent: and both the patent and the possession taken thereupon was in the time of his Majestie's late deare Father, as is set down at length in the voyages written by Purchas. But neither by that possession, nor be the subsequent plantatioun, hath anything been taken from the French, whereof they had any right at all, or yet any possession for the time; and what might haue been done, either before the warre or since the warre, without a breach of peace, cannot justly be complained vpon for being done at that time.

“After that the Scottish Colonie was planted at Port Royall, they, and the French who dwelled there,

having met with the Commanders of the Natives, called by them Sagamoes, did make choice of one of the Cheefe of them, called Sagamo Segipt, to come, in name of the rest, to his Majestie for acknowledging of his title, and to become his Majestie's subjects, craving only to be protected by his Majestie against their enemies: which demand of his was accepted by his Majestie, who did promise to protect them, as he reported to the rest at his returne.

"Monsieur La Tour, who was cheif commander of the few French then in that Countrie, beeing neglected (as is sayd) by his own Counciemen, and finding his Majestie's title not so much as questioned, after their beeing expelled from Port Royall, and the coming in of the Scottish necessary for his security, did, along with the same Sagamo, offering and demanding the like, in the name of the French who live there: so that his Majestie hath a good right to New Scotland, by discovery, by possession of his Majestie's subjects, by removing of the French, who had seated themselves at Port Royall, and by Monsieur La Tour, Commander of them there, his turning tenant, and by the voluntarie having tenents of the rest to his Majestie, and that no obstacle might remaine, the very sauages, by their Commissioner, willingly offering their obedience vnto his Majestie; so that his Majestie now is bound in honour to maintaine them, both in regard of his subjects that have planted there vpon his warrant, and of the promises that he made to the Commissioner of the Natives that came to him from them, as he promised to the Commissioner of the Natives; And as all the subjects of his Majestie's ancient Kingdome of Scotland did humbly entreat at their last Conuention, as may appeare by a letter to his Majestie from his Counsel to that effect."¹

When the Scottish Privy Council met to sanction the transmission of the documents, the commissioner announced that, on the 4th September, the King had elevated him to the state and dignity of Viscount of Stirling and Lord Alexander of Tullibody. Next followed an intimation that his Majesty had constituted him Master of Requests for Scotland, with a salary from the Exchequer of £200 sterling. The Council received the warrant, but gave no sanction that it should pass the seals; consequently, on the 16th December his Majesty reported that he had "filled up the grant with his own hand;" and he also commanded that it should be "expede the seal," and that the salary should be duly paid.

During his visit to Scotland, Lord Stirling sold, for £12,000 Scots, the lands and port of Largs to Sir Thomas Boyd of Bonshaw, John Boyle of Kilburn, John Brisbane of Bishoptown, Robert Boyd of Towerhill, and others.²

The Scottish colonists at Port Royal, under the command of Sir William Alexander the younger, built on the west side of Granville Haven, nearly opposite to Goat Island, a considerable fort. Here they were joined by Sir Claude de la Tour, who retained his allegiance to the British Crown.³

Leaving Sir George Home in charge of Port Royal, Sir William Alexander the younger, in the autumn of 1630, returned to Britain. On the 26th February 1631, he, along with Captain Kertch and others, described as "adventurers in the Company of Canada," presented a memorial to the English Admiralty, praying that the masters of *The Whale* and other ships of the port of London might be restrained from proceeding to Canadian ports. By the advice of Lord Dorchester the prayer was granted. On the 19th April a royal warrant was issued to Lord

¹ Colonial Papers, p. 119.

² Reg. of Deeds, vol. xlvi.

³ Haliburton's Nova Scotia, vol. i., p. 45.

Oehiltree, Sir Peirce Crosbie, and Sir Archibald Acheson, Baronets, and Sir Walter Crosbie, Knight, empowering them to plant a colony "nearer unto the River of Canada." On the 29th April the Scottish Privy Council were assured by royal letter that the plantation of New Scotland was still an object of solicitude, and were invited to elect members of their own body to join in the enterprise. On the 5th May followed another missive, intimating that the King was prepared to grant baronetcies to those aiding the new colony, commissioners being specially appointed to receive from Lord Stirling resignations of land in New Scotland, and to grant infeftment in the same.

On the 10th July 1631, Lord Stirling was charged to abandon Port Royal in the following missive:—

"CHARLES R.

"Right, &c.—Wheras ther is a finall agreement made betwixt ws and our good brother the French king, and that, amongst other particuariteis for perfecting heirof, we have condescended that Port Royall shalbe putt in the estate it was befor the beginning of the late warre, that no partie may haue any advantage ther dureing the continuance of the same, and without derogation to any preceeding right or title be vertew of any thing done, other then, or to be done, by the doeing of that which we command at this tyme: It is our will and pleasur, and we command yow heirby, that, with all possible diligence, yow give ordour to Sir George Home, Knyecht, or any vther haveing charge from yow ther, to demolish the Fort which was builded by your Sone ther, and to remove all the people, goods, ordinance, munition, cattel, and vther things belonging vnto that Colonie, leaveing the boundis altogidder waist and unpeopled as it was at the tyme when your said Sone landed first to plant ther, by vertew of our Commission, and this yow failt not to doe, as yow wilbe answerable vnto ws.

"GREENWICH, 10 July 1631."

A vacillating policy supervened. On the 12th July the King informed the Scottish Privy Council that he would maintain the colony. In a royal letter he assured the Council that he was far "from quyting [his] title to New Scotland and Canada," that he would "manteane all his good subjects who plant themselfis there, and lett none of the Barronets any way be prejudged in the honour and privileges conteynit in ther Patents."

As commanded by his Majesty, the Privy Council issued a proclamation assuring his Majesty's loyal subjects, more especially the Baronets, that "so farre from quitting his title to New Scotland and Canada," his Majesty "will be verie carefull to maintean all his good subjects who doe plant themselfis there." This proclamation was issued from Holyroodhouse on the 28th July, and on the same day two other manifestoes on the same subject were despatched from the palace of Greenwich. The first, a Latin document, entitled "Pro Rege Gallorum," is of the following purport:—

"Charles, by the grace of God King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, and Defender of the Faith, &c., to all whom these presents may concern, greeting. Since we have judged it good and right and just, that now at length peace and amity being recently concluded between us and the most Christian King, our very dear brother, should resume their former influence and sway; and so that all controversies and difficulties which hitherto, from time to time, have divided our kingdoms and subjects, being now made up and concluded, should, by a mutual reconciliation, be abolished and put wholly aside by both

parties, to which end, we, among other conditions offered on our part, do agree to make evacuation of the fortalice or castle and settlement of the Royal Port, commonly known as *Port Royal*, in New Scotland, which, during the height of the late war, by virtue of a warrant or commission under the seal of the King of Scotland, had been captured and occupied as a place already abandoned; and that, moreover, without any prejudice to the right or title of us, or our subjects, in time to come, We, offering the guarantee of our royal word and promise in this matter against reasons or objections to be brought forward or urged against it whatever, by these presents do declare, and on the faith of our royal word promise that we will undertake, cause, and effect, that, by our subjects dwelling in the said fortalice or castle and settlement of the Royal Haven, commonly called *Port Royal*, whether they reside or dwell there as soldiers of the garrison or colonists or inhabitants, the said fortalice or castle and settlement of Port Royal shall be forthwith abandoned and relinquished, and also all their weapons, machines, provisions, cattle, goods, and chattels therefrom transported, immediately and as soon as letters declaring this our will and decree shall be shown and read unto them by deputies or commissioners, who shall bring the same from the most Christian King our brother; opportunity being given of sending thither and returning thence: In witness whereof, we will to sign and confirm these our letters by our own hand, and the Great Seal of our Kingdom of Scotland.—Given from our Palace of Greenwich, the 28 day of the month of July, A.D. 1631, and of our reign the seventh.”¹

Another royal missive in connection with New Scotland affairs informed the Scottish Privy Council that the Earl of Haddington and twelve others were appointed commissioners, “for the better furtherance and advancement of the plantation.” Negotiations continued till, by the treaty of St. Germain-en-laye, subscribed on the 29th March 1632, the entire territory of New Scotland was formally ceded to the French. The third article of the treaty proceeded thus:—

“On the part of his Majesty the King of Great Britain, the said Lord Ambassador, in virtue of the power he has, which will be inserted at the end of these presents, has promised, and promises, for and in the name of his said Majesty, to give up and restore all the places occupied in New France, Acadia, and Canada, by subjects of his Majesty the King of Great Britain; and to cause all such to withdraw from the said places. And to this end, the said Lord Ambassador will deliver, after the confirmation and signature of these presents, to the Commissioners of the most Christian King, in due form, the power which he holds from his Majesty the King of Great Britain for the restoration of the said places, together with the commands of his said Majesty to all who hold command in Port Royal, Fort Quebec, and Cape Breton; that the settlements and forts aforesaid be surrendered and restored unto the hands of such as it shall please his most Christian Majesty to order,” &c.

In consideration of his further loss by the surrender of the colony, Lord Stirling had his grant of £6000 increased to £10,000, a royal warrant for payment of the larger sum being directed to the Exchequer. That warrant was accompanied by a royal letter to the Privy Council, in which, on the 19th February 1632, the King gave pledge that the grant was “noways for quytting the title, ryght, or possession of New Scotland, or of any part thereof, bot onlie for the satisfaction of the losses that the said Viscount hath by givinge ourdour for removinge of his Colony at our express command, for performinge of ane Article of the Treaty betwixt the French and us, and We are so far from abandoneing of that business as We doe heirbye reqyre yow and everie one of yow to affoord your best help and encouragement for furthering of the same, cheiffie

¹ Register, p. 547.

in perswading such to be Baronets as are in qualitie fitt for that dignitie, and come befor yow to seek for favour from ws."

By Sir William Alexander, late Deputy-Governor of New Scotland, was, on the 16th June, submitted to the King the following note:—

"A Minute of some points considerable for his Majestie's service in regard of the French their possessing of New Scotland at this time.

"The possessing of it by the French immedaitelie vpon the late Treatie, though it bee not warranted by the Treatie, if some speidie acte do not disproue it, will be held to be authorised by it.

"The French pretend title to Virginia and New England, as may appeare by their patent granted to the Canada Companie of all Noua Francia from Florida to the North Pole, To be found in *Mercurie Francoise*, anno 1627, which tittle may hereafter proue dangerous for his Ma^{ties} subjects in these parts, if the French become stronge in New Scotland.

"It is evident that the French haue a design more than ordinarie herein, for besides their plantacion in Canada, for the which there is a reason apparent in the benefite of trade, they haue this yeare sent 300 men to New Scotland, where no present benefite can possible redound to them in proportioun to the charge they are at, and are the next yeare, as I am credible informed, to sett out ten shippes with planters, those that are interested in it haueing bound themselues to a yearlie supplie of a great number of planters, which is a certane prooffe of some end greater than aney person's expectation of proffit can encourage them into.

"This their future expectation, in my judgement, most consist in the use of wood for building of shippes, and for haueing all materials requisite for shipping, such as pitch, tar, and roset, which are there in abundance; yron oare hath been lykeways formerlie discovered by the French themselues.

"The building of shippes there, and the employment of them in fishing, which aboundes vpon that coast, especiallie Salt, being to be made by the Sunne as in France, lykelic to tend infinitely to the increase of shipping and of mariners, which apparentlie is the designe of the French: besides, that if the French doe once in a public and generall way enter to fish on that coast, it cannot but vndo the English trade, that is, by fisheinge, since the French haue Salt at an easier rate than the English, but more if they make salt in the countrie, which I am confident they may doe.

"If his Majestie shall be pleased to appoint some whom he shall thinke fitt for considering these things, and the like that may be proponed, there may perchance some thing be found expedient to be done either now or hereafter tending to the advancement of his Ma^{ties} service in these parts abroad.

"These are only in all humble duty, without any privat end, to expresse what in the small experience I haue particularlie had herein, I can conceaue may concerne the publick good."¹

Vacillation continued. On the 12th July a royal warrant was addressed to Sir William Alexander, Robert Charlton, and William Barkly, "commissioners for the gulf and river of Canada," charging them forthwith to restore to the French the fort and habitation of Kebeck (Quebec), consequent on the recent arrangement with the French King. Yet on the 15th day of the following August, Sir William Alexander left London for Scotland, bearing a message to the Baronets, which included these words:—"We have takin into our royall consideratioun by what meanes agane may this work be established; and conceaving that there ar none of our subjects

¹ Colonial Papers, p. 152.

whom it concerneth so much in credit to be affectioned to the progres of it as these of your number for justefieing the groundis of our princelie favours, which yow have received by a most honorabill and generous way, we haue thought fit to direct the bearer heirof, Sir William Alexander, Kny^t, vnto yow, who hath bene ane actor in the former proceedingis, and hath sene the cuntrie, and knowen the commoditeis therof, who will communicat vnto yow such propositions as may best serve for making the right vse heirefter of a plantatione and trade in these boundis for encouraging such as shall adventure therein."

Unable to effect a settlement on the land, Lord Stirling joined a cause whereby he obtained an occupancy of the ocean. In 1629 was established a joint stock company for conducting the business of fishing on the west coast of Scotland, with headquarters at the Lewis. The company employed 200 vessels, varying from 30 to 50 tons burden, and conducted a considerable trade. With the company Lord Stirling became acquainted consequent on being, in 1628 and previously, defender in an action raised against him by certain citizens of Lubeck, respecting a vessel belonging to them captured on the Scottish coast, and which had been assigned him as a prize by the Commissioners of Marine. Offering his services to the company, he obtained for them letters patent, and was named one of the twelve members of council.¹ At his suggestion the King issued in the interests of the company a proclamation restraining the killing, dressing, and eating flesh in Lent, or on fish days appointed by law.² But the company experienced an embarrassing opposition from the islanders and others, and their affairs did not prosper.

In the midst of his public avocations Lord Stirling found leisure for literary pursuits. Subsequent to the death of the poet Drayton, which took place on the 23d December 1631, he received from William Drummond of Hawthornden the following letter:—

"The death of M[ichael] Drayton, your great freind, hath bene very greuous to all those which loue the Muses heere; chiefly that hee should haue left this world before he had perfected the northern part of his Polyolbion: that it brake off that noble worke, of the northern part of the Polyolbion which had bene no litle honour to our country. All wee can doe to him is to honour his memorye. If your L[ordship] can get those fragments, remaines of his worke which concerne Scotland, wee shall endeauour to put them in this country to the presse, with a dedication, if it shall be thought expedient, to your L., with the best remembrances his loue to this country did deserue. Of all the good race of Poets who wrot in the tyme of Queen Elizabeth, your L. now alone remaines.

"Daniel, Syluester, King James, Done (Donne), and now Drayton, who, besides his loue and kindly obseruance of your L., hath made twice honourable mention in his Workes of your L., long since in his Odes, and latelie in Elegies, 1627 :

" So Scotland sent us hither for our owen
That man whose name I euer would haue knowen,
To stand by myne, that most ingenious Knight,
My ALEXANDER, to whom in his right
I want extreame lie; yet in speaking thus
I doe just show the loue that was twixt vs,
And not his numbers, that wer braue and hie,
So like his Mind was his cleare Poesie.'

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., vol. v., p. 239.

² Rymer's "Fœdera," 1626, vol. xviii., fol. 822.

“If the date of a Picture of his be just, he hath liued three score and eight yeeres, but shall liue by all likelihood so long as men speake English after his death. I, who neuer saw him, saue by his letters and poesie, scarce beleive hee is yet dead; and would fain misbelieve veritye, if it were possible.”

While nominally consulting Lord Stirling in reference to his metrical version of the Psalms, James VI. does not appear to have accepted his suggestions. At the King's death, versions of thirty-one Psalms only were found in his repositories, all of which were unsuited for congregational singing. This fact was suppressed, in the belief that a new version, put forth in the name of the deceased sovereign, might obtain ready acceptance. Accordingly, on the 25th August 1626, his Majesty informed Archbishop Spotswood of St. Andrews that “his deare father, of famous and eternall memorie,” had composed a new translation of the Psalms, and requested the Primate to nominate “some of the most learned divynes” to associate themselves with Sir William Alexander “to reuewing the meeter and poesie thairof.” By the Archbishop this letter passed without notice, and the matter remained in abeyance, till towards the close of 1627 appeared in print Lord Stirling's translation, while on the 28th December the author was by the Attorney-General allowed the sole right of publishing it in England for the period of twenty-one years under the title of “The Psalms of David, translated by King James.”

Requested to certify as to the suitableness for public worship of the new version, Archbishop Spotswood maintained silence. Nor did the English Primate or bench of Bishops recognise the new version by expressing a word. But Lord Stirling persevered. Before Midsummer 1631 his Psalm-Book was issued in the two forms of octavo and duodecimo from the press of William Turner, printer to the University of Oxford. On the title-page were inscribed these words of palpable fiction—“The Psalmes of King David, translated by King James,” while on the next page the King certified that “his late deare father was the actual author.” By a letter, issued on the 14th June 1631, Charles commanded the archbishops and bishops to allow the new version to be sung in schools as “a perpetual monument to his father's memorie.”

Contemporaneously with the publication of the Psalm-book, Lord Stirling obtained an office of emolument. He was constituted a Lord of Session, and in two days thereafter the Treasurer Depute was informed that the duties of the office must be fulfilled during his absence without any diminution of his emolument. During the same month the King's Advocate was instructed so to negotiate that Mr. Walter Neisch (Lord Stirling's nephew) might be forthwith admitted as usher of the Exchequer.¹

The death by the hands of an assassin of the Duke of Buckingham, which took place on the 23d August 1628, had removed the last obstacle to the secretary's ascendancy at Court. In a letter to the Earl of Menteith, President of the Privy Council, dated 1st September, he writes, “The Duke's death hath bred a greate change in this court, but, praised be God, I hope for the better.” And to the same correspondent he, in a private communication, addresses these words: “Be as careful for me at home as I am for you here, that I may be able, as I am affectionat, to

¹ Register, pp. 544, 546, 547.

serve your Lordship."¹ From this period steadily proceeded the advancement of his house. On the 7th November 1628 his second son, Anthony Alexander, who had studied architecture abroad, was conjoined with James Murray of Kilbaberton as Master of Works, and on the 9th January 1634 the partners were appointed royal surveyors with a salary of £12,000 Scots. Anthony was on the 3d July 1634 initiated in the rites of masonry in the Lodge of Mary's Chapel, and through this connection was chosen General Warden of "the Master Tradesmen of Scotland," an association for securing the rights and privileges of its members. He received one-half of the entrants' fees, and a portion of the penalties.² Against his appointment as Master of Works, a complaint had been lodged by Sir William Sinclair of Roslin, who asserted that the office tended to interfere with his privileges as Master Mason of Scotland. Though not wholly ignoring the Baron of Roslin's claim, Charles, in a missive dated 27th February 1635, requested the Commissioners of Exchequer to expedite Sir Anthony's appointment.

On Lord Stirling's recommendation the Scottish Privy Council petitioned the King to issue a small copper coin for the convenience of the people. Accordingly, his Majesty, on the 30th June 1631, gave commission to "Nicholas Briot,³ chief graver to the English Mint, to prepare dies and other instruments necessary for coining copper farthings, and to send them under direction of Viscount Stirling to the Mint at Edinburgh, and also to repair thither personally to establish and superintend the works." On the 10th July, Charles directed the Treasurer of Scotland to pay to Lord Stirling a royalty on the coinage. As no royalty was forthcoming, the King, on the 13th of December, informed the Privy Council that he had abandoned the project of issuing farthings, and commanded that coins of three different denominations should be struck in their stead. The result of this new arrangement will appear subsequently.

During the months of autumn Lord Stirling resided at Menstry. As commissioner to the Parliament, the Treasurer Depute was, on 28th July 1631, required to defray the expenses of his visit to Scotland during that year and the preceding. The King also gave command that his expenses in Scotland should be paid so long as he was engaged in the public service.

When, in 1631, Lord Stirling was raised to the dignity of Viscount, it became essential that, like others of his order, he should possess an heraldic escutcheon, and it was also of no inconsiderable importance that he should, as the recognised chief of his sept, bear supporters to his arms. Accordingly, some weeks before his patent of nobility was prepared, he invited to his residence at Menstry Archibald Alexander of Tarbert, the actual chief of Mac Alexander. On the 10th August 1631⁴ they were together elected burgesses of Stirling. Similar courtesies

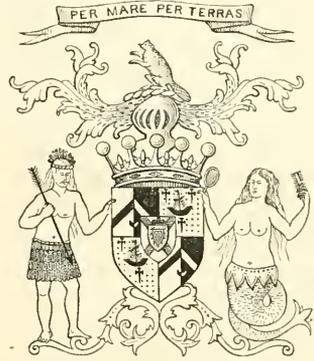
¹ Red Book of Menteith, by William Fraser, Edin., 1880; 2 vols. 4to, i. 314-15; ii. 92.

² History of the Lodge of Edinburgh, by D. Murray Lyon, Edin. 1873, 4to, pp. 79-87. Sir Anthony Alexander was in November 1635 knighted at Whitehall.

³ Briot was the most expert coin engraver of the period. Originally connected with the French Mint, he left it in 1628, and, repairing to England, was appointed to his important office. He was the first artist in Great Britain who exhibited a coin carved with letters upon the edge.

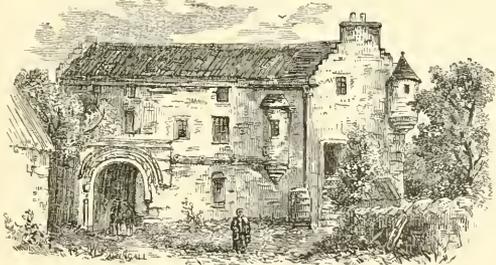
⁴ Stirling Burgh Records.

were by the new peer extended to his relatives at Edinburgh and Leith, also to the enterprising skippers, Robert and David Alexander, of Anstruther, who were in 1632 constituted members of the Fishery Board. Accepted as their chief by the members of his sept, both in the east and west, Sir James Balfour, Lyon King of Arms, was, in a royal letter dated at Newmarket 13th March 1632, instructed "to marshall his coate armour, allowing it to him quartered with the armes of clan Allaster, who bath acknowledged him for chief of their familie." This royal letter was accompanied with a draft of the proposed grant, while the Lyon King was charged to embody in the escutcheon the arms of New Scotland. The coat of arms is described thus:—"Alexander, Earle off Stirline, Lord Alexander of Cannada, &c., bairiyeth quarterlie: First, parted per pale arg. and sable, a chiveron with a croisant in bass counterchanged for his paternall coat. Secondlie, or, a lumfad raes in croce sable betuixt thrie croce croslet gules by the name of M[Alexander]; the thrid as the second; the fourt as the first. Over all ane Inscutcheon with the armes of Nova Scotia, viz., arg. a crose azur with the armes of Scotland; aboue the scheild his comital crownet; upon the same, his helme and mantle guls doubled ermine. For his creist, on a wreath arg. sable, a bever proper. For supporters a Savaidge and a Marnaid, combe in hand. His motto, *Per mare per terras.*"¹



A mansion befitting his rank was Lord Stirling's next project. He had already rebuilt or enlarged the family residence at Menstry, which, even as a ruin, presents a massive and not inelegant aspect. Inclosing a quadrangular court, it is entered by a handsome archway. Around are gardens and orchards, and the situation, at the base of the heath-clad Ochils, is romantic and beautiful. But Lord Stirling felt that, as a peer and the King's commissioner, he ought to possess a lordly dwelling, while his title suggested its erection in the town whence it was derived.

The designing of the new structure was entrusted to his son Anthony, who, in October 1632, was admitted a burghess of Stirling.² There he selected as a site for the contemplated mansion a spot immediately adjoining the decorated structure of Mar's Work and the entrance to the



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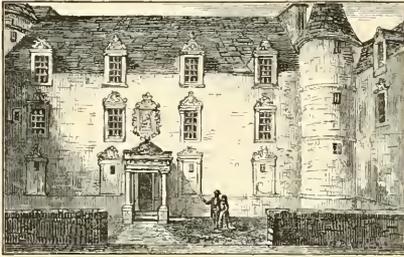
¹ MS. in Lyon Office.

² Stirling Burgh Records.

castle, where on every side the view is alike extensive and beautiful. North-west the horizon is bounded by the crests of the gigantic Grampians. To the north-east are the massive Ochils, guarding a plain diversified with crags, sylvan-clad mansions, and the winding Forth. To the south are the picturesque battlefields of Falkirk and Bannockburn, the latter indelibly associated with the national liberties. On the south-west are the verdant slopes of the Touch and Lennox Hills.

On a site so favoured Anthony Alexander had abundant scope for the exercise of his skill.

He proved equal to his task by designing an edifice of graceful and elegant proportions. A square structure, with two projecting wings, the back and front display a series of dormer windows, with a profuse distribution of semi-classic mouldings. The baron's hall, occupying a portion of the second floor, is a lofty apartment, panelled with oak, and provided with an elegantly sculptured chimney-piece richly gilt. The staircase exhibits a massive balustrade of carved oak. In the centre of the front wall, over



the entrance porch, an elegant sculpture, also entire, represents the owner's arms.

As the building of the mansion was proceeded with, money was urgently required. Lord Stirling lost no opportunity in securing it. On the 19th July 1632 the King instructed his Attorney-General to prepare a warrant re-granting to Lord Stirling the power of preserving a register of natives of Scotland resident in India, with authority to charge the duty of one shilling per pound on the moveable estate of all who there died. His Lordship obtained other grants. Anne Nasmyth, daughter of the late John Nasmyth, chirurgeon to the late King, being on the eve of her marriage, was, as an heiress, bound to pay into the Exchequer certain dues of "ward, nonentrie, and marriage." These by a royal warrant were, on the 12th October 1632, transferred to Lord Stirling. Francis, second Earl of Buccleuch, was a minor. In December 1633 Lord Stirling obtained a grant of his feudal wardship. On the 27th February 1635, the King, "with a princely respect . . . and care for the good and religious breiding" of the young Earl, desired Archbishop Spotswood to associate with Lord Stirling in his guardianship "aney tuo of the Earl's most special freinds and kinsmen."

Though the New Scotland scheme was still advocated both by Lord Stirling and his eldest son, baronetcies in connection with the enterprise ceased to be in demand. Lord Stirling now suggested that the area of honour should be extended. Accordingly, on the 24th April 1633, was published a royal letter, in which the Commissioners for the Plantation of New Scotland were informed that loyal subjects in England and Ireland might obtain baronetcies in connection with the colony without extra fees. The King also assured the Commissioners that,

notwithstanding his arrangement with the French king, he had not abandoned possession of New Scotland, but would carry on the plantation "by completing of the intendit number of Knight Barronetts, as other wayes."

Both in Scotland and Ireland the new movement was unpopular. The Irish Court of Chancery was moved to deprive Lord Stirling of his lands in Ulster, under the plea that he had not fulfilled the conditions of his grant by planting his lands with Scottish or English settlers;¹ while an Irishman who was created a baronet was, by the authorities in Scotland, subjected to insult. This was Peirs Corsbie, a member of the Irish Privy Council, whose patent was stopped by the Chancellor of Scotland, on account of his being an associate of Lord Ochiltree, who, for falsely accusing the Marquis of Hamilton of high treason, had forfeited his patent and been subjected to imprisonment. Subsequently Corsbie received his patent through a royal order, while in March 1633 he was promised the royal protection.²

When, on the 14th June 1633, Charles was crowned at Holyrood, Lord Stirling was advanced to the dignity of an Earl, with the additional title of Viscount Canada. In his former patent he had been careful in the limitation to provide that the peerage might, in the lapse of heirs-male of his body, yet continue to be enjoyed by his race. The Viscountship was granted "sibi et heredibus suis masculis cognomen et arma de Alexander gerentibus." In the patent for the Earldom, the succession was equally extended, the words of limitation being "sibi suisque heredibus masculis in perpetuum."³ His elevation to the peerage was by the poet William Habington commemorated thus:—

"The Laurell doth your reverend temples wreath
As aptly now, as when your youth did breath
Those tragicke raptures, which your name shall save
From the black edict of a tyrant grave.
Nor shall your day ere set, till the sunne shall
From the blind Heavens like a cinder fall;
And all the elements intend their strife,
To mine what they fram'd; then your fame's life,
When desp'rate time lies gasping, shall expire,
Attended by the world, i' th' general fire.
Fame lengthens thus her selfe; and I, to tread
Your steps to glory, search among the dead,
Where vertue lies obscur'd, that as I give
Life to her tombe, I, spight of time, may live.
Now I resolve, in triumph of my verse,
To bring great Talbot from that forren ' hearse,

¹ The Court held that "Henry Duff O'Connellan, a mere Irishman, hath inhabited upon one quarter of the town of Mullaliglishe, granted to Sir William Alexander, Knt., by letters patent, said quarter being undertaker's land, and contrary to the conditions" (Inquisitionum Cancellarie Hibernie Repertorium, 1633).

² Register, p. 654.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. liii. 135; liv. 135.

⁴ John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, was killed at the battle of Bordeaux, and buried at Rouen.

“ Which yet doth to her fright his dust enclose ;
 Then to sing Herbert,¹ who so glorious rose
 With the fourth Edward, that his faith doth shine
 Yet in the faith of noblest Pembroke's line.
 Sometimes my swelling spirits I prepare
 To speak the mighty Percy, neerest heire
 In merits as in blood, to Charles the great ;
 Then Darbie's worth and greatness to repeat,
 Or Morley's honour, or Monteagle's fame,
 Whose valour lives eternized in his name ;
 But while I think to sing these of my blood,
 And my Castara's, Love's unruly flood
 Breaks in, and beares away whatever standes
 Built by my busie Fancy on the sands.”²

The Earl added to the family estate. On the 12th July 1634 he received, under the Great Seal, a charter of the lands of Tillicoultry, “including the lands of Balhart, Drumny, Schanniet, Cosnachtane, Columsdanache, with the mill of Cairntown, and others,” which formerly belonged to James, Lord Colville of Culross—the whole lands, with the town of Tillicoultry, being erected into a burgh of barony, to be held of the King on the annual payment of £55 Scots.³

By a royal letter, dated 18th October 1633, the Privy Council were enjoined to satisfy Lord Stirling and his “creditors” as to his claims on “the copper money.” As this grant of the coinage yielded no substantial profit, appeals were fruitless. But Lord Stirling, whose affairs were becoming desperate, determined not to abandon his efforts to profit by the undertaking. Obtaining for John Alexander, his fourth son, the office of General of the Mint, he recalled the copper farthing, and issued in its place a coin of the same weight, which was made to pass as of the value of two farthings. The new coins were called *turners*, probably from the French *Tournois*, signifying the tenth of a penny sterling. The *turner* was obnoxious to the common people.



As the coinage now yielded a substantial profit, Lord Stirling proposed to acquire further benefit by mining and smelting the ore. The Earl of Melrose being induced to resign the office of Master of Metals, John Alexander was, on the 20th August 1635, appointed his successor.⁴ About the same time Lord Stirling's third son was elected agent at court for the Convention of Burghs. The appointment was granted in recognition of service which the members for Glasgow felt had by the Earl been rendered to their university. For in 1617 he had by his influence at court secured to Glasgow College payment of a legacy of £6000 Scots, bequeathed to it by Michael Wilson, a Scottish schoolmaster resident in England, an act on account of which he was already celebrated by a public inscription.⁵

¹ William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, a firm adherent of the House of York.

² Habington's "Castara," 1634, 8vo, p. 233.

⁴ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. iv. ; Paper Register, p. 260.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig., lib. liv., No. 68.

⁵ History of Glasgow, 1873, 8vo, p. 622.

On the 11th May 1633, Lord Stirling's eldest son obtained a royal patent granting him the right of trading in wool and skins in all countries adjacent to the River and Gulf of Canada, for a period of thirty-one years, and on the 28th day of the following June his own privileges in relation to New Scotland were confirmed by Parliament.¹ As there was only a remote hope of his being refunded his colonial expenditure, for which he had obtained a warrant for £10,000, he sought to secure further possessions in Transatlantic regions. At his instance a royal letter was, on the 5th January 1635, addressed to Sir Ferdinand Gorges, of the Council of New England, requesting his attendance at court, that there he might afford counsel respecting colonial affairs.² On the 29th day of the same month, the Commissioners for Plantations, including Sir Ferdinand, met at London, when the Earl of Stirling and Lord Alexander were admitted councillors and patentees of the New England Company. After certain negotiations, the Council of New England granted to Lord Alexander "that part of the mainland in New England, from St. Croix, adjoining New Scotland, along the sea coast to Pemaquid, and so up the river to the Keuebeck, to be henceforth called the county of Canada; also the Island of Matowack or Long Island, to the west of Cape Cod, to be hereafter called the Isle of Stirling, to be holden of the Council and their successors *per gladium comitatus*,—that is, by finding four able men, armed for war, to attend upon the Governor of New England for the public service, within fourteen days after warning given."

On the 25th April 1635, the Council of New England, having met at Whitehall, prepared a declaration for the surrender of their great charter. This document, which set forth "the frequent troubles and great charges" to which they had been subjected, was, on the 1st May, presented to the King by Edward, Lord Gorges, as President of the Council. Instead of the charter, the Council desired personal grants of the lands, laid out in eight divisions on the sea coast of New England, to be held immediately from the Crown. The request was complied with, Lord Stirling appointing an agent to watch his interest in the new territories.³

Within his mansion at Menstry, Lord Stirling had varied his occupation as a statesman by indulging his literary tastes. In a strain singularly inflated, he composed an essay, which he styled "Anacrisis, or a censure of some Poets, ancient and modern;" this he transmitted to his friend William Drummond of Hawthornden, an act of courtesy which led to a renewal of their correspondence.⁴

In the autumn of 1635 he entered his new residence at Stirling. On the front wall he had prominently displayed his armorial escutcheon, an act of vanity obnoxious to the Lyon King of Arms, Sir James Balfour, who had viewed his elevation with distaste. Along with his coat of arms, appeared on the wall his selected motto, "Per mare per terras," but one morning he awakened to find that some one had obscured his shield, by extending over it a piece of soiled calico, bearing the words "Per metre per turners," in sarcastic allusion to his coinage and his Psalms. But the Earl might not thus be overborne. Evincing no resentment, he inaugurated his

¹ Acta Parl. Scot., V., 43.

² Register, p. 813.

³ Calendar of Colonial State Papers, *passim*.

⁴ Works of William Drummond of Hawthornden, Edin. 1711. Familiar Epistles, No. 18.

new abode by therein composing the first portion of an heroic poem, which he entitled "Jonathan." Subsequently he revised his former poems, reproducing them, except the "Aurora," in an elegant folio, under the title of "Recreations with the Muses." This work was in 1637 issued from the press of Thomas Harper. To a few copies intended for presentation he prefixed his portrait engraved by Marshall.

Notwithstanding the coldness of the bishops and clergy, the Psalm-book scheme was vigorously prosecuted. On the 13th March 1632 the Archbishop of Canterbury was requested, by royal letter, "to convene the Bishop of London, and such other bishops neir London,"¹ in order that the Psalm-book might be received and sung in all the churches. Royal letters of like import were addressed to the Archbishop of St. Andrews and the Archbishop of Armagh, enjoining them to adopt a similar course in Scotland and Ireland. As the Archbishop of Canterbury remained silent, the English clergy were, in a royal letter dated the 6th July, individually enjoined to recommend the new version to one another. Like the English Primate, the Archbishops of St. Andrews and Armagh made no response. In Ireland further effort was useless; but Lord Stirling reasoned that as the Scottish Church was divided on the question of Episcopacy and Presbytery, he might secure towards his Psalm-book the adhesion of the one party or the other. The bishops were irreconcilably opposed. Copies of the Psalm-book, deposited with the Archbishop of St. Andrews, were unsought after; and no member of the Episcopal order, even on the royal command, would express an approval.

Copies of the work were sent to Presbyteries. By these courts the version was considered, and in reports to the Provincial Synods emphatically condemned.* The General Assembly adopted "Reasons against the use of the new Metaphrase." Among these "Reasons" it is set forth that the translation had been undertaken without the sanction of the Church; that the people were satisfied with the version in use; that a courtier was not specially qualified as a Psalm writer; and that the new version contained doubtful doctrine and objectionable phrases.²

Lord Stirling refused to yield. By a royal letter issued in December 1634, the Privy Council were enjoined "to give present ordour in such maner as is requisit that no other Psalmes of any edition whatsoever be ather printed heirefter within that our kingdome, or imported thither, either bound by themselfs or otherwayes, from any forrayne port." At the same time the Archbishop of St. Andrews was charged to take heed "that no Psalmes bookes in meeter of the old translation be printed or brought in, vnder pane of confiscation of the books and punishment of ther persones."³

A member of the Church of England, and an upholder of Scottish Episcopacy, Lord Stirling now turned from the bishops to the Presbyterian clergy, in the hope of conciliating their support. Immediately following the royal letters of December, he evinced his religious zeal by constituting a new parish. In a royal letter dated 5th January 1635, the Commissioners of Tithes were empowered to erect his lands as the parish of Tullibody.⁴ In his version, the General Assembly

¹ Register, p. 581.

² "Reasons against the reception of King James's Metaphrase of the Psalmes." Miscellany of the Bannatyne Club.

³ Register, p. 815.

⁴ Register, p. 819.

had pointed to some expressions more adapted for secular than sacred verse, as where the moon was styled "pale lady of the night," and the sun was apostrophised as "the lord of light." From a new edition Lord Stirling eliminated the objectionable phrases. But the Presbyterian clergy were not to be conciliated either by improvements in the patent version of the Psalms, or by any friendly professions of the author. To them Lord Stirling appeared as a politician who, without any real sense of religion, sought only his personal aggrandisement.¹

Archbishop Laud was now occupied in preparing his Service-book for the Scottish Church, and by his correspondent, the Bishop of Ross,² he was assured that Lord Stirling would much facilitate its introduction, provided an effort was put forth on behalf of his Psalm-book. To this book Laud had, as Primate of the English Church, refused his sanction, but he was now disposed to concede an approval of it in connection with the sister establishment. With a view to its introduction simultaneously with the Service-book, he supplied Lord Stirling with the printed sheets of that work, that it might be produced in a like form and type. Lord Stirling's new edition, a small folio, printed in black letter, was ready early in 1636, the Psalms being accompanied with musical notation. To suit northern prejudices, Laud entrusted his Service-book to Robert Young, the King's printer at Edinburgh, who undertook to have it ready in autumn. A royal letter was issued on the 18th of October, in which the Scottish Privy Council were enjoined to make proclamation that, under heavy penalties, the Service-book should be used in every parish church. The Council so proclaimed on the 20th December, but the book was not yet ready. In truth, Young hesitated to issue a work which might bring him into popular aversion. Deeply offended, Lord Stirling, in a letter to the Bishop of Ross, styles him "the greatest knave he had ever dealt with." Young was at length won over, and the Service-book, printed from a new fount of black letter, was in the following May issued from his printing-office.³

After sanctioning the issue of Lord Stirling's Psalms as a twin volume to the Service-book, Archbishop Laud, led to apprehend that its recognition would intensify the popular dislike, sought to recede from his promise. At length it was arranged, through the Bishop of Ross, that copies of the Service-book should be offered both with Lord Stirling's Psalms and apart. On the clergy the purchase of the Service-book only was made compulsory, the price being £4: 16s. Scottish money.

¹ When, in 1632, Mr. Robert Blair, the eminent Presbyterian divine, arrived in London to plead the cause of the Irish Presbyterians, he waited on Lord Stirling, who promised to lay the memorial before the King. "But the Earl," reported Mr. Blair, "fearing Bishop Laud more than God, did faint and break his promise."—Reid's *Irish Presbyterian Church*, i., 40.

² John Maxwell, Bishop of Ross, was ordained minister of Mortlach in 1615, and in 1622 was transferred to one of the churches of Edinburgh. Through the influence of his co-kin, James Maxwell, afterwards Earl of Dirleton, he was in 1633 appointed Bishop of Ross. He became intimate with Laud, through whose recommendation he was appointed a Privy Councillor and an Extraordinary Lord of Session. He was ultimately promoted as Archbishop of Tuam; he died 14th February 1646, about the age of fifty-five.—*Fasti Eccl. Scot.*, iii. 453.

³ The work appeared under the following title:—"The Booke of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments, and other parts of divine service, for the use of the Church of Scotland. Edinburgh: Printed by Robert Young, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, MDCXXXVII. *Cum privilegio.*" A unique copy, bound up with Lord Stirling's version of the Psalms, is preserved in the Library of the British Museum.

According to royal order, the Service-book was, as a commencement, to be used in the churches of Edinburgh on Sunday, the 23d of July. On the morning of that day an eager and anxious crowd thronged the Cathedral of St. Giles. Archbishop Spotswood occupied the throne, Bishop Lindsay of Edinburgh sat in the pulpit, and Dean James Hannay¹ presided at the reading-desk. As the last commenced to read the Service-book, murmurs of disapprobation became audible. A female who sat near the communion table took up a folding-stool on which she sat, and threw it violently against the desk. General confusion ensued, and the bishops, unable to restore order, left the church. The country was aroused, and petitions against the Service-book were forwarded to the King from every populous centre. Then followed "the Tables," or Committees, which met at Edinburgh. On the 1st of March 1638 the National Covenant was renewed in the Greyfriars' Church. Fearing to meet at Edinburgh, the Privy Council assembled at Stirling, and issued proclamations, which were met by rejoinders and protests.

The King determined on revenge, but ere he could assemble an army, the Covenanters were so powerful that it became expedient to treat with them. In May 1638 the Marquis of Hamilton came to Scotland as royal commissioner. No ordinary concessions would now satisfy a people goaded by oppression. They demanded that Parliament and the General Assembly might be allowed to meet, and that meanwhile innovations should cease. These concessions were made. On the 22d September a royal proclamation recalled the Service-book, suspended the oppressive Court of High Commission, convened a Parliament, and convoked an Assembly. The Assembly, meeting at Glasgow in November, condemned the Service-book and deposed the bishops. Lord Stirling's Psalm-book was ignored; the late attempt to introduce it had failed.

Lord Stirling experienced severe family affliction. Sir Anthony Alexander, his second son, died at London on the 17th September 1637, and his eldest son, Lord Alexander, died of fever on the 18th May 1638.² By Drummond of Hawthornden, Sir Anthony was celebrated in an elegiac poem. Respecting Lord Alexander, Principal Robert Baillie, the celebrated Presbyterian divine, thus communicated with his correspondent, Mr. William Spang, minister at Campvere:—"With the President³ came word of my L. Alexander's death. I have into itt a losse of a near

¹ Son of a burghess of the Canongate, Mr. James Hannay was, after some years ministering at Kilmaurs, in Ayrshire, translated to the church of Holyroodhouse, as incumbent of his native parish. In the Register we find that Charles I. was constantly pleading on his behalf. In 1628 the King requested that Hannay should be provided with a manse and glebe, and that his church be repaired; in 1629 that two old cannons in the Castle might be converted into a bell for use in his parish; in 1630 that his stipend be increased, and in 1633 that new bells for his church be brought from London. In 1634 he was appointed a member of the High Commission Court, and in 1635 was promoted minister of the High Church and Dean of Edinburgh. The favour which he received at the hands of a despotic sovereign did not recommend him to the citizens among whom he had passed his youth. The stool which, on the 23d July 1637, was thrown in St. Giles' Church, was not improbably intended for the Dean, less on account of what he read, than to punish him for his sycophancy and time-serving. It is doubtful whether the brass tablet lately placed in St. Giles' Cathedral, inscribed with his name, is really due to his merits.

² These dates we obtain from entries, in the handwriting of Sir James Balfour, on a blank page of one of the three volumes of Lord Stirling's "Register."

³ Sir Robert Spotswood, son of the Archbishop, and President of the College of Justice.

coosin and familiar friend. The King did professe his losse of a servant of great hopes. Ye knowe, beside the galantries of his persone, he was both wise, learned, and verie well spoken: The Countrey makes not much doole for him, for they took him for ane advancer of the episcopall causes to his power. It feares me his death will undo that ryesing House; their debts are great. His father is old, and extreamey hated of all the countrey for his alledged bribery, urging of the Psalmes and the Books [Service-Books] for them [*i.e.*, on account of the Psalmes], overwhelming us with his black money. His sounne [the son of Lord Alexander] is but ane infant; his brother Sir Antonie and Robert also are dead: Henrie will not be able yet for his place: ¹ and if he should, what he can gaine must be for himself, and not the House. Many who intended his Father's overthrow were witholden for respect to him. In a three or four dayes feaver, beside all men's expectation, he expired." ²

Principal Baillie augged correctly. Lord Alexander died insolvent, leaving his young widow, a daughter of the Marquis of Douglas, altogether unprovided for, also an infant son. He was spared the pain of contemplating the troubles which now fell upon his house. Parliament, which met in August 1639, enacted that patents of honour should be granted to those only who drew rents in Scotland equal to 10,000 merks annually, that the value of money should not be enhanced without their express sanction, and that the copper coin issued by the Earl of Stirling should be reduced to its true value. These enactments were rejected by the King, but the Privy Council proceeded, on the authority of Parliament, to "call down" Lord Stirling's coins by open proclamation. An attempt made to arrest the Parliamentary enactment was inefficacious, and Lord Stirling's *turners* soon disappeared from the circulation. ³

As the means whereby they might expect a settlement of their claims had positively ceased, Lord Stirling's creditors became clamorous. Overwhelmed by his embarrassments, which could not possibly be discharged, he betook himself to his sick-chamber. Of his last illness we have no account, further than that, writing from Holyrood House on the 27th January 1640, the Earl of Traquair, the King's commissioner, remarks that "the secretary was very sick, and not like to live." ⁴ He died at his residence, Covent Garden, on the 12th February 1640. ⁵ His personal character presents a twofold aspect. As a poet and a private individual, he was admired and loved. Sir Robert Aytoun has celebrated him in an approving sonnet. In Latin verse he is lauded by the poets John Dunbar, Arthur Johnston, and Andrew Ramsay. Daniel in his "Philotas," Davies of Hereford in his "Scourge of Folly," Hayman in his "Quodlibets," Habington in his "Castara," and Lithgow in his "Pilgrim's Farewell," have severally commended him. Drayton names him with affection, and Drummond of Hawthornden esteemed and honoured him. As a politician, he might have acquired distinction, but he sacrificed his fame by striving to maintain a rank which he was unwise to covet, and which by the most indiscreet of princes was foolishly bestowed. That his intentions respecting the colonisation of New

¹ Lord Alexander held office as an Extraordinary Lord of Session. Henry Alexander, Lord Stirling's third son, became third Earl.

² Baillie's Letters, vol. i., pp. 76, 77.

³ Spalding's Memorials, i. 235.

⁴ Domestic State Papers, 1639-40, p. 383.

⁵ Crawford's Peerage, p. 413.

Scotland were abundantly sincere, may not be questioned; but losses in connection with the undertaking involved him in difficulties, to escape from which he had recourse to expedients which, if not wholly unwarranted, cannot be approved. By his ingenious contemporary, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty,¹ his public character has been pungently, but not unfaithfully portrayed. Sir Thomas writes:—"The purity of his vein was quite spoiled by the corruptness of his courtiership; and so much the greater pity, for by all appearance, had he been contented with that mediocrity of fortune he was born unto, and not aspired to those grandeurs of the court, which could not without pride be prosecuted, nor maintained without covetousness, he might have made a far better account of himself. It did not satisfy his ambition to have a laurel from the muses, and be esteemed a king amongst poets, but he must be king of some new-found-land; and, like another Alexander indeed, searching after new worlds, have the sovereignty of Nova Scotia. He was born a poet, and aimed to be a king; therefore would he have his royal title from King James, who was born a king and aimed to be a poet."

Notwithstanding his embarrassments, Lord Stirling was allowed a funeral befitting his rank. His body was embalmed, and being placed in a leaden coffin, was conveyed by sea to Stirling, where on the 12th April it was deposited in the family vault.² To that vault belongs a special history. When he became a peer, Lord Stirling proceeded to secure an appropriate place of sepulture. The most conspicuous sepulchral enclosure at Stirling consisted of an adjunct to the south wall of the High Church, known as *Bowie's aisle*. Resigned by Thomas Craigengelt of that ilk to the governors of the burgh hospital, it was, on the 26th February 1618, granted to Lord Stirling, the gift being confirmed by the kirksession on the 4th October 1631, and again on the 4th September 1632.³ Under the superintendence of Sir Anthony Alexander, the aisle was partially rebuilt, the upper portion being adapted as a family seat or gallery in the adjacent church, and the lower portion converted as a burial vault. Into this vault Lord Stirling transferred the remains of Sir William and Lady Erskine, his wife's parents, along with a mural tablet, which by a Latin inscription he had dedicated to their memory.

In the vault he also deposited the embalmed remains of his sons, Sir Anthony and William, Lord Alexander. After his death the aisle was, with his other property in the burgh, exposed for sale. Acquired by "the Masters of the Laigh Hospital," it was by them conveyed to Archibald, eighth Earl of Argyle, who also became owner of Lord Stirling's mansion in the vicinity. By the Argyle family the Earl of Stirling's burial vault was undisturbed.⁴ In 1764, John, fourth Duke of Argyle, sold Lord Stirling's mansion and church aisle to James Wright, a local law agent. Thereafter, in the course of certain alterations on the High Church, the aisle was taken down, but in order to preserve a right of sepulture near the spot, the purchaser caused the tablet commemorating Sir William Erskine to be removed at night to

¹ "Tracts of the learned and celebrated antiquarian, Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty." Edinburgh, 1774, 12mo.

² Balfour's Annals, ii., p. 427.

³ Stirling Kirksession Records.

⁴ In the *London Chronicle* of the 17th October 1776, a local writer, subscribing "A Genealogist," certifies that the embalmed remains of the first Earl remained in the vault for the period of a century.

an enclosure adjoining the church, some yards to the westward; and this was, half a century later, successfully claimed as his family burial-place. On the repair of the church Lord Stirling's ashes were scattered, and his family honours, since the death of Henry, the fifth Earl, in 1739, have been in abeyance; for the claim by Major William Alexander of New Jersey to the earldom in 1762 was rejected by the House of Lords, and a later claim by Alexander Humphrys rested solely upon forged documents.¹ By espousing the daughter of a wealthy jeweller, Henry, the third Earl, acquired considerable substance, which, through the female line, has descended to the Marquis of Downshire. Should an heir-male of the house obtain legal service, the sum of £10,000, allowed to the first Earl on renouncing his possessions in New Scotland, might yet be recovered. It was held by the Lord Chamberlain in March 1661 that the debt to the Earl's family had not lapsed.² A large part of New England, which in 1635 was granted to the Earl by the Plymouth Company, was in 1664 bestowed by Charles II. on his brother, the Duke of York; the Duke granting, as compensation to the fourth Earl of Stirling, a pension of £300 a year, out of the net profits of the revenue of New York, "when a surplusage should ensue." By William III., in August 1689, the Earl's pension was confirmed.³

Lord Stirling's Register embraces transcripts of letters, warrants, and other state documents issued under the sanction of James VI. and Charles I. The first entry is dated the 21st of January 1615, and during the same year there are a considerable number of entries; only a few in 1616, and no others till 1625, when a letter is inserted under date 4th February 1625, but which, as it bears to have been issued by Charles in the first year of his reign, must actually have been written subsequent to the 27th March of that year, when he succeeded to the throne. Substantially the Register begins on the 26th January 1626, and extends from that date to the close of the year 1635. All the letters, apart from occasional memoranda or postscripts described as having been written in the King's own hand, were composed by Lord Stirling. In the Register we obtain a better insight, both into the character of the sovereign and of his adviser, than from any other source.

Charles espoused by proxy, forty-five days after his accession, Henrietta Maria, daughter of Henry IV. of France. The event excited no inconsiderable alarm, since the Queen being of the Roman Catholic faith, it was feared that personal freedom and religious liberty might be endangered. Nor was the apprehension wholly without warrant, for Charles had resolved to rule without a Parliament, also apart from every counsellor who might question his right to

¹ Memorials of the Earl of Stirling, ii., 210-242.

² *Ibid.*, i., 238-41.

³ For a narrative considerably exhaustive of Lord Stirling's negotiations from first to last respecting the colonisation of Nova Scotia, we have pleasure in referring to a very carefully edited compilation entitled "Royal Letters, Charters, and Tracts relating to the Colonization of New Scotland, and the Institution of the Order of Knights Baronets of Nova Scotia, 1621-1638." This important quarto, edited for the Bannatyne Club by the late Dr. David Laing, embraces a roll of the Nova Scottish Baronets from the 28th May 1624, to the 17th December 1638; the charters of lands in Nova Scotia granted to Sir William Alexander and Sir Robert Gordon of Lochinvar; also the following tracts:—"A Brief Discourse of the New Found Land," by Captain John Mason, Edinburgh, 1620; "Nova Scotia: the King's Patent to Sir William Alexander for the Plantation of New Scotland in America, and his Proceedings therein," Lond. 1625; "An Encouragement to Colonies," by Sir William Alexander, London, 1624; "Encouragement for such as shall have intention to be undertakers in the New Plantation of Cape-Briton, now New Galloway, in America, by [Sir Robert Gordon of] Lochinvar, Edinburgh, 1625."

govern arbitrarily. In Scotland his first manifesto was in November 1625—seven months subsequent to his accession—addressed to the barons, landowners, and titulars of tithes; in this he revoked all grants of church lands by the Crown, including those which by the Annexation Act of 1587 had been absolutely secured. What the Crown had granted, he held, the Crown might resume; hence he proposed to appropriate the church lands and tithes, also to deprive the holders of hereditary offices of the honours which they had inherited from their ancestors. The consternation of those who had largely profited by the settlement of the Church lands in the late reign was attended by a commotion which threatened a revolt. Conscious of the emergency, Sir William Alexander sought to allay the general disquietude. In a lengthy missive, dated 26th January 1626, addressed to the Privy Council, but really intended as a proclamation to be intimated at every market cross, Charles, under Sir William's advice, sets forth "his princelie care for the advancement of religion and justice," in evidence of which he had "given orders for the banishing of Priests and Jesuits, and putting the laws into execution against all those that are popishlie disposed." He then proceeds that by the proposed annexation he intended to strengthen the Protestant cause, propagate the Gospel, comfortably provide for the clergy, maintain colleges and schools, and endow hospitals for the poor. Never, he adds, would any be deprived of their possessions, since all would "have their own teind—that is, tithes—upon reasonable conditions." Formerly the question of teinds had caused strife and bloodshed; but now, as all would become directly dependent on the regal benevolence, peace would ensue. Besides, revocation was no new proposal; the late King had revoked certain grants of Queen Mary, and Mary had recalled what James V. had bestowed "to the hurt of the Crown." Further, proceeds the manifesto, what was to be revoked had been granted by regents during the late King's minority; nor would the revocation prove injurious, since Commissioners for settling grievances had been graciously appointed. Referring to this letter, Charles on the 2d July renewed to the Privy Council his assurances of honourable intention and princely benevolence. As his "beloved cousins and counsellors," the members were warned against "sinistrous constructions," and affectionately entreated to forbear "preposterous fears." For, he added, he would plant securely the Church, relieve "the gentry" of the trouble which teinds and heritable offices had brought upon them, and cause those who complained or doubted to blush for their mistrust and be ashamed of their groundless fears.

Meanwhile Charles determined to fortify his authority. The attempt to provide a naval armament, which might abet arbitrary government, had already been resisted by Parliament on the plea of "the known povertie of the country." But Charles, who largely calculated on the support of a fleet, recalled the expression of his desire to recruit 2000 men for the defence of the coast. On the 15th January 1627 we find him maintaining, as hereditary High Admiral, the infant son of Esmè, third Duke of Lennox, the duties being assigned to the Earl of Linlithgow, the niece of whose second wife was to become the Scottish Secretary's daughter-in-law.

Among the pledges of the 26th of January was a promise that justice would be impartially exercised. A change was devised, but that only in the interests of the throne. On the

same day on which the reform was notified to the Council, a letter was addressed to "the five Officers of State," calling upon them, under menace, to vacate their places in the Session, as being void on the late King's death. The surrender required from the Officers of State was also demanded from the Judges. The President of the Court and six Lords Ordinary were displaced, the other eight Judges being allowed to continue on accepting new commissions, and acknowledging that they held office during the will of the sovereign. What was included in this arrangement, Charles indicated not long afterwards. Mr. Walter Alexander, a near relative of the Secretary, who held office in the King's household, was in the Court of Session defender in an action; hence, on the 11th October, Charles requested the Court to make a "final and speedy end in the business." Various instructions which he addressed to the President on the 10th November included an injunction that "nothing be enacted in the Session . . . against our good." Of the President was made, on behalf of Robert Alexander, another of the Secretary's relatives, the special request that the Court should "tak notice" of an action which was raised against him by the Earl of Mar.¹ During the same month the King enjoined "the Session" not to "meddle" in a matter which concerned the Earl of Murray, and requested that "his trusty and well-beloved John Stewart," in a suit concerning his benefice of Coldingham, might have "lawfull favour." On the 8th January 1627 he reminded the judges that both he and "his late dear father" had requested that they should so provide that the Marquis of Hamilton and the Earls of Angus, Nithsdale, and Annandale were sufficiently secured from any harm consequent on an action depending in the Court. On the 3d March 1632 Charles commanded the judges to suspend till a specified period a process which was depending before them against Lord Stirling by certain citizens of Lubeck.

Having on the part of the supreme tribunal secured obedience, Charles next made a strong effort to render provincial judges amenable to his control. Heretofore these had derived their appointments from hereditary sheriffs and the feudal barons; and, according to feudal law, their judgments might not be questioned unless on appeal legally prosecuted. Finding that his proclamation of November in regard to hereditary offices was ineffectual, Charles, in a letter addressed to the Archbishop of St. Andrews, on the 16th October 1626, stated that he had empowered "diverse persones" for devising and granting compensation to such holders of "heretable offices" as would surrender them before the 1st of January.

Among those appointed to negotiate with heritable office-holders was Sir William Alexander. And as when the commission to any new office passed under the seals of his secretarial office, he became entitled to a fee, he conceived that money might not unlawfully be exacted in connection with surrenders. He was intimate with Hugh Wallace of Craigie, an Ayrshire landowner, who, being in embarrassed circumstances, was willing to renounce his office as heritable bailie of Kyle. The office neither brought emolument nor conferred privileges of which the surrender might imply any considerable recompense. But Sir William Alexander made promise that as the surrender

¹ As Lord Mar was Treasurer of the kingdom, and Robert Alexander was resident at Leith, it is evident that the action had some relation to the payment of import duties.

was first in order, it would be met with an ample monetary return. As a preparatory step, he explained that personally he must be secured in a certain bounty. So on the 20th of May 1626 he accepted from his friend¹ a bond for 3000 merks, with a further sum of £300 as an allowance for costs. All being clear, the Royal Commissioners, at a meeting at Whitehall, held three days later, had submitted to them a proposal that the Laird of Craigie should, in acknowledgment of his surrender, be paid 4000 merks yearly from the customs. That sum the Commissioners deemed excessive, but they were willing that the King be recommended to grant "twentie thowsand pundis scotts" in one payment. This amount the Commissioners held should be granted to the Laird, "less as pryce for his office than as a gift," in consideration that among his predecessors was "ane William Wallace, for his singular valour in defence of the kingdom so deservedly renoued." The patriotic suggestion no doubt emanated from the Secretary. Further proceedings are detailed in the Register. What the Commissioners recommended was fully sanctioned; but withal the Secretary did not venture to order payment of the entire grant. In a royal letter dated the 2d June it was restricted to £10,000, which the Earl of Mar, as Treasurer, was commanded to discharge. Hugh Wallace, in the autumn of 1629, proceeded to London, and on the 17th November the King, at the Secretary's instance, instructed the Commissioners of Exchequer to pay him the full amount voted, while, nine days later, the Secretary accepted from him a further bond for 3000 merks, with an additional sum as expenses. On the 8th December the Commissioners of Exchequer were strongly requested to make payment in consideration of the services of the Laird's illustrious ancestor, and inasmuch that he was "burdened with debt." There was no response, and when Lord Stirling's own affairs had in 1631 become considerably involved, he, in order to provide security for his debts, registered Wallace's bonds. Royal letters were addressed to the officers of the Exchequer in May and November 1634, pleading on the Laird's behalf. He was dubbed a knight, but got nothing more. When Lord Stirling's affairs became desperate, Sir Hugh Wallace's bonds were appropriated by his creditors.²

It was one of the King's pleas for revocation that he had intended better to endow the Scottish Church. In a letter to the Privy Council, dated 8th February 1627, he refers to "the great encrease of Papists," and to "the insolencie of their carriage;" and while notifying his desire "rather to winne their soulls than ruyn ther estates," he intimates that all who accepted marriage or baptism at the hands of Romish priests, would by his High Commissioners be put in ward, and otherwise punished.

The clergy were not satisfied, for the King's disregard of truth, his political tergiversation, and his despotic policy might not be readily disguised. A deputation of their number, including several bishops, attended at court, and there made entreaty that the patrimony of the Church

¹ Hugh Wallace's stepmother was Lady Elizabeth Douglas, daughter of David, seventh Earl of Angus; Lord Stirling's eldest son, Viscount Alexander, espoused Lady Margaret Douglas, a daughter of William, eleventh Earl of Angus, and first Marquis of Douglas.

² Memorials of the Earl of Stirling, i., 182-183.

might be saved from confiscation. Unwilling to incur the risk of ecclesiastical censure, Charles, on the 18th May 1627, despatched to the north two letters. In one of these, addressed to the archbishops and bishops, he indulged the reproof that "it becometh churchmen rather to judge charitably than to be suspicious;" he then assured them that the Commissioners to whom the teind affairs had been intrusted were "persones of good qualitie," who would act discreetly; he closes the letter by referring to his own benignity and gentleness. In the other missive the Commissioners on Revocations are instructed "not to wrang the clergie in any dignity or title which they lauffullie enjoy."

Apart from a desire to snatch a portion of the Church revenues, Charles really desired to uphold the bishops; and in Scottish ecclesiastical affairs he generally followed the line of policy initiated by his predecessor. Presbytery he had determined should cease, and the public affairs be chiefly conducted by the dignified clergy who were to be appointed by himself. On the 25th August 1626, he exhorted the bishops to establish English schools in the Highlands, and to exhort their clergy to "civilise" the people who spoke Gaelic, by familiarising them with the English Scriptures. But future missives pointed to that species of civilisation only which consisted in submission to Episcopal forms. The King desired that on Easter Sunday, 1627, the clergy of Edinburgh should, with their people, celebrate the Communion upon their knees. This order was generally disobeyed, for a kneeling posture at the Communion Table was held as tantamount to an adoration of the elements. At the opposition of the Edinburgh clergy Charles was deeply moved, and in a royal letter, dated 21st April 1628, Archbishop Spotswood was as Primate commanded to summon the opposers to appear in his presence, and to promptly inflict upon them such condign punishment as his office might authorise. Wiser than his royal master, the Primate kept silence. Meanwhile, to avoid the charge of treason, to be followed by imprisonment or exile, the clergy forbore to celebrate an ordinance which, though a purely spiritual concern, the King determined personally to regulate.

It had become needful to conciliate the clergy, so Charles adopted a new course. On the 27th November 1628, he addressed the ministers of Edinburgh, not through the intervention of the Primate, but collectively, as his "trusty and well-beloved." Assuming their obedience, their non-observance of the Communion was accepted as a proof of their devotion, inasmuch as they were withholding the privilege of communicating from "the factious and the turbulent." But on the ground that it was wrong in punishing the froward to "defraud" the faithful, the clergy were asked to resume the celebration. The King added, with respect to those who disobeyed, "Wee shall mak them find what it is to disobey our lawes by intertining divisions to the contempt of God and us."

The royal persistency on the subject of kneeling at the Communion, while it fortified the clergy in their resolution to forbear celebrating the ordinance, induced a wide belief that the King was disposed to reintroduce the worship of the Eucharist, and therewith the other errors of the Romish Church. To remove this impression, the bishops were by a royal letter summoned to meet at Holyroodhouse on the 23d July 1629, there to deliberate as to the repression of refractory

Papists, and to take steps for removing " Jesuits and trafficking Papists out of the kingdom," and to which, under pain of death, they might not return.

The missive by which Charles prescribed this course was undated, and therefore inoperative; yet it partially subscribed that twofold policy which he was enacting. For in a letter to the Council, issued on the 6th November, he set forth that while " by sound of Trumpet" he had " given orders that the Communion should be administrated in the Chappell Royal in July last," and that on the occasion all members of the Council and of the College of Justice should communicate under the penalty of suspension—and whereas " SOME PAPISTIS" had disobeyed, "*Wee, out of our care and affectione to the maintenanece of the professed religiouse,* are hereby pleased to will and require you that . . . you remove from our counsell table all such who are disobedient in that kind." The blow, nominally directed at the Romanist, was intended for the Presbyterian.

Regardless of menace, the bulk of the clergy and people refused, in the Sacrament of the Supper, to receive the elements upon their knees. Under the advice of Lord Stirling, Charles adopted a gentler course. By a royal missive, addressed to " the Archbishops and Bishops," dated 6th October 1633, he enjoined them, as an example to his " loveing and loyal people, to conduct prayer in their severall duelling-housses . . . twyse everie day." Then followed an injunction that on these occasions should be read, not the Book of Common Order sanctioned by the Scottish Church, though latterly disused, but " the Liturgy of the Church of England, by the vse of which," it is added, " you also come to be better acquainted with the formes of that Church, which will in tyme produce good effects for our service in both kingdomes."

To attain the ignoble purpose of subjugating the conscience and prostrating personal liberty, Charles had invaded the sanctuary, and sought to control the worship of the hearth. He prepared the way for a further change. In May 1635 he addressed a letter to " the Clergie," in which they were asked to receive and approve Archbishop Laud's Liturgy and his Book of Canons, also Lord Stirling's version of the Psalms. This letter contained three palpable misrepresentations,—first, that the Liturgy had been devised by the Scottish Church; secondly, that the Psalm-book had been " in meeter done" by the King's " father;" and, thirdly, that the version had been " approvén."

Prior to the Reformation the Romish clergy had, in the splendour of their stoles, and by the gorgeous decorations of their altars, sought to impress upon the multitude the sacredness of their acts. As the Reformers had denounced these displays as mummeries, the Presbyterian clergy ordinarily conducted service in cloaks of serge. A more becoming attire was certainly to be desired, and it was latterly adopted. But Charles determined to prescribe to Scottish ecclesiastics what garments they should wear, both in church and upon the street. Accordingly, in his letter to the bishops of the 6th October 1633, he commands them in walking out to wear " gounes and tippetts." That injunction was precursor of a royal ordinance issued on the 18th day of the same month, prescribing that bishops should in Divine Service wear a chimere and lawn sleeves, and that the inferior clergy should be clothed in surplices. Against these novelties a warm protest or " supplication" was prepared by William Haig of

Bemerside, a Presbyterian lawyer, and which, revised by Lord Balmerino, was by him handed to Lord Rothes for presentation at court. Informed of its contents, Charles declined to receive it, and resolved to wreak his revenge on the statesman who had dared to set it forth. Through the imprudence of Lord Balmerino's confidential agent, a duplicate of the "supplication" was recovered by Archbishop Spotswood, who instantly conveyed it to court. Thereupon Lord Balmerino was arrested, and though the memorial which he had approved was moderate in tone, and otherwise unobjectionable, he was, as approving it, charged with sedition. The indictment was framed by commissioners specially chosen; and, to secure a verdict, William, Earl of Errol, the King's social companion, was appointed Chief-Justice. Certain time-serving Lords of Session were chosen as his assessors. In the Register the arrangements for the trial are fully set forth. In view of an assize, fixed for the 11th March 1635, the Chancellor was enjoined to prevent any popular demonstration in favour of the accused; while the Chief-Justice was instructed to cut short the pleadings on his behalf. Should the jury convict, sentence was to follow; and if the verdict was an acquittal, the prisoner was yet to be detained. Notwithstanding the alacrity of the prosecution, eight of the fifteen jurors only voted for a conviction; hence the Chief-Justice and his assessors resolved to delay sentence pending the royal will. Lord Balmerino was imprisoned for other nine months, when he obtained his liberty.

The personal history of Mr. David Calderwood, the Presbyterian historian, has, from his return from Holland in 1625 till the year 1638, been heretofore a blank. In the Register there is a royal letter dated the 5th September 1629, in which the historian is described as having returned from exile, into which he had been sent, "for writing some infamous lybellis aganis the royall Person of our late dear father;" and the Chancellor is ordered to proceed to his arrest and trial.

Having restored Episcopacy, Charles ordered certain of the cathedral and principal churches to be duly repaired. On the 6th October 1633, he informed the Town Council of Edinburgh that, having established the Bishopric of Edinburgh, with a view to the extension of their municipal privileges, he desired that St. Giles' Church be no longer "indecentlie parcelled and disjoyned by walls and partitions."¹

With the Corporation of Edinburgh (to which his royal father had been indebted for needful advances in less prosperous times) Charles desired to maintain amicable relations. On the 3d March 1627 he presented to the city a sword and gown for the use of the Provost. Experiencing from the Town Council a reluctance to fully uphold his despotic claims, he on the 15th August recommended that "hand-labourers, shopkeepers, and traders" might be elected to the Corporation. These were, he held, better qualified to "advise" their sovereign than persons of a higher station. When in 1633 the Town Council were alarmed by the revival of the office

¹ In reference to St. Giles' Cathedral, Charles, on the 13th May 1634, informed Bishop Forbes of Edinburgh that he had instructed the removal of the "wester wall and the walls of the aisles, the goldsmiths' shops, and the song school." But the restoration was not fully carried out till our own times, and then chiefly at the cost of a prosperous and munificent Edinburgh citizen.

of High Constable, apprehending that it would interfere with the High Constables of the city, Charles, with his own hand, assured them that they should "have no wrong." Such a conciliatory policy was needful at a period when on the good offices of the Town Council of the capital, the King depended alike for a Parliament House and a place of deposit for the national muniments. On the 6th October 1633 he begged the Town Council to provide "a fair and large house of two or three rooms, near the College of Justice, to which the records and registers of the kingdom might be transferred from the castle."

To those who disapprove the use of academical degrees conferred by foreign colleges, an arbitrary proceeding of Charles I. will not be unacceptable. On the recommendation of a Dr. Seaton, the University of St. Andrews had conferred on Mr. Bostock, an Englishman, "the degree of doctorat." Informed of the occurrence, probably by Archbishop Spotswood, Charles, in a letter dated 13th May 1634, censured the university, and charged the members forthwith to proceed with the "degruating" both of Seaton and Bostock.

There are allusions to the coal trade. On the 13th December 1615 was ordered a survey of the "coaleheughes," in order to discover whether license should be granted for the exportation of coal. Consequent on the inquiry, Charles, on the 2d June 1626, sanctioned the exportation of coal, on payment of double the ordinary duty. The royal order being unheeded, the Privy Council was, on the 15th June 1628, reprovod for allowing coal and salt to be exported without an impost. At the same time the King ordained that export duties should be applied for maintaining a naval armament upon the coast. On the 7th February 1634 Charles recommended the Council that, as coal exported from the English mines paid a duty of 12s. 4d. sterling per chalder,¹ a duty of 6s. should be imposed on a like quantity of coal exported from Scotland.

For foreign services there were frequent levies. Of these the greater number were intended for the army of Christian IV. of Denmark. On the 3d March 1626, Charles invited the Privy Council to grant a commission to Sir Donald Mackay "to levy and transport" 2000 men for the King of Denmark's army, under Count Mansfelt. And on the 20th March 1628, Archibald, Lord Lorne, "as the most eminent person in the isles and northern parts," was invited to raise troops for embarkation to Denmark. On the 20th April 1630 Charles required the Council to assist Lord Gordon in levying a company of 2000 footmen for the service of Louis XIII. of France, and on the 28th March 1633 he empowered Sir John Hepburn to recruit 1200 men in the same cause. Levies were also allowed on behalf of the Czar of Muscovy, the general of whose "foreign forces" was Sir Alexander Leslie, afterwards Earl of Leven.

In the Register warrants for the payment of grants and pensions are frequent. These are addressed to the Privy Council, the High Treasurer, the Treasurer of Marine, the Commissioners of Exchequer, and others. But of all these money orders probably not one was paid. Even the pension granted to the King's nurse was unsatisfied. Some drafts on the Exchequer, super-scribed by the King, were intended only to gratify the recipients by checking their importunity. In reality the national revenue of the reign never exceeded in a single year a sum equal to

¹ A chalder of coal consists of thirty-six bushels.

£140,000 of sterling money. On the 14th June 1634 Charles appointed Commissioners, including Lord Stirling, to enquire into "the unnecessary burdens." Certain changes supervened, but the arrangements might not salutarily affect the national exchequer.

Lord Stirling's Register is comprehended in three folio volumes. Of these the most considerable in extent, and most important in character, is preserved in the General Register House. On the opening page it is inscribed "Registerium Annor: 1626, 1627, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631. S^r William Alexander. *Omnia sunt hominum tenaxi pendencia filo.*" Embracing 620 pages, the entries between the 26th January 1626 and the 3d July 1627 are in the handwriting of the Earl's amanuensis, Alexander Alexander; his caligraphy reappearing on the 20th December 1630, and continuing till the 31st December 1631, when the volume terminates. Another hand is employed in the period intervening between the 3d July 1627 and the 20th December 1630, in which the misspelling of Scottish names would point to a southern origin. Not improbably, the writer was that James Philp, whom "the Chancellor, President, and remanent Lords of Counsall and Session" were, in a royal letter dated 23d October 1626, required to examine and admit as a Notary Public, and who, as "a servand to Sir William Alexander," is described as "having applied his mynd and studies those divers years bypast to the wryting and formeing of diverse securiteis and writts." This volume of the Register was by William Trumbull of East Hamstead, great-great-grandson of Lord Stirling, presented in 1759 to Major William Alexander, the American claimant of the title. In a letter to Major Alexander, Mr. Trumbull describes it as "a book of Sir William Alexander's correspondence while he was a Secretary of State for Scotland." ¹ The volume, which was probably sent to London, to be used in the House of Lords in connection with Major Alexander's claim, came into the hands of Mr. John Caley, who, in May 1792, presented it to Mr. Thomas Astle, the well-known archæologist, by whom, as an inscription bears, it was in December 1793 granted for preservation to Lord Frederick Campbell, the Lord Clerk Register. The two other volumes of the Register, which are preserved in the Advocates' Library, fell into the possession of Alexander Alexander, Lord Stirling's relative and principal amanuensis, and after his death became the property of the distinguished antiquary Sir James Balfour. One is entitled "Letters of K. Charles touching the Exchequer; or rather, Secretary Alexander his Register of Letters." It comprehends styles of addresses to titled persons and public officials, also royal letters dated at intervals from the 26th January 1626 to the 24th June 1635. The other volume, a folio of larger size, and styled "Secretary Alexander his Register," bears on the title-page "31 Denmylne," being Sir James Balfour's library press mark. From page 1 to 192 there are letters dating from the 26th January 1626 to the 8th July 1627, while from page 193 to page 204 are letters dating from 22d January 1615 to the 20th February 1616. Undated styles and some unimportant letters occupy the succeeding folios. Among these is a license to Lord Ross, subscribed by Sir William Alexander, authorising him or his servant to transport from England to Scotland arms consisting of "thirtye compleet corslettes, twenty muskettis, with their bandelieris and restis, two hundred weight of powder, two hundred weight of match, thirty pickis, and thirty lether belts for his owne vse."

¹ Duer's "Life of Major-General William Alexander, Earl of Stirling," p. 42.

Among the miscellaneous entries is the following sonnet, evidently composed by Lord Stirling on Charles's return from Spain in 1623, after his expedition there under the proposal of marrying the Infanta :—

The Ciprian's smyleing, led our prince to Spayne,
 Her husband's lightning welcomes him againe ;
 Love was but hoped for in a forrayne pairt,
 He finds it burning here in every heart.
 As revells strange would waste the world away,
 Wee burned the night, and heaven drow'd the day.
 Juno and Venus onely frowne a space,
 That Pallas now preferred of both takis place.
 This day, like doomesday, flaming all with fyre,
 To judge of secreets, too, will needs aspire ;
 What hopes and feares, did vpon it depend,
 Which now dispayre or confidence must end.
 But how comes this, that clouds eclipse the spheares ;
 These showres, vnlesse of joy, can not be teares ;
 The heavens, I think, of our hudge fyres affray'd,
 Their violence in tyme by raine have it stayed.

Among various entries relating to personal and household affairs, Alexander Alexander records the happy event of his obtaining an office of which he had long been an expectant. He writes—"The 21st of November 1638 his Majestie signed my signature for the Masery." Now, it appears from the Register he had been recommended to the Privy Council "for the first vacking office of maesarie" some time prior to the 24th July 1630, when an expression of the royal will to this effect was emphatically renewed. His claims were further urged in a royal letter dated the 18th May 1632. He enjoyed his advancement about eight years; his will is dated 7th April 1646.

In making a transcription for the press, the only course practicable was to present each document precisely as it appeared in the Register. The transcriber, Mr. WILLIAM J. AIMERS, merits the commendation due to abundant skill, unflinching perseverance, and punctilious accuracy.

For most important aid in revising the proof sheets, the Rev. WALTER MACLEOD is entitled to our grateful acknowledgments. The index, of which the preparation is due to his painstaking care and diligence, will be found to embrace all the names and subjects which occur in the Register.

REGISTER OF ROYAL LETTERS.

*



REGISTER OF ROYAL LETTERS.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right trustie and welbeloued Cosen and Counsellour, and others, our right trusty and welbeloued Cosens and Counsellours, &c.—Whereas wee are informed by the B. of the Isles that certaine seditious and euill disposed persones haue by crafty and indirect meanes procured and entertayned this late trouble of Isles, trafficking with them to that effect, as the said Bischope offers himself to justifie before yow : Therefor our pleasure is, that yow cause cite and conueene before yow all such as are law byding, whom he will accuse for the cause forsaid ; and if there be any others that are alreadie fugitive, or not answeareable to our lawes, that yow grant a Commission for apprehending them ; and if any of the Rebells happen to be taken alyue (which wee would wishe to be the rather for that cause), let them be confronted before yow with them for the better clearing of that mater ; lykwise because it is complayned vnto vs by the said Bischope that sindrie lands belonging vnto him are conueighed away vnder the colour of other temporall lands, to the prejudice of the Church : Our will is, that in tyme coneing all signatures which passe concerning such Irish lands be examined, that the like be not done hereafter to harme the said Bischoprick, which wee nowise intend. So recomending this to your care, wee, &c.—Newmarket, 22 Januar 1615.

TO THE ARCHBISHOPE OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right reuerend father in God, right trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, wee greet, &c.—Whereas it is complained to vs by M^r James Seaton, Minister at Logie, that by reasone of the meannesse of his stipend, now of late without cause diminished, he nor no honest [man] is able to serue any longer there, but hath already purchast letters of transportation, that he may goe to some other parte, so that the said Church is likely to remayne altogether desolate, without it be in tyme prevented : Wherfor, out of that earnest care which we haue euer had to haue the Churches of that our kingdome well planted, our pleasure is, that after due triall taken of the estate of the said Church, if it be found as is alleadged, that all ordinarie meanes be vsed whereby it may be most conveniently provided, whereby yow shall doe vs an acceptable seruice.—So, not doubting of your diligence, we bidd, &c.—Newmarket, the 22 Januar 1615.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right Reuerend father in God, right trusty and welbeloued Counsellour.—The father of this bearer, M^r James Rind, being disceased in such maner as is not unknowen to yow, became a humble suitter vnto vs ; that in respect his said father had left a distressed widow and many poore children vnprovided for, hee might be admitted to his father's place, that so he might be a meane to keep his mother, brether, and sisters from the extremitie of necessitie ; and seing the place which his father had is alreadie disposed of

to another, and that the young man him self is sufficientlie qualified, so as if the respect to his mother and brethren moved him not, hee would not goe out of this countrey : Wee haue therefore thought good to require yow to present him to the first competent living which shall fall to be vacant in your province ; which not doubting that yow will performe accordinglie, wee bidd, &c.—Whitchall, the 24 Februar 1615.

TO THE COUNSELL AND COLLEDGE OF JUSTICE.

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue vnderstoode that there are sundrie rents and commodities due to Patrick, B. of Rosse, by his prouision to the said bishoprick, vnjustlie detain'd from him, as hee alledges, for the recovering whereof he is constrained to sue his partyes before yow, whereby, besids his great paynes and charges, he is distracted from attending his calling in the Church, farr from our intention, who would haue him peaceablie to enjoy the benefite of that which wee haue bestowed vpon him, that he may be the more able to attend his charge : Therfor our pleasure is, that in all such actiones as concerne him in this kind, yow administer justicie with as speedie a dispatche as the course of our lawes can conveniently permitt ; wherein expecting the vttermost of your endeauours, wee, &c.—Newmarkett, the 15 of March 1615.

Direction to the Colledge of Justice.

To our right trustie and right walbeloued Cosan and Counsellour the Earle of Dumfermeling, our Chancellour, and to the remanet Senatours of our Colledge of Justice of our kingdome of Scotland.

Direction to the Counsell.

To our right trusty and right walbeloued Cosan and Counsellour the Earle of Dumfermeling, our Chancellour of Scotland, and to our right trusty and welbeloued Counsellours, the remanent Lords of our Prvie Counsell of the said kingdome.

TO THE DEPUTY THESAURER.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Haveing heard by James Gardner, M^r Cannonier of our Castle of Stirling, that there are some moneyes due by vs vnto him four yeares past befor your entrie, as he offers him self to justifie, and because of his late employment in Orknay, where wee heare, in discharging his place he did good seruice : Our pleasure is, that after triall, haueing informed your self of the particular sowme which is due vnto him, that yow presentlie pay it, wee being the rather willing to gratifie him in this in regard of his seruice forsaide. So expecting your performance, wee, &c.—Whitchall, the 11 of Aprill 1615.

TO THE LORDS OF SESSION.

Right trusty and welbeloued Cousins and Counsellours, &c.—Whereas Robert Dawson, being spoyled by piratts and reduced to great distresse, hath heaviely lamented his case vnto vs, showeing with all that if he could haue any little delay or favour from his Creditours, he hopes by his industrie agane to recover his estate and discharge his debts : Therfor our pleasure is, that haueing compassion for his estate, yow grant him all the priuiledges and fauour that the course of our lawes can convenientlie permitt, that he may be the better enabled for prosecuting his honest endeaours. So recommending this to your charitable consideration, wee bidd you hartlie farewell.—Whitchall, the 11 of Aprill 1615.

TO THE MARQUISE OF HUNTLY.

Right trusty and welbeloued Cosen and Counsellour, &c.—Whereas vpon a complaint made vnto vs by Jhon Leyth of Harthill vpon George Lesley of Olerraig for the slauncher of his some, wee were pleased to write vnto yow, as Sheriff of that parte, for apprehending the said George, who remaynes a Rebell at our horne; yet wee are informed that notwithstanding of this he haunts ordinarily the bounds within your charge, and is not as yet apprehended: Therefore wee command yow, as yow would continue sheriff, to faile not to doe the ductie that belongs to the place, and apprehend the said George that he may be presented to Justice, otherwise wee will think that yow neglect our seruice; and if in the meantyme Jhon Leyth or any of his be hurt in their person or goods by the said George, who, as wee heare, threatens them, wee will blame yow as accessarie therevnto, by omitting your charge, whereanent wee desire to be certiefed bak from your self. So hoping that yow will haue a more regard to our service, wee bidd yow farewell.—Whitehall, the 11 of Aprile 1615.

TO THE SECRETARY OF SCOTLAND.

Right trusty and welbeloued Cosen and Counsellour—Whereas we haue giuen a Commission to Sir W^m Alexander, knyght, our M^r of Requests to vs for our kingdome of Scotland, for causing apprehend all those idle and vagrant persones, who coming from thence thither, by their misbehaviour heere do both trouble vs and discredit their country: Lyk as wee entertayne an officer of purpose vnder the said Sir William Alexander, either to punish them heere or to send them home, as shalbe thought most expedient, because it is to be suspected that such as are sent away (as the preests ordinarily doe) may returne priuily bak agane, whereby the labour wilbe infinite, and this order not effectual: Our pleasure is, that a proclamation be made, discharging all maner of persones from resorting out of Scotland to this our kingdome, vnlesse it be gentlemen of good qualitie, merchands for traffique, or such as shall haue a speciall licence from our Counsell of that kingdome, with expresse prohibition to all masters of Shippes that they transport no such persones as ar abouespecifeit, certefeing them that if they doe in the contrarie they shalbe punished. So recommending to your care that the most convenient course be taken for this effect, we bidd, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of Aprill 1615.

TO THE PROVEST AND BAYLIFFES OF EDINBURGH.

Trusty, &c.—Whereas wee haue giuen Commission to Sir W^m Alexander, kny^t, for causing apprehend all those idle and vagrant persones, who coming from thence thither, by their misbehaviour heere do both trouble vs and discredit their country; like as wee entertayne an officer of purpose vnder the said Sir W^m Alexander, either to punish them heere or send them home, as shalbe thought most expedient, because it is to be suspect that such as are sent away, as the preests ordinarily doe, may returne priuily bak againe, whereby the labour wilbe infinite, and this order not effectual: Our pleasure is, that you receaue from the M^r of the ship who brings home any persones of this sort who shall happen to be recommended vnto you by the said Sir William, and that yow committ him to safe custodie till he find surety, such as he is able to giue, that he returne not bak againe, or otherwise that yee enlarge him vpon the best conditiones ye can. Lykwise our pleasure is, that you cause haue a care that in Leith no ship from thence transport any such persones thither, wherein yow will doe us an acceptable seruice, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of Aprill 1615.

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TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee haue vnderstoode of the misbehaviour of M^ckintosh towards his landslord, the Earle of Murray, and also of your proceedings against him for the same, wherein as wee doe verie well allow of your provident care for the quietnesse of that our kingdome, so wee need not at this tyme to insist in requiring yow to obserue the like order whensoeuer the like occasion shall offerne. But because the eyes of verie manye are open vpon the issue of that matter, and for that your behaviour in each particularitie thereof wilbe verie narrowlie obserued and drawn vnto example in tyme coming, wee haue thought good by these presents to require yow (besids all other penalties which we shall think fitt to be surrogated vpoun him) not to set the said M^ckintosh at libertie till he shall exhibit before yow all such his partakers, as for their enormities, being summoned with him, compeared not, or at least that he find caution to exhibite them. Secondly, that you tak sufficient caution of him that neither hee nor any in his name shall convocat or suborne any of the said Earle his tenants in prejudice of their Landlord, but that hee surecase from all kind of midleing with them in tyme coming. Thirdly, that, according to the contents of the generall bond, yee cause him be answeareable for all his freinds and followers, and generallie for the whole Clanchattan. And lastly, that yow cause him find caution vnder the payne of great pecuniall soumes that hee shall personallie compare where and whensoeuer hee shall vpon any occasion be cited to come before yow. These heeds being duely obserued, wee perswade our self that no violent possessour whosoeuer will presume vpon his example, or vpon hope of impunitie, to detayne any lands from the just proprietars without some cullour of law; wherunto willing yow carefully to aduert, wee bidd, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of Aprill 1615.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW AND REMANENT BISHOPS.

Right reuerend father in God, Reuerend fathers in God, and others our welbeloued prelates, &c.—Whereas it is complained vnto vs by M^r Alex^r Innes, minister, showeing how hee hath bene exceedinglie wronged by the Bishope of Murray, being both deprived by him of his benefice, which hee had acquired with difficultie, and whereby hee should haue liued, and being likewise persued of his life, and kept in continuall trouble by his meanes, a thing which wee would haue thought should neuer haue bene committed by any of your nomber, whose powers should protect men from the injuries of others: Therfor our pleasure is, that after exact triall of this mater yow cause repaire the said complenar, satisfeing him for the damage and skayth which hee hath sustained by meanes of the said Bishop, that wee be no more troubled with his complaint, the scandale that arries from such an enormitie being removed, whereof yow shall do vs acceptable seruice.—Greenewich, the 26 of May 1615.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

Right, &c.—Whereas it is complained to vs by Walter Grahame, sometyme of Netherbee, that there are sundrie debts due vnto him by Cuthbert Curvin and John Edyar, whereof hee can haue no payment, and can bardlie by reason of his age and inhabilitie prosecute the course of law: Therfor our pleasure is, that yow vse all the meanes that can iustlie be vsed by vertue of your commission for furthering of him, charging the saids persones to answere before yow, and if they will not compare, that yow cause our guard apprehend them, that they may be imprisoned till they satisfie that which according to equitie is by yow decerned: Likewise because the said Walter Grahame and Richard Grahame, his sonne, may not

live in the border where they were borne by reason of the course that we have taken for the transplanting of all their sort, our pleasure is, that they have libertie to live in any place of that our kingdome, it being as farr distant from the River of Esk as shall seeme expedient to yow, from whence wee will have them altogether secluded sune, whom by your speciall licence, without prejudice for the order taken for pacifeing those parts, they must repaire thither to sue that which is due vnto them, and that a warrant be graunted for this effect, &c.—Greenwich, the 26 of May 1615.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Hauing receaued a humble supplication from the Lord Ochiltrie and his sonne making mention where the said Lord, being to retire himself to live in Ireland, and desiring exceedinglie that his place and estate in Scotland may continue with the anncient familie for benefite and other regards, hath made choice of Sir James Stewart of Killeith, knight, hee and his sonne being as it were dead within that our kingdome as next of the race to succeed him, earnestlie entreating our fauour thereaunt: Wherupon, considering that no party can justly complaine as any way interested by this course, the said Sir James coming in by a kind of succession as well as by purchase, out of that affection which wee haue euer had, that all such houses as haue deserued well of vs or of our ancestours should contynue and flourish: Our pleasure is, after the said Lord hath surrendered in his fauours, that immediatly yow accept the said Sir James in his place, enabling him, by as sufficient a warrant as can be giuen in such things, that he may enjoy all the priuiledges, honours, and dignities belonging to the Lordship of Ochiltrie, in as lardge and ample maner as the said Lord might haue done befor his dimission, to contynue with him and his posteritie: Whereaunt thir presents shall be a sufficient warrant vnto yow.—Greenwich, the 27 of May 1615.

TO THE PROVEST AND BAYLIFFES OF EDINBURGH.

Trusty, &c.—Whereas the bearer heerof, Jhon Jones, and his, are to repaire vnto yow for pursuing of a right which they alledge they haue by inheritance to some houses and tenements lyand within the brugh of Edinburgh, and because they are strangers and not acquainted with the lawes of that our kingdome: Our pleasure is, that in all actiones that they shall happen to haue before yow for the cause forsaid, they may haue as good and speedie justice as the course of our lawes can conveniently permit, as wee will vrge the like duty to be discharged to yow when your occasioun shall so require in this our kingdome; and so, &c.—Greenwich, the 10th of June 1615.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue procured a submission betweene the Archb. of Glasgow and the Earle of Glencairne of all maters belonging to the Abbacie of Kylwyning, that they may be settled in such sort that no ground be left for any question to arrise betweene the names of Montgomeries and Cuninghames: Wee haue written to the Earle of Eglinton to concurre in that course in all that shalbe thought expedient for his part, and speciallie that hee satisfie the Laird of Ackett for his right and kyndnesse of the tythes for the Church of Dunlope, or for any parte thereof that shalbe taken from him, suspending in the meanetyme all pursue of him by Law till order be taken therwith in a freindlie maner: Therfor our pleasure is, that yow vse your best meanes for effectuating this purpose, hath in perswadeing your counsell to that which reason requires, and to all other things that may tend to the furtherance heereof, as a mater which we speciallie affect, and wherein yow shall doe vs very acceptable seruice, wee bidd, &c.—Greenwich, the 10th of June 1615.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed by Edward Stewart, brother naturall to the late Earle of Orknay, that there are there some Roomes belonging to him in tenendrie, as heire to another brother of his, whereof, as he alleadges, sufficient writs will beare record, which are holden back from him till our will be knowne : Our will is, that the said Edward as kindly be preferred to any other tennent, and that he haue all the furtherance that our lawes can allow to possesse him of the saills Roomes, payeing the duetie used and wont, according to the old rental, without defraudeing vs of that which is our due ; whereanent thir presents shalbe your warrant.—Theobald's, the 13 of June 1615.

TO THE DEPUTY THESAURER.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Whereas it is complained vnto vs by our lovit Patrick Lindsay, some tyme one of our guard in Scotland, that there are certayne debts due vnto him by vs, euer since his seruice in the said place, as yet vnsatisfied, which hee offers himself to justifie : Our will is therefor that yow try and examine the debt, and what is found to be due vnto him by vs satisfie the samen, that wee bee no more troubled with him ; whereanent thir presents shalbe your warrant.—Theobald's, the 13 June 1615.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that there is a processe depending befor our Colledge of Justice betwixt our borough of Edinbrugh and the Saylers of Leith, concerning some seafaireing maters, the event whereof may speciallie import the art of Navigation within that our kingdome : Therefore, that it may be the more aduisedlie done, we haue made speciall choice of yow the Archb. of Sanctandrois, the Earle of Marr, Sir Alexander Drummond of Midhope, and Sir James Weymes of Bogie, Judges of our Admiraltie, willing yow to conueene them, and after exact triall of the contrauersie betweene them, to report your opinion thereof vnto vs, that thereafter wee may signifie our pleasure thereanent. So not doubting your diligence in this, we bidd yow hartelic farewell.—Royston, the 27 Octo^r 1615.

Whereas, by direction of our welbeloued Cosen and Counsellour the Duke of Lennox, great Admirall of our kingdome of Scotland, James Hume, one of the Saylers of Leith, with Commission from the rest, accompanied with the Clark of the Admiraltie, haue repaired towards our Court with some informations necessary for seafaireing matters, wherewith wee are well pleased, and haue giuen order thereanent : It is therefor our will and pleasure that neither hee nor no other of that companie for conueeneing and directing of him be any wise called, persued, or accused therefor, exonering them by thir presents of all paine, perell, and offence which they haue or may incurre therethorow.

Jhon Auchmoutie, keeper of Garderobe within our kingdome of Scotland, yow shall not fail, immediatlie after the sight hereof, to delyner vnto the Lord Erskin as many hingings as may furnishe two Roomes within our Castle of Stirling, for the which hee will answere : And this shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Royston, the 27 Octo^r 1615.

TO SIR FALK GREWELL.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Vnderstanding that Ar^t Naper, one of the gentlemen of our privie chamber, had condescended with one to dispose of that pension which hee hath out of our Exchequer, providinge wee would haue accepted of the other in his place, wee being more earnest to diminishe then to augment the number of pensiones, haue thought good to embrace this occasion for drawing in of his : Therefor our pleasure is, that yow tak order with him, givinge him as much as the other should haue given him, which, as wee are informed, was four yeares purchase and a halfe, and draw bak againe his grant to our use. So recommending this to your care, wee bidd you farewell.—Newmarket, the 21 of No^r 1615.

TO SIR ALEXANDER HAY.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Whereas wee were pleased to procure a submission betwixt the Archb. of S^t Androis and the Earle of Glencame for certayne maters debateable betwixt them concerning the Abbacie of Kilwining, that all occasiounes of reneweing the old rancour betwixt the Montgomeries and the Cuninghames might be quite taken away, which, as the Archb. of S^t Androis knowes, wee enjoined to him at the giueing him the said benefice, wee heare that the said course is as yet delayed, whosoever be the cause thereof, farr by our expectation : Therfor, because the said submission by our direction was entrusted vnto yow, our pleasure is, that yow deale with the saids partyes from vs that they may renewe the said submission, and put all things questioned therein to a poynt, conforme to the first intention ; otherwise let vs know from whom the impediment comes, and wee will tak a course that the partie who failles haue no advantage by disapoynteing of that which was promised vnto [vs]. So expecting the certantie of this from yow, wee bidd, &c.—Newmarket, the 24 of No^r 1615.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTY.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Whereas Jhon Acheson, generale of our Coynehouse, hath petitioned vs for a summe of money which he alleadgeth was disbursed by his father for our furnishing and service, and neuer as yet repayed, as he offers himself to justifie by sufficient record : Therfor our pleasure is, that yow and the rest of the Commissioners appoynted for managing the rents of that our kingdome, call the said Jhon Acheson befor yow, and examine those records whereby he would verifie the debt forsaide, and thereafter that Summe which yow find in equity due by vs vnto him, our will is, that yow satisfie the samen, whereanent thir presents shalbe a sufficient warrant.—Newmarket, the 3^d of December 1615.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee were pleased this last sommer that Commissioners should be appoynted for surveighing all the Coaleheughes within our kingdome of Scotland, to the effect that befor wee would grant a licence for carreing of Coales to any forraigne nation, it might be seriously considered where the Coaleheughes of that kingdome might subsist and be mantayned by their ordinarie seale in furnishing the Countrey about the places where they are, togidder with the benefite arriueing by the number of those which are brought from thence to this our kingdome, or if there were a necessitie for their better mantaynance, that a privileged should be granted for transporting them to other nations. Wee vnderstand that a Surveigh was made for this effect ; but for the present haue not beside vs your testimony therrpon :

Therfor our pleasure is, that yow certifie vs what was found by the Comission forsaid with your judgment theranent, that thereafter, havinge the regard that is due to the good of that our kingdome, wee may resolve what is expedient for vs to be done. So expecting your answer, wee, &c.—Newmarket, the 3 De^r 1615.

TO SIR FALK GREWELL, KNIGHT.

Trusty and welbeloued Counsellour, &c.—Whereas wee were pleased to grant into Sir Jhon Lewingstoun, one of the groomes of our bedchamber, a Lease of the Lands which he and some others joyned with him, vpon their owne charges, should recouer as being due to vs from them that were condemned for the Powder treason, he paying yearly to vs dureing the said lease ten lib. of rent for euerie hundred, as their patentie vnder our great seale at more length beares; and considering that his travells in this may both do vs good service by bringing bak lands to our vse, and by weakning the race of those traitors whom wee nor no good subject hath reason to affect: Our pleasure is, that yow let him haue all the assistance and furtherance yow can conveniently afford him by reason of your place for dispatching of all such particulars as he giues in conforme to his patentie, and wee will think it a singular seruice done vnto vs. So recommending this as a mater which wee speciallie affect to your care, wee bid, &c.—Newmarket, the 4 of De^r 1615.

TO THE EARLE OF LOWTHER.

Right trusty and welbeloued Cousen and Counsellour, &c.—Whereas we were pleased to graunt a Remission to W^m Borthwik of Jhonstones burne, we would likewise wish that our clemencie might be extended towards his estate, and that no man should take advantage by his former trouble for detayneing anie thing which was due vnto him, and speciallie because wee vnderstand that yow possesse the most parte of that which belonged vnto him: Therfor wee earnestlie require yow that those lands which yow possesse by his forfeiture be restored bak vnto him, he giucing yow such satisfaction as your father offered to haue accepted of before, in doing whereof, because we haue compassion on him, yow shall doe vs a verie acceptable service.—Whithall, the 13th of Ja^r 1616.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Seing that George Grahame hath beene this longtyme detayned in prison vpon presumption of faults which were to be layd to his charge, and that wee find (haueing caused inquire of them who offered to pursue him) that nothing can be found against him whereby he doth deserue any further punishment: Our pleasure is, and wee command by these presents, that immediatlie after the sight heerof hee be enlarged and set at liberty to prosecute his besienesse as a free subject, whereanent thir presents shall be your sufficient warrant.—Newmarket, the 2 of February 1616.

ARTICLES FOR ESTABLISHINGE THE PEACE VPON THE BORDERS.

1. If any person be apprehended for thift vpon an information, that the iudge to whom it was given haue the informer bound to persue him, and not receaue any restitution or satisfaction for concealment.
2. That Justice may not be delayed when any theiff is taken, if the Commissioners be not shortlie to meete, let him be caried to the next Jale, where Justice may be done according as the Counsell shall think best to appoynt.

3. If any within the kingdome of Scotland be made fugitiue, that advertisement be giuen to the English syd, with his name, shape, fashion, and coulour, for his better discourie, and that the like may be vsed within Scotland from shyre to shyre.
4. That a care may be had for the surueigh and impliment of idle persones, who haue no trade nor vocation.
5. To try what was decreed by the Counsell alreadie for restrayneing of some sort of persones from bearing of Armes, to the end that the samen order may be put in execution, being helped with any addition needfull.

TO THE PRECIDENT AND COUNSELL.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas W^m Edmondston, younger of Duntrith, being justlie convicted for his offence, particularlie specified in the proces thairaneut, wes, besyd vther punishmentis, banished dureing our pleASURE, wee being put in hope of carriage heerefter where he is to plant himselfe in our kingdome of Ireland: Owre pleasure is, that his Banishment be remitted, and we will yow by these presentes immediatly efter the sight heerof to giue order for the samen, alwaies assuring him that by any misbehaviour of his heerefter he come within the compase of your censure, this shall lykewaies be remembered to barre him from any farther hope of our favour. So expecting a present performance of this, wee bid yow hartely faireweell.—From our Court at Newmercat, the 2 of february 1616.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Trusty, &c.—Whereas having made the Bishope of the Isles to decharge that pension which he wes wint to haue of vs, wee were pleased for sindry considerations to allow him one year's dutie thereof, extending to Two thousand merkes and Twentie key, as was contened in a precept directed from vs for that effect: Oure pleasure is, that the said somme be satisfied, and yow take such order with the samen, that we be no more troubled therewith. So recommending this to your care, wee bid yow faireweell.—Frome our Court at Newmercat, the 2 of february 1616.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTY.

Trusty, &c.—Whereas wee have been sindry tymes importuned by petitiones from the widdow of vmquhile Adrian Vanston, who wes our painter, clameing some fees which she aledges were due to hir said husband for service done vnto vs, of the certanty whereof wee are doubtfull: Oure pleasure is, that yow caus searche Chequer rollis, and all such recordes whereby the samen may be cleared, and that thereafter, haueing found the true estate thereof, yow certefie vs hake what will be found due vnto hir, that wee may signifie oure pleasure thereanent. So recommending this your care, wee bid yow faireweell.—From our Court at Newmercat, the 2 of february 1616.

TO THE PRECIDENT AND COUNSELL.

Trustie and welbeloved Counsellour, and right trustie and welbeloved Counsellours, we greet [yon] weell.—Seing that George Grahame hath bene this long tyme detained in prison vpon presumption of faultis vich were to be layd to his charge, and that we find (haueing caused inquire of them who offered

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to persew him), that nothing can be found against him whereby he doth deserue any forder punishment : Oure pleasure is, and we command be these presents, that immediatly after the sight heirof he be enlarged and sett at libertie to prosecute his Bussinesse as free subject, whereanent thir presentes shall be your sufficient warrant. So wee bid yow fairewell.—From our Court at Newmercat, the twentie day of february 1616.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Trusty, &c.—Whereas wee haue alreddy giuen direction for a course to be taiken with these vnto qulome the late Lord Orknay was adebted, wee are pleased to recommend M^r James Seyton vnto yow as one of the number, and oure pleasure is, that after tryell taken what is justly due vnto him, yow giue order for his satisfaction thereanent as soone as yow can conveniently doe it vith the first, and in as good sort as vsed with any vther of that kynd, whereanent thir presentes shall be your warrant. So wee bid yow fairewell.—From our Court at Newmercat the twentie day of february 1616.

TO TWO JUSTICES OF IRLAND.

To our Right trustie and Right weilbeloued Cousings and Counsellours Adam, Viscount Loftus of Elie, our Chancellour of our Kingdome of Irland, and Ritchard, Earle of Cork, our Justices for the said kingdome.

TO THE KING'S AGENTS AT BRUSELLS.

To our trustie and weilbeloued Balthasar Gerbier, Esquire, Agent, resideing with the Infanta Archiduchess, at Brusells.

TO THE SECRETARIE OF STATE AT BRUSELLS.

A Monsieur Monsieur de La Faille, Cher^{er} Consalier de sa Majeste et sone secretaire de Estate.

TOUN OF EDINBURGH.

To our trustie and weilbelouit The Provest, bailleis, and Counsall of our burgh of Edinburgh.

DEPUTE OF IRLAND.

To our Right trustie and right weilbeloued Cousine and Counsellour The Viscount Wentworth, our Deputie of our Realme of Irland.

BURROWES.

To our trustie and weilbeloued The Commissioners for our Royall frie burghs of our kingdome of Scotland.

SCOTTISHMEN IN POLLAND.

To our trustie and weilbeloued subjects The Scottismen merchands traffeying in Polland and Prussia.

CHANCELOUR OF IRLAND.

To our right trustie and weilbeloued Counsellour Adam, Viscount Loftus of Elie, our Chancellour of our kingdome of Irland.

TO THE JUDGES OF CIRCUIT COURTS.

To our right, &c.—The Erle of Stratherne, and President of our Counsall, Justice Generall of our kingdome of Scotland, and to the remanent Judges of our said Circuit Courts for the tyme being, and all vthers our Officers and subjects whatsoeuer, whome these doe or may concerne now or heirefter.

M^a OF ARTILLERIE.

To our trustie and, &c., Sir Henrie Bruce, M^r of our Arteillerie in Scotland.

JUSTICES OF PEACE.

To our trustie and weilbeloved High Shirreff and Justice of the peace of our Country of Northomberland, and to all vther our Shirreffs, Mayors, Justices, Coroners, Balleiffes, Constables, all vther our officers and loving subjects, whome these persones [presents] doe or may concerne.

TO THE PRINCE OF ORANGE.

A mon Cousin Le Prince d'Orange.

TO THE STATIS OF HOLLAND.

A Hauts a puissants Seigneurs nos Cousins voisins A Allier Messieur Les Estats generales des Provinces vniers de pais bas.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar credible informed that Walter, erle of Ormond, without all reasone, and contrarie to the awarde of our late dear father, deteneth the whole chartours and evidents belonging to the Erle and countesse of Desmond, wherby not onlie the said Erle and Countesse ar nightelie prejudged, and diverse gentlemen and frieholders in the cuntreys of Kilkeny and Tiprary, being cited to our Court of wards, ar defrauded of ther lawfull defense: It is therfor our speciale pleasur that you give ordour to all such our officers to whom it may apperteane that all proceedingis in any suttes now depending in our Court of wards there, or which heirefter shalbe moved in our said Court tutching the tenours of the said gentlemen and frieholderis in the saidis cuntreys, be stayed till the saidis evidentes may be recovered from the said erle of Ormond, in which behalf these presents shalbe, as well unto yow as to our vther officers, a sufficient warrand.—At Whythhall, 4 febr, in the first yeir of our regne, 1625.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellouris, Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousines and Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved Cousines, Wee Greet zow weil.—Wheras out of our princelie cair for the advancement of religion and justice within that our kingdome, We have alreadye geven ordour for banischeing of preists and Jesuits, and putting our Lawis to execution against all thiose that ar popishlie disposed. So havinge the lyk cair that churches alreadye builded and provydit for the ease and comfort of our subjects, and for propagation of the gospell, have a compitent maintenance for the ministers and office bearers thairof, and that Colledges, schoolis, and hospitalls for breiding of zeuth and interteneing of the poore have allowed vnto them what shalbe fund necessarie in a reasonable maner, We desyre that the great disorderis and incommodeiteis aryseing about teyndis may be redressed (by procureing, as far as

we can lawfullie), that everie man may have his owin teynd vpon reasonable conditions, and such as have lawfullie acyured their owin teyndis alreadie shall have ther right sufficientlie confirmed, as was formerlie intended in our late dear father's tyme ; ffor our desyre is to frie the gentrie of that our kingdome from all these bonds which may force them to depend vpon aney vther then vpon ws. That the said teynd may no longer be, as they have bene heirtfoir, the cause of blood, oppressionis, enmietis, and of inforce dependances, and many tymes by vntymelie teyding a meanes to ruine the stok, to the great damage of the whole kingdome, We have the more willinglie, according as sundrie of our royall progenitouris have formerlie done, made our Revocation of late not to wrong aney of our subjects, nor to question aney landis, teyndis, proffeits, or priviledges whatsoever, save such as, belonging to the antient patrimonie of our Crown, or annexed and fallin thervnto, or belonging to the Church, ar, without any just cause or lawfull forme, conveyed from the same, to the detriement thairof, and against conscience, and may be lawfullie recovered. And lett this breed no terrour nor scruple in the myndis of our subjects that we doe not rehearse in everie article of our revocation ; That we doe onlie revok such things named heirin as being disposed of to the hurt and detriement of our Crown, without conscience against the lawis of our realme, becaus that being mentionat in the begining as it was in our late father's revocation, it should be as weil vnderstude in the rest, which we doe declair by these presents to be as valide as if it were particularlie exprest in everie particuler article. Nor zit lat any grudge at this that we revock in everie article what was done by our prediecessoris in maner forsaid, wher our late royall father, being long minour, extending his revocation for the most part no further then his owin minoritie, wherin he feared most harme dureing the tyme of his Regents, doeth it bot in some few articles wherin he did think himself speciallie damnifed by his prediecessors, becaus we not coming to the Crown in our minoritie, and so not having hurt the patrimonie thairof, our self behoved, for the keeping of our royall prerogative, to revok what our prediecessors had done to the hurt of the same, which we might lawfullie doe, sieing it is acknowledged by the Esteats of parliament in the begining of our said father's revocation, that he might revock what was done by his prediecessors in ther tyme, to the hurt and detriement of the Crown, soull and conscience, aganes the lawes of our realme ; Lykas our said father did revock what was done by his mother, Quene Mary, and in sindrie articles of his revocation what was done by his prediecessors ; Quene Mary did revock what was done by hir father, King James the fyft, and he what was done by his father to the hurt of the Crown. And sieing, amongst many other great charges necessarie for the present, we ar to sett out tuo thousand men by sea for the defence of that our kingdome, wherypoun we ar to bestow all the taxatioun granted at the last conventioun, besydis all other helpis that we can have from such as ar generouslie disposed and weil affected to our service : So lykwayes, that we may have less cause to burden our subjects, when that which vnjustlie withholdin from our patrimonie is restored, and when our revenewis ar weil governed, We have appoynted Commissioners to concurre with our Thesaurer and deputie thesaurer for manageing of our rents and ruleing of our Exchequer as havinge charge therin : And further, havinge a care that justice may be dewlie administred, considering what inconvenientes have occurred since the session was changed from the estate wherin first it was established, We have resolved with all possible diligence to reforme it as neir as we can according to the first institution, by making choyse of grave, learned men to be judges therin, who may seriouslie apply themselves thervnto, no sessioner being a Counsellour, nor no privie Counsellour being vpon the sessioun, save onlie the four extraordinarie Lordis as they war first intendit to assist and remark the proceedings of the rest, so thereby avoyding that forme confounding the counsell and session togidder, which of them selfis ar distinct Judicatries : And that all such of our subjects as compleane vpon aney heavie greevance may have the meanes in Justice to be relievéd, We have appoynted commissioneris for that purpois, with power to hear and judge of ther complayntis, and thairefter to tak such ordour as may stand by law for relievinge of them, and punishinge the offenders. And though we had conceaved these thingis in our judgment to be necessarie for the good of our kingdome,

and for our particular benefite, zit would we not proceed therein till we had sent of purpois for the cheiff officeris and some counsellouris of that our kingdome, and had heard all objectionis that could be made to the contrarie, having debated the same at lenth, which did the more confirme ws in our first resolution : And sieing our onlie care in all these our proceedings is for the good of our subjects, which we shall ever more regard then our owin privat benefite : Our pleasour is, that zow cause publishe the same by oppin proclamation with dew solemnitie at the mercat croces of the cheif burghes in everie schyre, to the effect that all our subjects being acquainted heirwith may know the sinceritie of our mynd, and that none may mak any sinistrous construction, misinterpreting the same by malicious reports and suggestionis to prejudice ws in the good opinion of our subjects, which, as our cheifest treasur, we shalbe ever cairfull to deserve and interteane : And whosoever shall disperse any rumours to the contrarie, let them be accompted and censured as seditious persones and enemies to our autoritie. So requyring that zow will have a speciall care for performeing of this as zow wilbe answerable to ws, We bid zow farewell.—Whythall, the 26 of Januar 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF LAWDERDALL AND L[ORD] CARNAGY.

Right trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Having resolved efter good consideratioun to reduce our Judicature of the Session as neir as it can convenientlie be done to that estate wherin it was settled at the first institution, we have determined that no nobleman nor officer of Esteat shall be admitted for a Judge therein as hath bene heirtofoir imparted vnto zow, and though we ar so far from conceaveing any ill opinion of zow, that we ar rather weil informed of zour sufficiencies, which in ordinarie persones might with publick applause deserve such places : Zit considering how vnfit it is for men of zour qualitie to tak that charge to whome a place in our Counsell might be more vsefull to ws, and far more honorable for zow since we vnderstand that zour places in Session ar voyd, and to be disposed of ws by the death of our late dear father, and that none can be a judge ther bot by a new warraud from ws, We wish that zow should willinglie reter zour selfis from the samyne : But becaus we will never mak vse of zour autoritie to doe any of our subjects wrong incaise that zow will stand to the right that zow have alreadye, we will appoynt Commissioneris of purpois to hear and deternyne the contraversie according to the reasons that shalbe alledged : And in the meane tyme we desyre zow to desist from sitting in the Session with the rest till this be lawfullie cleared, which shalbe done with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed. So we bid zow farewell.—Whythall, Januar 26, 1626.

TO THE FYVE OFFICERS OF STATE.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours.—We, &c., having resolved, efter good consideration, to reduce our Judicature of the Session, as neir as can convenientlie be done to that estate wherin it was settled at the first institution, we have determined that no officer of esteat nor no nobleman shalbe admitted for a judge therein as hath bene heirtofoir imparted vnto zow in regard of zour offices which, requyring attendance wtherwayes, may be more serviceable vnto ws, and more beneficiall vnto zow : We desyre zow to leave zour places in the Session becaus we doe conceive them to be voyd by the death of our late dear father, that we may provyde vther persones for the same, and if zow doe not willinglie condescend vnto this, doe not compleane herefter if, finding by a lawfull course both zour offices in the State and places in the Session at our gift, we dispose of them otherwyse, ffor we desyre no way to harne zow further then the intended reformation doeth of necessitie requyre ; sieing (being weil informed of your sufficiencie) we intend to vse zow still in the place of greatest trust, hoping that zow will studie to deserve the same. So we bid zow, &c.—Whythall, Januar 26, 1626.

TO THE OLD SESSIONERIS.

Trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Being confident of your sufficiencie heirtofor, though we vnderstand all your places of Session to be voyd and to be disposed by us by the death of our late dear father, and that none can be a judge ther without a new warrand from us: Zit we resolve to continew you still in the same, provydeing that for preserveing of our Royall prerogative, you doe not adhere to your former right, but take a new warrand from us, conforme to that which was vsed at the first institution, for doing whairof we have gevin ordour that Justice may no longer be delayed. So not doubting but you will gladelie accept of this our gracious favour, which we ar willing to extend towardis you, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 26 Januar 1626.

TO THE EARLE WINTON, VICE CHANCELLOUR.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousigne and Counsellour.—We, &c., haveing resolved efter good consideration to reduce our Judicature of the session as neir as convenientlie it can be done to that estate wherin it was scted at the first institution, and vnderstanding that all the Judges' places thairof ar now vacand in our hand by the death of our late dear father, from whome they had the samyne, and that they cannot continew to be Judges therin vnless they have a new warrand from us: And haveing resolved that no nobleman nor officer of estate shalbe sessioner, as we have writtin particularlie to them whom it doeth concerne in this kynd, who we think will rather absolutelie quyt the same or willinglie remove themselfis till the matter be decydit by such commissioners as we shall mak choyse of to hear and determyne therin: And in the meane tyme, till that be done, we have made choyse of others, as may appear by ther generall presentations, to supplie ther places; and as for the other sessioners who ar nather noblemen nor officers of estate, provydeing they quyt all former right or pretence, Our pleasur is, that you delyuer vnto them our new presentations to ther former places, which you shall receive heirwith, and taking ther oathes for dew obedience to us, and faythfull administratioun of Justice, admitt them agane, and caus ane act to be made and insert in the Sederunt Book, bearing the day of ther admission, and that they did acknowledge ther former rights to be voyd by the death of our late dear father, and therfor did tak new presentations from us, which you shall caus particularlie to be recorded in the said act: And if any persone, ather nobleman or officer of estate, or ordinarie sessioner, standing to ther former titles, will not willinglie remove themselfis, command them to do it in our name, till the caus above specifit be ordourlie tryed; and thairefter, when this is done, and such other admitted as we have recommendit vnto vacant places, that Justice without any delay may be dewlie administred: Our further pleasur is, you with the other senatours of our said Colledge of Justice doe mak choyse of a President, and for that purpos being weil informed of the sufficiencie and long experience of Sir James Skene, knyght, for the discharging of the said place, We have thought good by these presents to recommend him vnto you to be made choyse of, which we hope wilbe as willinglie obeyed at our desyre as it was by preferring of others in our late dear father's tyme, whom he recommedit in the lyk maner: And if these things cannot be done in dew tyme, we desyre you to prorogate the sitting of the session till the first day of March nixtocum, that the samyne be convenientlie performed. So referring further trust to William Schaw, gentelman of Our privie Chalmer, which he is to delyver, according to the Instructions he hath from us, and recommending the prosecuting of this earnestlie to your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, Jar 26, 16 [26].

PRESENTATION FOR THE OLD SESSIONERS.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELOUR.

Right trustie and weilbelbelovit Cousin and Counsellour, We greet yow well.—For as much as by the death of our late dear father, the whole places of the session ar vacant in our hand, and at our gift and disposition, wheras it is requisit for administration of Justice that persones of good learning, knowledge, and experience be provydit, That, in default of ane ordinarie number, ther be no hinderance nor delay in the administration of Justice : And we being perfecttie informed of the literature, good behaviour, and abilitie of our weilbelovit Sir James Skene, Sir William Livingstoun, Sir George Erskene, Sir Alex^r Gibsone, Sir Andre Hamiltoun, Sir Alexander Hay, Sir Andrew Fletcher, knyghtis, and M^r Thomas Hendersone of Hester, haveing befor, in the tyme of our late dear father, bene Judges in that Judicature : Therfoir we have thocht good of new to nominate and present the forsaidis particular persones to yow, as now supplyeing the place of our Chancellour in his absence, to the effect they may be of the number of the Ordinarie Lordis of Sessionn : Requyreing and desyreing yow effectualle that yow will receive and admitt them, and everie one of them, in the said ordinarie places, with all honour and priviledges belonging therto. Let them have voice among yow, and mak them participant of your contribution, and tak ther oathes as vse is, as yow will that Justice proceed, and will also doe ws special pleasur. So we bid yow fareweill.—Whythall, Januar 28, 1626.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELOUR.

Right trustie and weilbelovit Cousine and Counsellour, and trustie and weilbelovit, &c.—For as much as by the death of our late dear father the whole places of session ar vacant in our hand, and at our gift and disposition, whervnto it is requisit for the administration of Justice that some persones of good learning, knowledge, and experience be promoted, that, in default of ane ordinarie number, ther be no hinderance nor delay in the administration of Justice ; and we being certanelie informed of the literature and qualification of our weilbelovit M^r Alex^r Seton of Kiltreath, and of his abilitie and willingnes to serve ws in the said place : Therfoir we have thocht good to nominat and present him vnto yow, as now supplyeing the place of our Chancellour in his absence, in the roome of our trustie and weilbelovit counsellour Sir Alex^r Naper, our thesaurer depute, latelie one of the said number ; Requyreing and desyreing yow effectualle that yow will receive and admitt him to the said ordinarie place, with all honour and priviledges belonging thervnto, lat him have vote amongst yow, and mak him participant of your contribution, and tak his oath as vse is, as yow will that Justice proceed, and will doe also ws acceptable pleasur.—Whythall, Ja^r 28, 1626.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR.

Presentation in favor of Sir George Auchinleck of Balmanno, Sir Alex^r Naper, Sir Ar^d Achiesone, M^r James Ballanden, and M^r Alex^r Moresone.

Right, &c.—We, &c.—For as much as by the deceis of our late dear father the whole places of session ar vacant in our hand and at our gift and disposition, whervnto it is requisit that persones of good learning, knowledge, and experience be promoted, that, in default of ane Ordinarie number, ther be no hinderance nor delays in the administration of Justice : And we being certanelie informed of the learning, knowledge, and

experience of our weilbelovet Sir George Auchinleck of Balmanno, Sir Alex^r Naper of Lawreistoun, Sir Archibald Achiesone of Glencaimny, knychts, M^r James Ballenden, Commisсар of Edinburgh, and M^r Alex^r Moresone, Advocat, and of ther abilities and willingnes to serve ws in the saidis places : Therfoir we have thought good to nominat and present them vnto yow, as now supplyeing the place of our Chancellour in his absence, in the rowmes of our Right trustie and weilbelovet cousine Johne, erle of Lauderdale, of our right trustie and weilbelovet David, L[ord] of Carnagie, and of our trustie and weilbelovet Sir Ritchard Cokburne of Clarkingtoun, knyght, keiper of our privie seall, Sir Johne Hamilton of Magdalen's, knyght, our Clerk of Register, and Sir William Oliphant of Newtown, knyght, our Advocat, formerlie fyve of the said ordinarie Lords; Requyreing and desyreing yow effectualle that yow will receave and admitt the saidis Sir George, &c., and euerie one of them, in one of the saidis fyve Ordinarie places, with all honours, and, &c.—Whythall, Jan. 28, 1626.

A presentation in favoris of Sir Robert Spottiswood, admitted in place of the erle of Melros as ane ordinarie sessioner. It is conforme to M^r Alex^r Setonis, and of that same date.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELOUR AND REMANENT SENATOURS OF THE COLLEDGE OF JUSTICE.

Trustie and weilbelovet, &c.—It being our cheiff care that Justice may be dewlie administred, and understanding that the president's place amongst yow is voyd for the present : Out of the desyre that we have that a man fitt for the same be provydit thairvnto, as our late dear father was wount to doe in the lyk caice, being weil informed of the sufficiencie and long experience of Sir James Skene, knyght, we have thought meit by these presents to recommend him to yow as a man able to bear that charge, and not doubting bot his own sufficiencie weil known to you all, being accompanyed with our recommendations, will prevail. So requyreing yow all to have a special care to discharge yourselfis faythfullie in that charge, wherwith yow ar intrusted from ws, we bid, &c.—Whythall, Jar 28, 1626.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTYE.

Trustie and weilbelovet Counsellour.—We, &c.—Wheras we have directed the bearer heirof to that our kingdome for bussines specialle importing our service, as will appear by the severall warrands he hath from ws, wherwith we have willed him to acquaint yow, becaus we ar confident of your good affection thervnto : Our pleasur is, that yow use your best endeavour for the furthering thairof, and as your service heirin shalbe verie acceptable vnto ws, we well acknowledge the same accordingle. And so expecting to hear back by the bearer of your travellis to this purpos, we bid you fairwell.—Whythall, Jar 28, 1626.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras having long experience, both dureing the tyme of our late dear father as in our ovin tyme, of the sufficiencie of our trustie and weilbelovet Counsellour Sir William Alexander, knyght, for our service, we have made choyse of him to be our Secretarie attending ws at Court : Our pleasur is, that you caus all the packetts that cum from our Counsell ther concerneing the affaires of that our kingdome to be directed vnto him, that he may acquaint ws therwith; and that yow caus expedie his grant of the said office through the sealls whensoever it shall cum to your hands, with all diligence, for doeing wherof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, 28 Januar 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved, We Greet yow weil.—It hath bene humbly compleaned vnto ws by Thomas Moneypeny, that he, haueing intrusted anc Andrew Wood with his Landis (the yeirly profreit whairof doeth far exceed in value the annualrent of moneys dew vnto him), and haueing offered to satisfie vhat is due vnto the said Andrew, yit he will hearken to no reasone, nor giue account of his intronmissions, but (as we ar informed) taketh the advantage of some hornings from vther persones, therby to seclude the petitioner from haueing the benefite of our Lawis, and consequentlie from all meanes to satisfie his creditours. Thogh we would be loath in matters of Justice and questionable titles to prefer any partie to another by our recommendation, but rather refer them to the ordinarie course of our lawis, yit in a cause of this nature, wher the partie is both willing and able to satisfie his creditours, and yit is debarred from the doeing thairof, Therfor, if yow find not a speciall reasone to the contrarie, Our pleasur is, that yow giue vnto the said Thomas a protection for the space of a yeir next ensueing the date heirof, to the effect he may vse diligence for satisfieing his saidis creditours, whome we wish no wayes to be defrauded of that which is justlie dew vnto them. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 12 febr 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras in regard of the inconvenientis that may aryse by the passing of signatures of heretable Infetments, and cheiflie of them that proceed vpon surrenders of the new gifts, be not conferred with the eld by some persone of skill, whom we trust who shall sett the substance thairof in a schort docate vnder his hand, vpoun euerie grant for the which he shalbe answerable to ws, or to whome the Thesaurer or Commissioners for our Exchequer that it doeth agrie with the originall grant, or that it shall express in what poynt it doeth differ, that we nor yow be not deceived in that we grant : And as this hath bene intendit in our late dear father's tyme and ours, bot hath not takin the wished effect, so for the doeing of the same we have made choyse of Sir Johne Scott, directour of our Chancerie, who by reasone of the said charge, being best acquainted with the originall infetments, is most able to serve ws heirin : Therfor our pleasur is, that in tyme comeing all signaturis of heretable infetments be first perosed and docated by the said Sir Johne, or by these who shall serve ws in the said place, befor they be presented vnto ws heir, or pass our cachet ther, and that yow discharge all former grants gevin by our late dear father, or by ws, to any persones to this purpos : And becaus the said Sir Johne hath compleaned vnto ws for the lowness of pryces of writts in the Chancery imposed by the book of rates, which was done in the tyme of his minoritie, when he was not able to answer for himself, they being no way equivalent with the pryces of writts in other offices to which this hath relation, that he may have what is justlie dew vnto him for his paynes, and that our subjects be nowayes greived with exorbitant pryces, we haue referred the consideratioun thairof to the Commissioners for the grevances ; willing yow in the meanetyme, while the said pryces fitt to be takin be settled be the saids Commissioners, that the said Sir Johne be suffered, without troubling of him, to tak the accustomed pryces for the saids writts. The doeing whairof we recommend vnto yow, and bid yow fareweill.—Whythall, 12 Febr 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF WINTON, VICE-CHANCELOUR.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Counsellour, We greet, &c.—Wheras, out of a dew consideratioun of the good and faythfull service done vnto ws by our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and

Counsellour the Erle of Nithisdail, we haue bene pleased to constitut him Collectour of the taxatioun granted vnto ws within that our kingdome, according to the signature granted to this effect vnto him : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow, in regard of the absence of our Chaneellour, exped his grant so soone as the samyne shall cum vnto your hands thurgh our great seall.—With all diligence for doeing whair of these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 12 Feb. 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER-DEPUTY.

Wheras we had writtn vnto yow befoir, conforme to a lettre vnder our late dear father's hand, willing yow to pay vnto William Schaw, gentlman of our priue chalmr, the sowme of twentie thowsand pundis money of that our kingdome, in regard of his long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father, and of his present employment in ours : Our pleasur is, that yow pay vnto him the saids moneyis appoynted by our former warrand with diligence, and that of the first and readiest moneyis aryseing vnto ws out of the ordinarie and extraordinary taxatioun granted to our late dear father, or out of our rents otherwyse.—For doeing wherof, &c —Whythall, 12 Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our richt trustie and weilbeloued Cousen and Counsellour the Erle of Mar, or Thesaurer of Scotland, and Collectour of the Taxatioun above specifeit, and to our trustie and weilbeloued Counsellour Sir Archibald Naper, Thesaurer-deputy ther.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right trustie and weilbeloued Counsellour, Right trustie and weilbelouit Cousines and Counsellours, Right trustie and weilbeloued Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloued Counsellours, We Greet yow weil.—Wheras our late dear father did determyne the creating of Knyghts Barronets within that our kingdome, haueing first had the advyse of his priue Counsall ther thervnto, whose congratulatorie approbation may appear by a letter of thanks sent vnto him thairefter : And sieing the whole gentrie war advertised of this his royall resolution by publict proclamations, that these of the best sort, knowing the same, might haue tyme to begin first and be preferred vnto ythers, or then want the said honour in ther owin default, a comptent tyme being appoynted vnto them by the said Counsall that they might the more advyسدlie resolve with them selfis therein : In consideration whair of we wer pleased to give a commission vnder our great seall, wherby the saidis knyghts barronets might be created according to the conditions formerlie condescendit vpoun, and heirefter hearing that sindrie gentlmen of the best sort wer admitted to the said dignitie, we never haueing heard of any complaynt against the same till the work efter this maner was broght to perfection, it could not bot seam strange vnto ws that aney thereafter should haue presented such a petition as was gevin to the last convention so much derogatorie to our royall prerogative, and to the hindring of so wortlie a work, or that the samyne should haue bene countenanced or suffered to haue bene further prosecuted : Now, to the effect that the said work may haue no hinderance heirefter. our pleasur is, that the course so advyسدlie preseryved by ws to the effect forsaid may be made publictie knowen of new, waiving the said gentrie that they may ather procure the said dignitie for them selfis, or not repyne at others for doeing the same ; and that yow haue a speciall care that none of the saidis knyghts barronets be wronged in ther privileges, by punisching aney persone who dar presum to doe any thing contrarie to ther grants as a manifest contemner of our authoritie, and disturbour of the publict peace : And if it shall happin heirefter that the said Commission, by the death or change of any persones appoynted Commissioneris to this effect shall neid be renewed, our further

pleasur is, that at the desyre of our trustie and weilbelovit Counsellour Sir William Alexander, kny^t, our secretarie, or his aires, the same be gevin of new to the Commissionis of our Exchequer, the Chancellour, Thesaurer or Thesaurer deputie, or aney tuo of them, being awyse of the number, giving them such power in all respects as is conteyned in the former Commission, with this addition onlie, that we doe heirby authorize our Chancellour, for the tyme being, to knyght the eldest sones of the saidis knyghts baronets, being of perfyte age of 21 yeires, he being requyred to that effect: And we will that a clause bearing the lyk power be particularie insert in the said new Commission, if vpon the causes forsaid it be renewed, and that the samyne, by our said Chancellour, be accordingle performed. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, Feb. 12, 1626.

TO THE THESAURER.

Wheras we vnderstand that ther is a decreit past against the persones pretending interest in the Comontie of Glenalmond durenge the tyme of our late dear father; In regard of ther willingnes to give way to our lawfull desyre, we have the more cair in some mesur to give them satisfaction, and the rather in this that they have not stude to contest with vs: And therfor it is our pleasur immediatlie, efter they have done what they ar able to doe, or what shall be requyred to be gevin by them concerneing the right we have to the said Comontie, That yow delyver amongst them the somme of Ten thousand merkis money of that our kingdome, and that out of the readiest moneyis dew vnto ws by the last taxatioun granted to our late dear father. For doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Gevin at our Court at Whythall, the 12 Feb^r 1626.

Direction.—To our trustie and weilbeloved Cousine and Counsellour
The Erle of Mar, our Thesaurer of Scotland, and Collectour
of the Taxatioun abovespeicfeit.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—We have bene humble petitioned by one Ritchard Gordoun, desyreing a pardon for the slaughter of Patrik Gordoun, brother to the Lord of Gight, who (as he affirmeth) did in a most barbarous maner cause his sone to revish the woman to whom the said Ritchart at that tyme was a sutter for marriage, and sehortlie thereafter the said Patrik (not contented to the injureis done to the said Ritchart) did with a number of his complices persew his lyff, as may appear by the Informatioun made vnto ws thairof, which we have sent yow heirwith enclosed; yit we would not determynne of any thing heirin till we had heard concerneing the same from yow: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow examyne the trew estate thairof, or vtherwise in respect of the distance of the duelling and of the pairteis from that our Counsall that yow to this effect give a commission to sitt, and sufficient persones, and thereafter that yow advertise ws of the samyne, that we may proceid therin as in reasone we shall think fit: And in the meane tyme, till this matter be fullie cleared, our further pleasur is, that yow grant vnto the said Ritchard a protectioun for a yeir ensewing the dait heirof. For the doeing whairof these presents shall be vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Gevin at Whythall, the 12 Feb. 1626.

TO THE THESAURER.

Wheras it pleased our late dear father to recommend vnto yow a sute in favouris of Simon Erskene in regard of the serviee that he had done in hazarding his lyff to the great effusion of his blood for his

honour, and vnderstanding from yow, thogh yow acknowledge his merite, that it is more fitt that we should give vnto him a particular sowme then that which he doeth demand, seameing not onlie too much for the quantitie, but becaus of the consequence respecting the preparative may be more prejudiciall vnto vs: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto him the sowme of fyve thowsand merkis money of that our kingdome, out of the first and readiest moueyis dew vnto vs by the ordinarie or extraordinarie taxatiouns granted vnto our late dear father. For the doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 12 Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and
Counsellour the Erie of Mar, our Thesaurer of Scotland, and
Collector of the taxatioun above specifcit.

TO OUR TRUSTIE AND WEILBELOVED THE COMMISSIONES FOR THE FRIE BURROWIS OF OUR KINGDOME
OF SCOTLAND.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We Greet yow weil.—Wheras we have bene humblie petitioned in your name by M^r Johne Hay for diverse matters concerneing the good of your estate, we have bene verie willing to satisfie yow heirin, and so much the rather (besydis the care that we shall ever have for the good of our subjects in generall) becaus we ar well informed how yow have bene verie forward heirtfoir for the advancing of our late dear father's service and our owin, and we are verie confident that yow will herefter doe the lyk, and cheiflie at this tyme, when as for your owin securitie we most sett furth some forces, both by sea and land, so as we wilbe ever willing to gratifie yow in all your reasonable demands, hoping that yow will give a good exmple vnto others by your begining in these things which we have directed to be communicated vnto yow by our trustie and weilbeloved M^r Johne Hay, to whome we referre the same. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 20 Febr 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE GREEVANCES.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousenes and Counsellours, Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, We Greet yow weil.—Thogh in our late dear father's tyme ther was a complaynt exhibited befor the Commissioners for the Greivances aganst the great imposed vpon everie hyde of tanned leather; yit vnderstanding how for reformation of a former abuse of dressing of leather that course was fund necessarie vpon a supplication made be some cordliners in the name of the rest, presented to the Estates of parliament, and by them remitted to the privie Counsall, of whom a selected number efter sindric meittings having heard all parteis interests therein, did advysedlie establish the maner how that bussines should be caryed; we see no reasone why it should be recalled, and would think it more fitt that the reformation should continew, and the benefite arysing therby should be converted to our vse, vnless ther be greater reasones and sene inconvenientis to perswad vs to the contrair: And therfoir our pleasur is, that yow consider of the said bussines and try what the just value thairof may yeirly extend to, that we may satisfie our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour the Lord Erskene therin: And if yow find this maner of tanning not fit to be continewd, and consequentlie the impost discharged, sieing his interpryseing of this work did proceed vpon so good warrandis, It is fitt that these who would be relieved of the said impost should first satisfie him for the great charges and paynes he hath bene at by bringing the said work to perfection, whairof they have gottin the experience and will mak benefite, least otherwyse, if he should lose therby, it might discourage all others to prosecute any purpois that might tend to the publick good: And till the

tyme that this be done, our further pleasur is, that he enjoy his patent, and that he haveing the benefite of our Lawis ther for putting the samyne in execution: For doeing whairof, &c. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 20 Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir George Hay of Kinfawnes, kny^t, our Chancellour; To our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousens and Counsellours, and to our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, The Erls, Lords, and others the Commissioners for the Greevances within our kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE ERLE OF NITHSDAILL.

Right, &c., We, &c.—Wheras our late dear father was gratuituslie pleased that the toun of Edinburgh, and such other burrowis as should joyne with them, should pay the lyk sowme for ther part of the extraordinarie taxation formerlie granted as they wer to doe for that which was ordinarie, as may appear by ane act of Counsall of the date the 20 of No^r 1621, made concerneing the same: Becaus we are no less favourable enclyned towards the saids burrowis then our late dear father was, being confident of ther affection for the furthring of anything that may tend to the advancement of our service, which hath bene or shall be imparted vnto them from ws, our pleasur is, that yow agrie with them vpon the same conditions as was formerlie condescendit vpon to this purpos in our late dear father's time, and that ane act of Counsall for ther securitie be accordinglie made thairvpon: For doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand. So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 20 Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Counsellour the Erle of Nithisdail, Collectour generall of our taxatiouns granted at the last Convention of our Estats of the kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have been petitioned by the Toun of Edinburgh, for them selfis and in name of the remanent burrowis, that the acts of parliament against transportatioun of forbiddin goods be put to execution, and licence for dispensing with the samyne be discharged; That the custome imposed vpon victuall that is broght within the country be likewayes discharged; and that they may have letters of mark granted vnto them against the common enemy, wherby they may repair some of ther losses, and preserve themselves from further damage: We doe conceave ther demand to be reasonable, and according to our lawis: And therefor our pleasur is, that yow by act of Counsall discharge the transportatioun of all goodis forbiddin to be transported by acts of parliament, and all Licences granted to the contrarie; which course we will have to continew, and generallie to stand good, save onlie in so far as yow shall be warranted by direction from ws concerneing aney particuler persone or persones to the contrarie: And also that yow discharge all custome imposed vpon victuall imported within the cuntry: And to this effect that yow caus mak publick proclamation heirof to all our leidges at the mercat croces of the frie burrowis and places accustomed: And wheras we have bene moved, in name of the burrowis, in regard of the course that is consulted vpon for raising of moneyis within that our kingdome (if the samyne shall happin to be raised), that in that caice our whole subjects ther may have delyvered bak at the nixt terme thereafter such moneyis at the

lyk value as wer given first by them : Thogh this course seame vnto ws to be lawfull, being conforme to acts of parliament made concerneing the same, yit we could not determyne of anything therein without your advyce : And therefoir our further pleasur is, that efter dew consideration of this ther demand you tak such a course therein as you shall find to be best for the publick good and ther satisfaction : And whereas they have desyred from ws letters of mark, we doe not onlie requyre you to grant the same vnto them, bot to all other our loveing subjects in generall who shall demand the samyne, provydeing that you first sie ther interests, and not onlie tak ther assurance for doeing of such things as they ar to performe according to the custome in the lyk caices, bot for ther prosecuteing of the samyne. For doeing whairof, &c. —Whythall, 20 Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir George Hay of Kinfaunes, kny^t, our Chancellour ; To our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousens and Counsellours, and to our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours the Erles, Lords, and others of our privie Counsell of our kingdome of Scotland.

CAROLUS Dei gratia Magnæ Britaniæ Franciæ et Hyberniæ Rex fideique defensor Nobili sincere nobis dilecto Jacobo Vppheld regis Daniæ Conciliario et Cancellario Salutem.

Nobilis sincere nobis dilecte :

Plurima illa beneficiâ quibus subditos nostros apud charissimum avunculum nostrum regem tuum merentes in dies devincis quorum ad nos sepiissime fama delata est efficiunt vt merito quam maximas tibi agimus gratias Certo etiam velaturi si quid opportunum occurrerit. Predilectus noster consanguineus et consiliarius Nithisdalie Comes vt predicto avunculo nostro charissimo regi tuo inserviet Legionem ter mille peditum in regno nostro Scotiæ conscripturus et ad serenitatis suæ exercitum quam primum poterit adducturus est Cui vt in omnibus quæ ei prodesse poterit consilio et auxilio faveas reliquosque nostros subditos qua soles benignitate amplecturis rogamus. Data ex Alba Anla octavo die mensis februarii 1626.

Nobilis et sincere nobis dilecto amico nostro Jacobo Vpheld Daniæ Regis Consiliario et Cancellario Sic subscribitur

CAROLUS REX.

CAROLUS Dei gratia Magnæ Britaniæ Franciæ et Hyberniæ Rex fideique defensor Serenissimo ac potentissimo principi ac domino Christiano quarto eadem gratia Daniæ Norvegiæ Vandalorum et Gothorum Regi duci Flesvici Holstatie Stormatiæ et Dirthmartie Comiti in Oldenburgh et Delmonhost fratri avunculo et consanguineo nostro charissimo Salutem.

Serenissimo Princeps frater avuncule et consanguinee charissime : Predilectus noster Consanguineus et consiliarius Nithisdalie Comes ardentis desiderio quo nobis inservire afficitur et grata anteaacti vestri favoris in se collati recordatione commotus benevoli animi testimonium perhibens serio et obnixè a nobis petiit ipsi Concessimus vt Legionem ter mille peditum in regno nostro Scotiæ conscriberet quam ad Serenitatis vestræ exercitum summa qua poterit diligentia adducturus est fidelissime inserviunt integritatemque suam in omnibus experti sumus Ideoque pro sua fidelitate animique candore erga vos (quantumvis Romane religioni addictus sit) libere spondemus quocunque a serenitate vestra favore aut honore insig-nietur id gratissimum et acceptissimum feremus et ad promovenda vestra negotia quantum in nobis erit alacriores nos reddet. Hec Legio vti expedite cogatur atque ad Serenitatis vestræ exercitum prima quaque occasione vna cum duabus portionibus quas a nobis prius desiderabit Serenitas vestra trajicientur jam

efficimus pecuniamque ad id perficiendum officariis assignavimus predictum comitem se sperato favore Serenitas vestra excipiat nos novo beneficio quod omni studio et amore fraterno demereri conabimur effectos existimabimus. Date ex Alba aula octavo die mensis februarii 1626.

Serenitatis vestra frater et ex sorore nepos amatissimus Sic subscribitur

CA. REX.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas we ar informed that ther is ane action of Law at the instance of the children of Johne Nasmyth, late chyrurgion to our late dear father, of worthie memorie, which hath for a long tyme depended befor yow, and is not yit decaydit, to the prejudice of these children, notwithstanding the same in our said dear father's tyme hath bene often recommended vnto your care: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow tak the said cause vnto your serious consideration, that justice may be administred heirin with convenient expedition, which we at this tyme doe the rather recommend vnto yow in regard that this particuler doeth concerne Orphanes, and particularie such as ar not resident within that our kingdome, and that the example may concerne everie persone who shall happin to die durning the minoritie of his children. Which recommending to your earnest care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, the last of Feb. 1626.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir George Hay of &c., our Chancellour; To our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Skene, president, and to the remanent Senatours of our Colledge of Justice.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing resolved a new supplie of 2000 men to Count Mansfelt, whereby he may be the better enabled for the warre which he doeth prosecute by our direction; and hearing of the good opinion that he hath conceived out of his former experiences of these persones which wer borne within that our kingdome, we have the rather determined that he have them from thence: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto Sir Donald M'Ky a Commission with a sufficient warrant to levy and transport the said 2000 men, with as large priviledges as aney vther hath had heirtofoir, in the lyk kynd; he alwayes givinge such satisfaction to everie one of the said number as shalbe agried vpon betwixt him and them, according to the former custome in the lyk caices. For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 3 March 1626.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon good consideratiouns we have bene pleased to grant four severall Commissions for our Counsall Exchequer aggrevances, and for a Counsall of warre within that our kingdome, to the effect that the estate thairof and of our Revenewis ther, togidder with the oppressions committed thairin, may be helped and relieved, so far as is not contrarie to the Lawis of that our kingdome, and that a speciall respect be had to the justice of the same, by provydeing provisions fitt to that purpos, and that our subjects be putt in practeis of militarie affaires: Therfor our pleasur is, that with all possible diligence yow cause exped the saids signatours through the great seall, without passing of any other sealls or registrie, and to the effect that these our royall intentions, tending so much to the good of our subjects,

be publickly made known: Our further pleasur is, that yow caus proclame the samyne with all dew solemnitie at the places accustomed. For doeing wherof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 8 March 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Whairas at the humble sute of our burgh of Edinburgh, for themselfis and in name of the rest of the burrowis, we war pleased to wryt vnto yow that no Impost should be imposed vpoun the victuall broght within that our kingdome, which course (as we ar informed) being granted vpoun Acts of parliament, made concerneing the same, we did conceave to be verie reasonable, not onlie for prevention of the scarsitie which of late occasioned great mortalitie amongst the poorer sort of people ther, but for the better furnishing of airmeyis which we intend to sett furth both by sea and land, yit hearing how that purpois was treated of at the last convention of the Esteats, and that Commissioners out of them war made choise of to that effect, bot did not tak the wisched end, we desyre to hear from yow vpoun what grounds and how far they proceedit ther: Therfoir our pleasur is (haveing informed your selfis by them), what is fund fitt to be done heirin, that yow certifie the samyne bak vnto ws, that we may thereafter proceed, as we in our judgment shall think most expedient. So we bid, &c., the 8 March 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE GREEVANCES.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene petitioned by the Noblemen and others, frie holders within the boundis of Lanerk, Renfrew, Air, Wigton, and Drumfreis, That they ar vnequally charged and burledned by ther payment of ther part of the taxations, in regard ther landis ar taxed to a far greater rate then is proportionable to ther worth and rent, the petition whairof we have sent yow heirwith; and thogh this ther demand scame reasonable vnto ws (as in this case holding all our subjects to be equally respected), yit in a matter of such importance we would not determyne without your advyse: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow seriouslie consider of the said demand, and if yow find the same just (as we conceive it to be), that yow try by your selfis, or by such Commissioners as yow shall think most indifferent, the fairest and best wayes, how the samyne may most convenientlie be granted, and that yow report bak agane vnto ws your opinion concerneing the samyne, that thereafter we may proceed therein for ther releiff as we in our judgment shall think most expedient. So recommending this to your earnest care as a purpois which we specialie respect, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 8 March 1626.

TO THE VICE-CHANCELOUR, THE ERLE OF WINTON.

Right, &c.—We have vnderstude by your letter, and by the report of others, of your care and diligence in performeing that service which we had committed vnto your charge, for the which we render yow hartly thanks, and will not be vnmynndfull of the same when occasion shall offer, wherby we may express our respect vnto yow: And we ar well pleased to vnderstand how willinglie Sir Ritchard Cokburne, Sir Johne Hamilton, and Sir William Oliphant, kny^{ts}, have surrendered ther places of Session, which, thogh otherwayes we could have voyded by law, yet the fair course that they have takin is more acceptable vnto ws and better for them, haveing for the present gevin orlour to insert them in the Commission of our privie Counsall: And we will yow to give them thanks in our name for ther dewtiful cariage in that behalf. So heirby acknowledging ther acceptableness of your service, and the readines to pleasur ws, we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 8 March 1626.

A PRESENTATION FOR SIR ARCHIBALD NAPER, THESAURER DEPUTY TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Forasmuch as by the death of our late dear father the whole places of session, both ordinarie and extraordinarie, ar vacant in our hands, and at our gift and disposition, whervnto it is requisit for administration of Justice that persones of good learning, knowledge, and experience be promoted: And haveing the experience of the literature and habilitie of Sir Archibald Naper of Merchingstoun, kny^t, therefor we have thocht good to present him to ane extraordinarie place of the session, requyring yow effectualle to receive and admitt him for one of that number to the said extraordinarie place, tak his oath of fidelitie, and let him have voice amongst yow, as vse is, &c.—Whythall, 8 March 1626.

Thrie presentatiouns of the tylk nature and date to the B[ishop] of Ross, Lauderdaill, and Carnagy.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father to agrie with William Dowglas of Caverse for his right of the Shirrefschipe of Roxburgh, with all benefites and privaledges belonging thairto, for the sowme of twentie thousand pundis scotts money, which condition, as he doeth alledge, doeth remaine in the books of Counsall: In regard the said William hath gevin assurance that he shall surrander his said right whensoever yow shall require it, vpon payment of the said sowme; and we being not willing the said bargane to desert, but rather ar desyreous to accomplish the same, when it shall please ws at our best conveniencie: Our pleasur is, that with as much diligence as yow can possible vse, yow pay vnto the said William or his assigneys the sowme of four thousand merks money foresaid, as a part of the some abovespecifeit, taking his discharge therypoun, and that out of the readiest of our rents and casualteits of that kingdome: For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 9 March 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we are informed that our late dear father, of worthie memorie, did wryt vnto yow for giveing licence to the Lord and M^r of Elphingstoun to mak choyse of ane advocat to supplie the place of ours in the action persewed by the erle of Mar and the Lord Ersken, his sone, aganst them, wherypoun they made choyse of M^r James Oliphant, Advocat, who now maketh some scruple to compeir in that cause, alledging that, sieing it hath pleased God to call to his mercie our said dear father, he hath no warrand from vs to that effect; and we, being no less willing then our said dear father was to contribute all things which may tend to the speedie advancement of Justice, our pleasur is that ye, in our name, requyre the said M^r James to compeir in that caus as our advocat, as he hath formerlie done, for the which and his former proceedings therein these presents shalbe vnto him a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 9 March 1626.

TO THE KEEPER OF THE GREAT SEALL OF ENGLAND.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, we, &c.—Wheras humble sute hath bene made vnto ws by our servand James Heriot, our Jewallour, James Ross, page of our bed chalmer, Johne Hart, grome of our robes, Patrik Black, tailzeour, Walter Tailzeour, yeaman of our privie kitchin, as also by James Hare, Doctour of P^hisick, Johne Wilby, burges of Berwick, Johne Foulter, esqyre, and Robert Hope,

tailzeour, all borne within our kingdome of Scotland, that thay may be denisons within our kingdome of England, We are weil pleased to grant this ther requeist; And therfoir have thocht good by these presents to requyre yow to caus our letters patents to be drawin vp to everie ane of them to that effect, and that yow putt our great seall thairvnto. In which behalf these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 9 March 1626.

Sir Thomas Coventrey, Kny^t, L[ord] Keeper of our great seall of England.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTRUISE.

Right, &c.—Haveing bene informed of your sufficiencie and good affection to our service, whairof yow have sindrie tymes givin proof in our late dear father's tyme, we have made choyce of yow, as of one whome we especiallie respect, to be president of our privie Counsall of that our kingdome, and to be one vpoun the remanent commissions which we have directed to be proclaimed ther: And therfor we desyre that yow should dispoise of your self to be readie to attend our service, which, thogh it may prove chargeable to yow in abstracting yow from your other affaires, we will recompence in such sort as your careage shall deserve, so that yow shall have no caus to repent yow of your paines therin; for we would not employ yow thus if we had not conceived a good opinion of yow, and had ane intention to doe you good. And so expecting your vttermost endeavour for this service, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 15 March 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras being to establish our privie Counsall of that our kingdome, for the more decencie and ourdour we have thocht fit to appoynt one to be president therof; and being weil informed of the sufficiencie and good affection to our service of our, &c. the Erle of Montroise, our pleasur is that yow admitt him president of the samyne, and that he enjoy all the dignitie and priviledges belonging therevnto, taking place at all tymes immediatlie efter our thesaurer, the dignitie of whois place was in the lyk maner established in our late dear father's tyme. And so recommending this vnto your care, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 15 March 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas out of the ernest desyre that we have alwyse had for the furthering of Justice, and to avoyd delayes, we wer pleased that yow should requyre M^r James Oliphant to eompeir as our Advocat in the caus depending betwixt the E. of Mar and L. Elphingstoun, as he had formerlie done; yet calling to mynd how our late dear father (in regard of his owin interest) did wryt vnto yow heitfoir that he might be made acquaintit with all the progress of that action, and that yow should sie the Marqueis of Hamilton, the Erles of Angus [and] Nithsdail, sufficientlie secured from any harme that might come to them by the success of the said action, &c. &c.—Whitehall, 17 March 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF AFVZIE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that there is place in the gendarmes (whereof yow haue charge from the frensh king) voyd and at your disposition, We haue thought good to recommend vnto yow Thomas Edgar, whom we understand to be a gent. weel boren, and fit for that place, Therefor we desyre yow to admitt him to the same; which wee will take as a speciall pleasure doen vnto vs. So, &c.—Whitehall, 20 Marche 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we are informed that ther was a signature procured from ws in favours of the Commissar of Brechin of the office of Thesaurarie of that toun, whervnto (as we ar lywayes informed since) our trustie and weilbeloved Sir David Levingstoun of Donypace, knyght baronet, and gentlman of our privie chalmer, hath vndoubted right, as haveing the presenting of officers to have charge in the said office, his predecessours haveing bene in vse to doe the same these many yeres bypast : And we, being vwilling to wrong any man in his just and lawfull right, our pleasure is, that yow, notwithstanding of the signature so procured, yow tak the samyne into your consideration, and thereafter (finding the same to be as he alledgeth), that yow proceed as yow shall find the equitie thairof in justice to requyre. Which recommending to your earnest care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE LORD PRIVIE SEALL.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, We, &c.—Haveing at the desyre of our weilbeloved Sir Patrik Cockburne renewed your gift of the office of privie Seall ther, and being informed that yow, vpoun our request and that of our late dear father, promised to secure him ane of your narrest kinsmen of his succedding to yow in the estate of all your landis, failzeing of heyres-male of your owin bodie, We are weil pleased to renew our former request to this purpois, and to desyre yow with all expedition to pass through the sealls that Infentment whereof the procuratorie of resignation signed by yow doeth remane in the custodie of the Erle of Lawderdail, and who hath direction from ws to signifie vnto yow our further pleasur concerneing the same. So not doubting of your readines to pleasur ws heirin, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

A LETTER TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, We, &c.—Wheras our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Counsellour the Erle of Murray hath vndertaken to prosecute some matters for the furthering of our service ther, wherein it is requisit that he should proceed by dew advyse, and speciallic that which concerneth the legall proceeding therein : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow giue vnto him your best advyse and furtherance in whatsumever he shall communicat vnto yow, and thereafter that yow certifie bak vnto ws what is fitt to be done for the better enabling of him to this purpois. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Haveing by our proclamation gevin dew notice of our just and royall intention concerneing the Revocation intendit by ws of late not therby to wrong any of our subjects, but to proceed therin according to the right and priviledge of our most royall ancestours, in so far as may not be contrarie to the Lawis of that kingdome : Therfor, till we have further resolved of the course that we intend to hold therin, our pleasur is, that yow have a special care that no signature pass wherby in any maner of way we may be prejudged in our said Revocation. Which earnestlie recommending vnto your special care, we bid yow fareweill.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right trustie, &c.—Wheras we wer weil pleased to give ordour formerlie, by our letter from Salusbery, that the accompts of our last taxatioun levyed be our right trustie, &c. the Erle of Mar and his

deputeis might be heard, so now since this that is presentlie gevin is to be levyed, considering how necessarie it is that we should first vnderstand the trew estate of the last taxatioun, and how it was disposed of, and what further thairof we may expect: Our pleasur is, that with as much diligence as possible can be vsed, yow and such others as we have appoynted to concurre with yow, receive from the said erle his accoupts of the said taxatioun, and having heard the samyne, that yow acquaint ws therwith, that by conferring the one with the other we may the better vnderstand what course is to be takin with this that is in hand; and so assuring our self that this wilbe done without delay, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being the first terme appoynted for the payment of the Taxation was expyred befor we made choise of one to be Collectour thairof, so that ordour could not be gevin for doeing of that which was necessarie for that service in so schort a tyme, and becaus we would now have it to be done with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed: Our pleasur is, that Witsonday nixt may be appoynted for the first termes pay, both of the ordinarie and extraordinarie taxation, to our right trustie, &c. the Erle of Nithisdail, our Collectour, and to such as shall have power from him. So not doubting but that yow will give him your best furtherance in any thing wherin your help can be requisite for this effect, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that, notwithstanding a decreit gevin in favours of Sir W^m Ballenden in ane action depending betwene the toun of the Nacogait and him, and that yow did move the said Sir William to a submission for the more quyet settling of the differences therin, yit (as he doeth affirme) nothing hath bene determined in the said action, wherby he findeth himself exceidinglie prejudged: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow in equitie proceed in the said action without any further delay, that vnder pretence of a freindlie mediation the dew course of Justice be no longer deferred. Which recommending to your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Wheras it would appear yow conceave that by sinistrous suggestions and calumneis of informeris against yow we have bene moved to dispose of your place to your prejudice, It is a course verie far from our intentioun, for we will never trust our information in the lyk kynd till we have heard both parteis, and will never condemne any man befor he be tryed. Dureing the tyme that yow wer here with ws considering how necessary it was to have a Secretarie here resident, which charge yow could not attend, we made choise of our trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir William Alexander for that effect, and would then have heard any reasonable objection that yow could have made to the contrarie, and none of our subjects have reasone because of this course to be affrighted with our proceedingis; ffor thogh we know the difference of ane hereditarie right of a privat estate and the gift of a domestick office in our service, wherby the benefite should accompany the employment, which doeth depend vpon our trust, yit we ar nowayes purposed heirby to wrong yow in that wherin yow have right by your proceeding grant, but onlie to authorize him in his place by giving him that which was in our gift; and thogh we think your owin discretion will lead yow, in consideration of his panes in our service, to doe that which is convenient, that we will never vrgc any thing that may derogat from your grant in priviledge or benefite

contrarie to the lawis of that kingdome, bot will rather conferr further favours vpon yow, as we know your abilities may verie weil deserve. So not doubting bot that yow will fairlie concurre with him in any thing that may concerne our service, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being informed of the ill and seditious disposition of William M^cintosch, as ane cheiff mover of the late Insurrection of the Clanchattan, and how he hath wronged our right, &c. the Erle of Murray, we, out of the earnest desyre we have of the peace and tranquillitie of our whole subjects of that our kingdome, and that everie particular injurie may be punished according to our lawes: Our pleasur is, that the said M^cintosch be not released from our prison wher for the present he is till yow hear what further accusations can be broght against him by the said erle, yow appointing him a convenient tyme for that purposis, and thairefter that yow proceed in justice as yow shall find his offence or innocencie to requyre. And so we, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE L[ORD] LORNE.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we greet yow weil.—Vnderstanding the great care and diligence takin by our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord of Lorne in settling of some parts of the Highlands of that our kingdome, and lykwayes your faithfull and readie assisting of him to this effect, for which we render vnto yow hartly thanks, and shall not be vnmindfull of the samyne when occasion shall offer, wherby we may express our respect vnto yow, We ar weil pleased to requyre yow to continew in the lyk dewtiefull service vnto ws, ayding the said Lord, as yow have done his predieessours, whensoever vpon occasion of trouble or vtherwise he shalbe warranted by ws or our privie Counsell ther to proceed in the lyk kynd. So recommending this to your special care, we, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras it hath pleased our late dear father to grant a Commission for managing the affaires of the Church called the high Commission, and we being no less carefullie and religiouslie affected then our said dear father was to have the lyk course renewed by ws, tending to the furtherance of so good a cause, have sent vnto yow a Commission of the lyk substance, requyring yow to caus exped the samyne vnder our great seall with all convenient expedition, becaus the haste dispatch thairof will much improve our service in the affaires of the Church ther; for doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have gevin ordour by a former letter that the Commission formerlie granted by ws for creating of knyght barronettis in that our kingdome might be renewed at the desyre of Sir William Alexander, our Livetenant of New Scotland, or his heyres, whensoever they should desyre the samyne, geving the power in tyme coming to the Commissioneris of our Exchequer, which the persones nominated in the preceeding Commission formerlie had, and that the eldest sones of all baronettis might be knyghted, being of perfyte age of 21 yeiris, whensoever they shall desyre the same, according to their patents vnder our great seall, give power to yow, or our Chancellour thar for the tyme being, to doe the

same, both for frieing ws from trouble and saving them from charges which ther repairing thither for that purpos might procure : Our pleasur is, that yow caus renew and expaid the said Commission vnder our great seall as said is ; and in the meane tyme that yow knyght the eldest sones of all and everie ane of such baronettis who, being of 21 yeres of aige, shall desyre the same, without putting of them to any charges or expensis : For doeing whairof, &c. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE LARD OF TRAUQUAIR.

Trustie and weilbeloved, &c., We, &c.—Thogh ther have bene warning gevin to all the gentrie of that our kingdome by publict proclamation, that they might in dew tyme come to be created kynght barronettis, and not compleane heirefter of vtheris befor whom they might expect to have place wer preferred vnto them, yet we have thocht fitt to tak particular notice of yow, and the rather becaus it would seame that yow, not knowing or mistaking our intention in a matter so much concerneing our royall prerogative for the furthering of so noble a work, did seik to hinder the same : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow with diligence embrace the said dignitie, and performe the conditions as others doe, or that yow expect to be heard no more in that purpos, nor that yow compleane no more heirefter of others to be preferred vnto yow. So not doubting but that, both by your self and with others, yow will vse your best meanes for furthering of this work, wherby yow may doe to ws acceptable service, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE LARD OF WAUCHTAN.

Trustie, &c. (as in the precedent till this place).—Yit we have thocht fitt to tak particular notice of yourself and house, desyreing yow to performe the said dignitie of knyght barronet, and to performe the lyk conditions as otheris haveing the lyk honour doe, which course we wish the rather to be taken by yow and others in regard that so noble a wark as the plantation of New Scotland doeth much depend thervpon, and as your willingness to this our request shall not be a hinderance bot rather a help to ane further place that shalbe thocht fitt to be confered vpon yow ; so shall yow heirby doe ws acceptable pleasur. We bid, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE LARD OF WEMYES.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we, &c.—Haveing determind that the creation of knyght barronettis should proceed according as our late dear father, with advyse of his Counsall, had agreed vpon : Thogh all the gentrie of that our kingdome had warning thairof by publict proclamation, yit we ar pleased in regard of the reputatioun of your house to tak more particular notice of yow, and did pass a signature of the said honour in your name, wherin we thocht our favour would have bene acceptable vnto yow : Therfor these presents ar to requyre yow to pass the said signatur, and to performe the lyk conditions as others doe, or vtherwayes doe not compleane heirefter of the precedencie of others, whom we will the rather prefer that by the embracing of the said dignitie they be carefull to further so worthie a work as doeth depend thervpon, and as it is a nixt steppe to a further title, so we will esteame of it accordinglie : Thus willing yow to certefie bak your resolution heirin, with all diligence, to Sir William Alexander, our secretarie, who will acquaint ws therwith, we bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

A PRECEPT TO THE THESAURER DEPUTY.

In regarde, as we ar informed, of the custome keipt by our late dear father, of worthlie memorie, to have some haucks broght vnto him from the northerne parts of that our kingdome, and we being willing to continue the lyk course, our pleasur is, that yow cause answer vnto this bearer, James Quarrier, one of our falconers, the accustomed allowances, and that yow give vnto him your best furtherance for this effect : For doing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 24 March 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR.

Right, &c.—Wheras yow signified vnto ws at your last being here, that thogh the purpois concerneing the Abbayes belonging vnto yow was nather for our good nor the good of your children, yit ther was nothing in your power wherin yow could pleasur [ws], but yow would willinglie submitt the same to our decreit, if yow and your children wer not therby greatlie damnified, which nather was nor is our intention, but that we may have our lawfull demand accomplished, geving vnto yow reasonable consideration for the same : Therfoir our desyre is (efter yow have advysed with your children who are interessed therin) that yow resolve what course to tak in this purpois ; and if the same which we desyre can be convenientlie done by yow, we will tak it as a speciall pleasur done vnto ws, which we will requyt, as yow shall find by the effects. So referring all further concerneing this purpois to the advyce of your freinds, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 25 March 1626.

TO THE COUNTEESSE OF MAR.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen, We, &c.—Wheras Sir David Levingstoun of Donypace and Sir Thomas Dischingtoun, our servands, haveing made a motion vnto ws concerneing ther dealing heirtofore with the Erle of Mar, your husband, for his surrendering in our favours such lands and teyns as belong to the erections which ar in his lands, ffor which, without prejudging of him, we wer willing in reasone to give him satisfaction ; and wheras at his last being heir he did signifie vnto ws that he would willinglie doe whatsoever was in his power to pleasur ws, if it did not greatlie hurt his estate and children, which nather was nor is our intention : Therfoir our desyre is, that yow will vse your best endeavour with your husband for settling of this our royall and just intention, haveing directed our saids servands to treat with him for this effect : And if the samyne can be done efter this maner we will acknowledge it (besydis our reall consideration) as a speciall pleasur done vnto ws. And so we bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 25 March 1626.

Monsieur, par requeste a nous presentee par Jhean Wilky, Escossois, nostre subject, il appert que comme il se retiroit et ses biens de territoires d'archiduchesse de Burgoinge, conformement a nostre proclamation, il a este pris l' 5^{me} de Septembre dernier, par vne pinasse de Messieurs les Estats de Provinces unies du pays bas, done Jhean Gisbert de Horne estoit capitaine, et mene luy et sa barque deuers vous a la rade de Dunquerque, ou il confessal librement la somme d'argent quil auoit apporte de Flandres, et le livra entre vos mains, de la vous l'envoyastes et son argent qui consistoit de quatre cents quatre vingts et six pieces d'or, et son bateau, a l' admiraule de Northolland, a fin quil y fust judge s'il estoit pris legitime, ou non, mais au lieu d'y obtenir justice on y a faict tromper noster diet subject plus de sept sepmaines, non obstante toutes ses instances, et presentation de requestes diverses, afin quil peut avoir main leué de ses biens, il nous a done semble bon de vous prier et requirir de donner ordre que restitution soit presentement faicte tant de cest

or que de son batteau, marchandises, habillemens et autres choses, ou compensation equivalente en argent, ou raison suffisiente soit monstree du contraire Car nous entendons que cest de nos enemies et non point de nos subjects quil faut faire boutin, et en autre ou semblable occasion vous resenteres les effets de nostre gratification Royale. De nostre palais de Whitehall le 26^{me} Mars 1626.

TO THE COLLEGE OF JUSTICE.

Right trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to give ordour for distinguishing the kirks of the toun of Edinburgh, and that everie parosch should keip the kirk within the precinct allotted thervnto, from which course (havinge otherwyse takin a good effect) yow onlie, as we ar informed, plead immunitie : And sieing this good ordour so vsuallie observed in all civill townes and commonwealthis, we could hardlie beleive that yow could be averse and refractorie to the same : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow call befor yow the rest of your number, with the advocatts, wryters, and otheris memberis of that our Colledge of Justice, and both by your owin exemple and famileis, yow meett, and by our authoritie in our name yow requyre them that they and ther famileis from hencefurth resort to the paroch kirk wher they have ther residence, and that they vndergoe the discipline and government of the same, contributinge as others doe to the maintenance of those who have the care thairof, according to the ordour to be and which is prescryved to that toun : But if at aney tyme heirefter yow of the said Colledge shall build a church among your selfis, and bestow a compitent meanes vpon a minister and vthers members thairof, then we think it verie good reasone that yow should be exempted from that which we requyre yow to doe. So expecting that yow will contribute all things that may tend to the furtherance of our pleasur in this, wherpoun the tranquillitie of the Church there doeth so much depend, We bid yow farewell.—Whythall, last of March 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—According to our late dear father's intention for making Glenalmond a frie forrest, haveing to that effect made choyse of yow to surweigh the boundis therof, we wer pleased to signifie our pleasur for satisfieing of such persones who, pretending interest therin, did freelie submitt ther right vnto ws. Now, to the end that this our resolutioun may tak the more speedie effect in regard of the present spring, being the fittest seasone of the yeir for storeing the said forrest with dear, and being sorie that our said father's intentioun and ouris to this purpois hath takin so slow a course, our pleasur is, taking such others to assist yow whom you [or] our Thesaurer shall think fitt to nominat, yow surweigh the said Boundis of our forrest, which for the greatest part consisteth of the lands which belonged to Sir Patrick Murray, our servand, and that yow cause sett trew marches for distinguishing the same from the nyght-boreing boundis about, to the effect that no beasts doe in any wyse annoy the same, nor the dear to be putt therin : Concerning which we ar willing that our lawis provyded for such purposes be putt to dew executioun vpon breach of aney poynt thairof : And our further pleasur is, that yow in our name requyre the Eres of Murray and Perth, the Lardis of Glenvrquhy and Laweris, to furnish our said forrest with such store of dear out of our forrests in these parts, wherof they are the keiperis, as may most convenientlie be spared, and that they for helping to bring in the said dear cause give ther best assistance : And as in this, so in all vther thingis, willing yow both tuiching the putting in executioun the effects of our former letters concerneing this purpois, and for the sufficient provydeing of fosters and keipers of the said forrest till our further pleasur be knownen, to use your best endeavours for advanceing our said intention, we bid yow farwell.—Whythall, March the last, 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have already gevin ordour for tryeing of such of our subjects as shall be thought fitt within that our kingdome in the knowledg and practeise of militarie discipline, which may much import the honour and saiftie thairof; and to this effect, being cairfull that they be provydit of good and sufficient armes of all sorts, we have thought it expedient that they be not tyed to the buying thairof from any particular persons, who, vnder pretence of good service, and in hope of his owin privat gayne, might, by procureing a sole grant thairof, wrong the whole kingdome in generall, bot that they have frie libertie to proceed wher and efter what maner they themselves shall think most expedient: Therfor our pleasur is, that dew notice be made therof to all our leidges by oppin proclamatioun at the places accustomed, and that they provyde the said Armour of such qualitie, quantitie, and efter such a tyme as we wish, the rather to be schort in regard of the present estate thairof, as yow, by the advyce of Sir Henrie Bruce, kny^t, generall of our Artererie, shall think fitt; and lykwayes that yow impose such fynes vpon ther transgressing of such ordours as to this purposis shalbe prescryved, as yow shall know ther abilities may weill permit to pay. Which recommending to your earnest cair, we bid, &c.—Whythall, last March 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Wheras out of the good opinion which we conceived of the abiliteis of our trustie and weilbelovit Sir Andro Gray, kny^t, to doe vs service, we wer formerlie pleased to grant vnto him a pension of 200 lib. sterling out of the rents of that our kingdome, and that the first termes payment should have bene made to him at Merimes last, conforme to our gift granted thervpon, bot he in regarde of his affaires here not being so soone readie to repair to that our kingdome for passing the said gift vnder our privie seall, nor to vplift the said termes payment as was intended, becam ane humble sutter vnto vs, that our gracious intention towardis him should not by reasone of any such delay be hindred from taking the wished effect: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow exped the said gift, and that yow readielie answer and pay vnto him and his assigneys the moneyis which shalbe dew vnto him since the dait of the said gift, and so furth termelie dureing his lyf tyme, and that out of the first and readiest of our said rents and casualiteis, for doeing wherof, &c.—Whythall, 13 April 1626.

POMERANORUM DUCI.

Carolus dei gratia Magnæ Britaniæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex fideique defensor Illustrissimo Principi Bugislao Scoten Pomeranorum et Cassubrorum duci Principi Bugiæ Administratori Camirensi aque amico nostro et consanguineo plurimum dilecto Illustrissime Princeps Amici et consanguinæ charissime. Qui has ferunt subditi nostri hordei bis mille octingentes et viginti octo modios Joanni Gray et Joanni Craig civilibus bologastio ditiosis vestræ pro se necnon pro Gaspare Milner et David Falconer concivibus suis ibidem ex ipsorum mandato spondentibus vendiderunt quorum plenipotentiis ad fidem facto ad ferendam rite confectam exhibuerunt et partem aliquam pretii numerata pecunia representarunt Reliquum etsi pridem dictus solutioni dies preterit tamen lucvsque procelando solvere detraxerunt ita vt subditis nostris procul domo nec sine gravi rerum suarum dispendio justum illis operari necesse sit quod vt facilius consequi possint a nobis suppliciter petierunt vt se suamque causam celsitudini vestra commendarem quorum votis in tam justa causa annuere vt rationi et equitati consonam Ita nos arctissimis humanitatis et amicitie vinculis obligatos sibi demiscit celsitudo vestra si prefectis suis juridicis penes quos causam hanc cognoscere est mandare animum induxerit vt sine tergiversatione ac mora cum priimum jus æquabiliter

ministrare sine villa ad Cesaream Cameram provocacione paria aut certe majora humanitatis officio vobis vestrisque prestaturi vbi in nostris ditionibus sine aliis opera nostra vobis illiusve vsa esse possit Vale.—
Datum ex Alba Aula, 13 April 1626.

TO THE THESAURIE & DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that ordour was heirtofoir gevin that Johne Auchmowtie and Johne Livingston should be satisfeid of the feyis granted vnto them by our late dear father as groomes of his bed chalmer in Scotland, conforme to ther warrant vnder the privie seall gevin thervpoun; and vnderstanding that our right trustie and weilbelovit Cousin and Counsellour the erle of Annandaill had the lyk place and fie: Therfor our pleasur is, that from henceforth that yow pay to everie ane of them the said fie of 200 lb. scotts out of our such rents and dewteis and at such termes as ar appointed in ther said warrant, and that yow give speciall ordour to Sir Henrie Wardlaw, Sir James Baillie, and James Carmichaell, to pay vnto them and ther forsaidis ther arriages dew vnto them or ather of them, and that out of the rests of the said Sir Henrie, Sir James, and James Carmichaell, ther intronissions with our rents of the principalitie of that our kingdome, belonging to ws as prince, or out of the readiest money belonging to the same, wherof they shall now intronett. For doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, the 13th April 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Being informed that one Andrew Scott haveing proceedit by a legall course for the recoverie of moneyis, the which as surety for Sir Walter Scott of Whytsted, Sir Johne Scott of Newbrought, Sir Robert Scott of Hayning, and Robert Scott of Hershaw, he payed to ther creditours, and that he wanteth nothing but the execution of these decreits and letters gevin and published in his favours, which (as he alledged) hath bene of a long tyme, and is yit deferred to his great prejudice: Thogh his losses wer not sufficient inducements for ws to wish him to be repaired, yit the neglect of our lawis in so contemptuous maner as is made knowen vnto ws, should move ws to requyre yow to have a speciall care for preventing of the lyk dangerous presidents, tending so much to the publick scordell of our authoritie, and to the vndoeing of the partie so interested: Therfor if yow find the premisses to be of veritie, our pleasur is, that accordinglie as justice hath bene dewlie administrat vnto him in so far as concerneth the legall poynt, so yow have a speciall care to [see] the same putt to dew execution with as much diligence as convenientlie may be; and to this effect, that yow requyre all shirreffis and others persones whom it may concerne to vse diligent search for the apprehending and presenting the saids persones befor yow, which we will tak as acceptable service done vnto ws. And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, April 13, 1626.

TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Right trustie and weilbelovet Counsellour, We, &c.—Wheras diverse of our loveing subjects of our kingdome of Scotland have bene (and as we ar informed), ar to be humble sutters vnto ws for licence to carie armes to that our kingdome, whois demand (which may import the saiftie thairof) we have thought fitt at this tyme and to some persones to be granted: And for the avoyding of the often troubling of ws heirin by the saidis persones, of whome we would have particular notice takin by Sir William Alexander, our secretarie for that kingdome, our pleasur is, that vnto such as shalbe recommended vnto yow by him, yow give licence for exporting from hence, and transporting thither, so and sa many armes, with powder, bullet, match, bandedleyis, and all vther thingis necessarie, as shalbe particularlie named vnto yow by the said Sir William. For doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, April 13, 1626.

TO THE KEEPER OF OUR GREAT SEALL OF ENGLAND.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, We, &c.—Wheras humble sute hath bene made vnto ws by James Hope, scotisman, that he may be denizon of this our kingdome of England, we ar weil pleased to grant his request; And therfor have thought good by these presents to requyre yow to cause our letters patents to be drawn vp to him for that effect, and that yow putt our great seall therunto. In which behalf these presents shall be vnto yow a sufficient warrant. And so, &c.—Whythall, 13 Aprill 1626.

TO JOHN AUCHMOWIE, M^R OF THE WARDROP IN SCOTLAND.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we, &c.—Wheras our intention is schortlie to repair to that our kingdome, wher, being cairfull that our houssis should be provydit with the best decencie and ordour that possible the tyme will permitt, haueing appoynted Commissioneris for surveying and taking Inventarie of our household stuff ther; and being informed that diverse of the said stuff belonging to our said wardrop ar in the handis of diverse persones, which we desyre may be restored bak for our owin vse: Therfor our pleasur is, that by your self or vtherwayes yow learn if any hanging tapestry place or vther stuff and plenisching belonging vnto ws have bene sequestred, or aney way keiped bak from our said wardrop; and thereafter, if yow accordingle find the samyne, that ye in our name requyre and tak the said plenisching or vther goodis into your custodie, to be safelie keiped by yow in our said wardrop. For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 13 Aprill 1626.

A PRECEPT TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Our pleasur is, that our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Alex^r Strauchan, kny^t baronet, be licensed and authorized to export and caue be exported from hence to our kingdome of Scotland to his owin vse and the better saiftie and defence of that kingdome, Corsletts, picks, muskets, bandeliers, and all armes necessarie and competent for fourtie pikmen, and so many musketeris, with a reasonable proportion of powder, schot, match, and all vther necessaries: And we requyre our high thesaurer of England to give ordour accordingle.—Given at Whythall, 13 Aprill 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF NITHSDAILL.

Right, &c.—In regard that it is requisit for the employment which we have conferred vpoun our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Henrie Bruce, kny^t, generall for our Artillerie, and Master of our munition within that our kingdome, that moneis be advanced for buying of provisionis, and that his charges in prosecuteing the said service be allowed vnto him: Our pleasur is, that whensoever the said Sir Henrie shall give vnto yow a trew account of his charges in the said service, that yow accordingle pay vnto him or his assigneyis the moneis aryseing therby; as lykwayes all such moneis as shalbe fund requisit by our Counsell of Warre for that kingdome, to be bestowed for buying of Armes and other thingis neidfull, and that out of the readiest moneis of our taxatioun that shall cum or remaine in your handis. For doeing whairof, &c. So we, &c.—Whithall, 13 Aprill 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR, PRECEPT.

Our will and pleasur is, that for the great paynes takin by Archibald Prymrois, Clerk to our taxatiouns of that our kingdome, not onlie in the tryeing of the treuth of the Inventarie of Lent Money gevin

vp by the Sheriff-clerk, bot lykways in collecting of the extraordinarie taxatioun of the same lent moneyis, yow content and pay to him out of the said extraordinarie taxatioun, for his fie the lyk soume of money zeirle as is payed to him for his fie, out of the ordinarie taxatioun granted to our late dear father, of worthie memorie, in the moneth of August 1621 yeres. Wheranent these presents, with his discharge vpoun the receipt thairof, shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, April 13, 1626.

A WARRANT TO SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, SIR GEORGE ELPHINSTOUN, AND SIR JAMES SKENE.

Wheras, by a warrand from ws, the bodie of ane William Futhie, servand to the Lord Ogilvie, was apprehendit till our father's pleasur was knowen, Our will is, that yow examyne him vpoun such interrogatiouns as shalbe gevin to yow by Alex^r Auchmowtie, and that yow certifie bak vnto ws what yow find concerneing the same. ffor doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, Aprill 15, 1626.

TO GLENVRQUHY.

Trustie and weilbeloved.—We are informed of the care and diligence takin by yow in that service when yow wer appoynted a Commissioner for surveyand of Glenalmond, for the which we render to yow thanks, and ar weill pleased to desyre yow to contine the lyk good affection to our said service in geving your best assistance (as we have already writtin to this purpois) in contributeing, so far as in yow lyeth, your best meanes of furthering this our royall intentioun tuitching the erecting of the said Glenalmond in a frie forrest, and for helping to store and preserve the same: And being lykwayes informed that in our late dear father's tyme yow war willing to give towards the enlargeing of the said forrest a small portion of ground called Doun Andowis, we are confident that yow will the rather at our request performe the samyne at this tyme; and besydis that we will tak it as a cortesie done vnto ws, we will refer it to our Thesaurer of that kingdome what further consideratioun is fitting to be gevin vnto yow for your right thairof: And lykwayes we, out of our respect to yow, being willing to tak particular notice of aney purpois that may tend to the advancement of your house, having accordingly passed a signature in your name of the dignitie of Baronet, do wish that yow would embrace the same, and that yow performe the lyk conditions as others doe, for we will be sory vpoun the neglect of this our gracious favour if yow or your successours doe heirefter compleane of the precedencie of vthers whome we have a mynd the rather to prefer to further digniteis, as shall be thought fitt, for that they are willing to further so worthie a wark as doeth depend heirvpoun. So we, &c.—Whythall, 15 Aprill 1626.

TO THE BISCHOP OF ABERDENE.

Right reverend father in God, We, &c.—Wheras our loveing subjects of our brught of Aberdene haveing bene humble sutters vnto ws that one Mr James Sibbald might be placed as ane of the ordinarie ministers of that toun: Becaus (as we ar credible informed) the presenting of ministers to vacant places within all our frie burrowis of that our kingdome is onlie in our power: And finding ther demand to be so much the more reasonable, as they desyre that yow would tak tryell of his sufficiecie; we thairfoir have thought good to recommend him vnto yow, requyreing yow, if the premisses be of veritie, and if ther be no sufficient caus to the contrarie, whairof (if aney be) we desyre to be certifeid bak, to admitt him to be ane of the saidis ordinarie ministers, and that his stipend and vthers his priviledges be such as have bene in vse to be enjoyed by aney of his predecessours in that place. Which recommending vnto your care, we bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 5 of May 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased (as our late dear father formerlie intendit) to requyre yow that the Marqueis of Hamiltoun, the Erles of Angus, Nithisdail, and Annandail, should be sufficientlie secured from aney harme that might cum in to them by the success of the action depending befor yow, betwene the Erle of Mar and the Lord Elphinston, and that yow should not suffer any decreit or Interloquitour to pass therin, that might prejudice ws in our revocation: Bot since being informed that the said Erle of Mar is willing to satisfie our pleasur in these demandis, by making a lawfull renuntiation to the saidis Erlis of Nithisdail and Annandail, agreeable in all poyntis to the letter direct by our said late father in favours of the said Marqueis and erle of Angus; as also that the said erle of Mar hath made declaration in judgment that no Interloquitour or decreit that shal happin to be gevin in the said action shall prejudice ws in our said revocation: Therfor, out of the earnest desyre that we have alwyse had for the furthering of justice and avoyding of delayes, our pleasur is, notwithstanding of aney former declaration concerneing the same, that with all convenient expedition efter the perfecting of the said revocation, aney vther writt that may lawfullie secure the saidis Erlis of Nithisdail and Annandail, yow proceed to putt a finall end to the said action, as yow shall find the equitie thairof in justice to requyre. Which earnestlie recommending vnto your care, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

TO THE LORD CARNAGY.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, We, &c.—Wheras we ar pleased by our letter to desyre yow that yow should continew the pension of Walter Murray, conforme to a preceeding gift granted to him thervpoun, and if yow doe find that he could doe good service to the house of Lennox, that yow should employ him in that wherin he could be most stedable, acknowledging his paynes as yow shall find him to deserve: And sieing our gracious intention is still the same towards him, and that, as we ar credible informed, he hath deserved weil of that house, we would be sory that he should be frustrat of the same: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow and the remanent Commissioneris choysen for managing the affaires belonging therto, cause the said pension to be payed vnto him, conforme to his former gift, vntill our right trest and weilbeloved Cousen the Duik of Lennox be of perfyte aige: And to this effect that yow give particular notice to the saidis Commissioneris of this our intentioun, and that yow and they in all circumstances and other matters concerneing the enjoyeing of this said pension, give your best and readiest furtherance: For doeing whairof these presents shalbe to yow and them ane sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that ther is ane action depending befor yow concerneing the conjunct fie of the widow of the late L[ord] Chancellour of that our kingdome, and in regard of hir sex as being widow and the late wyff of a cheiff officer who had done good service to our late dear father, the memorie quberof is still recent with ws: We ar gracioslie pleased to recommend hir vnto yow, requyreing that with all convenient diligence yow proceed to putt a finall end vnto the said action as yow shall find the equitie thairof in justice to requyre; which we doe earnestlie recommend vnto yow, and bid yow farwel.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras our subject, Andrew Hunter, in Aberden, havinge by his long travells and sight of diverse countreys attained to the knowledge of finding and working of mettalls and mineralls, and being

returned vnto that our kingdome, is willing to hazard some part of his meanes for searching and finding out of such mettalls as may be ther : We have thought good by these presents to requyre yow to expeed vnto him our licence and commission to breck, dig, opin, and search all and whatsumevir ground bynorth the river of Dee in Mar, wher he shall thinke any precious stones ar, or of gold and silver, or any vther sort of mettalls wherof the predominant and cheiff value is of the saidis kyndis may be had with as large priviledges as can be granted by Law : And that it shalbe lawfull for him (if the owner or possessor of the ground find not himselfe thereby greatlie prejudged) to dig, search, find, and try such as shalbe ther, and to transport a certane quantitie thairof to any such place or places in that our kingdome as he shall thinke most convenient for making of further tryell and proof of the qualitie and value of the same ; provyded allwyse, that haveing fund any veyne of metall or stone of good oare, he proceed not to the working thairof in a settled maner without our speciall licence and pleasur he signifeid to yow for that effect : Thus recommending him to your speciall furtherance in all the premisses, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRELAND.

Right, &c.—Being informed that ther ar some questionable matters in Law between our trustie and weilbelovéd Sir Johne Home of Northberwick, kny^t, and some other persones within that our realme ; And in regard of his nation he was one of the first vndertakers of the plantation ther ; and that besydis his not ordinarie residing within the said realme, which in reasone should be a spurre for his more quick dispatch, from thence he hath done good service to our late dear father, the memorie wherof is still recent in our memorie. We ar weill pleased to recommend him vnto yow, requyring yow that haveing takin the saidis differences vnto your serious consideration, yow by your best and readiest endeavour proceed, and cause proceed to putt such ane finall end vnto as yow shall find the equitie of his cause in justice to requyre, which we will acknowledge as acceptable service done vnto ws. And so we, &c.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

TO THE CHANCELOUR OF SCOTLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras, out of our princelie care for the good of that our kingdome, we have appoynted Commissioners to the end that such our loveing subjects who find themselfis justlie greaved and oppressed may have the meanes in justice to be releived according to the commission, which by our direction yow did expeed through the great seall : And being willing that this our gracious intention should tak the wisched effect, Our pleasur is, that yow caus opin proclamation be made vpon the same at the places accustomed, wherby our whole subjects, who find themselfis so greived or oppressed, may have dew notice gevin them for declaring of the same : And that warning be made to such of our Commissioners as shall happin for the tyme to be within the said kingdome requyring yow in our name to convene, and according to the samyne Commission to detemyne what ther ordinarie place and tymes of meitting shalbe, and of all other matters and circumstances conduceable to the furthering of that service, that herefter yow and they proceed in the execution thairof, according as yow ar warranted by ws. Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

[TO THE ADMIRALTY.]

Quheras the good schip named _____, of the burden of _____ tunes or therabout, whairof _____ Capitan, is licenced to pass to the southward of the equinoctiall lyne : These ar therfor to will and command yow and everie of yow to permitt and suffer the said schip, with hir furnitur and schipsis

company, to quhom we doe heirby grant the benefite of our proclamatioun in all respects, which was gevin at our house of Hampton Court, the 13 of Dec^r in the first yeir of our Reigne, quyettie and peaciablie to pass by yow without aney let, stay, trouble, or impresses of hirmen, or aney vther hinderance whatsumevir, whairof yow shall not fail.—Whythall, 5 May 1626.

To all Officeris of the Admiralty, To all Capitanes and Masters
of schips on the seas, and to all others to whome it may
apperteane.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras by our speciall direction our trustie and weilbelovit servand Sir Robert McClellan, kny^t, hath levyed and transported vnto that our realme a troupe of fyftie horse and ane hundreth of foot at his owin charges : These ar therfoir to will and requyre yow to mak furth warrantis vnto him of full pay to our Thesaurer of Warris ther, for payment of the interteinement of himself and the said Companyis, his owin personall interteinement, and for thers, to begin from ther first coming over to the said realme, and so efterwards as the same shall grow dew from tyme to tyme : And our further pleasur is, that yow furthwith give ordour for entering him in the cheker rolls of our Army ther, and that they be placed in such a guarisone as yow shall find most convenient. So recommending this speciallie to your care, for which these presents shall be, &c.—Whythall, May 20, 1626.

TO SIR RONALD M^cKY.

Trustie and weilbelovit, we, &c.—Vnderstanding that yow, according to your Commission, have levyed some forces within that our kingdome for the better supplie of Count Mansfeld in that war which he doeth prosecute by our direction, the doing whairof we acknowledge for good service done vnto ws ; and thogh moneysis can not be convenientlie had at this tyme, being loath that your worthie intention in this should be discontinued, or yow discouraged from farder prosecuting thairof, our pleasur is, that yow proceed by your best meanes to provyde schips and victuallis for ther transportatioun : And so soone as moneysis can be commodiously granted by ws for the said Compt his vse, we doe offer yow that yow shall have so much thairof as agreid vpon the name of the said Count with yow. Thus wishing yow to insist in all things that may further that our service, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 20 May 1626.

[MEMORIAL TO THE KING.]

We, of your Majesteis Counsell of Scotland, assembled at Qulhythall, 23 May 1626, having by your Ma^{ties} direction of Hugh Wallace of Craigiewallace concerneing his resigneing vnto your Ma^{tie} his heretable right of the bailliarie of Kyle, which purpois was heirtofoir hearkned vnto by your Ma^{ties} late dear father and your self, as may appear by your tuo letters writtin to this effect to the Commissioners of the Exchequer of that your kingdome, we find it no way convenient that, in consideration of his said right, four thousand merks scotts should be yeirlie assigned to him out of your customes ther, as was formerlie intended ; and seing, as we conceave, that all or the most part of heretable offices within that kingdome may be lawfullie recovered by your Majestie, we had not thought it convenient at all for your Ma^{tie} to have made purches of this, wer it not that the doeing thairof can be no president for other heritable offices gevin furth, since ther was ane act made against the granting of the saidis heretable offices, Becaus long befoir that tyme (as he doeth offer to prove) that office was enjoyed by his predicessours, amongst whome the memorie of ane William Wallace, being for his singular valour in defence of that kingdome so deservedlie renowned, may be ane inducement for your Ma^{tie} to deale the more noble with this gentlman, who is the heyre of the

house whairof the said William did descend, and cheiff of that name: And having lykwyse observed what hath bene bestowed for other heretable offices, we conceive that your Majestie may bestow vpon him Twentie thowsand pundis scotts at least, which we could wishe should rather frielie be gevin vnto him by your Majestie as a gift for the causes aforesaid, then otherwayes it should be payed for a pryce for the said office: All wyse we may humble submitt these our opiniouis vnto your Ma^{ties} most wyse and princelie consideration. Subscribitur, MARSCHELL, NITHISDALE, ANANDALE, BISHOP ROSS, SIR W^M ALEXANDER, SIR ARCHIBALD NAPER, SIR GEORGE ELPHINSTOUN, SIR ALEXANDER STRAUCHAN.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR, VISCOUNT STORMOND, AND GLENVREQUHY.

Right, &c.—According to our late royall father's Intentioun for making of Glenalmond a frie forrest (having to that effect made choyse of yow to surveigh the boundis thairof), we ar weill pleased of late to signifie our pleusur for satisfieing of such persones who, pretending interest therin, did frielie submitt ther right vnto ws: Now, to the end that this our resolution may tak the more speedie effect in regard of the present Spring being the fittest season of the yeir for storing the said forrest with dear, and being sorie that our said father's intentioun and ours to this purposi hath takin so slow a course, our pleusur is, that (taking such others to assist yow our thesaurer shall think fitt to nominat) yow surveigh the saidis boundis of our forrest (which for the greatest part consisted of the landis which belonged to Sir Patrik Murray, our servand); and that yow caus sett trew marches for distinguisching the samyne from the neighbouring boundis about, to the effect that no heasts doe in aney wayes annoy the samye, nor the dear to be putt therin; concerneing which we ar willing that our lawis provyded for such cases be putt to dew executioun vpon breach of aney part thairof: And our further pleusur is, that ye in our name requyre the Erlis of Murray and Perth, the Lards of Glenvrquhy and Laweris to furnish our said forrest, with such store of dear out of our forrests in these parts as may be most convenientlie spared, and that they for helping to bring on the said dear cause give ther best assistance: And as in this so in all vther things, willing yow, both tuitching the putting in executioun the effects of our former letters concerneing this purposi, and concerneing the sufficiencie provyding of fosteris and keepers of the said forrest till our further pleusur be knownen, to vse your best endeavour for advanceing of our said intentioun. We bid yow fareweill.—Whythall, 24 May 1626.

A PRECEPT TO NITHISDAILL.

In regard of the charges which Sir Donald Mcky, kny^t, hath already bene at, and of these which herefter he is lyklye to vndergoe, in levyeing and transporting of forces from that our kingdome for the better supplie of the Count of Mansfeld in that warre which he doeth prosecute by our direction, and we being vnwilling that this his intentioun should be discontinued or be discouraged from doeing such acceptable service to ws: Our pleusur is, so soone as yow have takin a course for the payment of these moneis for which yow have ourdour from ws already, that with convenient diligence yow caus pay vnto the said Sir Donald, his assigneys or factours in his name, the sowme of ane thowsand pund sterling, and that out of the first and readiest of our taxatiouns grantit vnto ws at the last Convention of the Esteat of that our kingdome. For doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 28 May 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Wheras, vpon good consideratiouns and durezza our pleusur, we have bene pleased to appoynt Mr Thomas Hope as ane Ordinarie Advocat to plead in actions and causes which may concerne our service within that our kingdome, without prejudging the place of our right trustie and weilbelovied Counsellour

Sir William Oliphant, kny^t, our Advocat in the ordinarie feyis and commoditeis belonging to the same : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow tak his oath for his lawfull discharginge of the said office, according to the accustomed forme vsed in lyk caices, and that his service to ws efter this maner doe not hinder him from pleading in whatsumevir common causes wherin we have no partiular interest. And so, &c.—Whythall, May 29, 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene humble petitioned by Alex^r Chirnesyd, shewing that he out of ane assured trust surrendered his Landis vnto the handis of Alexander and Johne Cranstounes for ther relieff of sowmes of money far below the value of the samyne, vpon promeis made by them that they would not mak further benefite thairof, then for releiving themselfis of what was justlie dew vnto them by the petitioner : Notwithstanding, as we ar informed, they tak a vigorous course for the evicting of the saidis landis from him to ther owin proper vse, contrarie to ther said promeis and aganst all equitie and conscience : Wherfor we thocht it expedient to desyre yow to convene the saids pairteis and tak notice dew vnto the saids Cranstounes, and finding the petitioner able to secure them at aney terme that yow and they can condescend vpon for the payment of these moneis which ar justlie dew vnto them, our pleasur is, that yow most moderat the most fair and freindlie course for composinge of these differences betweene them, according to equitie and conscience, ffor we doe hold it hard measur (if it be so as we ar informed) that the petitioners absolute trust efter so freindlie a maner should be the meanes of his vndoeing. Alwys recommending the same to your considerations, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE TOWN OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We greet yow weil.—We perceave by your Letter vnto ws how earnestlie yow ar affected to doe ws service in yeilding to these things which, for the publict good, was thocht necessarie at this tyme ; and as it is the more acceptable vnto ws that yow have done it frielie of your selfis, seiking onlie how to please ws, and wer to conforme your selfis to otheris who war not so forward in our service, so this which we have done voluntarie shalbe no preparative to mak yow be charged with the lyk heirefter, bot sall onlie mak ws the more readie to extend our favour towards yow, who we hope, as yow have heirby purchased our good opinion, yow will continew to performe the samyne, and spetiallie by the advancement of moneis at this tyme for the payment of tuo schips which are areadie hocht, and that the samyne may be in readines to be delyvered to Sir James Baillie, to whom the receiveing thairof is intrusted for whatsumever superplus we ar to receivee from hence at this tyme, we intend onlie to dispose for the good and saffie of that our kingdome, which shalbe ever our cheiff care, and so we, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—As for that ordour which yow have takin concerneing the importation of forrayne victuall, and the transporters of prohibited goodis, thogh our former directions therein was agreeable to the Lawis of that our kingdome, wherby we still seik to direct our course in our affaires ther ; yit since yow have done it with such a publict consent, we doe approve the samyne for the present, but doe think it necessarie that everie year all such commoditeis should be by yow partiularlie considered, that therfoir (that which is dew for our vse therby being payed) yow may give ordour for restrayneing or enlarging the libertie of transportatioun or importance, as yow shall find the plenty or searsity of them for the tyme to requyre.

As for the contentment that yow have gevin to the burrowis concerneing the Coalls, we lyk it weill, bot doe wish lykwayes that some respect might have bene had to our benefite, becaus we sie no reasone why aney prohibited goodis should be transported at all without a licence from ws, which should be acyqured in consideratioun of some reasonable benefite to aryse vnto ws therby, concerneing which our late dear father did wryt diverse tymes vnto yow desyreing that all strangers transporting Coalls from thence might pay the double of the custome that the natives doe pay, as is usual in all commoditeis in vther parts; bot when we have considered further vpoun this, yow shall hear our further pleasur concerneing the same. We allow of the course that yow have takin in geving commission to such as will adventur aganst the comoun enemy, and ar willing that such persones be rather encouraged by farther priviledges then to be discouraged by too strict conditions: And as to the purposis concerneing money, we leave the same as we formerlie did to your owin consideratioun, to be resolved vpoun at such tyme and efter such a maner as yow shall think expedient; and wher yow remember the expedience for strenthening of our seaports by some forces, we will give ordour therin to the Commissioners of our Counsall of warre, willing yow to assist them wher your help is requisit in that which shall by them be fund necessarie for that effect: And last, wher yow ar earnest suttors to have two schipis from hence to be employed for the preservation of that our kingdome against the common enemie, thogh this danger, with more credit and less loss, might have bene prevented durieng the tyme of the last convention, when we did willinglie offer the taxatioun then granted to ws to be bestowed vpoun that vse which, without dew consideratioun, was too carleslie neglected; yit we have gevin ordour that two schipis may be presentlie boght and sent with diligence, to remane with yow for that purpos, for the honour and saftie of that our antient kingdome shall ever be our cheif care; and so not doubting bot that yow will contribute your best endeavours that may further the same, We bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE RENTS.

Right, &c.—Wher as [We] wer pleased to wryt vnto yow of befoir that yow should suffer no signature to pas that should prejudice ws in our revocatioun, We have thocht fitt to explane our selfis more particularlie heirin to the effect our subjects may have frie passage in all vthers matters which doe not effectuallie concerne the same: And therfor our pleasur is, vnless yow shall receive an express warrant from ws to the contrarie that yow lat no signature pass of any erections, or of any disposition whatsoever of any part of the patrimonie of the church patronages which doe or formerlie did apperteane ather vnto our Croun or to the churche of Regaliteis, or heretabill offices of blensch holdings or taxations: As for other signatures which doe not concerne the saidis particulars, our will is, that yow diligentlie consider if the samyne doe in any wyse prejudice ws in our Revocation; and if yow find the case doubtfull, that then yow tak the advyse of our advocat, and therfter that yow proceed therin as yow shall think expedient, least our subjects be hindred in the ordinarie dispatches, wherat we would be heartely sory; and lykwyse, if yow find it expedient for our further securitie, yow may caus insert in ther securiteis a clause declaring that the passing thairof shall not prejudice ws in the benefite of our said revocatioun, causinge enlarge the samyne efter the surest maner that yow shall think fitting. Which recommending to your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have writtin to yow of befoir that no Decree nor Interloquitour should pass in ane action depending befoir yow that might prejudice ws in our revocatioun, wherby, as our intention is not to hinder any of our loveing subjects of that our kingdome in the course of ther lawfull dispatches,

so we think it good reasone that we should have in our power to mak vse as we shall think expedient of that which is dew vnto ws by the Lawes and consuetude of that our kingdome : And therfoir we have thought it expedient to requyre yow of new that yow proceed to this effect in the dispatching of all actions depending or which herefter shall depend befor yow ; and wher yow shall find the case to be doubtfull whither it may preiudge ws in our revocatioun or not, that yow cause insert a clause in the saidis decreits and interloquitours declaringe that the passing therof shall not preiudge ws in the benefite of the same. Which recommending to your care, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that ther is ane action depending befor yow betweene George Leslie of that ilk and Johne Leslie of Pitcaple, concerneing some Landis to which the said George is superiour, and other his tennent, efter the tenour of Wardholding, in which case, or any other of this nature, thogh we be loath to recommend any persones vnto yow as preferring privat respects to the generall course of our lawis, yit in a case of this nature, wherin, as we ar informed, we may be so much interested by the sequell thairof, we could not bot recommend vnto yow that of the said George, who, in regard, as he alledgeth, that the saids lands fell vnto him dureing the ward of the minour, and lykwise efter the samyne was ex-pyred, the saids lands have still since then [been] in nonentrie, wherby the proffeits arysing thairof dureing all the said tyme should, according to the Law of that our kingdome, justlie belong vnto him, hath bene ane humble sutter vnto ws that justice may be done therein with diligence : And therfoir our pleasur is, that, taking the said action vnto your serious consideratioun, and how much the effects of your decret in favours of aney pairtie may from hence furth serve as a president for all such bussines of the lyk nature, yow proceed with all convenient diligence to putt such a finall end thervnto, as yow shall find the equitie thairof in justice to requyre. So recommending the same to your earnest care, We, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras by our letter vnto yow we desyred that the terme of Witsondey nixt should be appoynted for the inbring of the first terme's payment of the ordinarie taxatioun granted vnto ws in that our kingdome, but being informed that the persones who should mak payment thairof cannot befor the terme be lawfullie charged to this effect, and that the custome heirtofoir hath bene that letters wer direct from our Counsall of that our kingdome as wer not charged in dew tyme befor the terme for making payment of ther parts of the taxatioun vpoun 20 dayes warning : Therfoir, sieng the terme appoynted for inbringing of this is already past, our pleasur is, that by your act yow ordeane letters to be direct, chargeing all persones who ar to pay to ws any part of the same first terme's payment of the ordinarie taxatioun, to mak payment of ther parts therof to our right, &c. the Erle of Nithisdail, our Collectour-generall thairof, or to his deputeis in his name, and that efter such maner and tyme as is above specifeit, and vnder such panes as ar contaynt in the Act of the taxatioun. For doeing whairof these presents, &c.—Whythall, the 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene petitioned in the name of M^r Johne Archbald that he might have a lease for fyve yeires of the assyse dewtie belonging vnto ws of all whyt fishes packed and peilled to be takin within the seas and lakes of that our kingdome, from Pentland firth to the Mule of Galloway,

and with the whole east and west llands belonging to the same ; Togidder with all other assye dewtie belonging vnto ws of all herring to be takin within the llandis of Lewis, Orkney, and Zetland, or within Murray firth and others northerne parts of that kingdome, offering to pay vnto ws yeirle some small sommes of money for the same, thogh, as he affirmeth, for the first fyve or sex yeires no great benefite can aryse to him therby, and alledging that it was expedient for our benefite, wher for the present we have none, that a sufficient and able man for this purpois should be authorised for leveying of the same. Thogh these demandis would appear sufficient inducements to ws for giving way thervnto, yit in a matter of this consequence, wher nather the value thairof nor how much it might interest our subjects whom it may concerne ar knowen vnto ws, we could not absolutelie determyne them without dew advyse : Therfoir our pleasur is, taking the premisses vnto your serious consideration, and finding the samyne to be of veritie, and not to prejudice our subjects further then by taking from them these dewteis which justlie belong vnto ws, that then yow grant vnto the said M^r John Archibald tuo leases, or vther securities neidfull heirvpon, in dew forme, referring the yeires of the saidis leasses, the dewties to be payed vnto ws, and to all vther necessarie and obligatorie clauses, to be insert therein by your advyse. Whairof, not doubting bot yow will have a spetiall care, We, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras ther ar processes intended and to be intendet before the Lordis of Session in that our kingdome aganst the wrongous vpgivers and conceallers of money, which should have bene lyable to our taxatiouns granted to our late dear father, of worthie memorie, in August 1621, whois punishment, according to the acts made in that behalff, will terrifie vthers from committing the lyk wilfull oversight heirefter : We thairfoir desyre yow, as yow tender our service in this particular, that yow have a speciall care that nothing be done in that Judicatorie wherby we may be prejudged in our said taxatiouns, bot that justice be dewlie administred therein with all convenient diligence. Wherin, assuring our self that yow will vse your best aide and furtherance, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

PRECEPT FOR CRAIGWALLACE.

In regard of good and considerable causes knowen vnto ws, it is our will and pleasur that yow with all convenient diligence pay or cans to be payed vnto Hugh Wallace of Craigwallace, or to his assigneys, of the somme of Ten thowsand pundis scottis, and that out of the first and readiest of our rents and casualteis of the kingdome of Scotland, or vtherwyse out of the first and readiest of the rests of the moneys dew vnto ws by the last taxatioun, ordinarie or extraordinarie, granted to our late dear father, of worthie memorie, or out of the concealed moneys thairof which ar already in your hand, or which heirefter shall aryse heirby ; for your doeing whairof these presents, with his or his forsaidis discharge vpon the receipt thairof, shalbe a sufficient warrand.—Gevin at Whythall, the 2 of Junij 1626.

To our Right trustie, &c. The erle of Mar, our thesaurer and collectour generale of the last taxatiouns granted vnto our late father, And to our &c. Sir Archibald Naper of Merchinstoun, our deputie thesaurer of our kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras out of a speciall care for advanceing of aney project that may tend to the honour and benefite of that our antient kingdome, we have gevin a Lease for 21 yeires to M^r James Galloway and

M^r Nathaniell Vdward for making of Iron Ordinance, for the better furnishing of our Castells and Forts therof, and generallie for the vse of our loveing subjects ther, according to ther signature granted therpoun: And wheras, for the better prosecuting and bringing the intendit work to perfection, we gave ordour to such of our Counsell of Warre of that kingdome resident heir for the tyme, for condescending vpon articles betwixt ws and the patents, which we have sent yow heirwith: Therfor our pleasur is, that befoir the expeding of the said signatur through our great seall, that yow tak surtice for ther performance of soe many of the saidis Articles that may concerne ws as yow in your judgments shall think most expedient. The doeing whairof recommending to your cair and sudden dispatch, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras We have bene pleased to grant vnto our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Spynie the office of Muster Master generall and Colonell of the Trayned Bandis in that our kingdome, and the Ylis belonging therunto, which we have the rather done in regard to the present estate of the tyme: And therfor we thought good by these presents to requyre yow to give way to our signature granted to him for that effect, that according to the ordour it may be exped through the sealls, and withall to advyse and sett down such feyes and allowances as you shall think most fitt and sufficient for one havinge so great and honorabill a charge, and for his vnder officeris according to ther severall places, and from whence and by what maner the saidis feyis may be most convenientlie levyed. Which recommending to your care and speedie dispatch, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 2 Junij 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERIS OF THE GREEVANCES.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousens and Counsellours, and right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, We greet yow well.—Vnderstanding how expedient it may prove, for the better prosecuting our service according to your Commission, that the advyse of some persones skillfull and long practized in the lawis of that our kingdome should be had considered by yow, as you shall find the nature of the caus to requyre; and haveing sufficient proof of the abilitie of Sir James Skene, kny^t, president of our Colledge of Justice within that kingdome, our pleasur is, that yow receive and admitt him, and such judges and Lawyers as he to this effect shall bring vith him, and that they assist at all your meittings, taking his and ther advyse for your better resolutions afsaid. Which recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have caused deal for purchessing to our vse the Lands belonging to the Lard and Lady Bass, who to that effect ar to repair vnto our Court for accomplishing of that bargane; and sieing our Intention is not to defraud any of ther creditours of what is justlie dew vnto them, bot rather in regard of some compleners that we have heard to hasten ther payment, and to releive the said Lard and Lady from present miserie: Our pleasur is, that you requyre the Creditours to consent to such a protection for them as yow in your judgments shall think most expedient to the effect abowe writtin. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE CLERK OF REGISTER.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, &c.—Wheras it is fund expedient for our service at this tyme, and for the better clearing of many doubts that may arise in the dew executioun thairof, that some

records in your office may be sene and considered : We therfore doe heirby requyre yow that yow suffer Sir James Skene, kny^t, president of our Colledge of Justice ther, to search the whole registers for such particulars as we have speciallie entrusted to his charge for the better advancement of the said service ; for doeing whair of these presents, &c.—Whythall, Junij 8, 1626.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Sieing the course intended by ws for making such vse of our revocation as shall seeme most expedient wnto ws, is so warranted by presidents in the tymes of our most noble progenitours, and of itself so necessarie for our benefite and the generall good of that our kingdome, We have resolved to have the same prosecuted in a legall maner : And therfor our pleasur is, that yow compeir befor the Lordis of our Session, and produce the said revocatioun, that it may be enacted ther in the Books of Sederunt ; for doeing, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee were pleased of before to wrett wnto yow that wnderstanding all your places of Session to be voyed by the death of our late deare father, and so to be disposed of by ws, and that non could be a Judge there but by our warrant, which course was taken by ws for preserving of our royall prerogative ; and wnderstanding likewise that all offices of state are in like maner at our said guift : Therefor, and for the better clearing of all such questions hereafter, Our pleasure is, that yow cause enact in your bookes of sederunt that all such offices of state and places of Judicatorie, being at our said disposition, were accordingly disposed of by ws as we thocht expedient : And lykwise because our intention is to make such vse of our revocation as may be best for our benefit and for the generall good of our subjects there, and that the samen should remaine vpon record in all ages herefter, our further pleasure is, that yow cause enact the samen in your said bookes, according as some other revocations have formerlie bene in the time of our said late deare father. And so, &c.—Whythall, the 8 of June 1626.

TO THE DEPUTIE THESAURER.

Trustie, &c.—Sieing we have vnderstude by yow how vndewtiefull Sir Johne Buchanan did carie himself towardsis our late deare father, when he was treated with efter a fair maner and vpon reasonable conditions to surrander his interests of his taks in Orkney : Thogh his misbehaviour and neglect therein can not induce ws to doe any thing that is vnjust or contrarie to the lawis of that our kingdome to his disadvantage, yet we cannot but remember the samyne by abstracting of any favour that is in our power to confer vpon him : And therfor our pleasur is, whensoever he hath any busines befor yow in the Exchequer, which may depend vpon our grace and favour, that yow bar him altogether from the benefite thair of till yow first acquaint ws heirwith, and have a speciall warrand from ws to that effect. And so we, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE RENTS.

Right, &c.—Whereas we ar informed that many of our subjects have changed the tenours of the landis, concealed their dewteis justlie belonging vnto ws, have taken in patronages of Churches in ther infement which ar unjustlie takin from ws, and particularlie have done many things to the prejudice of our Croun in that our kingdome : And we being vnwilling to intend action of Improbation against them (vnless they be altogether refractorie to our favours offered), whereby they should be putt to vnnessar charges as to

hazard the loss of ther evidents, our pleasur is, that yow tak such information as possible yow can have for everie ane of the saidis particularis, and calling the parteis befor yow, that ye vse your best meanes to reduce them to ther former tenuris, quytting the other latlie purchased, and that yow cause them pay thier dewteis, and wher patronages of our Churches ar withholden from ws that they be restored : As for others defeicts in ther Infetments not tending to our prejudice, our further pleasur is, that yow supplie the same by giving them new vpoun reasonable composition. Which referring to your consideratioun, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed that the Coyne of ferraine princes is current far above the trew value thairof within that our kingdome, to the prejudice of our subjects ther, and against the customes of the best and flourishing kingdomes : And being informed that our Cunzie house ther hath not proved so beneficiall since the coming of our late father to the Crown of this our kingdome as in former tymes : These ar therfor to requyre yow that, taking the premisses vnto your serious consideratioun, yow tak such a course for the redressing of the said abuse for the pryces of money as yow shall find to be most expedient for the estate of the said kingdome ; and lykwayes that yow tak the best and most fitting course that the said Cunzie hous may goe as formerlie it did for our benefite ; and if any impediment be, that yow certifie bak vnto ws how the samyne may be the best remeded. Which recommending to your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

A PRECEPT TO THE DEPUTIE TREASURER.

Vnderstanding how necessarie it will proue for the advancement of our present service within that our kingdome, concerning which we haue already wretten to our advocat that soumons be raised, processe intended, and that diverse things be searched and discovered to the commissioners of our Exchequer there, the doeing whereof (besydes the great paines to be taken therein) will be chargeable : Therefore our pleasure is, that yow disburse or cause disburse suche soumes of money as shalbe necessarie for this effect ; for doeing whereof these presents shalbe a sufficient warrant, &c.—Whythall, the 8 of June 1626.

We finding it convenient that the estate of our revenue of that our kingdome be made knowen vnto ws once everie yeir, and to that effect that our deputie thesaurer repair to ws to give ws notice therof, and to receive warrand and directions from ws for bestowing and dew ordering of the same, and being unwilling he shalbe made a loser : Our pleasur is, that yow allow vnto him in his accompts the sowme of 100 lib. sterling for everie journey that he shall mak to our Court within this our kingdome.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

TO THE DEPUTIE THESAURER.

It is our pleasur that yow buy in such pensions as convenientlie yow may, allowing vnto such pensioneris for the same thrie yeires purchas, and not above ; for doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

FOR THE DEPUTY THESAURER.

It is our pleasur that yow vse our best meanes for agrieing vpoun reasonable conditions with Bernard Lyndsay for his housses, called the King's housses, at Leith, that thay may be made a custome house for our service, and that zow pay vnto him the moneyis which shalbe agried vpoun betwixt yow. And for your so doeing, &c.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

Our pleasur is, that yow shall not charge nor cause charge such persones of the Ministerie for the payment of ther pairt of the taxatiouns dew vnto ws, whois names in roll shalbe gevin vp vnto yow vnder the hands of the tuo Archbishops of S^t Andrewis and Glasgow, and vthers the bishops of the said kingdom in whois dyoceis the saidis ministers doe remaine; for doeing whairof, and for defenseng to yow in your accoupts of ther saidis pairts of the taxatioun, by the conditionis thairof, these presents shalbe vnto yow and them a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 8 Junij 1626.

Directed to our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Councillour The Erle of Nithisdail, Collectour generall of the Taxatiouns granted vnto ws in the moneth of October 1625.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras, out of a princelie care for the generall good of that our kingdome, we have appoynted Commissioners to the end that such of our loveing subjects who find themselvis greived vnjustlie and oppressed may have the meanes in justice to be releived, according to the Commission which by our direction was exped through our great seall ther; and being willing that this our gratiuous intention should accordinglie be prosecuted, and that a certane [day] be appoynted for this effect: Our pleasur is, that yow caus open proclamatioun be made of the same at the places convenient, and that therhy yow caus intimat the 19 of July nixt as the first day appoynted by ws for the meitting of the saidis Commissioners, requyreing so many of them as shall happin for the tyme to be within that kingdome to covene at the day forsaid, that according to the said commission they may determyn what ther ordinarie place and tymes of meitting shalbe, and of all vther matters and circumstances conduceable to the furthering of that service, and at that tyme, and thereafter that they proceed in the execution thairof according as they ar warranted by ws. And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, 9 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras by our direction our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Skene, kny^t, president of that our Colledge of Justice, for dispatch of affaires concerneing our service within that our kingdome, hath repaired hither to our court, wherat he hath hitherto bene carfull to attend our directions, for now we have willed him to contnew till we shalbe pleased with more conveniencie give ourdour for his returne: These ar therfor to requyre yow to tak notice of this our royall pleasur concerneing his stay, which as it shall serve for his lawfull excuse, so we will that the samyne and the causes thairof be insert in your Sederunt Book; for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 9 Junij 1626.

TO THE TUA ARCHBISHOPS.

Most Reverend, &c.—We ar informed that it hath bene the custome heirtofor not to charge any ministers whois names wer given vp in the roll by yow and the rest of our bishops, as persones whois meanes was so small that they could not possible pay ther parts of the taxatiouns: And we being vnwilling to hinder any such pious and charitable custome, our pleasur is, that yow consider of the esteat of such ministers as ar in distress within your owin dyoceis, and that yow caus the rest of the bishops doe the lyk within ther dioceses, and finding them vuable for the purpos above said, that yow give of ther names vnder your handis to our Collectour Generall of the present taxatiouns, or to his deputeis and collectours, that they be not troubled for the same.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Understanding how expedient and decent it is that in all Commissions of great and weightie importance, wherof ther is a necessitie of the continuance for some certane tyme, that a president should be choysen, and being confident of the habilitie of our most reverend father in God, and our right trustie and weilbelovéd Counsellour, the Archbishop of S^t Andrewis, to discharge that place, these presents ar to requyre yow to accept of him as president of the Exchequer, geving him that dew respect which belongeth to a persone of the lyk eminent charge. And so we, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Wheras the Esteats of that our kingdome in the parliament holdin in the moneth of August 1621 did grant vnto our late dear father ane extraordinarie taxatioun of the tuentie penney of all anuel rents dew to be payed to any persones within that kingdome, ordeneing the samyne to be vplifted at certane termes content in the Act concerneing the same: Wherby it is provydit that as weil vnjust vpgivers as conceallers of money (out of which the said extraordinarie taxatioun was to be levyed) should be punished: And being informed that some persones, without fear of our lawis, and to the manifest contempt of our authoritie, have brokin the provisions of the samyne act, and that as alreadie so that heirefter processes ar to be intended against them for this caus: Thairfor our pleasur is, that from tyme to tyme Justice may be carefullie and speedelie administered therin, according as yow shall receive information from Archibald Pymrois, Clerk of our Taxatiouns, to the effect that as your ordourlic proceeding in this will for the present be necessarie for our service, so in all tyme heirefter it may be a president what is fitting for ws to doe and them to observe in the lyk caices. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE EARLES OF NITHSDAILL AND ANNANDAILL, THE VISCOUNT AIR, BISHOP OF ROSS, SIR ARCHIBALD NAPER, SIR GEORGE ELPHINSTOUN, SIR ALEX^r STRAUCHANE, Commissioners of Exchequer now at Court.

Wheras we gave ordour to the Commissioners of our Exchequer, whairof yow ar of the number, that no signature should pas without a speciall warrand from ws, which might anywayes prejudice our revocation: And now vnderstanding how it pleased our late dear father to give way to a bussines of Patrik Murray, our Cup bearer, concerneing the Abbacie of Inchaffrey, and lykways how it pleased him to signe a signature of the Landis and Lordschip of Kintyre to James Campbell, secund some lawfull to the Erle of Argill: These ar therfor to requyre yow to pas vnto the said Patrik a letter of factorie of the few mailis of the temporalitie of the said Abbacie, togidder with a letter of command of the samyne, and Iykwyse that yow pas vnto the said James his signature of the Landis and Lordschip of Kintyre. For doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Wheras we ar informed that some merchandis of Edinburgh have takin the occasion to disprove the right of certane Landis made to the Bishop of Caithnes and his successours by the erle thairof notwithstanding that his owin proper esteat is more then sufficient to satisfie such debts as ar dew by him vnto them: Which course as we doe conceive is no wayes agreable to conscience nor reason, and against our pious intention for provydeing of churchmen of sufficient and compitent stipendis: Therfor, if it be as is

alleged, and if ther be a sufficient estate otherwyse to satisfie the saidis creditours, Our pleasur is, that yow have a speciall care in so far as convenientlie may by the lawis of that our kingdome, that the said B[ishop] nor his saidis successours be not prejudged in ther rights; which recommending vnto your care, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Vnderstanding that at that tyme when it pleased ws to give ourdour vnto yow for divydeing of your burgh in severall paroches, it was promised in your name that yow should provyd ane hundreth pundis sterling zeirlic, with a sufficient duelling house for the vse of everie minister of the saidis paroches, which promeis (as we ar informed) is not as yit accomplished: And sieing for the better encouragment of ministers to attend ther severall charges, we doe hold it to be a purpos verie expedient: Therfoir these presentis ar to desyre that yow accordinglie performe the said promeis, and lykwyse (as it hath bene formerlie intended) that yow doe wear reid gounes, and that yow cans a sword to be borne befor your provest at tymes and places convenient, according to the custome of the most civill burghs and citeis. And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOP OF S^r ANDROIS.

Right reverend, &c.—Wheras we vnderstand that the Erle of Eglinton, at that tyme when it pleased our late dear father of worthie memorie to secure vnto him his landis and honour, did surrander the bailliarie of Thynghame in favouris of the Croun by a surety which then was committed to your custodie: Thairfoir our pleasur is, that yow delyver the same to our Chancellour in presens of the Counsell assembled, reqnyreing that it may be registrat, and that it may tak effect according to the tenour thairof in all poynts: And lykwyse we will yow to be present with the rest of the Commissioners of greevances at ther meeting appoynted vpon the 19 day of Julij nixt, and that yow frequent our Counsell and Exchequer for furthring of our service, according to the trust that we have reposed vpon yow, wherin yow shall doe ws acceptable pleasur. And so, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE CLERK OF THE TAXATIOUNS.

Wheras we vnderstand that by your travells ther is tryell gevin of some persones within that our kingdome who have gevin vp vnjust inventars, and have concealed moneyis vngevin vp in Inventurs, which should have bene lyable to our taxatiouns, contrarie to the act of parliament made in August 1621, intending therby to have defrandit our late dear father and ws of the taxatiouns granted at that tyme; and wheras by the direction of the Lordis of our Privie Counsell yow have caused raise summondis and intended proces befor the Lordis of our Session at the instance of the Collectour of that taxatioun granted to our late dear father, and of our advocat for our interest against the saids persones, and have hitherto followed the persute thairof, therfor our pleasur is, that from tyme to tyme heirefter yow sollicite and follow the samyne processes, and give such information to our said Collectour and to our Advocat as may best furnishe them with matter in the said persute, as yow will answer the contrarie at your perrell.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—It cannot bot seeme strange vnto ws that no end is putt to the action concerneing the children of Johne Nasmyth, late chyrurgian, which was, both by letters from our late dear father and from

ws, so earnestlie recommended vnto yow and those of our Colledge of Justice. Thogh this delay did not (as we ar informed) exceidinglie prejudge these orphanes by being defrauded of the meanes whervnto they pretend a right, yit in neglect of the royall pleasure of our said late dear father [and] of ours, so often and to so good purposis signifeid, and wher nothing was craved bot the dew execution of our lawes, should have bene requyred from yow a further consideration then what hitherto hath bene fund by ws: Therfor our pleasur is, that with all convenient diligence yow caus putt such finall end to that action, as yow shall find the equitie thairof to requyre in justice. Which recommending to yow, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—We ar informed that ther ar processes intended and to be intended, at the instance of our collectour and of yow, against such persones within that our kingdome who have gevin vp vnjust Inventuris, and have concealed moneyis which should have bene lyable to our taxations, contrair to the Act of Parliament made in August 1621, intending therby to have defrauded our late dear father and ws of the taxatioun granted at that tyme; and being resolved that they shall vndergoe the punishment provyded by the said action, our pleasur, is that from tyme to tyme as yow shall receive information from such as it shall concerne, yow carefullie insist in the persute of the processes vntill the finall end thairof, which we will tak as acceptable service vnto ws. And so, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR.

Wheras we ar informed that ther ar processes intended and to be intended, at the instance of yow and of our advocat, against such persones within that our kingdome who have gevin vp vnjust Inventuris, and have concealed moneyis which should have bene lyable to our taxatiouns, (&c., as the former to the Advocat).—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Wheras, by our former letter writtin vnto yow, We appoynted the terme of Witsonday for inbringing of the taxatioun granted vnto ws, which terme, togidder with the first and secund of our extraordinarie taxatioun being bypast, and being informed that the custome heirtofoir hath bene that letters wer direct from our Counsell thair for charging of such persones, vpon 20 dayes warning, to mak payment of the part of the taxationis, who had not bene charged in dew tyme for doeing thairof: Our pleasur is, that by your Act yow ordeane letters to be direct, charging all persones who ar to pay vnto ws any part of the said terme's payment of the ordinarie and extraordinarie taxations, to mak payment thairof to our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen and counsellour the Erle of Nithisdail, our collectour generall thairof, or to his deutes in his name, and that after such maner and tyme as is above speifeit, and vnder such panes as ar conteyned in the act of the Taxationis. For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Wheras by the exemple of our late dear father, of worthie memorie, we have agried that ther shalbe payed vnto ws yeirly by the Toun of Edinburgh, in full satisfaction of ther parts of the ordinarie and extraordinarie taxationis granted to ws by the estats of that our kingdome, the somme of Ten thowsand pundis Scotts in everie ane of the four yeirs of the samyn taxatioun: Wherwith we have thought fit to acquaint yow that by our act of Counsell this our agriement may be setled and sufficient securitie takin for

our payment ; but our pleasur is, befor the passing of the same, that ther be delyvered to the Collectour of these moneyis or to the Clerk of the Taxatiouns, a note subscriyved be the Clerk of our said burgh, conteneing the names of all such persones within the same as ar burgesses and friemen, lyable to watch and ward, and to contribut with that toun in all ther publict adoes, and that these and none vther be comprehendit within this agriement, excludeing out therof for the matter of our extraordinarie taxatioun all persones duelling in the cuntreie, thogh they have tenements of Land within the said burgh, for which they ar lyable to pay ordinarie taxatioun ; and that yow provyde a remedie for preventing of fraud, which may be vsed by the Inhabitants of the said burgh in lending of ther names to the outputting of moneyis apperteneing to persones duelling in the Cuntreie : And that yow tak the lyk course with all others our burghes ther ; and that the Advocatts, Clerks of our Session, and Writers to the Signet, and ther members who shall desyre to mak the lyk composition. For doeing of all which these, &c. —Whythall, 14 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Wheras William Rig, burges of our burgh of Edinburgh, was by our direction confyned within fyff durezza the pleasur of our late dear fater for some disconforme behaviour vsed by him towards some persones of the Ministerie, and now, being informed of his resolution to carie himself heirefter in a more dewtiefull maner, our pleasur is, that vpon declaration therof to yow by the Archbishop of S^t Androis yow enlarge him to the effect he may repair whither it shall best please him, for the dispatch of his affaires.

12 ARTICLES.

1. That the Lordis of the Colledge of Justice tak a course for appoynting a chaplane, who may everie morning at eight aelock say a prayer vnto them.
 2. That the President of the said Colledge mak choyse of two or thrie lawyers which may consult and assist with the King's Advocatts in all bussines that concernes his Ma^{teie} Law affaires.
 3. That the President appoynt such dayes and tymes as he shall think fitting for consultatiouns in his Ma^{teie} affaires.
 4. That the President search all registers and tak note of such thair of as may advance his Ma^{teie} service.
 5. That the President give command to his Ma^{teie} Advocat to advert that nothing be done in that action betwixt the Erle of Mar and the Lord Elphingston prejudiciall to his Ma^{teie} service.
 6. That the President caus revise all such acts and ordinances that doeth concerne expedition of Justice, or ordoreing of the house of session that may be of new enacted, and what is further necessarie being advertised by the president, his Ma^{teie} may give ordour therabout.
 7. That the President in the search of the registers mak a roll of all holdings and ther charge.
 8. That the President mak a note of all privilegedes of the session and members therof, that his Ma^{teie} may ratifie such of them as he shall think expedient.
 9. That the President search the registers and mak a note of all acts that concernes the presentatiouns and admissions of the Lordis of Session.
 10. That his Ma^{teie} Advocats be commanded to advyse what course shall be takin in the bussines of the Basse.
 11. That his Ma^{teie} Advocats be commanded to raise summondis aganist such Lords of the Erections, and other poynts conteyned in his Ma^{teie} revocatioun, as shalbe thocht expedient.
 12. To search these books and acts which wer made in the tyme of the Lords, called the Octavians.
- Signed at Whythall, Junij 14, 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing resolved to send a supplie of Fyve hundreth men to our vnclē the King of Denmark, and that he have them from that our kingdome, Our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto Capitan Alex^r Setone a commission with a sufficient warrant to leavy and transport the said 500 men, with as large priviledges as any vther hath had heirtfoir in the lyk kynd, he alwyse geiving such satisfaction to everie one of the said number as shalbe agried vpon betwixt him and them, according to the custome in the lyk caices. For doeing whairof, &c.—Grenwiche, 24 Junij 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Sieing it hath pleased ws to give ordour for the payment of such money for the intertenement and transportioun of these forces levyed or to be levyed by Sir Donald M^cKy and Sir James Leslie, kny^{ts}, by vertew of ther severall commissions granted to this effect, as ar proportionable with the number of soldiours so levyed by them, according to the extract of the Informations gevin by Count Mansfeld to one M^r Woulson, which we have sent yow here enclosed : Therfoir our pleasur is, that not onlie yow have a speciall care to tak suretie of them for fulfilling the samyne in all poynts, bot lykwayis that in all other matters and circumstances conduceable to the furthering of the quick dispatch from thence, yow give your best aide and furtherance, which we will tak as acceptable service done vnto ws. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, last of Junij 1626.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Becaus yow have bene acquainted heretfoir with all the proceedinges between the Lord Ogilvie and the Ladie his mother-in-Law, as one to whois consideratioun it was particularlie referred: And that we fand that at your last being here how well yow wer affected to the settling that bussines, and how the said Lord was so obstinat that he would tak no course for the releiff of the Lady who hath bene so heavelie distrest, being verie desyreous that schoe may obtene that which is dew vnto hir with as much diligence as convenientie can be vsed, we would willinglie that yow should vse your best endeavours for that effect; and in regard schoe hath compleaned heirtfoir that schoe could have no Advocat to pleade for hir, and that these who wer commanded by yow to plead in hir cause (not being employed by the other pairtie) did refuse to doe the same : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow tak such ordour with these persones as yow may lawfullie doe be vertew of your place, to the effect they may not plead for the vther pairtie, and that schoe may have as much favour as yow can justlie affoord, for as we will never wish yow to deelyne from that which is equitable out of respect to any persone, so we wish yow to give vnto hir your best furtherance in so far as can agrie with equitie. In doeing wherof yow shall doe ws acceptable service, and so we, &c.—Whythall, first July 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras ther hath bene complaint made vnto ws by the Lady Ogilvie, elder, aganst the now Lord Ogilvie, hir some-in-law, most humble schawing that schoe hath bene mony wyse wronged and oppressed in hir bodie, goodis, and estate by him and by his meanes, which, if it be trew as schoe doeth alledge, is both so ill of itself and by the

exēple, that we cannot but be carefull to sie the samyne dewlie tryed and punisched, sieing that the injureis compleaned of ar such ryotts and insolenceis as hath Lenc done with a manifest contempt of our autorithe: Therfoir our pleasur is, that Letters be raised at our instance to charge the Lord Ogilvie, his brethren, vnles, servendis, and tennents befoir Judges compitent, according to the names that shalbe gevin vnto yow in roll by the said Lady Ogilvie and one William Bachop, to answer for the said ryot and injureis done vnto hir, hir children, sisters, and the said William Bachop, as yow shalbe informed by them, and that yow fail not to prosecute the samyne, according to the Lawis of that our kingdome, and that yow assist them with your Counsall, consult, concurr, and ayd them in all ther actions and causes against the said Lord, befoir whatsoever Judg or Judges, as weill civill as criminall, by all lawfull meanes and wayes for ther mor speedie redress. For doeing wherof, &c.—Whythall, first of July 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTROISE.

Wheras we vnderstand that the differences betwene my Lord Ogilvy and his mother-in-law being submitted vnto yow and the Lord Gordoun, it was agreed that schoe should produce such writts and securiteis as did concerne the Landis of the House of Ogilvie which wer in hir custodie, conditionallie that if they did not agree, the writts should have bene restored back to hir, according to a band which he gave thairvpon, yit contrarie to the meaneing thairof, and if it be trew, howsoever, not lawfullie in an honorabill maner, advantage was takin by this submission to arreist the saidis writts, and to charge yow for production thairof: And becaus they have neid of the same for clearing of sindrie things to be performed against the said Lord efter the said arrestment is loosed in maner vsed in the lyk caices: Our pleasur is, that yow redelyver vnto the said Lady the writts so arreisted in your handis accordinglie, as was intended at the making of the said band, yow alwyse taking sufficient surety that they shalbe made furlth-cuming to the partie who hath right thervnto. Which recommending to your care, We bid yow, &c.—Whythall, first July 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Having vnderstood how the Lady Ogilvie hath bene heavelic distrest by the now Lord Ogilvie, hir sone-in-law, who, notwithstanding of the portion received by his father with hir, doeth detean that which was appoynted for hir maintenance, wherby schoe hath bene reduced to extreme necessitie, and lyklye to be all urther vndone, which did induce our late dear father and ws, having pitie vpon hir estate, to refer the consideration thairof to our Chancellour, the now president of our Session, and others, who did certifie vnder ther handis how the late Lord Ogilvie had satisfied diverse sowmes of money which wer alledged to be vnpayed, and that the now Lord had obtained decreits aganst hir vnder borrowed names and in hir absence, who if schoe had bene present would have eleided maney of the distresses alledged by him, as by ther certificats heivpoun may appear, and we havinge the lyk compassion of hir sufferings as our late dear father had, did send for the Lord Ogilvie, hoping to have caused mediat a frendlie agriement betwene them; but notwithstanding he had submitted vnto others of befoir, he refused to doe the lyk at our desyre, wher Alex^r Auchmowtie, hir husband, was willing to submit absolutelie vnto ws, or vnto yow, or vnto aney indifferent persones whosoever: And therfoir our pleasur is, that yow review the former processes of the decreits gevin aganst hir, and wher yow find advantages takin, and simulat assignatiouns, vnder borrowed names, or in hir absence, that yow consider thairof, according to equitie and conscience, respecting the samyne, more than too strict poynts of Law grounded vpon late practique, and that yow admitt hir advocatts to make a relation of the proceedings for the better information of such of your number as was not present when the saidis decreits wer obtained, or otherwyse that they informe them-

selfis therof efter such maner as shalbe most expedient. So recommending this cause to your speciall care and furtherance, as a bussines wherof we have takin speciall notice, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 1 July 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Sieing yow have represented vnto ws that no decreit nor Interloquitour that is gevin and pronounced in any action depending, or which heirefter shall depend, befor yow, betwixt any of our subjects within that our kingdome, cau prejudice ws in the benefite of our revocation, except our Advocats and officers doe expreslie compeir in the same, or wher the samyne is alledged, in any of which cases yow have promised to adverteis our Advocatts, and carefullie to advert that we susteane no prejudice, we ar weill pleased with that which yow have represented: And sieing we will rely vpon your judgment heirin, our pleasur is, that the samyne be insert in your books of Sederunt, wher it may be still extant to be sein if neid be: And wher it is contraverted with Mr Thomas Hope, one of our Advocats should plead, being vncovered, or not, sieing you acknowledge that the priviledge of being covered befor yow is granted to the Lords of parliament, we sie no reason bot that all our officers of state who have voits in parliament should have the lyk libertie, as lykwyse these of our privie Counsall, it being the more supreme judicatorie, and so neir vnto ws, and thogh we have removed our Advocat from being a senatour of that our Colledge of Justice, yit it is noway our intention to tak from him any benefite or priviledge dew to his place, and chieflie befor we know what reasone he can alledge for himself: Therfoir, till we hear what reasones ar alledged for or aganst that purpois, and in the meane tyme least our service should suffer in that which belongs to our Advocat's charge, our pleasur is, that they enjoy the lyk priviledge in pleading, being covered or vtherwayes, that any of our advocats have enjoyed heirtfoir, and that they may have the sight of such books and records wherby this doubt may be best cleared, that thereafter, being sufficientlie informed, we may declare our further pleasur what is fitt to be done heirin in all tyme cuming. And so, &c.—Whythall, 1 July 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST ANDROIS, BISCHOPS ROSS AND DUMBLANE.

Most reverend and Reverend fathers in God, We, &c.—Being informed of the indirect proceeding vsed vpon William Cochrane in ane action of divorce persewed at his instance against the petitioner, which if it be trew as schoe doeth alledge, is both so evill of it self, and by the example so exceidinglie pernicious, that we cannot but be carefull to have the samyne tryed and punished, as by the petition which we have sent yow heirwith inclosed yow may at more length informe your selfis: Therfor our pleasur is, having called for the commissions and depositions proceeding vpon the said bussines at the handis of whatsoever persones in whois custodie they ar known [to] be, and efter diligent and carefull pervseing thairrof, and of all the circumstances that may have relation or that may give light to the treuth of the cause finding hir to be so wronged as is pretendit: That therfoir yow mak a dew remonstrance of what yow find befor ane assemble of the Commissioneris for the greevances, willing them to tak such a speedie course for hir releif, and for the punishing of these persones who shalbe fund culpable heirin, as the equitie of the caus shall in justice requyre: And in the meane tyme that yow advyse the Ministers of Edinburgh to desist from proceeding aney further in the sentence of excommunication untill the tyme that this cause be fullie cleared. Which recommending to, &c.—Whythall, the 1 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene moved in the behalf of Mr James Durehame and of Foullis for granting vnto them the office of searching and keeping of the register of Merchandice trans-

ported out of that our kingdome, and making of the trew accompt of the bullion aryseing therby, and (as we ar informed) the same be at our frie gift, yit we could desyre that it wer so settled as may be most expedient for our service, according to the best and most vsuall custome, and that the persone to whom it wer granted wer such as his knowledge and habilities might be deserved to the same: And thairfoir our pleasur is, if yow find the office to be at our gift, that yow try the sufficiencie of these persones; and that in the behalff of him whom yow find to be most able to discharge it, yow caus send vp a gift thairof to pass our hand, with such conditionis as ar most necessarie for the good of our service in the execution of the said office. And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 1 of July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Sieing at this tyme we have takin vpon ws the protection of the estate, offices, and vthers priviledges belonging vnto our right trustie and weilbeloved Cosen the Duik of Lennox, being willing that the same should be managed by such persones onlie to whom the government of his affaires within that our kingdome ar by our advyse speciallie entrusted; and being informed that some persones ther without any lawfull warrand doe encroatch vpoun some priviledges belonging to the office of high Admiraltie, and that the mourneing hangings within our palace of Holyrud hous, and other things belonging to him as our Chalmerlane ther, ar deteyned from him against all reason and our royall intention: Therfor our pleasur is, that from hencefurth (when yow shalbe requyred by the saidis persones, or any of them who ar entrusted with his said estate) yow have a special care for sieing his saidis liberteis preserved in everie thing that may concerne him, which we will accept as acceptable service done vnto ws. And so, &c.—Whythall, 1 July 1626.

TO THE ADMIRALL DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras vpon good consideratiouns We ar gratuslie pleased to grant a pardon vnder the great seall of our kingdome of England vnto our Capitan Hen. Hinckley and his company, remaneing for the present within that our kingdome; and sieing one of the schippes, whairof the said Hinckley was capitane, is by him disponed to William Alexander, sone to Sir William Alexander, kny^t, our Secretarie, and being willing that he should feeleie enjoy what hath bene agreed vpon betweene Hinckley and him: Our pleasur is, that no interruption be made by yow, nor by any havinge power from yow, wherby the said William, his assigneyis, factours, or servandis, be hindered in the peaciable possession of the said schip and whole furnitur belonging thervnto. And for so doeing these shalbe, &c.—Whythall, 1 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Wheras we have gevin warrand to our right, &c. the Erle of Nithisdail, Collectour of the Taxatioun granted vnto ws vnto that our kingdome, to pay vnto Sir James Baillie, kny^t, as advancer and giver of securitie for diverse sowmes of money extending to 5200 lib. sterling or therabout, togidder with the Interest and proffeit thairof, and that for buying of thrie schipes with ther furnitour and vther provisions to be employed in our service for the better defence of that our kingdome, and for such sowmes of money as shalbe disbursit by him by the advyse of Sir William Alexander and Sir James Spence, kny^{ts}, tuo of our Counsell of warre for that kingdome, as by the said warrand may appear: Therfoir our pleasur is, that for the said Sir James Baillie, his better securitie, yow by act of privie Counsell Ratifie and approve our said warrand direct to the said Erle, ordeaneing him to pay the sowmes of money conteynit therein, befoir he satisfie any other sowmes of money for any vther caus whatsoever. And so we, &c.—Whythall, first July 1626.

TO THE LARD AND LADY BASSE.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we, &c.—Wheras, by mediation of the president of our session, we have bene induced to deall for your esteat, and to grant vnto yow a protection for a tyme to dispose of your affaires, to the effect that that bussines may be settled with as much diligence as can convenientlie be vsed: Our pleasur is, that yow ather repair hither vnto ws, or that yow send some sufficient persone having power from yow, weil instructed for perfecteing of that which was confered vpon betwix our said president and yow, vnto whome we wish yow delyver the writts and evidents of your Land, that they may remane the more secure in his custodie till it be fully determyned what is fitt to be done by ws heirin, taking his note according to an Inventarie to be made thairvpoun for the delyverie thairof to ws or back agane to yow according to the Issue of the said bargane. And so we bid yow farewell.—From our Court at Whythall, first July 1626.

PRECEPT TO THE E[ARL] NITHSDALE.

Wheras we have gevin ordour to yow for buying of thrie schippes for our service, and for defence of our subjects of that our kingdome of Scotland who have ther trade by sea, tuo of which shippes ar now lyeing in the river of Thames; the one called the _____, at the pryce of 2400 lib. sterling, as by the bill of sale appeareth, with 25 lib. sterling to the Master; the other called the Helen, at 865 lib. 7s. Sterling, as appeareth lykwayes by the bill of sale, with 3 lib. money forsaide to the master; and the thrid schip called the Blissing, now lyeing in Leith, belonging now to Robert Ker and his partiners, at the pryce of 22,500 lib. scotts money: Our will is thairfor, that yow caus pay vnto Sir James Baillie, who hath advanced and gevin securitie for the saidis sowmes, or allow in the first end of his receipts as one of your deputts, not onlie the forsaidis principall sowmes, with ther interest and proffite, bot also all and whatsumeivr sowmes of money the said Sir James or his factouris shall deburse and lay out at the sight and by advyse of Sir William Alexander and Sir James Spense, kny^{ts}, tuo of our Counsell of warrs, in trymning, dressing, outreaking, victualling, provision of powder, schott, taikle, saills, anchors, warkmen's wages, commander's, souldiours', and saillers' fees, for the saidis tuo schippis lyeing in the river of Thames, and transporting of them to Scotland: As lykwyse that yow allow vnto him all such sowmes of money as ther Commissioners for ther marine affaires within Scotland shall think requisite for repairing, victualling, and outreaking of the forsaid schip called the Blissing, now lyeing within the said port of Leith; which sowmes of money not specifeit particularie heirin, which ar as yit to be payed to the said Sir James, with the principall sowmes above writtin, shalbe thankfullie allowed to yow in your accompts by the auditours therof, whome we command to defese and allow the samyne to yow, these presents, with certificats of the said Sir William Alexander and Sir James Spense, and of the saidis Commissioners, being schawn vpon accompt for your warrand.—Whythall, first July 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and Trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras we ar resolved to vse our best endeavours for planting of all such churches within that our kingdome as ar not already planted, and for freeing the gentry thairof from that which they suffer by the power that others have over them by meanes of teyndis and heretable offices; and being to mak the best benefite we can of our revocation to that effect, as lykwyse for the advancement of other common works, and for the increase of our revenewis, in so far as it may lawfullie and convenientlie be done, Our pleasur is, that yow our advocat, and yow of

whome we have made choyce to concure with him, doe meet and consult togidder to the effect foirsaid, and that yow trewlie digest and consider of such things as yow your self [think] to be for the good heirof, or that shalbe proponed vnto yow by any vthers for this end : And thereafter, haveing advysed what course is fittest for ws to tak for recoverie of that whervnto we have right, and for the disposing of such abbayes as we have alreadie, or that shall happin to fall vnto our hand, that yow certifie back vnto ws your opinion therin. So reserving all other things concerneing the premisses to your further consideration, We bid, &c.—Whythall, the first of July 1626.

A LICENCE FOR TRAVELLING.

Charles, by the Grace of God, king of England, Scotland, France, and Irland, defender of the fayth, To all Mayres, Shirreffis, Justices of Peace, Vice-Admiralls, Baillives, Constables, Customeris, Comptrolleris, Sercheris, and all vthers our officieris whom it may concerne, and to everie of them, Greeting.—Wheras Alexander Macknaughtoun, gentlman of our privie chalmer in ordinarie, is to travell vnto France vpon some necessarie occasions him neir concerneing : These ar to will and command yow and everie of yow to suffer him to imbarke himself with his two servandis and other provisionis at aney of our portis which shalbe most convenient for his passage, for which this shalbe your warrand.—Dated at our palace at Whythall the 4th of July 1626, the second zeir of our Reigne.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that Sir Johne Stewart, naturall sone of the late duik of Richmond, hath bene censured by yow for some misdemeanours, wherof, and for the course takin with him for the same, we desyre to be informed : And considering that our Castell of Dumbartan, whairof he hath the charge, hath neid to be carefullie keiped at this tyme as a strenth of greatest importance in that part of our kingdome, Our pleasur is, that yow for the present tak some speedie course how the said Castle may be most safelie keepit, and lykwyse that yow deall or cause deale with the said Sir Johne that he desist from cutting of the wood of Methven till yow shall hear from ws concerneing the same.—Wansted, the 11 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Thogh by a Letter of the date the 26 of Jari, which was thairefter by act of counsell interpened thervnto published by oppin proclamation, We wer pleased to declare what we intended concerneing the Revocation : Yit least some inconsiderat persones should mistak the sinceritie of our designes, making sinistrous constructions thairof far contrarie to our mynd, to vindicat the integritie of our course in this from all vnjust aspersions, and to satisfie all our weill disposed subjects by removinge these wrongfullie suggested grounds that may bread preposterous fears, We have thought good hereby to express our meaneing effectuallie ; That, as the end we ayme at is just and necessarie for the good of that our ancient kingdome in planting of the Church and freeing of the gentry of the bondage wherin they ar by the meanes of heretable offices and of teynds, which ar the verie originall springs from whence all the ordinarie oppressions doe flow, and that we desyre to increase our revenewis by a fair and lawfull course, to the end our Crown ther haveing a compitent maintenance, we may be the less burdenable to our subjects : So lykwyse the meanes and wayes wherby we resolve to prosecute our purpois shall onlie be the vsuall course of Law, without wresting or violating any priviledge of that our ancient kingdome, that we may by the acceptable effects of our royall resolution, pleas all our good subjects, and mak them

ashamed who can be so impudent as to disperse any report to the contrarie: And therfoir, howsoever we have made our Revocatioun efter the maner that our predecessours had formerlie done, We do certifie and declare by these presents that we intend to mak no benefite therof by extending it any further then onlie aganst the erections and others dispositions whatsoever of Lands, teyndes, patronages, benefites formerlie belonging to the Church, and since annexed to the Croun, and of any lands and patronages which anyway should belong to the Church or Croun, and aganst dispositions of lands and benefices mortifeid and devoted to pious vses, and of Regaliteis and heretabill offices, and aganst the change of holdings since the yeir of God 1540 yeirs from the ancient tenour of warl: As for other particulars, though we might in law tak advantage of them, yit it is nowyse our purpois, bot rather we will confirme the former rights of such as shall stand in neid thairof, and it is more for the publick good then for our owin benefite that we ar moved to seek the annulling of all such grants above named, which ar derogatorie to our Croun and prerogative Royall; and that though we might lawfullie doe this without any respect at all to the harme that may arise therby to the present possessours who have vnjustly acyured the same, yit being loath that any of our good subjects who will within the tyme prefix accept of reasons should have cause by our meanes to suffer or compleane to the effect that all such as will voluntarlie surrender any rights they have of the nature forsaid betwixt and the first day of Januar nixt ensueing the date heirof, may have some reasonable compositions for the same, we have appoynted Commissioners to treat with them thervpoun, who hath power from ws both to tret and agree with them, and to dispose of such teyndes as ar recovered to our vse; The churches being planted, and scools, and the poore provyded for to dispose the rest to the heretours of the ground from whence the teyndes ar driven at such a rate as they shall think expedient as by the commission gevin for that purpois may appear: And as at of our owin royall consideratioun we have bene pleased to limite and erect our revocation, as is above specifieit, for the good of our subjects, so to prevent any trouble or inconvenient that may arise from the revocatiouns of our successours at any tyme heirefter, We intend, God willing, at the nixt parliament to be holdin within that our kingdome, with the advyse of our esteats, to establish a certane patrimonie of our Croun, which shalbe enacted to remane vnalienable, and it shall onlie be made lawfull for our successours to revoek such parts thairof as have bene alienated, and no further: Thus shall they find by the effects how carefull we are to provyde for their good and securitie, both dureing our tyme and for ever heirefter. So haveing limited our revocation in maner forsaid, reserveing, notwithstanding of that which is above expressed, a libertie to ws to clayme whatsoever we have just right vnto by the Lawis and practique of that our kingdome vtherways then by vertew of the said revocatioun, We ordeane this Declaration to be further extended in what forme shalbe thoght requisit, and to be registrat in the books of Connsall and Session, and the authoritie of the Lords therof be interponit thairto. So we, &c.—Wansted, the ij. July 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOP OF S^T ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—As we at our last being here perceaved your affection to doe ws service as haveing considered the justice of our designes, and how necessarie they wer for the good of that our kingdome, so we have lykwayes since at sindrie tymes fund the same by your letters presented vnto ws by the Erle of Annandale, the Bishop of Ross, and we cannot bot expect the vttermost of your endeavours for the effectuating of these ends which yow recommended vnto ws, and be confident that, as we ar resolved constantlie to prosecute the samyne, so we will not be vnyndfull of your paynes tending to this purpois; and as the said erle and bischop have many tymes acquainted ws with your good intentions heirin, so we expect that they shall wittnes vnto ws how reallie yow labour to have the same performed: And so reserveing all further purpois heirin to be delyvered by them vnto yow in our name, We bid, &c.—Wansted, the ij. July 1626.

REGISTER OF ROYAL LETTERS.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE GREEVANCES.

Right, &c.—Having appoynted yow to have a care that all such of our loveing subjects who fund themselfis vnjustlie greeved and oppressed may have the meanes in justice to be releived according to our commission gevin to this effect, and as a generall reformation of all such abuses herefter is in this the cheiff mark and ayme at, so we hartlie requyre yow (putt apart all other respects) that in this our service your proceedings and actions may be onlie ruled according to this our intention, and that yow proceede in our said service reallie and speedelie to the effect abovesaid: And as for the fynes (if aney be), we will have the samyne (wher our patrimony is laking) to be disposed of for the vse of our schipping within that our kingdome. So recommending this vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Wansted, the ij. July 1626.

A LICENCE TO TRAVELL.

Wheras Mr Thomas Kellie, gentlman, out of the affection he caryes to our service, is to goe and serve a voluntarie soldiour in the King of Denmark, his army, vpon his owin charges: We therfor by these presents give power and licence to him to depart from our kingdome of Scotland, and to travell into Germany, prohibiting all our officers, or any vthers our subjects whome it may concerne, to trouble him, his tuo servandis, or to hinder them in the transporting of tuo horses, notwithstanding any act made to the contrarie.—Wansted, the ij. July 1626.

TO THE ERLE MARSCHELL.

Wheras we have by our commission gevin to yow the cheiff command of our schipps which we have appoynted for defence of that our kingdome, considering how requisit it is that our service in that kynd be with diligence putt in execution: Our pleasur is, that with as much hast as convenientlie can be vsed, yow sie the saids schipps sett fourth for defending the Coasts of our said kingdome from the Invasion of the common enemy, and that yow vse your best endeavours, both for guarding the schipps of our subjects vpon that cause, and for taking advantage aganst the subjects or assistens of our enemeis which we will esteame as good service done vnto ws; and so we bid, &c.—Wanstead, the 12 July 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Having already established yow to be our Commissioners of our Exchequer, reserving a liberti vnto ws to add vnto yow at any tyme dureing that commission any persone whome we shall think fitt; And vnderstanding how requisit it is for our service that our Clerk of Register (whois office hath a relation to matters of our Renew within that our kingdome) should be one of that commission, Our pleasur is, that yow admitt him to be one of your number, giving him respect which is due to his place. We bid, &c.—Wanstead, 12 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Vnderstanding how our burgh of Edinburgh hath advanced the whole 4 yeirs' payment of the taxatioune at one tyme, therby expressing ther affection to our service, tending cheiftie to the honour and preservation of that our ancient kingdome, and in regard the same hath bene done frielie of themselfis, seiking onlie how to pleas ws, and not to conforme them selfis vnto vthers who wer not so foreward in so

good a cause; we have takin it exceedingly wele at ther handis, and therfoir our pleasur is, that yow cause insert that deid of thers in the books of counsall, that it may both serve as a discharge for payment of ther taxationis due at this terme vnto ws, and may remayne vpon record as a greatfull testimonie of ther voluntarie affection to our service, wherof we will not be vnnmyndfull. So we bid, &c.—Wanstead, 12 July 1626.

A PRECEPT FOR SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

It is our speciall pleasur that yow pay or allow to be payed vnto Sir James Baillie, kny^t, for his expenssis for his journey to our Court and of his returne, the sowme of 100 lib. sterling money; for which these presents, with the said Sir James his acquittance, shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Wanstead, 12 July 1626.

THE TOUN OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Haveing out of the great care we have for the good of that our ancient kingdome, appoynted commissioners wehar the just complaynts of all such of our subjects as suffer by the enormous proceedings of ather against law or ordour; And hearing yow to be weil affected to this course, That such abusses may be redressed, and the offenders punished, we desyre yow that, without fear of any persone of what qualitie soever, yow spare not to report what yow know what may tend to the effect foirsaid; In doing whairof yow shall doe ws acceptable service. So we bid yow farewell.—Wansted, the 12 July 1626.

A Letter of the same kynd to the tuo Archbischops.

Another to the tuo Advocats to compeir as they shalbe requyred.

A Letter to the Solisters that they informe the Judicatorie of greevances or Advocats of what they know.

A lyk Letter to a Lord.

A Letter of the same to ane Erle not being a Counsellour.

A Letter of the same to a Lord and Counsellour.

A Letter of the same to ane Erle and Counsellour.

A Letter of the same to the small barrones, viz., the Lards of Ley, Cluny, Reith, and Cranston McGill.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Wheras we have caused to provyde schippis for the better defence of that our ancient kingdome, to the effect the samyne may be fitlie ordoured, and be in readines to serve as the occasion shall requyre: Our pleasur is, that yow inquire of our thesaurer and thesaurer deputy what moneyis may be expected monethlie out of our revenewis or casualteis towards the maintenance of the said schipping, vther charges concerneing our honour and the present necessiteis of other important affaires being first defrayed; and if by this meanes moneyis cannot be sufficientlie had, our further pleasur is, that yow consider of the best and most lyklike wayes how that which is thus deficient may be left supplièd, and therefter that yow certifie ws back of yow advyce heirin, that we may determine what is fit for ws to doe. So we, &c.—Wansted, 12 July 1626.

TO THE VISCOUNT STORMONTH.

Right, &c.—We have vnderstude by our right, &c. the Erle of Annandale the long and faythfull service done by yow to our late dear father, and now of late vnto ws, for which we render vnto yow thanks,

and shall not be vnmmyndfull of the same when occasion shall offer by which we may express our respect vnto yow, desyreing with all that yow will continew in the lyk faythfull and dewtifull course, and particularie in these things wherwith yow shalbe acquainted by the said erle, vpon whom, as one of our Commissioners for the present service of that our kingdome, we have reposed a cheiff trust. So we bid, &c.—Wansted, 12 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARRE.

Right, &c.—Haveing vnderstude how necessarie it is that some sea ports and others parts exposed to danger be in tyme fortified for resisting of forrayne forces in case that our kingdome to be invaded: Our pleasur is, that yow consider what places ar to be so fortified, and of the best helps that can be had from the nighboring burghs and cuntrie about, and of all vther wayes how many may be most convenientlie furnished to this effect; and thereafter that yow give ourdour in the best maner yow can for fortifying the saidis ports, certifieing ws back (if neid be) what yow can possible doe of your selfis efter this maner and to this effect. So we bid, &c.—Wansted, 12 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing considered, according to the custome of all civill and christian kingdomes, what place and dignitie is due vnto the Church, the precedence of whois cheiff ruler should procure the more respect therunto, to the end that the Archbishop of S^t Andrewes, primat and metropolitane of that our kingdome, may enjoy the priviledge belonging vnto his place, we wer pleased to name him first in the Commission for our Counsell: And our pleasur is, that he have the first place both in our Counsell and at all vther publict meetings befor our Chancellour and all other our subjects within that our kingdome, as one from the eminencie of whois place we will have none in any wayes to derogat, but shall ever contribute what we can for the advancement thairof, in so far as is lawfull and expedient. And so we bid, &c.—Wansted, 12 July 1626.

ARTICLES FOR THE B[ISHOP] OF ROSS.

Yow shall declare vnto your brethren the Bischops and Archbischops that we ar pleased that they suffer such of the Ministerie as being admitted therto befor the fyve Canons wer made at S^t Johnstoun, and having befor that tyme taicht and instructed ther parochineris vtherwayes, doe now mak scruple to practeis any of these canons, speciallie that concerneing geniculation, and that they, out of ther charitie towards ther brethren and love to the peace of the Church, spare them till such tyme as they be better resolved, provydeing, first, they vtter no doctrine publicklie against our authoritie the church government, nor the canons thairof:

That they shall deswade no vthers, nather privatlie nor publicklie, from the obedience thairof, nor shall manteane reasoneing aganst the samyne, nor shall refus the Communion to aney craveing the samyne kneeling: That they shall not receive any persones of their nyghbour congregation to the Communion without the testimoniall of ther ministers, and that for eschewing of schismes and confusion, provyded if any of the said old ministers have practised aney of the saids canons at aney tyme befor that these be not exempted from practeisng them heirefter: That they shall not wryt any Invectives aganst the said canons or church government:

That the brethren who ar banished have libertie to returne and be placed at churches agane, and the brethren confined or suspendit for their disconformitie be enlarged and placed agane in the ministerie,

provydeing they all give suretie for observeing of the former conditions, and we be made acquainted therewith, and warrand be procured from ws generallie in ther favours vpon the petition of the Archbischope of the province, and the bischope of his dyocie and his owin :

That yow desyre your brethren to mak all the ministers that ar admitted within ther severall dioceise since the said five canons war made to obey and practeise the samyne, otherwyse to censure them according to the tenour of ther bandis vscribyed by them at the tyme of ther admission ; and in caice aney hath bene admitted since the making of the saidis canons without vscribyeing a band of conformitie, lett ws be adverteised in whois dyocie that minister duells, to the effect we may cause the bischope therof be punished for admitting any without a band of conformitie, and that the said minister be vrged to vscribye that band which at his entrie should have bene vscribyed by him :

That a comon band of conformitie be formed, which all the Archbischops and bischops shall caus be vscribyed by everie minister within the dioecie at thier admission, which we declare we will have everie archbischope and bischope to caus be done, vnder the payne of losing ther places and benefices :

That all bischops mak residence in ther dioecis at ther cathedrall churches with diligence, except such as shalbe employed about our service and publict imployments, and the bischops not resident ther names to be declared to ws by the Archbischope of the province, to the effect we may signifie our pleasur concerneing the same : That yow deal with the Archbischops and others whom it may concerne that the Erle of Nithisdale be not troubled for his religion vnless he gave some publict offence, till we be first acquainted therwith :

That all the Archbischops and bischops vse ordinarie visitations, and that in the tyme thair of they place scollis in everie parochin, and cause weiklie catechise the people be ilk minister for removeing ignorance, barbaritie, and athiesme, and also that they tak ordour for interteneing the poore in ilk parochin : Yow shall desyre Mr Peter Hay to delyver to yow his book to be perused by the Archbischope of S^t Androis and yow, and when yow have reformed such thingis that yow think fittig, that yow cause putt the samyne to the presse and published, and certifie the said Peter from ws that we have takin notice of his good service done to our late dear father, and of his abilitie and sufficiencie to serve ws as fittig occasion shall offer. We shall not be forgetfull, hot have a care of his preferment.—Wansted, the 12 of July 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPS AND BISCHOPS.

Right Reverend and Reverend Fathers in God, and right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras we have received your Letter from the bischope of Ross, your Commissioner, burdeneing him to condole the death of our late dear father, of worthy memorie, and to congratulat our succession to his throne, and therein declareing the insolencie of the Romanists in that our kingdome, as also the disordours made by some persones which hitherto cannot be drawin to conforme them selfis to the Lawis of that our Church and kingdome ; and concerneing both desyreing ws to give direction how yow shall eary your selfis, and referring all further information concerneing the estate and weill of our Church, to the sufficiencie of the said bischope of Ross, commissioner aforsaid. We render yow hartly thanks for your loyall affection and dewtifull respect to our late dear father. So will we have the canons thair of revered and obeyed by all our subjects in all esteats, in maner imparted by ws to him, and the contemners punished ; bot for yow of the ministerie who wer admitted thairto befor the making of the saids canons, haveing befor taught and instructed ther parochiners vtherwayes, we have signifeid particularlie our resolution to him, to be imparted to yow. As for aney vther thing proposed by him to ws, and his demands and overturs concerneing the estate and weill of the church, we have gevin full satisfaction thairto, which we referre to his owin relation, entrusting the samyne to his sufficiencie, of

whois earnest care, fidelitie, and diligent forwardnes, both in our owin services, in the affaires of your church, and of that kingdome, we have sufficient prooff, and can verie weil bear testimonie thairof. Thus requyreing everie ane of yow to establish your selfis within your owin severall dioceis, and to mak residence therin, except when yow shalbe employed in our service, or the publick affaires of the Church, and to be diligent in your severall charges, as yow would expect our favour. We bid, &c.—Wansted, the 12 of July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased of late to wryt vnto yow that yow should see these conditions performed by Sir Donald M'ky, kny^t, which he had vnderaken by covenant to be done vnto Count Mansfeld, according to the Instructions sent vnto yow vpon delyverie of these moneyis, for which he had ordour from hence: Haveing heard by a letter from yow how far he hath bene disapoynted for not delyverie of these moneyis in dew tyme, which moved yow 500 lib. sterling to be advanced vnto him by Sir Johne Scott secureing him by act of Counsell for the repayment thairof: In regard of the extraordinarie charges, the said Sir Donald hes bene at herby, Our pleasur is, that yow caus pay vnto him tuo thousand punds, which (as we ar informed) was delyvered to Sir James Baillie by Burlunach, for the effect foresaid, and that besyd the 500 lib. advanced by the said Sir Johne, which we will to be allowed vnto him out of our second yeir's payment out of our taxation, or sooner if possible it can be done, and for which, togidder with the interest, we ar willing to give what farder warrant shalbe requisit; and our further pleasur is, that yow caus furnish the said Sir Donald with schips for transportatioun of his companeis, and such others as ar to be transported at this tyme from thence, for our service at the most reasonable rates yow can procure, as of a speciall service of ours: And lykwyse that in all other matters conduceable to the furthering of the quick dispatch from thence, and for taking ordour with these persones who haveing bargained with him hath disbanded or shall disband from his regiment, yow give him your best aide and furtherance, and if yow find the hinderance of this bussines to have proceeded from any considerable fault of any person who hath failed to performe his condition agreed vpon for this purpois, let ws be acquainted therewith. All which things recommending to your earnest care, we bid yow farewell.—Theobald's, the 18 July 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to grant vnto our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord of Kinlevin a pension of sex thousand pundis Scottis durence his lyftyme, conforme to warrandis from our late dear father for answering him of the lyk sowme as by the samyne may appear: And being vnwilling that the said Lord should be defrauded of that which vpon so good and considerable grounds was granted vnto him, Our pleasur is, that yow both readelie answer and pay vnto him, or his assigneys, the ariages of the said pension resting dew vnto him, as lykwyse the samyne yeirle and termelie durence his said lyftyme, according to his gift granted to him thervpon, for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow, &c.—Theobald's, 18 July 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to wryt vnto the Lords of Session that the Marqueis of Hamilton, the Erle of Angus, Nithisdale, and Annandale, might be secured from any harme that might arise vnto them by the action depending befor the saids Lords betwixt yow and the Lord Elphinstoun

er it wer decreed, sicing we hear now that yow have obtenit your decret : Our pleasur is, that yow secure the Erle of Angus in so far as doeth concerne him, that he have no caus to compleane. In doing whairof, yow shall doe ws a speciall pleasur. So we, &c.—Theobald's, the 18 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased to settle all such Commissions as was necessarie for the present within that our kingdome, hearing what hindrance some of them have had for want of a sufficient number, to prevent the lyk inconvenience heirefter, Our pleasur is, that yow think of convenient meanes that ther may be still a sufficient number besyds our officers of state to attend our Counsell, and lykwyse that yow advertise them that ar vpon any vther commission for our service, that they tak ordour amongst them selfis in lyk maner, that our subjects may have the dew course of Justice : And becaus they have bene too much disapoynted thairof this tyme past, it would be verie acceptable to ws that more diligence may be vsed heirefter, and cheiflie that the thesaurer and Commissioners of the Exchequer (if neid be) would stay the longer tyme togidder, and that the Commissioners for the Greevances, whersoever they part at any tyme, doe appoynt a new tyme of ther meeting agane, and that yow doe what further shalbe requisite for the effect forsaid. Which recommending to your care, We bid, &c.—From our Court at Theobald's the 18 of July 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras our late deare father was pleased to grant a commission vnder the great seales of our kingdomes of England and Scotland for composing of some differences arysing betwene our subjects vpon the borders, which wee in like maner pleased to renew, and did expect before this time to have found the fructs of their labours, who wee entrusted with the charge thereof. Wee are complained wnto of new by our right trustie and welbeloued cosen the Earle of Suffolke, showing that he can haue no meeting, the delaye whereof may be a meanes to bread great inconvenients which it were fitt to prevent : Therefore our pleasure is that you cause such as are named within our said commission for that our kingdome, to appoynt and keep a time and place of meeting with those who are for this our kingdome, that they togidder may procede according to there commission ; or otherwise, if yow doe conceave anie other thing in forme or substance to be further doen herein, That you certifie ws bak your opinion that we may deliberat what is fitt for ws to doe ; And because the successe thereof may proue of consequence, importing the peace of both kingdomes in these parts, Wee recommend this and other things of this nature wherewith yow are aquented, to your speciall care, and so wee, &c.—Theobaldes, the 18 of July 1626.

TO THE TREASURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas, out of our good opinion which wee conceaved of the habilities of Sir Andrew Gray, knight, to doe ws service, wee were formerlie pleased to grant vnto him a pension of 200^{lib}. sterling, and that the first terme's payement thereof should haue bene made vnto him at Martimes last, conform to our guift granted therevpon, but he, in regarde of his affaires heare not being so soone ready to repaire to that our kingdome for passing the said guift under our privie seale, nor to vplift the bygone terme's payement as was intended, became a humble suiter vnto ws that our gracious intention towards him should not be hindered : And therefore our pleasure is, that you cause expedie the said guift, and that yow readily answere and pay vnto the said Sir Andrew or his assignes the moneyes which shalbe due vnto him since the date of the same, and so fourth yearly during his lyfetime, and that out of the first and readiest of our rents and casualities there. For doing whereof, &c.—Theobaldes, the 18 of July 1626.

CAROLUS DEI GRATIA MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ FRANCIE ET HIBERNIÆ REX FIDEIQUE DEFENSOR OMNIBUS
VNIUERSIS ET SINGULIS PRESENTES HAS LITERAS LECTURIS ET VISURIS SALUTEM.

Nobilis et dilectus noster Donaldus M^cKy Baro Scotus Legionem trium millium peditum in regno nostro Scotiæ conscriptum autoritate et nomine nostro ad illustrem sincere nobis dilectum Comitem Mansfeldium consanguineum nostrum charissimum deducit vt vero commode et expedite iter cum dictis suis copiis instituire et vbiq; libere transire sine impedimento possit hisce literis nostris vnumquemque cuiuscunque status et conditionis sit amice et benigne rogamus nostis vero injungimus et dictum M^cKy et quos secum habet milites in omnibus portibus naues conducere et descendere et milites exponere vbiq; etiam in omnibus locis annonam et conuentum reliquaque necessaria habere sinant Transitum decensum et hospitium concedere omniaque alia in re qua opus habuerint iurare velint certi et persuasi dictum M^cKy seuera disciplina suos milites coerciturum ne alicui vel minimum damnum inferatur sed operam daturum et omnibus in locis vbiq; descenderint et transierint se modestos gerant de quo vnumquemque assecuratum esse volumus In eo nobis gratissimum fecerint et nos reciproce omni studio et benevolentia pro cuiuscunque conditione demerimur nostri vero nostram voluntatem exequentur In hujus rei fidem has presentes nostra manu subscripsimus et regium nostrum sigillum apponi curavimus.—Dabatur in palatio nostro Theobaldi, &c., July 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Wheras it pleased our late dear father to grant vnto M^r James Stewart, brother-german to the late erle of Orkney, a pension which he had formerlie purchased from his said brother, and We, being vnwilling to withhold that which is justlie dew vnto him or his assigneyis, conforme to the gift granted thairvpon, togidder with the arreages thairof: And wheras there be sowmes of money which, as he alledgeth, ar dew vnto him by our late dear father, our further pleasure is, that yow examine the state thairof, and, finding the samyne to be as he affirmeth, that yow tak such a course for his satisfaction as can be most convenientlie done. Which recommending vnto your care, We bid yow farewell.—Theobald's, 21 July 1626.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras ane Andrew Arbuthnot, serveing (as we ar informed) vnder the King of Sweiden, has caused humble sute to be made vnto ws that he might have a testificat vnder our great seall of that our kingdome of his lawful birth and progeny, Our pleasur is (having informed your self thairof) that yow grant vnto him what is vsuall to be granted vnto other persones in business of the lyk nature. And for your soe doing, &c.—Theobald's, July 21, 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—In regard of the experience we have had of the courage and knowledge of our trustie and weilbeloved servand Sir Andrew Gray, kny^t, and vnderstanding that he hath now resolved, togidder with some other his partners, to adventure by sea against the common enemy, wherby we expect good service to be done: And therfoir, being verie willing to encourage him, Our pleasure is, that yow grant vnto him a commission vnder our great seall of that our kingdome for him self, his partners, and associats, granting them all such power, priviledges, and immunitie as hertofor hath bene granted by any forrayne president, whervnto we desyre the greater regard may be had, both in respect of the tyme and

person: And for your better information, we have sent you heirwith the copie of a Signature which he desyred to be presented vnto us, alwyse referring to your consideration the particular heads therein: And being willing that you grant vnto him and them all such favour as is not contrarie to our Lawis and customes of that kingdome, We bid you farewell.—Theobald's, 21 July 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we hear a rumour that ther be extraordinarie leveys of men made, or to be made, by some noblemen within that our kingdome, who, vnder the pretence of publict causis, may seik to revenge ther owin privat quarrells, wherof, in regarde of the state of the tyme, we have the more reasone to be carefull, Our pleasure is, that if there be any such leveys, vther than these that ar levyed by particular warrands from us, that you tak a course immediatlic for suppressing thair of: And hearing that ther is some variance betwix our right trustie and weilbelovéd cousens and counsellours the Marqueis Huntlie and the erle Murray, which may bread ill effects, Our further pleasure is, that, having called the said Marqueis and erle befor you, you vse your best meanes to mediat an agriement betweene them in things wherin they contravert, or vtherwise adverteise us of the poynts wherin they differ, that we may signifie our further pleasur, and in the meantyme tak such surety of both as you think expedient for preventing of any trouble that may aryse therby. So we bid, &c.—Oatlands, July 28, 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Having vnderstude by your letters how carefull you have bene in regard of the present danger, whair of we have adverteised you, for the satisfie of that our kingdome, to try what schippis might be readie to sett furth, of what burden they wer and how they have bene furnished with necessar provision, and that you desyre onlie to know by what meanes they can be manteaned, as we have caused bestow all the moneys that could be presentlie levyed by our taxatiouns for buying and furnishing of schippis for defence of that our kingdome, so we still continew willing to doe as far as our revenewis or means, which ar best known vnto you, can reach: But knowing the necessitie in respect of the imminent danger threatned by a powerful enemy, that doeth at this tyme requyre a course to be takin for defence of that kingdome, we doubt not hot euerie man will contribute rateable for what you think requisite for so vrgent a cause: And therfor our pleasure is, that with all diligence you appoynt the burrowis and others, such as you shall think fit, to mantean such a number of shippis as you in your judgment shall find euerie one of them able to mantean during the tyme of danger, for we cannot bot beleive that all our good subjects, apprehending ther owin interest in this, will have a speciall care for performeing thair of, sieing we ar to convert no moneys levyed by this meanes to our owin vse, but onlie at your sights to imploy them for the purposis abovespecifeit: And as the occasion is extraordinarie, not havinge presidents in such a case wherby to be ruled, we desyre you to deliberat of the best meanes and forme that may be vsed heirin: As for the marineris, wher we desyre to supplie our navie heir, we have gevin ordour to trie what is to be allowed towards their maintenance, wherof you shalbe adverteised as soone as we know ther number, befor they be broght from thence; and as you conceave what further is fit to be done for the purposes abovespecifeit, let us be acquainted therwith. And so we bid, &c.—Oatlands, 28 of July 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MURRAY.

Right, &c.—Hearing that there were some variance lyklic to fall out betwixt you and the Marqueis of Huntlie, your father-in-law, by meanes of the Commission latelie granted by us vnto you, we have thought

good to wryt vnto yow that thogh we might lawfullie grant the said Commission, and that we wer confident, and still ar, that you would tak no wrong nor violent course in putting the samyne in executioun : Yit, sieing (as we ar informed) ther is not that intrenes of friendship betweene yow tuo as in reasone should be, Our pleasur is, that for a tyme yow doe not extend the power yow have from ws further than against the Clauchattan, according as was intended by your first Commission, till we vnderstand the nature of the differences betweene yow from our Counsall, to whom we have written concerneing this purposis. And so we, &c.—Oatlands, 28 July 1626.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HUNTLEE.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased of late to renew our Commission to our right, &c. the Erle of Murray, your son-in-law, for persewing the Clanchattan, geving him lykwyse power therby to pursue vther malefactours having committed the lyk offencis, making him our Livetenent within the boundis mentioned in the samyne Commissioun dureing the tyme limited therin, which, as we conceave, might be lawfullie granted by ws, being confident that he would vse the samyne (without wronging any man) with such modestie and equitie as was requisite : And it being reported vnto ws that yow compleane as lyklike to suffer therby, we have writtin vnto our Counsall that having heard yow both (if otherwyse yow doe not agrie) they certifie ws what the differences ar, wherypon we will signifie our pleasur : And in the mean tyme we expect that the ductie dew vnto ws, and the affinitie betwixt your selfis will keep yow from any contestation and debate concerneing the purposis above specifeit : And whosoever of yow shall doe otherwyse shall incur our high indignation. So, not doubting that your cheeff care heirin wilbe for the quyetnes of the countrie, and to give ws content, We bid, &c.—Oatlands, 28 July 1626.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Wheras we wer pleased by a Letter vnto yow and the remanent of our privie Counsall in that our kingdome to signifie our pleasur concerneing a grant to be passed vnder the great seall there in favour of Sir Thomas Hacket, kny^t, wherin ther was a mistaking in these wordis, “ Melting all sorts of Mettells,” which everie wher in the said grant should have bene thus, Melting and refyneing all sorts of myneralls : Therfoir our pleasur is, whensoever yow shalbe requyred to this effect, that yow cause exceed the same grant of new vnder our great seall ther, conteneing the words so reformed ; and that yow joyne Octavio de Strada, gentelman Bohemian, as equal patentee with the said Sir Thomas. For doeing, &c.—Oatlands, July 28, 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Having considered your letter concerneing the fees that ar clamed from the knyght baronets, thogh at the first it did appear vnto ws that none could justlie challenge fees of them by vertew of any grant that was gevin befor that ordour was erected, yit befoir we would resolve what was to be done heirin we caused enquire of the cheeff heralds and other officers within this our kingdome wher the said dignitie of baronet was first instituted by our late dear father, and doe find that the baronetts ar bund to pay no feyis, nor did pay ever any thing at all, save that which they did voluntarilie to the heralds, of whom they had present vse ; and therfor, sieing ther creation within that our kingdome is for so good a caus, wherby a colony is making readie for getting furth this nixt spring, to begin a work that may tend so much to the honour and benefite of that kingdome, we would have them everie way to be encouraged, and, not as we wryt befoir, putt to needles charges ; and our pleasur is, that none as baronetts

to be made be bund to pay feyis, but what they shalbe pleased to doe out of ther owin discretion to the heraulds or to any such officers of whom they shall have vse : And as for ther eldest sones, whensoever any of them is cum to perfyte aige and desyrs to be knighted, let them pay the feyis allowed hertofore to be payed by vther knights. For doeing wherof, &c.—Oatlands, 28 July 1626.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE, ANE OF THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased to recommend to the Lords of Sessioun a bussines depending befor them betwixt George Leslie of that ilk and John Leslie of Piteaple, whairf in regarde (as we ar informed) the sequele may neirly concerne ws, we have thought good (if yow find that we may be interested therby) to requyre yow to compair in that cause and to vse your best endeavours in behalf of the said George, in so far as the equitie of his caus shall requyre, which we will tak as good service done vnto ws ; and so, &c.—Oatlands, July 28, 1626.

TO THE COUNCELL.

Wheras Anthony Alexander, Esq^r, Sone to Sir Williame Alexander, knight, his Mat^{ies} secretary for the kingdome of Scotland, hath made humble suite vnto ws for our licence and pastport to travieil into forraine pairt for the space of three yeares next ensuing the dait hereof, the better to inabill himself for the gaininge of Languages, and vtherwise to doe his Ma^{tie} and his countrie service, which we think heerby fitt to grant vnto him : Thease ar therfor to pray and require yow, and aney of yow whom it may concerne, to suffer him pas without ony your lett or molestations, and to imbarke himself with two servantis, there trunckis of apparell and vther necessary provisions (not prohibited), at any of his Mat^{ies} portes that salbe most convenient for there passage, provided neverthelesse that the sayd Anthony Alexander, esq^r, repaire not to the city of Rome nor ony pairt of the King of Spaine's dominions, for which so doeing this salbe your warrant.—Daittit at the Court at Whithall, the — of July 1626.

CHARLES, by the Grace of God king of England, Scotland, France, and Irland, defender of the faith, &c.—To all Mayors, Sheriffes, Justices of the peace, vice Admiralls, Bailiifs, Constables, Customeris, Comptrolleris, Serchers, and all other officers whom it may concerne, and to euery of thame, greiting.—Wheras Anthony Alexander, Esq^r, is to travaill vnto France for the better inabilling himself for our service : Thease ar to will and command yow, and every of yow, to suffer him imbarque himself with his two servants, and vther provisions, at ony of our portis which salbe most convenient for there passage, for which this salbe your warrant.—Daittit at our pallaice at Whithall the — of July 1626 in the second yeare of our Regne.

The — day of July 1626.

Thease ar to certefie that Anthony Alexander, Esq^r, Sone to Sir Williame Alexander, knight, Secretary to his Ma^{tie} for the kingdome of Scotland, hath, the day and year abouewrittine, taken the oathe of allegiance befor me, whose name is here wnderscribed one of his Mat^{ies} Justices of peace for the cittie and libertie of Westminster.

PE. HEYWOOD.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousin and Counsellour, right trustie and weilbeloved Cousines and Counsellours, Wee greet yow well.—Wheras we are moved concerning two French shippes and French good, wherof the ou is called S^t Peter the other S^t Michael, which as we ar informed were taken since the

last pacificatioune by some Scottish schippis, and carriet into Leith, and that no breach sould appeare on our part lyke as we expect performance of the lyke of thame when the estate of ony of our subjects sall requyre the same, Our pleasure is, that yow cause try the same, and if efter due tryall yow find that these shippis and good doe belong wnto the french, that yow cause thaim be redelyvered to ther owneris; and for better expedition of justice, if any question salbe betwixt parties concerning any thing that may hinder the despatch hereof, let as speedie a course be taken for decyding of the same as can laulfully be vsed; which recommending to your care, we bidde yow farewell.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we vnderstand that vpon good consideration it was enacted by parliament in our late dear father's tyme that no man should be admitted to be Provest of any burgh, nor to be commissioner from thence at parliament or convention, save such as wer burgesses and merchand traffikers in maner conteynit in the said act, which and all vther good lawis we ar willing should be putt in practise according to the first intention: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow cause trye how this act is observed, and that ourdour be gevin to the burrowis for obeying of the tenour thairof in all poynts as they shall answer vnto ws. So remitting this to your care, We bid, &c.—Bagschot, 16 August 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father, with so much care and travell, to reconcill the cheiff quarrells and divisions amongst his subject within that our kingdome, so that the peace and quyetnes ensuing thairvpon was one of the things wherin he did most rejoyce, havinge abolisched that rude and barbarous forme in goinge with great companeis wher they should onlie trust to law and justice, and not to ther owin power, efter such ane insolent maner as is vsed in no vther civill nation; it could not bot highlie offend ws to hear of late at the meitting of that commission, which we had appoynted for remedy of greevances and disordours, how these that should by ther cariage have gevin a good example to vthers wer accompaneyed with extraordinarie troups, wherby the generall peace of the kingdome was exposed to danger, if by occasion any privat quarrell had hapned, as hath vsualle fallin out at such a numbrous assemblee, the error of one many tymes engaging all the rest in trouble, which should have bene prevented: Our pleasur is, that none of our subjects, of what degrie soever, cum at any tyme herefter to our counsall, or to aney publict meitting for our service, or for aney vther occasion whatsoever, accompaneyed with any vther then his owin domestick servandis, and such as he doeth vsualle interteane, and that vpon payne of our highest displeasur, which we will to be made publicklye knowen; and so, &c.—Bagschot, 16 August 1626.

A LETTER FROM SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW BY HIS MAJESTEIS DIRECTION.

Most Reverend father in God, and my verie good Lord.—Thogh the earle of Abercorne in the tyme of his travells abroad, being a young man, hath bene seduced to the Romish religion, yet his Majestie hath conceived so good ane opinion of his disposition vtherwyse, that he thinks he may be reclaymed be fair meanes; and therfor it is his Majestie's pleasur, so long as he by his cariage giveth no publict scandell, that yow suffer non to trouble him in his religion, nor yit the Lady his mother, schoe behaving hir self in the lyk maner, till yow first advertise his Majestie and have his pleasur signifeid heirin, and in the

meane tyme, that yow caus some discret and vnderstanding persones to deal with them for ther conversions : So having writtin this letter by his Majestie's direction, I rest to serve your Lordship. Subscribitur Sir Williame Alexander.—Bagschot, 16 August 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE GREEVANCES.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble complant hath bene made vnto ws in name of our brugh of Inuernes, schawing how they ar lyklike to be alluterlie overthrowen by the Erle of Murray, to whom for setting the late Insurrection of the Clanchattan we had granted a commission, wherof in some poynts (as is alledged) he hath exceeded the bounds, and doeth not proceed with that moderation and equitie which we did expect, as may appear by ther petition which we have sent yow heirwith : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow consider of the same, and wherin he hath exceeded his said commission, and thairefter that yow determyne in the differences betweene them according to equitie and conscience, which we will accept as acceptable service done vnto ws ; and so, &c.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Haveing bene sued vnto of late by sindrie persones for a place belonging to the gathering of our customes within that our kingdome, now vacant by the death of one John Foulles, we have thought fitt for diverse considerations not to mak choyse of any persone till yow, who ar intrusted with the managing of our rents ther, be first acquainted herwith : Therfor we desyre to be certifeid from yow whither that place hath alwyse bene accustomed to be, and whether the samyne, without prejudging our service, may be spared or vtherwyse, if yow find it expedient, to let ws lykwyse be informed thairof, that we may dispose of the samyne as we shall think expedient.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Thogh we doubt not bot that yow wilbe carefull for preventing of any trouble that may disturb the peace of that our kingdome, yit hearing that ther ar some differences betwixt our right trustie and weilbeloved cousens and counsellours the Marquis of Huntlie and the Erle of Murray, by reasone of a commission granted by ws to the said erle, wherin we wer and ar confident that he will proceed with moderation and equitie, we could not bot recommend the samyne vnto your care, least any such trouble should aryse in these parts : Therfor our pleasur is, if yow find any such appearance of trouble betwixt them, that yow call them before yow, and haveing inquired if ther be aney offence done by aney of them to ane vther, or any just caus of complaynt gevin, vse your best meanes to mediat ane agriement betwixt them in things wherin they contravert, or vtherwise advertise ws of the samyne, and in the meane tyme tak surety of both as yow think expedient for preventing of any trouble that may arise heirby, which recommending to your earnest care, We bid, &c.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing vnderstoode by your letter that some tymes the absence of our Chancellour or President (which some inavoydable occasion is possible to procure) may be ane impediment for sitting of the Counsall, for preventing any such inconvenient, Our pleasur is, that the Archbischof of S^t Androis, or

in his absence the most ancient Counsellours, shall supplie ther place : For doeing whairof this shalbe a warrand vnto yow, as if it wer particularie insert in the Commission :

And as concerneing our Exchequer howsoever, ther was not a sufficient number, wheras ther was a great part of the Commissioners here at our Court, we doe think that the lyk occasion will not readelie ocure agane : Therfor we ar not as yet resolved to alter any thing in that Commission, but would have a course takin, wherby a sufficient number may be continuallie made to be resident : And so not doubting of your care in this, we bid, &c.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE ADVOCATTS.

First, that our saidis Advocatts mak diligent search of the Books and Registers of Parliament, as weill printed as vnprinted, tuitching erections and heretabill offices, and of the Lawis and statuts made against the same, and to this effect that our Clerk Register and his deputs mak patent, furtheuming, and delvyer to our saids Advocatts, and to ther agent by ther direction, all the saidis registers and books of parliament, at all tymes as they shall requyre the samyne :

Item, that the lyk search may be made of the registers of our great and privie seals, and of the Registers of our Thesaurarie, Controllerie, Collectorie, and thesaurarie of the new augmentatiouns of our kingdome of Scotland, for tryeing and finding out of all infetments of erections and heretabile offices, tenours, and qualiteis thairof, and to what persones the samin ar made : And to that effect that our said Clerk Register and his deputs, the directour of our Chancellarie, and the keepers of the saids registers, mak the saidis registers, and everie one of them, patent and furtheuming to our saids Advocatts, and to ther agents by ther direction, at all tymes when they shall requyre the samyne :

Item, that our saidis Advocatts with all possiblie diligence raise and lybell summondis of Reduction and Improbation against all and whatsoever persones pretending right to erections, of whatsoever degrie or qualitie they be of, without any exception :

Item, that the lyk summondis be raised and execute against all persones pretending right to heretabile offices and regaliteis without any exception, as said is :

Item, that ther be severall doubls and copeis of both thir summondis of reduction, to the effect we may mak choyse whither to insist against all at once, or against such particular number of them as we shall think expedient.—Windsore, the 25 August 1626.

A presentation to Mr William Arthure to St Cuthbert's Kirk, dated vt supra.

A WARRANT FOR THE B[ISHOP] OF ROSS.

Wheras ther is nothing more requisite for maintenance of trew religion then the encrease of Learning, and nothing more requisite for the advancement thairof then plenty of all sorts of good books : And being informed that printers will hardlie adventure to advance so much moneyis as necessarlie is requisite for establishing of constant printing works within that our kingdome, except they be encouraged thervnto by granting vnto them priviledge not onlie to print all sorts of books, bot lykwyse the power to sell such of them in England as comodiouslie cannot be sold ther, And that for a certane space of yeirs : Therfor it is our pleasur that yow agrie with some such printers as yow shall think most fit for vndergoeing of the said employment, assuering them of our priviledge and libertie to the effect forsaid, so that as they may not onlie print at Edinburgh or S^t Androis all sorts of books, bot also sell and dispose such of them in England for the space of 31 yeres next ensueing, as comodiouslie cannot be disposed of within our said kingdome of Scotland.—Gevin at Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS.

Right, &c.—We ar informed that, notwithstanding ther be diverse Commissariat Judicatoris instituted within that our kingdome for administration of Justice with ease to our leidges in causes belonging to such Courts, yit by the insufficiencie of the Commissionars, ther clerks, or procurators placed by yow, our subjects ar forced to repair far from ther duellings for dispatch of ther saidis affaires: For preventing whairof in all tyme heirefter, and that our subjects have no cause to compleane, our pleasur is, that heirefter yow preferr non to be Commissars, but such as be expert and learned at least in the Canon Law; And that yow prefer such as be graduated to vthers not graduated, *ceteris paribus*; And that yow admitt none to be Clerks and Advocats, but sufficient and hable persones for that purpois, preferring Masteris of Arte and such who hath some knowledge in the Canon Law, to vthers whatsoever, *ceteris paribus*; And that they enjoy the priviledges and power belonging to ther places. So recommending, &c.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST ANDREWIS.

Wheras it pleased our late dear father, of famous and eternale memorie, considering how imperfect the psalmes in meetter presentlie vsed, ar out of his zeal to the glorie of God and for the good of all the Churches within his dominions, to translate them of new: Therfor, as we have gevin commandement to our trustie and weilbeloved Sir William Alexander, kny^t, to consider and revew the meetter and poesie thairof, so our pleasur is, that yow caus some of the most learned divynes in that our kingdome confer them with the originall text and with the most exact translations; and thairefter certifie back your opinions vnto ws concerneing the same, whither it be fitting that they be published and sung in Churches instead of the Old translation or not, to the intent that we may neglect nothing so much importing the memorie of our said late father, and far less if yow find that it may tend to the advancement of the glorie of God. And so recommending the samyne to your earnest care, We hid, &c.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

WARRANT TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

Understanding that your Cathedrall Church of Ross is so ruinous at this present as nather any divyne service can convenientlie be performed, nor any ecclesiasticall assemblie be holdin therin; And being informed that as in regard that everie paroch is bund to repair and vphold ther paroch kirk, so we think it good reasone that everie diocese should tak the lyk course with ther Cathedrall Church, as being a principall paroch church to them all: Therfor it is our pleasur that yow, and such vthers as yow shall assotiate vnto yow, advyse with craftsmen what sowme of money wilbe necessarrie requisite for the repairing of the said Cathedrall Churche, and thereafter deall with the able and sufficient men of the said diocese to contribute voluntarie pro rata for payment of the said sowme, appoynting anc honest Collectour thairof, and lykwayes agree with craftsmen for the said wark; and thereafter mak ws acquainted with the names of such persones who doe refus to contribute to so good a work: And wheras we ar informed that certane persones in the said diocese have robbed the rooff and other things belonging to the said church, it is our further pleasur that yow persew such persones befor whatsoever judge compitent, and lykwyse the receptors of any such goods, and that yow proceed in the said persute by all lawfull wayes and meanes as shall by yow be thought most expedient.—Windsore, 25 August 1626.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HUNTLIE.

Right, &c.—Wheras, for the more easie introduction of civilitie and learning in the northland highland parts of that our kingdome, we have directed the bischop of Ross to deal with all sorts of people of any speciall note in these parts, for ther charitable assistance and liberall contribution to build a Colledge in the Chanorie of Ross, and becaus the benefite of civilising that people will redound to your self and yours : These presents ar to desyre yow not onlie to putt to your helping hand to so necessarie a work by contributeing therto in a reall maner, but also to vse your best meanes with vthers of habilitie to perswade them in some reasonable sort to doe the lyk. So hopinge that this our request shall be powerfull with yow, we bid yow farewell.—Windsore, August 25, 1626.

One letter to the Erle of Cathnes.
 One to the Lord Lovat.
 On to the Shirreff of Cromartie.
 All to this effect and of the same date.

TO THE EARLE OF SEAFORT.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that the Cathedrall Church of Rosse is so ruinous as neither anie divine service can convenientlie be performed, nor ecclesiasticall assemblee be kept therein, for helping whereof and of all other Cathedrall Churches, as by the lawes of that our kingdome eache parochin is obliged to vphold their parioch church, so wee think it reason that each diocessie is to vphold there Cathedrall church as a common and principall church to them all : Therefor wee have given power to Patrik, Bishoppe of Rosse, to informe him selfe, and such others as he shall associate vnto him, what sowmes of moneyes wilbe required for reparation thereof; and thereafter to deal with all herretors, fewers, lyfrenters, taksmen, and other indwellers in the said diocessie, to contribute for making vpe a sowme of money requisite for this purpose : And because in the said reparation none are more obliged to concurre then these who haue the landes and tythes of the said Bishoprike, whereof (as wee are informed) yow possesse a good pairt, wee haue thought good to requyre yow (being baillie there) not onely to goe before others by your good exemple in contributing reallie to the said worke, but to concurre with your Bishoppe in dealing with the whole diocessie by your best endeavours for mouving them to doe the like. And being informed that there are some differences in law betwene the said Bishoppe and yow, we desyre that the samen may be taken away in a freindlie maner, and that yow suffer him peaceablie to enjoye what doeth justlie belonge vnto him. In performing whereof yow shall doe vs acceptable pleasure, whereof, when occasion doeth offer, wee shall not be vnumyndfull. So we bid, &c.—Windsore, the 25 of August 1626.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Wee, &c. being informed that yow caused charge diverse of the Bishops and ministers of that our kingdome for production of their rights and fundamentall titles to such chapelaneris, prebendes, and alterages as they possesse, for furtherance of the course intended by our late deare father to helpe the Chappell Royall : And seing wee have resolved to provyd for the same out of the rents allotted therevnto as the most lawfull meanes, whereof wee haue wretten to the Deane therof : Our pleasure is, that yow desist from further perseuing the saidis Bishops or ministers for the said cause, vntill you be further

warranted by us for your so doing, for it is not our mynd that anie of them be troubled in the possession which they enjoye till wee be pleased to giue further order concerning the same. Thus wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 25 of August 1626.

TO THE BISHOPE OF DUBLANE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that it is a course much more just and honorable that our Chappell Royall within that our kingdome, and the persones serving therein, should be maintained by those meanes appoynted for that purpose at the first foundation thereof, then otherwise by prosecuting of that course intended by our late deare father, by making disposition of some Chappellanaries, preybends, and alterages belonging to our Crowne : Therfor it is our pleasure that (desisting from that former course) yow make searche of the old fundations of that Chappelle, and of the rents allotted there vnto, in whose handes they are for the present, what right they haue to the same, and of all other circumstances that may best giue light to the knowledge thereof; and thereafter, that the sameu may be in readines to be shoven vnto us at our comming to that our kingdome, to the effect wee may giue order for making competent provisions for the persones serving in the said Chappell. So, expecting your diligence in the premissis, Wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 25 day of August 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP AND BISHOPS.

Right, &c.—Whereas it hath bene heauclie complained vnto us by diverse our good subjects within that our kingdome, that there Tythes are set by the Titulars to other persones, wherypon manie euilles hath arrysen, and daylie doe arryse : Wherefor, till some solid course be taken concerning Takcs alreadye set ouer the owners' heades, so as euery one may enjoye his owen Tythes, wee haue thought it fitting for the present to requyre yow to take such order with the office bearers of your Church that neither anie of your selves, nor anie Titular of benefice within your dioceses, set anie lease of the Tythes of anie heritou to anie other personne without his consent, except to wodsetters during the time of theire wodsetts, to lyferenters during there lyftime, and to Takesman during there Takkes : And that your selfes and your bretheren, titular of benefices in your dioceses, shall hereafter sett to euery man his owen Tythes in lawful maner; otherwise, in case the said heritors refuse, that you and the said Titulars kepe still the right thereof, making such lawful vse of the samen as you and they shall think fitt. Thus, expecting your furtherance of the premissis, wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 25 of August 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP AND BISHOPS.

Right, &c.—We are informed that it was provided that English Schooles should be established in till the parochins within that our kingdome for better instructing of childeren and of the vulgar sort in the knowledge of the trene religion, and for the better civilising and removing of the Irish language and barbaritie out of the heigh landes there; and that all bishops within the said kingdome, in the visitation of there dioceses, should see the same accordingle performed at such places as should be thought most fitting for the ease of the said childeren, setting downe a competent meanes for the intertainment of the Scholemaisters; which course (as wee are likewise informed) hath not been by yow putt in execution with such exact diligence as was requisite in a matter of such importance: Therfor our pleasure is, that yow cause establish the said scholes in such pairts as shalbe found most requisite, and where the scholemaisters can be best provyded with competent maintenance, according to anie good act and order heretofor prescrybed for this purpose; and that you weeklie in your seuerall dioceses be carefull in seing that euery

minister in his particuler paroch catechise his parochimers in the groundes of religion, which is a cheefe poynt of his ministerie, is requisite to be duely obserued. Thus, expecting your readie performance of the premissis, wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 25 of August 1626.

WARRANT FOR THE BISHOP OF ROSSE.

Considering how requisite it is for advancement of trewe religion, and for the remouving of ignorance and barbaritie from the northeren and highland parts of that our kingdome, that a Colledge be erected at the Chanonrie of Rosse, as a most commodious place for that purpose : These presents are to authorise and giue power vnto you, and to such as you shall joyne with you, to deale with the inhabitants, of what qualitie so euer, within that our kingdome, and particularlie with these within the said bounds, to giue a voluntarie supplie for furthering of that worke, causing wrett in a boke the voluntarie contribution of curie man, of whom wee will take speciall notice : And thereafter, having apointed a sufficient Collector of these moneyes, and having made choice of the place, and agreed with workmen for building therof, Our pleasure is, that you aequent vs what the building of that Colledge, the intertainment of maisters and regents, publict professors, and poore Students appointed to be entertained therein, will mount vnto yearly, and what the voluntarie contribution will extend vnto, to the effect that wee may putt to our helping hand vnto so great and necessarie a work.—Windsore, the 25 of August 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that William Barclay of Innergellie, our late seruant, was bund for debts contracted by himself, and engaged as surety for diuerse persones who may trouble his heyres befor they vnderstande the estate of his affaires or can rightlie dispose of the same for geving them satisfaction, so therby by ane vntymelic rigour both ruening his said heyres, and may lykwyse dissapoynt a course which may be well intended for ther owin releiff, which we wish them to haue according to justice, and yit without procureing more harme to the vther then the just value of what is due may import, which by too strict a maner of proceeding may fall out vtherwyse to the prejudice of both : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto W^m Barclay's eldest lawfull sone, a suspension super cautionie juratoria, and that for such tyme as yow shall think expedient for the purposis abouewrittin. The doeing whairof, in regard of his father's long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father, of blessed memorie, and vnto ws, we could not bot earnestlie recommend vnto your care, and bid yow farewell.—Theobald's 14 Sept. 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEKER.

Right, &c.—Having by a letter from our Counsall considered the distressed estate of Andrew Scott, Chyrurgian, and the inconvenients ryseing be these persones who retire themselvis to this our kingdome, therby to preuene the due course of justice, and to defraud ther creditours, We haue resolved to tak some course for the redress therof : And wheras the said Andrew, in regard of his great losses and long forbearance of his moneyes, haue bene ane humble suter vnto ws, to haue tuo signaturs past our hand of the lyfrent and escheit of Sir Johne Scott of Newbrught, and of some lands belonging vnto him being (as he doeth alledge) at our disposition ; howsoeuer, we think it good reasone that he should be sufficientlie secured of what is justlie due vnto him, yit not knowing how much the doeing therof might import our prejudice, we resolved to remitt the consideratioun thairof vnto yow : And therfor our pleasur is, that yow

give such way vnto the said Andrew his securing of himself of what is justlie due vnto him by the said Sir Johne as may best accord with the lawis of that our kingdome, in so far as may be extendit for his owin releiff, vntill such tyme of what is justlie due vnto him. Which recommending vnto your care, We bid yow, &c.—Theobald's, 14 Sept. 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras the Lard of Basse hath surrendered in our favours his whole landis of Basse, and being informed that the right of the Tythes of the Landis of Craig and Balgonie is expyred, wherby the pretended owner thairof intendeth to cause cary away the saidis tythis to the prejudice of our right and of the present possessors, Our pleaur is, that with all diligence yow cause raise in our name a sequestration of the tythis of the saidis landis in such forme as the samyne is to be done in the lyk caises, which recommending vnto your care, we, &c.—Theobald's, 14 Sept^r 1626.

PRECEPT TO THE EARLE OF NITHISDALE.

It is our spetiall pleaur that with all convenient diligence efter the payment of these moneyis to Sir James Baillie, for which yow have warrand from ws alreadie, yow cause readelic answer, and pay vnto Mr James Galloway and Mr Nathaniell Vdward, or ther assigneyis, the sowme of Tuo thousand pundis sterling money out of the first and readiest of the taxatiouns, ordinarie and extraordinarie, in that our kinglome granted vnto ws, and that the said payment be made vnto them befor aney moneyis of the said taxatioun be payed by yow to aney vther persone whatsoever vther then to the said Sir James Baillie as abovesaid. For deoing whairof, these presents, with the said Mr James and Nathaniell ther discharges therpon shalbe vnto yow a speciall warrand.—Theobald's, 14 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE AUDITOURS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Auditours of the Accompts of our Right, &c.—Johne, earle of Mar, Collectour-generall of the taxatiouns granted to our late dear father, of worthie memorie, in the moneth of August 1621, We greet yow weill.—Our will and pleaur is, that yow defease and allow to our said Cousen in his accompts of the same taxatiouns the sowme of 500 merks sterling money payed by him at our direction to vmquhill William Barelay of Innergeldie, for which these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Gevin at Theobald's, the 14 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE MIDLE MERCHES OF SCOTLAND.

Right, &c.—Being willing for the maintenance of reciprocall justice to our subjects of both kingdomes that none who ar fugitives from the one should shelter themselffs in the other, therby both hindering the dew course of our lawis, and dissapoynting ther creditours of what is justlie dew vnto them, for which caus, vpon a letter from our Counsall of that our kingdome in behalf of one Andrew Scott, We wer pleased [to write] to the Commissioners of the west borders of this our kingdome, for apprehending of Sir Johne Scott of Newbrought and some others to be delivered vnto yow: And being vnwilling that they whersoever they repair should escape from being lyable to the censure of our lawis: Our pleaur is, that yow cause diligent search be made within the boundis of your Commission for apprehending the said

Sir Johne, Sir Walter Scott of Whitsteid, Sir Robert Scott of Hayning, and Robert Scott of Headschaw, and being takin or vtherwise sent vnto yow by our saids Commissioners heire, that with all possible diligence yow present them befor our Counsall ther, that they may proceed in ther censure of them, and for the petitioners' satisfaction as they in justice shall find cause. So we bid yow farewell.—Theobald's, 15 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MAR, THESAURER.

Right, &c.—In regarde of the long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father, and now of late vnto ws, by Robert Walker, servand of our buckhounds, Our pleasur is, that yow caus pay vnto him and his assigneyis all such moneysis whervnto he formerlie had right from aney preceeding grant from our said late father or from ws to be payed vnto him at the termes accustomed, and that he fullie enjoy aney vther benefite which he had from our said dear father within that our kingdome. Which recommending, &c.—Theobald's, 15 of Sept^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL OF WARRE FROM SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER BY HIS MA^{TIES} DIRECTION.

Right honorabill and my verie good Lords and honorabill Sirs.—Haveing moved his Majestie for Sir Andrew Grey, kny^t, that he might have a commission to goe to sea against the comon enemy, with such conditions as ar conteyned in the said commission which is sent yow heirwith, it is his Maiesteis pleasur that yow should first consider thair of and reporte your opinions concerneing the same, that his Majestie therfor may give such furdur ordour for the dispatch thair of as he shall think fitt: Thus haveing signified his Ma^{ties} pleasur heirin, I rest by your Lordships and by yow all to be commanded.—Theobald's, 19 Sept. 1621.

TO THE LORD BROOK, FROM SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, BY HIS MAJESTEIS DIRECTION.

Right honorabill and my verie good Lord, haveing moved his Maiestie for payment to be made vnto the bearer Robert Buchan, of diverse pearles, whair of some parcells was befor his Maiestie in your Lordship's hand, It is his Ma^{ties} pleasur that the samyne be delyvered vnto him to be valued by James Heriot, his Majesteis Jeweller, to the effect his Maiestie may give ordour for his satisfaction. So haveing signifeid his Ma^{ties} pleasur heirin, I rest your Lordship's affectioned servand.—Theobald's, 20 Sept. 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to give yow direction that yow should present our Revocation of the Lords of our Colledge of Justice, requyreing it to be insert in the books of Sederunt, as the revocaciouns of our progenitours had formerlie bene done: Our pleasur is, that yow certifie vnto ws what yow have done heirin, and that yow lette ws know the trew causes which have hindred our desyre from taking the wisched effect, as yow affect our service and wilbe answerable vnto ws, which we expect effectualle from yow. So we bid, &c.—Theobald's, 21 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MELROS.

Though by a letter vnto our counsell we have willed a generall restraynt to be made of all schippis as might be thought fitt for our service, yit our intention heirby is onlie to prevent the danger that some of

them may happen to incurre by going to France at this tyme, in regard of some difference betwixt the French King and ws, wherupon they may be arrested ther: Therfor our pleasur is, that no schipps be hindred by this meanes from ther lawfull prise aney wher else save in France, and that yow not onlie stop all such as ar to goe thither, but that yow vse your best meanes for recalling of them that ar ther already, with diligence, and that ye doe this efter what maner yow think expedient that may work the desired end with most convenience and least notice wherof, not doubting bot yow will have a speciall care. We bid, &c.—Theobald's, 21 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—Becaus in regard of the estate of this tyme and of the warrs wherin we ar presentlie engadged, we may have occasion to mak vse of sindrie schipps within that our kingdome for our service: Our pleasur is, that with diligence yow cause restrayne all such schipps as yow conceive to be fit for this purpose, that they goe no wher without a speciall licence from ws, or from one havinge power from ws to that effect, till yow heir our further pleasur; and so, &c.—Theobald's, 21 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that diverse persones of our kingdome of Scotland havinge committed murtheris and other criminall offences there, have fled from thence into that our kingdome, thereby preventing the due course of Justice fit to be execute vpon all such malefactours: Therfor, to the effect that all our loveing subjects may tak knowledge that it is not our purpos that any conveniencie be vsed in such cases by suffering any of our kingdomes to shelter such as be fugitives from our said lawis: These our Royall letters ar to requyre and authorize yow from tyme to tyme, and so often as our servant Sir Robert McClellane, kny^t, gentlman of our privie chalmr in ordinarie, shall mak known vnto yow by certificat or vther assured evidence vnder the handis of our Chancellour or thesaurer of Scotland, or vnder the handis of aney two of the Commissioners for our borders ther, that such particular persones have committed such and the lyk crymes, and have fled vnto that our kingdome, that yow give warrants vnto the said Sir Robert (of whois good affection to our service we ar confident) for apprehending and putting thame to Justice within our said kingdome of Scotland: And our pleasur is, that yow caus delyver vnto the said Sir Robert so many of the new armes last sent over as will arme his companys, and that yow cause tak bak from [them] the old armes formerlie gevin him by our direction: And our further pleasur is, that yow mak furth warrants vnto him of full pay to our thesaurer at Warris for the payment of the intenteament for him self and companeyis, according vnto our pleasur formerlie signifeid vnto yow to this purpos. All which recommending to your care, We, &c.—September 22, 1626, Whythall.

A paquet to the Earle of Melros vpon the 22 of September 1626, wherein there was a letter to the counsell for shipping, and one other to the Earle of Melros, concerning the same. Item, in a privat paquet to M^r Thomas Hope, a letter of the King's to Sir William Oliphant and him concerning the revocation. Item, in the paquet to the secretarie, a letter to Sir Archibald Napper, wherein there was a signator of his of old waste grounds. These letters went in companie of M^r George Law.

TO SIR JOHNE DANTSEY.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we, &c.—Haveing bene informed how affectionatlie our trustie and weilbeloved servand William Hinton, gentlman of our privie chalmr, is a sutter for mariage to your grandchyld,

Mistris Elizabeth Dansey, such is the earnest desyre that we have to advance the just designes of all our weil deserving servandis, but more particularlie of him in regard of his owin sufficiencie and of his good affection to our service, that we cannot but seriouslie recommend him to your favour; and as we expect that this our recommendation, joyneing with his owin merite, shall the rather prevale with your judgment, so be assured that a good successe ensueing hervpon, we wilbe the more carefull to express our respect both to yow and him when any good occasion depending vpon our favour is convenientlie offered.—Gevin at our Court of Hampton Court the 28 Sept^r, in the second yeir of our Regne.

TO THE COUNSALL.

Right, &c.—For the better preserveing of the dear and wyldfoull within our park of Falkland, whervnto we ar willing that a speciall regard should be had by a tymelie preventing of such abuses as may wrong the same: Our pleasur is, that yow give ordour for putting of such acts to executioun as have bene formerlie made aganst keeping of greyhoundis and curre dogs about the said Park, and aganst such persones who shall with fyre work in or near vnto the same, as lykwyse aganst these persones in whois custodie any pailing tymber of the said park is fund, causeing exact such penelteis from the transgressours as ar provydit in the saidis acts; or vtherwyse that yow caus tak such a course for restrayneing of such abuses as yow in your judgments shall think most expedient to the purposes and intent abovesaid. So, &c.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept^r 1626.

PRECEPT TO THE THESAURER.

It is our pleasur that yow cause pay vnto Sir Patrik Murray, gentman of our privie chalmer, or to such as shall have power from him, the sowme of 500 Merkis scotts yeirlie, at Witsunday and Mertimes, the first terme's payment to begin at Mertimes nixt, and so furth, yeirlie and termelie, dureing our pleasur, and that towards the maintenance of ane vnderkeeper of our forrest of Glenalmond. For doeing, &c.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept. 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE RENTS.

Right, &c.—Being informed that Charles Goldman, burges of Dundie, hath killed ane William Somervell, whervpoun the said Charles his eschat doeth becum at our gift and disposition; and being willing to gratifie our trustie and weilbeloved servand M^r W^m Elphingstoun, our Cupbearer, our pleasur is, that yow pass vnto him a gift thairof in due and compitent forme, togidder with the lyfrent eschat, if it shall happin to fall: And our further pleasur is that the said Goldman be persewed by the Advocatts for the said slaughter according to the course of Justice vsed in the lyk caices. Which recommending vnto your care, we bid, &c.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept. 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras for performeing vpon our part of a Covenant between ws and M^r James Galloway and M^r Nathaniell Vdward, we ver pleased to give warrant vnto the erle of Nithisdale, collectour of the taxatiouns granted vnto ws in October 1625, for paying vnto them 2009 lib. sterling out of the same: Our pleasur is, that, for ther better securitie, by ane act of privie Counsall yow ratifie and approve the said warrant: And our further pleasur is, that yow sie ws secured of such and so many articles of the said Covenant as ar fit to be observed vpon ther part, according to the trew intent thairof, which we will tak as acceptable service done to ws. And so, &c.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept. 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father, in regard of the information made to him of the ill vsage of — Gordoun of Haddo dureing his minoritie, to give ordour that he should be delyvered to some special freindis, by whois advyse he might choyse curatours for his best behooff and proffite; And we being credible informed that, notwithstanding of the wrongs already done him by ther meanes, he hath since suffered a great dale more, to the vtter vndoing of his estate, if the samyne be not in tyme remedeed, which course of theris (if it be trew as is informed) we doe exceedinglie mislyk: And therfor, out of that care which we will ever have of Minors, our pleasur is that yow cause sequestrat him in the custodie of some discreet and newtrall freinds therabout, and that vpon his or ther kinismen ther opening vp vnto yow of the wrongs done vnto him and his house, yow be carefull to sie the samyne redressed by all such wayes and meanes as may best accord with the lawis of that our kingdome. Which recommending, &c.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER.

Wheras in our Court Signetts, wherwith our Letters and other dispatches concerneing that our kingdome ar closed, our Armes ar inordourlie quartered, the English Armes being sett in the first place, and in double sheills, contrare to the prerogative and ordour kept in the rest of our sealls of that kingdome: Therfor we ordeane Charles Dickiesone, our Sinker, or such vther as our Counsell shall appoynt, to mak, grave, and sink tuo or thrie of the saidis signetts, setting the Scottis Armes in the first place, and in double sheillis, without aney further charge or alteration whatsoever, wherament these presents shalbe vnto them a sufficient warrant.—Hampton Court, 29 Sept. 1626.

A pacquet to the Earle of Melros the 4 of October, wherein there was a precept to Niddisdale and a letter to the counsell for M^r Nathaniel Vdwart for ordonance, a warrant for William Barclay direct to the Earle of Mar, and ane letter to the commissioners of the Exchequer from M^r William Elphingstone.

TO THE TOUN OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we wer pleased to wryt vnto yow in regard of a promeis made in your name for provydeing 100^{li}^b. sterling, with a sufficient duelling-house, for the vse of everie minister of the parochines of that our burgh; And sieing, for ther better encouragment, it is a purpos so expedient, we have agane thoght good to desyre yow to caus pay this yeirle sowme of 100^{li}^b. sterling to everie ane of the saidis ministers of the four severall parochines (in which number, at our desyre, yow condescended to devyde the said burgh), and that at tua termes in the yeir, Witsunday and Mertimes, be equal portions, the first terme's payment to begin at Mertimes nixt; and lykwyse that yow caus provyde everie ane of them with a sufficient duelling-house, if the samyne be not already done. So not doubting of your reedines to pleasur ws heirin, We bid, &c.—Hampton Court, 6 Oct^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased to wryt vnto our burgh of Edinburgh for provydeing 100^{li}^b. sterling yeirle, with a sufficient duelling-house, for the vse of everie ane of the eight ministers of the

four severall parochins of that burgh, in which number they at our desyre wer contented to divyde the same : And sieing for the better encouragment of ther saids ministers to attend ther severall churches, the samyne is a purpos so expedient, our pleasur is, that yow call the provest, bailleis, and counsell of that toune befor yow, and that yow encourage them by your best inducements to pay the said yeirlic dewtie to everie ane of the said ministerie at the termes of Witsonday and Mertimes nixt, and vpon ther willingnes thervnto, wherof we doubt not, that yow ratifie and approve the samyne by our act of Counsell. So we bid, &c.—Hampton Court, 6 Octo^r 1626.

15 October, two letters of the king's concerning the ministers of Edinburgh their stipends, direct to the Archbishop of S^t Androis. Two letters from the King to Earle Marshall and Traquhare, direct to Melros. This paquet went away with Niddisdale's brother.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—We ar informed that a sute in law hath long depended in the Court of Chancery in that our kingdome betweene our servant, Walter Alexander, Esquyre, and Sir James Craig, kny^t, notwithstanding of diverse letters writtin by our late dear father in his behalf, wherby our said servand hath bene long frustrated of what is justlie due vnto him ; And now, in regard of his attendance here, he cannot convenientlie follow his sute there otherwyse then be his counsell and agent : Our pleasur is therfor that yow tak care to putt a finall and speedie end in the said bussines, that our servand may find the fruits of Justice and of our indeavours in the readie execution thairof, whairof we will tak particular notice. So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 16 Oct. 1626.

Direction—To our right trustie and weilbeloved Cosen and
Counsellour The Viscount Ely, our Chancellour of our realme
of Irland.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF S^T ANDROIS.

Right reverend father in God, and Right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, we, &c.—Wheras we have gevin Commission to diverse persones for treating and compounding with such persones who would befor the first of Januarie nixt voluntarlie renunce and overgive ther right of erections, heretable offices, and vthers specifeit within the said Commission ; and now, least in the absence of our Chancellour, who is first in the said Commission, the effects thairof tending so much to our benefite and the generall good of our subjects should be delayed contrarie to our royall intention, Our pleasur is, that yow caus warne the saids Commissioners to convene at the day and place appoynted at our last being togidder, and that yow and they proceed according to the samyne commission, vseing your best endeavours in all things therein that may tend to the advancement of that service, wherin, and in all other affaires ther, We doe not doubt of your good and earnest affection. So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 16 Octo^r 1626.

TO THE ERLE MARSHALL.

Right, &c.—Haveing occasion to confer with yow at this tyme on some things concerneing our service, for the furthering whairof we ar confident of your affection : Therfor our pleasur is, that with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed yow repair to Court, wher our further pleasur shalbe imparted vnto yow. And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, 18 October 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Having bene moved by our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Spens, kny^t, in the name of the King of Sweden, for transporting of some forces from that our kingdome for his better supplie in the Warres wherin he at this tyme is engulged, and in regard as we ar informed of the good opinion he had conceived out of sound experiences of such as ar borne in that kingdome: Our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto the said Sir James, or to oney vther whome he shall appoynt, a commission, with a sufficient warrand to leavie and transport thrie thowsand men for the purposis abovesaid, with as large privilegedges as any vther generall or commander hath had heirtofoir in the lyk kynd, he alwayes giving satisfioun to everie one of the said number as shalbe agried vpon betwixt him and them, according to the custome in the lyk caices; for doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 22d Octo^r 1626.

TO TRAQUAIR.

Trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—In regard of some things that we ar desyreous to confer with yow concerneing our service, our pleasur is, that with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed yow repair to our Court, wher our further pleasur shalbe imparted vnto yow. So we, &c.—Whythall, 23 Octo^r 1626.

Chancellor, President, and remanent Lords of our Counsall and Session, We, &c.—Being crediblie informed of the literature and qualificioun of our loved James Philp, servand to Sir William Alexander, kny^t, our secretarie for Scotland, who havinge applyed his mynd and studeis these diverse yeirs bypast to the wryting and formeing of diverse securiteis and writts, is now becum apt and able to vse and exerce the office of a notter publict to all our leidges, it is our will, and we charge yow to trye and examyne the literature and qualificioun of the said James Philp, to vse and exerce the said office of a notter publict to all our leidges, and others whom it effeires; and in caice of his sufficiencie (being tryed by yow), that yow admitt him to the said office, receive his oath and caution for dew and lawfull administration of the said office, and authorize him with your testimoniall of admission therto in dew and competent forme, as the vse is in the lyk caices.—Gevin at our Court at Whythall the 25 October 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARRE.

Right, &c.—We received your letter, and approve your care and the course intendit by yow for furnishing of that our kingdome with armes, wherin according to your overture we will yow proceed, and to the effect that all munition of warre be provydit, and in readines vpon all occasions, that the Canon be mounted, and that such broken ordinance as cannot be vselful be cast of new, we have gevin instructions concerneing the same to our servand Sir Henrie Bruce, generall of our Artillerie ther, who will both acquaint yow therwith, and with a forme of militarie discipline, whairof, in respect of the good effects it may produce, we have a good opinion, and therfor refer it vnto your consideration, that thairefter it may be put in practeis according as it shalbe fund by yow necessar, and as it may be most convenientlie done.

And in regard (as we ar informed) that the said kingdome is much exposed to danger by wanting of strong holds and fortes for defence of the heavens and reads ther, Our pleasur is, that the said Sir Henrie be sent to visite the same, and that he relate to yow the trew estate of the same, that thairefter such

strenths may be made at such places as yow shall think expedient for the better safty of this kingdome from any sudden assault of the Enemye.

Moreover, vpon ane overture made by him [for] bringing skilfull fortificats and canoneirs from the Low Cuntreyis, we ar pleased in regard of the lyklikehood it caryeth to the good of our serviee to refer the samyne to your consideration, that having certifeid bak vnto ws your opinions therin, we may thairefter give such further ordour concerneing the same as yow shall think expedient.

And lykwayis we may have occasion to employ our said servand within that our kingdome, we doe desyre that this service should be the more quicklie dispatched. So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 25 Octo^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEKER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that the last Lease of the assise herring belonging vnto ws from Berwick to Portin Craig inclusive doeth expyre the 21 No^r nixt, and ther being offered vnto ws yeirlie, in augmentation of what was formerlie gevin, the sowme of 100^{lb} scotts by M^r George Fletcher, who hath bene a humble suter vnto ws to have a lease thairof : Therfor our pleasur is, that vpon expyreiing of the former lease, that yow prefer the said M^r George to any vther persone whatsoever, by passing to him a Lease of the said assise herring in dew and compitent form, and that for such number of yeiris as is contened in the said former lease, he allwyse payeing vnto our Excheker the dewteis accustomed besyd the said yeirlie augmentation. For doing whairof these presents to yow shalbe ane sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 25 Octo^r 1626.

TO SIR GEORGE ERSKENE OF INNERTELL.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we, &c.—Being trowlie informed that our servand Sir Alex^r McNaughton, kny^t, hath bene of a long tyme at great charges for the interteinement of James Campbell, second sone of the Erle of Argyle : And vnderstanding the estate of the Lordschip of Kintyre, whervnto the said James is provydit, is entrusted vnto yow : Therfor holding it good reasone that the said Alex^r, who vtherwyse hath deserved weil of the said erle, should be satisfied of what he hath justlie disbursed or standeth engaged for his sone : Our pleasur is, that yow pay vnto the said Alex^r, or his assigneyis, out of such of the first and readiest of his rents of that Lordship as ar in your handis or these which yow shall receave for this yeir, all such sowmes of money as he shall mak appear vnto yow to have bene disbursed by him, and for which he standeth engaged for the vse of the said James, and for the charges of his journeyes and travells in this behalf, wherof not doubting of the readie performance on your part, we bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 25 Octo^r 1626.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE, ONE OF HIS MAJESTEIS ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Wheras we bene here informed by our trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir Johne Scott, directour of our Chancery of that our kingdome, that ther ar s indie lawfull wayes wherby our rents ther may be augmented, which he heir sett down to ws in certane Articles, as also he hath presented vnto ws a list of diverse landis of our propertie, whairof the tenouris ar altered from what they wer at the beginning, and the mariages in ther late writts omitted contrarie to law and reasone, both which we have sent vnto yow by the said Sir Johne, willing yow heirby to consider of the same, and of such of the saidis Articles that yow shall think fitt to be prosecuted by ws, adverteise ws thairof, that we may efterward declare our will to our counsall or commissioners of our Excheker concerneing the same : As for the fewers and the altered holdings yow shall cause summond these and others of that nature

whome he shall give vp in list at our instance, and prosecute the said action with all expedition if yow find the same to stand with the lawis of that kingdome, and to be profitable for ws : And we will heirin that yow tak the concurrence and particular assistance of the said Sir Johne. Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 25 of October 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene petitioned in the name of M^r Johne Archibald that he might have a lease of fyve yeires of the assise dewtie belonging vnto ws of all whyt fishes paked and paled, to be takin within the seas and laiks of that our kingdome from Pentland furth to the Mule of Galloway, and within the whole eist and west ylands belonging to the same, togidder with all other of the assyse dewtie belonging vnto ws of all herring to be takin within the ylandis of the Lewis, Orkney, and Zetland, and within Murray firth and other northerne parts of that kingdome, offering to pay vnto ws yeirlië some small sowmes of money for the same, thogh, as he affirmeth, for the first fyve or six yeirs no great benefite can aryse to him, alledging that it war expedient for our benefite (wher for the present we have none) that a sufficient and able man for this purposis should be authorised for leavyeing of the same : Thogh these demands would appear sufficient enducements to ws for giveing way thervnto, yet in a matter of this consequence we would not absolutelie determyn therein without dew advyse : Therfoir our pleasur is (taking the premises vnto your serious consideration, and finding the same to be of veritie, and not to prejudge our subjects further then by taking from them these dewteis which justlie belong vnto ws), That then yow grant vnto the said M^r Johne Archibald tuo leases or vther securiteis neidfull heirvpon in dew forme, referring the yeires of the saidis leasses, the dewteis to be payed vnto ws, and all other necessarie and obligatorie clausses to be insert therein by your advyse, wherin notwithstanding we desyre that a respect may be had to the said M^r Johne his travells and charges in collecting the saids assyse dewteis : And our further pleasur is, that yow vpon the expyryeing of the yeires of the first Lease granted vnto him (tryell being takin of the yeirlië benefite redounding vnto ws), yow grant vnto the said M^r Johne or to any vther whome we shalbe pleased to appoynt, another lease therof, vpon a compitent value to be payed for the same in our Exchequer. So not doubting but yow will have a care of the premises, We, &c.—Whythall, 25 October 1626.

PRECEPT.

Wheras, vpon a letter from ws to our Counsall of that kingdome referring the considerioun of the panes and charges of Robert Buchan in the prosecution of a commission granted vnto him for fisching of pearles within the watters ther, thay have reported bak vnto ws that they find his charges to extend to 500^{li} sterling and above, besyds the pryces of the pearles presented be him to our late dear father and vnto ws ; and with all they have acquaintad ws that we might be pleased to extend our bountie towardis him, not onlie to counterpoise his charge, bot further to encourage him to prosecute that service : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow caus pay vnto him and his assigneys, out of the first and readiest of our rents and casualteis within that our kingdome, the sowme of 400^{li} sterling, and that in considerioun of his saidis charges. For doeing whairof these presents, with his discharge, shalbe, &c.—Whythall, 25 Octo^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL AND EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that Charles Goldman is not as yitt putt to his tryell for the late slaughter of William Somervell, wherby justice is delayed, to the scandale of our government within that

our kingdom, and to the ill exemple and discouragment of otheris to committ the lyk crymes, as thogh the privat agriement of parties should be a meanes for hindring of Justice, contrarie to the laws of that kingdome, wherby it is enacted that, notwithstanding of any privat agriement betwixt pairteis, our thesaurer and Advocatt should prosecute all Criminall offenders: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow cause trye the said offence befor the judge ordiner, and that the pairtie offender be transported vnto Edinburgh to abyde his tryell ther, as vse is in such caes: And in the meane tyme that yow pass no respectt nor remission for the said offence, in regard that our justice-depute and justice-clerk are to repair to yow with all convenient diligence to execute the dewteis of ther severall charges by administring justice according to the laws of that our kingdome. And for your so doeing these presents shalbe your warrant.—Whythall, 27 Octo^r.

Vpon the 28 of October delyvered to Sir Jhone Scote, the Commission for shipping, a letter of the King's to M^r Thomas Hope.

TO THE THESAURER AND COMMISSIONARS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble sute hath bene made vnto ws for the ward of — Ogilvie of Boyne by George Ogilvy of Banff, who, as we hear, was left tutor Testamentor to him by his father, efter some differences wer composed betwixt another and the said George concerninge some things fitt to be done for the good of the house of Boyne, and that the said George, who had cum so far a voyadge for that purpos, might not be disapoynted, we wer pleased to signe a gift therof vnto him; as for the composition, becaus we knew not the trew value thairof, we craved the opinion of all such commissioners of our Exchequer as wer here present, who thought fyve thowsand merks Scottis a reasonable composition for the same: And therfor, yow finding the same to be sufficient, or otherwyse havinge agried with the said George vpon some funder reasonable condition for the same, our pleasur is, that yow pass and exped the said gift vnto the said George, and as he hath already gevin band to the relict of the defunct for the reservinge of hir lyfrent, so fail not to tak hir bund in the surest maner, not onlie that the said gift shalbe vsed by him for the weill of the pupill (he alwyse beinge satisfieid of such sowmes of money and other necessarie expences as he shall pay for the same), but also whatever benefite, sowmes of money, or composition the said Lard of Banff shall receave or enjoy be vertew of the said ward, the samyne to be whole furthcoming and employed to the weill of the pupill: And the said Lard of Banff, as donatour foirsaid, at the said minor's aige of twentie-ane zeirs compleit, shalbe, obleist for him, his aires, and assigneyis, to warrant and relieve the said pupill of all damage and interest for whatsumevir facts and deids to be done by him by vertew of the said gift duringe his minoritie, and of all warrantice which may fall vpon the said pupill by vertew of the saids deids, and shall not, directlie nor indirectlie, by him self nor any vther to his behuiff, tak assignations nor vther rights in prejudice of the pupill nor his estate; and that the said George for himself, and taking the burden for the rest of the tutors testamentars, shalbe obleist yeirly to give vp and subscribe a just and trew accompt of ther intromission with that estate to the Commissioners of our Exchequer, or to such number of them as they shall think fitt. All which recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 29 October 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we did wryt vnto our Advocat of that our kingdome to caus our generall revocation to be registrat in your Sederunt Books, as the revocation of some of our prediceissours wer wont to be, wherupon we vnderstand that some differe and doubt hath bene amongst yow whether we did intend the

said registration to be ad futuram rei memoriam onlie, or to have the strength of ane act and decret of that Judicatorie; and thogh we doe conceave that the verie wordis of our said letter might have bene a sufficient ground to have informed your judgments of our intention, yit becans of your doubts, and we haveing at lenth heard our Chancellour and president of the session vpon that poynt, we have thought fitt to lett yow know that our desyre was and is that our said Revocation may be registrat to have the strength of ane act and decret, as diverse revocations of our said late father wer registrat and inserted by our predecessours and yow without impediment: And least this our lawfull desyre should appear vnto our good subjects ather to be above law or the right of our prerogative, or that we intend to tak the full advantage of Law, ather in the matter it self, or in the maner of proceeding: Therfor we ar resolved, and doe hereby late yow and them know, that as we have formerlie by our late declaration limited our said generall revocation, so we ar lykwyse now gracioslie pleased to give vnto our said subjects a farder tast of our princelie favour towards, them by our forbearing the verie legall and vsuall meanes of prosecuting our said revocation, and by requyring a far less benefite of our lawis for vs then is daylie gevin vnto our subjects ther; for wheras the Law of our said realme is that no suspension granted without sufficient caution, and that all the reasones of suspension ought to be instantlie verifeid, without incident diligences or long delayes of production, and that many things may be alledged be way of action which ar not admissible by Law of suspension, Yit, to pleas the mynd and ease the proceedings of our saidis subjectis, we ar contented and doe herby consent that yow registrat our said revocation or limitation with our said revocation, and that yow doe grant suspensions of the charges to be execute vpon our said revocation without caution, and that yow doe grant a reasonable long tyme for the production of the verifications of the reasones of the said suspension, as also incident diligences (if neid be) to be raised schortlie efter the charges, and discussed befor the ending of the saids suspensions: And that yow suffer all parteis charged or interested to alledge be way of suspension all such matters as thay might have done by way of action, our royall intention still being that all parteis interested may have lawfull warning to defend ther titles against vs as well as against any of our privat subjects: And our furder pleasur is, that yow doe mak intimation and publication of the premissis and of this our princelie favour to all our subjects ther: And for your so doing these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand and discharge.—Whythall, 29 Octo^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that the due practeis of armes and Herauldry, wherin consisteth the knowledg of ancient nobilitie, [hath] bene so far neglected in that our kingdome as that facultie is almost quyt forgottin: Thairfor out of our spetiall care thairof thinketh fitt that the samyne be in some sort revived agane, and therfor, haveing vnderstude that Thomas Drysdale, ain of our herauldis, hath takin great panes in collecting and descryveing the trew armes of all the nobilitie and gentrie ther, and now intendeth to proceede in the setting out of the genelegeis, We ar well pleased (when the said collection is finisched) that yow persue the same, and being approved by yow that yow grant vnto him and his assigneys, for such number of yeirs as yow shall think fitt, the sole power of printing and making benefite thairof.

And wheras the said Thomas haveing bene ane humble sutter vnto ws to have a commission for putting in execution ane act made for reformation of armes and armory, and that a more perfyit ordouring in all tyme comeing be established concerneing the same, and lykwyse haveing desyred to keip a register, wherin the name of all the knights whatsoever made since the happie comeing of our late dear father to the croun of this our kingdome, and in all tyme comeing, might be dewlie inserted, to the

effect that ther ordour of Marschalling and the tyme of ther making might be better discerned and knowen, We thogh both these demands seeme reasonable and expedient, would not determine heirin without your advyse ; and therfor our pleasur is, that yow tak the same vnto your serious consideration, and if you find them fitt to be granted, that yow agrie vpon the maner how the samyne may best be done, haveing a respect how the said Thomas may enjoy some certane reward for his paines ; and lykwyse that yow informe your selffis of all such fayre and reasonable wayes as ather yow can think of or as the said Thomas can be able to informe yow for the better advanceing of the purposes abovesaid, or of any other haveing relation to matter of armes, and therether that yow proceede therin as yow shall think most expedient. All which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE PROVEST AND BAILLEIS OF ST JOHNSTOUN.

Right, &c.—Trustie and weilbeloved counsellour, and trustie and weilbeloved, We, &c.—Being informed that ane James Tait, alias Kide, being takin as a theiff with the fang, was therefter committed to prissone at that our burgh of Perth, and enlarged without putting to any assyse : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow informe your selffis vpon what grounds he was first committed, and then by whois warrand he was released, for if magistrats in the lyk case doe not schow by what ordour they have done such a thing, they themselfis (as we ar credible informed) ar to be answerable for the same ; and thairfoir our further pleasur is, that yow certifie ws thairof with all convenient diligence, whairof not doubting but yow will have a spetiall care, We, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that Sir Alexander Naper have diverse overturis to be proponed concerneing our mint and the restraynt of the exportatioun of our money from that our kingdome, wherby great neglects hath bene and daylie ar permitted to the prejudice of ws and that of our said kingdome, and contrarie as we hear to the royall intention of our late dear father, so often signified for reformatioun therof : Therfor our pleasur is, that, calling the said Alexander befor yow, yow consider how far the saids overturis may be profitable and convenient for the good of our said kingdome, and that yow report bak your opinion vnto ws concerneing the same, that we may tak such farder ordour therin as we shall think most expedient. Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Alex^r Naper, knight, hath made ane Overture vnto ws for searching and making benefite of copper ore to be fund within that our kingdome, desyreing to have a grant thairof from ws, and we being willing to encourage the verteous designes of all our loving subjects, and that the said Sir Alex^r, who by that meanes vndertaketh to imploy diverse poore people, may have the benefite of his owin industrie, according to the custome in the lyk causes : Therfor our pleasur is (if yow find the samyne to be at our gift), that yow give vnto him and his assigneys a grant for searching and making benefite of the copper ore to be fund within the said kingdome, conteneing such number of yeirs and such other conditions as ye shall think fitt, provyded that he satisfie the owners and others haveing interest for brecking of ther ground, and that within the space of thrie yeres he bring that overture to some perfection, and prosecute the same. Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE GREEVANCES.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed that these many yeres bygane, in the tyme of our late dear father, ane Arthour Howstoun have heavilie compleaned that he hath suffered great vnjustice by a decreit pronounced against him by the meanes of vnjust informationis gevin vnto those of our Colledge of Justice by diverse persones within that our kingdome, and we pleased of late vpon the lyk complaint to refer his caus vnto your serious consideratioun, that such speedie redress might be gevin vnto him as the equitie of his caus should requyre: We ar well pleased that yow give ordour that the course he followed wherin (as we hear) yow have already gevin direction or vtherwyse as yow shall find caus; and if yow find that his complaint be vnjust, our pleasur is, that he be censured efter such maner as yow shall think fitt, least by the lyk indiscretion vthers be emboldned to importune ws or to taxe the proceedings of our Judges. So, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that certane Landis lying within the Stewartrie of Stratherne, now belonging to our servand Sir Patrik Murray, becam in nonentrie efter the death of the late Erle of Kinghorne, who was Infest therin, and we being vnwilling, in regard of the said Sir Patrik his long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father and ws, to tak advantage by the said nonentrie, ar now pleased to dispense with the same; and therfor our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto our said servand a new right if neid beis of the saids lands, and that yow discharge him of the said nonentrie, and of all that may follow thervpoun in dew and compitent forme. For doeing, &c.—Whythall, No^r 10, 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MAR, THESAURER.

Wheras we ar informed that Robert Dumbar of Burgie and his associats have of late committed ane haynous slaughter within these bounds, wherin our Right, &c. the Earle of Murray hath power by vertew of his commission to execute Justice, Our pleasur is, that yow pass no respekt nor remission vnto them, nor yit dispose of any of the escheits, leaving the said fact to be judged by the said Earle, in so far as is competent for him to doe by vertew of the said commission. And for your so, &c.—Whythall, No^r 10, 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras the widow of Sir James Cunynghame of Glengarnok hath compleaned vnto ws that ther within that our kingdome ar some writts belonging vnto hir ever since the death of hir husband detened from hir aganst all equitie and conscience, desyreing that schoe might be repaired according to Justice and the lawis of that kingdome: Therfor in regard schoe is a widow, and that hir cheiff residence is (as we ar informed) within our kingdome of Irland, we ar weill pleased to recommend hir vnto yow, desyreing that yow will with all convenient diligence dewlie and speedelie consider hir cause, and therfor that yow shall proceed therin as yow shall find the equitie therof in justice to requyre. Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Being informed that Capitan William Murray, latelie decessed, had a certane dewtie of all tobacco being broght within that our kingdome, conforme to a gift granted to him thervpoun, which it

pleased our late dear father to tak bak for his owin vse for a certane sowme of money, to have bene payed to the said William for the same, whairof (as we have bene petitioned in name of his widow) a part rests vnsatisfeid : Therfor our pleasur is (haveing first examined what is justlie dew) that yow tak some course for making payment thairof vnto the said widow, or vtherwyse if ther be not a speciall reasone vnto the contrarie, that yow grant vnto hir the dewtie imposed vpon the said tobacco vntill the tyme schoe be compleitlie payed, that we be not more troubled with hir complaynts in this kynd. And for your so doing these presents shalbe vnto yow and others whom it may concerne a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF NITHISDALE.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Baillie, kny^t, hath bene of long tyme attending the outbreak of certane schippis which we have appoynted to be provyded for our service and for the defence of that our kingdome, and vnderstanding perfectlie that he hath bene at great charges for himself, and such as he behaved to employ for assisting the said service and outbreak, we cheiflie requyre yow that yow caus pay or allow vnto the said Sir James all such sowmes of money as yow shall find to be due vnto him by certificat or accompts vnder the hands of our Counsall of Warre, or such of them as ar appoynted to be the quorum of that commission, and lyk that yow caus pay or allow vnto the said Sir James, as vnder Collectour of our last taxations, all such feyis and allowances as have bene in vse to have bene payed vnto the vnder collectors of ane former taxatioun, speciallie vnto vinqhill W^m Barclay, vnder collectour of the last taxatioun granted vnto our late dear father: All which sowmes and feyis shalbe thankfullie allowed vnto yow in your accompts. So we, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF OUR EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Baillie, kny^t, is willing to surrander vnto ws the office which he hath as one of the receavers of our rents, which we vnderstand may be sufficientlie discharged at all tyme herefter by the other receaver Sir Heurie Wardlaw, who hath bene ane old and faythfull servand to our late dear father and mother and vnto ws, and sieing we have appoynted the said Sir James to be Thesaurer of our Marine Causes to the effect that he may have some compitent allowance for the same without any further encrease of charge vnto ws: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow accept his surrander of the said place, with the feyis and allowances belonging therto, so soone as he hath cleared his accompts vnto yow of Intromission; and that yow pass the signatour which we have granted vnto him of marine causes in dew and compitent forme, in consideratioun of which charges his former fee due vnto him as one of the receavers of our rents is onlie to be allowed, conforme to his signature granted to him thervpon. So we, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE CLERK REGISTER.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour.—Wheras we ar^e informed that the particulars of our taxtrolls of the plane lands within our shireffdomes, stewartreis, and bailliareis, the particulars of our taxtrolls of our propper landis, the particulars of our taxtrolls of prelaceis and small benefices, with the particulars of our burrowis, ar not in your custodie, bot in the handis of one Archibald Prymrois, we will and requyre yow to call for the said Archibald and receive from him the saidis taxtrolls, to be enrolled in your Exchequer book, and to be kept by yow and your deputeyis with the rest of our rolls, rentalls, and vthers writs belonging vnto our Croun: We have directed our Collectour of the said taxatioun to wryt vnto him, as his Clark, to the same effect; and so recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION.

Trustie and weilbeloved.—Wheras we have vnderstude from yow that our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Halyrudhous is willing to surrender in our favours his right and title to that abbay, referring himself to our princelie consideration for his satisfaction, We have takin his offer in verie good part, and for which, in our name, we are willing that yow give him thanks, and with all that yow deall with him ather by way of surrender at the sight of our commissioners appointed for that effect or vtherwise, as yow have instruction from ws concerneing the same. So we, &c.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have gevin instructionis vnder our hand to our trustie, &c. Sir James Skene, president, concerning diverse ordours fitt (as we ar credible informed) to be observed in that Judicatorie for the good of that our kingdome, and lykwise concerning other particulars whairof he is to give yow information : These ar therfor to desyre yow that yow tak speciall notice of the saids instructions, and that by your best endeavours you contribute to the advancement of the same, in the due and readie execution thairof, whairin not doubting of your care.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO M^r JAMES RATTRAY.

Our pleasur is, that yow, with all convenient diligence, search and cause apprehend the bodcis of the Lard and Lady Basse, whome yow shall saffie delvyer vnto the custodie of our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Skene, president of our Colledge of Justice within our kingdome of Scotland, to the effect he may send them home into that our kingdome, for being subject to such lawfull executionis as ther creditours have against them ; and for your so doeing these presents shalbe your sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT OF SESSION.

That the Act made vltimo July 1605 be revived anent adding of reasones of suspensiones efter seeing of the peeces and the Act made 3 Nov^r 1619 anent seeing of peeces :

That the proceses may be divyded at 12 hours everie day equallie amongst the Clerks :

That no Lord of the Session goe to the examination of witnesses except the ordiner or such as shalbe appointed by the Lords judiciallie in open session :

That a bill of the pairteis expenses of plea be gevin in heirefter, to be advysed with the processe, that thervpon the Lords may modifie the expences in ther decret :

That no submission of pairteis be accepted by the whole Lords, nor required be them from the pairteis :

That all causes of importance and difficultie be pleaded by wrytt and subscryued by the Advocat for the pairtie :

That tuo Lords sitt in the vtter house continuallie, the one to exped all matters the first week, and the vther to be but his assessour for that week, and the said assessour to exped all bussines the second week, as onlie speaker, vnto whome another Lord is to be joynd that week as ane assessour in the place of him who was speaker the first week, and so successivelie from weik, to weik for so all bussines may be the more quicklie dispatched, and with less pane and more knowledge to the Judge :

That no man stay to hear the advyseing and voitting bot the Lo[rds] of Session and Clerk of the processe :

That the Lord appoynted for the bills, and the Clerk of the bills, sitt vpon the bills in the efternoone onlie, and report the nixt morning thereafter :

That the Act anent importinat Sollicitours, made the 13 July 1596, be revived and putt to dew execution.

That the Act of Sederunt made 24 May 1595 anent the continuatioun of summondis be revived and keiped in vse herefter.

That the Act made 27 July 1599 anent suspensions of decreits vpon liquidat sowmes be revived and put to dew execution.

Also the Act made 19 Ja^r 1600 anent the extracting of Interloquitours.

And the Act made 5 March 1600 anent reporting of Interloquitours.

Also the Act made the 16 No^r 1602 anent Suspensions granted contrair to a warrand.

That the whole Act made the 12 Ja^r 1604 be revived and dewlie executed, excepting onlie so much thairof as concerneth the choosing of the Lords of Session, being onlie proper for our self in right to our royall prerogative, wherin nevertheles we intend to vse the opinion of the Lords of Session.

That nothing be enacted in the Session which yow find against our good vntill we be acquainted therwith.

That yow tak notice of the action concerneing the Abbacie of Incheffray, and all the dependences of it, as being a matter that concernes ws.

That yow give spetiall attendance to that action of Reduction intended by the Lard of Craigievar, and that he have justice without delay.

That yow caus prosecute our right concerneing the Basse with all expedition, for effectuating of that end which yow have from ws.

That yow tak spetiall notice and putt ane end, according to equitie and conscience, to that bussines concerneing the wyff of Alex^r Auchmowtie.

That yow tak spetiall notice of that bussines of the Lard Leslie as a matter duelic concerneing ws.

That yow tak notice of the bussines of Robert Alexander, merchant, concerneing the Reduction and Improbation of the decreit and acts pronounced by the Erle of Mar against the said Robert.

That yow have a care of satisfaction of all Letters sent by ws vnto the Session, and that yow returne the answers thairof.

That yow advyse with our advocats what is the readiest and surest way of resignation of the titles quarreled, and send vp to ws the forme.

That yow advyse what further is to be done in Session, that we may interpone our authoritie thervnto.

That yow acquaint the Lords of Session and our Advocats as yow shall have occasion, and desyre the concourse hervnto, wheranent these presents shalbe your warrand.

That yow tak spetiall notice of the bussines of the children of Johne Nasmyth, so often recommended by our late dear father and ws, and ane end to be putt to that action.

That a spetiall care be had of the action and bussines of the burgh of the Cannogait, and Sir W^m Bellenden, ther superiour, and that we be made acquainted with the estate thairof.—Whythall, 10 No^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas yow haue informed ws that no pairs of our rents of that our kingdome can be spared for the maintenance of the shippes bought for our service there, in regard of the boardings wherwith

our Exchequer for the present is charged, and vnderstanding that already the moneyes of our Taxationes last granted vnto vs are so exhausted in buying of the said shippes in there outtake, and in vther our directiones, that no thing of a long time can be spared from thence; and seing it both concerneth the honor and saiftie of that our auncient kingdome to haue them furnished, and employed vpon all necessarie and good occasions: Therfor (till our rents be further increased) wee haue thought good to desyre yow (hauing impaired this our intention to the remanent of our counsell, or to so manie as yow shall think fitt) that both by your selves yow aduenter, and by causinge deale with such of the nobilitie, gentrie, or bourgesses as you shall find most able and willing for this purpose to wndergoe the charge of the manning and victualling of these three shippes, for which wee are content that the two equall parts of Three of what shall be warrantable purchases shalbe allowed vnto the said aduenterers and there associates, and the thrid to come to our vse; and to this effect that our Counsell (whom wee will yow to require in our name to signifie bake vnto vs who shall adventure in this kind) grant to all such persones such commission or commissiones as shalbe most expedient for there securitie and further encouragement: Otherwise, if this course can not proue effectuall for the purpose aboue said, Wee are so tyed in honor that wee can not but see them provyded: Our pleasure is, that yow sequesterate yearly out of the first and readiest of our Reuenues of that our kingdome fyue thousand pounds sterling money for the better maintenance of the said shipping, and that to be payed monthlie, whereof the first to be Nouember next: And to the effect that this may be the more easilie payed, our further pleasure is that yow cause make a restraint during the space of the payment of all pensions payed out of our Exchequer there, saue of such persones as wilbe willing to aduenter so much of their pension as they shall receaue, or as yow can conveniently spare out of our said Exchequer towards the outtake of the said shippes. All which recommending to your care, &c.—Whythall, the 10 of Nouember 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOP OF S^T ANDREWIS.

Right, &c.—Being informed that our Chancellour of that our kingdome and vthers in his name hath, contrarie to the Lawis of the same, oppressed ane M^r William Malcolm, a preacher, in the possession of his landis of Bussie, and becaus we doe not lyk that one haueing such a cheiff charge should ather give such a cause of complant, or yit, being wrongouslie complained vpon, should ly vnder such a scandell: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow call for the said M^r William, and haueing informed yourself of the trew estate of that matter, that yow with all convenient diligence acquaint vs with the same. So, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—In regard that our customes within that our kingdome may be putt to the best and most certane value for our benefite, we have thocht it expedient that they be sett to such sufficient persones as may pay most and be most able to secure for the same: Therfor our pleasur is (vnles yow have some spetiall reason to the contrarie, wherwith we desyre to be acquainted), that this our intention be made known vnto our subjects ther, to the effect that yow may agrie with such of them as shalbe willing and able to pay the greatest rent for the said customes: And vpon your ending with them to this purposis, that yow tak sufficient surty for vs that they shall pay the said rent at the tymes formerlie accustomed in the lyk caces, or otherwise as yow shall best condescend vpon for our behooff: And becaus yow that haue charge of our Exchequer cannot be at all tymes convenientlie mett, sieing this is the most spetiall employment concerneing our proffit which would be advysedlie caryed, Our pleasur is, that yow appoynt particularlie the Wednesday and fryday in everie weik, or some such spetiall day or tyme as can best

condescend vpon, to meit at the Exchequer house for dispatching of affaires concerneing our reuenev, and that the same be lykwise made known vnto all our subjects that they may the better attend the same. So not doubting bot that yow will have a spetial care of this, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR THE PRIZES.

Right, &c.—Sieing it hath pleased ws vpon good consideratiouns to give commission vnto yow to try whither the schipps takin of late by some of our subjects of that our kingdome be lawfull pryces or not, and therefter to decerne according to the lawis and practique of the same, or according to any other warrantable maner as yow shall think expedient; and in regard of the ordinarie residence of these strangers who (as we ar informed) have interest in the saids schipps and goods is far remote fra hence, and cannot in haste now in the winter seasoone bring furth such evidence as is requisite to give yow further light for your better informatioun concerneing the same: Therfoir our pleasur is, that the saids persones whom yow shall find to be so interessed have some convenient tyme to compeir befoir yow to this purpois; and therefter that yow proceed with all convenient diligence according to your Commission, sequestring in the meane tyme all these goods in the custodie of some responsible man (if that course be not alreadie takin), wher they may be safelie kept, and befor any sentence concerneing the samyue be putt in executioun: Our further pleasur is, that with all possible diligence yow aduertise ws thairof; and for your soe doeing these presents, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE ERLE OF MELROS.

Wheras we wer well pleased of late, vpon consideration of some differences lyklike to have fallin out betwixt the French king and ws, to wryt particularlie vnto yow that all schipps going from that our kingdome to that of France might be stopped, and that such schipps of our subjects as wer ther at that tyme might be recalled; and now sieing matters ar more settled between ws then they war at that tyme, and that no apparant danger is liklike to ensue that way, Our pleasur is, that no schipps be restrayned from going into France, and that our subjects may frielie trade in these parts without any danger knowen vnto ws; and that this our pleasur be signifeid efter what maner yow shall think expedient. So we, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Haveing bene informed that our late dear father did grant vnto ane Johne Foulis, the office of recever of Impost due to be payed for wyne to be imbrocht within the port of Leith and other parts within that our kingdome, according to his gift therof, efter whois death haveing conceaved that place to be at our disposition (as it was at our said late father's), we wer pleased befor yow advertised our secretarie ther, who acquainted ws therwith, that the said office was disposed by yow alledging the same to be due to your place, to grant a gift thairof vnto W^m Gicher, of whois sufficiencie to find suretie for his intromission and to discharge the same we ar credible informed; and being unwilling, sieing we have so far proceeded in that erand, and that he should now efter that he had our grant be disapoynted: Our pleasur is, that yow caus pass the samyne through the sealls according to the tenour thairof, and that he be putt in the reall possession of the place, conforme to his said grant, taking sufficient surety that he shalbe comptable vnto yow (according to the maner accustomed) of his intromission with the said impost, wherin not doubting but yow will give your best and readiest furtherance, which we will tak as acceptable service done vnto ws, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MAR, THESAURER.

Wheras we ar credible informed that the Erle of Montrose is to putt his sone in fee of his whole Lands, we have thocht good (in respect of the many good services done vnto our late dear fater and to ws by the said earle) by these presentis to requyre yow to receave his said sone our immediat tennent in the saids lands, and give way to his infetment, that it may be exped through our sealls according to the ordour with all expedition; and nothing doubting of your readie conformitie to this our pleasur, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO THE CHANCELOUR AND CHEEFF JUSTICE OF THE COMMON PLEAS IN IRLAND.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cosen and Counsellour, We, &c.—Wheras our servand Sir Archibald Achiesone hath some suts depending in the Courts of that our kingdome, wherin as he is confident to have justice duelie administred vnto him, so we ar gratuslie pleased to recommend vnto yow the speedy dispatch therof, and with as much lawfull favour as befitteth our recommendioun and his deserveing; and so much the rather becaus we have drawin him from thence for our service hither, wher his personall attendance is vsefull vnto vs. And so not doubting of your spetiall care heirin, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

To our trustie and weilbeloved Cosens and Counsellours The Vicount Ely, Lord Chancellour of Irland, and to the Vicount of Kinsal, Lord Cheiff Justice of the Common pleas of that our kingdome.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras yow have informed ws that no part of our rents of that our kingdome can be spared for the mantenance of these schipps boght for our service ther, in regard of the burdens wherwith our Excheker for the present is charged, and vnderstanding that already the moneys of our taxatiouns last granted vnto ws ar so exhausted in buying of the saids schipps [and] in the outrede of vthers [by] our direccions that nothing of a long tyme can be spared from thence; and sieing it both concerneth the honour and saftie of that our antient kingdome to haue them furnished and employed vpon all good and necessarie occasions; Therfor, till our rents be farther increased, we have thocht good to desyre yow, haueing imparted this our intention to the remanent of our Counsall, or to so many of them as yow shall think fitt, that both by your selfis yow adventure, and by causing deall with such of the nobilitie, gentrie, and burgesses as yow shall find most able and willing to that purpois, to vndergoe that charge of the managing and victualling of these thrie schippis, for which we ar content that the tuo equal parts of thrie of what shalbe warrantable purchased shall be allowed vnto the said Adventurers and ther associats, and the thrid to cum to our vse; and to that effect that our Counsall whome we will yow to requyre in our name to signifie bak vnto ws who shall adventure in that kynd, and grant vnto all such persones such commission or commissions as shalbe most expedient for ther securitie and further encouragement therof; if this course cannot prove effectull for the purpose above said, we ar so tyed in honour that we cannot bot sie them provyded, our pleasur is, that yow sequestrat yeirly out of the first and readiest of our revenewis of that our kingdome fyue thowsand pund sterling money for the better mantenance of the said shipping, and that to be payed monethlie, wherof the first to be No^r nixt; and to the effect that this may be the more easelie payed, our furder pleasur is, that yow cause mak a restraynt dureing the space of

of the payment of all pensions payed out of the Exchequer, some of such persones as ar actuallie employed in our service about our persone, and of such persones as wilbe willing to adventure so much of their pension as they shall receive, or as yow can conveniently spare out of our said Exchequer towards the outreik of the saids schijps. All which recommending vnto your care, we bid, &c.—Whythall, the ———

It is our pleasur that immediately efter sight heirof yow sett at libertie Johne Pagean, whom, by a warrand from ws, yow wer commanded to delyver to our provest and bailleis of our burgh of Edinburgh, and for so doeing these presents shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, 14 of November 1626.

To our trustie and weilbeloved Archibald Douglas, Captan of ane
of our schips called the Lyon, appoynted for our service within
our kingdome of Scotland.

These ar to will and requyre yow that yow transport from hence vnto the port of Leith in that our kingdome one Johne Pagean, whom, at your arrivell ther, yow shall safelie delyver to the provost and bailleis of our burgh of Edinburgh, to be put in sure ward be them, to the end he may be answerable to our Lawis of that kingdome vpon such matters wherwith he is to be charged; and for your so doeing these presents shalbe ane sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 14 No^r 1626.

TO SIR ROBERT ANSTRUTHER.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we greet yow well.—Wheras ther be tuo Regiments of men to be levyed within our kingdome of Scotland for the vse and service of our dear vnclie the king of Denmark, whairof one, haveing for Livetenant Colonell James Sinclair of Murkill, doeth want a Colonell, and we, out of former experiences, haveing good prooff of the sufficiencie and abilitie of Sir James Ramsay, kny^t, to manage such a charge, our pleasur is, that yow interceed with our said vnclie for givinge commission vnto him for being Colonell of the said regiment, which we will tak as ane acceptable pleasure done vnto ws; and that yow procure the said commission with the best and readiest conveniencie that may be.—Whythall, 21 No^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that it pleased our late dear father, of worthie memorie, vpoun consideration of the long and faythfull service done vnto his mother and to himself by vmquhill Sir Andro Melvin, kny^t, to grant vnto his widow for the mantenance of hir self and ten children, a pension of 1200^{li} Scotts, wherof, as schae affirmeth, diverse termes rest vnsatsifeid since the date of our said late dear father: And we, vpon humble sute made vnto ws in hir behalf, both considering the desert of hir said husband, which, as we ar credible informed, was more then ane ordinarie, and lykwyse pitieing hir present estate, ar gratuslie pleased that yow examyne what rests justlie due vnto hir or hir assigneyis the arreaiges, if any be due, as also the said pension, in tyme coming, according to the gift granted therevpon; and for your so doeing these presents, with hir discharge, shalbe vnto yow, and vthers whom it may concerne, a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 22 No^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene informed by a letter from our Counsall of that our kingdome of the ruinous estate of the Abbey Church of Halyrudhous, and how without some course takin for a speedie

reparation thereof it is lyklike to decay and indanger a part of our palace therunto adjoining: Howsoever, the estate of our Exchequer be such at this tyme as litle or no moneyis can convenientlie be spared from them, yit the consideratioun of the tymelic repairing of so good a work, being the buriall place of some of our royall antecessours, and the vsual place for the solemnitie of Coronatiouns, have moved vs to have a spetiall regard to the helping thairof: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow pay out of the readiest moneyis of our Exchequer the sowme of four thousand lib. scotts money, which was fund to be fit by your Master of Wark for effecting the said reparation, and what farther charge shalbe fund to be compitentlie requisit for this purposis, and that to be takin from yow ather by parcells, as the present necessitie of the wark shall from tyme to tyme requyre, or vtherwayes as yow shall think expedient, causing in the meane tyme conduce with all able workmen for perfyteing the said wark, and appoynting such persones in that parochin or elsewher as ar known to be honest and carefull men to be overseeris of the samyne: And for your so doeing, &c.—Whythall, 22 N^o 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Having granted vnto our right trustie and welbeloved the Lord Kinclavin a pension of 6000 lib. Scotts money dureing his lyftyme, conforme to a warrant from our late dear fater for answering him the lyk sowme as by the same may appear, and being pleased to wryt vnto yow of late for making payment thairof vnto him, sieing the same was granted by our said fater vpoun such considerable groundis, we ar well pleased agane to requyre yow that yow both readelic answer and pay vnto him or his assigneyis the arrearages of the said pension resting due vnto him, as lykwyse the samyne yeirlic and termelic according to his gift granted therpoun: So, &c.—Whythall, 22 N^o 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that Thomas Monypenny of Kinkell hath entrusted one Andrew Wood with his land for sowmes of money far vnder the value thairof, conditionallie that he should be comptable vnto him of all the rents of the same, save onelic of the interest of his money according to ten in the hundreth, and sieing we ar lykwyse informed that the said Andrew will harken vnto no reasone nor givie accempt of his intronissions according to the conditions agreed vpon betuixt them, bot taketh the advantage of some hornings from other persones, therby to seclude the petitioner from haveing the benefite of what is justlie due vnto him, and consequentlie from all meanes ather to satisfie his creditours or to redeame his saids lands at Witsonday nixt, at which tyme the comprysing thereof led be the said Andrew doeth expyre: Therfor, if that strict maner of proceeding, seemeing vnto vs to be aganst all equitie and conscience, be of veritie, our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto the said Thomas a suspension for the space of sex monethis nixt ensueing the dait heirof, super cautione juratoria, to the effect he may vse diligence for satisfieing his creditours, whom we wish nather to be defrauded of what is justlie due vnto them, nor yit the said Thomas of what may lawfullie belong vnto him: Which recommending to your care, &c.—Whythall, 22 N^o 1626.

The 25 N^o, at 11 o'clock, thrie paquets went from Whythall direct to the Earle of Melros, wherin ther was a letter to Stormont from the king, and some letters from the Chancellour to Melross. These wer letters of importance.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble complant hath bene made vnto ws in the behalff of M^r W^m Forhes of Cragievar, schaweing that he can have no payment of moneyis owing vnto him by the Lord Berridale, who haveing had heirtofoir protections, hath onlie made vse of them to defraud his creditours, and doeth lykwyse schelter himself from his due obedience vnto our lawis, which, if it be trew as is alledged, is so far aganst all equitie that we hold it aganst all reasone that he should have any such farder favour in this kynd; and therfor our pleasur is, that no protection be granted vnto the said Lord, and that such as ar not alreadie expyred concerneing this purpois may surcease vntill the tyme he hath made full payment vnto the petitioner of principall sowmes of money and interests for the same justlie due vnto him, and for his better recoverie therof, that he have all the lawfull furtherance that the Lawis of that our kingdome, or any former president, for the lyk purpois, can affurd vnto him as well aganst the persone of the said erle as otherwyse for the delyverie of his housses and sequestration of his rents: Which recommending to your earnest care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 22 No^r 1626.

The lyk letter, verbatim, was writtin in favours of M^r Johne Scharp aganst the Erle of Cathnes, Berridal's father, dated vt supra.

TO THE EARLE OF WINTON.

Right, &c.—Thogh we doubt not of your earnest care and affection (hitherto sufficientlie expressed) for the weill of the Children of the Erle of Dumfermeling, late Chancellour of that our kingdome, the remembrance of whois good and thankfull service done vnto our late dear father and vnto ws is still recent with ws; yit sieing they ar cum, as we ar informed, to the yeres of discretion, our pleasur is, that the sone of the said Erle be sent to be bred at the schools in S^t Androwis, haveing with him a pedagogue approved by the Archbischof thairof, to be ane honest and able man for that purpois, and that his sister sent to be bred with his mother, the Lady Dumfermeling; wherin not doubting ye will pleasur ws, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 22 No^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF ANGUS.

Right, &c.—Being informed of your care and affection hitherto sufficientlie expressed for the well of your eldest sone, and we being willing in regard he is borne to be ane of the peeres of that our kingdome, that ye continew to be carefull of his good education, sieing, as we ar informed, he is now cum to the yeirs of discretion, and knowing him, and knowing how much his being vnder the care of some sufficient and learned persone will contribute to his good breiding: Therfor our pleasur is, that by the advyse of the tuo Archbischofs ther, or any ane of them, yow mak choyse of a pedagogue to him, and therefter that he be sent in his companie to be bred at ane of the vniversiteis of this our kingdome of England, whervnto not doubting bot that yow will give way to our desyre in this, if yow have resolved at all to send him abroad, as we hear yow ar mynded to doe: We bid, &c.—Whythall, 22 No^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Haveing spetiall care that the children of Noblemen of your qualitie, who ar borne to be peeres of that our kingdome, may have good education, and spetiallie in that which doeth concerne religion,

least otherways they be seduced from the truth befor they cum to the yeres of discretion, and haveing heard that your eldest sone is broght vp with our right and trustie and weilbelovet the Marques of Huntlie, his grandfather, of whois fidelitie and sincere affection to our service, thogh we be verie confidant, yit in regard of his aversnes from the religion professed within that our kingdome not givinge the Church satisfaction, we doe not lyk that your sone should be bred in such companie; and it is our pleasur that with all diligence yow returne him from thence, and cause breid him with some persones, who ar firmelie affected to the religion presentlie professed, and that yow certifie ws bak with convenient diligence what is done heirin: Which recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 22 N^or 1626.

TO SIR W^m ALEXANDER AND SIR JAMES SPENS.

Right, &c.—Wheras Sir James Baillie, kny^t, by our derection hes advanced great sowmes of money for the payment, repairing, outreaking, men's waiges, store, provisions, and victualling of these thrie schips bought for our service in the defence of that our kingdome of Scotland, and wheras by our former warrand we willed yow to tak in your consideratioun the accompts of debursments vpoun the tuo schipps bought in England onlie, our will and pleasur is now, that in regard the thrid schip bought in Scotland is aryved here with men to sayll the other tuo schipps home, and requyrs a great supplie for repairing and outreaking of hir, with all store of necessarie provisions to be advanced and furnished lykwyse by the said Sir James, yow call befor yow all such persones who have had the trust of debursings of any moneys for the whole thrie schipps, and examyne and bring to a totall sowme what hath bene payed and layd out for the saids thrie schipps since the beginning of the work, which accompts, so past vnder your hands, shalbe ane sufficient warrand to the said Sir James to retene the lyk sowme in his owin hand out of the readiest of his intronission with the taxatioun granted vnto ws by the estats of that our kingdome: For doeing wherof, &c.—Whythall, 22 of N^or 1626.

It is our pleasur, whensoever any of our schipps appointed for our service within our kingdome of Scotland doe encounter with any of our schipps of this our kingdome of England, within the seas, rivers, roads, or herbereis adjacent or belonging thervnto, that the Commanders of our said schips ther shall discharge a peece of ordinance, and putt down ther flags, raising the samyne immediatlie thereafter, as accustome is of schips belonging to a foraigne prince, which observance to our schips ther we will [be] reciprocalle performed by our schipps here within the seas, rivers, roads, or harbereis belonging or adjacent to our said kingdome of Scotland: Being willing that this our pleasur be signified by the Lords Admiralls of both the kingdomes, or by vthers havinge direction or power from them to all capitanes, masters, or vthers officers of our said schipps whome it doeth or may concerne.—Whythall, 22 N^or 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras a commission was granted by our late dear father, and renewed by ws, vnto our Right, &c. the Earle of Murray, and sieing anything derogatorie to the same being granted vnto him as our livetenant by vertew of our royall authoritie may so neirly concerne ws, Our pleasur is, that without a spetiall warrand from ws yow doe not medle at all with the said Commission, leaving it to be executed by the said Earle according to the tenour thairof, for if aney pairteis have just caus to compleane, let them have recourse for remedie to our privie Counsell, or to ane havinge Commission from ws to that effect,

whome we will to represent vnto ws, if they find sufficient cause, the trew estate of the poynts contraverted vpon, that thairefer we may give such farder ordour therein as justice and equitie shall requyre : So, &c.—Whythall, 25 N^o 1626.

TO THE VISCOUNT STORMONT.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have gevin ordour to our Advocat to intend action aganst all such persones within that our kingdome as pretend right to these things which should justlie belong vnto ws, yit in regard of the long and faythfull services done by yow to our late dear father, we have gevin ordour to our said Advocat that he shall not insist aganes yow till he have a particular warrand from ws concerneing the same, for we ar verie confident that yow will tak a sure and privat course with ws, and in the meane tyme that yow will schaw your accustomed care in all things that may tend to the advancement of our service which we expect from yow.—Whythall, 25 N^o 1626.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—We ar pleased to give direction to the bischop of Ross at his departure from hence that a course might be takin for settling of M^r John Scrymgeour, who hath returned bak vnto ws alledging nothing to be done in that purpos : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow informe your self, if yow have not already done the same, of the said directions, and therefter that a course for provydeing of him may be takin with the best expedition that may be, that we be not more troubled in this kynd : Which recommending to your earnest care, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 27 N^o 1626.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—In regard of the long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father, of worthie memorie, and vnto ws, by the late erle of Montrois, and being willing ever efter the death of these our well deservering subjects to gratifie ther heyres, and spetiallie these that ar borne to so noble and antient familieis, with any such favour as may be lawfullie bestowed vpon them by ws : Therfor, vnderstanding that the ward and Mariage of the now erle of Montrois is at our gift and disposition, our pleasur is, that yow pass and expeed a gift thairof vnto him in dew and compitent forme, without any composition, to the end that he may fullie enjoy the benefite aryseing therby : And for your so doeing these presents shalbe your sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 27 N^o 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and wellbelovied Johne Stewart hath bene a humble sutter vnto ws that we might be pleased to recommend him in that action depending befor yow concerneing his benefice of Coldingham, wherin thogh we doubt not but yow will proceed according as yow find just caus, yit in regard of his other affairs in this our kingdome of England, and that he cannot convenientlie attend in persone ther, we ar well pleased to desyre yow that yow grant vnto him all such lawfull favour and speedie dispatch in the said caus as the equitie thairof shall in justice requyre : Which recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—27 N^o 1626.

TO THE COUNTESS OF HOME.

Right trustie and weilbeloved cousen, we greet yow well.—Being informed that yow ar sufficientlie secured for the moneyis due vnto yow by our trustie and weilbeloved Johne Stewart, and being willing that a fair course should be takin betwene yow without wronging of ather partie, we could earnestlie wish that for his better provydeing, to give yow compleit satisfaction, yow grant him tyme to Witsondy nixt ensueing, which we will tak as a special favour done vnto ws : And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, 27 N^o 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF ROXBURGH.

Right, &c.—Haveing occasion at this tyme to confer with yow in some things concerneing our service, our pleasure is, that yow, with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed, repair vnto our Court, wher our further pleasur shalbe imparted vnto yow : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 28 N^o 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed that Sir W^m Ker of Cockpen, kny^t, haveing in violent maner intrometted with the tythis wherwith our trustie and weilbeloved servand Sir Robert Ker of Ancrum, kny^t, by vertew of the escheit of the late Erle of Lothiane, granted vnto him by our late dear father, hath bene above tuo yeres in possession, and we being willing that such wrong, which may prove so dangerouslie pernicious to our present government ther, be in tyme remedid : Our pleasur is, that yow first try exactlie how the saidis wronges wer committed, and thereafter, finding them to be such as is alledged, that yow see the same exemplarlie punished according to the lawis of that our kingdome, or vtherwayes as yow shall find the same to deserve, that non herefter presume to doe the lyk wrong amongst our subjects : So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 28 N^o 1626.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that the Lard of Fullerton, latelie deceissed, have left tuo daughters to succeed him in the estate, of whom, as we ar informed, the ward and mariage becum at our gift and disposition, and being willing to gratifie our trustie and weilbeloved Sir James Fullerton, kny^t, who have long and faythfullie served ws, and of whois fidelitie we ar confident, Our pleasur is, that yow pass and exped vnto him a gift thairof in dew and compitent forme, he paying a reasonable composition for the same, and givinge such surety as is accustomed in the lyk caces, or as is necessarie for this purpois : For doeing whairof these presents, &c.—Whythall, 28 N^o 1626.

TO JAMES CISBY.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we greet yow well.—Wheras our servandis Sir Thomas Dischingtoun, kny^t, and Alex^r Narne, keepers of the park and others offices about Fernham, have informed ws that ther ar certain fees dew vnto them for keeping of the same which ar in your handis as thesaurer to the late Bischop of Winchester, and which yow are willing to delyver vnto them vpon the significatioun of our pleasur vnto yow to this purpois, these ar therfoir to will and requyre yow that vpon sight heirof yow pay vnto our saids servandis all such fees as ar due vnto them for ther severall offices.—Whythall, 29 N^o 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that ther is a forrayne schip lyeing within Leith, or some vther part therabout loadned, as we ar informed, with gold and silver ore, and vnderstanding that one called Lawrence, belonging to the said schip, is apprehended for false coyne, and is to undergoe due punishment for the same, concerneing both which particulars we desyre to be further informed; and therfor our pleasur is, that the said schip be not suffered to depart from thence, nor yit that the said Lawrence suffer for the said coyne till first we be more particularlie acquainted therwith, which we desyre to be done with the best conuenience that may be, and in the meane tyme that yow give dew notice of this our intention to such persones as it may concerne; for whome and to yow these presents in this behalf shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, 29 No^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE MERSHELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing occasion to confer with yow in some things concerneing our service according to our pleasur formerlie signifeid to this purposis, our pleasur is, that, with as much diligence as conuenientlie can be vsed, yow repair to our court, wher our further pleasur shalbe imparted vnto yow : So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 29 Nov^r 1626.

The 30 of No^r 1626.—At 6 in the morneing a pacquet to Melros, wherin a letter of the King's to him, and another to the Earle Mershell, with a discharge to Sir Henrie Wardlaw, and a letter of the Chancellour's to Melros.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Couper hath conferred with ws concerneing our interest in that abbacie, and is to tak a course for our satisfaction, according as we have writtin to our advocats to this purposis : And being informed that diverse of his tennents, by reasone of the summons raised aganst him at our instance, or vtherwayes, vpon pretendit rights, have abstracted and ar to abstract payment from him of the maills and fermes accustomed to be payed vnto him, wherby he is lyklike to be exceedinglie prejudged, contrarie to our royall intention; and hearing lykwayis that for this purposis ther ar actions intended and to be intended befor yow : Therfor our pleasur is, notwithstanding of any former letter of ours, that yow affoord vnto him all such speedie justice as the course of Lawis will permit : And as in this, so in all other matters concerneing him which shall come befor you, that yow give your best assistance in so far as the equitie of his cause shall in justice requyre : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 3 De^r 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Vnderstanding ther is aganst some other persones pretending right to these things justlie belonging vnto ws, yow have lykwise raised summons at our instance aganst our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Couper, yit, in regard he hath conferred with ws, and is to tak a course for our satisfaction, wherof, in regard of his owin words to ws, we ar confident : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow pass from any further persute of the said Lord pro loco et tempore in any thing that may concerne ws in this behalf, and that yow doe not compeir in our name befor the Lordis of Session in that purposis aganst the said Lord vntill yow shall receive a spetiall warrand from ws.—Whythall, 3 De^r 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Haveing vnderstude, as yow wryt, that sindrie of our good subjects who ar interested in these things that we challenge by Law, haveing advysed togidder and had your opinion, did resolve to send a supplication vnto ws with reasonable offers for our satisfaction : Thogh we lyk well of ther intention, and will be the more carefull to give them contentment efter such a maner then to mak a greater advantage by debateing our titles in Law, yit, haveing formerlie appoynted a commission for this purpos, we ar not pleased that they should have determined a new course by sending such commissioners to ws till we had first bene acquainted therwith, and they warranted by a direction from ws to cum : And therfor we have commanded our Secretarie here to wryt vnto them that they cum not forward, and that they returne if they be vpon ther journey, but that they send ther supplication efter the ordinarie maner to be presented vnto ws, and we will, as we in our royall consideratioun shall think fitt, give ourdour for treating with them : And wher yow advyse ws to a parliament, in regard of the place of trust yow have of ws and of your sufficiencie, we cannot bot value your opinion much, being confident that yow would wish ws to tak no such course vnless yow knew a certane way therefter for effectuating our service, yit, sieing our desyres so just and fair, and the meanes we vse so lawfull, we would first condescend in some mesur vpon the particulars which ar to be secured in a parliament : Wherin, not doubting but yow will vse your best endeavours for our advantage, we bid, &c.—Whythall, 4 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Sieing we wer well pleased [with] M^r Thomas Hope, one of our advocatts, we think that a place of such trust with ws should have procured him more respect with yow then to have bene censured in such a publick maner, for wordis the lyk wherof, as we ar informed, have bene tollerated from ordinarie advocatts heirtofor : Therfor, as we ar confident that our Advocatts ar men of such sufficiencie as they will not neglect ther duetie to yow or to none vthers, so our pleasur is, that yow proceed not rashlie to censure any of them without first acquainting ws therwith, in regard of the eminent charge they have in our service ; and thogh our Advocat at our desyre hath dimitted the place he had as one of your number, it is our further pleasur that he lose no priviledge he had in calling of actions vpon the day accustomed that he formerlie had, or any vther way ; and so, not doubting but that yow will express your respect to our pleasur in this, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar crediblie informed of the long service done vnto our late dear father, of worthie, memorie, by David Selkrig, whois cause we have bene pleased to recommend vnto yow by reference from Sir W^m Alexander, our Secretarie heir, as by the same may appear, and in regard of his great aige and present necessitie, our pleasur is, that yow, haveing first considered of the lawfulness of his demand, tak such a course for his satisfaction as may most convenientlie be done and as may best agree with equitie and conscience, wherin we being willing that a respect be had. We bid, &c.—Whythall, the 4 of De^r 1626.

4 De^r 1626, at 8 at night, a paquet to Melros, wherin a lettre from the King to him, and another to the Session for M^r Thomas Hope, with a privat letter from the Chancellour to Melros. This was sent from Whythall, and with a little paquet of the Eries of Rothes, Lythgow, and the Lord Loudoun.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas, for the publick good of that our kingdome, a course hath bene intended by us that everie Inheritour of Landis might have his owin Tythis, according to the tenour of our proclamatioun made to this effect, and being informed that in the meane tyme the bishop of Dumblane is heavele distressed concerneing the tythis of his landis, wherenant, as we ar informed, ther is an action depending befor yow betwene him and the Lord of Balcarras, wherin, howsoever his right might have led him to have proceeded in a rigorous maner, yit our pleasur, so made knowen vnto him and the pairteis qualitie should in our judgment have moved him to have takin a fair and plausible course at this tyme : Therfor our pleasur is, efter yow have takin the premisses into your consideratioun, and finding them to be of veritie, that the said bishop may have all such lawfull favour and speedie dispatch in the said cause as the Lawis of that our kingdome can justlie affuird him ; wherin nothing doubting of your willingnes, We &c.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Sieing, as we ar informed, it hath bene provydit by act of parliament that none should be elected provest, nor yit aney other magistrat of any of our burghs, bot such as wer merchands and actual traffiquers, and we having thought it expedient that out of that number they should lykwise be choysen who wer commissioners for the burghs at parliaments or conventions, excepting onlie our burgh of Edinburgh, who wer to send tuo commissioners, the one being a merchand, the other a craftsman : In consideratioun wherof we wer pleased by our letter to recommend vnto yow that the said act might tak the intendit course and effect, notwithstanding wherof we ar informed that sindrie of the burghis, to the manifest contempt of our authoritie and Lawis of that our kingdome, have presumed to doe the contrarie, as, namelie, the townes of Hadington and Kinghorne : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow call befor yow both the Electours and elected persones, that, besyds the depryveing of them of ther offices, they be censured for ther contempt, according to the Lawis of that our kingdome, or vtherwayes as yow shall find ther faults to deserve ; and with all that yow renew the proclamation formerlie made to this effect, with what further addition as shalbe by yow thought fitt for this purpos, causing intimat the same at the mercat croces and counsel houses of everie ane of the burghes of our said kingdome : So, recommending vnto your speciall care the premisses, and what else yow in your owin judgment shall find to be expedient for the reformeing such abuses, if any be, in any vther of our burghis of that kingdome, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

Being informed that ther ar some ordinances within that schip wherof yow have the charge, which, being more then is neidfull for hir vse, may be convenientlie spared ; and vnderstanding how necessar it wer that our castell of Dumbartan, a cheiff strenth within that our kingdome, should be furnished with some ordinance, which can hardlie be done otherwyse then by sending a schip thither with them of purpos ; and in regard, as we ar lykwise informed, that Sir W^m Alexander, our Secretarie, is to sett out some schippis for the plantations of the cuntry of New Scotland, which, as ar intended, ar that seaseon in which they depart to returne to the harbour wher the said castle is : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow delyver vnto such as shall have warrand from our said service four demy culveris of the weght of . . . and tua salters of the weight of . . . for the purpos above specifieit : For doeing wherof these presents shalbe your warrand, &c.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras our burgh of Edinburgh being divyded in four severall parochines, each thairof having two ministers, And it being fitt according to the custome of all civill people that the Inhabitants within the parochin should onlie frequent the Church thairof at the tymes accustomed for hearing the word of God, receaving the sacraments, and contributeing to the maintenance of the ministrie, according to our pleasur heirtofor signifeid to this purposis, and being confident as yow preceede vthers in learning and knowledge, so yow will doe the lyk by your good example: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow and the whole numbers of that judicatorie to whome we desyre that yow import our pleasur in this, repair onlie whill yow ar resident within our said burgh to the ehurehe of the parochine wher yow duell for hearing of the word of God and receaveing the Sacraments, and that yow concurre with the said toun in contributeing to the maintenance of your ministers, and for advanceing in so far as in yow lyeth the discipline of the Church presentlie professed ther, which we will tak as a spetial pleasur done vnto ws: And so, &c.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased heirtofor vpoun consideriouns of the tranquillitie of the discipline of the Church presentlie professed of the laudable custome of all civill tounes and commonwealths to desyre that everie parochin within that our burgh of Edinburgh should keep the church within the precinct allotted thervnto, contributeing as vthers did to the maintenance of these who have the charge of the same; and sieing, for the better instructions of the inhabitants of the said burgh, the provest and bailleis therof have agried to divyde the same in four parochines, and to provyde each of them with tuo sufficient ministers: Therfor we have thought good agane to requyre yow that yow caus the same ordour be dewlie observed, and in regard that the course will draw to a great deal of more charges then they war at befor, which in all reasone oght to be raised from the familieis within the said toun who enjoy the benefite of the ministrie ther: Our pleasur is, that the whole inhabitants within the saidis parochines, as weil burgesses as any vther persone, of what qualitie or estate soever, who ar resident ther with ther familieis, shall, notwithstanding of any former priviledge pretendit to the contrarie, rateable contribute toward the maintenance of the said ministeris without exempting of any; and for the better doeing heirof we will that at the yeirle election of the Magistrate of the said burgh ther be some honest men lykwayes made choyse of, being sworne to that purposis, to taxt and stent all the inhabitants forsaid what they should pay proportionable towards the maintenance of our said ministrie, and that they returne a roll heirof to the Magistrats of the said burgh that they may appoynt collectours to bring it in to ther thesaurer: And we will that yow ratifie the samyne by ane Act of Counsall: So we bid yow hartlie farewell.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO MR THOMAS HOPE, HIS MAJESTIES ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Robert Spottiswood, kny^t, out of the affection he caryeth to our service, hath made offer freelie to surrander in our favours his right and title to the Abbacie of Newabay, and all things belonging thervnto, referring himself to our royall discretion for his satisfaction, wherof we will not be vnmynndfull when fitt occasion shall offer, wherby we may convenientlie gratifie him for the samyne: Therfor our pleasur is, that haveing conferred with the said Sir Robert to this purposis, yow draw vp such writtis as may fullie secure ws of the said Abbacie and all vther things belonging thervnto, wherof being perfected vpon the part of the said Sir Robert, and of the forme vsed by

yow therin, yow shall acquaint ws with all convenient diligence, that thereafter we may tak such a course with him for encourageing of vthers to doe the lyk as we in our judgment shall think fitt. So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 4 De^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that our servands Walter Stewart and Johne Sandilands have pensions granted vnto them out of the Exchecker of that our kingdome; and being willing in regard of ther attendance about our persone here that they be dewlie satisfeid according to ther gifts granted thervpoun, our pleasur is, that yow pay vnto them, or ther assigneyis, out of the readiest moneyis belonging vnto ws in that our kingdome, the arriarages of the said pension, togidder with the samyne yeirle and termelie, conforme to ther saids gifts; for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow aud to all vthers whome it may concerne a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 10 De^r 1626.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras, vpoun consideratioun that our late dear father did grant ordour that Alex^r Maxwell should have the first masseris place that happened to vaik, it pleased ws by our letter to confirme the samyne, wherin being willing that our said father's intention should prove effectuall, our pleasur is, that none be preferred to him when any such place doeth vaik by death, dimission, or deprivation, bot that he enjoy the samyne with the priviledge and benefite belonging thervnto: And that yow caus ane act be made heirypon, and insert the same in your book of Sederunt; for doeing, &c.—Whythall, 10 De^r 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that our brough of Edenbrough haue diuyded their towen in 4 severall parochins, and hane elected two ministers for eurie parochin, and as wee are informed, conforme to their priviledges, and the accustomed order signified the same vnto you: Therfor it is our pleasure that you, with all convenient diligence, conveye the remanent commissioneris appointed for planting of the churches of the said brough, and calling the elected ministers befor you, that you cause them accept the said charge of the ministerie of that parochin of the said brough wherewnto they are elected, and that you use your best endeavours to see the same plantation fullie perfyted, which wee will tak as a special service doen vnto ws.—Whythall, the 10 December 1626.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustic, &c.—Wheras diverse of our loveing subjects of that our kingdome haveing caused deal with ws for accepting of ther surranders here, and we being willing for our better securitie therin that yow sie the same formellie and lawfullie done, according to the commission granted to this effect, ar pleased to remitt the consideratioun of the forme and maner of the said surrander vnto yow as properlie belonging vnto your charge from ws: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow condescend with these persones vpon the said forme and maner of ther surranders, and thereafter that they proceed for the ending of all vther matters concerneing the same, with the commissioneris appoynted by ws to that effect.—Whythall, 12 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras vpon due consideratiouns we have gevin ordour that none of our subjects within this our kingdome bring any wyne from France, and being willing that the lyk course be takin

for the good of that our kingdome, our pleasur is, that none of our subjects ther, till we shalbe pleased to give further direction concerning this purpois, bring any wyne from France or from any vther port whatsumever, haveing growne in that kingdome, be suffered to enter in any of the ports or harbereis ther, and to this effect that yow tak such a course as yow shall think most fitting, causinge publict notice be gevin of this our intention at the places accustomed or necessarie for this purpois: So we, &c.—Whythall, 12 De^r 1626.

12 De^r 1626, at 3 in the afternoone, a paquet to Melros, wherin a Letter of the King's to the Counsall concerneing wyne, and a Letter to the Advocat for surrenders: Item, a litle paquet tyed to it direct to the erls of Rothes, Linlythgow, and the Lord Loudoun, who lay at Stamford.

TO THE EARLE OF TOTNESSE, MASTER OF THE ORDINANCE.

Wheras our good schippis called the Lyon, Vnicorne, and Thistle, appoynted for our service in the kingdome of Scotland, ar to be sett to sea, and have neid of some store of powder: These ar therfor to will and requyre yow that yow give ordour to the master of the powder mylnes to delyver vnto Archibald Dowglas, captan of the Lyon, 50 barrells of good powder for the ordinance of the said schip, he paying vnto him the accustomed pryces for powder takin for our vse: and for so doinge these presents shalbe vnto yow a speciall warrant.—Whythall, 15 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—At the establishing of yow to be vpoun the commission of our privie counsall we did ther conceave that, out of so great a number as yow ar, so few persones as we appoynted to mak a session of counsall could hardlie be absent at your ordinarie meittings, which we would hane to be so dewlie observed as is requisite for so great a charge; bot hearing that your number is not so frequent as we did expect it to be, Therfor, till some fair and lawfull course be takin that the quorum appoynted by the commissioun may be kept, our pleasur is, that nyne counsellours, convened togider besyd the chancellour or president of the Counsall for the tyme being, or the eldest counsellour shall mak a session of counsall, and that they may determine and putt to executioun all such things for the weill of that our kingdome, generall and particular, conteyned in the Commission, as if the whole number of the saids commissioners wer personallie present, for which these presents shalbe your warrant.—Whythall, 15 De^r 1626.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TYTHES.

Right, &c.—We received your letter, and approve the course takin by yow to continew your meittings till some certane day, and becaus the first of Januar is approaching so neir, which was the last day appoynted for proceeding in that commission, to the end that these who will surrender may have a longer tyme, Our pleasur is, that the said commission be prorogat till the first day of March following, whairof yow shall caus give notice as yow in your judgments shall think expedient, being willing that at your meittings yow carefullie proceed according to the same commission; and if any doubts whatsoever arise, which by the samyne cannot be cleared, we will yow ather to compose them as yow think fitt, or atherwayes (if necessitie doeth requyre) let ws be advertised thairof and of your opinions thairin, that we may by your advyse tak such a course for setting thairof as we shall think most expedient: All which recommending vnto your care, We, &c.—Whythall, 15 De^r 1626.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE, ADVOCAT.

Trustie and weilbeloved.—Having vnderstude how carefull yow have bene to advance our service in that which doeth concerne your place, and that yow may therby incurre the discontents of some who may fear the effects that may be wrought heirby for our benefite, we desyre yow constantlie to prosecute that which yow have in direction from ws, and as we ar verie confident that as yow will give no just caus of offence to no man, bot carye yourself fairlie as it becometh one to doe in that charge and place yow have from ws, so be assured that we will not let yow suffer for our cause, bot will be rather readie to ensure vpon your further favour, as yow will deserve: So, &c.—Whythall, the 15 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credible informed that in Dumferling there hath been a forme of chancerie out of which issued, and wherein were registrat, all euedents and rights of the vassalls and tennents of that regalitie, which chancerie now (as wee are likewise informed), vnder pretence of our coming to the Crowne, is (by what authoritie we knowe not) abrogated, and the vassalls and tennents of that Lordship enforced to seeke there rights out of the chancerie of the royalitie to there great hinderance; and because there be manie probable reasons why the aforesaid Lordship and offices thereof should be kept separate, and not confounded with the offices of the crowne, wee haue [thought] good to require yow satisfie your selves, and thereafter to advertise vs whither the keeping of the saidis offices separate from those of the crowne will be prejudiciable to our commoditie arrysing by the said lordship or not; and if ze shall find that the same importeth no hinderence to our benefice, Wee are weell pleased that no nouation be made, but that all maters concerning that Lordship proceed in the wonted forme; but if yow shall finde it to be hurtfull to vs in our commoditie, Wee are likewise pleased that yow take such course therewith as may import to vs most profite: Whereby expecting by yow to be advertised, wee bid yow faireweell. Given at our Court of Hamptoncourt, the 15 of December 1626.

TO THE EARLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—forsomuch as wee haue ratified and approuen the pension granted by our late deare father, of famous memorie, to S^r William Seaton, knight, of twelf hundereth markes money in that kingdome to him during his lifetime, And after his decease to be parted betwix his two sonnes, William and Jhone, as his patent thereof vnder our great seale, confirmed in parliament, at more lenth proportes; likewise wee have ratified his gift of general M^r of postis of that kingdome, granted first to himselfe durenig his lifetime, Thereafter to his sonne William durenig his, to both by our said deare father vnder the great seale of that kingdome, Togidder with the feall containd in their giftes; and whereas the said S^r William had some zearlie wages for his attendance on the service of the Midleshires, which we have not onlie ratified and approuen, but hath granted the same to endure during his lifetime, the baill sowme, both pension and feallis, not extending to two hundereth poundis sterling: And considering the good report wee heare of his service done to our said late deare father in all imployments recommended vnto him, and appearing desire to continue the like dutie in our service: It is our pleasure and will, therefore, till wee consider further of his merite and desert for his better encouragment to our service, That yow feall not ilke terme past, at furtherest within a month thereafter, all excuses and delays set a side, to cause our receauer of our rents and casualities in that kingdome make him due and thankfull payment of the past terme's pension, feallis wages, as yow will be answerable vnto vs on your office therant: No regarde had to anie

precept or warrant may come from vs hereafter whereby yow may pretend delay of his payment : This recommending to your most special caire, Wee bid yow faireweell.—Given at our Court at Hampton-court the 15 of December 1626.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have recommended to our Thesaurer principall the thankfull and due payment termly to Sr William Seaton of his pension, feallis, and wages, as well as generall commander of our post Masters in that kingdome, as for the attending of our service in the Midelshires, that he had not frustrated nor delayed, but at farther within a monthe after ilke terme be satisfied of that due to him for the bygane terme, since wee esteime his service to deserue that and further : Sua with ze it to be our will and pleasure ze haue special caire for satisfaction of our command hereanent, as yow will be answerable to vs of your dutie acquyte therein : We bid yow faireweell.—Given at our court at Hamptoncourt, the 15 of December 1626.

These two preceding letters were not drawn by Sr William Alexander.

17 De^r 1626.—In the foirmoone tuo pacquets to the Erle of Melros, whairof in the one a letter from the king concerneing a quorum of the Counsell, ane vther to Sr Androis concerneing the Exchequer, and one to Mr Thomas Hope. The vther pacquet of Letters from privat persones heir.

TO THE EARLES OF ROTHES, LINLYTHGOW, AND LORD LOWDOWN.

His Majestie having considered of the petition that your Lordships have to present vnto him by the copie thairof that he hath sene, is not pleased with some things conteyned in the same, as nather agrieing with the duetifulnes of loveing subjects, nor with the modestie of humble supplicants ; and if your Lordships have no further degree of hast then onlie to present it without any vther instruction wherby to give his Majestie satisfaction, it is his Ma^{ties} pleasur that your Lo^{ps} returne home to Scotland ; bot if your Lo^s, being sorie for ane erour committed therin, be resolved to crave pardon for the same, and have further charge to mak offers of a sure course for his Ma^{ties} good, and for the publick, which vpon good grounds, fitt for him to hearken vnto, may move him to alter the course that is intended by Law, his Majestie being ever gratuslie pleased and inclyned to give ear vnto the just demands of all his good subjects, is pleased your Lordsips repair to Court with all convenient diligence, wher his Ma^{tie} will signifie his further pleasur vnto yow : And so haveing writtin by his Ma^{ties} direction, I rest.—Whythall, the 17 of December 1626.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOP OF GLASGOW.

Right reverend father, &c.—Haveing bene at lenth informed from our Counsell of that our kingdome of the foull cariage of Sir John Stewart, kny^t, towards his wyff, and being informed since that he intendeth to divorce from hir by confessing an adulterie committed by him self without any cryme that can be imputed vnto hir in hir affection or duetie vnto him : Therfor we justlie conceiving this course of his to be both evill of itself, and for the exmple to be exceeding pernicious, have thought it expedient that the samyne be in tyme prevented, being willing, if it be true as is alledged, and if ther be not a speciall

reasone to the contrarie, wherof we desyre to be certified, that no such divorce which may be a scandale to the Church be suffered to be made between them, and to this effect (if neid be) that notice be gevin to all the ministrie therabouts, or efter any vther such maner as yow shall find to be most convenient for this purposis, which we recommend vnto your care, &c.—Whythall, 17 De^r 1626.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HAMILTON.

Right, &c.—Wheras yow perceave by your Letter that yow did absent your self from that meeting with vthers as not willing to concurre with them in that which yow conceived not to be agreeable to our will, We did expect no less from yow, for yow have reasone to trust our favour more than any title yow can have : And as we ar verie confident that no man shalbe more careful then yow for the advancing of our service, so be assured that we wilbe loath to sie your estate harmed, and the more freellie yow give way to that which may import our good we will deal the better with yow ; and in the meane tyme, haveing willed our Advocat to pass from the persewing of yow till he have heard our further pleasur.—Whythall, 22 De^r 1626.

APUD WHYTHALL, 23 DIE MENSIS DECEMBERIS 1626.

The qulich day, in presens of Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, kny^t, Secretar to his Ma^{tie}, sitting in judgment by vertew of the Commission direct to him from the Commissers of Edinburgh, vnder the subscription of M^r William Hay, Commissar Clerk of the said commissariat of the said burgh, of the date the 8 of De^r 1626—Compeired Johne Forbes, merchand, burges of Edinburgh, and now resident in London, and gave his oath, being solemnelie sworne, that the goodis and geir conteynit in the Inventur of the Testament of William Carmichaell, this day exhibite and produced befor the said Sir William, vnder the subscription of Johne Dunlop, procuratour fischall of the Commissariat of Edinburgh, of the dait the day of March 1626, is lilllelie and twrelie gevin vp, and nothing omitted furth thairof, nor sett within the just availl therin conteynit : In witnes wherof, the said Sir William hes subscribed this present Act with his hand, day, yeir, and place forsaid.

A WARRANT TO THE EARLE OF NITHSDALE.

Wheras Archibald Dowglas hath long attended that charge he hath as Captane of one of our schippis appointed for our service within that our kingdome, wherby, as wee ar credible informed, he hath bene at great charges, and we being willing that some releiff be made vnto him towards the defraying thairof : Our pleasur is, that at the payeing of his ordinarie allowances yow lykwyse caus pay vnto him ane hundreth merks sterling moneyis of our taxatiouns granted to ws within that our kingdome : For doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 27 De^r 1626.

TO THE COUNSELL AND EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed of the sufficiencie of our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Earle of Monteith, and of his affection to our service, we ar moved, in regard thairof and for the said Earle his further encouragment and enabling for our said service, to advance and promote him to be one of our privie counsell and one of the Commissioners of our Exchequer in that our kingdome ; it is therfor

our will and pleasur that we doe heirby requyre yow, that haveing administred vnto him the oathes accustomed in the lyk cases, yow admitt him to be one of our privie Counsell and Commissioner of our Exchequer, receaveing him in both places as one of your number whom it doeth concerne : For doeing whairof these presentis shalbe vnto yow, both of our said Counsell and Exchequer, a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 27 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Vnderstanding that our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Marqueis of Hamiltoun hath in possession some things justlie belonging vnto ws, aganst whome, according to the course takin with others in the lyk kynd, yow have raised summondis, yit in regard he hath writtin vnto ws, and ar confident of his affection to conforme him self to our pleasur in these particulars and any thing else that may concerne our service : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow pas from any persute of the said Marqueis pro loco et tempore in any thing that may concerne ws in this behalf, vnless yow shall receave a spetial warrand from ws.—Whythall, 27 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Trustie, &c.—Being desyreous to have some Mouton sent vnto ws from that our kingdome the next yeir, and so furth from tyme to tyme as we shalbe pleased to desyre the same, our pleasur is, that yow give ordour to Charles Murray (who was employed in that earand in the tyme of our late dear father) for bringing hither for our vse such and the lyk number of sheep as wer in vse to be broght of befor : And that yow pay vnto him dureing our pleasur the lyk allowances and fees as he formerlie had at the tymes accustomed : For doeing whairof, &c.—Whythall, 27 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene humble petitioned in the behalf of the fyve trumpetours in ordinarie within that our kingdome, that diverse things belonging vnto ther places ar abstracted from them, so that they cannot be able to serve the State in ther callings if a course for ther satisfaction be not the more quicklie takin : And we being [willing] that all such things as doe properlie belong to the said places be so payed vnto them as the custome hath bene in former tymes, our pleasur is, that yow first examyne what is justlie due vnto them ; and thereafter that yow tak some such course for ther satisfaction as can be most convenientlie done, that we be not more troubled with ther complaynts in this kynd.—Whythall, 27 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF S^T ANDREWIS.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene petitioned in name of the Vniversitie of Glasgow that M^r Robert Wilkie, minister ther, and deane of facultie of that Colledge, might not be removed from thence to Edinburgh, in regard the indisposition of his bodie will hardlie permitt the same, besydis that his parochiners ar vnwilling to part from him, and he from them ; and as we would be loath to infringe ane libertie of that our burgh of Edinburgh, so we should be sorie that he should be forced to doe that which is so far against his owin health and mynd : Therfor our pleasur is, that considering the reasones above specifeid, wherof we are informed yow tak such a course heirin that the said M^r Robert have no just caus to compleane vnto ws, and if yow cannot induce him fairlie for his removeing from the said toun of Glasgow, vse your best endeavours to settle some other sufficient and learned man in that place last designed for him : The doeing wherof we remitt to your judgment.—Whythall, 27 Dec^r 1626.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Being informed from our Counsell of that our kingdome of the foull cariage of Sir John Stewart towards his wyff, and being informed since of his confessing himself to have committed the cryme of adulterie, wherby by the Lawis of that our kingdome his escheit and lyfrent doe becum at our gift and disposition : Therfor, if that Cryme be fund to have been committed by him, Our pleasur is, that yow grant him no remission for the same vntill our further pleasur be signified vnto yow therin, &c.—Whythall, 27 De^r 1626.

28 De^r 1626.—2 great pacquetts with a little one direct from Whythall, about 3 in the afternoone, to Melros, wherin ther was a letter to the Advocatts concerneing the Marqueis of Hamilton, one to the Counsell and Exchequer for the Erle of Monteith, and ane to the Archbischop of S^t Androis for M^r Robert Wilkie.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras for the furtherance of justice in actions depending betweene the fewers of Coldingham and John Stewart, we wer pleased to recommend his caus to the Lords of Session, and, howsover, as we ar informed, his infektment of erection is vnder reduction at our instance; yet in regard he is willing whollie to submitt himself to our desyres in these particulars, according to his letter writtin to ws thervpon : Our pleasur is, that yow not onlie pass from any further persute of the said Johne, and of others haveing right from him in the premisses pro loco et tempore in anything that may concerne ws in that bussines, bot that yow give vnto him and them your best and readiest ayde and furtherance, by concurring to ther pursute of the saidis fewers in so far as may be lawfullie done by yow : Which recommending vnto your care till we shalbe pleased to signifie vnto yow our further pleasur heirin, &c.—Whythall, 3 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—We wer pleased for certane reasons knowen vnto ws that the schip leaden with care taken by Captane Alexander should be restrayned till our further pleasur be knowen ; but hearing by yow that schoe is claymed by the Hollanders as belonging vnto them, It is [not] our will that nyghboreing states, and cheiflie our freinds and confederat, should want the benefite of speedie justice within any of our kingdomes, and as we highlie approve and commend the courage and endeavours of such of our subjects as warrants hath gone against the Common enemy, desyreing that they may enjoy all the lawfull benefite of ther labours, and have all the encouragements of prosecuteing the commendable course that can be convenientlie assured vnto them : So we desyr, not that anything should be done to the prejudice of other states against the lawis of nations and vsuall course of justice ; for doeing wherof we will give ourdour to our Admirall or his deputts haveing power from ws with the Hollanders, who ar our speciall freinds, may have justice with diligence : Our pleasur is, that learning from such of the Commissioners for the prises as can be had present, what hath bene done by their formall tryall, yow judge and determyne whither the said Flemish schip be a lawful pryse or not, what conduct money should have bene payed to the said Capitane, or what yow find aney way in reasone fitt to be done with hir, that nather the saids strangers nor the said Captane may have just caus to compleane as being defrauded of ther due : The doeing wherof we remitt to your consideration, &c.—Whythall, 3 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee were formerlie pleased to signifie our pleasure vnto yow that M^r Alexander Hay, one of our ordinarie clerks, might be employed in such of our affaires and bussines in Session as are incident to his service there : And since, by our particular directions given vnto him, wee haue warranted him in the said employement, notwithstanding whereof (we are informed) that some of his collegues haue taken vpon them to medle in the said employement in matters concerning the actions moued at our instance, touching the Erections and others which doe properlie belong to the said M^r Alexander his charge as being clerk to our actions : It is therefor our pleasure that yow intimate to the remanent ordinarie clerks of Session that none of them medle with the said bussines, or with anie other point of our seruice where-with wee have intrusted the said M^r Alexander : The which wee recomend vnto your care, and bid you fairewell.—Whythall, the 3 of Januar 1627.

5 Ja^r 1627.—A pacquet from Whythall direct to Melros, at one a'clock in the efternoone, wherin ther was a Letter of the King's to the Counsell concerninge the schip with oare.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloued Cousen the Earle of Angus is to serve himself air to one of his prediccours, and for this effect is to raise breuivis of service out of Chancerie, according to the Law and Custome observed in the lyk cases, wherof sieing he onlie desyres the benefite, our pleasur is, that yow give vnto the said Earle all speedie justice heirin as hath bene granted at any time heirtfoir to any vther persone whatsoever in the lyk case ; wherin nothing doubting of your readie endeavours, We bid, &c.—Whythall, the 7 of Ja^r 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF ANGUS.

Right trustie and weilbeloued Cousen, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to writt vnto the Lords of session according as our late dear father had done of befor to this purpos, that they should sie the Marqueis of Hamilton, the Erles of Nithisdale and Annandale, and yourself sufficientlie secured from any harme that might come vnto yow by the success of the action depending befor that Judicatorie betweene the Erle of Marr and the Lord Elphingstoun ; and now we being willing that the Erle of Annandale for his interest in that erand should be secured by yow from any litigious claimes that herefter may arise wherby he may be troubled in his possession of the saidis Landis, which he doth enjoy by meane of any title which may lawfullie [hinder] your now entring heyre to any of your prediccours : Our pleasur is, that yow secure the saids erlis, in so far as doeth concerne him in the premisses, and as can be reasonable demanded vpon his part, that he be not putt to vnecessarie charges by Law in defence of these things which doe iustlie belong vnto him : So not doubting of your readines to pleasur ws in this, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer formerlie pleased to wryt vnto yow, according as our late dear father had done of befor to this purpos, that yow shotld [see] the Marqueis of Hamilton, the Erles of Angus, Nithisdail, and Annandale sufficientlie secured from any harme that might come vnto them by the

success of the action then depending befor yow betweene the Erle of Mar and the Lord Elphingston ; and wheras at this tyme we have bene pleased to wryt vnto yow that the Erle of Angus should have all the speedie justice that hath bene heirtofoir granted vnto any for entring himself heyre to any of his predicesours : Now, leasit therby the Erle of Annandale should be troubled in these lands and possessions which he doeth enjoy by meanes of any title which the said Erle of Angus may pretend by his now entring heyre to any of his predicesours, Our pleasur is, that at your proceeding to doe justice in that particular, recommended by ws vnto yow concerneing the said Erle of Angus, yow lykwyse sic the said Erle of Annandale secured by him in so far as doeth concerne the premisses, and as can be reasonable demanded vpon Annandale's part, that he be not putt to ane unnecessar charge by Law in defence of these things, which doe justlie belong vnto him : So, &c.—Whythall, 8 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene humbly petitioned in name of our burgh of Edinburgh, schawing how hydys ar discharged, to be exported out of that our kingdome, wherby the samyne, and particularlie the merchand trade they are lykwyse to be exceedinglie hurt, the hydys being both a staple commoditie, never prohibited by the Laws to be exported, and doeth pay vnto ws halzeon and custome, which petition we have sent yow heirwith : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow consider of the same, and that yow tak such a course therin as is agreeable to the custome formerlie vsed in the lyk cases, or at least if ther be any important matter why the said hydys should not be exported, that yow acquaint ws therwith that thereafter we may give such ordour to proceed therin as we shall find to be most fit for the good of that kingdome : So we, &c.—Whythall, 12 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased, vpon good consideratioun, to wryt vnto yow that no wynes, ather directlie broght from France or from any vther part whatsoever haveing growne within France, should be suffered to enter in any of the ports and harboreis within that our kingdome : And now, being informed that diverse of our subjects ther had bocht wynes befor that our pleasur for ther restraynt could be knowen vnto them, and now of late some schips loadened with the same ar returned home : Therfor our pleasur is, that the said wynes (being in Scotts bottomes) and no vther be suffered to enter in any port or harbour of the said kingdome, to be sold or disposed of as best pleseth the owners thereof, they haveing first payed such things as ar due vnto ws.—Whythall, 12 Ja^r 1627.

TO SIR JAMES WEYMES OF BOGIE.

Trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Wheras in regard of the minoritie of our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Duik of Lennox, and of the important necessitie at this tyme of dischargeing the place of our high Admirall of that our kingdome, wherof till our said cousen be of perfyte aige, we have thought fitt that our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen and counsellour Alexander, Erle of Linlythgow, should have the charge as one who, being descended of the house of Lennox, doeth wish the welle thereof, and we being informed that yow have some interest in the Admirallitie, we have desyred the said Earle, at the sight of the Lord Carnagie and Sir George Elphingstoun, to sie that yow have some reasonable satisfaction for your said interest, &c.—Whythall, 12 Ja^r 1627.

Vpon the 12 Ja^r 1627, a paquet at 9 aclk at night direct to Melros, wherin ther ar a letter from the King to Bogy, and tuo to the counsell concerneing hyds.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—In regard of the minoritie of our right trustie and weilbeloued cousen the Duik of Lennox, and of the important necessitie at this tyme of discharginge the place of Admirall of that our kingdome, wherof, till our said cousene be of perfyt aige, we have made choyse of our right trustie and weilbeloued cousen and counsellour the Earle of Linlythgow, to have the charge as ane who, being descended of the house of Lennox, doeth wish the well thairof: Therfor, and for his better proceeding to the execution of all matters which may lawfullie concerne the said office, our pleasur is, that from tyme to tyme, as yow shalbe desyred by the said Earle in anything justlie concerneing this purpois, yow give vnto him and his deputeis all the best ayde and assistance for his discharge of the said office as can be lawfullie granted, which we will tak as acceptable service done vnto ws; and so, &c.—Whythall, 15 Ja^r 1627.

Wheras Sir William Alexander, Kny^t, our Secretar for Scotland, is to buy for the vse of tuo schipps, to be employed in our service, 16 Minnon, 4 saker, and 6 falcon: Our pleasur is, that yow permit him or his servandis, without impediment, to transport the same vnto the said kingdome, wher for the present one of the said schips doe, by provydeing that the said Sir William find suretie for the right employment of saidis ordinance, according to the custome; and for so doeing, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

Direction.—To our right trustie and weilbeloued cousen and counsellour The Erle of Totnes, M^r of our Ordinance within our kingdome of England.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding of the vnfortunat killing of Sir Johne Weymes, Kny^t, than high shirreff of the countie of Farmanagh, by some of the Bischop of Clogher's servandis, and that the bishop, who, as we ar informed, was not present at the slaughter, is, with vthers who wer present, to be prosecuted in our name as interest in the same, wherin as we ar willing that justice may be trewlie and sincerely administrat vpon the offenders without respect of persones, so we think it reasone that men of the bishop's rank should not be questioned without good and pregnant proof: These ar therfor to requyre yow, befor yow suffer any prosecution, indictment, or vther proceeding to be had aganst the said bishop concerneing the death of the said knyght, that, calling vnto your assistance the Chancellour of Irland, the Lord primat, the Lord Archbishop of Dublin, the Viscount of Valentia, the Viscount of Claneboy, the Lord Angiles, M^r of the Rolls, and Sir Christopher Sibthorp, sevin of them, yow diligentlie informe your selfis, as well by the oaths of credible persones as by all vther wayes and meanes, of the maner, the occasion, the Actours and procurers therof, and how far the said bishop was accessorie to the said Sir Johne his death, and if yow shall not find vpon pregnant proof or violent presumption that the said bishop was privie or consenting to the same: Our pleasur is, and so we will and command yow, that yow caus all maner of proceedingis, by Indictment or vtherwise, concerneing the said death aganst the said bishop be stayed vntill such sufficient proof or presumption shall appear vnto yow which may induce yow to think that the said bishop was guiltie of the said death; and as yow shall find vpon proof to certifie ws with as much convenient spced as yow can, that thereafter we may resolve what further course shalbe takin therein.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627, in the second year of our regne.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHECKER.

Right, &c.—We haveing vnderstude the good service done vnto our late dear father and ws be the late Erle of Linlythgow, by his great paines and care in our custodie of our dear sister the Lady Elizabeth in hir younger yeires, and being informed that the said erle did by the advyse of our late dear father pay sowmes of money vnto such persones for ther right of keeping our palace of Linlythgow, with the park and peill thairof, and now vpon humble sute made vnto ws by the new erle to have our warrant for passing his Infetment thairof of new, we have conferred with him thervpoun, and finding him not willing he be therby prejudged in the course intended by the Commission granted by ws of late concerneing some particulars conteynit in our Revocation, bot that he wilbe lyable as vthers doe in the lyk kynd to these conditions which shalbe condescended vpon betweene the Commissioners and him tuitching that purpos: Therfoir, we being willing to schaw him all the lawfull favour that convenientlie and without prejudice may be granted by ws: Our pleasur is, that yow pas his said Infetment for keeping of our said palace, with the park and peell therof, vpon the provisions aforesaid, or vpon any lawfull forme of condition agrieable to this purpos as yow shall think expedient: So, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras our right trustie and welbeloved Cousen and Counsellour the Earle of Linlythgow hath bene a humble sutter vnto ws, to have our warrant for passing vnto him of new some Infetments of certane Landis within the baronie of Ogilface, of the baronie of Arth, with the frie landis besydis Linlythgow, and of the Tithes of that parochin, all which landis and tithes being (as we ar informed) purchassed by the said Erle or his father at valuable rates, and nothing be changed in the Infetment to be past thairof from those of the pairteis who disponed them to his said father or himself, wer resigned before the death of our late dear father, and past and componed as the custome is; and we haveing conferred thervpon with the said Erle, who is willing that he be not therby prejudged by the course intendit by the late commission granted by ws concerneing the particulars contenit in our revocation, bot shalbe lyable as vthers doe in the lyk kynd to what shalbe agried vpon therin betuixt the Commissioners and him: Therfor we being willing to schaw him all the lawfull favour that can convenientlie and without our prejudice be granted, our pleasur is, that yow pass the said Infetment of the particulars abovenamed vpon the provisions aforesaid, or vpon oney vther lawfull forme of condition agrieable to this purpos, as yow shall think expedient: So, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATS.

Trustie and welbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and welbeloved, &c.—Being credible informed that our right trustie and welbeloved the Lord of Lowdon his erection and right of superioritie of Kylsmure is lawfullie acqyred, and differing from all vthers of that kynd, in so far as the whole fewers thairof have interposed ther consents thervnto, wherby the same is more perfect and agrieable to the Lawis as we ar lykwyse informed then any vther erection wher mediat superiours ar interjected betweene ws and our vassalls without ther owin advyse and consents: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow tak spetiall notice of his right, and efter due consideration takin by yow therin, that yow report vnto ws the worth and nature of the same, that we may accordinglie ather suffer him to enjoy the same as of before, or else give him such recompense in place thairof as the validitie of his right doeth requyre. So recommending this vnto your earnest care, as a purpos which we spECIALlie respect, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, and trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Wheras the Earles of Rothes and Linlythgow and the Lord Lowdoun, in name of diverse of the Nobilitie and gentrie of that our kingdome interested in the particulars of the Revocatioun, have humble petitioned ws that we might be pleased to grant a Commission of new for treating and agreeing with our saids subjects concerning the same, as might best stand with ther ease and our benefite; and sieing from the begining our Intention in this was onlie for the generall good of that kingdome, and for the lawfull establishing at all tymes heirefter of a constant patrimonie and revenew to our Croun, we have bene graciouslie pleased at ther humble request to give way to ther demand in this; and therfor our pleasure is, that a summondis of Reduction and Improbation may sleep, and onlie be tabled and continewed till the first of July, aganst all such persones as shall cum in to treat and agrie with our Commissioners, and gee on aganst all others who at tymes as shalbe appoynted by the saids Commissioners for this effect doe not cum in to treat and agrie as aforesaid; and in the mean tyme that the said Noblemen and others have no interruption in ther lawfull persute by Law of ther vassalls and tennents who doe vnjustlie detene ther rents or tythes from them, without prejudice alwise of our title and interest herevnto: So, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased to wryt vnto yow that our Revocatioun should be registrat in your books of Sederunt, and we now being late humblie petitioned by the Earles of Rothes, Linlythgow, and Lord London, in name of diverse of the Nobilitie and gentrie of that our kingdome, that we might be pleased to grant a commission of new for treating and agreeing with our saids subjects concerneing ther interest in diverse particulars conteynit in the said Revocatioun, as might best stand with ther ease and our benefite, and sieing from the begining our intention in this was onlie for the generall good of that our kingdome, and for the lawfull establishing at all tymes heirefter of our constant patrimonie and the revenue to our croun, we have bene graciouslie pleased to give way to ther demand in this; and therfor, being willing that this course now intended by this commission might tak the happie and wished effect, Our pleasur is, that yow delay the registratioun of our revocatioun vntill our pleasur heirin be farther signified vnto yow, haveing for this effect writtin to our Advocatts, of reduction and improbation, our summondis therof may sleep, and onlie be tabled and continewed till the first of July, against all such persones as shall cum in to treat and agrie with our saids Commissioners, and gee on aganst others who at such tymes as shalbe appoynted by the said Commissioners for this effect doe not cum to treat and agrie as aforesaid; and in the meanetyme that the said Noblemen and others have all lawfull justice in ther persutes by Law of ther vassalls and tennents who doe vnjustlie deteyne ther rents or tythes from them, without prejudice alwayes of our title and interest thervnto.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that the Earle Rothes and Henrie Erskene did purcheis from the widow of Capitane William Murray, for the sowme of 600 merks scotts, the right of hir patent of Tobacco for ane yeir, and schoe, at the desyre of our late dear father, haveing surrendered to our Exchequer hir interest from thencefurth of hir said patent, and the saids persones not being able, in regard that hir right from whence this did flow was so surrendered, to prosecute ther interest for so schort a tyme, did lykwyse give vp ther right in our favours; and we, being willing that by this meanes they should not be

prejudged of what is justlie due to them, Our pleasur is, that yow tak from them what further right they have of the said yeir, making vse thairof, and of ther said surrander, according to the custome in the lyk cases, and that yow may pay vnto them the said sowme of 6000 merks scotts, togidder with the bygane interest; and being informed that the said Erle of Rothes hath a tak of feu-dewteis of the Abbacie of Llundoris, which he, by the advyse of our said father, purchased from Sir James Leslie and his sister, and that he is not willing to enter in sute of Law with ws concerneing out title thervnto: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow transact with him for surrandering of the said tak vpon such conditions as yow shall think fitt: So, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONARS FOR THE TYTHES.

Wheras we have bene petitioned by the Noblemen and other frie holders within the bounds of Air, Renfrew, Lanerk, Wigtoun, and Dumfreis, that they ar vnequallie charged and burdened by the payment of ther part of the taxatiouns, in regard ther lands ar taxed at a far greater rate then is proportionable to ther worth and rents, the petition wherof we have sent yow herewith; And thogh we think this ther demand to be equitable, as in this case holding all our subjects equallie to be respected, yit in a matter of such importance we would not determine without due advyse: Therfoir our pleasur is, that without respect of persones, or without making ane accustomed abuse to seme as a reasone for the continuance thairof, yow seriouslie consider ther demand, which we conceave to be just according to the equitie of the samyne: And that yow try by yourselfis, or by such indifferent Commissioners from yow, or otherwise by any lawfull meanes as yow shall find expedient, the fairest and best wayes how the same may be most convenientlie granted, wherby from hencefurth none of our subjects may have just caus to be greeved by susteaneing any such vnequall burden in tyme cuming: And thereafter that yow report bak vnto ws with all convenient diligence what may be the fittest meanes for ther releiffs, to the effect we may proceed as we in our judgment shall think expedient: So recommending vnto your earnest care as a purpois which we specialie respect, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE DEPUTE THESAURER.

Trustie, &c.—In regard of some things wherin we ar desyreous to confer with yow concerneing our service, our pleasur is, that with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed yow repair to our Court, wher our further pleasur shalbe imparted vnto yow.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that certane landis lyand within our stewartrie of Stratherne and shirrefdome of Perth, now belonging vnto our servand Sir Patrik Murray, becam in nonentrie efter the death of the late erle of Kinghorne, who was infest therein: And being vnwilling, in regard of the said Sir Patrik his long and faythfull service vnto our late dear father and ws, to tak advantage of the said nonentrie, ar well pleased to dispense with the same: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto our said servand a new right if neid be of the said nonentrie, and all that may follow thervpon in dew and compitent forme: For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

Wheras Sir William Alexander, kny^t, our Secretarie for Scotland, haveing gevin band to the knyght baronnetts of that our kingdome that of all such money as he hath or is to receive from them he shall

employ the just two parts thair of setting furth a Colony for the plantation of New Scotland, which is to be estimated and considered according to the conditions agreed vpon betwene him and the saids knyghts baronett: And the said Sir William havinge for performeing his part prepared a schip with ordnance, munition, and all vther furnitour necessar for hir, as lykwyse another schip of great burden, which lyeth at Dumbartane, togidder with sindrie vther provisions necessarie for so far a voyadge and so great work: therfor, that the trench thair of may be publicklie known, and that all such moneys as he hath disbursed heirvpon may be trewlie summed vp, our pleasur is, that havinge surveyed the said schip yow estimat and value hir to the worth, as lykwyse vther furniture and provisions that yow find in hir or to be sent with hir for this purposis, and with all his charges he hath bene heir for the same; and thereafter that yow delyver vnto him a trew Inventure and estimat therof vnder your hands, that it may heirefter serve for clearing his acompts with the said knyght barronetts, and for havinge the same allowed vnto him by them, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Havinge at the earnest desyre of the thrie noblemen who petitioned ws in the name of the rest, wherof yow wer one, granted a new Commission to deale and agrie with all persones interested in these particulars which we doe clame by the action intended at our instance, as we have bene pleased to deall gratuslie heirin vpon our part, so we expect thiat a speciall care be had to tak a course for our satisfaction, and as we have perceaved your affection for that purposis by two Letters from your self vnto ws and by one that yow wryt vnto our Secretarie heir: These ar to requyre yow, as yow desyre to continew in our good opinion, that, layinge asyd the respects of a persone interested, as yow professed by the signeing of that petition, yow tak vpon yow to deall as it doeth becom one in a place so near vnto ws and cheiflie intrusted with our service: And as for the calling of a parliament, whervnto yow formerlie advysed ws, whensoever yow find the success of this last commission to be such that yow will confidentlie renew agane your desyre vnto ws, we may easelie be induced thervnto, and the rather for your opinion whervpoun we cannot bot verie much repois: And we will think of yow heirefter according to your cariage at this tyme in our service, requyreing yow to advertise ws from tyme to tyme what yow think necessary for the furthering thair of: So not doubting, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MAR.

Right, &c.—As we wer heirtofoir pleased to acquaint yow how willing we wer to have settled with yow vpon reasonable conditions for all such particulars whervnto yow ar bund to answer by the action intended at our instance, so now, out of our gratus disposition and the entreatie of these noblemen who petitioned ws in the name of the rest of yow, we have granted a new commission for dealing in these particulars betweene ws: In regard of that which the Earle of Rothes hath said vnto ws in your name, we cannot bot expect yow wilbe a speciall instrument for furthering of our service heirin as doeth become one in the charge yow have who therby should have a cheiff care for the encrease of our revenues and advancing of our profite; and so hopinge yow wilbe as carefull for it as for your owin particular, be assured that we wilbe verie sensible of your travells heirin, and so continewing our constant respect vnto yow, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 17 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased vpon good and weightie considerations to appoynt certain assessours vnto yow for givinge ther advyse in cognosceing and judginge vpon all prises takin or to be

takin be any of our subjects within that our kingdome, according to the Commission granted thairwpon : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow doe not determine vpon any matters concerneing prises without the spetiall advise and assistance of the saids assessours, or any thrie of them : And in caice any difficultie shall aryse, that we be made acquainted therwith, that we may resolve therypon as we in our judgment shall think fitt : So we bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 19 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Trustie, &c.—Vnderstanding that ane Capitane William Campbell is committed to prisone within the tolbuith of our burgh of Edinburgh vpon some speeches heard by him beyond sea to our prejudice, and we havinge caused consider heir of his depositions therypon, doe find no reall ground vpon his part why he should be any longer questioned for the same : Therfor our pleasur is, that immediatlie efter the sight heirof yow give ordour for his enlarginge : And for your so doinge these presents shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, 19 Ja^r 1627.

TO THR MAISTER OF THE ORDONANCE.

Wheras our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Earle of Rothes to buy for the vse of schipps to be employed in our service within our kingdome of Scotland 2 demy culverin, 18 minnon, and 10 saker : Our pleasur is, that yow permit him or his servandis, without any impediment, to transport the same vnto the said kingdome, wher for the present the saids schipps do ly, provydeing that the said Earle find suertie for the right employment of the said Ordinance, according to the custome : And for so doeing these presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, 19 Ja^r 1627.

Direction—To our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen and Counsellour the Earle of Totnes, M^r of our Ordinance within this our kingdome of England.

TO THE VISCOUNT STORMONT.

It is our pleasur that yow caus delyver for the vse of our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Earle of Rothes a Brace of good Bucks out of our park of Falkland for this yeir, and so furth yeirlie till yow shall receive our warrant to the contrarie : And for your soe doeing these presents shall be your warrant.—Whythall, 19 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—being credible informed of the great abuse comitted by diverse persons who transport nolt and sheep out of that our kingdome, against the acts and orders prescrybed to the contrarie : And we being willing that the same be duely kept, and the offenders punished, Our pleasur is, that you consider of the said orders, and how farr the same may be lauffullie extended etheir for restraint of the said abuse in all time coming or concerning the transgressors' fynes, which (if the said orders doe so appoint, and thereby being foud to be due vnto vs) you shall cause duelic exact of them, and sequestrat a part for our vse : So, &c.—Whythall, the 19 of Januar 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Sieing we have bene pleased to establish yow our Admirall of that our kingdome durning the minoritie of our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen the Duik of Lennox, and in regard of the necessitie that these schippis latelie takin by some of our subjects ther be adjudged to be pryse or vtherwyse cleared, and to the effect yow may know how matters of the lyk kynd have bene handled heir, we have sent yow some Articles which may give yow some farther light in your proceedings concerneing the saids pryse: And therfor our pleasur is, that yow and your assessours, according to the Commission gevin to this effect, proceede with all convenient diligence according to the Lawis and practique of that our kingdome, to cognosce and give finall sentence, not onlie vpon these schips now takin, bot vpon all vthers which shall happin to be takin heirefter; and wher the sailis lawis ar deficient, or that thereby the doubts which may arise cannot be sufficientlie cleared, that ther yow proceed according to the Lawes or practique of other nations, or conforme to the course kept by vther princes our enemyis with these who ar our subjects: And our further pleasur is that yow admitt advocatts to plead befor yow for any partie or persone justlie interested in the saids pryse, yow being required by them to this effect: So we, &c.—Hampton Court, 26 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—This Letter of the King's in favours of the Earle of Linlythgow, is just according to one direct to the Exchequer for the Earle of Monteith's admission to be ane of the commissioners therof, dated vt supra.

Item, another letter of the same nature direct to the Exchequer in favours of the Lord Erskene to be ane of the commissioners therof, dated vt supra.

Item, another letter of the same nature direct to the Exchequer in favours of Sir James Baillie to be one of the Commissioners thairof, dated vt supra.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARRE.

Trustie, &c.—Being credible informed of the sufficiencie of our right, &c., and of his affection to our service, we ar moved in regard thairof, and for the said Earle his farther encouragment and enabling for our said service, to advance and promote him to be ane of the counsall of Warre within that our kingdome: It is therfor our will and pleasur, and we doe heirby requyre yow, that, having administred vnto him ane oath for his fidelitie and care in that our service, yow admitt him to be one of the said counsall of warre, receive him in that place as one of your number; for doeing, &c.—Hampton Court, 26 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that the toun of Peeblis have of late raised summondis aganst James Hay, one of the esqyrs of our bodie, whervpon ane action of Law betuixt him and them is to ensue befor yow, and sieing his humble sute is onlie in regard of his attendance in his tyme of waitting about our persone, and of the tyme it will tak him to repair home for preparing his just defenses, which

can onlie be done by himself in seeking out the infeftments of these things contraverted vpon betuicht them, that some competent tyme may be allowed vnto him for doeing the same; therfor our desyre vnto yow is, that the said action may be continewed till the nixt session, at which tyme we will yow proceed therein as yow shall find just caus: And so, &c.—Hampton Court, 26 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased to wryt vnto yow of befor for passing a grant to W^m Gichen of the office of receiver of our impost of wynes, notwithstanding efter he hath spent much tyme and meanes relyeing therevpon, he hath returned bak vnto our court without effecting any thing in that which was so effectuallie requyred by ws, wherwith we cannot be bot displeasid, and the rather becaus we find no opposition to have bene made aganst his prediccours in this place in the tyme of our late dear father: Therfor these ar agane to requyre yow that, with all convenient diligence, yow caus pass his said gift through the sealls according to the tenour thairof, and that he be putt in repossession of the said place, and that he enjoy the feyis due vnto him since the date of the said grant, pryvydeing yow tak sufficient securitie that he shalbe comptable vnto yow for his intronission with the said Impost, according to the manner accustomed; and so expecting your readie performance heirin, we bid yow, &c.—Hampton Court, 26 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATT.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras we ar informed by Arthour Howstoun of the manifold wrongs sustened by him by some persones within that our kingdome, wherby his wyff and children ar alluterlie vndone, not being able for want of moneyis to insist in persute aganst them according to the course of our Lawis; and we being moved with pitie and compassion of his distressed estate, have resolved to recommend his cause to be considered by yow, being willing that yow advyse, concure, and assist him in so far as yow shall find the equitie of his cause in justice to requyre, and that with the most convenient speed that possible may be, in regard he hath bene a long sutter vnto ws to this effect, and we should be loath that he shall have any further occasion to compleane vnto ws in this kynd: So we, &c.—Hampton Court, 26 Ja^r 1627.

TO THE EARLE MARSCHELL OF SCOTLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras our late dear father was pleased to creat knyght barronets within Scotland as he had done in his vther kingdomes, and that for a honorabill cause for enlarging the Christiane fayth and our dominions: And we vnderstand that sundrie of the most ancient gentrie embracing the said dignitie haveing payed these moneyis condesandit vpon for ther part towards the plantation of New Scotland: Though ther have bene sufficient warning gevin to all the gentrie of that our kingdome, both in the tyme of our said late dear father and in ours, and notwithstanding it be in our power frielle to conferre honour vpon any of our subjects as we in our judgment shall think they deserve; yit out of our gratiuous favour we ar willing that everie one of the said gentrie have the place which may be thought due vnto them, in so far as can clearlie be discerned, or vtherwayes that they be inexcusable by neglecting so fair an opportunite as by this meanes is presented vnto them; and considering that it doeth most properlie belong to your charge as Marschell to judge of ranks and precedencie, thought it be difficult to know wher so many ar of equall qualitie; yit to the effect that they be ranked in some mesur as neir as can be to that place which may be thought to be ther due, Our pleasur is, that assumeing to your self such assessours here

present as yow shall think requisite, yow condescend vpon such a number as yow and they shall think fitt to be baronets, ranking them as yow shall think expedient, that out of that number the baronets limited by the commission may be selected to the effect we may pass ther signatures accordingle, So that they, by embracing the said place in due tyme, may mak vse of this our gracious favour, and vtherwise, least our trustie and weilbeloved Sir William Alexander, our Secretar, who is our Livetenent of the said cuntrie, and who, besyds he is now to sett furth in this spring, hath bene at great charges heretofor in the work of that plantation, should be dissabled from prosecuting of that purpois, we ar willing that he proceed with such vthers as yow shall think fitt to manteane that dignitie, for we desyre that the ancient gentrie may be first preferred; bot if they by neglecting so noble ane interpryse shall not mak vse of our favour in this, we think it good reasone that these persones who have succeeded to good estates, or acqyred them by ther owin industrie, and ar generouslie disposed to concurre with our said servand in this Interpryse, should be preferred to the said dignitie, and to this effect that yow mak them in maner abovespeifeit, havinge for your better proceeding heirin appoynted a roll to be gevin yow of diverse of the names of the said gentrie as ar knowen to be of qualitie, which wher considered by yow in maner forsaid, and havinge selected such of them as yow shall fuid to be most fitt for this purpois, that yow sett down a roll for them in ordour and rank vnder your own hand to be schawin vnto ws: And so, &c.—Hampton Court, the 26 of Jar 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Thought we wer pleased to wryt vnto yow of late concerneing that which we condescended vpon with the thrie noblemen that did petition ws in these things, whervnto by our revocation or vtherwise we clame any interest at this tyme, expressing by that our letter what we did expect from yow, and how we would esteame of yow heirefter according to your cariage heirin; yit havinge heard since from our right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Counsellour the Erle of Annandaille how willing and earnest yow ar to doe ws service: These ar to encourage yow to proceed in that kynnd, assuringe yow withall that as your service in these things heirtofor recommended vnto yow wilbe verie acceptable vnto ws; and so we will gratefullie aeknowledge the same, and reposeing vpon that which Annandale hath promised vnto ws for yow: And so we bid, &c.—Whythall, first of Feb^r 1627.

TO ALEX^r CRANSTOUN OF MORESTOUN.

Trustie and weilbeloved, We greet yow well.—Haveing writtin vnto the Countess of Home that our desyre schoe would delay the persewing of John Stewart of Coldinghame for these moneis wherof he is adbedt vnto hir vntill Witsunday nixt: Wheras yow have petitioned ws that yow may have speedie justice aganst hir in ane action depending betweene hir and yow, wherin schoe doeth desyre the lyk favour, we ar indued heirby to desyr yow to continew the action that yow have aganst hir for the lyk tyme; and thairefter, if schoe do not tak some course for your satisfaction, in the meanetyme we will recommend yow earnestlie that yow may have justice with diligence: And so expecting that yow will pleasur ws in this, We bid, &c.—Whythall, first Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble sute hath bene made vnto ws by M^r James Strauchan for haveing such licence to sell such wynes in that our kingdome as he hath in a Flemish bottome, whervnto we did the

more willinglie hearken, both becaus of the great loss he may susteane if he be debarred of that benefite, and in regarde, as we ar informed, of the good offices that he hath done at this tyme to such of our subjects ther as boght wyne from France : Therfoir our pleasur is, that the schip be suffered to enter with the saids wyne, to be disposed of by him within the said kingdome as he shall think fitt, he paying the accustomed duetie vnto ws for the same.—Whythall, first Februry 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras we have bene moved in the name of Alexander Erskene of Dun that he might have that tak of our Customes at Montroise, and vther parts adjacent, which was granted vnto him by yow for fyve yeires, continewed for his lyfytyme, that therby he might be the better encouraged to doe ws good service in that charge, and more able to performe these conditions whervnto, by agreement betwixt yow and him, he be his band offering withale that, if vpon occasion at any tyme herefter of raising our customes throughtout the whole kingdome to ane higher rate, he shall proportionable pay his share thairof, and for this effect shall give farder securitie [as] can be reasonable demanded : In which purpois, though we would not determyn without your advyse, yit we thocht it reasonable to recommend the gentleman's overtures vnto yow, being willing that he should be preferred to any vther persone whatsoever, he performinge such conditions as any vthers can exactlie doe in this charge : And thairfoir our pleasur is, that yow consider of his demand, and if yow find not evidentlie how we can heirby be prejudged, that yow grant vnto him a tak of the saids custumes for his lyfytyme, he givinge such suretie for performinge such conditions as yow shall agree vpon for our best behove and profite ; for doeing, &c.—Whythall, the first of Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being informed that notwithstanding the petitioner hath vsed letters of horning and caption for apprehending some rebels who in a barbarous maner had killed ane of his servands, and takin away his goods and writts, according to the petition which we have sent yow heirwith, yit as we ar lykwyse informed they ar protected by one William Irving of Bonschaw and the Lard of Johnstoun, who vpon a charge gevin him by our messinger did force him to depart with hazard of his lyff, and in the meane tyme, as is further affirmed, the said Lard of Johnstoun intendeth action of Law against the petitioner for removinge him from certane Landis belonging vnto him, haveing indirectlie gott in his handis from the saids rebels the cheiff writts of the saids lands, which vulawfull courses, if it be trew as is alledged, we doe exceedinglie mislyk : Therfoir it is our pleasur that yow seriouslie consider of the petition, and if yow find the samyne to be trew, that yow doe the petitioner justice with all diligence, and in the meane tyme that our Chancellour, if yow shall find cause for doeing the same, acquaint the Session that they stay for some short tyme to proceede in that action till his saids writts be restored vnto him : All which recommending vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

WARRANT FOR NITHSDALE, SPYNIE, AND MURKHILL.

Right, &c.—It is our spetiall pleasur that yow with all possible diligence provyde and pay to the Earle of Nithsdale, the Lord Spynie, and Sir James Sinclair of Murkill, eight thowsand pundis sterling money, to be gevin vnto them proportionable according to the number of men they ar to levy and transport

out of that our kingdome for the service of our vncle the king of Denmark, provydinge that they give suretie to our Counsell for performinge the conditions condescendit vpon in this behalf; for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO SIR ROBERT ANSTRUTHER.

Trustie and weilbeloved.—Wheras Sir Donald M^cKy, kny^t, hath bene at great charges in levyeing of mⁿ for the service of our vncle the king of Denmark, wherby he deserveth to be encouraged; and in regard, as we conceave, your mediation wth our said vncle may much contribute to this purpois, Our pleasur is, that yow vse your best endeavours heirin, being willing that none be putt in any place of that regiment whairof he hath the charge save such as shalbe speciallie appointed by himself, and that he enjoy the lyk privilegedges that any vther commander [in] the lyk charge hath at this tyme vnder our said vncle; which speciallie recommending vnto your care, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we vnderstand that ane M^cBreck and ane vther Broun ar in prissen for crymes committed by them aganst the Lawis of that our kingdome, and be willing that vthers by ther exemple may be terrifeid from the lyk vnlawfull courses, Our pleasur is, that they be examyned vpon such poynts wherby they ar thought to have transgressed the same, or otherwayes efter such maner as shalbe preseryved by yow; and if they be fund guiltie, that judgment may be gevin and pronouncd aganst them, and that thairefter they may be made to suffer accordingle: So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 8 Febr 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—We haveing signifeid our pleasur to our Counsell that ane M^cBreck and another called Broun should be examined, and if fund guiltie that judgment should be pronouncd aganst them, and thairefter that they should be made to suffer accordingle, notwithstanding our intention in this being cheiftie to terrifie them and vthers in the lyk vnlawfull courses, Our pleasur is, if judgment be pronouncd aganst them, that ye in our name cause stay the executioun thairof till our further pleasur be knowne heirin; for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow and all vthers whom it may concerne a sufficient warrand.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

It is our special pleasur that yow caus buy a sword for our toun of Edinburgh, with a read and blak gown for ther provest, to be worne in such maner and at such tymes as ar preseryved by a patent granted to that effect by our late dear father, of worthie memorie, and your debursments heirin shalbe allowed vnto yow in your accompts.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—We perceave by your Letter the great encrease of Papists of late, and the insolencie of ther cariage, tending to a publict scandell, wherwith [we] are exceedingly displeasd, and thogh we wish a

fair course to be taken with all such as doe carie them selfs in a civill maner obedient to our Lawis, as seiking rather to win ther soulls then ruyen ther estatis, yit it is far aganst our mynd that any convenients or neglect should encourage them to contemne the Lawis of our kingdom and the discipline of the churches by abusing our gracious favour; and it being lykwyse more ample schewed vnto ws by these who wer sent by the Church of Scotland in that behalf, proposing the remedis as well as schewing the evils, we haveing taken the propositions in our consideration, have thought good to signifie our pleasur as followeth: We have writtun vnto our high Commissioners that they proceed according to the power granted vnto them for remedie heirof; and becaus Jesuits, seminarie Preists, traffeking papists, sayers and hearers of Messe, persones who doe marie or bapteeze ther children by such as have ther power from the
of Roum (procureing therby a publict scandell and contempt of our authoritie), or vther malefactours mentionat in the said commission, may be accused befor them of things that cannot be sufficientlie cleirit be witneses; we ar lykwayes willing, as it is humble petitioned vnto us in name of the Clergie, That ane act of counsell be made, making them in such causes to answer vpon the oathes; pryvyding alwyse that any confession gottin in this manner shall onlie mak the delinquents punishable according to the nature of the cryme confest, and that they shall not be lyable to answer to the same in any vther Judicatorie, save the high Commission onlie; and to the effect that these persones who so doe procure a publict scandell to the religion presentlie professed, be censured according to the nature of ther offence, that vthers may be made to abstean from doeing the lyk, we will yow, from tyme to tyme, to assist the said commission in such things wherin they shall neid authoritie from yow, or vtherwayes that yow doe what yow think expedient for preventing and suppressing of such insolenceis as ar compleaned vpon vnto ws; wherin not doubting bot that yow will vse your vttermost endeavours, We bid yow, &c.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—We ar informed that the tak of the Customes of Galloway, formerlie sett to ane Arnot, doe schortlie expyre, so that the setting thairof of new becometh at our disposition, and vnderstanding perfectlie of the good service done vnto our late father by our right trest Cousen and weilbelovied Counsellour the Viscount of Montgornie, in whois boundis the cheif post of that schyre is, and of his great charge he hath bene at in building thairof: Therfor our pleasur is, that immediatlie efter expyryng of the said former tak, that yow grant vnto the said Viscount and his deputeis, for whom he shalbe answerable, ane vther with the lyk conditions and for so many yeires as the samyne hath bene sett to any vther persone of befor: And for your so doeing these presents shalbe your warrant.—Whythall, 8 Febr 1627.

TO THE HIGH COMMISSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras, vpon humble petition exhibited vnto ws by the Commissioners of the church of that our kingdome for the repressing of Poperie ther, we have bene pleased to wryt vnto our counsall effectualie concerneing this purpois, and we being willing that yow should tak a course for remedie thairof, and of all such vther abuses as ar conteynit in your commission granted to this effect, Our pleasur is, that yow meitt togidder and call befor yow all such persones as have so transgressed, and that yow proceede aganst them as yow shall find just eans, and as yow ar warranted by the said commission; and for your better furtherance heirin, have writtun to our Counsall to mak ane Act, as was humble petitioned vnto ws in the name of the clergie, that whensoever any such persones ar cited befor yow, when sufficient evidence cannot vtherwayes be had, they may be made to give ther oathes for clearing of that wherwith they ar charged; pryvyding alwayes that any confession gottin in this maner vpon oath shall onlie mak

the delinquents punisheable according to the nature of the cryme confessed, and that they shall not be lyable to answer for the same in any vther judicatorie then the said commission which yow have from ws ; so not doubting but yow will have a speciall care in so far as in yow lycth for suppressing and preventing of all such abuses as may be hurtfull to the discipline of the church presentlie professed, we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE CLERGY.

Right Reverend and reverend fathers in God, and right trustie and weilbeloved, &c., haveing received your commands from your Commissioners, and haveing considered the same, we wer pleased both to wrytt vnto our Counsall and vnto these who ar vpon the high Commission for the Church affaires, concerning the repressing of poperie within that our kingdome, and as we ar well pleased to have heard of your earnest and dewtifull care for maintenance of the trew religion and discipline of the Church now professed, so we will be glade to vnderstand of your carfull continewing to proceede by your ecclesiastical censures aganst all such persones whom yow shall find in obstinat and contemptuous maner to be refractorie ther-vnto : In prosecution of which service, besydis that yow have our Counsall and the said high Commission to be assisting vnto yow, yow shalbe confident, as neid doeth requyre, to haue what further help is fitt to be demanded by yow or granted by ws : And in the meantyme be assured we will doe nothing that shalbe knowen vnto ws as to prejudge the said trew religion and discipline of the Church, bot it shall ever be our cheifest care to manteane the same : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, 8 of Februarie 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellours, and trustie and weilbeloved.—Wheras we ar informed that the detestable crymes of Incest, bugarie, and adulterie ar frequently committed within that our kingdome, for restrayneing wherof diverse good lawis have formerlie bene made, and we being willing for a tymelic remeadie herof that the saidis lawis should be put in executioun, Our pleasur is, that from tyme to tyme. as yow shalbe requyred be our Archbischops or the bishop of the dyocie wher the said facts ar committed, yow in our name persew criminallie all persones committers of Incest, bigame, and these who ar notorious and scandalous adulterers, and who cannot be broght to amendement by Church discipline : And for yow so doeing, &c.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—We ar informed that ther is ane action of Improbation intended by the bishop of Dunkeld aganst the Erle of Abercorne for pretendit erection, wherby the said bishop doeth alledge that the Church of Abercorne, which is Ecclesia Mensalis of the bishoprik of Dunkeld, is dismembered from the same : Therfoir our pleasur is, that with all convenient diligence yow call the said action of Improbation befor yow, and to doe justice therein according as yow shall find just cause.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that the Manse and gleib of the Church of Dumfermeling have bene designed to one M^r Henrie McGill, present minister ther, and that the possessours of the gleib tak

exception aganst the designation vnder cullour of our interest thervnto, therby intending to defraud that church of that which is justlie due vnto the same : Therfoir it is our will and pleasure, that, calling befoir yow our Advocats, yow consider of our interest therein, and if yow find that the possessours have no further cause than what is pretended vnder cullour of interest therein, we think it reasonable that the said church be in no worse case than vther churches in the lyk nature ar, and as the Law hath provyded for them.—Whythall, the 8 of Feb^r 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Trustie, &c.—Vnderstanding that our customes of the eist and west borders in that our kingdome ar now vaiking in our hands by reasone of the last tak thairof is expyred, and being informed that the restraynt of cattell and vther bestiall from being caryed from thence vnto this our kingdome is the cause that none will farne the saids customes at the lyk rate as formerlie hath bene payed, so that, as we ar informed, yow will be forced to collect the same to our vse by the meanes of such trustie man vpon account : We ar weill pleased in that respect to recommend vnto yow our servand William Maxwell, gentleman vsher in that our kingdome, of whois sufficiencie and fidelitie in our service we ar credible informed, to the effect he be presentlie appoynted receaver and inbringer of all the saids customes whatsoever due vnto ws, he being alwayes accomptable vnto yow and to our Exchequer for the same, willing that he be satisfied for his paynes and charges takin therin at our sight and discretion ; and when we by advyse of our Counsell shall happin to recall the forsaid restraynt, it is our pleasur immediatelic thereter that yow sett vnto him such tak of the customes of the saids bordours as have bene sett to any vther persone, he paying as vthers have done heirtfoir : So committing this to your care.—Whythall, the 8 of Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing resolved to send a new supplie of thrie thowsand men to our vnclē the King of Denmark, wherby he may be the better enabled for that warre whilk he doeth prosecute ; and being willing that they be levyed and takin from that our kingdome, our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto our trustie and weilbeloved James Sinclair a commission with a sufficient warrant to levy and transport the said thrie thowsand men, with as large priviledges as any vther have had heirtfoir in the lyk kynd, he alwayes giving such satisfaction to everie one of the said number as shalbe agreed vpon betweene him and them according to the former custome in the lyk caisses ; for doeing whairof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing resolved to send a new supplie of thrie thowsand men vnto our vnclē the king of Denmark, wherby he may be the better enabled for that warre which he doeth prosecute ; and being willing that they be levyed and takin from that our kingdome, our pleasur is, that yow grant vnto our trustie and weilbeloved cousen and counsellour the Erle of Nithisdale a commission with a sufficient warrant to levie and transport the said thrie thowsand men, with as large priviledges as any vthers bes had heirtfoir in the lyk kynd, he alwayes geving such satisfaction to everie one of the said number as shalbe agreed vpon betwixt him and them, according to the former custome in the lyk caces ; for doeing wherof, &c.—Whythall, the 8 of Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing resolved to send a new supplie of thrie thowsand men to our vncle the king of Denmark, wherby he may be the better enabled for that warre which he doeth prosecute; and being willing that they be levied and takin from that our kingdome, our pleasur is, that yow grant our trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Spynie a commission with a sufficient warrand to levie and transport the said thrie thowsand men, with as large priviledges as any vthers hath had heitfoir in the lyk kynd, he alwyse geiving satisfaction to everie ane of them as shalbe agreed vpon betwixt him and them, according to the former custome in the lyk case; for doeing wherof, &c.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour, and trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Wheras we ar informed by the bishop and ministers of Galloway of the great necessitie of building and provydeing a church and compitent meanes at Portingearie, alias Portpatrik, the fabrik whairof hath alreadie bene, as we ar lykwayes informed, begun by our right trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour the Viscount Montgomrie; and we being willing to encourage him in so good a work, wherof we hold it expedient that he and his successors ther be patrones, Our pleasur is, that yow tak information how the same may be erected in a paroch church, and how compitent meanes may be provyded for the minister therof; and therefter, if yow find that this purpos can be lawfullie and convenientlie effected, that yow accordinglie draw vp a signature for our hand, and for so doeing these presents shalbe your warrand.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that by warrands from our late dear father ther was ane act of Counsell made for restrayning of all vnlawfull goodis transported betuixt that our kingdome and Irland, for stayeing of such persones as wer fugitive from the Lawis flying from the one kingdome to schelter themselfs in the vther, and for avoydeing of diverse vthers abuses mentioned in the said act, and that for this effect ther wer Clerks appoynted at the ports limited in the same, which ordour, tending so much to the good of that kingdome, is, as we ar informed, whollie neglected, wherby great abuses have bene and daylie [are] committed aganst the Lawis of our kingdome and discipline of the Church, so that a great number of the ministerie within Galloway and vther adjacent shyres have of late bene humble petitioners vnto vs for a tymelie redress heirof: Therfoir we have thocht it fitt and requisit that the said act should be agane revived, with addition of what further provisions as shalbe thocht by yow expedient for restrayning of the saids abuses, to which purpos it being necessarie that some persones of sufficiencie and qualitie should have charge; and vnderstand that our right trustie and weilbeloved counsellour the Viscount Montgomrie is most fitt, as one in whois landis the most parts and cheiff ports on both sydis doe lye: Therfoir we hold it expedient that the said charge should be putt vpon him, and that he have power for making of clerks in the ports limited by the said act, haveing the feys and proffaits expressed therin: And in regard he hath bene at great charges heitfoir in making the saids ports, concerneing which, and for a help to him to finish so good a work alreadie begun, the British planting have bene often, as we ar informed, suters vnto our late dear father, and now agane vnto vs: Therfor it is our pleasur that, according as our said father had formerlie intended, yow impose such a dewtie vpon all sorts of catle and goods whatsoever that shall pass or cum at any of the places limited as yow shall think

expedient, wherypon, efter yow have condescended, we will that a grant heirof be passed vnder our sealls in due forme for the space of nyntene yeres nixt ensueing the date heirof; and for doeing, &c.—Whythall, 8 Feb^r 1627.

TO SIR ROBERT ANSTRUTHER.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we have areadie gevin ordour and assigned moneyis for levyeing these regiments areadie desyred by our vnclē the King of Denmark, The Earle of Nithisdale, both out of a zeall to our service, and desyre to express his thankfulness to our vnclē for his favours, hath intreated the levie of thrie thowsand men for himself, with which he is to cum over in persone, he hath bene a faythfull servand both to our father and ws, and vnder what obligation he is to the king of Denmark non knowes better then yourself: Although he be addicted to the Romish religion, yit in regard of the proof we have had of his sufficiencie and affection to our service, yow shall answer for his fidelitie in our name, and that ye vse your best endeavours for his advancement in aney thing that may lawfullie tend to his advantage as to one whome we particularlie respect: We have lykwyse gevin ordour that all these regiments shalbe over with all possible diligence, nather shall ther be anything wanting which may further that cause in so far as lyeth in our power, wherof yow shall give particular assurance to our said vnclē: So we bid yow farewell.—Whythall, the 8 of Feb^r 1627.

TO SIR HENRIE WARDLAW.

Trustie and weilbeloved, &c.—Wheras we have assigned thrie thowsand pundis sterling money to be payed vnto our right trestie and weilbeloved, &c. the Erle of Nithisdale, or his assigneys, by yow out of our rents of Dumfermeling, Rosse, Arnarnie, and Etrik Forrest, as Chalmerland therof: And wheras we ar to imploy the said Erle abroad in most important services speciallie concerneing ws, we ar therfor earnestlie to desyre yow to advance the said sowme to the said erle, or his assigneys, for such annual rent and consideration as yow and they can agrie vpon, and we shall give ordour to our Counsell and Thesaurer and Commissaris of our Exchequer, whome we have heirtvnto desyred both to sie yow sufficientlie secured in the surest maner yow can reasonable devyse, and to allow your debursements in your aecompts; and for your better assistance in the doeing heirof we have willed Sir James Baillie, who hath advanced great sowmes of money in our service, to be aydeing vnto yow by his best endeavours: So we, &c.—Whythall, 8 Feb. 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased to wryt vnto yow heirtfoir that yow and your assessours should procede according to your Commission with all convenient diligence concerneing schippis that shal happin to be takin heirefter, and these which ar now taken from some Hamburgans, yit to the effect that the owners of these schippis, or some persones sent expreslie from them for that purpois, may be present to speek in ther behalf, we desyre yow to delay the hearing of that cause till the first day of March, vnless the Hamburgers themselvis desyre more hast to be vsed; and therether that yow procede in justice according to the Lawis in that our kindome, and of vther neighbouring nations in the lyk cases; and if aney doubt or question doeth aryse which cannot be cleared in maner abovewritten, Our pleasur is that, therin yow seek and vse the advyse of our privie counsell, for our intention is that, as we ar willing that all our subjects who adventure in the lyk kynd may enjoy the benefite of ther labours justlie due vnto them, so we would have such a fair and legall course takin with all strangers that thay have no just caus to complayne: And befor aney decree that shal happin to be pronounced in this bussines be putt in executioni we will yow to advertise ws thairof: So, &c.—Whythall, 10 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras in consideration of the necessitie of this tyme to furnish vnto the King of Denmark some forces from that our kingdome, we have granted commissions for levyeing of them, and have gevin warrant to Sir James Baillie, whom we have appoynted to be collectour generall of the last taxations, for answering of 8000 lib. sterling out of the same to such persones as shall have power to receave them, and in regarde that no great part of the saids taxations can be levyed in such tyme as will serve for the tymele dispatch from thence of the saids forces, we ar moved to vse all other lawfull meanes that possible can be had for levyeing of moneys for this purpos: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow ayd and assist, by authoritie from yow and by all vther lawfull wayes and meanes that can be advysed, all such of our officers to whome we have writtin concerneing this purpos, who shall requyre and stand in neid of your furtherance, granting them to this effect acts of counsall, or what can be lawfullie desyred by them for ther securitie, vpon ther embracing of our desyre to them for the effect forsaid, and withall that yow tak sufficient securitie of these persones haveing charge of the said forces, and if so yow think it expedient of those haveing charge vnder them, for employeing the saids moneys to the right vse; and if they failzie in levyeing and transporting the number of men according to ther commission, that they be bund to repay so much of the saids moneys so receaved by them as ar in proportion for everie mane's share so wanting of the said number, or that yow tak such vther securitie of them as yow shall find to be most requisite for this purpos: All which recommending most earnestlie vnto your care, We bid yow farewell.—Whythall, 10 Feb^r 1627.

13 Feb^r 1627, at 10 o'clock in the foirnoone, Tua pacquets to the Erle of Melros, wherin ther was tuo Letters of the King's, concerneing M^obrech and Broun, and a Letter to the Erle of Linlythgow concerneing the prises, which was direct to Ro^t Alexander, to be sent vnto him: A presentatioun to the Erle of Winton, which was lykwayes sent to Robert Alexander.

TO THE THESAURER OF SCOTLAND.

It is our pleasur, in regard of the good service done vnto ws by Capitane Johne Dowglas, that yow caus pay vnto him or his assigneys, with all convenient diligence, the sowme of Thrie thowsand merks vsuall money of our kingdome of Scotland, and that out of the first and readiest moneys whatsumever in our Exchequer ther: For doeing, &c.—Whythall, 16 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE LORD OF SPYNIE.

Right, &c.—We have vnderstude how yow have accepted of Johne Wood to be the cheiff and onlie Master vnder yow of the shirrefdome of Fyff, wherin we comend your choice, as knowing by your awin experience and by the good services done by him to our late dear father, and by vther testimoneis of forreyne princes, how able he is to discharge a place of that nature: Therfor our desyre is, that efter yow have established him in the said place, with the priviledge and benefite thairof, wherin we could wish a further respect should be had vnto him then vnto aney vther haveing the lyk charge from yow, yow vse your best meanes to give notice of his sufficiencie and our esteame of him to the most eminent of the gentrie of that schyre, and to the cheiff persone of everie burgh ther whome it may concerne, as yow can find the best opportunitie to doe the same, which we will tak as a pleasur done vnto ws.—Whythall, the 16 of Februar 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras in consideratioun of the necessitie of this tyme to furnish our vncle the King of Denmark with some forces from that our kingdome, haveing for this effect granted warrands for leveyng of them, and haveing gevin ordour to Sir James Baillie, whome we have appoyuted to be collectour generall of the last taxatioun for answering of 8000 Lib. sterling out of the same, to such persones as shall have power to receive them; and in regarde that no great part of the said taxatioun can be levyed in such tyme as will serve for dispatch of the saids forces, so as the said Sir James, who hath alreadie engaged himself in raising moneyis for our service, cannot possiblie furnish the same in due tyme: Thairfoir our pleasur vnto yow is, that yow will assist him in raising such moneyes as possiblie can be had by yow for making vp of so much of the said sowme as can not in reasone be levyed of the saids taxatiouns; and that ather by entring in bands with him for the same, or efter any vther maner of way shall be thought fitt, by yow taking from him for the same, and Interest thairof, securitie vpon his receipt of the saids taxatiouns, or efter aney vther forme yow can best agrie vpon in this purpois; vtherwyse, if the forsaid taxatiouns will not amount to the perfyteing of the saids moneyis now to be levyed, or if yow find a better way for our owin securiteis, to have any of our rents or casualteis of our Croun assigned vnto yow for payment thairof, and of the Interest for the same, we are willing that the samyne be done in the best forme that can be devysed, haveing for this effect writtin to our counsell, and that yow vse to this purpois such as ar vnder yow in the office of receipts: All which recommending vnto your serious consideratioun, We bid, &c.—Whythall, 16 Feb. 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras certane lands have bene disponed to Ritchard Grhame, servitour to our right trustie the Duik of Buckinghame, which wer resigned in our hands by the Erle of Nithisdale, last superiour thairof, conforme to a signature granted by ws thervpon vnto the said Ritchart, and in regarde that by this resignation we are made a superiour of Landis, whervnto we had no right of befoir: Our pleasur is, that the said signatour be expd through our sealls in due forme, gratis and without composition; for doeing wherof these presents shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, 17 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Cousen and Counsellour.—Wheras our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Thomas Dischington, kny^t, our servand, is for the space of four or fyve monethis to be employed abroad in matters spetiallie importing our service, wherin we ar confident of his diligence and secrecie, and we haveing for his charge in that journey desyred ws to refer to your consideratioun what yow think fitt to be gevin vnto him, Our pleasur is, that with all convenient diligence yow call vnto yow William Turnbull, one of the Clerks of counsell, whois advyse in respect of his experience abroad in the lyk particulars, and for your further information heirin, we think fitt yow should vse; and haveing considered what may be compitentie allowed vnto him vpon a service of this nature, that thereafter yow draw vp a warrant for our honour for the same, which we will yow to cause pay vnto him immediatlie vpon your receipt therof: So we bid, &c.—Newmerket, 23 Feb^r 1627.

TO THE CHANCELOUR OF SCOTLAND.

Right, &c.—Wheras Sir Ritchart Cokburne of Clerkington, kny^t, keeper of our privie seall, did, as we ar informed, both in our late dear father's tyme and since our happy coming to the Crown not onlie subscribe a procuratoric of resignation of his Landis of Clerkingtoun and vthers therein mentionat, to be resigned in our handis for new infetment thairof to be gevin to himself and his aires male, lawfullie gottin or to be gottin of his owin bodie, which failzeing, to Sir Patrik Cokburne, kny^t, his nixt cousen german and his aires, &c., bot also did personallie and actuallic resigne the same in presens of the Commissioners appoynted for resignations : And in regard that the said Sir Patrik had formerlie done vnto ws many acceptable services in diverse of our employments, we wer gratuslie pleased to wryt vnto the said Sir Ritchart in favours of his said cousen, wherof we never received answer bak ; and we being informed that his good intention and respect vnto the said Sir Patrik hath not takin the wished effect, the same infetment not being as yit passed the great seall : We ar therfor gratuslie pleased, and we doe heirby will and authorize yow, to cause speedelie pass the said Infetment by this our immediat warrand vnder our great seall, and not to suffer the same to be prejudged by aney subsequent act : And for your so doeing these presents shalbe your sufficient warrand and discharge.—Newmerket, the 28 Febr 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras diverse good Lawes have beine heirtofoir made, and it is fitt that the transgressours thairof should be punished and fyned, according as is provyded by the saids lawes, yit in regard that in the execution thairof it is necessarie for speciall reasons that a respect should be had : Therfoir our pleasur is, that penall statuts be not persewed aganst transgressours of the same within our burgh of Edinburgh, the toun of Leith, and our frie burghis within that our kingdome, for any time preceeding, vnless we shalbe pleased to give a warrant to the contrarie, and from tyme to tyme that yow tak such a course for causing putt the said statuts in execution as shalbe by yow thought expedient for our benefite and the generall good of that our kingdome.—Newmarket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble complant hath bene made vnto ws in the behalff of one Mary Hayes, alias Monro, that notwithstanding justice hath bene dewlie administred vnto hir, and that the lyfrent and escheit of the Laird of Foulis hath bene granted to hir vse, yit schoe cannot have the Lawis putt in execution for vplifting the same, wherby, schoe being a stranger ther, and, as we ar informed, exceedinglie wronged by him in hir meanes, and vtherwise is lyklye to be alluterlie vndone ; thogh these wrongs, if it be trew as is alledged, wer not sufficient inducements for repairing therof, yit the contempt of our Lawis and vther indirect courses for defraudeing of justice have justlie moved ws to requyre yow that without convenient diligence a course be takin for hir releif, and the rather for the avoyding of the lyk dangerous courses and presidents herefter : And therfor our pleasur is, that yow command the shireffs of these boundis wher any part of the said escheit and lyfrent shal happin to be, to cause tak vp the same for hir vse, willing them that no delay nor connivence be vsed in this matter in so far as is warrantable for them to doe by the Lawis and practique of that kingdome, or vtherwise, [if] by this meanes schoe cannot be redressed, that yow tak any vther course for the same as yow to this purpois shall think most expedient : Which we earnestlie recommend vnto your care, and bid yow farewell.—Newmarkett, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras Hugh Ross of Balnamichtie, being employed by ws for releasing of such of our subjects as wer prissoners at Dunkirk and Brugges, did, as we ar informed, release them of that our kingdome thence vpon his owin charge, haveing for this effect, without farther suretie therein [than] ther owin band, raised from persones sowmes of money, for which, as we ar lykwyse informed, they ar both vnwilling to mak him releiff, or to tak any reasonable course for doeing the same, wherby he is lyklike to be prejudged : Therfor we have thocht it expedient that yow give ordour to such persones whom it may concerne, haveing any charge of our schippis ther, that they conduce with the saidis persones as they shalbe fund sufficient to serve therin ; and thereafter that ther wages be made furthcoming and delvvered for the vse of the said Hugh till he be satisfied of what is justlie due vnto him, or otherwyse, that yow deall with such persones vnder whome they shal happin to be employed for taking the lyk course, for howsoever ther povertie for the present doeth hinder the same to be takin, yit we hold it no reasone that he should be altogidder defraudit by them, besydis that it will discourage all other persones from intending the lyk good course thairefter if occasion should requyre.—Newmerkett, the 3 March 1627.

TO THE ———

Right, &c.—Wheras, for direction from ws, a survey hath bene made of diverse provisions and necessaries to be sent this spring by our trustie and weilbeloved Counsellour Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie, for the vse of a colony to be planted in New Scotland, wherby it doeth evidentlie appear, as is reported bak vnto ws by the surveyeris, that the said Sir William hath bene at much more charges then as yit he hath received moneyis for the knyght barronets of that our kingdome, who hath condescended according to ther severall bands made to him for advanceed of such moneyis towardis the said plantation, so that if the number of persones condescended vpon by our late dear father and approved by ws to have the style of knyght barronets should not be fullie compleit, or if that tymelie satisfaction be not gevin according to ther bandis, that hopefull work, so much recommended to ws by our said father and ws, is lyklike to desert, and our said servand, who hath bene first and last at so great charges therin, vterlie vndone in his estate : And in regard, by reasone of our service heir, that his absence from thence wilbe a great hindrance to the bringing of this purpois of the baronets to perfection, we have thocht good heirby to desyre yow, whois effectuall assistance we ar confident may much conduce to this purpois, that yow may vse your best [endeavours], both in privat and publick, as yow shall think most fitt for bringing the said purpois to some perfectioun ; wherin we will expect your best endeavours, sieing it is a matter we specialie respect.—Newmerkett, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CHECKER.

Right, &c.—Wheras a signature of certane Lands hath bene presented to be signed by ws in behalf of ane Angus of Glencarie, wherof, as we ar informed, the tenour is far from prejudgeing ws in any maner of way : Yit we have bene pleased to your consideration, being willing, if yow find that the said signature be lawfullie done, and not to prejudice ws, that then yow pas the same with all diligence ; for doeing whairof.—Newmerkett, the 3 of March 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS FOR THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Haveing bene informed that the offices of our bowmaker, fledger, spearmaker, and Club-maker in that our kingdome did vaik at our gift and disposition, we ar pleased to grant the same to William Moncreiff, bower, according to his gift thervpon, and hearing since that one Forrest doeth clame a right to the saidis offices by some preceiding grant made to him, we ar well pleased, as equalle respecting all our subjects in matters of justice and equitie, that the persone haveing best right thervnto posses the same: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow examyne both ther grants and those of ther predecessours in these offices whervnto theris have relation; and thereafter that the persone haveing best right be made to enjoy them, provyding he be able and capable to discharge the same.—Newmerkett, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—We ar informed that our late dear father did, by patent vnder the great seall of that our kingdome, grant libertie to our burgh of Edinburgh to caus bear a sword befor the provest thairof, ordeaning gownes to be worne by some persones therein in the maner and at the tymes conteynit in the said patent: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow call befor yow the provest, bailleis, deane of gild, thesaurer, and these who ar vpon the Counsell of the said burgh, commanding them befor the first day of Junij nixt ensueing to provyde themselfis of the saids gownes, and that they wear the same, and caus vse the said sword, according as is prescryved by the said patent.—Newmerkett, the 3 March 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Being informed that it pleased our late dear father, vpon good consideration, to grant vnto M^r Johne Hall and M^r William Struthers, preachers, tuo pensions whairof, as is alledged, diverse termes rest vn timer payed, and we being vnwilling that the one now in his old aige, and the vther in his present charge of ministrie, should be dissapoynted of that which was intendit for them, our pleasur is, that yow both pay vnto them or their assigneys, out of the readiest moneysis of our Exchequer, ther arrearages of the said pension, togidder with the same, yeirle and termelie, conforme to ther gifts granted thervpon; and for your so doing these presents, &c.—Newmerket, the 3 of March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—We ar informed by Patrik Blak, our servand, that in the tyme he was attending our service heir violent intrusion hath bene made vpoun his ground, concerning which ther is ane action depending befor the session, and in the meane tyme that coalls ar wrought therein for the vse of others, and he himself debarred from that benefite which he and his predicessours have had in that ground almost sixtie yeres, according to the petition which we have sent yow heirwith: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow consider of the same, and wherin yow find him to be wronged, or to want the benefite that any of our subjects may have in the lyk case, that yow vpon your part cause right to be done vnto him with all convenient diligence, according to the Lawis and practique of that our kingdome, which we earnestlie recommend vnto your care.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF GALLOWAY.

Right, &c.—Wheras Alex^r Stewart of Clarie is to be employed in our service abroad, and in regard, as we ar informed, of some differences betweene yow and him, which in his absence may come to his disadvantage : Therfoir we desyre, if so be that the said Alexander vpon his part will doe that which is reasone, that no extremitcis of the Lawis betweene yow and him may be sett asyd, and that by the sight of freinds, or otherwise betweene your selfis, they be composed and settled in ane amicable and freindlie maner, which we will tak as a pleasur done vnto ws.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE DEANE OF THE CHAPPELL.

Reverend father in God, &c.—We ar informed that ther be some of the Musitians of our Chapell royall who for the insufficiencie in that facultie ar not fitt to be manteaned in ther charge : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow call vnto yow such assistants as ar most fitt and skilfull for tryeing heirof, and haveing caused examyne the saidis persones whom yow shall think to be insufficient, and haveing fund them to be so, that they be removed from the saidis places, putting in ther rowmes such able persones as can be had for this purpos ; for doeing wherof, &c.—Newmerkett, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEKER.

Right trustie, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father to intend provydeing the musitians and organist of our Chapell royall in that our kingdome with some allowance for ther maintenance, till a fundation of the said Chapell should have bene established ; And we being now credible informed that they have not of a long time received so much money as might compitentie manteane them : Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow consider heirof, and that yow give vnto them, out of the readest moneyis in our Exchequer, at the termes accustomed, so much allowance as they shall think fitt for the said maintenance, wherof the first terme's payment to begin at Witsunday nixt ; for doeing wherof, &c.—Newmerkett, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that Sir Thomas Wentone of Strictmartene, kny^t, being Schireff and vnder Collectour of the last taxatioun granted vnto our late dear father in certane boundis limited vnto him for this purpos, one Gray, vnder Schirreff, and receaver of the same vnder him, did thefteouslie flie and carie out of the kingdome a great part of these moneyis so receaved by him, and in regard we think it hard reasone that the gentlman whois estate is bot waik, and who, as we wer informed, was ane old servand to our late dear fether, should be lyable for the payment of the same, sieing for recoverie therof he hath vsed his best endeavours : Therfor our pleasur is, that yow try if the said information be true, which [if] yow find to be so, and that these taxatiouns remaneing vnpayed doe not exceid 150^{li} sterling, that yow signifie our pleasur vnto our Thesaurer, as generall Collectour of the same, that he frie and discharge the said Sir Thomas of these moneyis so conveyed away by the said Gray : For doeing wherof these presentis shalbe vnto yow and our said Thesaurer a sufficient warrand.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being willing, out of our affection to that our ancient and native kingdome, that nothing should be wanting, in so far as may be lawfullie and convenientlie done, for preservinge our sport in all our Forrests, parks, and vther places within the same, and that our hie wayes may be made fayr and passable for coaches, and vtherwayes in the tyme of our late dear father, his last being; and the rather in cace we shall tak occasion schortlie to repair thither: Therfor our pleasur is, that yow give speціальl direction in our name to all persones whom it may concerne, that they with all convenient diligence provyde and sie that our said sport in the parts accustomed by our late dear father, and vthers parts as shalbe thoght by yow most fitt, may be in good and readie ordour, and that the saids high wayes in lyk maner be made readie for our pastyme, and for this effect that yow vse your best and readiest endeavours as have bene in vse to be done in former tymes, and as yow shall think most expedient: So, &c.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE TOUN OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weilbeloved, we greet yow well.—We have perceaved by the effects your affection to our service, wherof we will not be vnmmyndfull when further occasion shall offer, wherby we may express our respect vnto yow: We have sent yow in a token of our favour a sword and gowne, to be worne by your provest in such tymes and in such maner as was appoynted by our late dear father: As yow have begun to be carefull in our service, we doe not doubt but yow will from tyme to tyme continew to doe the lyk, and speciallie in givinge your best furtherance, in so far as yow can convenientlie doe, to Sir James Baillie of Lochend, kny^t, who is to advance diverse great sowmes of money for our important and vrgent service abroad, and lykwyse that yow encourage the remanent burrowis to doe the lyk, and to pay such part of the taxations as ar to be payed by them with all convenient diligence that possible can be had: Which recommending to your serious care, and which we will tak as acceptable service done by yow vnto ws; we bid, &c.—Newmerket, 3 March.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being informed that some indwellers in Leith, contrarie to our lawis and the custome observed in the lyk caices, have refused to muster and mak ther weaponschawing by direction of the Provost, bailleis, and Counsall of our burgh of Edinburgh, to whome the jurisdiction of the said toun of Leith apperteneth, which refractorie course may both prove dangerous in the self: Therfor our pleasur is, that a proclamatioun be made at the Cross of Edinburgh and the peere of Leith, charging all the Inhabitants of that toun to mak ther weaponschawing as the saidis provest, bailleis, and Counsell of Edinburgh, and ther deputies the bailleis of Leith, vnder the paynes conteyned in the Acts of parliament concerneing this purposis, and that yow assist by your autoritie if neid so requyre to sie the samyne putt in dew execution: And to this effect our further pleasur is, that our said burgh of Edinburgh and remanent our frie burrowis within our said kingdome doe frielie enjoy without any interruption all ther priviledges that they have had in former tymes for mustering ther inhabitants, and election of Muster Masters to that effect, &c.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRLAND.

Right trustie and weilbeloved cousen and counsellour, &c.—In consideratioun of the long and faythfull service done vnto our late dear father, of blissed memorie, and vnto ws and croun, by the right

reverend father in God, Thomas Knox, Lord of the Ylis within our realme of Scotland, and for his encouragement and enabling to doe ws further service, we ar gratuslie pleased and doe heirby requyre and authorize yow to mak a grant in dew forme of Law by Letters patents vnder the great seall of that our realme, which with advyse of some of our learned counsell ther, whom we requyre to have a speciall care that the same may be made sufficientlie and valuablie in the Law, according to our gratuslie pleasur heirin signifieid, from ws, our aires and successours, without vnto the said Thomas Knox, bishop of the Ylls, his aires and assigneyis, of the lands, tenements, and hereditaments herefter mentioned, viz,— of the parcell of land called Monteraglanc, alias Mountanlanc, conteneing by estimation one quarter of land, and of a parcell of land Turgabralmore, being ane quarter of land, and divyded in tuo half quarters, —that is to say, the half quarter of Auleoge and the half quarter of Clokernagh; and of the parcell of land called Bургabrekbrieg, being one quarter of land divyded into tuo quarters of lands, viz., the half quarter of Largabrekbrieg and the half quarter of Masserey; and of the parcell of Land called Pelageill, being one quarter of land, with a parcell of Land called Carucklogowne, being ane quarter divided into tuo half quarters of Knokagersay land,—that is to say, the half quarter of Clagone and the half quarter of Knokagersay; and of the parcell of land called Matrior Crumanak, alias Magarvenagh, being ane quarter of land; and with a parcell of land called Meyko, alias Maghten, being ane quarter of land; and of the parcell of land called Dunerweymore, being ane quarter of land; and ane parcell of land called Innerweyheg, being ane quarter of land; and of ane parcell of land called Derriereill, alias Derigeil, being ane quarter of land; and of ane parcell land called Porteistane, alias Portnolam, being ane quarter of land; and of the parcell called Catnegamwhe, alias Croconelaron, being half a quarter of land; and of the parcell of land called Chessey, alias Carimchessey, being half a quarter of land; and the parcell of land called Camacleran, alias Kinceleuin, being half a quarter of land; and of the parcell of land Sugart, being ane quarter of land; and of the parcell of land called Sessach, being ane quarter of land; and of the parcell called Bringoray, being half a quarter of land; and of the parcell of lands Cassell Rikanaw, being half a quarter of land; Be the saids parcells of land, or aney of them, more or less; which lands and premisses ar or wer late in the tenure or reputed tenure or occupation of Sir Mulmery McSwyny, kny^t, his tennents or assigneyis: And also of all such castells, landis, tenements, woods, tythes, fischings, and hereditaments, with ther and everie of their rights, members, and appertinances whatsoever, lyeing and being in the baronie of Kilmakerenan, in the Countie of Dunegill, in the province of Vlster, in that our realme of Ireland, which ar or wer latlie held and enjoyed by the said Sir Mulmery McSwyny, his tennents and assigneyis, or wherof he, his tennents or assigneyis, receiveth the rents and profites, to be holden of ws, our aires and successors, in few and comon soccage as of our castell of Dubline, and not in capite nor by knyght's service, if no better tenure shall appear for ws vpon record yeilding therfoir, vnto ws, our aires and successours, such rents, dewteis, and services as ar now answered, due and payable vnto ws for and out of the premisses: And our pleasure is, that [there] be conteyned in the saids letters patents to be past by vertew heirof a grant of such fairis and mercatts to be keiped yeirlie at such dayes and tymes, with the feyis and profites of the saidis fayris and mercatts, and such vther privileges, benefites, and Immunitis as in such grants ar vsuall, and as to yow shalbe thought fitt: Nevertheless our express pleasur is, that the said Thomas B. of the Yles shall covenant in and by the saids letters patents for him, his aires and assigneyis, to and with ws, our aires and successours, that he shall permit and suffer the said Sir Mulmery, his tennents and assigneyis, to have, hold, and enjoy all the said castells, lands, and premisses, and tak the rents and profites therof for and during the naturall lyf of him, the said Sir Mulmerrie, which we requyre yow to sie performed, any thing in the places to the contrarie notwithstanding: And these our letters, notwithstanding any former direction or restraynt by our said father or by ws, our privie Counsell, or any of them, to the contrarie, and notwithstanding the clause in our said late father's Instructions for the setting of the revenue in that our kingdome, which prohibeteth that any man shall few for any grants

in few ferme vntill the same salbe thurghlie considered both by the deputy and Counsell of that our kingdome, and by the priue Counsell in England, and ther opinions certifeid concerneing the same; and notwithstanding any misrecitall, misnamings, or vther defect shalbe vnto yow, our deputy and Chancellour ther now being, as to any vther deputy, cheiff governour or governours, Chancellour, or keeper of our great seall of that our kingdom, which heirefter for the tyme shall be, and to all vther our officers and ministers whom it shall concerne, and to euerie of them a sufficient warrand and discharge in that behalf.—Gevin vnder our signet at Newmerket, the 3 of March 1627.

TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

It is our speciall pleasur that yow proceed and pay with all possible diligence to the Earle of Nithisdale, the Lord Spynie, and James Sinclar of Murkill, 8000 lib. sterling money, whairof four thousand to the erle, and the vther four to be equallie diuidit betwixt the other tuo, for the levyeing and transporting of men out of that our kingdome for our service of our vncle the King of Denmark, provydeing that they give suretie to our Counsell for performinge the conditions condescendit vpon this behalf; for doeing wherof, &c.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

TO MR THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased in favours of the burgh of Edinburgh to signe a signatur of ther priviledges, and such vther things therin conteyned as hath bene formerlie granted or ratifeid by some of our royall progenitours, as also with signature of a laick patronage of the Chaplanrie of S^t Andrew and S^t Katharine, foundit within the Abbey Church of Halyrud hous, lands annexed thervnto, requyred by them for the vse of the Hospitall therin mentioned: Therfoir our pleasur is, that yow collation both the saids signaturs, and if ther be nothing differing for what they hold by their chartours in ther signature of the Liberteis, and that the other be a laick patronage, that then, if neid be, yow certifie the same vnder your hand therto to the Commissioners of our Exchequer, that they may pass the saids signaturs: So we, &c.—Newmerket, 3 March 1627.

NARRATIVES OF PROTECTIONS.

Our Sovereigne Lord, vnderstanding the Erle of, &c. standeth indebted to diverse his Creditors for sindrie sowmes of money: And being informed that he is willing to vse his best endeavours to tak some reasonable course for ther satisfaction if he had some competent tyme allowed vnto him for doeing the same, wher if they should vnseasonable vrge him or his cautioners who stand suretie for him for payment of the sowmes adebitit by him, it might both dissable him and dissapoynt them of that satisfaction which otherwyse he wilbe readie to give them: Therfor his Majestie, haveing speciall regarde to the distressed estate of the said nobleman, and the rather in regard of the great charges he hath bene at in his publict employment for the good of his Ma^{tes} kingdome of Scotland, and with all that nane of his Cautioners who stand suretie for him suffer by his meanes, His Majestie, out of his highnes authoritie, royall kinglie power, Grace, mercie, and clemencie, ordeans a protection to be made vnder his highnes' great seall of Scotland, accepting the said, &c. and his saids cautioners vnder his speciall power and safeguard, giveing and granting to him and them durence the space of, &c. &c.

Our soverane Lord, with advise and consent of his heighnes' right, &c. Johne, Earle of Marr, &c., and of Sir Archibald Napper of Merchistone, knight, his majestie's deputy in the saidis offices, and also

with advise and consent of the remanent Lords Commissioners of his heignes' Exchequer of the said kingdome, considering that the searching and trying of alome mine and making of alome within the said kingdome tendeth greatlie to the augmentation of the rents of his Majestie's crowne, which havinge bene once vndertaken and begun to be established there, became so expensive and chargeable to the interprysers thereof, that they were constrained to leave the prosecuting of the samen, quherthrough his majestie is frustrated of the yearlie dewetie which might redound by the intending and establishment of the said alome workes : Therfor, and for incouraging and inaebling of the present vndertakers to vndergo and prosecute the said workes, and to the end his majestie be no longer frustrat of the tenth toun alome dew by vertew of the letters patents of allome making granted by wunquihle King James, of worthe memorie, and by our souverane Lord, to Thomas, Earle of Kellie, his hieres and assignes, of the tenth toun of allome dwe to his majestie by verteu of the letters patents above specified, making and constituting the saids vndertakers and their foresaidis, their highnes' taksmen, and fermours of the samen tenth toun of allome, for all the dayes, spaces, yeares, and termes of sevin yeares next and immediatlie following the enterie thereto ; with full power and comission to the said George Hay and Maister George Fletcher, and their forsaidis, their deputies, factors, and servants in their name, to aske, crave, intromet with, and vptake, and if need beis to call, follow, and persewe before whatsomever Judge or Judges competent, all and sunderie the vndertakers and workers of allome mine and rocke, and whatsoever person or persons that shalbe lyable in payement and delyverie of the said tenth toun, compone, transact, and agree therefor at their pleasure, as they shall thinke expedient, and to doe all thinges for their better and more readie obtaineing of the tenth toun forsaid which may be lawfullie doen : Begining there entry to the vptaking of the said tenth toun at the feast and terme of Martimes in the yeare 1627 yeares, and so forth to continuee induring the said space of seven yeares abovespecified, paying yearlie the said George Hay and Maister George Fletcher and there forsaidis, in his Majestie's Exchequer, to his heighnes' Thesaurers and receivers, in his Majestie's name, the sosome of 100 pounds usuall money of the said kingdome of Scotland, for ilk tenth toun of alome that shall be made there due to his Majestie as said is, at the feast and terme of Whitsunday in the yeare 1628, and so forth yearlie thereafter during the space abovespecified, and ordaines his letter to be extended in the best forme, with all clauses needfull, with command therein to the Lords of counsell, session, and Exchequer to grant and direct lettres of poending and homeing at the instance of the said George and Maister George, and there forsaidis, vpon the simple charge of thrie dayes, chargeing all and sindrie the vndertakers and workers of allome mine, or whatsomever person or persons that shalbe lyable in payement and delyverie of the said toun, to ready answer, obey, and to make thankfull payement and delyverie to the saidis vndertakers and there forsaidis of the said tenth toun during the space above specified, at all times and occasions convenient, ilk one of them for there owen pairts according to there working thereof.—Neumarket, the 3 of Marche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that payement is not made to the right reverend father in God the Bishope of Isles of diverse deweties and other things justlie belonging vnto him, out of that Bishoprik the Abbacy of Icolmekill and priorie of Archattun, and that he hath payed all the last Taxations for diverse lands within his diocey, whervnto the inheritors therof should have bene lyable for his releeff, which hitherto hath not been made vnto him, wherby he hath bene forced to levey moneyes otherwise for his maintenance, for payement whereof his creditors are by law to seek the execution of his bands, Wee the rather are moved to recomend him the more seriously vnto your asistance for releeff, in regard (as wee ar informed) that by direction of our late deare father he did to his great charges and the hazard of his life setle himselfe in these barbarous and remote places : Therefor our pleasur is, that yow

give special order for charging all such persones as shalbe given vp by him vnto yow for making thankfull payment vnto him or his assignes of all deweties, casualties, customes, and other thinges whatsoever belonging vnto him, or what have justlie belonged to any of his prediceors in that Bishoprik, Abbacey, and Priory abovenamed, granting vnto him for his recovery of these thinges so dew vnto him, and for repayment to him of these moneyes which he disboursed for the said Taxations, and also for his better executing of that charge he had from our said late [father] as Justice and Stewart of the Isles, all the lauffull favour and assistance and incouragement that can convenientlie be demanded by him, all which wee earnestlie recommend vnto your care.—Newmarket, the 3 of Marche 1627.

TO THE TWO ADVOCATS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have given Comission to trye if these shippes and goods lattie taken by some of our subjects within that our kingdome be lauffull prises or not; and seing all persons pretending interest therein may plead for the same by their advocats, Wee haue thocht it expedient, in regard of that which wee may have in the said prises, that you as our advocats carfullie loke into the samen: Therfor our pleasure is, that at the meeting of our admirall there for the time with his assistants, you likewise compear in our name, and plead, in so farr as you can in reason, for our interest in the said shippes and goods, to the effect that if the samen, or any part thereof, be judged to be lauffull prises, wee may have that share that doeth justly belong to vs; and for doeing, &c.—Neumarket, the 3 of Merche 1627.

Neumarket, the 3 of Merche 1627.

A letter for admitting the Marquise of Hamilltonne vpon the Counsell, of the ordinarie style.

A letter for the Earle of Melros to be one of the Exchequer, of the same date.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas diverse actions in law are to be intended before you concerning the reverend father in God the Bishop of the Isles, who, as wee are informed, hath bene long defrauded of these deweties justlie belonging vnto him out of that bishoprik, the abbacey of Icolmekill, and Priory of Archattan, besides that he hath payed all the last Taxations for diverse lands within his diocey, wherunto the inheritors thereof should have bene lyable for his relief, which heretofore hath not bene made vnto him; And in regarde that his sute vnto vs is onley that speedie justice may be doen vnto him in respect of his remote dwelling from thence, and of the necessitie of his continuall attendance from thenceforth in his calling, Our pleasure is, that in all actions which shall happen to depend before you concerning him, you grant vnto him from time to time, as occasion shall require, all such lawfull and speedie justice as the equitie of his cause shall deserve. So we bid, &c.—Neumarket, the 3 of Merch 1627.

TO MY LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—Wee have bene credible informed by the Bishop of the Isles of your carefull diligence in the peaceable keeping of Argeill, and the neighbouring pairts about, wherewith (thought wee did expect no les at your hands) wee could not be but well pleased, and whereof wee will not be vnmindfull when occasion shall offer your good, being willing in the meane time that you continu in the like good services,

and particularlie in assisting the said Bishop in the execution of all such thinges wherein he shall be warranted by our lawes or counsell of that kingdome, or by any other lawfull maner of way, which wee will take from time to time as acceptable pleasure doen vnto vs. And so we bid, &c.—Neumarket, the 3 of Merche 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Whereas our servant Sir Alexander Home, in the behalfe of Sir George Home of Manderstone, Knight, his father, hath given vs assurance that his father will hereafter pay his few duties of his lands of Pressis, Hylawes, Benrig, Flures, and others, holden of vs as parte of the abbacy of Coldinghame by vertue of the act of annexion, and is contented both to continue still our vassal therein as formerlie, and to pay vnto vs out of the Titles thereof such yearlie duetie as by the late commissioners for the Titles shalbe sett downe; Both which courses being according to the rule of our royall intention expressed in our said commission, wee are gratuslie pleased, at the humble sute of the said Sir Alexander Home, to will and require you to advert so vnto Jhone Stewartes cause, that if the said Sir George be persued therein in such maner as may divert any of our intentions mentioned in our said commission, that then you stay the same, in so farr as concerneth the said George, vntill you advertise vs of the true estate thereof, that we be not prejudged, but that our said intention and commission be preserved. And for your doeing, &c.—Neumarket, the thrid of Merche 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wee are credibly informed that the six surviving daughters of vmquhile William Maull, burges of Edinburgh, doe legally clame the inheritance of their seventh sister's daughter, called Bethia Burnet, who is latly dead without issue, and especiallie in reguarde the same did descend vnto her in the right of her mother, and as one of the sevin hieres petitioners retoured and served heire vnto the said William Maule, which clame and persute of the saidis surviving sisters, if it be lawfull and according to the lawes and practik of the said kingdome, wee doe hereby will and require yow to doe them speedily justice without delayes, the bussines being but of small value, and not aebell to countervaille the charges and trouble which are incident vnto any long sute. This recomending, &c.—Neumarket, the 3 of Merche 1627.

TO JHONE AUCHMOWTY.

In regard that our right, &c. Counsellour Sir George Hay of Kinfaunes, knight, our chancellour in that kingdome, is onely to make vse of those thinges belonging to our wardrobe there (which for the present are in his custodie) for to serve those rowmes within our pallace of Halyrudhouse, whereof he hath vse at his being ther, Our pleasur is, that you leave off to call for the same vntill our further pleasure concerning this purpose be signified vnto you. Noe date heirof I found in the originall register.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Though wee be verie loath to granting protections at all, yet in reguarde that meanes hath benee provided by vs for our right trustie and weilbeloved cousen and consellour the Earle of Nithisdale, whereby he may be enabled to pay his creditors, and they the more assured of their satisfaction, Wee have

beene pleased to grant one protection vnto him for the space of two yeares, with a speciall provision for paying ther interesses at either of the termes next ensweing: And therefor least he or his cautioners should be vnreasonable pisset to doe that which at this time they are vnable to performe, and least our service heighlie importing vs wherein the said Earle is at this time imployed should anyways be hindered: Our pleasure is, that you both cause passe this present protection and a lease which wee have granted for the vse of the said Earle, with all convenient diligence; for doeing wherof these presents shalbe both vnto you and to our Exchequer a sufficient warrant.—Neumarket, 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW.

Right reverend, &c.—Whereas our right, &c. the Earle of Nithsdale is to be imployed abroad in matters heighlie concerning our service, and least in the time of his short staying within that our kingdome, to prepare for his departur from thence, he should be troubled for his religion, whereby our service might be hindered, Our pleasure is, that he be spared from anie Ecclesiasticall censure for that time, and his Laydie dureing her residence there, pryvyding that they give not a publict scandale to the religion presentlie professed in the said kingdome.—Roiston, the 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee were pleased vpon verie good considerations to grant vnto our right trustie and welbeloved cosen the Duke of Lenox, whom wee haue taken into our particular protection, a yearlie pension according to the guift granted thervpon, wherof (as wee ar informed), diverse yeares payements rest vnpayed vnto him; and wee being the more carefull in reguarde of the burdens where-with his estate is at this time charged, that he be payed according to our guift: Our speciall pleasure is, that you not onely pay vnto him and his assigns the arrages of the said pension, but likewise the samen yearly and termely according to his said grant; for doeing wherof, &c.—Roiston, the 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—In reguarde that it hath beene speciallie pryvyded by the lawes of that our kingdome that Justice courtes throughout the same may be re-established, thereby to prevent many and great disorders, Wee have beene graciouslie pleased to signe a comission for that purpose, which wee haue sent you here-with; and notwithstanding that wee in our judgement doe approue of the same, yet wee haue thought good to referre the consideration thereof to you: Therefor our pleasur is, that you call vnto you our advocats, and haveing by ther advise considered the said comission to be formally and lauffullie doen, that then you cause expedie the same through our great seale, or if there be any defect therein, that you, by advyse of our saids advocats, cause draw vp one sett for our hand; which wee will with all diligence be sent vnto vs, which recomending vnto your speciall care as a purpose we doe much respect, &c.—Roiston, the 7 day of Merche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credible informed that the office of Justice Clerke (being one of the offices of our crowne) is reduced to such ane estate partlie by the negligence of the last officer, and partlie

by encroaching of other clerks, as not only it cannot afford sufficient maintenance to the officer, but scarce can yeald any commoditie at all : And seing that the said place requyres great attendance as well in parliament as in Counsell, Exchequer, and the ordinarie Justiciarie, we think our selves in honour bound to see it restored to the ancient integritie : And therefor wee have thought good to give a comission to a select number of you to try what heretofore belonged to the said office, and what the Justice Clerks heretofore were in possession of, and to restore the same to the said [office] : And in speciall wee recommend vnto you to consult and advyse how the yearlie course of keeping Justice Courts throughout all that our kingdome may be re-established and put in practise, whereby innumerable disorders may be prevented : Other pointes there are belonging to the said Office (which being too tedious to be insert in this letter, wee have caused be drawn vp in Articles herewith to be sent to you), which wee think ought to be executed by the said officer and his deputy and none other ; all which recommending to your speciall care, wee bid, &c.—Roiston, the 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon humble suite made vnto vs in the behalf of the Lord Gordon, Sir Alexander Naper, Sir Alexander Strachan, Sir Alexander Gordon, and Sir James Gordon, knights, to have our warrant for finding out of metallis within some partes of that our kingdome, and though wee affected so houpfull an interprise, yet we wold not determine therein without your advice, whom as master of our mines there it doeth cheeflie concerne : And therefor our pleasure is, that you by the advise of M^r Thomas Hope, our advocat, consider of a lease drawn vp by them for this purpose, which wee have sent you herewith, and if you think it lafull and formelly doen that yow cause expedie the same vnder our cachet and privy seale with all diligence without paying of any composition, otherwise that you cause draw such ane other lease as you to this purpose shall think most fitt and lawfull for vs to grant, to be exped vnder our said cachet and privy seale in maner as aforesaid : Which earnestly recommending vnto your care, becaus we very much affect the purpose.—Roiston, the 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Having for the generall good of that our kingdome, and for a lafull increase to our revenue of our crowen thereof, granted a comission for transacting and agreeing with all such of our subjects there as pretend interest in these thinges, which ought to belong vnto vs, and in the meanetyme least any party should be strenthened by having confermed vnto them any new right whereby we may be prejudged in the course intended by that comission : Our speciall pleasure is, that yow passe no such grant which in any maner of way hath a relation to any particular head of the said comission, whereby wee may be so prejudged ; but if any doubt doeth occurre whereby it is fitt that further advise should be had, Our further pleasure is, that therein you take and vse the advise of our advocats ; which speciallie recommending vnto your care, wee, &c.—Roiston, the 7 of Merche 1627.

TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Right, &c.—Whereas the good shipp called the Eagle, of the burthen of one hundereth and 20 tunnes or thereabouts, now lying in the River of Thames (whereof Ninian Barclay is captaine), is leaden with powder ordonance, and other provisions for the vse of a plantation ordained to be made in New Scotland, by our speciall direction, and for the vse of ane other Shipp of the burthen of 300 tunnes, now lying at Dumbarton, in Scotland, which is likwise to goe for the said plantation of New Scotland : Our pleasur is,

that you give order to all whom it concerneth, that the said shippe, with all her provisions, furniture, and loading, as being for our owen particular service, may passe from the river of Thames without paying custome, subsidie, or any other ductie, and free from any other lett or impediment; and for your so doing, this shalbe your sufficient warrant.—Theobalde's, the 10 of Merche 1627.

To our right trustie and welbeloved cousin and counsellour James,
Earle of Marleborough, our heigh Thesaurer of England.

TO THE COMISSIONERS FOR THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Being well pleased to heare of your meeting, and of your care for setting a course how to procede in your commission, Wee approue your begining with the Tithes which have bene heretofore the cause of many troubles and oppressions, the like whereof wee wold willing prevent in time comming, and you will doe vs most acceptable service in vsing your best endeavours, in so farr as you lauffullie and convenientlie can doe, that evrie heritour of the kingdome may have the Tithes of his owen lands vpon reasonable conditions, by what title soever they be now claimed or possessed by any other, that the churches may be provyded of sufficient ministers, the ministers of competent stipends, and that we may have a reasonable increase of our revenue: And we wish that you wold first setle the Tithes belonging to Erectiones, not omitting in the meane time to treat with all titulers who are willing to take the like course; and if any person shall complaine vnto you for being wronged or not well vsed by any maner of Titulars of Tithes who doe refuse to agree with them at your sight, lat vs be particularlie acquainted therewith, that wee may thinke of a remedie, and estime accordingle of the person complained vpon: And seing you are resolved to goe on by shyres, wee think it expedient that you vse your best meanes to setle the estate of these shyres presentlie in hand befor you beging with anie other, and that the victual of evrie shire be rated by it selfe, according to the pryces of those bounds where it lyeth, because ane abbay may be dispersed in sundrie shyres; and seing you have begune with some of them in the south, wee thinke it good that you try others in the north, that by comparing the differances of pryces you may resolve vpon that which shall seeme best and most indifferent for all: And further, wee could wish that such churches as are now to be provyded should rather have a constant stipend in victual then in money, that evrie minister may receive the due benefite of that which is appointed for him, but remitting our selves, not onely in this, but in all the rest of the particulars aboue-named to your owen judgement, and in such other questions as may arrise, not doubting but you will doe that which is most agreeable to your commission, and that you admitt of no motion that may hinder your proceedings therein.—Whythall, the 26 of Merche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas, at the desyre of Sir David Home of Wedderbourne, knight, our right trustie and welbeloued cousin, the Earle of Seaffort is willing that Roger Wddiringtoun and Henrie Shafto, two of the fyne comiissioners vpon his pairt, should proceed vpon the comission given by our late deare father for trying the differances betwixt these parties concerning some fishings vpon the River of Tweede: And in the meanetime the said Earle, in reguarde (as wee are informed) of his great losses, by having his portioun taken from him in a violent maner, hath againe humblie desyred vs that he might be repossessed of the said fishings, as his predecessors therein were at the coming of our late deare father to the crowne of this our kingdome, vntill the time that the just title thereof be tryed by law, wherevnto the said Earle is willing to submitt himselfe, howsoever maters concerning this purpose have been caried befor our said

father's coming to the crowne here, yet wee doe not approue (if it be so as is informed) that such a violent course should have been taken hereafter, seeing that justice might have bene equallie administred vnto either partie without respect of persons: Therefor our pleasure is, that with all convenient diligence the comissioners appointed for this effect proceed according to their comission (excepting the said two persons, and any two vpon the other part as you shall think fitt), and to this effect that you cause intimate this our pleasure vnto the said Sir David, and to the comissioners on both sydes: And in the meane time our further pleasure is, that you advertise vs of your opinions how the said title can be best cleared by law, or otherwise how both the parties may be answerable to any comission that shalbe given for effect, all which wee recomend.—Whythall, the 26 of Merche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have already given warrants to you for granting comissions to levy 9000 men for the service of our onckle the King of Denmark, and in regard (as wee are informed) that such a number of men can hardlie be soone raised, as the necessitie of our said onckle's affaires doeth at this time require, a motion hath bene made vnto vs to cause deale with the cheefs of the clanes and houses in the highlands and borders of that our kingdome for mouing such of their families and kinsmen (as convenientlie may be spared) to goe vpon that service, or in caise of any criminall offence committed by them, or advantage to be had by law against them, either to vrge the execution thereof or otherwise, then they should undertake the said service: Therefor wee have thought fitt to referre the samen vnto your considerations, and doe requyre you that you will vse your best meanes that such a timly course be taken for leveying and sending away of the saidis forces as by you may be most convenientlie and lafullie doen: And in the meane time that you give order, in so farr as you can lafullie and convenientlie do, to cause furnish the saidis souldiers in their jurney to the port of there imbarcking, or during there aboard there, with meate and loading at their reasonable charge: And our further pleasure is, that you caus provyd Shippis at such reasonable rates as you, or comissioners from you, to this effect can best agree vpon, or as the custome hath bene in lyke cases for transporting the said forces: All which wee seriouslie recommend vnto your care as a purpose which wee doe cheefflie respect, and wherein wee doubt not but you will vse your best and most readiest endeavours.—Whythall, the 26 of Merche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that in regard of the frequent thiftes and oppressions committed by some of the clan of McGregeour, the laird of McGregeour, as cheeff of that name, and other honest men thereof, are often cited befor you as etheir being accessorie to those facts or else that it was in their power to prevent the same, his humble suit vnto vs is, that he might have power from you in our name to apprehend all such of that clane vpon their comitting of such facts in whose bounds soever they be found, and either to present them to justice or to be disposed off as you shall think expedient, otherwise wee, without a reall ground of their owen guiltinesse in any such fact, will that he nor none of the sadis honest men should be troubled in that kind: And in regarde, as wee are likewise informed, that he hath the keeping of the Castel of Gairth and forrest of Scheickhellen, through which malfactors in those parts doe ordinarlie travell to and from some pairts of the Lowlands, wasting the sayd forrest, he desyreth that he and some of his companie may be licensed to veare some weapons as are most fitt for restraining of them, and thereafter to present them to justice: Though his demand seemes to be reasonable, yett in matters of this consequence wee wold not determine without your advyse: And therefor our pleasure is,

that yow consider of the same, and that yow take such a course therein as you shall think most expedient for the good and tranquillite of those pairts, and that you countenance him in any thing which may tend to the publict good.—Whythall, the 26 of Marche 1627.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Whereas it pleased our late deare father to vreitt vnto the Laird of Weymes in favour of the bearer, Gregorie McGregor, that he wold freindlie setle with him in some matters betwene them; and wee, haveing heard that he intendeth to live in a civill and peaceable maner, are the rather moved at his humble suite made vnto vs, that matters betwene the sayd Laird and him might be setled at your sight, to desyre that you call both parties before yow, and in so farr as yow can find the sayd Gregorie to have reason in his demands, that yow, by all the faire meanes that convenientlie can be vsed, setle a freendlie agreement betwene them; and if in the sayd particulars betwixt Weyme and him nothing can be agreed vpon at your desyre, Wee are willing that you certifie ws bake your opinion of the differences betwene them: Soe we bid yow heartlie fairewell.—Whythall, the 26 of Marche 1627.

TO THE VISCONT OF STORMONT.

It is our pleasure that yow cause delyver for the vse of our Right, &c. Sir George Hay of Kinfavnes, knight, our chancellour of that our kingdome, a brace of good buckes out of our Parke of Falkland for the sommer season now ensewing, and a brace of good does for the winter season following, and so forth yearlie in maner abouenamed, till yow shall receive our warrant to the contrarie.—Whythall, the 26 of Marche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—In reguarde (as wee are informed) that our trustie and welbeloued Jhone Steuart is to tak a course for agreeing with vs for his interest in the Abbacie of Coldinghame, according to the late comission granted by vs for matters of the like kind; and in reguarde that not onelie he, but diverse other persons in that our kingdome who are interested in the like or other particulars so appointed to be treated vpon, can not be aeble in respect of the persuite of their creditors to come in and treat accordinglie with our comissioners: And wee, considering that none of our subjects can be much wronged by there being permitted for some small or peremptorie time to treat with ws in a purpose so much tending to the publict good, have thought it expedient that you grant vnto the said Jhone Steuart, and to any other person whatsoever being interested in any of the saidis particulars, and who shall require the like benefitte, a licence for this purpose, in such maner and for such time as you shall think most fit, and to this effect, that you cause publict intimation be made to all our said subjects at the places accustomed.—Whythall, the 27 of Merche 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—In regard wee have bene pleased to grant vnto Patrick Murray, our servant, the commendatorie of the spiritualitie, and a factorie of the temporalitie of the Abbacie of Incheffray, reserving the few deweties thereof for our owne vse, to the effect (as wee are informed) that the rights and takes granted by the late commendator in prejudicie of our croune, the church, and diverse of our subjects might be reduced, and the esteate of that Abbacie, which (as wee are likewise informed) is altogidder dilapidat,

may in some measure be restored : Our pleasure is, that in any actiones depending, or which shall happen to depend before you, which doe concerne the sayd Abbacie, justice may be done with all convenient expedition, and that our Advocats may concurre for our interest in the furtherance of this businesse, which doeth both concerne the good of our service and the well of diverse of our sayd subjects : And our further pleasure is, that you putt a finall end, according to justice, to that action depending before you concerning the children of Jhone Nasmeth, which hath bene so seriouslie and often recomended by vs vnto your care, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Merche 1627.

TO THE VISCOUNT STORMOUNT.

Right, &c.—Wee have found by experience, both in the tyme of our late deare father and ours, your affection to our service, whereof wee will not be vnyyndfull when occasion shall offerr, whereby wee may expresse our respect vnto you : And seing, for preseruing to the posteritie the memorie of your owne merite and our father's bountie towards you, you have made choise of Sir Mungo Murray, knight, our servant, your neare kinsman, both by blood and marriage, wee doe therein approue your choise ; and as wee doubt not of the continuance of your affection towards him in performing of what vpon good considerations you formerlie intended vpon him, soe wee doubt not but he will answere your expectationes in so far as is fitt and convenient for him to doe : And if you have any thing to communicate vnto vs, either concerning our service or your owne affaires, wee thinke it fitt that you send hither to this purpose the sayd Sir Mungo, by whom you shall receive our pleasure signified baken vnto you concerning the same, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Marche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that diverse persones employed in our service concerning the Abbacie of Incheffray have bene wronged by the Lord Madertie, his servants and freinds, and speciallie one of our messingers called Laurence Broune (who, in the execution of his office in our sayd service, haueing the badge accustomed to be vsed by such our officers there), had greate injurie done him in his person, and otherwise, to the manifest contempt of our authoritie, and to the prejudice of the course of justice : Therfor, and for preventing the like dangerous precedents hereafter, our pleasure is, that you examine the trene estate hereof, and if you find that which is alleadged to be true, that you take such a course therein as is agreeable to our lawes prouyded in the like cases ; otherwise that you advertise vs what you have found concerning the same, togidder with your opinion thereof, to the effect wee may give such order therein as wee shall thinke expedient, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Marche 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have bene pleased to grant a respekt for one yeare to Alexander Fleming of Mones, in regard that he hath caused informe vs that he was not guiltie of the slaughter of one Toseoche, committed by Laurence Bruce, and for that, desyreth that what is alleadged against him concerning that fact may be tryed by you : Therfor wee have thought it expedient that you cause cit the sayd Alexander and the other partie before you, and if you find that he is not guiltie of the sayd slaughter, that you certifie vs baken thereof, to the effect wee may grant vnto him a remission for the same, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Marche 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—Wheras Sir Alexander Naper, one of the Senators of our Colledge of Justice, hath made ane overture vnto vs for setting afoot the worke of the mynes in your bounds of Hinderstoun, and to this effect he humble craueth that he, and such pairtiners as he can joyne with him, may have power from vs, and that such as were formerlie engalged in that worke, and who are not willing now to proceed therein, may reseigne there interest concerning the same : In regard that the prosecuting of workes of this nature may in time produce good effects for the good of that kingdome, wee have thought good to recommend the consideration hereof vnto yow, whom, as Master of the mynes and who are otherwise engaged, it doeth cheeflie concerne, being willing that you vse your best endeavours for causing disingadge the sayd persones who are not willing to proceede as aforesaid, and that they, for their interests in the sayd mynes, be freed from any thing wherewith they can be charged hereafter : And likewise that yow give order to one of our advocats for drawing vp such a power to the sayd Alexander and his sayd pairtiners as to this effect shall be most fitt, with a speciall provision that they without intromission shall prosecute the sayd worke for suche a time and after such convenient maner as yow shall thinke most fitt—Whythall, the 29 of Marche 1627.

TO THE DEPUTY OF IRELAND.

Right trustie, &c.—Considering how necessar it is that all our British subjects within our kingdome of Ireland should be well armed for defence of the same, and haveing heard that the Viscount Montgomery of the Airds hath many of them vpon his lands who have able bodyes, but altogether wnpovyded of armes, for remedy whereof the sayd Viscount could willinglie bring armes from abroad vnto them, pryving that thereafter they may be made to accept thereof, and to give due satisfaction for the same, which seemes in our judgement both necessary for our service and for their own securitie : And therefore wee are well pleased that yow give such order as yow shall thinke most fitt and convenient whereby the sayd Viscount may be encouraged to provyd all his tenantes with armes, and whereby they may be made to give such satisfaction for the same as is requisite : And likewise, least the sayd armes by being kept in some weake places be exposed as a prey to Irish rebels, who may sease vpon them by violence, that you cause the sayd Viscount to keepe them together in the most strong and secure place within his bounds, whereof yow shalbe pleased to make choice, where the sayd armes may be in readines for the owners when they shall need them for our service, or to be trained as occasion shall requyre : And because the sayd Viscount, having lands within our kingdome of Scotland, may have occasion frequently to repair thither, and speciallie at this tyme being to build a church at Port Montgomery, and to repair the sayd Port, the doeing whereof hath bene often recomended vnto vs by our British vndertakers as a thing verie necessary for our service : Our further pleasure is, that yow graunt a licence to the sayd Viscount to passe into Scotland so oft as his occasions shall requyre, and the sayd licence to continue till vpon further consideration wee shalbe pleased, or yow from vs, to discharge the same : And likewise that the sayd Viscount have liberty to transport all such materiales, victuals, and others necessaries for his owne bounds in Ireland as are requisite for his owne vse and advancing of the worke intended at the sayd port in Scotland, with as much liberty and immunitie as can be graunted in regarde of the barrenes of that place of the cuntry, our letteres shalbe to yow, our Deputy that now is, and to evrie other deputy or cheeffe governor that hereafter for the tyme shalbe a sufficient warrant in this behalfe.—Whythall, the last day of Marche 1627.

TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

Trustie, &c.—Having beine solicited that wee might be pleased to confirme the priviledges formerly granted vnto our Colledge of Justice, though wee be very villing to give the senators thereof all the encouragement that wee can convenientlie grant, yet, vnderstanding that the advocats and clerkes in the last taxatiuous granted vnto vs have voluntarie yeeled to contribute therevnto, wee are loath by any new grant to barre our selfe from the benefite thereof; But considering the benefite done vnto vs by our trustie and welbeloued Sir James Skein of Curryhill, knight, president of our sayd Colledge of Justice, Our pleasure is, if the voluntary contribution offered by the members of the same in this last Taxation doe not exceede the soume of Six hundred pounds sterling money, after yow for a preparative hereafter have received it to our vse, delyver it as soone as you can to the sayd Sir James Skene; for doing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO ONE OF HIS AMBASSADORS.

Whereas humble suite hath beene made vnto vs in behalf of our subjects of our kingdome of Scotland, that wee, by comission or otherwise, wold authorise some person of credance to treat with one for the purpose appoynted by the King of Spaine and the Archdutches for and about the speedie releasing and discharging such of our said subjects of that kingdome as shall at any tyme hereafter happeane to be taken at sea by any of the King of Spaine's or Archdutchesse's subjects, which motion wee have taken vnto our consideration, and well approving thereof, do hereby requeyre and authorise yow, our servant, Henry Rosse, to treat with any such comissioner appoynted or to be appoynted by the said King of Spaine or the Archdutches, and to prosecute the bussines with effect (as much as in yow lieth), and to certifie vs of such your treaty and agreement that wee accordinglie may consider and approve thereof, as in our princely judgement and honour may seeme fitting for the good of our sayd subjects; and for, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are pleased to vse the service of our trustie, &c. Sir Archibald Achison, knight in our Exchequer of that our kingdome, and for that purpose have made him our remembrancer of our sayd Exchequer, as one whom wee doe much trust, and of whoes abilities and affection to our service wee, in our oune experience, are fully persuaded: And therof wee doe hereby recomend him and the performance of such instructions as wee have signed and sent with him vnto your speciall respect and assistance, and doe requeyre yow to passe a signature which wee have granted vnto him herevpon with all convenient diligence to the effect he may thereafter informe vs and yow of our benefite or prejudice as wee have directed him; and in so doeing yow shall doe vs acceptable service.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE GREENLAND COMPANIE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas for the vse of our kingdome of Scotland, and for the vpholding of the soope workes there, wee were pleased, at the humble requyst of M^r Nathaniell Wdwart, present master therof, to graunt vnto him, his assignes and partiners, a patent vnder the greate seale of that our kingdome, to tread and make oyle by fishing in Greenland and ilands thervnto adjoyning, without opposition to be made against them by any of our subjects whatsoever; and seing this purpose, both in the tyme of our late deare

father and ours hath bene approved to be just and necessary by our privy counsell in the sayd kingdome, wee have thought good by these presents to will and requyre you not to hinder, or any wayes, directlie or indirectlie, to trouble the sayd Nathaniell Wdwart or his foresaids, either at home in any of our kingdome or abroad in their voyage to and fro the sayd Greenland and ilands therevnto adjoining, or during their aboard there in any of their persons, shipping, or goods; wherein not doubting but yow will obey our direction in this, as yow will expect our pleasure.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon good considerations wee were pleased of a long tyme bypast to signe a signature in favour of one David Alexander, for being our cheefe worke maister for fortifications within that our kingdome, who (as wee are credible informed) hath bene stayed here vpon imployments of the like nature by our right trustie, &c. the Duke of Buckingham: Therefor our pleasure is, that yow cause expd the sayd signature with all diligence according to the tenor thereof; and so wee, &c.—Whythall, the 2 day of Apryle 1627.

TO THE MARQUISE OF HAMILTOUNE.

Right, &c.—Whereas Francis Stewart, sone to the late Earle of Bothuell, hath petitioned vs that in matters which he doeth claime, either by right from his father or otherwise, by provision to any estate or lands which did belong vnto him, he is willing to submitt himselfe to any indifferent freinds, and that wee may pleased to be the arbiter therein; and in regard that our Right, &c. the Earle of Roxbrough (with whom to this purpose wee have conferred) is contentet vpon his part to take the like course, but withall is willing that yow, who are engaged by the like interests, will doe the like, as wee expect yow will, wherevpon wee have thought fitt to acquaint yow herewith, that yow will proceed in the like maner, or otherwise that with all convenient diligence yow acquaint vs with your mynd herein, to the effect wee may resolve what course shall be most fitt to be taken herein: Soe being willing that all things in this purpose should be settled in a faire and freindlie maner.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

Ane other of the same was wrettein to the Earle of Bueleigh, and of the same date.

TO THE EARLE OF MELROS.

Right, &c.—In regard of the many prooffes yow have given in our late deare father's tyme of your affection and sufficiency to doe him service, and of your earnest desyre to doe the like for vs, as wee have seen by your letres, and have been assured of by our right, &c. the Earle of Annandale, considering that evin the best sort of officers may in their charge comitt or omitt some things, which being looked into in the strictnes of law may make them to be censured: That yow may see how confident wee are of the sincerity of your cariage, and to secure yow from any feare or trouble that might arryse by hard constructions of casual errors, notwithstanding that no such thing was demanded by yow, wee have send yow herewith a free discharge for the tyme past, and are verie hopfull that hereafter your travellis in our service will appeare such, by the effects, as may deserve a further testimonie of our favour, which wee expect.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryll 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have given order heretofor that Jhone Anchinmouty and Jhone Livingstone should be satisfied of the fees graunted vnto them by our late deare father, as groomes of his bedchamber

in Scotland, conforme to their warrant vnder the privy seall graunted therevpon : And vnderstanding that our right, &c. the Earle of Annandale had the like place and fee : Therefor our pleasure is, that from henceforth yow pay vnto evrie one of them during their lyftynes, their assignes, or to any having right from them, the said fee of 200^{lib} scottis out of such of our rents and dweties, and at such termes as are appointed in their warrant, and that yow give speciall order to Sir Henry Wardlaw, Sir James Baillie, and James Carmichell to pay vnto them, or ther forsayds, the arrerages due vnto them, or any of them, with all convenient expedition, and the rather because the payement thereof hath bene so long delayed ; and that out of the . . . of the sayd Sir Henry, Sir James, and the sayd James their intronissions with the rents of the principaltie of that our kingdome belonging vnto vs as prince, or out of the readiest moneyes belonging to the same, wherewith they shall now intronitt ; for doeing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE MIDLE MARCHES.

Right, &c.—Haveing had the experience of the sufficiencie of our right, &c. the Viscount Aier to doe vs good service in matters wherein wee have bene pleased to employ him both in this and that our kindomes, Wee are moved in regard thereof, and for the sayd Viscount his further encouragement and enabling vs for our said service to advance him to be one of the Comissioners of the midle slyres of that our kingdome ; it is therefor our pleasure, and wee doe hereby requyre yow, that yow give order for admitting him to be one of the sayd Comissioners, and for receiving him as one of that number in maner as is requisite, or as hath bene accustomed in the like cases : Or otherwise, if there be any necessiey for this cause for rennuing there commission, that yow likewise give order for doeing the same, that his name may be insert therein : For doeing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE CLERK OF THE TAXATIONS.

Trustie, &c.—In regard of the many and good services done unto our late deare father and vs, by the reverend father in God . . . the Bishop of Rosse, and for other good respects at this tyme speciallie moveing vs, wee are gratuslie pleased that the Taxationes granted to vs in October 1625, within the Bishoprik of Rosse, for payement whereof the sayd bishop is lyable, be allowed vnto him for his own vse : And therfor our pleasure is, that yow give vnto him a discharge of the same ; for doeing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE DEPUTIE OF IRELAND.

Right, &c.—Whereas by our letters patents vnder the great seale of that our realme of Ireland, bearing date the 23 of November in the first yeare of our reigne, wee have granted vnto Sir Archibald Achison the office of one of the Masters of our Chancery there dureing our will and pleasure, with the fee of Twentie pouds lafull money of England by the yeare for exerceing of the sayd place, to be payed out of our custome proffites and revennes by our vice-Thesaurer or receiver-generall of that our kingdome for the tyme being, at the feastes of Easter and Michelmes yeaillie, together with all such fees and proffites as vnto the sayd office any way appertaineth, as by the said patent more at large doeth and may appeare ; forasmuch as wee have called from thence the sayd Archibald Achison to be employed in our speciall service, Wee are gratuslie pleased, in respect of the good opinion which wee have conceaved of our servant, Patrik Hannay, one of the clerks of our counsell there, his integritie and abilitie to doe vs service, we have meade choise of him to succede the sayd Sir Archibald, by his consent in the sayd place of Master of the Chancery, and do hereby requyre and authorise yow to make a grant by lettres patents

vnder the greate seale of that our realme, in due forme of law, with advise of some of our learned counsell there from vs, our hieses and successors, vnto the sayd Patrik Hannay, for and during his naturall liif, of the office of one of the Masters of our Chancery in that our realme, with the fee of tuentie ^{lib}- current money of and in England, by the yeare, for exerceing the sayd office, to be payed out of our customes, profittes, and revenues by our Vice-Thesaurer or receaiver-generall for the time being in that our kingdom, at the feasts of Ester and Michalmes yearlie, together with all other fees, profittes, and comodities whatsoever to the sayd office belonging, as is due and accustomed in as ample and beneficiall maner as Thomas Rives, Doctor of Law, or the sayd Sir Archibald Achison, or any other Master of our Chancery, in that our realme hath or ought to enjoye the same; and also to take order that the sayd Patrike Hannay may be sworn and admitted therevnto: Nevertheles our further gracious pleasure is, that if it shalbe and may be lauffull for the sayd Patrik quietlie to hold and enjoy his sayd office of clerk of our counsell there as free lie and beneficially to all intents and purposes as Sir William Vsher, knight, or any other of the clerkes of our counsell there heretofoir hath done or now doeth, by verten of his letters patents, in as large and beneficiall maner as wee have directed by our former letter of the 28 of May in the sayd first yeare of our raigne, without any impeachment or impediment to be given to the sayd Patrik Hannay by the sayd Sir William Vsher or any others from exerceing the said place of clerk of the counsell, or from receaving the fees of all such orders, warrands, petitions, frautis, and other bussines as shalbe by him from time to time presented or dispatched, notwithstanding any pretence to be made by the sayd Sir William Vsher to the contrarie: And last, our pleasure is, that in and by our said letters patents, to be past by vertu hereof, yow make him, the sayd Patrike Hannay, and his hieses free denizons of and in that our kingdom, to the end that he and they may be capable off offices, lands, and hereditaments in that our realme: And these our letters, notwithstanding any misrecitall or other defect, or any instruction or direction to the contrary, these presents, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—Vnderstanding that it pleased our late deare father to grant the guift of your father's Escheat and lyfrent to Sir George Erskine of Innertill, for the payement of your sayd father's whole debtes, and being informed that since the date of that guift so much moneyes is or should have beene raised thereby as might have satisfied the same, and that as yett the lands and lordship of Kyntaire are burthened by some debts contracted [by] your sayd father, wee think it good reason that our sayd father's intention should be accomplished, which was for the releeff of the whole debts: Therfor our pleasure is, that yow and that the sayd Sir George, to whom wee have written to this purpose, take a speedie course for seeing the sayd lands and lordship of Kyntaire exonered of all such debts, or such part thereof as is not yett satisfied; and that in so farr as the benefite arrysing, or which did arryse, by the said guift might and may be extended for the payement of the said whole debts, and that in all things tending to your brother's peaceable enjoying of that estate, provyded vnto him by our sayd father, yow give him your best advyse and assistance, wherein wee doubt not but yow will performe the part of a brother; and as wee have written heretofore to the sayd Sir George for paying of such things as are due vnto Alexander McNaughtone, our servant, our further pleasure is, that yow cause pay vnto him or his assignes, out of the first and readiest rents of that Lordship, all such somes of money as he shall make appeare to have beene disbursed by him, or for which he stands engaged for the vse of your sayd brother, and for the charges of his journeyes and travells in this behalf: Whereof, not doubting of the ready performance (seeing the sayd Alexander hath deserved well of your sayd father), wee bid, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

A Letter to Sir George Erskine of Innertill, to the same effect and in similar terms, of the same date.

TO THE EARLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee were well pleased (according to the course taken by our most Royall progenitors) to ratifie of late a signature of the privileges of our brough of Edinburgh : Being since informed that in the time of our late deare father there were some things properlie belonging vnto vs and vnto some noblemen and others ingrossed in a signature of their privileidges then signed by him, which afterwards was for that cause by his direction stayed from takeing effect : And as wee are willing that our sayd brough of Edinburgh should enjoy all these things which should justlie belong vnto them, soe wee wold be loath that wee or any of our good subjects should be prejudged of our or their right : Therefor our pleasur is, that, haveing called one of our Advocats (to whom wee have written to this purpose of before) vnto yow, and takeing vnto your assistance any of our privy counsell as yow shall thinke fitt, yow peruse the sayd ratification signed by vs, and if yow find any thing comprehended therein which they have not formerlie enjoyed as lafully given them by our predecessors or otherwise directlie acqrued or granted vnto them, and orderlie expd the seales, whereby yow shall find that wee or any person are prejudged in any preceeding right of ours or theirs, lat the sayd ratification be stopped from passing till our further pleasure be knowen, otherwise lat the same be expd with all diligence, according to the tenure thereof : And for your so doeing, &c.—Whythall, the 2 of Apryle 1627.

INSTRUCTIONS from Our Sovereign Lord KING CHARLES vnto Sir ARCHIBALD ACHISON, Knight, as his Majestie's remembrancer of his Exchequer in Scotland, which his Majesty requyes to be directlie performed by the sayd Sir ARCHIBALD, and he to be assisted therein by his highnes' Comissioners of the Exchequer, and all others his majestie's officers and loveing subjects of the sayd kingdome, for his better exercising and enjoying of his sayd place, with all privileges and perquisites belonging vnto any of his dominions, dated the 2 of Apryle 1627.

Imprimis.—It is our royall pleasure that the sayd Sir Archibald Achison, knight, as our Remembrancer foresaid, shall make vp a perfyte Exchequer record, survey, and rent roll of all our rents, manners, lands, and hereditaments, and of all benefices, patronages, first fruits, thrids, and fift pairs thereof, offices, pensions, and provisions, and of the trew extent, retours, and retoured deueties of evrie shyre of the sayd kingdome : That the same being in charge in our sayd Exchequer or accompted officers, may be requyred to collect what is or may grow downe vnto vs hereafter out of the same : And for this purpose wee requyre the Clerke of register and his deputies, Director of the Chancellerie, writter to the privy seale, and all other keepers of the registers, to grant vnto the sayd Sir Archibald and his deputies free access vnto these severall registers to search and wreit out what he and they shall think fitting for our service or benefite.

Item, that he direct proces, sumonds, letters, and executorialls for bringing in to our Exchequer all our rents and casualties when due, and the arrerages thereof, and that he record the acquitances thereof when payed : And also that he direct letters and executorialls against all our accompted officers, famousors, and there suretyes, and that haveing recorded there comparances, he make vse of their accompts, charges, and discharges, in due forme, and acquitances therevpon after payement made thereof.

Item, that he rectifie and keepe all our letters directed to the sayd Comissioners of our Exchequer, and all chequer acts of caution and bounds to be made vnto vs or to our vse, and direct all chequer proces and sumonds, and record all chequer ruells, orders, sentences, and decreets, and cause the same to be duely executed and performed, and to informe our advocats of our prejudice and benefite, that they may persue or defend accordinglie : Requyring them likewise to acquaint the sayd Sir Archibald Achison with all actiones at our instance, and with the proceedings thereof, that he thereafter may acquaint vs with the same, as wee have requyred him to doe.

Item, that he make a chequer roll of the names of all rebels, convicted persones, and fugitive from the law, and of the registrations of all homeings, as well criminall as civil, and of relaxations thervpon, if any be, that our Thesaurer and Commissioners of Exchequer may be acquainted therewith, whereby to cause compound or collect the escheats due, and none others: And for that effect wee doe hereby requyre that the clerk of register and his deputies, all shirriffis and shirriff's clerks, and all other keepers of registers of homeings, to cause writt out and send to our sayd remembrancer yearlie at Whytsonday a perfyte roll of all such homeings and relaxations as is or shall be hereafter registrated by them: And also our Justice Clerke and his deputies, and all Judges criminall, a perfyte roll of all rebels, convicted persones, and fugitives from the lawes as have bene denounced or convicted by or befor them, or declared fugitives.

Item, that he make vp a chequer record of all fynes and penalties incurred or to be incurred to our vse, that the same may be collected accordynglie, or otherwise compounded for by the sayd Commissioners of our Exchequer: And for that effect wee doe hereby requyre all our Judges, as well criminall as civile, and all Justices of peace from tyme to tyme, to cause transcrybe their severall roll of fugitives and convicted persones, and of the fynes and penalties imposed and adjudged or forefaulted befor them, or any of them respectyvely, and to send the sam vnto our sayd remembrancer evrie sommer and vinter session hereafter, to be recorded in our Exchequer, that the Escheates, fynes, and soumes of money thereby due vnto vs may be requyred to be collected, or otherwise compounded for to our vse.

May it please your Majesty—

These are the fyue instructions given by your Majesty vnto Sir Archibald Achison, knight, as your Majestie's remembrancer of your Exchequer of Scotland, for the better discovery and inbringing of your rents and casualties of that kingdome, and accounting for the same by the accounted officers thereof.

TO THE COUNSELL.

In regard we have gevin such ordour as the estate of the tyme can well permit for secureing of this our kingdome and of Irland from the suddan invadeing thairof by great forces prepared in Spayne, wherof we ar credible informed, and for sending vpon that coast a second fleet to interrupt ther designes, as also for sending furth a strong Navy of our owin, and of our subjects' schips, both to prevent any conjunction of forces betwixt Flanders and them, and for guarding the coasts here as caus shall requyr: And being lykwyse informed that ther intentions ar aganst that our kingdome, wher they presume of a partie: We therfor being no lesse solicitous of the saftie therof then of our others kingdomes, have thoght good effectuallie to requyre, that with all possible diligence, yow, by the advyse of such of our counsell of warre who shall happin to be within the kingdome, give ordour for secureing the coasts therof in such maner as the present estate therof can permit, and for the doeing of all other things that may contribute for the saftie thairof, as any sudden occasion shall requyre: And in regard of the great neid we have at this tyme of some seafareing men for sayling of these shippis that we ar to send from hence, Our pleasur is, that yow vse your best meanes (our owin shipping being first supplied and accommodated) to leavie 500 able seamen, as sa maney can be spared within that our kingdome, to be sent to Newcastle, and from thence to be transported thither, wher our Navy or fleet shalbe for the tyme, or vtherwayes to be transported any vtherwyse as yow shall think most fitt to serve in this voyage at such rates.

And that yow advertise ws with diligence what we may expect heirin. Which recommending to your, &c.—Whythall, 2 Aprile 1627.

To all and sundrie whom there presents sall come to passe, know yow that William Duff, Saynour, the bearer heereof, is taken vpe by me, Sir James Scott, knight, captayne of one of his Ma^{ties} companies, which companie now in gareson at _____ attending his Ma^{ties} service: In consideratioun wherof, theas ar to will and require yow, and every one of yow to whose care and charge the leveyng of men is committed, that yow suffer the said William Duff to passe and repasse within and without the priviledges of the citties of London and Westminster for the dispatche of his lawfull effaires, without oney trouble or molestation; and also to passe in the same maner thorow all vther citties, villages, schyres, and countyes wntill his arrivall wnto the sayd company; for doeing wherof, yow and every of yow sall obldige mee to serve yow in the lyke cases. Given vnder my seale and subscriptione at Whithall the _____ day of Apryle 1627.

Right trusty and welbeloved cousen and counsellour, we greet yow well.—Wheras we have been latlie given to wnderstand of the infortunat killing of Sir Johne Weymes, knight, our then high shireff of the Countye of Fermanoche in that our kingdome, by somme of the bishop of Clogheris' servantis, Our pleasure is, and so we will and command yow, that such bond and recognisances as ar entered vnto our vse by Humphry Galbraith, William Galbraith, gen^t, William Cokburne, gen^t, James Fortune, David Hodge, Dowgall McCabe, or ony of thame, or by ony other persone or persones, for their or any of their appeirances at the nixt Sessioun, or else to be holden for the County of Fermanoghe, or at our cheif place in Dublin, to answer for the killing of the said Sir Johne Weymes, may be by yow called for, and duellie extracted in our Exchequer in that our kingdome, and duellie wrettin forth saed and executed of the said pairties, or ony of tham, sall happin to appear according to the conditions of the said bond or recognizances: And that yow doe without delay cause to be made on or more effectuell grant or grauntes therof, and of the somes memored therein by the advise of some of our learned Councell there, vnto our welbeloved servant, Sir Williame Irvin, knight, wpon whom we ar graciouslie pleased to bestow the samen as a token of our princelie favour wnto him for his long and faythfull service done wnto our late deare father and ws: And this our letter.

CHANCELOUR LORD OF PRIVIE SEALE, MARQUES OF HUNTLE AND TRAQUAIR, CURATOURS OF THE
ESTATE OF THE DUK OF LENOX IN SCOTLAND.

Right trustie and beloved Cousen and Counsellour, Right trustie and beloved Cousenis and Counsellours, we greet yow well.—Wheras we have wnderstood of the great care and panes taken by the Dutchesse of Lenox in managing the effaires of the estate of her sonne in this our kingdome, wherin schoe hath given a good proof of her affection for his well, and in regard he haith of late given a comission wnto her, with consent of yow who ar his curatours for the managing of his estate and effaires within that our kingdome: Our pleasur is, that yow signe the same, and that yow give wnto her, or such sall have pouer frome her to deall in the said effaires, all the lawfull favour and speedie assistance that covenantlie can be given by yow, which we will tak as a peculiar service done wnto our selves: So we bid yow fairwell.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wrette vnto yow of befor in favours of Sir James Baillie of Lochend, knight, for assisting him by your best advise and helpe in raising eight thousand pounds sterling by your

best advise, for leveing certaine companies of men to be sent to our onckle the King of Denmark : And being informed that ther is no part of our Taxation as yet come in which is equivalent to that which the sayd Sir James hath already disbursed in our affaires : Wee are therefor well pleased that yow grant in our name to him and his cautioners acts and orders, not only for securing him for disburseing the principall sommes, but also for the annuall thereof, vntill so much of our present Taxationis doeth come in as will equall the sayd Sir James his disbursments and receipts ; and that yow assure him by act of counsell that he shalbe no way burdened with no further payment then what already he hath in chaarge from vs and yow, vntill he first pay him selfe and releefe his creditors and cautioners of that which shalbe owing vnto them, or wherewith they are likely to be charged for sommes of money contracted by the sayd Sir James in our service : And to this effect our pleasure is, that no further warrants for answering of more moneyes be gevin to him without a speciall direction from vs : Soe recommending the premisses the more seriouslie vnto your care, in regard of the sayd Sir James, his free vndergoeing these burdens for advancement of our sayd affaires, &c.—Whythall, the eleventh of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that Sir James Lermonth of Balcomy, knight, and his prediessors had these many zeares bypast certaine tackes of the Tithes of some lands belonging vnto him, paying some victuall and silver dwtye for the same, and that his father did acqyre a new tacke thereof, which, being by him putt in trust to the late Jhone Lord Lyndsay, was never redelyvered by reason of his death before the same could be done : His humble suite vnto vs is that a course may be taken for his releeffe herein according to equitie : Therfor, in regard that this is a bussines of tithes which may be incident to your comission, and for that he offers a dewetie vnto vs at your sight for the said Tithes, Our pleasure is, that yow cite befor yow the now Lord Lyndsay, willing him to exhibite the sayd take, or if he refuse to do the same, and that the sayd Sir James prove the tenure of the same, that yow vse your best enleavours that the abstracting or leasing of that wright be not a meanes to seclud him of that wherof he or his prediessors were lauffully possessed.—Whythall, the eleventh of Apryle 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATS.

Trustie, &c.—Though being willing that all questionable titles betwixt vs and our subjects might be agreed in a quyet maner with least harme and trouble vnto them, Wee were pleased to give a comission for that purpose, yett wee did not intend thereby to losse the benefite of our right : Therefor our pleasure is, whensoever any matter is debaited befor the comissioners, wherervnto in your judgment yow think convenient or requyred therevnto yow represent vnto them the state thereof, that either then a valuable consideration may be allowed for the same, or at least befor wee approve what is done, that it may be remembered and considered when wee have occasion to treat with the partie.—Whythall, the eleventh of Apryle 1627.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Having considered of a petition presented vs in name of diverse of the gentry, being well pleased with their earnestnes to further that which wee have designed for their good and our service, for advancement wherof they have propounded a course vnto vs, wherein wee have signified our pleasure to the Comissioners appointed for that purpose : And wee speciallie recomend vnto yow both that and all meanes which may tend to the advancement of that which wee intend for the good of our subjects, and for the increase of our revenues by effectuating these things contained in the comission for that purpose :

And because the gentry may have occasion either in the whole or in some number to meete for consulteing what is necessary for this purpose, Wee desyre yow, vpon entreatie of Sir James Lermonth and Sir James Lokheart, who have bene petitioners in their names, to grant or procure what licence yow think may lauffully or convenientlie be granted for that effect : And so, being confident of your affection and endeavours to this end, wee bid, &c.—Whythall, the eleventh of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Being informed of the sufficiency of our right, &c. the Earle Marshall, and vnderstanding perflytly his affection to our service, wee are moved in regard thereof : And for the sayd Earle, his further encouragement and enabling vs for our sayd service to advance and promote him to be one of your Exchequer in that our kingdome ; it is therfor our will and pleasure, and wee doe hereby requyre yow, that, haveing administrated vnto him the oath accustomed in the like cause, yow admitt him to be one of the Comissioners of our sayd Exchequer, receaving him in that place as one of your number : For doeing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 11 day of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have bene pleased to grant a warrant for leaving (levying) some regiments for the service of our vnclē the King of Denmark, wee are verie desyrus that yow wold vse your best meanes for this effect by any lauffull and convenient furtherance that you can devyse, or that shalbe propounded to yow by the Colonells of the sayd regiments : And because wee wold be verie loath that they should incurre any danger in their passage at sea, Our pleasure is, that yow give order to our three shippes of warr for waiting of them over ; But because wee have agreed with our right, &c. the Earle Marshall, who had formerlie from vs the command of the sayd shippes, that he should maintaine and owtreake them at his own charges, paying vnto vs the thrid part of all pryces that he should happen to take therewith, wee paying out of the same the charges necessarie for maintaining the saids Shippes with there present furniture that he is to receave by Inventarie, and to delyver backe vnto vs at the expyryng of his charge : In regard wee can not burden him withe the expenses of this that is a particular service to vs, wee will that they be furnished forth with all provision at our charges for this service, vnles the sayd Earle will vndertake it at as easie a raite as otherwise yow can have it done : And thereafter wee will that the sayd shippes, after the performeing of this service, be delyvered vnto him, to be comanded and enjoyed by him according to the grant that wee have made to him therevpon : And soe wee bid yow fairewell.—From our Court att Whythall, the 11 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed of the sufficiencie of our trustie, &c. Sir Jhone Steuart of Traquair, knight, and of his affection to our service, wee are moved in regard thereof, and for the sayd Sir Jhone, his further encouragement and enabling [vs] for our sayd service, to advance and promote him to be one of our Privy Counsell in that our kingdome : It is therfor our will and pleasure, and wee doe hereby requyre yow that, haveing administrated vnto him the oath accustomed in the like cases, yow admitt him to be one of our Privy Counsell, receaving him in that place as one of your number : For doeing, &c.—Whythall, the 11 of Apryle 1627.

Anē other of the same to the Exchequer for admitting him one of the comissioners thereof, of the same date.

TO THE COMISSIONERS FOR THE SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Having bene humble petitioned in name of some noblmen and gentelmen within that our kingdome that a course might be taken to prevent a too high estimation of tithes in the quantity pryces of victuall, whereby our grations designe that evrie proprietar of lands may have his own tithes at a reasonable rate (which is so acceptable vnto them), may as they feare be frustrated: To the end it may the better take effect, they have propounded vnto vs that wee should first buy the same from the titulars, and thereafter dispose of them to the proprietares, who alleadged that they can have no perfyt right thereof vnles it be from vs, by acknowledgement of a valuable consideration given for the same: And though wee intend no way hereby to disappoint any titular of that which is due to him, but that he be satisfied according as they agred befor he part with the possession of the same, yet wee like well of this proposition as conceaving it without any apparant disadvantage to the Titulars, the more certaine way to secure the proprietares, and for our benefite and service, which wee have heard discussd both pro and contra, and find many reasons for it in our judgement, and but few or none against it: Wee therfor wish yow to proceed after that maner, vnles yow have speciall reason to the contrarie, whereof wee will be advertised in case yow can find a better way: And since wee see yow are well pleased that the church being provyded, evrie proprietar may have his own tithes, and wee ane increase of our revenue, Wee thinke yow should all be glad of any meanes that may best conduce to that end: And it is our speciall pleasure that such as are to purchase their tithes be well vsed by haveing them reasonable valued, both in quantitie and pryces: Soe recomending the premisses vnto your speciall care as a purpose which wee cheefflie respect, &c.—Whythall, the 11 of Apryle 1627.

Trustie, &c.—Wee greete yow well, and doe hereby requyre yow prepar a bill fitt for our signature for the renewing of our comission vnder our greate seale of England, bearing date the 12 of May in the first yeare of our raigne, vnto our comissioners therein mentioned, for the affaires of our kingdome of Ireland, and to our trustie, &c. Sir William Alexander, Knight, our secretarie, resident here for our realme of Scotland, and M^r Robert Jhonstoune of London, Esqyre, in like maner and with the like fees as our former comission was, in regard of there integrety and abilites to doe vs service, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.—Whythall, the 11 of Apryle 1627.

To our trustie and welbeloued Sir Robert Heath, knight, our
attourney generall.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—In regard, as wee are ereditible informed, of the long and faithfull services done vnto our late deare father by our right, &c. the Lord Melvill and his father, and for that he is willing to surrender in our favour the regalitie of the barrony of Moneymaill, we have bene well pleased at his humble sute made vnto vs to have his title of honor, togidder with the saidis lands resigned in our hands, for new infuement thereof to be given vnto him, and to any of his hieres male vpon whom he intendeth after him to confer his estate, to hearken vnto this his demand: And therfor our pleasure is, that yow draw vp a grant thereof to the purpose abouespecified, with any other writtis needfull for this effect, in due and lauffull forme, and that the signature being marked by yow may be sent vnto vs with all convenient diligence, to the effect wee cause expedie the same: Soe wee, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—In regarde that in our comission to yow Wee were pleased to expresse our selfe for adjoining vnto you at any tyme thereafter any few persons of whom wee should make choice : And now, being crediblie informed of the sufficiency of Sir Andrew Ker, Sir James Lokhart of Ley, and of James Galloway, and of their affection for our service, for the good of that our kingdome : Therfor our pleasure is, and wee doe hereby requyre you, that you admitt them to be of your number : And for your soe, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF S^T ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Being informed that M^r Andrew Lermonth, minister at kirk of Saling, is willing for diverse reasons to remove him selfe from thence, and that he hath made a good progresse in the study of divinity, whereby he may be both more steadble to a more frequent and greater auditory, and thereby the more inable him selfe in his profession : Therfor wee have thought good to recomend him vnto yow, desyring that he be provyded to the first benefice vaiking at our or your presentation, when he shall desyre the same : So wee bid yow, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas it pleased our late deare father to give a precept for answering of moneyes for building and repairing of our Castell of Lochmaben, and being credibly informed that our right, &c. Jhone, Earle of Annandale, keeper thereof (who hath already received a pairt of these moneyes), did to this effect buy diverse materials, and that the said Castell being repaired at our charge is thereafter to be kept in good order by him, Wee being vnwilling that the sayd materials should be lost, or that the sayd work, which vpon good consideration was intended to be finished by our sayd late deare father, should be neglected : Therefor, and in regard of the scarcyty of moneyes for the present in our Exchequer, Our pleasure is, that yow cause pay vnto the sayd Earle and his assignes so much moneyes, out of the first and readiest of the fynes to be leavyed or arrysing by catell prohibited to be transported out of that our kingdome, as yow shall find to be vnsatisfied of the sayd precept ; ffor doing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COUNTESSE OF LOTHIAN.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have appoynted some of our Judges and Lawyers there to try and send vnto vs a trene certifiat of the estate of your house, after they have perused the wryttings concerning the same, whereby the agreement made by yow for your joynture and children's interest therein (of which wee doe well approue) may be the better performed vnto yow, whereof wee will have a speciall care after wee shall be more particularlie acquainted therewith, by such as wee have trusted therein : Our pleasure therfor is, that yow conferr with our sayd Judges and Lawyers, and acquaint them with all the passages concerning the sayd house, and the interests of all parties therein : And for the better effectuating therof, wee doe hereby requyre yow to show the whole evidents concerning thesayd house vnto our sayd Judges and Lawyers, as they shall requyre the same for the better enabling to make a perfyt certifiat of the same,

whereby wee may the better provyd for a faire and quiet conclusion betwene yow and all parties and creditors interested therein.—Whythall, the 14 of Apryle 1627.

A letter to the Earl of Nithsdale upon the same subject, and to confer with the Dowager Countess of Lothian, of the same date.

A letter to the Advocate upon the same subject, and to confer with all parties interested, of the same date.

TO THE EARLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas the Earle of Marshall hath not only done vnto vs diverse acceptable services, but also is employed by vs in some other chargeable employments fitt to be encouraged and supplied by our royall bountie, and wee haveing also considered that the said Earle may be vsefull vnto vs in discovering and prosecuting against the vsurers and concealers or withholders of the ancient Taxations preceeding the yeare of God 1617 yeares : Therefore wee are fullie resolved to grant vnto the sayd Earle and his assigneyes the just and equall half of all such fynes, penalties, and sommes of money forfeited or incurred by any of the sayd offenders, vsurers, takers of forehand annuelrent, or exorbitant annuell, or concealers and withholders of any pairt of the sayd ancient Taxations preceeding the sayd yeare of God 1617 ; and wee doe hereby will and requyre yow, with all convenient diligence, to cause prosecute the sayd offenders in our name, and at our advocat's instance, for our interest befor any competent Judge or Judges, criminallie or civillie, as shalbe thought most agreeable to the lawes and practike of that our kingdome ; and that yow speedily collect the sayd soumes, concealed taxations, penalties, and fynes soe to be incurred, forfeited, or aljudged, and to pay and deliver the sayd one-half thereof vnto the sayd Earle Marshall, and that the sayd soumes, fynes, and penalties be not compounded but by the speciall advyse and consent of the sayd Earle or his deputies, sufficientlie authorised for that effect ; for it is our gracious intention that he may have the just half of the sayd compositions, and reallie receive the intended fruicts of our sayd Royall bountie, during the space of 5 yeares nixt ensueing the date hereof, and further during our pleasure, vntill the same shalbe by vs discharged : And our further pleasure is, that all warrants that shall happen to be given hereafter during the sayd space to any other person concerning this purpose be stopped from passing the seales ; all which wee, &c.—Whythall, the 14 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas our servant Sir Thomas Dischington haveing desyred our guift of all the byrunne few and blensh deweties, annuellrents, and casualties of all church lands, thrids and tuo pairts omitted rents not given vp or not payed into our vse, temporalities of benefices and mortified lands, and generallie whatsoever other things pertayning or that may appartayne vnto vs, which belong vnto the church, of all yeares and termes, resting vnpayed since the Coronation of our late deare father within that our kingdome, as also of all such soumes of money as are mentioned in any acts of caution vpon suspensions for making the rebels escheate goods forthcoming, and also such soumes of money as are contayned in any acts of cautionerie in the bookes of adjournall, or other bookes whatsoever, by pairties acted to vnderly the law, or there cautioners, the hieres and executors, and are not as yett collected or payed to our vse since the tyme of our said late deare father's coronation, offering without any charge to vs to pay in the said Exchequer for our vse a full thrid of what shall be by him soe recovered, thereby bringing to our Crowne a yearlie and valuable augmentation of our rents more than wee or our predecessors have had of a long tyme heretofor : Wee were pleased the more willinglie to give way vnto his demand, both in regard of the

benefite intended for vs, and to gratifie him who hath bene a long and faithfull servant : And therefor, being willing that this purpose may be prosecuted for the causes abovesaid, our pleasure is, that yow draw vp, the most sure and lafull forme that can be devysed by yow, a guift of severall guifts of the particulars abouenamed in favours of the sayd Sir Thomas, to be prosecute by him or his deputies in our name, and att the instance of yow our advocats in our name, and that in the prosecution thereof yow give him your best and readiest advyse and assistance, which wee will take as acceptable service done vs.—[No date].

TO THE KEEPER OF THE GREAT SEAL OF ENGLAND.

Right trustie and welbeloued councillor, Wee, &c.—Whereas humble suit hath been made wnto vs by Johne Patersone, Master of arts, who is borne within our kingdome of Scotland, that he may be denizen in this our kingdome of England, Wee are weel pleased to grant wnto him his requyst, and therefore have thought good by these presents to requyre yow cause our letters patents to be drawne vp to him for that effect, and that zow putte our great seale therevnto ; in whiche behalfe these presents shall be wnto zow a sufficient warrant.—Whytchall, the 26 of Apryle 1627.

[TO THE CHANCELLOR.]

Right, &c.—Whereas humble suite hath bene made vnto vs in the name of the Lady of Sir Jhone Steuart of Meffein, knight, that shoe might have an augmentation of that former modification made by yow of late for hir mainteance, in regard that by contract of mariage and other evidences she was, in case of his death, provyded to a further estate then that which was soe modified, according to the petition which wee have sent yow herewith inclosed : Therfor our pleasure is, that yow consider therof, and if yow find not that former modification to be sufficient for her maintenance, and for defraying of charges and debtes necessarlie contracted by her, that you tak such further course for her satisfaction as you in your judgement shall think most reasonable and just.—Whytchall, the 27 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LITHGOW.

Right, &c.—Wee have bene informed by your letters and the bearer's declaration how yow have proceeded with diligence according to our Commission given to you and your assessors, which course wee doe approve, and are willing that you cause put your sentence concerning the tuo Shippis already adjudged to be prizes by yow in due execution : As for these other Shippis which are not yett adjudged or cleared, seing that yow are sufficientlie authorised by your sayd Commission to proceed according to the lawes of that our kingdome provyded in the like cases, or according to the lawes and custome observed in this our kingdome, or by forraine Princes or states : And seing you have so many wayes to resolve all such doutes as can arryse, we are confident that yow will proceed with as much diligence for determining concerning the sayd Shippis and goodes as convenientlie may be done, that neither our subjects nor strangers have just cause to complaine : And being informed that you are mynded when any proces is concluded to cause draw vp the same in latine, wee doe therein lykwise approve your course, and desyre yow proceed accordingly, to the effect the same may be shouen, if neede be, to any forrain prince or state : And our further pleasure is, that yow be carefull that the Shippis and goods already adjudged, or which shall happen hereafter to be adjudged prizes, be rightlie distributed, according to the lawes and custome of that or this our kingdome, and that from time to tyme yow cause delyver the shaire which shalbe due vnto vs to Sir James Baillie, knight, Thesaurer for our Marine causses, to be disposed of by him as he hath direction from vs :

And whereas yow complaine that some persones doe encroache vpon the office of admiraltie entrusted at this tyme to yow, as wee are leath that any having just right to any pairte therof should be wronged, soe one the other pairt wee are verie willing that yow should be carefull for mainteining the priviledges in any maner of way belonging therto, wherein wee are most willing that you have all the benefite that the lawes of that our kingdome can afford vnto yow.—Whythall, the 28 of Apryll 1627.

PRECEPT TO THE THESAURER DEPUTY.

It is our speciall pleasure that you cause pay vnto Charles Murray the accustomed fees aud allowances as was in the tyme of our late deare fater for the bringing hither of four hondered moutons for our vse, and that this be done with all diligence : Soe, &c.—Whythall, the 28 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE BISHOPPE OF GALLOWAY.

Reuerend, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the milne and baillirie of Penninghame, belonging to the Lands of Claire, purchased of late by our right trustie, &c. the Earll of Galloway, is not as yet disposed by yow as superior thereof vnto the sayd Earll : And in regard that at our desyre he did settle with Alexander Steuart concerning some differences betweene them, wee are the rather inducd to desyre yow that yow show him herein all the lafull favour that is convenient, and therfor our desyre is, that yow make vnto him such sufficient right thereof as can be lafullie done, and as may be most agreeable to the custome of your predecessors of befor concerning the sayd milne and baillirie, either as parcell of the said lands, or otherwise : And as in this, soe in any other questionable mater betweene yow at this tyme or which shall happen hereafter, that yow settle with the sayd Earll in the most freindly maner as may be most convenientlie done, which wee will tak as a speciall pleasure done vnto vs.—Whythall, the 28 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have bene humblie petitioned of late by our own right, &c. the Earll of Galloway, in name of the widow and orphanes of one Alexander Steuart, lately killed by William Gordon of Penninghame (who is fugitive for that slaughter), that the sayd Earle might have our guift of his lyfrent and escheate for the vse of the sayd widow and orphanes : Though wee doe verrie much commiserat there estate, and likwell of the sayd Earle his care herein, yett we wold not absolutlie determine in such a cause which is so proper to be considered off by yow, but are willing that yow tak such a course for causing satisfaction be given to the sayd Earle for the vse of the said widow and orphanes as can be most convenientlie and lafullie done, for our desyre is that he may have all lafull and speedie favour herein, leaving the maner how and when it should be done vnto yow.—Whythall, the 28 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our leat deare fater and ws at diverse tymes to wreat effectualle vnto the Archebishope of Glesgow for setling an sufficient and able preacher at the churche of Munkland, at the presenting of him by Sr James Cleeland, knight, Seing he was crediblie informed that he was the onlie patrone thereof, as by his letter may appeare ; notwithstanding thereof, and (as wee are lykwyse informed) of the said Sr James his reddnesse to present a sufficient man for this purpose, that kirke hath bene of a

long tyme destitute of ane pastor, whereby the parishoners hathe not hard the word of God, nor have received the sacraments so often and not so commodiously as at former tymes: And being lyke wyse informed that, from charges from zow, suspensions have been reased thereupon at the instance of the L. Boyde, Our pleasure therefore is, that with all convenient diligence the same may be discussed, to the effect that, anie questions betuixt the said S^r James and anie other person pretending right to the said patronage being cleared, the said kirke may be provyded, That thereafter the paroshiners may have no just cause to complaine: And in the meane tyme wee think it fitte, if there be not some specielle reason to the contrarie, that the patrone formallie in possession should enjoye the title therof till the title be cleared: So not doubting bot that zow will the rather be carefull in this in regarde of our said father's and our recommendations of this said businesse, Wee bidde zow fairweell.—Whythall, the 29 of Aprile 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LITHCOWE.

Right, &c., being informed that Johne Livingstone, sometyme one of our late deare father's bed-chamber, procured ane graunt for terme of his lyfe from our Richt, &c. the late duke of Richmond, for being his vice admiralte within certain bounds of the river of Tay and some parts adjacent in that our kingdome, wherof for ane long tyme he hathe bene in possession: And wee being most willing that anie thing formerly conferred by the said Duke wpon our said father's service should stand in force, as was first intended by him, Our will is, that zow for your intrest continue him during his said lyfe tyme in the peaceable enjoying the benefites and priviledges belonging to that office in those bounds, according as others might or may doe, having the lyke graunt or right from our said cosen, for we have been the rather induced to wreat to zow in regarde the said Johne hathe bene ane long aud faithfull servant to our said late father.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras our right, &c. the Earle of Kellie hath caused present a signature for being exped vnder our hand ratefyng a disposition made by him in favour of M^r Alexander Morison, one of the Senators of our Colledge of Justice: Though wee being verie willing to showe him all such favour therein as be lauffulle and convenientlie granted by vs without our prejudice, yett in regard of your comission it being a purpose proper to be considered off you, Our pleasure is, that you peruse the sayd signatour, and if yow find the same be grounded vpon the original infetments, and not to prejudice vs in the course now in hand concerning the commission of surrenders, that yow cause exped the same through the seales, according to the custome observed in the like cases; or otherwise, that the same be referred, and thereafter exped as abouesaid. Soe wee bid, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c., humble suite hath bene made vnto vs by our right, &c. the Earle of Annandale that licence may be given for transporting of catell from his lands in Ireland through some parts there vnto this our kingdome, in regard his tennents can have no other meanes to pay him his rents than by the selling of them here: Therefor seing wee think his demand reasonable, Our pleasure is, that yow grant a licence vnto Charles Murray, and to Thomas Litle, his servant, for landing such catell as they shall bring from the sayd Earle his lands to Porpatrik, and that they may carie them vnto this our kingdome,

provyding that they be entred in the custome bookes at the sayd port, and withall that sufficient suretie be given vnto yow, that vnder colour of the sayd catell none other be transported from that our kingdome. So, &c.—Whythall, 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COUNCILL.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed of the difficulties in raising the full number of these forces intended to be sent vnto our onkel the King of Denmark, and how that diuerses persones have no meanes at home whereby to maintaine them selves, wold willingly imbrace the conditiones condiscended vpon, if soo they could in the meane tyme be protected from their creditors, to whom by that meanes there might possible be a greater hope that satisfaction should be made then otherwise by the sayd persons their sheltering them selves within the kingdome without the benefite to vse meanes to relieue them selves from extreame necessities, much lesse to find any occasion whereby to satisfie their saids creditors, In regard whereof a motion hath bene made vnto vs for taking the same vnto our consideration; but it being a purpose of so great consequence (the necessity of a supplie for our said onkle vpon the one pairt much moving us, and vpon the other a constant resolution in vs never to hinder the due course of justice), Wee have therfor thought most fitt to refer the same wholie vnto your serious considerations, being willing that you show vnto all such persones who would willinglie imbrace the sayd conditiones all such favour as can be lauffullie and convenientlie granted, whereby the sayd creditors may not have just reason to complain, nor they be barred from so good a purpose: For doeing whereof you shall have any further warrant you can requyre of vs: And so wee bid, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

PRECEPT TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

Whereas our right, &c. Robert, Earle of Nithsdale, hes resigned in our favours his right and entres which he had by our former grant given by vs vnto him of the soume of 3000^{li} sterling money out of our Lordships of Dumfermling, Rosse, Ardmanoch, and Ettrick forrest: And wee being most willing that he shalbe in no worse case for the sayd surrender, have thought good to grant vnto him the like soume to be payed vnto him, or any of his creditors, out of the taxationes: Our will and pleasure therfor is, that yow answer and make payment vnto him vnto _____, who hath lent and advanced the sayd soume of 3000^{li} vnto the sayd Earle for the furthering of our service, and that out of your intromission with our Taxationes granted to vs by our estates in October 1625, whereanent thise, with his acquittance, shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas by our late comission wee have declared that it is our desyre, for good reasons known vnto vs to deale for the surrenders of regalities and heritable offices, and being credibly informed that none of that nature can be so vsefull for our service as that of the Cannongate: And finding Sir William Ballenden verie willing to take a course for our satisfaction therein, wee have written to such as wee have nominate to vnderstand his right, and to consider of such other things as wee committed to them concerning him; and he having plainly declared vnto vs that there hath bene some speches with yow for the sayd regalitie for releeff thereof, and other sureties yow have of his lands and of cautioners for a soume of money that he and they stand addetted to you, Wee have thought good earnestlie to desyre yow to supersede the calling for of your moneyes at this time, and for the space of one year: And this

wee doe the more assuredlie expect at your hands, seing (as wee are credible informed) you have sufficient suretie for your moneyes, for wee are confident that betweene this terme now ensweing and Whitsunday following wee shall determine with him, and in the meane tyme wee will tak this course to him as a special favour done to vs, whereof wee will not be vnmyndfull when occasion shall offer whereby to doe yow good. So, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Seing wee have declared by our Comission that one of our speciall desyres is to deale and give reasonable satisfaction for the surrenders of regalities and heritable offices; and vnderstanding that there is none of that nature so vnnesessarie for vs and our service, if either wee should be in person in that our kingdome, or otherwise to have occasion to command attendence vpon our Counsell there, as the regalitie of the Cannongate superiorite thereof, and other liberties belonging therevnto, finding Sir William Ballenden most willing to give vs satisfaction therein : Our pleasure is, that you consider of his right and tytle therevnto, and of the benefites and other advantages that may thereby redound vnto vs ; as also that yow tak to your consideration a band given by our late deare father to Sir Louis Ballenden, his grandfather, which hath the rather induced vs to take this soumer way of determining with him ; and thereafter that you certifie vs what yow find in both the sayds particulars, and of your opinions what yow think fitt for vs to doe therein, that wee may resolve what course to take concerning the same : Soe, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Being informed that Jhone Livingtone of Delappie is of aegge to choise his curators, and therein doeth only desyre such benefite as other minors have, and seing (as wee are likewise informed) he is to make choise of his neare kinsmen, who are men of good qualite : Therfor our pleasure is, that he enjoy all privilegedes vsuall in the like kynd, being conforme to the lawes of that our kingdome, whereof wee should be sorrie that any of our good subjects should in any wayes be defrauded.—Whythall, the 29 Apryle 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Haveing vnderstood your care and diligence in all things that might tend to the advancement of that service which wee were pleased to recomend vnto yow, wee doe render yow heartie thanks for the samen, not doubting but yow will continue so till the worke be brought to perfection : And for the better strenthning of you for this purpose, wee are content that yow conueene some few such noblemen and others whom yow conceave to be well affected to our service, and to vnderstand any particular therof you are to treat from tyme to tyme as occasion doeth requyre, that yow may deliberat togidder of the best wayes and meanes how to effectuat the same : And so being confident that yow will vse still all your best endeavours herein, &c.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas William Hay hath humbly petitioned vs that, in regard he hath beene at much more charges in causing search clay within that our kingdome, and dealing with diverse persons abroad for bargaining for the same then hitherto he hath receaved benefit, by the grant therof made in the tyme of

our late deare father to one William Craford and him, a greate pairt of the yeares whereof are already expyred: Therefor, and for the better recovery of his losses herein, he desyreth that the sayd grant may be renued, contayning such number of yeares as were in the former: Though wee have conceaved his demand to be verie reasonable, yett wee have thought good to referre the same vnto your consideration: And therefor our pleasure is, that if yow find the sayd grant fitt to be renued, that yow cause the same be done, and exped the greate Seale with all convenient diligence, granting such number of yeares and such priviledges as yow shall think expedient.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Thought wee be verie well perswaded of the good affection of yow all, for the furthering of that work wherewith wee have entrusted yow by our comission, yett considering withall what diversity of opinions may be amongst so many, evrie one, thogh sometymes by diverse wayes, stryving to come to one end: Wee desyre, whensoever any new overture is propounded, that it be first debattell amongst your selves, and thereafter, if yow can not agree therypon amongst your selves, that yow acquaint vs with the severall opinions, and with the reasons for the samen, vnder the hands of such as intertane them, that wee may thereafter declare our pleasure, for by this meanes the service shalbe les hindered by attending answeres from such as repaires towardes vs: And wee doe earnestlie recomend vnto that particular respect sett asyd, yow may in one harmonie, haveing no thing befor your eyes but the good of the Church, of the Crowne, and of the kingdome in generall joyn together for the advancement of our service.—Whythall, the 29 of Apryle 1627.

TO THE COMISSIONERS OF THE SURRENDERIS.

Ry^t Trustie and weilbelovett Consens & Counsallours, and trusty and weilbeloued, we great yow weil thocht we ar very weil perswaded of the good affection of yow all for the forderance of that wark wherewith we have intrusted yow by our Comission, yett considering what deversiteis of oppiniones may be among yow, evrie on, thocht by diverse wayes, stryving to come to one end, we desyre when any new overture is proponit, that it may be debattell amange your selves; and therefter, if yow can not aggree therypon, that yow mak ws acquant with the severall oppiniones and with the reasons for the same, vnder the hands of such as manteanes thame, and that by our trustie and weilbeloved Sir Ar^d Achison, to whome in our judgment, knowing perfytlly the groundis and natour of the said Commission, we have gevin speciall instruction concerning the same, that we may therefter declar our plesure, and we doe earnestlie recomend vnto yow that, particulars sett apart, yow may in one harmony, haveing nothing befor your eyes bot the good of the Church, of our Crowne, of the kingdome in generall, joyne together for the advancement of our service: So we, &c.—Whythall, 3 of May 1627.

PRECEPT TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

It is our plesure if vpon occasion concerning our service we shalbe pleased to send for Sir Ar^d Achison to repair vnto our Court, or vtherwyse, if he sall happen to be sent vnto ws by our Comissioners for the Tithes concerning speciall effeiris of that Commission, that yow pay vnto him out of the rediest of these moneyes belanging vnto vs, which may or shall come vnto your hands, One hundrith pund sterling money, for doing wherof these presents shall be your warrant and discharge.—Gevin at Whythall, 3 of May 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Haveing vnderstood by your letter, and by conferring with your sone, how willing you ar to give us satisfaction in all those things conteaned within the Commission of Surrenderis wherin you have entrest, and that you doe it for givinge exemple vnto vthers after the maner prescribed by the ordinarye course, your purpose heirin is very acceptable vnto vs, and our earnest desyre vnto you is that you vse your best indevors for bringing that wark to perfection, as is intended by the said Commission, and be assured that whatsoever your satisfaction extend to after the vsuall forme, that you nor no childe of yours shall lose by our meanes, bot we will rather by a particular consideration, when our revenues ar increased, recompence your service. For doing whereof we dout not of your diligence.—Whythall, the thrid of May 1627.

Postscript writtin by the King's owin hand.

You may tell your wyff, my Cousen, that she shoulde not misdoubt me, if sho bot remember what my surname is.

TO THE SESSION.

Right trustie.—Wheras humble sute hath bene made vnto vs by the erle of Craufurd, desyryng that in regard he may be the more enabled to satisfie his creditours of those debts due vnto them, he may have libertie to cause sue befor you for those moneyes justly dew vnto him, and the better to justifie his intention in this, he desyres that you shoulde sie the debtis so to be recovered by him maid furthcoming and payet to those creditours at whose instance he is at the horne: Therfor our pleasur is, of that you consider of this his demand, and if you find the same for the weill of his creditours and himself, that you grant vnto him in this particular all such favour as can be lawfullie or convenientlie granted.—Whythall, the 3 of Majj 1627.

I, Johne Glen, captayne of a company of footmen lying at Ringwood, in Hamshire, for his Maties service, have gevin free licence to Thomas Michshell Saynour, to absent himself from his colouris, the space of threatie dayes for the dispatche of his lawfull and necessare affaires, that thereafter he may returne to his colour, willing by these presents all his Maties officers whom the same doe or may concerne quietlie to suffer him passe without any trouble or molestation: By these presentis sub^t with my hand the 8 day of May 1627.

TO THE CHANCELOUR THE ARCHE. OF ST ANDREWS AND GLASCO, AND TO SIR JAMES SKENE, PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEDGE OF JUSTICE, AND TO THE ADVOCATS.

Right trusty and weilbeloved Counsellour; Right reverend father in God; and right loveing and weilbeloved Counsellour; and Trusty and weilbeloved, &c.—Being informett that by the Will of George Herott, our late Jewellar, you ware desyred to be the desynderis of all contraversies which sholde happen to arrise concerning the forderance of the Hospetall intended to be founded in regard his entention in this is good, and requyeth to be accomplished, and withall, seing for this purpose he haith maid choice of you, of whome, if we had bene at first desired to accept of such persones, we could not but approve: These ar therfor to desyre you to gif vnto Doctour Balcanquhall, deane of Rochester, and our chapline in ordinarie (who, being entrusted for seing the said hospetall founded, is to repair hither for this effect), your best and

most speedy advyseis in all such things concerning this purpose, wherwith shall happin from tyme to tyme to acquaint yow, which we will rather tak as acceptable service done vnto ws. Piowes intentatioues shoulde be encouraged : So, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of May 1627.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Vnderstanding that yow ar entrusted by George Heriot, our late Jewellar, with the whole estait which is to be bestowed vpon the building and founding of ane hospitall in that our brugh, and seing it is a wark of pietie which of it self and for exemple deserveth respect, and to be prosicuit according to the intention of the founder, these ar therfor to requyre yow to gif vnto Doctour Balcanquill, deane of Rochester, and our Chapline in ordinar (who, being appointit for seing the disposing and setling of the said hospitall, is to repair thither for this purpose), al the lawfull and cairfull concurrence that can be granted by yow, which we will the rather tak as acceptable service done vnto ws, for the lik pious intentions ar not frequent, and for that this happened in the begynning of our Reyne : So we, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of May 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Being credible informed of the sufficiency of our right trusty and weilbeloved the Lo. Carnegie, and of his affection to our service for the good of that our kingdome : Therfor, seinge ther is yet a place not disposed on for one of the number of fyve persones reserved in our commission, Our pleasur is, and we heirby requyre you to admitt him to be one of your number ; ffor so doing heirof these presentes shall be your warrant.—Whythall, the 12 of May 1627.

The lik warrant and date was writtin for the Erle of Lawderdale.

TO THE ERLE OF MENTEITH.

Right, &c.—We have both hard and found by experience your affection for the furthering of all those things tending to the advancement of our service and the generall good of that our kingdome, for which we gif yow hartly thankis, and will not be vnmyndfull therof when anie occasion shall offer, wherby we may exprese our respect vnto yow, not douting bot yow will continue in the like course as yow haue begun : Vnderstanding how weill yow ar disposed to the religion presently professed, and knoweing what relation yow haue to our right trustie and weilbeloved the Lord Gray, whose eldest sone, as we ar informed, being in your company, yow haue so cairfully bred in the said religion, we do likewise approve your cair therin, and do wishe yow to continue the lik by all such meanes as yow shall think fit for that purpose, ffor our desyr is, that the childrene of all our good subjects, but specially such as ar borne to be peirs of that our kingdome, or who ar to be in eminent places, have ther education efter that maner : Which we recommending, &c.—Whythall, the 12 of May 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras by our other letter send vnto yow we did signifie our plesur tuching the provision of the Ministrie of Edinburgh, and the ordour we wald have the pepill and parochiners observe resorting to ther parishe church, according to the devisioun already maid willing by act and authoritie of counsell, to warrant the provest, bailles, and counsell of the toun in taxing ther inhabitants for the better entertainment of ther ministers, excepting no persone who had residence within the toun, and who, with his family, was servit by the saids ministers : So we ar now pleased that ye proceed according to the

tennour of the first letter, making, if yow so finde needfull, an exception in your act of the nobilmen, chancellares, and others of our subjects that have not residence ordinarily in that our brughe; and that without further delay yow sie this besynes effectit in so far as conveniently and lawfullie it can be done, geving to the toune an act for ther warrand as we desir it, and that your selfis concure effectually with them to sie that the said warrant be obeyed, wherin yow shall doe ws acceptable plesur: And so we, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed that ther be sindrie persones in that our kingdome who conseale the few-dewteis belonging vnto ws, both endangering ther estaitis so helde of our croune and dissapointing ws of that which is justly dew, to be payed vnto our Exchequer according to ther oreginall infetments: Therfor our plesure is, that yow cause dew intemation to be maid to all our subjects within that our kingdome in such forme as yow shall think fit for this purpose, to the effect that all such persones who hath entrest may come in at such tyme as yow shall prefer, and give satisfaction to yow in our name, according as yow shall find ws lyen out of the few-dueties, with certificatioun gif they do not that we will tak the benefitt of the Lawes provyded in the lyk cases.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our lat deir father that all those, as weill of the privie counsell as of the session, sould evirie sonday and holiday repair to our chappell Royall, haveing for this effect commanded that the seates of the prebendaryes or singinge men should be distinguished frome others of the Nobillitie, Counsell, and Session, seing that course hath bene so seriously recommended by our said father, and that it is fitting and decent for diverse respectis: Our plesure is, that at your beinge in our brughe of Edinburgh, or other partis ajoyning, yow repair evirie sonday and holiday to the said Chappell, and likwayis that yow be cairfull that all such good ordours as wer appointit by our said late deir father may be revived and settled: And as in this, so in all vther things concerning the said Chappell, the deane and members therof yow gif your best advyce and assistance, which we will tak as acceptable service done vnto ws: So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

A WARRANT TO THE THESAURER DEPUTY.

In regard, as we ar credibly informed, that it is expedient for our service that the benefitt which shall happen to arise of the Tithes or few-dewteis of erectiones, according to the course latly entended by ws for the generall good of that our kingdome, and for an reasonable increase to our revenue there, may be exactly knownen, and for the better strethning our right therin, that we may be put in the realle possession thereof, it is therfor our plesure that yow mak a rental book conteaning the speciall quantity therof, evirie particular to be payed out of the Tithes or few-dewteis of Erectiones, and that the same, when matteris shall be cleared by our commissioners, and when the tyme and season shall so requyre, be by you cairfully vplifted for our vse.—Gevin at our Court at Whythall, the 16 of May 1626.

PRECEPT TO THE EXCHEQUER.

In regard, as we ar informed, that Sir John Buchanan is to be accomptable vnto yow for this Witsondayis terme payment of our siluer fewe-dewteis of Orknay and Zetland, therfor our plesure is, that

yow pay vnto our right trustie and weilbeloued cousen and Counsellour the Erle of Wintoun so much of the said siluer few-dueties as is assigned to be payit vnto him by the Lease maid vnto ws of the saids dueties of Orkney and Zetland, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that Sir David Lindsay of Balcarras doeth insist in the action concerning the Tithis of the Landis of Kilconquhar belonging to the reuerent father in God and our right trustie and weilbeloued consellour the B. of Dumblane: In regard of the course intended by our Commission concerning the Tithis, whervnto this action hath, as we ar informed, speciall relation, we think it fitt that all further proceeding therein be for some time continewed, till matteris in the said Commissione concerninge Tithis be fullie cleared by our Commissioners for this effect, and ended by ws.—We, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have heirtofor conferred the esteett of Charles Gouldman, who killed W^m Somervell, vpon our trustie and weilbeloued seruant, M^r W^m Elphestoun, oure Cupberar, and we ar now informed that the opposition of Somervelle's wedow doeth delay our gratious entention of gratifeing our said seruant, our plesure is, that yow proceed in the legall course yow haue bigun, so ordering both the parteis, as according to custome in such cases, that matter may be friendly decided; or otherwyse, that our Advocat do appeir as formerly he hath done, and plead for our entrest, to the end that our forsaidd seruant may reape the benefitt of our favour, according to the Lawes of that our kingdome: Which recommending to your care, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGH.

Trusty and weilbelouett, we, &c.—It hath bene of a lang tyme of our desyre to have your churches provided with a sufficient meaintenance for the ministrie, and vnderstanding that your Comon rents could not conveniently do the same, we thocht it most equitable that all the inhabitants within the said toun should be taxed, wherein, as we ar informed, some impediments have bene objected, bot now, as we have by our letters as weil vnto our Counsell as to the Session, signifeed what our plesure is in the said bessynes, which we ar confident they will redily obey: So we desire yow, whome it specially concernis, to mak no more delays of that which tendis so much to your owne benefittes and credit, and that yow tak such a course therin that we may heir that the samen is really effected, as yow will expect of ws benefitte or plesur to be done vnto yow, vpon any occasion that can conveniently offer: So, assuring our self that yow will performe our desyre in this, &c.—Whythall, 16 of May 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATIS.

Trustie, &c.—Wheras diverse benefices have bene annexed to our Chappell Royall of that our kingdome, the particulares of song wherof we remitt to be delivered vnto yow by the reuerent father and our right trustie and weilbeloued consellour the B. of Dumblane, deane of our said Chappell, and beinge willing that the said benefices, according to the first ententione, be fullie settled vpon the samen: Oure plesure is, that yow carefullie informe your selves of the best course for the recoverie therof by Law; or otherwyse, that yow vse your best meanes for transacting with the possessours, wherby, if the saids dueties

can not at this time be recovered, at least some yearly rent thereof may be had for ther better meaintenance, which will be a meanes that they will be lesse burdenable to our Exchequer: Concerning which purpose we haue for your better assistance written to our Colledge of Justice: So, recommending this vnto yow.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERIS.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father, both effectualle at diuerse tymes and vpon good considerations, to requyre that such benifices and vther small church liveings which war annexed to our Chappell Royall of that our kingdome by the first foundation therof might be fullilie settled therevpon; and seing our father's intention therin is just and many wayes requisit for our vse, the use of our successours and the creditt of that our kingdome: Therefor, in regarde that your proceeding according to your commission these things belanging vnto the said Chappell ar to be treated amanges yow, Our pleasur is, that a speciall cair be taken by yow for the modefying to everie one of the Chappelinis out of that church rent appropriat vnto him sum such competent and reasonable meanes, and efter such maner as may be most conveniently done, such things being performed be them as is required by our Commission:

And wheras we ar informed that the Abbacy of Dundranan was purchest by our late dear father, and mortifytt for the vse of our said chappell, though we dout not bot that at your taking of the estate of that Abbacie amangis others into your considerations, yow will consider the differences betuene it and other erections; yett we haue thoct good heirby to acquaint yow with our plesur heirin, which is that yow tak such a course as shall be most agreeable to our said father's intention, and as may most conveniently be done according to the course intendit by ws at this tyme:

And wheras it hath bene humbly moved vnto ws that the Tithes of the half of the lands of Markhill, wherof the stock being Ten Chalders victuall, is likwyse mortifeit for the vse of the said Chappell, might be acyqured and aded therevnto for the vse forsaid, though we like weill any thing that may tend to the advancement of so good a wark, yett we walde not determine therin without your speciall advice, who ar cheily entrusted with the affaires of this and the like natour; therfor our plesur is, that yow consider of the samen, and tak such a course therin as may most conveniently and lawfullie be done; all which speciallie recommending to your cair, we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras it pleased our late dear father to writt vnto yow that whensoever any takisman of our Chappell Royall should be put to the home, his escheate of so much as was held of our said chappell shoulde be givin to the deane and members therof, whome yow shall cause find catioun not to delapadat or diminshe the value of any benefite or vther particular grants to our said Chappell, to preserve the same in ther integritie to ther successours, according to the plesur of our late dear father heirtofor signifytt to this purpose: And it is our farther plesur, till the said Chappell rents be established, that yow, our Thesaurer and deputye, pay yearly out of the first and readiest of our rents of that our kingdome for the vse of the said Chappell an annuity of 3000 marks Scotts, to be disposed and distributed by the dean of the said Chappell as he shall think expedient.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie and weilboud, &c.—Wheras we have bene moved in regainl of your knowledge in the affaires of some of our subjects, that yow might be retented by vs to continewe to plead in thair actiones as yow

were wont to do in former tymes; and wheras we wer pleased to writt vnto yow that yow shoulde concurre in the cause of some persone haveing entrest in the erections: Our intention therin was not as in matteris of justice equallie respecting all our good subjects, that yow shoulde be hinderit to plead for ony clyant of youris whatsoever, whose causes yow ware willing to imbrace, and wherby we were not likelye therby to be prejudged: These ar therfor to signifie our plesur in this, that yow may frely plead for them, and vse all lawfull meanes for ther defences according to the course accustomed: So, &c.—Frome Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we haue bene pleased, according to the example of our late dear father, for trying of such benefices as wer mortfeit for the vse of our said Chappell Royall in that our kingdome, being willing that they should be recovered if neid doeth so requyer by Law, or otherwyse that the possessours shoulde be delt with, that some yeirly rent shoulde be had for the better meaintenance of the deane and the members of the said Chappell: Our plesur is, that whensoever any such action concerning the samen shall be entended befor yow, with the most convenient deligence that can be vsed, proceed in justice therin according to the equitie of the cause, and that for the weill of the said Chappell yow shawe as much favour as can be lawfullie granted, vtherwayis at your being so desyred by the said deane or advocatis or ather of thame, that yow mediat our cause with the saidis possessours for allowing a yeirly rent for the vse forsaid, which will be a meanes that they will [be] les burdenable to our Exchequer; all which soe, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Wheras we were formerly pleased sufficiently to authorise yow for the mor quick dispatch with our brugh of Edinburgh in provyding of ther ministers with confident stepends have taken some delay, as our plesur is still that yow with all deligence proceed according to your commission and our letters formerly writtin vnto yow concerning this purpose, and if therby you be not sufficiently warrandit, as we conceave yow are, that yow proceed according to the trew intention of our proclamation latly maid to the lik effect within this our kingdome, not respecting any tyme limitit in the same; but only remarking therby what goods ar prohibited, and thoct good to be maid prise: So, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras we vnderstand that our directiones latly sent vnto yow for your concurrence with our brugh of Edinburgh in provyding of ther ministers with confident stepends have taken some delay, as we think it most just and equitable that the inferiour members of the Colledge of Justice, whose ordinarie residence is in that our burgh, and who should not be exempted from contributeing to the meaintenance of the ministeris as others the inhabitants ar bound to do: So it was never our intention that yow to whose cair the administration of Justice is committed, and who reape no commoditie by your attendance ther, but rather spend your owine meanes for the publick good, sould have any burden or imposition layed vpon yow, but considering that which hath bene represented vnto ws, we think it reasonable that yow intimate vnto the ordinarie Advocatis and Clarkis and solliciters our plesur heirin, which is that they concur with the said toun in the furtherance of this good wark, which we will tak as acceptable favour.—Whythall, May 16, 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTYE.

Right, &c.—In regard we think it fitt that all signatours and writts that ar to passe our hand or the hands of our Commissioners should be so formallie and lawfullie don that nethere our subjects nor we should in any wyse be wranged : And vnderstanding perfytlly that non haue reason to luke so narrowlie into those things concerning our revenues or casualities of our Croune as yow in regard of the charge yow haue from vs, we ar therfor weil pleased, and do heirby authorise yow that frome hence yow stope any such signature or write that shall either passe our hand heir or vnder our cachet as yow shall [have] just reason to think that the passing therof will preiudge ws, and that vntill such tyme as yow shall aduertise ws of the hurt or inconueniencie that may therby redound.—Whythall, 16 of May 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing bene informed there is a great abuse committit in that our kingdome concerning money, the most part wherof being the coyne of forrane princes is currant ther, both above there worth in any part abroad and in regard of our coyne there, wherby great inconvenes do and will still more and more insue, vnles a tymelic remedy for preventing therof be provyded, and which is so much the more to be narrowlie loked into as that of all other abuses, it is (if the remedy be lang deferred) the most hard to be reformed : Wherypon diverse overturis at severall tymes having bene by sindrie pesones propounded vnto vs, we wer now pleased to call for our trustie and weilbeloved counsellour Sir Ar^d Naper, kny^t, to whome we have imparted our mynde concerning such of them as we in our judgment thoct to be most necessarye, which we willed him relate vnto yow : And therfor we ar well pleased that yow confere with him concernyng this purpose ; and haveing duely advysed of the best and most speidy course for reforming the said abuse, that yow eithere cause put the same in execution, or that yow certifie vs back what yow think fitt for vs to do heirin : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.

TO THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISCHOPS.

Right, &c.—We can not bot wonder and be displeasid at the begynning of your letter vnto vs schowing that what was intended for an helpe for the Church is lik to prove the vtter vndoing therof : Seing we haue neuer gevin, nor by the grace of God shall give, cause of fear or oppression, yow knowe beysydis that our Commissioners be pesones of good qualitie, efter they haue well considered of things, and have delivered what in ther judgments they think fitt for to be don, nothing can be concluded till we haue likewise persved and approved the same : So that yow haue cause to fear no harme therby so lang as yow know we ar so weil disposed towardis yow : And certanlie it becumeth church men rather to judge chiritably than to be suspeticious without a cause : We can not but think it strange to heir that it was publickly preiched that we nor no laick person could lawfullie enjoy any benefitt out of the Tithes, which if so be (as we can hardly beleue) tendeth too much to hender that benefitt that our subjects intende towards ws, and to discourage all them who wald purchase ther owne Tithes, to the effect that they, being fred frome oppression therby, may only depend vpon vs : Our plesur is, that yow concure with the rest of the Commissioners for effecting those things contayned in our commission, soe often and so seriously recommended by vs : And if yow find any thing done to the prejudice of the church, acquaint ws therwith : And as we expect your furtherance in any thing for the increse of our revenues, wherby we may be enabled to do yow good : So be assured that we will have a care that the Church may be supplied, keeping all hir ancient and former priviledges, wherof we shall ever have a cheiff cair, &c.—Whythall, the 18 of May 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

Right, &c.—Having conferred with the reverend father in God, and our right trustie and weilbelovet Counsellour the bischope of Dumblane, and M^r Johne Maxwell, an of our Ministeris of Edinburgh, who ware sent vnto ws from the Clargie of that our kingdome vpon needles fearres, by mistakeing the meaning of our Commission : We war pleased to mak them vnderstand our constant intention, which was from the begyning as to supplie churches that ar not sufficient provyded alrely, to procure that evirie proprietar of lands might have his owne Tithes vpon a reasonable condition, and that our Revenues might be incressed, and that we no way intended (as it semeth had bene suggested vnto them), to wrang or harme the Clargie in ony dignity or title which they lawfullie enjoy, or wherunto they haue good right : We did fynd them verye willing to contribute ther best indevors for effectuating those ends above specifeit, so far as is not derogatorie to ther rights and accustomed preveledges : Therfor our plesur is, that yow proceed according to your commission and our plesur alrely signefyit concerning the same, having a speciall cair for the competent provesion of Churches, that the ministeris therof may have reasonable stependis, as likwyse that evirie Minister have his manse and gleib conforme to the act of Parliament, and that some such yeirly allowance may be conveniently spaired, and as yow think fit to be appoyntit for pious vses in evirie paroch : And likwayis wher ony patronages of churches which did formerly belong vnto the Crowne ware in late dayes drawin fra the same, Our further plesure is, that yow have a speciall care to cause theme be restored to the Crowne in that estaite wherin they formerly warre, in so far as can be lawfullie don ; and as we have a good entention towards the Clergie, so we ar verie confident that they will vse ther best indevors in concurring with yow for furthering of that which may tend to the advancement of our service in effectuating thir ends so oft recommended to yow : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 18 of May.

Whythall, the 16 of May 1627.—A warrant from the King to the Lo/ Keiper of the great seale, for the denization of M^r John Paterson, M^r of Artes, according to former warrant in the preceeding register.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

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Right, &c.—Wheras vpon resignationes maid in our hands by Sir George Hume of Wedderburne, kny^t, of the barroney of Eymouth and Flemyngtoun, we war pleased in regaind, as we warr informed, that these resignations had only relatione to originall infetments from whence they proceeded to signe a signatur of new in his favours, yett being loath that we or any persone whatsoever justly entrest in the premisses, should any wayis therby be damnified, Our plesure is, that yow call befor yow our advocates for our entrest, together with Johne Stewart of Coldinghame and his advocates, and if we find that we, the said Johne, nor no other person be therby prejudged in ony thing whervnto we or they have just richt, and that nothing to be added further than the predecessours of the said Sir David have by good right formerly enjoyed, and have left or resigned in his favours, and withall that such satisfioun may be gevin to our Commissioners for the Tithes as they shall have reasone to demand, according to the course taken with otheris in the lik kinde, that then yow cause exped his signature according to the custome in the lyk cases : So, &c.—Whythall, the 19 of May 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

In regard as we [are] enformed that Sir Johne Buchanan is to be accomptable vnto yow for this Witsondaye's terme's payment of our siluer fewe-duetyes of Orkney and Zetland : Therfor our plesur is,

that yow pay vnto our trustie and weilbeloued Cousen and Consellour the Erle of Winton so much of the said siluer few-dueties as is assigned to be payed vnto him by the lease now maid by ws of the saids duetyis of Orkney and Zetland; and for your so doinge these presentes shalbe vnto yow sufficient warrant.—Whythall, the 17 of May 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

In regard yow ar the principall officicris who hath charge of our Revenues, and must be accomptable for the same vnto ws, we conceave that you have reson cairfullie to looke vnto all such wayes and meanes as have relation vnto your charge as may tend to the advancement of our service in that kynd: Therfor our plesure is, that from hence furthe yow recommend vnto ws sufficient and able men to serve in those places as shall happen to waik vnder your charge vntill we do ratifie your guiftes, during ther litymes: And that these presentes, and our plesur contened therin, be registrat in our books of Exchequer: Which recommending, &c.—Whythall, the 25 of May 1627.

TO THE CHANCELOUR.

Right, &c.—Wheras Captane Robert Scot, now servitour to our dearest brother the King of Swaden, is desyrious to have the Testificat vnder the great seale of that our kingdome of Scotland, and seing the said Captane Robert Scot is an native borne man in that our kingdome of Scotland, Our will is therfor, that yow tak notice and triall of his lawfull and lineall discent; which so being don, Our further plesur [is], that yow append the great seale of our kingdome of Scotland thervnto: Wherant thir presentes shall be vnto yow a sufficient warrant.—Whythall, the 25 of May 1627.

Another of the same style and daite for Captain Johne Kininmonth, Lieutenant Colonell to Here John Bonner, vnder the King of Sueden.

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TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras humble sute hath bene mad vnto ws in the behalf of George, Johne, and Richard Grahames, that we might be pleased to grant vnto them the fynis of any ten persones who should happen to be fund to transport forbidden goodis frome that our kingdome contrarye to the proclamation concerning the same; we ar the rather movet to give way vnto ther demand concerning the same in regard of ther good and faythfull service done vnto ws, and the better to enabill them to encourage to continewe in the like: Therfor our plesur is, that whensoever they, or any of them, or ony vther persone haveing ther power, shall present vnto yow the names of such persones, not exceeding the number of Ten, who shall be found efter dewe examinatioun to have transgressed aganst the said proclamation, yow grant vnto them the fynes arrysing thereby dew vnto ws, provided those moneysis assignett out of those fynis to our right, &c. the Erle of Annandale be first satisfyit.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we war pleased to writ vnto yow concerning penall statutis, and that for diverse good respectis moveing ws, we thoct it not fitt at this tyme to cause exact them till we wer further ad-

wertised, yet haveing hard that oft befor the fynes arrysing be the penall statutes for taking a peck to the boll was begun to be leyvied, we are the rather moved to allow that they be exacted in modirat maner, in regard that course hath bene approved by yow, vnles vpon some speciall occasion we shall please to signifie our plesure vtherwise : We bid, &c.—Whythall, the 25 of May 1627.

INSTRUCIONES TO SIR AR^p NAPER, OUR DEPUTY THESAURER IN SCOTLAND.

That our housses be repaired as may conveniently be had :

That he deale with the sones of Barnard Lyndsay for ther house in Leith to mak a Custome house :

That casualtyes of more than ordinary value be stopped till we be adwertysed :

That all debtis transferit fra England be repeated agane for our service in Scotland :

That yow consider of the debts due to W^m Murray of Dincarne, and ane pension suted by one Christie, and if yow find the one due, and the vther fit to be granted, that they be payed as our offeris may conveniently affoord the same.

That yow be cairfull to advertise ws of any thinge that justlie belangeth vnto ws, and is withheld without right, that we may give direction to our Thesaurer and Advocattis to bring it agane for our vse by ordinarye course of Lawe.—Whythall, the 25 of May 1627.

TO THE EARLE OF LITHGOW, ADMIRALL.

Right, &c.—Vpon a letter frome our Counsell ther concerning the cleiring some questiones touching the shippes challenged to be prises, and vpon petition exhibitted vnto ws concerninge them, we do out of that earnest care that justice be duely administerd to all our subjects, and to any stranger whatsoever entrest therein or in the like besyness, according to the lawes and pratiek of our kingdones, or of nightbouring nationes, we were pleased to cause crave the openion of the judge of the Admeraltie here, and of our Advocat therein, whose answeris vnder ther hands yow shall receive heirwith inclosed ; And in regard that yow ar alrebye sufficientlie warranded, as we ar enforced by our Commission gevin to this purpose, Our special plesure is, that with all convenient deligence yow proceed according to the same, makinge such vse of the saidis answeris as yow shall fynd cause, and notwithstanding of any letteris concerninge purpusses of the lik natour writtin by vse in the lik natour for hence to any forran pairs for which no warrant hath bene gevin by vse for publishinge the same ther : So in regard of the lang delayes that have alrebye bene in that besynes, to the great hurt of all persones pretendinge interest therein, we think the more care should be had to put a finale end thervnto, according to the said Commission and our plesure heirtofoir, to often signified to this purpose. And wheras petitiones have of late bene exhibitted vnto ws concerninge the shippes called Hope of Meddilburghle, the Vnicorne, S^t Lucas, and the Esperance of Hambrughe, we have thoct it fit, as in vther things of this nature, that yow administer justice concerninge them according to the Commission, and that with all convenient deligence. So we, &c.—Whythall, the last day of May 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Though formerlie (as we conceave) we had sufficientlye authorised our Admirall for the tyme to proceed in the trying and judging of those shippes challenged as prises, according to the lawes and custome of this or of vthers nightbours nationes, that vpon receipt of your letter to have some questiones resolved by ws, and thereafter have the significatione of our pleasur therein sent vnto our said Admerall, we war pleased

immediatly thereafter to cause crave the opinion of the Judge of the Admiraltie here and of our Advocatt therein concerning the same, whose answeris to those questiones vnder ther hands we have, according to your awin desyre, sent vnto our said Admirall, and that only for the better cleiring of the saids doutis: As yow have begun to be cairfull in our service heirin, so we dout not bot frome tyme to tyme, as yow shalbe required by vs or desyred by him, continue to gif your best advyse and assistance for the redy executing of all things concerning the said Commission, and that yow be cairfull that we may have the pairt due vnto ws by the shippes and goods adjudged, or which shall happen to be adjudged, to be lawfull prise: In all which not douting of your readynes to plesur ws, &c.—Whythall, the last of May, 1627.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—As by our former letter vnto yow we thoct it reason that by the guift of your father's estate, and conforme to the intention of our late dear father for the releif of his whole debbtis should be accomplished, so our desyr is still that the same course should be taken, that no persone justlie entresed might be onywyis prejudged, and to this effect, that all the fair wayis and meanes that can be conveniently be resolved vpon may in due tyme be vsed. We therfor thoct it expedient that yow convene the special freinds of the house of Argill, who having duely considered and cast vpe the wholl debbtis contracted by your said father, and what part is alre dy payed, that then they vse ther best meanes that a course may be taken of ordering and disposing of the whole debbtis and rents and duetyes of both the estatis of Argile and Kintire, for payment of the saidis debbtis burdening evrie one of the saidis estates proportionally therwith, in such maner as shall be found reasonable, having always a regard what is convenient for your awin brother James' meaintenance, and for vther things necessarie to be done; wherin we dout not bot ther awin discretion will lead them to doe what is reasonable.—Whythall, the last of May 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATT.

Having bene humbly petitioned, in name of our right trusty the Lord of Lorne, that in regard of his father's absence the chaarge of office of Justice generall of that our kingdome belanging to his house might be dewly administred, and that he might have the like right for due [discharge] therof as his predecessors formerly have had, Our plesure is, that yow call the oreginal evidentis of the said office, and haveing sene and considered if the said office fall not within the bounds of our Commissione, that yow drawe a signatur of new for the said Lord, his heiris male and successours to the house and estate of Argill, contayning no lesse nor more in substance nor is contened for the said evidents, and that yow prepare the same with a just detail of the substance therof approved by yow; for doing wherof, &c.—Whythall, the last of May 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

In regard yow ar the principall officeris who hath chaarge of our Revenues, and most be accomptabill for the same vnto vs, we conceave that yow have resone cairfully to look vpon all such wyes and meanes as have relation to your chaarge, and as may attende to the advancement of our service in that kynd; therfor our plesur is, that frome henceforth yow recommend vnto vs sufficient and able men to serve in all such places as shall happen to waik vnder your chaarge, vntill we do ratifie ther guifts during ther lyftymes, and that these presentes and our plesur be registrat in the books of our Exchequer: So., &c.—Whythall, the last of May.

TO THE ERLE OF ROTHES.

Right, &c.—We have vnderstood by sindrie persones how willing you are to doe us service by attending that commission which wee were pleased to grant at your being heir, and we perceave, by your offeris made vnto vs contened within your letter, that your cheiff cair is to have that done which yow conceave may most tend to our advantage, for which we give yow harty thanks; and wher yow desyre to be resolved whidder we will be pleased to accept of a reasonable composition concerning your shirreffschipe, or to give you satisfaction for the same, Our plesur is, as was frome the begining, rather to give satisfaction to such as had any heritable office, then to resave composition frome them, yett we sie no inconvenient heirly that yow should mak this alternative offer to our Commissioners, provyding yow mak it so cercumspectly, in valueing the one and the vther, that it may be a leding exampell vnto vtheris; and for yourself, in regard of your good service, we will have a particular care to do yow good when any occasion shall offer for the same: As for that which yow writt concerning the pryces, that such of our subjects as have taken them may have a fair and quick dispatch, we have already writtin to our Admerall for that effect, with authoritie to him to heare the besynes ere now: So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the last of May 1627.

COUNSELL.

A letter from the King's Majestie to the Counsell, of the date att Whythall the 4 of June 1627, importing that they take into their consideration the estate of the Lady of Sir Jhone Steuart, and as they should find cause to giue new order for such competency of maintenance fourth of her husband's estate as should be fit for his wyfe and a lady of hir birth: This was drauen by Sir James Galloway, Master of requestis.

COUNSELL.

A letter from the King's Majestie to the counsell of the date of the 5 of June 1627, importing that they try by the custome of the cuntry what ought to belong to the widow of a person attainted for her thrid, being infett in a good part of her husband's estate befor her husband's attendance [attainder?] and to certifie bake: This was conceaved in the favours of the Lady and widow of Sir James M^cDonald, and drauen vp by M^r James Gallouay.—Whythall, 4 June 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras vpon good considerationes and at the humble desyre of the Right trustie and weilbeloved the Erle Merchell, we war pleased to grant vnto him the charge of those our thrie shippes apponted for the better defence of the coastes of that our kingdome, with power to adjoyne such other shippes as by this meanes he could procure: Vnto such course we dide the more willingly give way in regard the same as we did conceave, and as by our grant may appear, did both free ws frome a present charge, and promised vs an apparent benefitt by perseweing the common enemy without the preiudice of any persone whatsoever; and therfor and for his better incuragment to mak them ready with all expedition efter the waghing over of these leyves of men appointit for the service of our vnkle the King of Denmark, our plesur is, that yow passe the said grant with all convenient deligence, according to the tennour therof, and of the letter writtin by vse concerning some conditiones to be performed vpon his parte, and that notwithstanding of ony opposition maid to the contrarie: Which we recommend vnto your care, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Junij 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLYTHGOW, ADMIRALL

Right, &c.—Haveing [heard] of some opposition made in regard of your entrest aganst the passing of our grant to our Right, &c. the Erle of Mercheall for haveing chaarge of those shippes appontit for our service in that our kingdome, we could not bot approve of your care for meantening the priveledge of the office of Admiraltie, yett in regard that course without wrangling of any persone whatsoever is nowyse to our diswantage, but is for the good of all such of our subjects as will adventure with the said Erle, and a present exoneration of a great chaarge vnto ws, besydes that he was the first persone that moved vs heirin, we ar willing that you vpon your pairt gif way to the passing of the said grant, seing we can recall the same if we finde any inconvenient arysing therby, and will have a cair that the Admerallity shall not be prejudged in any thing justly belanging thervnto : So, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Junij 1627.

TO THE ERLE MERCHANT.

Right, &c.—We received your letter. In regard that the great effecton that heitherto we have found in yow to do ws service, being verie willing to gratifie yow, and particularly with that chaarge which we granted vnto yow of our shippes, yow performinge those conditiones which we writt vnto yow our consell : We have writtin to this purpose to the Exchequer and our Admirall for the tyme ; So we expect no further opposition shall be made heirin without some mor special [occasion] then we have hard as yett : So being confident that yow will so proceed in that chaarge that none may have just reason heirefter bot to approve of our choice of yow : We bid, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Junij 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—In regard as we ar credibly informed of the great disbursments made by Sir James Bailly, kny^t, in our service, and for that he is willing that his accomptis be sene and considered by yow, and how these moneyis have bene employed by him, we ar weill pleased that the course be taken ; and thereafter that yow report back vnto ws what yow find therein, to the effect we may tak such a course for his satisfaction for such sowmes of money as ar not as yett payed or secured vnto him, as we shall think most fitt : So we bid, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Jun 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we did writt vnto the Erle of Mar for trying if the ratification of the brughe of Edinburgh, latly signed by vs, was preiudiciall to our right, and right of any persone whatsoever ; bot being sence informed that the only exception taken aganst it did concerne a chartour signefied by our late dear father in the year 1693 : Therfor our plesure is, that the said Ratificatioun signed by ws, doeth not confirme the chartour signifyett by our late dear father ; and if no new priveledge be added to them by the same, which is not contented in the former evidents, that yow passe the said ratificatioun with all possible deligence, leveing all persones entrest in the said chartour to be tryed by theseselvis, wher they shall be pleased to do the same according to the course of our lawes, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of June 1627.

TO THE BURROGHES.

Trusty and weilbeloved, &c.—Thocht we war ever confident of your affection and forduardnes in any thing that might tend to the advancement of our service, yett your letters delivered vnto ws by your commissioners confirming our former oppinion of your duety, was verye acceptable vnto ws, and seing the

greatest part of your demands, which haue relation to our late commission, sem to be no vther than what we haue therby intended, we expect that our commissioners, to whome we haue so effectualle writtin in your favours, will proceid accordingly: As for the remanent of your demandis, which ar proper to be considered of by our counsell, we haue referred them to their serious consideration, willing them, if the saids demandis are not contrary to the generall good of that our kingdome, that they tak such a fair course for giueing yow satisfaction therin as in reason [may] be justly demanded by yow, onlie be assured that yow shall not be wronged in any thing wherin your right and our favour can lawfullie be extended towards yow: So, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Junij 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras we haue bene of late humbly petitioned by the commissioners of our frie burghes within our kingdome, that, according to the custome as we ar informed of our Royall predicesours, all penall statutes might be remitted vnto them, wherin we ar willing that our formar letteris writtin in ther fauoris should tak effect, which was that the prosecution therof should cease till our further plesur war known; and wheras they haue desyred that the proclamation aganst the transportation of hides shoulde be dischaiged, that being ther cheif staple, that a warrant might be gevin in putting the acts to executione aganst transporting of sheepe and cattill, frome whence the scarcitie of leather is thoct to flowe, We ar the rather willing to shawe vnto them all the lawfull favour that heirin can convenientlye be granted; and in regard ther trade, we ar credibly informed, is of late much empaired to the great hurt of our customes: And therfor our plesur is, that yow consider of the said demandis, and if yow fynd them not prejudiciall to the generall state of that kingdome, that yow tak such a fair course for giueing them satisfaction as can in reson justly [be] demanded by them and granted by yow; as likwyis that ther opiniones be hard befor yow determyne the maner how that abuse of forraue monyis, now current within that our kingdome, wherwith we ar verye displeased, sould be reformed; and as in these, so in all vther things that may attende to the advancement of ther said traid; and for secureing therof frome hurt of the common enemie, that yow gif vnto them your best advyse and assistance, which we will tak as acceptable service don vnto ws, &c.—Whythall, the fyft of Junij 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

Right, &c.—We haue of late bene humbly petitioned in name of our Royall frie burghes that the church landes and benefices which belanged of ald vnto them and which war employed ad pios vsus, might be reservit out of our commission; as likwyes that church lands formerlie dispoit to them, and that by posterioir guiftes haue bene deteaned frome them, be restored bak, and that the benefitt of Lands doted to ther churches, wherby ther ministrie can not be competently menteaned, may be supplied out of the rediest good Tithes of that parochin nixt adjacent, thoct in all those particularis ther demandis seem reasonable, yett seing in that as in all vther besynes of the like natour, yow by our commission ar to tak a course, we do earnestly recommend the same to your speciall cair, willing yow to proceed in ther favours in so far as yow ar warrantit to do be warrant of the commissione, for besydes that ther demandes heirin seme to be agreeable to our intention, ther earnest affection to our service doeth justly move ws to have a speciall cair of them: So we, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of Junij 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right trustie and weilbeloved counsellour.—We haue perused your letter touching the debt alledged dew to Sir James Cleland by our right trustie and weilbeloved the late Duk of Lenox, and therby

find no great liklyhode that the samen is justly demanded by him, and having intention for the better trying therof to send for him to repair vnto our Court, Our plesur is, that in the meantyme all proces concerning that action be suspended till our farther plesur be knowen therin : So we bid, &c.—5 of June 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATTIS.

Trusty and weilbeloved, we great yow weill.—Haveing bene humbly petitioned in name of Sir Johne Lesly of Wardes, baronett, shawing that by an action entended aganst him by the Erle of Mare, his landis of Garreoch [are] likly to be evickt aganst him, wherby if the said Erle prevaill, we shall not only lose the superioritie of one, who is our vassell, but also our yeirly few-duety ; and being exceedingly damnified, we being bound for warrantice of the saids lands be our royall predicessour's deed according to the petition which we have sent yow heirwith inclosed : Our plesure is, that yow consider of the said petition, and by all vther meanes that yow informe your selves of the estait heirin, and if yow find our entrest to be such as is pretended, that yow compeir for the same with the said petitioner whensoever the action is persewed for defence of the said cause lest any inconvenient come by the issue therof : So we, &c.—Oatlands, the 2 of Julij 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras we wer pleased by our letter to desyre the Commissioners then chosen for manageng the affaris of our Right trustie and weilbeloued Cousen the Duk of Lennox, that the pension of Walter Murray should be continewed to his behooffe, according to a preceeding guift granted thervpon, seing our intention is still the same, and for that, as we ar informed, he hath deservett weill of that house, we shoulde be sorie that contrarie to the intention of his master the late Duk of Richmond, he should be frustrat of a reward for his service and recompence for his losses susteained therby : Our plesur is, that yow cause the said pension to be payit vnto him, conforming vnto his said guift vntill our said Cousen be of perfyte age, and to this effect that yow gif vnto him your best and rediest forderance, which we specially recommende vnto yow, and bid yow fairvell.—Whythall, the 3 of Julij 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wheras diverse Overtures hath bene shewen vnto ws, in the name of Walter Whytfurd, persone of Moffite, for satling of good orders in the Midilshires ; and we being carefull to have them established, have thoct expedient to refer them to your consideratioun, as purposis which, as we ar informed, might much import the good of our kingdome in those pairts : Therfor our plesur is, that yow cause call befor yow the said M^r Walter, and efter yow have seriously considered the said Overtures to be proponed by him vnto yow, and how fare they ar, or any of them may be established in those pairts, that thereafter yow tak such a speedy course for putting them to execution as yow shall think most fit and agreeable with the lawes of that our kingdome, and the custome observed in the lik cases.—Oatlands, the 3 of Julij 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right trustie and weilbeloved Councillour, We being humbly petitioned in name of such of the Nobillitie and gentrie as war distresed in ther Tithes, we war pleased to writt vnto yow that they might have libertie to conforme themselves, in whole or in parte, to our letter writtin vnto yow to this purpose ;

but heiring that some question hath risen vpon there meeting, have thoct good to explaine our intention more expedient and particularly vnto yow; which was that the benefitt of that letter only intended for them who petitioned vnto ws, by Sir James Lermont and Sir James Lokart, kny^{ts}, and such persones who war to concurre with them, to treate concerning the purchasing of ther awin Tithes: Vnderstanding now that some vthers, not fitt to consult with them in the election of ther Commissioners for that purpose, walde needer joyne with them in that errand, it being only a meeting for ther privat endes, and so needed not to be solemnly kept by the whole gentry: Our pleasur is, that these of the Nobillitie and gentrye as ar greater byaris then sellers, and elles, be allowed to meete and consulte together for the cause foirsaid, and that those persones who may be approved admitted to treat with them concerning the purchising of ther awin Tithes: Our further plesure is, that the shirreff of Weist Lowthian, M^r James M^cGill of Cranstonn Riddill, nor no Convener, nor whome they have elected, be trubilled for the election which they have alrely made, but that the said Nobillitie and gentrie who made choyce of them be permitted to mak vse of those persones whome they have elected, or of vthers whome they shall think fitt, and that none elles be admitted for that purpose, and withall that this course be taken and vsed in all the shires of that our kingdome: So not doubting but as yow have ay bene carefull to effectuat those things which so much import our service, so yow will also vse the best meanes and wayes, both by our awin devoris and your advyse vnto vs heir, that can best conduct to that end.—Oatlandes, 3 of Julij 1627.

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TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that the reverent father in God and our right trustie and weilbeloued Counsellour the Bischope of Dunkell, hath an action depending befor yow concerning the Tithes of Abercorne, and ther ar likwyse actiones of spulzie aganst ther parochineris at the instances of the Erlen of Linlythgo and Abercorne, We in all such questiones of Tithes holding it fitt that actiones concerning the Church should be first cleired, without prejudice alwayes of the right of vtheris persones, do desyre that the saids actiones shall cease vntill the said action of the said Bischope be decerned or vtherways agged by the said Commissioners for the Tithes, which we speciallie recommend vnto yow, and bid, &c.—Oatlandes, the 3 of Julij 1627.

TO SIR W^m STEWART OF GARNATILLIE.

Trusty and weilbeloued, &c.—As it was the ententione of our lat father for restoring to the first estate all such parkis and forrestis as had formerlay served for the game of our Royall progenatours in the inlandis of that our kingdome, he having but of late begun to establishe Glenalmond in the estate of a forrest, and we being willing to prosecut his royall intention heirin, and with all vnderstanding that Glenshee, lattie disforested, is fitt to be made a forrest agane, and that the neimes therof to some pairs of our ordinary residence in that kingdome may prove verve commodious for the vse of ws and of our successours being ther: In regard as we ar informed that the greatest pairt of the properties of that boundis belongeth vnto yow, having gottin the samen frome our late father vpon easie termes, by the forfaltry of the late Erle of Gowrie, &c.: And in regard of our intention to have the same satled in a forest, We desyre yow to agree with our Thesaurer for some reasonable composition or vther considerationes to be gevin vnto yow for your right therof.—Whythall, Julij 3, 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

As it was the intention of our late dear father for restoring to the first estate all such parkis and forrestis as had formerly servit for the game of our royall progeneturis in the inlandis of that our

kingdome, he having but of late begun to establishe Glenamonde in the formore estate of a forrest, and we beinge willing to prosecute his royall intention heirin, and with all vnderstanding that Glenshee lately disforested is fitt to be made a forrest, and that the nearnes therof to some partis of our Ordinarie residence in that our kingdome, may prove verye commodious for the vse of vs and of our successors being ther; And therfor seing the cheifest part of the propertie of those Landis apperteanis to Sir W^m Stewart of Garnillie, as we ar informed, who, as it is likvyse reported vnto ws, got the same fra our late dear father by easie conditiones by the forfarrie of the late Erle of Gowrie: Our plesure is, that yow cause deale with him and such vthers persones who hath lands that did belong to the said forrest, or ar fitt to be joynd therunto, for taking some composition or vther acknowledgment for ther right therof, as yow and they can best condescend vpon. Otherwyse if they will not harken vnto your reasonable offeris heirin, we think it not amise that yow cause our advocattis or ather of them try the grounds of ther rights therof, and if they fynd any defect therein, that they prosecute the same in our name, notwithstanding wherof we walde be loth therby thoct ther title shuld prove deficient to vse the regour of Lawe aganst them, bot only that it might be ane inducement for confirming of them to reason heirin: And further, our plesur is, that yow gif commission to such persones as yow shall think fitt, to trie the lands which did belong to the said forrest of ald, and what lands of new ar fitting to be adjoynit therunto.—Whythall, the 3 of Julij 1627.

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TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Tuo copyis of Letteris vnder the hand of James Dowglase in favours of Elizabeth Leslye, Alex^r and Robert Irvings, hir sones, concerning ther religion that hath bene shoven vnto ws, the one being writtin by our late dear father to our Chancellour Thesaurer, President for the tyme, and to the remanent of yow of our Colledge of Justice, and the vther to the B. of Aberdene, whome we have willed to deale by all faire meanes for ther conversion, which persones hath bene humble suteris vnto ws that they might have letters for ther relaxatione frome all hornyngis whatsumever, and that no proces shoulde be granted to the said B., nor to the Colledge of Aberdeane, or to ther donatours aganst them for lifrentis, by vertue of any hornyngis for matters of religion: Thoct we ar exceedinglie loath to recommend any person whatsoever efter that maner, yett the intentiones and desyris of our said father have ever bene and ar so powerful with ws as we can not but wishe them more favour then vthers of ther religion, not havinge the lyk respect shoven vnto them by our said father: Therfor our plesur is, that yow pervse both the said copy of our said fatheres letteris, which for your better information we have sent yow heirwith, and therfter that yow grant vnto them all such favour as was therby entended for them, which we recommend vnto your care; and bid, &c.—Otlandes, the thrid of Julij 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wheras M^r W^m Levestoun, portioner of Saltoun, in regard as he affirmeth of his good service done vnto our late dear father in Orknay and Yetland, hath bene a humble suter vnto ws that so much of Sir David Levestoun of Dunpeace, his estate by reasone of debt now at our guift and disposition for his being at the home, might be granted vnto him as will be equivalent with the said M^r W^m his estate and lifrent, for which the said Sir David, as superiour of some landis, doth persue by rigour of Lawe, we holding it in some respectis if it be as we ar informed, to be agreeable to reason, specially wher any such subtenentis hath deserved well of vs or of our said late dear father, and with all wher ther superiours are to expect the lik favours at our hands, that the said rigour of Lawe in the like cases should be so mitigated by them towards the tennentis: Our plesur is, [if] yow have founde the premisses to be of

veritie, that yow ather mediat or cause mediat such fair and freindly course betuix theme for satling this purpose as may best agree with equitie, vtherwyse, if the said Sir David will not harken with reasone, lett ws be acquaintit ther with befor yow pase vnto him any guift of esheate of lifrent: So, &c.—Oatlandis, 3 of July 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLOUR.

Right, &c.—Haveing maid the Duik of Bukinghame generall of these forces which we have sett furth of late vpon our expedition speciallie importing our honour and safty, we ar resolved to supplie him with 2 Ragments more, which we wold have to follow efter him with as much deligence as conveniently can be vsed, and we have a great desyre to have them raised within that our kingdome as reposing from thence: Bot befor we give any publick warrant for this effect, we have thoct good to crave your advyce heirin, and our pleasure is, that yow consider what appearence is how these Tuo Ragements may be levyed and payed within that our kingdome for sex monethes, that according as we ar certifyit frome yow, may either proceed to give commissiones and warrantis necessarie for the said leavy, or otherwyse it can not be effectuated, that we may prevent, by concealing our designe, any sinestrous construction that might arryse if this our purpose ware published and coulde not tak effect: And so, being confident that yow will vse your indevors and returne your best advyse heirin with deligence, we bid, &c.—Oatlandis, the 3 of July 1627.

TO THE B. OF ABERDENE.

Reverend, &c.—Tuo Copyes of Letters vnder the hand of James Douglas concerning Elizabeth Lesly, Alex^r and Robert Irvinges, hir sones, having bene shewed vnto ws, the one being writtin by our late dear father to our Counsell and Session, and the other to your self, though we be exceedingly loath to recommende any persones whatsoever efter that maner, yet the intentiones and desyris of our said father have ever bene and ar so powerfull with ws as we can not bot wishe them more favours nor vthers of ther religion not having the lik respect shoven vnto them by our said father, if so be they behave themselves quyetlie and modistlie, without givinge offence: Therforour plesur is, that yow pervse our said fatheris' letter vnto yow, or the authentick copy therof, and thereafter that yow grant vnto them all favour in evirie respect as was therby intended vnto them, intimating this our pleasure to the Colledge of Aberdeane, and vthers to whome it doth concerne: Thus expecting your conformitie to our pleasure heirin, we bid yow fairwell.—Oatlands, 3 day of July 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Being informed that actions of spulzie ar intended at the instance of Sir David Livingstoun of Dunipace aganst some tenants of our right, &c. the Erle of Lithgow concerning ther titles, wherin though we ar exceedingly loath that any of our subjects should be delayed in prosecuting ther cause by the dew coarse of Lawe, yet seing this is a purpose insident for the Commission of the Tithes^r appoynted by vs for the generall good of that our kingdome, we think it fitt, vnles yow shall sie some speciall reson to the contrarye, that the said action of spulzie should cease till such tyme as our said commission shall tak a course for settling of this and vther bissynes of the lik natour, &c.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOP OF GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Wheras we ar informed for preventing of trubles then likly to arise betuene the merchantis and tradismen of the Citie of Glasgow concerning the election of ther Magistrattis and Counsell, it

pleased our late dear father to ordaine that one of ther bailleis soule be yearly chosen out of the number of the saids Tradismen, by which order, we ar credibly informed, observed by them these many yeares, they have bene governed in great peace, the estate of ther common good haveing ever sence dayly mor and more ineresed; bot being now informed that, in regard of tuo proclamations latly published ther, dischainging tradismen to be elected magistratis, or admitted vpon ther Counsell, that peace is likly to be perturbed, and factiounes insorectiones amoungst themselves ar liklie to ensue, howsoever these proclamations hath bene for the good of our whole frie brughes; yet the estate of that Citie, differing, as we ar informed, from them in some respects, and withall the effects of that course taken by our late dear father proveing so beneficiall vnto them sence the same was first established, that we can hardly at this tyme imitate the said received course without farther consideration therof: Therfoir our plesure is, that yow, till our further plesure concerning the same be signifyit to the contrary, see the said late ordour of our said deare father established, and that no change be made therin; and to this effect, that yow certifie them, and evirie on of them whome it doeth concerne, of this our royall intention, being willing, if neid be, that the advyce and assistance of our privie Counsell be vsit therin aganst such persones as shall presume to do any thing to the contrarye: Which recommending to your special care, we bid yow, &c.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONARIS.

Right, &c.—Wheras we war pleased to limit the sitting of our Commission till the first day of August nixt insueing, and further duringe our plesure, because matteris concerning the samen can not conveniently, as we ar credibly informed, be settled betuix this and that tyme, in regard of the frequent intercourse which hath bene of diverse Commissioners petitioneing ws in affairis concerning the said Commission: Our plesur is, that yow continewe to proceed according to your said Commission, vnles by reason of the harvest, or vpon some vther occasion, yow be diverted for some short time, and that till by a letter frome ws yow be wholly dischainged to proceid any farther therin, and in the meantyme that with all convenient diligence yow indeavour yow to put a final end to matteris contained therin; which we specially recommend vnto your care, and bid, &c.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Trusty and weilbeloved, &c.—Being willing, for diverse good respects, that the offices, priviledged and vthers, belonging to the Court of Admiralltie ther be cairfullie preserved; and vnderstanding how much it may import our good and the generall good of the kingdome that such questiones as may aryse in the said Court may be cairfullie lukit vnto by a persone haveing the lyk trust from vs, Our plesur is, at the desyre of our right trusty and weilbeloved the Erle of Linlythgow, our Admirall for the tyme, or where in any particular yow shall finde us justly interested, you concur with him and compeir for ws in all matteris concerning the said Admiralltie which ar fitt to be cleird by Law or the custom observed in lyk cases, according to the Commission latlie granted by vs for the shippes taken by our subjects within that our kingdome, haveing always a speciall care that we be not prejudged in anything that should justly belonge vs, which we recommend.—Oatlands, 3 of July 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being humbly desyred by the Admirall of that our kingdome for the tyme that a seale might be made for the office of Admiralltie; and we in our judgment thinking it fitt to be done, and evirie way proper for that office according to the custome of this our kingdome, Our plesur is, if yow have not a

speciall warrant to the contrarie, that yow warrant our said Admirall to cause mak such a seale as shall be most fit for that purpose, to belong in all tyme cuming to the said Admiraltie : So we bid, &c.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLYTHGOW.

Right, &c.—Being humbly desired for the better ease of such of our subjects who still have just resone to demand Letters of Marke that the priveledges of the Admirall in granting of them should be observed, and we being vnwilling for diverse good respects to infringe any priveledge formerly granted to the said office, Our plesure is, that from hence yow grant letters of Mark to all our subjects haveing just resone to demand them, and that efter such maner as is agreeable with the lawes of that our kingdome, or the approved course acustomed in the lik cases, without prejudice to vs for granting of commisiones to such of our subjects ther vpon whome we shall think fit to conferre that favour : Which recommending to your care, we bid fairwell.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Right, &c.—Wheras wee wer pleased to giue warrand to Sir James Bailzie, our collectour generall of the last taxationes, 1625, for collecting of such moneyis as are due vnto vs by the Lawer's clarkis and remanent members of oure college of Justice for thare parte of the said taxationes, bot bieng informed that they haue suspendit the charges given them for answering thareof (at which wee cannot bot wonder), sieing they haue both voluntarie yeilded to contribute thairvnto, and did pay in the like kind in the time of our late deir father, Thairfor our plesour is, that yee effectualie deal with them to contribute as aforesaid, otherwise for recouerie thareoff, that with all convenient diligence you afford justice in the said cause according to the Lawes and practique of that our kingdome : Soc, &c.—Oatlands, the 3 of July 1627.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Right trustie and weilbeloved.—Wheras by our former letter vnto yow concerning Johne Stewart of Coldinghame, yow did occasion, as we ar informed, to refuse to compeir for David Hume of Wedderburne, and some vthers, your ordinary clients, these ar therefore to signifie vnto yow that it was not therfor our intention to hender your ordinarie libertie to plead for ony of our subjects, bot that yow may frely do the same accused [in accustomed] forme if so be we be not therby prejudged : So, &c.—Oatlands, the 4 of July 1627.

A PRECEPT TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

In regard that formerlie we gave a warrand to the Erle of Nithsdale thar, our Collectour generall of the taxatiounes last granted vnto vs, to pay vnto Sir Henrie Bruce, kny^t, M^r of our Ordinance, the extraordinair charges he was to be at in our service, according to the modification of our Counsell of warre, it is our plesure that according to ther ordour yow pay the samen vnto him ; for doing wherof these shalbe vnto yow and the auditours of our accomptes a sufficient warrand and exoneration.—Oatlands, the 4 of July 1627.

A PRECEPT TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Wheras we have commanded Nicolas Briott to grave and mak our great seale of Scotland of silver, according to the modell of the like kind maid by him and approved by vse : We therfor requyre yow, out

of the rediest monyis of our Exchequer, to cause deliver vnto him such a proportione of silver as will be sufficient for the fabrik of our said seale, and always to pay vnto him all vther sowmes of money as to yow shall apper to be due and resonable for his chaarges and panes in making and furnishing the samen : And for your so doing, &c.—Oatlands, the 5 of July 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTY.

Right, &c.—Wheras the widow of Sir James Cunnyghame, kny^t, hath humblie petitioned vs that she might be infet in hir conjunct fee land called the Barrony of Ballindalloch, and that she might have our guift of the nonentress therof, and of those Lands called Little Ballindalloch, togither with our guift of hir husband's lifrent and esheat for the better securitie of hir estate and conjunct fie : As we ar willing vpon hir pairt that she sould have all things that ar due vnto hir, so being loath that either we or any vthers should anywayes be prejudged by the said infetment, or that we should any way grant such guiftes without due considerationes, how much the giving therof might import ws : Oure plesure is, that yow duely consider therof, and that yow grant vnto hir all such spedy favours in passing hir said infetmentis as is without prejudice of the course intended by our frie commission, or without ony hurting any persone justly entrested, can lawfullie be granted : As for the said guift of new entrest, lifrent, and esheat, we think it fitt in regard of hir entrest that she have as much benefitte thereby as usual is granted other persones : In doing, &c.—Oatlands, 5 of July 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARR.

Right, &c.—We have considered your letter sent vnto ws by Sir Henry Bruce, M^r of our Ordinance, and by his information of the great necessitie of a magasin of Armes, Munition, and all vther things necessarie in that kynd for our service and the defence of that our kingdome, wherby likewise our subjects by that example may be further encouraged to furnishe theme selves with armes and be brocht to some perfection in Military decepline : We do heirin approve your care, and will not be wanting in any thing wherby we can convenientlie further such a purpose, and particularlie, if important ocasionnes do not vtherwyse devert vs, we will assigne for this effect such part of the taxatiounes last granted unto us, as is not disposed of : So being willing that yow cairfully insist to prosecut al such things as may attende to the advancment of our service heirin, We bid, &c.—Oatlands, 5 July 1627.

A PRECEPT TO THE ERLE OF MARE.

In regard of Sir Henrie Bruce, M^r of our Ordinance, hath complained vnto ws that payment is not made vnto him of his fees : Oure plesure is, that according to his guift, he be payed, vtherwyse we will be forced, in respect of his office and chaarge, particularly to assigne to him some of our readiest rents, which we ar very vnwilling to do if vtherwise he coule be satisfied : For making of which payment to him or his assignayes, &c.—Oatlands, the 5 of Julie 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLAR.

Wheras we war pleased to dispose of our thrie shippes in that our kingdome to the Erle Merchall, for such causes and conditiones as ar contened in his signatour, and as we gave directione heretofore (the said signatour being found or maid of new only to continew till we shoulde be plesed to recall the said guift),

and to wrange the Duk of Lenox of his office of Admiralltie: Oure plesur is, with all convenient deligence, yow cause passe the said signatour vnder our great seale, provyding he give suretie for performinge these conditiones expressed in the same, and according to our former [letter] writtin to our Counsell concerning this purpose, and in the meantime we have written to our Exchequer concerning some overturis maid for disposing vtherways of the said shippes from the chaarges wherof we desyre that we may be made free, by putting the said Erle in possession therof till the bargane propoued concerning the saids shippes be resolved vpon, that therether the partie who is to have the saids shippes may hast to pute them to see: So recommending this vnto your care, We bid, &c.—Wonsor, the 8 of July 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Some Articles concerning the disposition of our thrie shippes in that our kingdome that have bene presented vnto [vs] in name of our Right trustie, &c. the Erle of Linlythgow, our Admirall for the tyme, which we have sent yow heirwith inclosed, whervnto we did the more willinglye harken, in regard of the great charge we have and ar likly to be at in levying those forces to be send vnto our vnkle the King of Denmark, so that we can not conveniently for the present meantene the shippes as was intended at our owin chaarges: Therfor our plesure is, that yow, or some number selected among yow for this purpose, consider of the Articles, and how by an absolut sale of the saids shippes, or vtherwise by disposing for some tyme, the greatest and redest benefitt might be gevin according to ther worth for our vse, and peticularly frome freing of our Collectour generall of the Taxations frome the burden of these debitis latly contracted, for the which, as we ar informed, we pay so great entrest, and for that effect that yow treat with the said Erle Mercheall or Linlythgow, or ony vther who ar willing to advance sommes of mony for the saids shippes, being willing in this case that yow agrie with them whome you find to offer the best conditiones for our advantage: Thus referring the making of the bargane vnto yow, and the maner of the securitie vnto our advocat, desyring if neid be to be certifieth of your proceeding heirin, We bid, &c.—Wonsor, the 8 of July 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF MARISHAL.

Right, &c.—We received your Letter, and have according to our first intention writtin to our Chancellour for passing our guift to yow concerning our shippes vnder our great seale ther, but in regard of the great chaarges, debtes, diverse wayes of late contracted for our service, for which, we ar informed, we pay so great entrest, and for the better paying back of these moneyes to the creditours, motion hath bene maid vnto ws for selling of the saids shippes, concerning which we have writtin to our Exchequer, willing them to mak offere therof first vnto yow, and to the Erle of Linlythgow, our Admirall, for the tyme, or vtherwise for the tyme to any vthers who sould give the best conditiones for our advantage, wherof we have thoct good particularly to advertise yow, that therein yow may tak such a course as may be thoct most advantagous for your credett and benefitt, and in the meantyme be confident that if yow do aggre for the shippes, or vtherwise desyre any commission that can be lawfullie grantit be vs, you shall have all favour that we can conveniently affoord vnto yow: So we bid, &c.—Wonsor, the 8 of July 1627.

Right trustie and welbeloved Cousin and Counsellour, right trustie and welbeloved Cousines and Counsellours, We greet yow well.—Whereas we are moved concerning two French shippes and French good, wherof the one is called S^t Peter, the vther S^t Michael, which, as we ar informed, were taken since the last pacificatioune by some Scottish schippes and carriet vnto Leith, and that no breach sould appeare on our part, lyke as we expect performance of the lyke of thame, when the estate of ony of our subjects sall requyre the same: Our pleasure is, that yow cause try the same, And if efter due tryall yow find that

these shipps and good doe belong vnto the French, that yow cause tham be redelyvered to ther owneris : And for better expedition of Justice if any question salbe betwixt pairties concerning any thing that may hinder the dispatch hereof let as speedie a course be taken for decyding of the same as can laulfully be vsed : Which recommending to your care, we bidde yow farewell.

TO THE PRINCIPALL OF THE COLLEGE OF KING JAMES.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas complaint hath bene made vnto ws in behalff of M^r James Read, publick professor of the Metaphisickes in the Colledge of King James, our late deir father, that he hath been deposed from his place, and another placed thairin, and that onlie for heaving appealed from yow in some pointis of learning, as not bieng competent judges in such contrauersies, and sieng that his demand herein is that the equitie of his appeal may be considered off : Wee haue thought fitt, before forder course be taken in this purpos, or the matters concerning your right in his deposing be disputed, that you consider of his demandis, and that you vse your best means for satling off differences between you and him in a fair and amicable maner, to the effect that being satled in that place he may haue occasione to mak vse of those abilities wherewith (according to the generall report made vnto ws) he is endewed, hee haveing withall with great commendatione by the space of 24 yeers last past taught philosophie thairin ; which wee specialie recommend vnto you, and bid you, &c.—Windsore, the 8 of July 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL

Ryght, &c.—Being informed that the day appointed for the Regementis bieng in readines, which wer to be sent to our wnecke the King of Denmark, is already expired, and that both you and the commanders thereof haue vsed your best endeouris in that aerand : And wnderstanding that for this purpos it is fitt that a longer time should be granted, Wee think it fitt that it be prorogated to the last day of August ensuing, and in the meantime that you carefullie insist, as you haue already begune, to caus leaue such idle persones as are designed in the proclamacione made to this effect, which kind of persones already leauij by this means, or to be leauij herefter, we require for diuers considerationes to be equalie distributed amongis the thrie colonellis, leaueing everie one of them otherways by ther oune means to strenthen thair companeis : And to this effect that you both signifie our pleasour herein to them, and be carefull to sie the same put in executione, as likways that you certifie vnto them that at the said compleat number of men already condiscended vpon to haue been leauij bee not in readines before the said day, that then wee wilbe forced, for the better releeff of his debts latelie contracted for our vse, to caus put thare bands in executione : Soe recommending the premissis vnto your aernest care, as purposes specialie importing the good of oure service, We, &c.—Theobaldis, the fifteen of July 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas wee are pleased for diuers considerationes to grant a protectione to the Erle of Nithsdail, with speecell reseruacione that at Martimes nixt he should satisfie his creditouris for thair interestis, notwithstanding, as wee are informed, ther are sum of them who haue produced hornings to hinder him from persuite of his causes depending before you, contrarie to our intencion signified by our said protectione : Our pleasour is, that yee suffer him and his cautionaris to persew and defend in all thair actiones, whareby they may be the better enabled to giue satisfacione to thare creditouris, and to this effect that no horning which shalbe produced by them doe hinder the said Erle nor his said

cautionaris during the time of the said protectione, and that yow grant vnto them such forder fauour as hath bene granted vnto any other persones in the like kind, and as may be lauffully granted by you ; and likeways that in all othir actiones depending, or which shal happin to depend before you concerning the said Erle, you grant vnto him in regard of his imploymentis in our seruice all the speedie fauour that lauffully and convenientlie can be granted ; which wee recommend vnto your care, and bid you fareveell.—Theobaldis, the 15 July 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Ryght, &c.—Wheras diuers overturis haue bene presented vnto ws, in name of . . . the Erle off Sutherland, tuiching his offices thareof, and of Strathnavare, offering withall to resing in our fauouris his right to the regalitie and heretable shirrefschip of the same ; Which offers seeming to import ane incres to our rentis by giving ws ane certane yeerlie few-dentie, wher now we haue litle or noe rent, and for that they doe advance our intendit course for reducing of heretable offices to our croune, and withall bieng purposes which are accident to your commissiounes, we desire you at some convenient time to take the same vnto your considerationes, heaving for this purpos sent the said overtouris to be heerwith deliuered vnto you, that you may the more lauffullie and conuenientlie proceed according to the tennour of your commissiounes, to satisfie the nobleman in his demandis, according as you shall think fitt, wharein wee desire that he haue all the lauffull fauour that can conuenientlie be granted vnto him, and, besidhis his demandis that you consider of the soumes of money demanded by him for the said shirrefschip and regalitie : And we think fitt in regard of the example, and for the nobleman's good intentione towardis ws, that soe it doe not exceed 1000^{li} sterling, you giue way vnto the same ; and in the meantime that you deal with the said Erle, or with such as haue his poware, to bring the said soume to a lower rate, iff soe be you can effect the same. All which wee recommend vnto your care, and bid you fareweel.—Theobaldis, the 15 July 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.



Ryght, &c.—Whereas for considerationes of the good and faithfull seruice done vnto ws by M^r Williame Elphinstoune, our cupbearer, wee wer pleased to grant vnto him the giuft of escheat of one Goldman for the slaucher of one Someruill, yet out of the royall clemencie, for the good of his childring and widow, and for given some ressonable satisfiacione to our said seruand, wee wer pleased to write vnto our sessione for mediating a fair and freendlie course betweene them, notwithstanding (as we ar informed) the composition modified to him is soe far in proportioun below that which is to be given to the said widow, and schort of that which is thought may be given by a persone able to pay the same, that wee cannot but think that our interest hath bene vndervalued, though we rather encline that the said freendlie course should be taken then otherways ; yet bieng loath that our said seruand should ether be frustrat of what wee hade thareby intended for him, or that our said interest should be neglected, Our pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence the said giuft off escheat may be past in his fauouris, according to our former intentione, and that the due course of justice may be vsed vpon the offenders, according to the lawes accustomed in the like caeses : Which wee recommend vnto your care, and bid you fareweel.—Theobaldis, the 17 of July 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LYTHEROW.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas humble peticione was of late exhibited vnto ws, in name of the owners of ane schip of Middleburgh, taken by some persones whoe wer (as we ar informed) set to sea by the direc-

tion of Sir Robert Gordoune of Lochinwarr, knight, complaning of the breach of that long continued frendship between theis our kingdomes and the estates of the vnited provinces, the said schip not found to be lauffull prise. Housoeuer (as we are lykewayes informed) that maters are quietlie composed between the owners and takers thairoff, wee think it not fit that any connivance should be vsed to hinder the triall of hir taking from the due course obserued by the laues of our Admiralltie ther, least by others aduenturing after the like maner to hurt our freendis and confederattis, or other subiectis trafequeing abroad, might suffer for that caus, and wee be troubled for restitutione of the goodis: Thairfore oure pleasour is, that yee in our name require our advocat to forme processes in this behalf, and legalie to persue the said transgressouris, according to the laus and custumes of the said Admiralltie, and iff they be found guiltie that you accordingle proceed to giue sentence aganis them; But before maters be put in executione, let ws be certiefied of the trew estate thareof, that thairefter we may tak such course thairin as we shall find just caus.—Theobaldis, July 17, 1627.

TO THE RECTOR OF S^r ANDROWES.

Trustie, &c.—vnderstanding that the place of Doctor Wadderburn in the new colledge of S^t Androis doe now waik by transporting himself hither, and bieng informed of the learning and sufficiencie of one M^r Patrik Panter to succiid to such a charge, wee are moved in regard thareof, and for his better encouragement to mak vse of those habilities, specialie to recommend him vnto yow, for accepting him into the said place according to your formes accustomed in the like cases, which wee will tak as a pleasour done vnto ws, whareof we will not be wnmindfull when occasione shall offer whareby wee may convenientlie expres our respect vnto yow.—Theobaldis, July 17, 1627.

TO THE ADVOCATTS.

Trustie, &c.—Being informed that the poware of Admiralltie in the boundis of Orknay and Zetland hath bene of late disioyned from the office of Admirall of that our kingdome, which poware with that estate bieng now deuolued vpon our royall persone, humble complaint hath bene made vnto ws that our admirall wilbe tharby much preiudged and disabled in his office: In which purpes, and in all other questionable matters between ws and our subiectis, as wee are unwilling to lose anything dwe vnto ws, soe are we loath that any partie should any way be wronged by our means in that which should justlie belong vnto them, much les any persone haveing soe neir relatione vnto ws as he hath whoe is to succiid to the said office: Oure pleasoure is, that you trie from whence and vpon what groundis or possessione of the said parcell of the admiralltie hath flowed, and our right thairvnto; and iff you find that the same doe justlie belong vnto the said office, that with convenient diligence yow report vnto ws your opinione in law concerning the same, and how the said poware may be re-established to the said office, to the effect that we may tak such a course thairin as we shall find just caus.—Theobaldis, July 17, 1627.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF S^r ANDROIS.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng informed that the blank in the peticeon for the church of Monkland, latlie signed by ws and sent vnto yow, is not as yet filled wpp, and heiring of the sufficiencie of M^r James Fullertoune, minister of the church of Beeth, for that charge, and withall bieng willing that the said church should be noe longer unprovided of a sufficient preacher, Oure plesour is (iff you find him soe), that with all convenient diligence you fill wpp the said blank with his name, proceeding with the like diligence to his commission to the said church in regard it hath ben soe long destitut of a preacher: Which recommending, &c.—Theobaldis, July 17, 1627.

TO THE SESSION.

Ryght, &c.—Wheras for the better providing of the church of Monkland with a sufficient preacher till the questiones betuix my Lord Boyd and Sir James Kneeland, concerning thair right of presentatione thareto, wer fullie cleered by law, wee wer pleased to write vnto you, that the suspension rased at the instance of the Archiepiscap of Glasgow, might be discussed; bot bieng informed that the presentatione of the said suspensione will preiudge the said Lord in his reductione, which was noe way our intentione, but that the said church should be noe longer unprovided, Thairfor our plesour is, that you proceed to minister justice with all convenient expeditione in the causes of both parties, to the effect that nether of them haue just caus to complaine.—Theobaldis, July 17, 1627.

TO THE ERLE OFF MORTOUNE.

Ryght, &c.—Wee bieng justlie ingadged in a warr with France, and heving sent . . . the Duke of Buckingham vpon a service thare, wharein bieng willing to second the good succes he hade, wee are pleased out of the confidence wee haue of your habilities and affectione to our seruice, and in regard of the relatione you haue to the said Duke to imploy you for leavieng of tuoe thousand men to be conducted by you in that warr: Tharefor wee haue thought it fitt to send doune our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Robert Dalzell, our seruand, to whome in this purpos we haue given particular instructiones to be imparted to you, and that by him yee return vnto ws your opinion concerning the leavieng of those forces, and in what tyme the same can be done, together with your opinion concerning the charge wee wilbe at in raising and transporting them thither: Endeouering in the meantime by all means lauffull to bring this our intentione to perfectione, whairin not doubting of your aernest care and readienes to plesour ws, sieng it is a purpos that soe heichlie importis our seruice: Wee, &c.—Woodstock, the first of August 1627.

A Letter “to the Erle of Balcleuch,” in similar terms, of the same date.

Another Letter “to the Erle off Marr,” in similar terms, of the same date.

Auother of the same still and dait to the Chancellor.

Another to the Erle of Melrose.

Another to the Erle of Roxburgh, all of one still and dait.

INSTRUCTIONES FOR SIR ROBERT DALZELL.

It is our plesour that yee conveen the Lord Cancellor, the Erles of Marr, Mortoune, Roxburgh, and Melros, or such of them as can be convenientlie hade:

That you impart our plesour vnto them for sending of a supplie of Tuoe thousand men vnto the Duke of Buckingham to be conducted by the Erle of Mortoune, or otherwayis a thousand of them by the Erle of Baleleuch:

That they all vse thare best means for leavieng of them with the greatest diligence that may be:

That they consider of the charge wee wilbe at in there leavieng and transporting, and how moneyis for this purpose may best be hade, as likwayis that they consider of the tyme in raising those forces; and tharefter that you report bak vnto ws thair opiniones concerning this purpos:

That you signifie vnto them that it is our pleasour that the saidis Erles of Mortoune or Balclench shall mak choise of ther oune commanders vnder them, vnles it shalbe some few particularlie named by ws vnto you, whereof you shall giue them notice.—Wodstock, August 1, 1627.

TO THE LORD BALMIRRIENOCH AND TRAUQUAIR.

Ryght, &c.—Sieng that both by ane act made by the commissioners for surrenders, and by a letter sent from them vnto ws, they doe referre their pointis in contrauersie concerning the valuatione and prices off tithes and the prices of few-dewties vnto ws, after we hade conferred with you, who wer directed from them whoe had Tythes to sell, it culd not but seem strange that you and noe other particulare poware granted vnto you to submitt the same vnto ws, according to the said reference as they hade whoe wer directed from them whoe hade Tithes to buye, soe that wee cannot proceed as we intended (after the leaveing of both) to determine which is best to be done without a sufficient warrant that our decree should be obeyed: Thairfore our pleasure is, that ether both or one of you return with diligence, and caus send vnto ws such a sufficient warrant vnder ther handis whoe are to sell thare Tithes, whither they are willing to submitt the points in contrauersie to our judgment or not, and that you bring the declaratione of submissione signed by all those that condiscend to our arbitriement, yow bieng not to linger longer in this bussienes then to bring ws ane answer by the first of September nixt, that tharefter we may aether settle the same in ane fair and indifferent maner, or els resoluue what is fitt for ws to doe in caice they adhere not to this course: And soe requiring you to procure ws a speedie resoluceone herein, in regard wee are to continow any forder proceeding in that mater till wee heer bak concerning the same: Wee bidd, &c.—Woodstock, the 5 of August 1627.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng informed that diuers persones in Kintyre whoe hade been refractarie to the discipline of the church, openlie professing poperie, are now willing to conforme them selues to the religeone presently professed, for which caus they haue been suttors for our fauour in remitting to them their lifrentis and eschettis now falling in our handis, to which demandis wee are most willing to giue way, iff soe be thare cariage heirefter should be anserabill to that which they profes heirin. Soe wee should be sorie that vnder cullour of religeon, they should goe about for thare present endis to abuse our clemencie towardis them. Therefore we think fitt that vpon report of the bischop of that dioecie, or of some other of the clergie thareabout, whome you shall approue, you remitt vnto them ther said lifrentis and eschettis for all time preceding; for doing whereof thir presentis shalbe vnto you a warrant.—Windsore, the 12 of August 1627.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we wer pleased by a former lettre to desire that a course might be taken for satisfieing the creditouris of the Erle of Argyll out of the rentis of the same and of Kintyre, burdening them proportionabillie in the payment of the said debtis, according to the worth of thare rentis: And bieng crediabilie informed that Alexander Maknaughtoune, our servant, hath deserved weell of the said Erle, and hath been at great charges in his service, as by his accomptis and other euidentis may appear, and that without satisfacione he speedie thairof vnto him, his estate is like to be wndone, which wee wilbe loath to fall out, in regard he was employed in those seruices by our late dear father, and is now employed

by ws in affairs specialie importing ws: Wee are tharefor weell pleased aernestlie to recommend the consideracion of his disbursmentis and other moneis due vnto him be you, bieng willing that amongis the said creditouris he be one of the first with whome a course for his satisfacione may be taken, which wee are willing should be made out of the rentis of Kintire, and that with the greatest diligence that may be becaus of the said present employmentis.—Windsore, the 12 of August 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—In regard that wee haue resolued that our ryght, &c. the Erle of Murray shall proceed to execute the commissiōe granted by ws wnto him in the wholl poware and articles thaireoff: See it is our determinatione for diners considerationes to assume and reserue onlie wnto our selues the triall of all such complaintis as haue or shalbe exhibited against the executione thaireoff: Thairfore we haue thought good in regard of your former lettre wnto ws concerning this purpos, to certiefie you of our resoluēon heirin, and that wee intend soe fairlie and equitabillie to proceed with our subiectis interested in this aerand, that iff the said Erle haith, hade, or shall haue iniust aspersiōes laied vpon him, wee wilbe carefull to see the offenders punished; and if he hath iniustlie wronged them, that wee shall haue the like care to sie them repaired fullie: Requiring you allways to communicat the best assistance to the said Erle for executione of our said commissiōe, and that you proceed not in any maner to doe any thing to interrupt or hinder him in that our seruice; and in the meantime that yee direct our proclamatiōes to the boundis mentioned in the said commissiōe, to intimat this our royall pleasour to all subiectis thair: All which wee will tak as acceptable seruice done wnto ws: And soe wee, &c.—Windsore, the 14 August 1627.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HAMILTOUNE.

Ryght, &c.—Indignities and wrongis offered vnto ws and our subiectis be the French King haue forced ws, out of respect of trew honour and state, to intend due reparatiōe by oure royall armes, which God of his mercie heaving blissed in the begining with victorie, the former respect bindis ws substantialie to prosecute our intētiōe by the assistance of our faithfull subiectis, non of which are more bund by nature and our fanour to contribute reallie then those of our natiue kingdome of Scotland, nor any of them more trusted in the performance of that duetie than yourself: Whereof wee aernestlie desire you to giue proof at this time, by the speedie furnessing of the greatest number of men able for warelicke seruice that you can prouide by your means and freendis weel knouen vnto ws, againe the 15 day of the aproching moneth of September, at what time we wisch them to be at Edinburgh to be deliuered to our, &c. the Erle of Mortoune, or his offiāciars appointed be him, to receaue and transport them to France for our seruice. Your care and diligence in this wilbe verie acceptable vnto ws, and fauorabillie remembred at convenient occasiōes.—Soe, etc.—Bagshote in England, the 17 day of August 1627.

Lettres besidis this of the same substance and dait to the toune of Edinburgh, the Marqueis of Huntlie, the Erles of Anguisch, Baleleuch, Seaforth, to the Lord of Lorne and Lowat, to the Lairdis of Drumlainrig, Lochinewarr, Grant, and Glenvrquhart.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng villing, amongis others forces intended to be sent by ws for better seconding the warr wharein we are iustlie ingadged with France, to send thither 200 heichland bowmen: Oure pleasour is,

that you grant vnto Alexander Maknauchtan, our seruand, ane commissione, with a sufficient warrant to leaue and transport the said 200 bowmen with as large priueleges as any other hade heirtofore in the like kind ; hee alwayis giueing satisfacione to euerie one of the said number as shalbe agreed vpon betuix him and them, according to the custume in the like cases ; ffor doeing whareof thir presentis shalbe vnto you ane sufficient warrant.

And for the better leaueing of the said number of men in dwe time, wee are willing vpon ane motione made vnto ws for causing grant remissiones to such hiechland persones as are fugitiue from our lawis for criminall causes to refer the same to your consideratione, bieng willing that thairin you grant vnto our said seruant all the fauour and fortherance that can lauffullie be granted : Soe, &c.—Bagshote, 17 August 1627.

A Letter “to the Erle off Mortoune” that the above levy of 200 highlandmen was to be made, and for him to give evey assistance to the said Alexander Macknaughtone, Bagshote, 17 August 1627.

A Letter “to the Erle of Seafort” to the same effect, and in similar terms, of the same date.

A Letter “to the Lord Lowat” to the same effect, and in similar terms, of the same date.

Thrie letters of this substance and dait sent to Grant.

TO THE THESAURER OFF ENGLAND.

Ryght, &c.—In regard we are to imploy Sir John Meldrume, knight, our seruand in effairs abroad specialie importing the good of oure seruice, Wee are willing for the better satling of the bussienes of the lichtis at Wintertoune Ness, and for his wholl creditouris better satisfacione, that both from him self and otherways you tak speciall notice of the indirect practises vsed (as wee are informed) aganis him by one Heugh Bullock and Williame Lancelot, present collectour of the duties of the said Lightis, to his great preiudice ; and thairefter that you vse all lauffull means, by calling our attorney-generall, or by such other means as you shall think expedient ffor removeing the said Lancelot from that charge, and for establishing some indifferent officiairs in the custome hous and other out partes for collecting the duties thaireoff, that without any alteratione of any persones interest the profeitis may be conuerted for the payment of such debtis as the Commissioners appointed by the Lord Keeper of our great seall shall certifie to be done (the necessarie charges, as the maintenance of the Lightis, the yeerlie allowance appointed for our said seruant, and the collectouris’ feeis bieng first deduced), soe that noe persone justlie interested may haue caus to complaine, and wherby in the meantime wee specialie recommend vnto you that Sir Williame Alexander, our secretaire for Scotland, may haue payment made vnto him of the moneys due to the said Sir Johne or the said Lancelott, ffor payment whareof the benefeit arysing by the said bussienes is lyable : Which recommending vnto your care we bid you fareweell.—Bagshote, the 17 August 1627.

PRECEPT TO THE KEEPER OF THE ORDINANCE.

In regard the harbour of Aberdeen is, as wee are informed, a place of importance, and hath need to be fortified, humble sute hath been made vnto ws in name of that burgh to haue some ordinance planted vpon the fort thairoff for the better defence of the same, It is oure pleasour that you caus deliuer for the said vse, Sex good and sufficient Demiculueren out of such store of our ordinance as you haue in your charge, and which may be conuenabill spared to be redeliuered when it pleas ws to caus require the same : For doing whareof, &c.—Bagshote, 17 August 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made vnto ws that M^r Williame Oliphant might haue the gift of escheat of ane Rowan, now falling in our handis for the slaughter of his wiffe committed by him, for which (as wee are informed) he hath alreadie or is schortlie to suffer death ; and that in regard the said M^r Williame standeth bond for him to diuers his creditouris, Bieng likeways a neir kinsman both to the said Rowan and his wiff, and therefore should seeme to haue the greatest care of thair poore childring thus miserabilie orphaned : Thairfor our pleasour is, that you consider heirof, and if his escheat be employed for satisfacione of the said debtis, and the superplus for the releeff of the said orphans, wee hold it reasone that the said M^r Williame be preferred thairto before any others, requiring that the same be granted vnto him, he giving band, iff soc you shall think it expedient, for performing the said condicones ; for doing whareoff, &c.—Bagshote, the 17 August 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER, &c.

Ryght, &c.—In regard resignatione is to be made into our fauouris by the Lord Maluill of that regalitie of Moneymaill, and for other good considerationes, wee haue been pleased to signe a signatour to him of his landis, barronie, and title of Monymaill, and other thingis contined thairin, which wee haue sent you heirwith : But becaus thair may be thingis thairin which are fit to be considered off by the commissioners for the said surrenders, Our pleasure is, after you haue perused the said signatour, and vpon the said resignacione soc to be made, that you caus the said Lord enact himself in your bookis of Exchequer, that his signatour shalbe liable to the commissioners for surrenders to abide the ordour and determination thairoff, or of any course wee shalbe pleased to appoint concerning maters of the like nature ; and thairafter that with all convenient diligence you caus exped the same vnder our great seall ; ffor doing, &c.—Bagshot, the 17 August 1627.

TO THE ADUCATT, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we haue been humblic petitioned by the buyers off Tithes that they may be free from spoliaciones and rigourous exactiones of tithes for the cropp of this present yeer ; Which demand we think the more ressonable in regard the said buyers haue absolutly submitted themselves vnto ws in the mater of that tithes ; Nether hath thair been any impediment in them why that questione hath not been determined before the time of leading off cornes : Thairfor wee require you to aduise ws the best legall way how we may giue satisfacione to thair just peticione. Soe, &c.—Bagshot, 17 August 1627.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie, &c.—Wee haue vnderstood by Patrik Murray, our Seruitour, and etherways be diuers good effectis, houe carefull you haue been and are in our seruice, whareof wee will not be vnmindfull when any occasione shall offer wherby we may expres our respect vnto you ; and bieng informed by our said seruant how the estate of Incheffra hath not onlie been delapidat by diuers persones to our preiudice, bot likeways that they haue maliceouslie wholl to deface and raze the building thairoff, a course soc farr from civill ordour and government that we cannot but desire the same to be repaired : Thairfor our special pleasour is, that

you by all means informe yourself of the said fact, and of the actouris thareoff, and if you find the same to be as is alledged, and withall heaving considered how farr we may proceed in law aganis them, that tharefter you in our name caus present the saidis persones, according to the dew course of justice, leaving nothing omitted which may-lawfully mak them to be censured, fyned, or punished for the same; and as in this, soe in all thingis concerning the good of our service tutching that Abbacie, that you be carefull, as you haue begun to sie we be not preiudged in our right; which we recommend vnto you, and bid you fareweell, &c.—Bagshot, 17 August 1627.

TO THE LAIRD OF BALCARRAS.

Trustie, &c.—Bieng informed that . . . the Bischop of Dumblaine, the Deane of our chapple royall, cannot haue that aese at your handis in the tithes of some landis belonging to him as heretouris, haue in the same parochie in which his landis doe lye, but is forced to pay a farr greater dwetic proportionabillie then they doe, a course in oure judgment contrair to that which should be kept with men of his profession, and sieng our intencion is that everie heretour may haue his owne tithes for resonable satisfacione to be given to those whoe haue or pretend right thairto; And that the said bischop declaris himself to what shalbe found resonable vpon his part: Thairfore wee haue thought good heirby to desire you that the said bischop haue his owne tithes vpon such satisfacione as our commissioners for surrendaris shall determine, or as you yourself did giue for them, ffor wee doe not heirby intend any lose to you, bot that this maeter betuix you and him may be composed in a fair and amicable maner according to equitie and conscience as you wold expect any lauffull fauour from ws in the like, or in any other kind: Soe, &c.—Bagshot, 17 August 1627.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie, &c.—Whearas we are informed that the deputatione to the admiraltie of a certane parte of the wast seas, which wer formerlie conferred by Lodouik, Duke of Lennox, vpon the Laird of Barganie, is now by him deuolued vpon the persone of our right, &c. the Erle of Galloway, and bieng informed that you haue in your custodie diuers writtes concerning the same by the abstracting whereof he may be preiudged, which is noe way our intencion: Thairfore our pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you caus deliuer the saidis writtes soe belonging vnto him, wharein not doubting but you will obey our desire heirin: Wee bid you, &c.—Bagshot, 17 August 1627.

TO THE LORD OFF MARCHESTOUNE.

Ryght, &c.—Wnderstanding hou much Sir George Elphinstoune, our servand, standeth engaged for the debt of the Erle of Nithsdail, and how for the said Sir George and other cautionaris releiff wee wer pleased specialie to prouid in our lease to you of Orkney, that some yeers duties thareof should be assigned to the Erle of Wintoune: Thearfore least that both our said servant should be vndone iff a course warr not taken for his releiff, and least the said imploymentis wharewith wee haue entrusted him should be neglected, Wee haue thought good seriouslie to recommend him vnto you to the effect that those soumes of money for which he standeth soe engaged, be payed to the creditouris, and that out of the said duties of Orkney from the year 1628 to 1629, wherin not doubting bot you will haue a speciall care to giue ws satisfacione: Wee, &c.—Bagshot, the 17 August 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas oure late deir father of blisled memorie heaving perceaued the manefald abuses arising by the discontinuance of the antient laudable course of Justice courtis and Justicaires prescriued be the act off parliament made in anno 1587, did wreit diuers lettres and did direct diuers commissiones vnto you and others of his counsell for re-establisshing thereof in such forme and maner as may best stand with the gouernment of that our antient kingdome: And forasmuch as wee bieng informed that our said late deir father's lettres and commissiones did tak but litle or noe effect in his owne time, and that our owne principall lettres and commissiones sent vnto you with Sir George Elphinstoune, knight, Justice-clark for re-establisshing of the said Justice courtis and Justicaires doe as yet sleep wpperformed, wherby we doe find many insolencies and abuses daylie to arise and continow unpunished to the great discredit of our gouernment and preiudice of our good subiectis thair: Oure pleasoure thairfore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, with all convenient diligence, to performe our said late former directiones sent vnto you concerning the premissis, and to exped our said commissiones, and that you doe certifie ws of your proceedingis thairin, that wee may tak such forder course as in our princelie judgment shall seem most fitting for the peacefull gouernment of that our antient kingdome; and for your soe doing the same shalbe vnto you and everie one of you from time to time a sufficient warrant and discharge.—Given at Bagshot the 17 August 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLAR.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we are informed that one M^r Henrie Drummond is to be employed as preacher to an Scottis regement vnder our awnkle the King of Denmark, desiring to haue an testimoniall vnder our great seall of his pedegrie, according to the forme accustomed: Thairfore our pleasour is, that you first informe yourself thairof, and if you find the same to be treulie set doune in the said certificatt, that with convenient diligence you caus append our great seall thairvnto; and for your, &c.—Bagshot, the 17 August 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Wee haue vnderstood by your lettre of your desire to be cleirly certiefed of our resolueone concerning our schippis in that our kingdome, as by our pleasour latlie signefied vnto you, wee desired that they should be disposed off for our best advantage: To the effect that both we might be disburdened of the great charge wee are at in keeping of them, and that the moneyis arising thairby might be employed for the good of our seruice: Soe our pleasour is still, that you proceed according to the said former warrant: And iff the Erle Marischall, or any haueing pouere from him, will bargane for the said schippis or any of them, We think it fitt, in regard he hade our first grant thaireof, that he should be preferred to any other whoesoener, Or iff he and the Erle of Lythgow could condisceud togidder for barganing for the same vpon such termes as others wold doe, wee culd willinglie approue that course, otherways they nor non of them will agrie to tak the saidis schippis nor non of them, We are willing that you end with any person whoesoener for the same, whoe will performe the best and most speedie conditiones for our present vse, To the effect that we may dispose of the moneyis arrysing thairby as wee shalbe pleased to giue particular directiones: And withall our forder pleasour is, that you either agrie with them whoe

shall haue the said schippis, or with others haaving good schippis, as you shall think fitt for transporting the companeis now to be leavied and sent vnto France : Which specialie recommending vnto your care, Wee hid you farewell.—Bagshot, the 17 August 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas vpon good consideraciones Wee werr formerlie pleased that the time limited for bringing the forces to be sent vnto our avuncle the King of Denmark, should be prorogated to the last day of this moneth, Nou in regard of the interveeing occasione for leavieing of some forces for our service into France, wilbe a hinderance to the leavieing of theis other forces : Oure pleasure is, that you againe prorogat the said former limited time to the first of October, and signifie the same vnto the Colonellis of the saidis regementis ; ffor doing thareof theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—Bagshot, the 17 of August 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Ryght trustie, &c.—Whereas we are humble moued in the behalff of . . . Sir James Baillie, Knight, collectour generall of our taxationes, that we could be graciouslie pleased to caus heir his accomptis and debursmentis of the said taxationes, and of his other debursmentis and engadgmentis for our service : Oure pleasour tharefore is, and wee will and require you with all convenient diligence to meet together and to heir the accomptis of the receiptis and debursmentis of our said taxationes receaued or debursit by the said Sir James Baillie, and of all other debursmentis made by him for our seruice, and of his engadgmentis for the same, that the treu estate thairoff being deulie represented and certiefied by you vnto ws, wee may tak such forder course thairin as in our princelie judgment may seem fitting and agreeable with justice and honour, and with the present estate of our occasions : And for your soe doing theis our lettres shalbe vnto you and everie one of you from time to time your sufficient warrand and discharge.—Aldershot, the 22 August 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght trustie, &c.—Whereas we haue required . . . the Erle of Mortoune to leavie in that our kingdome a companie of 2000 footmen, consisting of 22 companies, and everie companie consisting of ten officers and fourscore commone soldiouris, to be transportit into France for our service there, ffor doing wherof it is fitt that he be authorised by a commission vnder the great seall of that our kingdome, appointing him to be Colonell of the said regement, with pouare to him to elect, nominat, and appoint such commanders and officers as are vsuall to be appointed by a colonell : Theis are tharefor to will and require you vpon the sight heirof to caus exped vnto the said Erle off Mortoune a commission vnder our great seall aforsaid in due and competent forme, giving and granting vnto him full pouare and licience to levie and transport the said regement of 2000 footmen, making and constituteing him to be sole Colonell ouer the same ; and with pouare to him to elect, nominat, and appoint Lieutenent Colonel, Seriaid Maior, Corporall of the said feild, Quarter-Maister, Prouest Marischall, Chirurgean, heaving tuoe men, and one preacher for the said Regement, whoe are to haue the seuerall intertinentis mentioned in a List heir-with sent vnto you [with] our Royall signatour : With pouare to him to elect, nominat, and appoint the seuerall captanes ouer the said seuerall companies, giving them pouare and authoritie to elect and choise thare oune officers, whoe likways are to haue the seuerall enterteimentis mentioned in the said List : And if the said Erle of Mortoune shall think it more fitting for our service and his aese that the said

2000 footmen be reduced into fewere companies and vnder the command of fewere captans and officers : Then our plesour is, that his desires heirin may be fulfilled, and that our said commissione may be exped vnto him accordingle : Prouiding alwayis, that the enterteinment of the said commanders, officers, and companies doe not exceid the charge mentioned in the said List : And for your soe doing these our Lettres shalbe vnto you and euerie ane of you, from time to time your sufficient warrand and discharge.—Aldershot, 22 August 1627.

	<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Colonell, per diem,	j	0	0
Leuetenent Colonell, per diem,	0	10	0
Seriant Maior, per diem,	0	6	0
Quarter-Maister, per diem,	0	5	0
A Prouest Marishall, per diem,	0	2	6
Chirurgeane, per diem,	0	2	0
His tuoe men, each per diem, 2 ^s	0	4	0
A preacher, per diem,	0	5	0

There is Ten companies to a Regiment—

A companie of foot, consisting of Ten officers and 80 commone soldiouris, Videlicet—	<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
a Capitane, per diem,	0	8	0
Leivetenent, per diem,	0	3	0
Enseigne, per diem,	0	2	6

Tuoe seriantis at 8 schillings per veik a peece.

Tuoe corporallis and tuoe Drummers at 5/6 a peece, per week.

Eightie soldiouris, at 8 ^d per diem a peece, after which rates the pay of ane companie	<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
of foot commethe to by the weik,	25	8	10

The commone soldiouris is onlie to receaue 3^s a week, and the remanender, bieng 20^d a week, is to be receaued toward his cleithing.

The chirurgeon is to receaue towardis the furnesing of his chist,	<i>lib.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	10	0	0

Theis are the designations, number, and seuerall ententamentis of the commanders, officers, and soldiouris of euerie regiment of footmen vnder the command of the right honorabill the Duke of Bukkinghame.—Aldershot, the 22 day of August 1627.

PRECEPT TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Oure plesoure is, and wee doe heirby will and require you vpon sieht heirof to mak stay of all paymentis out of the remanender of any of our taxationes there, and that with all convenient diligence you trye enquire and certifie ws how much thairof is behind as yet, and wnpayed, and at what termes the samen is payable, that tharefter we may tak such forder course tharewith as in our princelie judgment shall seem most suteabill to the present occasione of our royall affairs ; ffor doing whareof thir presentis shalbe your warrand.—Aldershot, the 22 August 1627.

To our Ryght trustie and weilbeloued cossen and counsellar
the Erle of Marr, Thesaurer of our kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE ADMIRALL.

Ryght trustie, &c.—Heaving vnderstood by informations from that our kingdome that there are some warr schippis of enemies discouered vpon our coastes of Zetland, and that you warr to set out oure

schippes with such others as you could procure to accompanie them : Though there may be mistakingis in this report, yet there is least danger in suspecting the worst, and wee approue your care and course that you haue taken heirin : And oure pleasour is, that according to the particulare occurrantis and intelligence you shall haue, you tak a course from time to time to obuiat inconueniences : ffor whatsomeuer directiones we giue vpon the present ocasioncs offered vnto our consideratiōe, yet wee cannot forseue everie contingensie that such a time may produce ; and therefore in that case we trust your judgement, not doubting, bot as you value the good of our service abone all things, soe in that which doe concerne the same yow will haue a cheeff care of that which may import the securitie of that our kingdome : And soe we bid you fareweell.
—Bagshote, the day of August 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF ROXBURGH.

Ryght, &c.—Heaveing wnderstood by . . . Sir Robert Dalzell hou foreward you warr to contribute your best help in forthering of . . . the Erle of Mortoune to leaue the companies which wee are to imploy vnder his charge for our service in France, Wee werie hartlie thank you for the same, and since you haue alredie passed the greatest difficulties wee are confident that you will not giue ouer your [endeuours] wntill you haue brought the work vnto perfectione which wee will esteem as most acceptable service.—Aldershote, the 22 of August 1627.

Thrie Lettres of this kind and natur send videlicet. One to the Chancellar, one to the Erle of Marr, and one to the Erle of Melros.

TO THE ERLE OF MORTOUNE.

Ryght, &c.—Heaving vnderstood by our servant Sir Robert Dalzell hou willinglie you vndertook the charge which wee wer pleased to conferr vpon you to leaue and command the companies wee purpos to imploy for our service into France, wee cannot bot thank you for the same werie hartelie, and that soe much the rather that you haue vndertaken it soe resolutlie, notwithstanding the many apparent dangers and difficulties which might haue discouraged any man whose affectione in our service hade not preuailed abone all other respectis : And as you haue begun weell wee doubt not you will continow to bring the work to perfectione ; And be assured wee shall not be wnyndfull of your endeuouris theirin.—Aldershot, the 22 August 1627.

TO SIR WILLIAME ALEXANDER.

It is oure pleasour that you forbeare the drawing or docating off any lettres or signatouris to pas our hand without speciall warrant from our awne mouth, or vnder the hand of the mouer and signifier of our pleasour vnto yow : And for soe doing theis shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand and discharge : Given, &c.—Bagshot, the 27 August 1627.

To oure trustie and weelbeloued Sir Williame Alexander, knight,
oure Secretare, and one of our Prīue Counsell for, and in our
kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE ERLE OF MELROSE.

Ryght, &c.—Wee haue wnderstood by James Livingstoune, our seruand, how frielie and effectualie you haue delt for his fortherance in those maters betueen him and the Laird of Basse, ffor which wee giue

you hairtlie thankis, and doe acknouledge the same as done vnto ws, bieng willing (as you haue begun) that you continu to doe him all the good seruices thairin that lauchfullie and conuenientlie you can : Soe we, &c.—Bagshot, August 1627.

TO THE ARCHIEPISCOP OF Sr ANDROIS.

Ryght, &c.—Wee haue heirwith sent vnto you such lettres as you desired concerning the Erle of Angus and his sone : And doe heirby hairtlie thank you for your fatherlie cair of them both, and as you haue prouidentlie aduised a saiff course for the one, soe wee wisch you to continow your care of the other, and of all others within your diocie whoe are anyways Popishlie afflicted ; the mean of whose conuersione we recommend vnto your worl, temper, and moderatiōe for the better continuance of the quiet gouernoment of that our kingdome : And soe wee bid you fareweell.—Oatkin, the 29 August 1627.

TO THE ERLE OFF ANGUSE.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we wer formerlie pleased to write vnto you that by the aduise of the tuoe Archebishops, or any one of them, you should haue a care of your sone's educatione, as wee did wret to some other noblemen thair in the like kind, who haue satisfied our demand concerning the same, Wee expected to haue hard the like from you ; And sieng we haue not caused put our lawes in executione aganis you, in soe farr as doeth concern the censure of the church, Wee look that yee should haue been more carefull to haue our desire in this performed : Thairfore wee haue thought good heirby to desire you that with all conuenient diligence you giue ordour that your sone repare vnto our court to be disposed off by ws as we for his good shall think most fit ; and in the meantime that you caus soe prouide for his janay hither, and for his keeping and interteinement heir, as may best fit your eldest sone : Which wee recommend vnto you, and bid you fareweell.—Oatkin, the 29 August 1627.

TO THE LORD DOWGLAS.

Ryght, &c.—Wee haue hard of your constant professione of the treu religione presentlie professed, notwithstanding that you haue been delt with to the contrair, for the which, beside the good that will thairby redound vnto your self, you haue gained our good opinione towardis you ; and wher we hade formerlie written vnto your father for haueing a care of your educatione, and specialie in the groundis of the said religeone, Wee now, out of a speciall respect to your weell, haue by another lettre desired him to caus furness you for your reparing hither, and for your interteinment in such places of this kingdome, as for your good shall seem most fit vnto ws. Soe we bid you, &c.—Oatkin, the 29 August 1627.

A LETTER TO THE LAIRD OFF WAST NISBETT, SHEREFF OFF BERUICK.

Trustie, &c.—We bieng informed of the laudable custume of the gentrie of that our kingdome in chosing thair commissioners at the yeerlie Michelmes courtis in everie shire for attending at Parliamentis, conventiones, or other generall meetings of the estates of our said kingdome, Wee haue thought fit, out of [our] princelie care of both church and commonewelth, to recommend vnto your and thare chois and electione such persones as you know to be weell affected to the same, and in speciall the Lairdis of Aittone, elder, and Langtoun, off whose abilities and affectione to our seruice and the publike good we are sufficientlie informed by such as wee trust ; and therefore wee doe not doubt bot you will haue a speciall

deutie to informe the gentrie within that shire of the good opinione wee haue conceaued of the saidis persones, and of thare fitnes to be commissoners for this nixt ensueing yeer : And soe bieng confident with one harmonie, you will all concurr togidder in soe good a wark, according to the trust we haue committed vnto yow : Wee bid, &c.—Oatkin, the 29 day of August 1627.

Tuentie tuoe Lettres of the same kind and verbatim, accompting this abone, for one to the Shireffis of all the shires to the Southward of Aberdeen, whereof Sir James Learmonth had the charge off nyne, Sir James Lockart tuelff, and Sir Alexander Straquhan one, all bieng of the same dait.

A letter "to the Laird of Crunen, for Pearthe," to the same effect and in similar terms, and recommending "the Laird of Weimes, of that ilk, and the Laird of Balmanno, elder," as men fitt to be commissioners.—Oatkin, the 29 August 1627.

Threttene privat lettres of the same kind and verbatim, accompting his abone for one to noblemen and gentrie within diuers shires, whereof Sir James Learmonth had the charge of fyue, Sir James Lockart off sex, and Sir Alexander Straquhan of tuoe,—all being the said dait.

A Letter "to the Lord Naper for Orknay" to the same effect and in similar terms, of the same date.

TO THE EARLE OF PEMBROCK, LORD STEUART.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have appoynted . . . Sir William Alexander, knight, our Secretairie for the kingdome of Scotland, to give his attendance and be alwise resident in his owne person at our Court for the dispatch of such bussines as shall happen concerning the affaires of our sayd kingdome by meanes whereof and ther continuall resort of many persones of speciall note and qualite, the dyett of three dishes formerlie allowed to James Douglas, who executed the sayd place as deputie, will neither be competent nor for our honor to be allowed to a person of that ranke, and such as often tymes by occasion shall resort vnto his boord : It is therefore our will and pleasure that the sayd dyett of three dishes shall, from the first day of October nixt, cease and determine, and that from the sayd tyme there be put forth and allowed vnto him a dyett or mess of meate of Seven dishes evrie meale, according to the vsuall faire of our house, wherein because the charge contrarie to a book lately by vs signed for the establishment of our house wilbe some what encreased : These are therfore to authorise and appoynt you to direct your warrant to our attourney-general to prepare a bill ready for our signature, to passe our signet and privie seall for the soume of fyve hundreded pounds more to be added to the assignement of our house out of our customes and impost, the same to be payed to the cofferers or cofferer of our house for the tyme being, evrie Michaelmes terme, for the defraying of the charge of the sayd new dyett so longe as the same shall have continuence : And for soe doeing these shalbe your warrant, &c.—Hampton Court, the day of 1627.

To our right trustie and right welbeloued cousen and counsellour,
William, Earle of Pembrock, Lord Steuart of our house.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we are informed that the deputatione to the admiralltie of a certane parte of the West seas which wer formerlie conferred by Lodouik, Duke of Lennox, vpon the Laird of Barganie, is

now by him deuolued vpon the persone of . . . the Erle of Gallowa : And bieng informed that you haue in your custodie diuers writtes concerning the same by the abstracting whereof he may be preiudged, which is noe wayis our intencion : Therefore our pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you caus deliuer the said writtes soe belonging vnto him : Wherein, not doubting but you will obey our desire heirin : Wee bid, &c.—Wainesteat, the 7 of September 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to write vnto our Thesaurer that noe respect nor remission should be granted to Robert Dumbar of Bourgie nor his associattis for a hynous slauchter committed by them (as wee are informed) within the boundis wharein . . . the Erle of Murray hath poware by wertew of his commision to Justice : Oure pleasour is still that you pas noe respect nor remission vnto the said persones, nor to any of them, for the said fact, but that you leaue the samen to be judged by the said Erle in soe farr as is competent for him to doe by wertew of the said commision : And for your soe doing, &c.Wanestad, the seauent of September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng credebillie informed of the experience and sufficiencie of Sir Robert Dalzell, elder, of that ilk, knight, to doe ws good service, Wee are moved in regard thereof ; And for the said Sir Robert's forder encouragement and enabling for our said seruice, to advance him to be one of the Commissioners for the Middle shires of that our kingdome : It is therefore our plesur, and doe heirby require you, that [you] giue ordour for admitting him one of the said commissioners, and for receauiug him as one of that number, in maner as is requisit or hath been accustomed in the like cases ; or otherwayis, iff there be a necessitie for the caus of renewing thare commision, that you likewayis giue ordour for the doing of the same, that his name be insert tharin ; ffor doing whereof thir presentis shalbe to you, and euerie one of you, a sufficient warrand.—Wanestade, the 7 of September 1627.

TO LADERDALE.

Ryght, &c.—Wee receaued your lettre importing a submissione wnto ws tuitching the valuatione and prices of tithes, feu-dewties, superiorities, and other thingis, concerning the erectiones wharin you are interested, which course wee haue taken verie kindlie at your hand ; and as thereby you show hou much you repose in our judgment and equitablie proceedingis in this particulare, soe be fullie assured that wee will soe fairlie goe one to put ane good and finall end tharevnto, that nather you nor other persones whatsoever interested thairin shall haue just caus to complaine : Soe not doubting but that you will rest confident of our fair and just cariage in this aerand, and of our good opinione in particulare of yourself : Wee bid you, &c.—Wanestade, the 7 September 1627.

TO THE ERLES OF HADINGTON AND ROXBURGH.

Tua lettres of the like nature and date to Hadingtone and Roxburgh, saue onlie that into the begining of Hadingtone's lettre it saieith absolutelie, " Wee haue receaued your submissione ;" and into the letter end thereof it desires him to continou, as he hath alreddie begun, to vse his best means for bringing the work to perfectione.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Wheras vpon good consideraciones wee wer formerlie pleased to write vnto our Thesaurer that the gift of eschet of Williame Gordoun of Penninghame, fallen at our guift and dispositione for the slaughter of ane Alexander Steuart, committed by him, might be conferred vpon . . . the Erle of Galloua, for the vse of the vidou and neerest freendis of the persone soe killed : Oure pleasoure therefore is, and we do heirby require you with all convenient diligence, you pas a guift of the said eschet in deu and competent forme to the said Erle for the vse foirsaid, and that without taking of ane band from him for the same ; Together with the guift of the lifrent eschet of the said William Gordoune, iff he shal happin to remain yeir and day at the horne ; for doing whareof this presentis shalbe vnto you, and everie one of you, ane sufficient warrant and discharge.—Wanestade, the 7 September 1627.

TO THE DEPUTIE OF IRLAND.

Ryght, &c.—Wheras our trustie and weelbeloued Henrie Achesone, esquier, hath a companie of 100 footmen in readines to be conducted and transported by him from thence into Scotland, to be settled vnder the command of . . . the Erle of Mortoune, whome we haue authorized to leaue a regement of 2000 footmen for our service in France : These are therefore to will and require you to grant vnto the said Henrie Achesone, his officiers and companie afoirsaid, a frie licience to depart and transport themselues from that our kingdome, ether into our kingdome of Scotland or directlie into France, as he shall find most aesie and fitting for our service, And becaus many of the idlers of our said kingdome of Scotland are non of late fled ouer into that our kingdome of Irland, sheltering themselues amongis thair freendis and acquaintance there, wherby to shune employment into our said leaue expedicione into France, and yet doe not employ themselues into any werteous course of leiving, bot still doe liue vpon the labouris of other men : Oure pleasoure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to grant a warrant vnto the said Henrie Achesone to apprehend and carie away soe many of them as he shalbe able to find out to be apprehendit and transported by him from thence for our said expedicione : And for your soe doing this our lretres shalbe vnto you from time to time your sufficient warrant and discharge.—Wanestade, the 7 of September 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas Robert Elphinstoune hath bene ane humble suitor vnto ws to haue fourtie thrie penny land possessed be him in Orknay, set to him in few paying the accustomed dewties for the same according to the rental : But wee not knowing hou much such a course might preiudge ws either in itself or by the example thairof, and in the meantime in regard of the seruice done be him vnto ws, bieng willing to giue him ane assurance that he should not be remoued : Wee haue thought good heirby to require you that be an act of Exchequer he and his airs may be declared kindlie and vnremouable tenementis of the said 43^d land, And giue at any time heirefter ane generall course shal happin to be condescendit vpon by ws for setting that wholl cuntry of Orknay in few, we are willing in that cais that he or his saidis heres in his said possessione be preferred to any other persones whatsoever, and that a great respect be schewen vnto them then vnto others thairin : Soe desiring you to caus giue vnto him ane just extract of the said act : Wee, &c.—Windsore, the 14 September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—In regard the Church of Monkland was of a long time vnprouded of a preacher, becaus of some differences depending in law between the Lord Boyd and Sir James Kneeland, wee wer pleased to

write at severall times that the same should be provided, heaving to that effect sent our presentation to the Archebiscop of Glasgow, for giving collatione and admisionne to M^r James Fullartone, preacher at the church of Beeath : But wee are since informed that, vpon the intēdit setling of the said M^r James at the said church of Monkland, it was violentlie opposed by the said Sir James, his tuoe brither and his complices, whoe (as wee are credibillie informed) in contempt of our plesour both signified by the said presentatione and by our lettre written to that effect and sheued vnto them, did in armed maner and by convocating our lieges for that effect, barr the said M^r James his admisionne, the parochiners from the benefit of heiring the vord of God, and infantis from bieng baptizit, a course not becoming civill men nor good christianes : Oure plesoure therefore is, that you caus cite the said persones before you, and after triall of that which is alledged, or of such informationes concerning this purpos as shalbe exhibitit before you by the said Archebischopp, iff you find them guiltie that you caus fyne, confyn, or otherways punish them as you shall find the nature of their offences to haue deserued, and in the meantime that you giue ordour that the said church be noe longer vnprouided, according to our plesour heirtofore signified to this purpos : Soe we hid you fareweell.—Theobald, the 18 of September 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR, &c.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we did latlie wret vnto you to stopp all payment out of the remanendar of any of our taxationes their, Wee are now informed that the freendis' sureties and creditouris of the Erle of Nithsdail doe thairvpon begin to distrust the performance of our former gracious grant and assignement made vnto yow : We are therefore graciouslie pleased to signifie vnto you that by our said restraint we wer neuer intendit to preiudge our said grant and assignement, wishing you (iff need be) to signifie soe much vnto the said Erle, and such of his freendis' souerties and creditouris as shalhappin to seem to be distrustfull thairoff : Soe wee hid you fareweell.—Theobald, the 18 off September 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLARE OF SCOTLAND.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas one Johne Kinninmonth, Leivetenent Colonell serving vnder the King off Svaeden, is desirous to haue ane testificat vnder the great seall of that our kingdome, certifieng all and sindrie persones wher the same shalbe presented of his laughfull birth and progenie : And sieng the said Johne (as wee are informed) to be a natiue borne man in that our kingdome, Wee require that you tak notice and triall of his laughfull and lineall discent, which bieng done, Oure forder plesour is, that you caus append the great seall thairvnto ; for doing whereof, &c.—Theobald, the 18 of September 1627.

TO THE CLERGIE.

Ryght reuerend, &c.—Whareas informatione hath been made vnto ws by . . . the Erle of Murray, how one M^r Johne Mackeingsie, archdean of Rosse, hath been convicted in ane court, halden by verteu of our commissione granted vnto him, as obstinatlie culpable in his receipt and maintenance of the Clanhattone during the time of thare rebellione, and hou otherways he is a persone litigiouslie disposed, as at all occasiones taking advantages wher he can of his nightbouris and others in the partis wher he doeth remane : In regard we conceane that noe persone vnder such a censure as to haue openlie contempned our authoritie, and to be off such a dispositione doth deserue any connivancie or respect, much les one of his professione, Oure plesour is, that you informe your self of the estate heirof, and if you find what is informed to be treu, wee think it fitt for cleering the church of such a scandlle, that you vse

your best means that he be suspendit from any charge thairin which he doeth nou posses, vntill he shall giue satisfacione for his offence, and shall frie himselff from those imputaciones ; and to this effect that you proceed according to your accustomed forme vsed in the like kind : See we bid, &c.—Theobald, the 18 of September 1627.

TO THE PROUEST, BAILLIES, AND COUNSELL OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie and weelbeloued.—Whereas vpon good consideraciones wee haue been formerlie pleased by our Lettres to signifie our aernest care that such Magistrats of that our burgh as wer to be chosen at the times accustomed, should be men whoe wer not refractarie to the ordouris of the church : These are to certifie you that our care for your good is noe les at this time, and therefore do heirby aernestlie desire you that you will now mak chois of such persones to be your Magistrattis, as you knou or shall find to be obedient to the ordouris of the church, which wee will tak as acceptable seruice done vnto vs : And our forder desire vnto you is that you likeways be carefull for planting and providing of your ministers, sieng (as wee are credibillie informed) they haue not been soe provided as was intended : wharein expecting that your endeouris and the effectis thereof shalbe ansuerabill to this our desire, and specialie in a purpos concerning your oune good and credit : Wee bid, &c.—Theobaldis the 18 September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, trustie, &c.—Bieng informed that notwithstanding that Alexander Falconer of Halkertoune, Knight, had obtained lettres of poynding directet to the messengers of armes that he, in the laughfull executione thairoff, was in contempt of authoritie, and to the great preiudice of the said Sir Alexander, violentlie deforced and the goodis pointit by him taken bak by one Alexander Geddey, aganis whome the saids lettres warr raised, hee haueing for this effect convocated diuers of our subiectis, as by the informatione which wee haue sent you heirwith, you may particularlie perceaue : In regard, as wee are likeways informed that the saidis offence is punishable by the lawes ther, and that the escheattis of the saidis offender are to be applied, the one half to our vse, and the other half to the vse of the partie offended, whoe doeth persew for the same by the assistance of our aduocattis for our interest : Thairefor, and for the better preventing of the like ryottis heirefter, Oure pleasour is, that you consider of the said informatione, and if you find the same to be trew, that you grant vnto the said Sir Alexander such speedie justice vpon his actione of deforcement for repairing the saidis wrongis, and forder turning the said escheattis as hath bene granted at any time heirtofor to any other persone in the like kind, requiring for this effect our said aduocattis and remembrancers of our Exchekquer to haue a special care of our interest in the same, that our parte of the said escheattis may be collected to our vse : And to this effect that you signifie our pleasour heirin vnto them : See we bid you fareweell.—Theobald, the 18 of September 1627.

TO THE LORDS WINTOUN AND NAPER.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we did latlie writ vnto the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, to stay all paymentis out of the remander of our taxationes ; and bieng informed that the creditouris of the Erle of Nithsdail doe fear that hee and they may be preiudged tharby from enjoying the benefeit of our gracious grant and assignement formerlie made vnto him, and soe doe leaff aff to trust or forbear the said Erle any longer : Wee are thairefor graciouslie pleased to signifie vnto you that it was noeways our meening to preiudge our said grant, for the said restraint was onlie of the remander of our taxationes : And therefore wee will

you to signifie soe much vnto the creditouris and sureties of the said Erle, that both you and they may be the better assured of the performance of our said grant and assignement : Wee haue alsoe by our other lettres signified the like vnto our said Thesaurer, and required him to tak such notice thareoff as the said Erle, his freendis and creditouris, and sureties whoe haue engudged themselues for him may not be frustrat of our said grant and assignement, and tharefor wee are confident that both you and they will not discontinow your wonted care of him : Soe, &c.—Theobalds, the 18 of September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght trustie, &c.—Wnderstanding your sufficiencie and affectione to our seruice, and hou as the custome is at the yeerlie Michelmes courtis the gentrie thare doo mak choise of commissioners for attending at parliamentis or other generall meetingis of the estates of that our kingdome, Wee haue been pleased to wret vnto diuers shirreffis in the northe partes thareoff for concurring with you in making choise and electione of such persones as wer weell affected to the weell of the church and commone weell, and in speciall, such as shalbe named by you vnto the said shirreffis for this purpos : Therefore wee desire that you will haue a speciall regarde not onlie to informe the said shirreffis, but likewayis to deal with the wholl gentrie within theis boundis haueing hand in the said electione for making choise of the saidis persones soe to be named by you for the said purpos, concerning whome wee haue particularlie imparted vnto you our pleasour, togither with the good opinionne wee haue conceaued of thare fitness to be commissioners for this nixt ensuing yeer : Soe bieng confident that you will proceed heirin according to the trust wee haue reposed in you, Wee bid, &c.—Theobald, the 18 September 1627.

TO THE MARQUES OF HUNTLEE.

A letter to the same effect and in similar terms, with the addition that such persons as were named by Lord Gordoune, son to the Marquis, should be elected.—Theobalds, the 18 September 1627.

Fourre lettres of the same kind and dait writen to the shirreffis of Narne, Murray, Cromertie, and Caithnes, which, with the Tuoe preceding, wer deliuered vpon the Nyntein of this instant to the Lord Gordoune.

A Letter "to the Lord Desford" in similar terms to that addressed to the counsell on 18th.—Theobalds, the 19 September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we haue been of late humbly peticeoned by the commissioner of our free burghes in that our kingdome, that the executione of all penall statutes might be respected vnto them in regard of the many good seruices done by them vnto our royall predecessouris and our self, and for vther good considerationes moving vs : wee ar willing at this time, both to shew vnto them and all other our subjectis thare in general, such fauour heirin : And therefore our speciall pleasour is, that the exacting of the fines of all penal statutis whatsoever from any of our said subjectis throughout our said kingdome, shall cease till such time as wee shall herefter be pleased to giue speciall ordour to the contrarie ; for doing whereof theis presentis shalbe vnto you and euerie of you a speciall and sufficient warrant. Theobalds, the 19 of September 1627.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Wnderstanding the good and pious wark instituted by George Hereot, sometime Jewellare to our late deir father, in erecting ane hospitall in our burgh of Edinburgh for such laudable purposes as are mentioned in the mortificatione thareoff, and bieng crediabilie informed how James Hereot, our Jewellare, his brother and laughfull heir maill hath undoubted right to the patronage of the same, and withall sieng it doeth specialie concerne ws, not onlie to haue a speciall care of the dwe preseruatioun of all such good and pious warkis in the integritie theiroff according to the will of the fundatour, but likwayis to sic that our said seruant be nawayis preindged in his laughfull right, and the rather becaus he is continoualie to giue attendance in his charge heir : Thairfore our speciall plesour is, that you pas noe signatour grant or deid whatsoever which may in any wayis preiudge our said seruant in his said right of patronage ; And tharefor that you signifie our plesour heirin to the commissioners for surrenders at thare nixt sessione, giving them speciall notice hou wee haue resolued in soe farr as wee can laughfullie doe, both to mantein the said wark in the integretie thareof according to the said will of the fundatour thareof, and our said seruand in his said right of patronage : Soe commending the premissis vnto your serious care as a purpos which wee speciallie respect : Wee bid, &c.—Theobaldes, the 21 September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we are informed by the Erle of Galloua that he, as suretie for James Kennedie of Blaquhen standing engaged for the payment of diuers soumes of money, was forced for his better releeff to raise Lettres of captioun aganis the said James ; yet (as we are likewayis informed) by meens of the Erle of Cassillis (whoe is our baillie in this boundis), the said Erle of Galloua is frustrat of releeff, a course soe vnjust (if it be trew as is informed) that wee haue good resson to require that the same may be repared : Tharefore our pleasour is, that you call befor you the said Erle of Cassillis, and if you find the maner of his proceedings to be such as is affermed, that with all convenient diligence you caus prissonne the said James Kennedie with justice, for satisfactioun of the said Erle of Galloua ; or otherwayis, that a course may be taken that the debtis for which he standeth soe engaged, together with the just charges deburset by him in that earend, may be refunded vnto him by the said Erle of Cassillis.

And in regard, as wee are likewayis informed, that one Alexander Steuart, in Croschrie, hath been wronged in ane insolent maner by the said Erle of Cassillis, Wee likewayis will you to call them befor you ; iff you find the said Alexander to haue been wronged, as is alledged, Oure forder pleasour is, that you censure the said Erle for the same, or otherwayis setle the differences between them as you shall find just caus. Both which particulars wee seriouslie recommend vnto you, and bid you fareweell.—Hamptoun Court, 26 September 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF CASSILLS.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng humble peticeond by the Erle of Galloua, for himself and some of his freendis, shewing that they and their predicesouris haue been in constant possessioun in some landis and tithes abone 200 yeers, till now of late you haue intendit removeing and spoliatioun aganst them, to thair vndoing, notwithstanding that theis landis bieng parte of our propertie, Wee fewed (as they doe alledge) for increas of pelicie, and securing our rentis by continouing the possessouris in thare seuerall possessiounes : And since that none of your predicesouris did neuer vse any rigour aganst them for their tithes till this time of our begune reformatioun of such proceedings aganst the gentrie of that kingdome, In consideratioun whareoff

wee cannot bot aduise you to forbear such dealing, least wee be inducd, throu compassione of the peticioners, to interpose our titles fore thare releiff and safetie; assuring you that if you tak a fair and freendlie course with them, wee wilbe less acernst to vrge our right to your disadvantage: Which remitting to your consideratione, wee bid, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 26 September 1627.

TO THE ADUOCATTIS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas some pointis debated and not condiscendit vpon before our commissioners for surranders wer referred to be determined by ws, both by a reference agreeet vpon by that whole table, as likewais by submissione of diuers persones interessd tharin; and we being willing to take a fair and equitable course for sating this bussines in a legall maner: Oure Will and pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you draw wpp a legall submissione vnto ws or any other such formall securitie as may best stand with law of the partie interessd titcheing the quantitie and price of tithes of all erectiones or any part thereof, by what name or title whatsoever they be called, and of few-dewties and how the superiorities of the same should be surrandered vnto ws, togidder with a legall decret or declaratione of our will conforme tharevnto, leaving a blank for such thingis as are entrusted to be filled wpp by ws: Remembering alwayis what is fitt to be done for securing the annuetic alredie granted vnto ws; And that the said submissione, decret, or other securitie as afoirsaid be done in such ample and legal maner as shalbe requisit for this purpos, and that you heir in this earand the aduocattis of such tithe buyers and tithe sellers as they or any of them shall mak choise off, to the effect that the mutuall securities both of the buyers and sellers may be the better considered off, to be inserted (iff soe be it shalbe found expedient to you) in the said submissione, decret, or in the securities foirsaid: Which bieng by you perfited, wee will you to deliuer to our Chancellor to whome wee haue particularlie written herein: And iff you shall hear from him that any persone soe interessd shall not signe the said submissione befor the first day of December nixtocon: It is oure pleasoure (as you wilbe answerable vnto ws), that with all convenient diligence you proceed against them in a legall maner for recouerie of that which is due vnto ws according to the course of justice: And that notwithstanding of the prorogatione of our commissione whome wee will not to meddle with theis things submitted vnto ws, bot in soe farr as doth concerne the tryall of rent wherby the tithes are to be waued: For doing whareof theis presentis shalbe vnto you and everie one of you from time to time a sufficient warrand.—Hamptoune Court, the last day of September 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LYTHWHOE (LINTHGW).

Ryght, &c.—Humble peticione bieng exhibited vnto ws in name of the owners of ane schip off Middleburgh which was taken by some seruantis of Sir Robert Gordoune off Lochinewarr, Knight; We wer then pleased to write vnto you, requiring, notwithstanding any connivance that might be vsed betuix the said persones and the said owners, that our aduocattis should legally persew the saidis persones according to the lawes of the Admiraltie: In regard that we wer loath that any breach of that long continoued freendship betuix ws and the estates of the vnited provinces should be made vpon our parte: Yet bieng crediabilie informed that the said schip was vpon great presumptiones taken as a laughfull prise, and how that by ourdour of our consell, and by a charge from you shee was deliuered vnto the said owners, and satisfacione given vnto them: And bieng unwilling that any forder persute for our interest should be vsed aganis the saidis persones in this behalf: Oure pleasoure is, iff you haue not a speciall reassone to the contrarie wharewith wee haue not been aquented, that you leaff aff to insist any forther in that persute for the said schip and goodis that wer thairin, requiring if need bee our aduocattis for this

effect; And that you grant vnto the said Robert, or his said seruants, or any of them, what discharge or release for this mater that you and our said aduocattis shall think may convenientlie be granted vnto them: And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrant and discharge.—Hamptoune Court, the last day of September 1627.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng informed that John Gowdies, elder and yonger, and one James Goudie haue killed one John Haliday, wherby thare escheattis doe become at our guift and dispositione: And in regard, as wee are likeways informed, that the saidis persones are tenants of Sir John Stewart of Traquhair, Knyght, vpon whose ground the said fact was committed, and stand bond to him for diuers dweties: And withall, we bieng willing for diuers others considerationes to confer the saidis escheatts vpon the said Sir John, Oure pleasure is, that you pas vnto him a guift thereof in due and competent forme, together with a guift of thare lifrent escheattis, if they shall happin to fall: ffor doing whareof, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the last day of September 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLER.

Ryght, &c.—Sieng that some pointis debated and not condisceded vpon befor our commissioners for surrenders were referred to be determined for ws first by a lettre agried vpon with all consentis, and sent vnto ws by our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Archibald Achesone, one of the senatouris of our Colledge of Justice, and tharefter more particularie expressed by the seuerall submissions of some persones interest, and deliuered vnto ws by our trustie and weelbeloued counsellar Sir John Stewart of Trawbare, Knyght: Wee are resolued to accept vpon ws the decisione thareof, and will vse the best meens to informe ourselues both of the case as it standeth in generall, and of everie mans in particulare, wher it dothe deserue to be taken notice of in a parte, that we may proceed soe fairlie and equitabilie, that noe man shall haue just cause to complaine: And for this effect we haue appointed our aduocatts heaving hard such other aduocattis, both of the tythe byers and tithe sellers of the tithes of erectiones as they or anye of them shall mak choise off for that purpose, that they with all convenient diligence draw wpp a legall submissione, or anie such other formall securitie, as may best stand with law, of those things referred vnto ws, together with a legall decret or declaratione of our will conforme tharevnto, leaving a blank for such things as are entrusted to be filled wpp by ws: Remembring alwayis what is fitt to be done for securing the annuetic already granted vnto ws, and after the said decret, submissione, or other write or securitie in place of them, or ether of them, shalbe formerlie exped by our said aduocattis and deliueied by them vnto you, as wee haue required them to doe: Oure pleasoure is that you present, or cause present, the said submissione or the other securitie as is aforesaid to all persones interested, to the effect that they subscribe the same: And if any of the said persones soe interested shall not signe the same before the first day of December nextocum: Wee require you to send thare names to our saids aduocatts for proceeding against them in a legall maner after the due course of justice: And that notwithstanding of the prorogatione of our commissiones, whome wee will not haue meddle with things submitted vnto ws, bot in soe far as doth concern triall of rent whareby the tithes are to be valued: And that with all convenient diligence you shall cause intimatione and publicatione heirof be made in forme as effeirs: And as wee cannot but thank you for the panis alredie taken by you heirin, soe wee are confident that you will still vse your best endeour for bringing this work to perfectione: And as wee haue from the begining intended that the church be competentlie provided, and our revenues encessed, everie heretour may haue his owne tithes vpon ressonable conditiones, ffor doing whareof as we hope that all our weell disposed subiectis wilbe induced by resson of

conveniencie in regard of soe great a publike good, soe wee will omitt noe means that may contribute tharevnto : Soe not doubting but you will vse your best means as the occasione shall from time to time require for effectuating these things according to the speiall trust which [we] repose in you, and from time to time to acquent us with your proceedings tharein : Soe wee bid you, &c.—Hamptonne Court, the last of September 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Heaveing receaved from our trustie, &c. Sir John Steuart of Trawhaire, Knight, the submissiones of severall persones, whareby they refer to our abtrimment the differences concerning the quantitie and price of tithes and of few-dueties of such landis as were in questione before our commissione for surrendars, bieng willing to surrendar the superiorities of the same vnto ws, as wee perceave heer by thare trust vnto ws ; And wee desire you in our name to giue them hartlie thankis, assuring that we wilbe carefull to inform ourselues, not onlie of those things that in the generall are considerable, but likeways to heare everie man, in soe farr as is fit, concerning his particulare estate, whare it doth deserue that notice should be taken thareof, a parte ; And as they hane begune, wee expect they will proceed, till the work be brought to perfectione ; ffor the better effectuating whareof, wee hane given particulare ordour to our aduocattis, as by our letre to that effect may appear, &c.—Hamptonne Court, the last of September 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas vpon informatione made vnto ws, in name of Sir John Steuart of Trawhare, Knight, of the wilfull and cruell slaughter of one Halieday, committed by John Gowdie, elder and yonger, and James Gowdie, we wer pleased to require our aduocattis, notwithstanding of any such satisfacione offered or given by the said malefactoris to the neirest of the kinred of the persone killed, to prosecute for our interest the said thrie persones before the Judge competent : Notwithstanding our pleasour is, iff judgment be pronounced against them, that you in our name caus stay the executione thareof, To the effect that they may be sent to such partes abroad in our service in the warres as you, by the aduise of the said Sir John Stewart, shall think fit ; ffor doing whareof thir presents shalbe vnto you, and all others whome it may concern, a sufficient warrant.—Hamptonne [Court], the Last day of September 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas wee wer formerlie pleased to write vnto you to vse your best means with the gentrie of the shire, whare yee hane charge as shirreff, to caus make chois of tuoe of them named in our letre as bieng weell affected to the estate of the Church and Commonweall to be commissioners for this next yeer at parliamentis or other generall meetings of the estates of that our kingdome, if any should happen to be : Bot haveng since conferred with our trustie and weelbeloued counsellare Sir John Steuart of Trawhare, Knight, of whose affectione to our service and the publike good wee are confident ; and haveing in particulare imparted our mind vnto him concerning this purpose, and withall understanding that his cheeff residence is within that shire : Wee are heirby pleased, notwithstanding our former letre, that you not only informe the said gentrie now before your Michelmes court of the good opinionne wee hane conceaued of the said Sir John for this purpose, bot likeways of the sufficiencie of John Hay, elder of Smithfeild, ffor whose affectione our said service and the publike good the said Sir John hath wndertaken vnto ws : Therefore we doe not doubt but that, according vnto the trust wee hane reposed in you, you will vse your best means that they may be made choise of for the purpose afoirsaid : Soe we bidd you, &c.—Hamptonne Court, the Last of September 1627.

TO THE ADOUCATTIS.

Ryght, &c., bieng crediabillic informed that John Gowdies, elder and yonger, and James Gowdie, haue agried with some of the kinred of one Halieday, whome they kild, thinking thareby to disapoint the due course of justice, and ws [of] our interest : Though in cases of the like nature, whare some considerable circumstances may induce ws to clemencie in the offender's behalf, it is expedient the partie bieng satisfied that some fauour should be showen ; yet in those wilfull slaughters, whareof wee are informed that this is one, Wee desire, for terriefieng others for attempting the like, that non should think that anie means whatsoever should be sufficient to hinder or delay the due course of our lawes prouided in those cases : Therefore our pleasour is, that, in our name and for our interest, [you] prosecute the thrie persones before the Judge competent and that according to the said course of Law ; for doing whareof, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the Last of September 1627.

A Lettre of the same dait, direct by Sir Williame Alexander to the Lord Treasurer of England, signiefieng his majesties pleasour that the particulares underwrittin should be exported furth of the port of Londone custume, frie to be trausported into Scotland, Widelicet :—

40 Barrie off powder of 100 waight a peece.
 100 Musketts.
 12 Twanne Irne shote,
 With a proportionable quantitie of Match.

The same day there was enclosed in a pacquet to be sent with Sir John Steuart of Trawhare, Knycht, a Lettre of the Kingis concerning the prices of tithes, which togider with a copie of the aduocats and a Lettre of Sir William Alexanders, wer direct to the Chancellarr.

Item, a lettre from the King to the tuoe aduocattis concerning the same purpose, which with a copie of my Lord Chancellars, togither with a privat lettre from the said Sir William, wer directed vnto the saidis aduocattis.

Item, a lettre in Sir John Stewart's owne companie to the same effect direct to the counsell.

TO THE DEPUTIE OF IRELAND.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas diuers peticeones haue been preferred to our late dear father by one Androw Murray (not without clamour against our weelbeloued cousen the Erle of Annaudale), which, as we wer informed, haue bene partlie proued to be fals and friuolous, and now further will appear vnto you by a lettre of a minister's which we heerwith send you, whareby he doeth testifie that he was a wites that the said Murray did acknowledge that his complaint did proceed out of malice, and noe just caus whareby he escaped punishment in our said dear father's time : Now forasmuch as he hath remouid the same to ws by peticeon, and importunating you and our counsell thare without cause as wee haue reassone to conceaue : Oure Will and pleasour is, that you caus due examination to be taken of the former proceedingis and the minister's said lettre, and finding them to be but meer suggestiones, that then you caus condingin punishment be inflicted vpon him for an example to others, how they goe about to empasch the credit of persones of eminent place and qualitie : Yet, if the said Murray shall haue any sute against the said Erle : Oure pleasoure likewayis [is], that you leaue that to ane ordinarie triall in law, for as we wald not haue

imputaceons layed vpon great personages, soe we vould not haue the inferiour sort to be denyed of justice or opprest by them : Soe this bieng all for the present : Wee bid you fareweill, &c.—Given at our honour of Hamptoune Court, the first day of October, in the thrid yeer of our Reign 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we haue hard of the death of Sir Richard Cockburne of Clerkingtome, Knycht, late Keeper of the Privie seall, whareby a place doeth waik in our handis specialie inporting our seruice, whareof we will not dispose without due consideraceon : But becaus in the meantime the place must be supplied by some persone fit for the same whome wee trust, Our pleASURE is, that you deliuer our said privie seall to M^r Thomas Hope, aduocatt, to be kept by him, with poware vnto him to wplift all fees belonging therevnto during our pleASour ; ffor doing whareof these presentis shalbe vnto you a sufficient warrant.—Given at our honour of Hamptoune Court, the thrid day of October 1627.

TO THE CLARK OF REGISTERIS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we haue established a lectour of the Lawes within that our kingdome to be performed by M^r Patrik Sandis, whome wee haue appointed to be sole consentour to the registering of such writtes as doe bear claus of registratione, haueing for his panis the acustumat fees for euerie such consent : These are therefore to will and require you to be aiding and assisting vnto him in all you can for enjoyng the benefeitt of the said office ; and for that effect that you discharge all your clarkis to recave vnto the register any such writing to be registrat, which wanteth the consent of the said M^r Patrik Sandis ; and for your and thare soe doing these our lettres shalbe fra time to time a sufficient warrant, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the thrid of October 1627.

TO THE DEPUTIE OF IRLAND.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng informed that our late dear father heaving granted vnto the late Erle of Abercorne the wardship of the eldest sone of the Erle of Antrime, but alsoe was a means for the procuring vnto him a new grant of his Landis, wharevpon he did conclude and contract with the said Erle of Antrime for a Mariage between his said eldest sone and the Ladie Lucy, dochter to the said Erle of Abercorn, and for performance thereof the said Erle of Antrime did bind himself in the penall soume of thrie thousand pond sterling to be payed for the portione of the said Ladie Lucy : In hope of which mariage the said Ladie hath been kept over with matching with any vther, and the time bieng now long agoe expired wharein the said mariage was to be solemnized, as alsoe the said Erle heaving, as wee are informed, concluded a match for his said eldest sone with one of the dochters of the late Duke of Lennox, soe that the said Ladie ought, as wee conceaue, in all equitie to haue hir said portione of thrie thousand pond sterling payed vnto hir according vnto the said contract, which bieng made in Scotland after the Scottis forme, may perhaps not bie soe sufficient at the commune law as in equitie : Oure pleASURE therefore is, that you, our deputie, calling to your assistance the Lord Chancellare, Cheiff Justice of both our benches, and the Maister of the Rollis, and Lord Cheeff Barrone of that our kingdome, or any four, thrie, or tuo of them, call before you the said Erle, and require him to pay the said thrie thousand pond sterling, according to the said contract ; and iff you shall find that in law and equitie or honour he is bond to pay the same, or any parte thereof, and that he ether refuseth or delayeth any longer to pay the same, Oure pleASURE is, that you, with all expeditione, ourdour and decre the same to be payed accordinglie,

together with all such vse and damages as in law or equitie you shall think fitting ; and that the shirreff of Antrim for the time bieng may be authorized and required by you to execute your said ordour and decree : And for your soe doing theis our lettres shalbe vnto you and enerie one of you from time to time a sufficient warrant.—Hamptoune Court, the thrid of October 1627.

TO THE ADUOCATT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas in the persute intended by our right trustie, &c. the Erle of Marr aganis his wassalles in Marr and Garioch, Wee war informed in name of the Laird of Wardes of our particulare interest tharein, which by our former lettre wee hade recommended vnto your care when it should appeare vnto you to be such as was affermed : But by your lettre vnto ws, heaving found that you could perceave noe such meater, Wee haue thought good heirby to signifie vnto you that it is noe way our intentione that the pretending of our interest should any wayis be a meanes to delay the said Erle in the ordinarie course off justice, but that he may haue all laughfull expeditione in the said actione, according to the Lawes of that our kingdome : And as you did write vnto ws, we doubt [not] bot that you wilbe carefull iff any thing heirefter shall occur that may concern ws in the said particulare or in any other according to your charge. We bid you fareweell.—Hamptoune Court, the thrid of October 1627.

TO THE EXCHACKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we ware pleased to write vnto you that iff the guift of escheat of one Rowane falling in our handis for the slauchter of his wife might be employed for satiefieng of his debtis, ffor which, as wee wer informed, M^r Williame Olyphant, aduocat, stood engagded, and the superplus for the releeff of the orphans, to whome the said M^r Williame was a neir kinsman, that the said guift of escheat should be granted vnto him for the said vse : Therefore our pleasour is, and wee doe heirby require you, that for the causes abonesaid you prefer the said M^r Williame tharevnto, and that you grant vnto him ane guift thareof in due and competent forme, he giving band, iff soe you shall think it expedient, ffor imploying the benefitt arising by the said guift for payment of the said debtis, and the superplus, if any be, for the vse of said orphans ; ffor doing whareof thir presentis shalbe your warrant and discharge.—Hamptoune Court, the 3 of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that there is a number of people in that our kingdome, whoe bieng ignorant of the strict word and conditione of the act of our estates conveened in October 1625, anent the giving wpp ane Inventorie of their lent moneyis and paying taxatione for the same, haue forgotten or neglected to giue wpp thare said Inventories at the particulare dayis contined in the said act of estates, whareby they haue forefalted the annualrent of thare said moneyis : Notwithstanding whareof, in regard they are now willing to giue wpp thare said Inventories, and to pay thare taxatione accordingle, Oure pleasour is, that by act of our counsell you declare that it shalbe laughfull to the clarkis of the jurisdictiones whare Inventories of moneyis are ordined to be given wpp, to receave the Inventories of the first, second, and thrid termes bygane of all moneyis lent within the boundis whareof they are clarkis, and that without any fault to be imput vnto them, or to the clarkis of our taxatione for receaving the said Inventories and taxatione, providing the same be given wpp betuix and the day of nixtocum, and noe otherwayis.—Hamptoune Court, the thrid of October 1627.

Ryght, &c.—In regard wee are to imploy Sir John Meldroume, Knight, our seruant, on affaers abroad, specialie importing the good of our service, Wee ar willing for the better setting of the busienes for the lightis at Wintertounes, and for his whole creditouris better satisfactiōe, that both from himself and otherways by calling our attorney-generall, or by such other means as you shall think expedient, the difference and indirect practises vsed, as wee are informed, aganis him by one Hugh Bullock and Williame Lancelot, present collectour of the duties of the saidis lightis, may be settled with all convenient speed, whareby the estate of our said seruant depending vpon the said lightis may not be taken away by any rigourous or extreame course, or at a vndervalue, least he should be disabled to goe on in our said service : And in regard as wee are informed that the rectifieing of the said Lancelot his wndwe proceedings tending both to our preiudice and the overthrow of our said seruant, doth depend vpon the triall of the pointis of the peticeone exhibited vnto ws, Wee haue remitted the examination thereof to your special care, willing you for this effect to call vnto you our said attorney, and to vse all other means for trieng thereof as you shall think expedient ; And thereafter that you vse all lafull means for removing the said Lancelot from that charge, and for estabillishing some indifferent officers in the custumehous and other outports for collecting the duties arising by the said Lease, that without alteratione of any persones interest the profeitis may be convertit for the payment of such debtis as the Commissioners appointed by the Lord Keeper of our Great Seall shall certifie to be due, the necessarie charges, as the maintenance of the said lightis, the yeerlie allowance appointed for our said seruant, and the Collectouris fies bieng first deduced, soe that noe partie justlie interested may haue just caus to complean : And in the meantime wee specialie recommend vnto [you] that Sir Williame Alexander, our secretarie for Scotland, may haue payment made vnto him of the moneyis due by the said Sir Johnne or the said Lancelot ffor the payment whareof the benefitt by the said busienes is lyable : All which wee recommend vnto your serious [consideration], and bid you fareweell.—Hamptoune Court, the thrid of October 1627.

TO THE COUNCILL.

Right, &c.—Whareas diuers thingis debated and not condisced vpon before you concerning the prices and valuations of Tithes of Erections, and of the feu-dewties thereof, wer, by ane act of commission and your lettre sent by Sir Archebald Achesone, submitted vnto ws, wharevpon, and vpon seuerall other submissiones sent vnto ws by diuers persones interest thairin, Wee haue been pleased by the said Sir Archebald to giue ordour to our aduocattis for drawing wpp a legall submissione, or other securitie which may stand good in law, of all persones interested in the said particulars, the decision whareof wee haue accepted vpon ws, and doe intend soe fairlie and equitabillie to proceed, that noe persone shall haue just cause complaine : Therefore wee haue thought good heirby to require you that you doe not middle with those thingis soe submitted vnto ws, notwithstanding of the prorogatione of our commissione, but in all thingis els tharein contained : Oure speccal plesour is, that as you haue begune aernestlie and effectualie to proceed in our seruice tharein, for which wee giue you hartlie thankis, that soe you vill continow still, according to your said commissione, or as our aduocattis or the said Sir Archebald shall informe you from ws ; and specealie for the facilitating of the valuations of tithes, that you goe on for the tryeng of rentis after such maner as you shall think fitt ; And alsoe for doing of anie other thing that may contribute to the furtherance of the good of the church and the eneres of our revenues. Soe wee bidd you, &c.—Whytehall, the tenth of October 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Ryght, &c.—Wnderstanding that ane ordinarie place of Sessione is at our gift and dispositione by the death of Sir Williame Livingstoune of Kilsithe, Knight, wharevnto it bieng requisit that some persone of

good learning, knowledge, and experience should be promoted, that in default of the ordinarie there bee noe hinderance in the administratione of Justice; And now bieng credibillie informed of the literatour and qualificatione of M^r George Haliburtone, advocat, and of his abilities and willingnes to serue ws in that ordinarie place: Therefore wee have thought good to nominat and present him vnto you, requiring you effectualle to trye, receave, and admitt him to the said ordinarie place during our will and pleasour, and to accept him as one of your number, and that he haue all the honouris, benefitts, and priueleges tharevnto belonging: Let him haue voice amongis you, and mak him participant of your contributione taking: Taking his oath as vse is, as you will Justice to proceed, and as you will doe ws acceptable service.—Given at Whythall, the eleuent of October 1627.

TO THE ERLE OFF MARR.

Ryght, &c.—Wee receaved your particulare submissione concerning theis thingis latelie submitted vnto ws by the Commissione of surrenderis, which wee tak werie kindlie at your hand, and shall not be wnmindfull to expres the effect of our fauour and respect vnto you at the first occasione that can convenientlie offer for doing of the same: But in regard we intend to proceed legallie in this purpos, sieng we have accepted vpon ws the decisione thareof, Wee haue been pleased to require our aduocattis to draw wpp a legall submissione, or other securitie which may stand good in law, of all persones interested in the said particulars wharein we intend soe fairlie and equitabillie to proceed, that noe persone shall haue just caus to complaine: Therefore wee are confident that you will goe on in the generall and legall course, as you haue alredie shawen your affectione in your said particulare; And in regard you [are] ane officiare whoe bath the cheeff charge of our revenues, besidis (as we haue just reassone to conceaue) that your knowledge and long experience in any thing that may eithere concerne our benefit or the publike good may conduce by your aduise to our proceedings heirin, Wee haue thought good to desire your privat opinione concerning these thingis soe submitted vnto ws, wharein wee haue giuen instructions to our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Archebald Achesone, Knight, to be imparted vnto you. Soe expecting your ansuer concerning this purpose with the nixt convenient diligence that may be, We bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the eleuent of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the Minthous of that our kingdome is burdened with certane annuelrents and arrears thareof due vnto M^r James Scharp, and that the ludging adioyning tharevnto, called the Cardinal's Ludging, is alsoe affected with the same annuelrents, and bound in warrandice of the said Minthous, and is werie fitt, as wee are informed, to be ane Exchakquer hous, whareof there is a great want in that our kingdome: And for that We haue been moved in the behalff of the said M^r James Sharp, that ether he may haue payment or satisfacione for the said annuelrentis, or at least that he may be permitted to haue the benefit of justice for recouerie thareof out of the said ludging, conforme to his reall richtis thareof: Our pleasoure is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, that you mak some reassoneable compositione with the said M^r James, alsucell for frieng the said Minthous from the said annuelrentis as for his satisfacione, and for procurig the other ludging to be secured from the heretouris to our vse to be the Excheckquer hous of that our kingdome, bieng soe convenientlie adioyning vnto our said Minthous; and that tharefter the keyis and keeping thareof may be deliuered vnto Sir Henrie Wardlaw, to be kept by him self for our vse afoiresaid during our vill and pleasure: And for your soe doing these shalbe vnto you and euerie of you from time to time your sufficient warrant, and vnto you our Thesaurer and Thesaurer-depute a sufficient discharge in your accomptis, &c. [No date.]

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Ryght, &c.—We haue vnderstood by diuers of your good and constant affectione to our service in all thingis wharein your opinione might contribute to the furtherance thareof, for which wee giue you hartelie thankis, and will not be vnmindfull of the same when any forder occasione shall offer, whareby wee may expres our fauour vnto you; and as you haue begune, soe wee are confident that from time to time you will continow in the like good service, and speecalie till this busienes concerning the erectiones and other thingis contined in the late commissione for those purposes be brought to the intended perfectione: And in regard of the prooff alredie given by you for the advancement of our service and the publique good, Wee haue thought fitt to craue your privat opinione concerning those thingis submitted vnto ws, wherein we haue given particulare instructiones to our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Archibald Achesone, knight, to be imparted vnto you, soe that after some speceall thingis concerning our said service are put to some good point, Wee think it not amisse that you repair vnto our Court whare some thingis may offer, wharein wee will impart our further pleasure vnto you, &c.—Whytehall, the ij. October 1627.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right trustie, &c.—In regarde of some things whareof wee are desirous to conferr with you, Oure pleasure [is], that you, with as much convenient diligence as convenientlie can be vsed, repare vnto our Court, whare our forther pleasure shalbe signified and imparted vnto you.—Given at Whitehall, the 16 October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas out of that speecall care which wee haue alwayis hade for providing the churche of that our kingdome; Wee desired that the inhabitantis of our burgh of Edinburgh should contribute to the mantenance of thare ministeris, amongs whome it was then affermed to be equitable, that the inferiour members of our Colledge of Justice, whose ordinarie residence was within that burgh, and whoe acquired thare living by the employment they hade within the same, should not be exempted: But bieng now informed that both by acts of parliament and by a receaued custume thir many ages, all the Members of the said Colledge plead immunitie from any contributiones; And we bieng unwilling, without due triall and aduise to be hade tharein, that any course should be taken which may not agrie with our said lawes or with our said receaued custume, Oure pleasure is, that you call the persones cheeflie interest heirin before you, and iff you find the exempting of the saids persones from any such contributione to be soe warranted by our said lawes as is affermed, that then any proceedings aganis them heirin shall surcease, and that you acquaint ws tharewith: But if you shall find it otherways, wee think it fit that our pleasour heirtofor signified for thare said contributing tak the intendit effect.—Whythall, the 16 October 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made vnto ws in the behalf of our trustie and weelbeloued M^r Dauid Fullertone that he might be equalie adioyned to Sir Henrie Wardlaw, now in his old age, in the office of recouerie in that our kingdome, as Sir James Baillie formerlie was, wharevnto wee did the more willinglie hearken, both in regard that wee haue taken speecall notice of some moneysis due vnto him for good service done vnto ws by his late father as Chalmerlen of our principallitie thare and other-

ways, as likways of the sufficiency of the said M^r David to manage a charge of that nature: Therefore wee are heirby pleased to require (if you shall find the establishing of a sufficient and able persone in the said charge to be convenient for the good of our service, according to the informatione and other evidences wee have receaved concerning the same) that with all convenient diligence you pas and caus exped ane signatur in due and competent forme, bearing that the said M^r David shall during his life equalie enjoy and discharge the said place of reconerie, both in the equall wplifting and debursing of all moneyis and duties now belonging, or which shall heirefter accres or belong, ether by casualtie, proprietie, or by any other maner of way vnto ws within the said kingdome, enjoying the casualties and priveleges tharevnto belonging; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whythall, the 18 of October 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas Sir Richard Cokburne of Clarkingtoune, Knight, latelie deceased, out of his good intention toward his cousine Sir Patrik Cokburne, did personalie resigne into the handis of the commissioners appointed to receave resignations his landis of Clarkingtoune and others mentioned in the Instrument of Resignatione thereof, for a new infeftment of the same to be given vnto him and his heires-male gotten of his bodie, which failzeing, to the said Sir Patrik Cokburne, as the instrument bears: And in regard the said Sir Richard is now latelie dead before the passing of the said infeftment throw the seallis, and wee, unwilling to frustrat his said good intention towardis the said Sir Patrik, who hath been a weell deserving seruand both to our late deir father, our deirest sister, and ws: Oure pleasoure therefore is, that you pas the said Infefment throw the seallis with all convenient diligence, and that you carefullie foresie that noe preiudice may heirefter be done tharevnto by any subsequent resignatione or infeftment whatsoever, heaveing always a speccall care that wee be not preiudged in anything thareby which doeth fall within the compas of our commissione of tithes or erectiones, in which wee doe intend a generall course for all our good subjectis; ffor doing whareof these our lines shalbe your warrant.—Whythal, the 18 of October 1627.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased to recommend vnto your serious care the delapidat estate of the Abbacie of Incheffra, the commendatione whareof we haue formerlie granted vnto Patrik Murray, our seruant for recouerie of the same to our service; yet bieng informed that notwithstanding of our interest in that Abbacie sede vacant, the same hath been called in question, and some difficulties and delays haue been made in some actiones discussed before you concerning the same: Therefore we haue againe thought good to recommend the estate of that kingdome to your aernest care, to the effect that bothe those actiones and all other actiones or causes concerning the said Abbacie justice may be done with all convenient expeditione, bieng villing that our aduocattis may appear tharein for our interest, to whome we haue given speccall charge concerning this purpose: And Oure forder plesour is, that you put ane finall end, according to justice, to that actione which hath soe long depended before you concerning the childring of John Nasmithe, which, in regard of ther father's long and faithfull services done vnto our late royall father, and soe that they are orphans and are not resident within that our kingdome, wee wer plesed soe often and soe seriouslie to recommend vnto you: So expecting that yee will haue a speciall regard to this our recommendatione, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 of October 1627.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie and weilbeloued, &c.—Whereas vpon informatione made vnto ws by Sir Thomas Kellie, Knycht, gentleman of our Privie Chamber, for improving of a horning, executions, and captione rased thairevpon

aganis him by Robert Winrahame, wee haue bene pleased to require your Colledge of Justice to tak due triall thairoff: And sieng this is a purpose, iff it be trew that the said horning is wnlaufull, which concerneth ws carefullie to look vnto, Wee heerby require you to prosecute in our name the said caus, and that according to the Lawes of that our kingdome, to the effect that all others may be terrified from attempting the like abuse in contempt of our authoritie; for doing whareof thir presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 18 of October 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

A Letter concerning the apprehension of Sir Thomas Kellie, Knight, by letters of horning at the instance of Robert Winrahame, to the same effect and in similar terms as the above.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath bene made vnto ws by the commissioners of our Royall frie burghes, that all such church landis, benefices, tithes, or other emolumentis whatsoever which belonged to the church of old, and wer doted vnto them for sustentatione of thare ministerie, colledges, skoolis, hospitalls, and other pious and religeous vses may not be impared, and that such thingis of this kind which are withalden from them, and wharevpon they haue good right, or such thingis as haue bene doted and mortified to the poore within burgh, and which are lykewayis withalden from the said vse may be re-establishied according to the said vse for which they wer first mortified, and withall in regard that the benefit of thare church landis is not sufficient to intertine thare ministerie, That whare in the progres of planting and prouiding of churches which are not sufficientlie prouided a speecall regard might be hade to theirs, wharein the like case be prouiding the same out of the tithes of the personages and vicarages of the parochines whare those churches doe stand, or otherwayis out of these tithes of the parochines nixt adiacent, specialie whare the inhabitantis of the said burghes doe labour the land themselues, and wher the said benefite may be spared convenientlie: In regard, as we conceaue, that those are purposes fitt to be considered of by you, and seem to agree with oure intentione in the said commissiome, We haue thought good seriouslie to recommend the same vnto you, requiring you, after you haue taken speceall notice of the said church landis and benefices soe mortified, which are wniustlic withalden from the intended vse, are misemployed to other vses, and after due notice of the estate of the said church soe vnplanted or wnprouided, and withall of the means hou they may be supplied to proceed in those purposes for thare satisfacione in soe farr as you can lawfullie doe, ffor wee think it resonable that they may heirin enjoy all such fauour as can convenientlie be granted by ws, and as may best agree with our royall intentione concerning those thingis soe mortified for the saidis pious and religeous vses: We intend no benefit out of the same more then out of the stipendis appointed or to be appointed by you for the others ministers of that our kingdome: In respect (as wee are informed) thare saidis mortified Landis and benefices are alwayis employed by them towards the maintenance of thare saidis ministers, colledges, and hospitallis, and noe otherwayis, according as the same wer disponded vnto them: Soe not doubting but that for the goodnes of those pious intentiones themselues, and for the manie good and acceptable seruices done vnto our most royall progenitouris, and vnto ws by the saidis burghes you will the rather be careful to contribute to all thingis, which to those purposes may lauffullie and convenientlie be done for thare good according to our said royall intentione: And speecallie that they may haue the like benefit ether in ther borroulandis or other landis els whare within that kingdome, as the gentrie haue in the like kind: Wee bidd, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 October 1627.

TO THE BURROUS.

Trustie and weilbeloued, &c.—Having receaved from your commissioners diuers ouertouris concerning you, We wer pleased to refer some of them to our commissioners for the surrendars, willing them soe farr to proceed tharein in your fauouris as they could lafullic doe : As for the shirrefships and heretable offices when they shall come in hand, we intend to tak the fairest and best course tharein for your satisfacione that may be most convenientlie granted by ws, and as may be most agreeable for the good of our seruice : And as for your rightis, priueleges, or any other thing that doth justlie belong vnto you, be confident that from time te time wee will both manteyn and corroborat them in any lafull maner that can best be aduised : And as we doe not doubt of your constant affectione to our seruice, wharein wee doe repose a cheeff trust, soe be you assured that in any thing that may concerne your good, and which is in our pouere lafullie to grant, you may confidentlie expect our fauour tharein : Soe, &c.—Whithall, the 18 of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas humble complaint hath bene made vnto ws by the commissioners for the free burghes within that our kingdome that the burghes of barronie thare haue of a long time contrarie, to the actis of parliament prouided in those cases, taken vpon them, and doe at this day encroach vpon, the priuelleges of our said royall burghes, in respect of steeple commodities, and vsing other trade onlie proper for them, the consideracione of which abuse, togither with the good seruices heirtofore done by our said burghes, who of all other are onlie lyable to the payment of our taxationes, haue justlie moued ws to haue a speciall regard that the said abuse may be timelie remeded : And therefore our plesour is, that howsoeuer any actione shalbe intended before you by our said royall burghes, or any of them, or thare agent against thos other burghes, or any of thare inhabitantis, that you haue a speciall care to administer justice vnto them, according to the said laues prouided in those cases, and that with as much diligence as convenientlie can be vsed, to the effect that the said abuse in all time heirefter may be suppressed, of your speedie endeouris whareof wee will tak speciall notice as good and acceptable seruice done vnto ws : And soe, &c.—Whithall, the 18 of October 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF HADDINGTON.

Ryght, &c.—Wee haue both hard and wnderstood by the effects how carefull you haue been in our seruice, and specialie of late by your good endeouris in forthering to bring to good effect some speciall pointis concerning our seruice in the commissione for surrenders, bieng thairin not onlie a cheeff instrument and furtherer, but a leading example for others not soe deiplic interested as your self : Wee tak it werie kindlie at your handis, and giues you hartlie thankis for the same : And therefor, as you haue giuen proof of your affectione and abilities to our said seruice, both in the time of our late deir father and in our owne time, soe expect that as already in some measour we haue shawen our respect vnto you we will continow the same, as your merit and as the occasione of doing you any further fauour is offered, heaving in the meantime signet a signatour in your fauouris for keeping our priue seall, granting you the dignitie thareof and precedence tharevnto belonging : Wee haue been pleased vpon that reference from the table of surrenders, and vpon the formes of submissiones sent vnto ws by diuers of you concerning the prices and valuationes of tithes, of erectiones, and of the few-denties thareof, to giue ordour to our aduocattis to draw wpp a legall submissione of all parties interested in the

said particulars, or some such other securitie as may stand good in law, whareby we may formallie proceed to the decisione thereof according to equitie : And in regard you are [an] officiare whome we cheefflie trust, and becaus we repose much vpon your knowledge and long practize in any thing may concerne our benefit and the publique good, We haue thought good to desire your priuat opinionie concerning the same, wharein we haue given particulare instructiones to our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Archibald Achesone, Knight, to be imparted vnto you : Soe expecting your answer concerning this purpos with the most convenient diligence that may be : We bid, &c.—Whithall, the 18 October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng informed hou in reforming an abuse in dressing of lether, a select number of the prive counsell of that our kingdome, by ordour from the table, by whome it was remitted to the estates of parliament, did setle a course hou that busienses should be caried, yet vpon some complaintis you exhibited vnto ws aganis the course of Tanning, and aganis the impositione of a groat sould within that kingdome, We cannot but desire but those differences should be tried : And therefore our pleasour is, that you call both the parties interested in that earand befor you, and heaweing considered of the said established course, and heaveing withall tryed the groundis of those complaintis, that thereafter yow tak such a speedie course tharein as shalbe thought most fitt by you for the publiet good of that kingdom, the continowance and establishishing whareof shalbe our cheeff care alwayis ; and soe bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Humble sute hath been made vnto ws, in name of Johnne Johnstoune and Robert Kerr, merchandis, that they might haue pouare to attatche and arrest for thare debtis all such goodis as belong to any Frencheman and other persone naturalised and residing in Frauce, and which could be discouered or apprehendit by them within that our kingdome, extending to the soume of Thretten hunderith poundis Engliche money : And that in regard the like soume is vnjustlie detayned from them by the subiectis of the Frenche King, whoe tak awantage of this time, notwithstanding the saidis merchants haue vsed all faire and lawfull means for reconerit thareoff : In which case, wee bieng willing that our said subiectis should be warrantid by ane lawfull and vsuall pouare that is fitting to be granted in the like cases for reparing thare losses, Haue heirby thought good, after you haue considered thareof, and finding thare demand fitt to be granted, that you giue vnto them pouare to arrest the goodis or debtis of any Frencheman or other persone whatsoever naturalised and residing in France, or of any of our subiectis of that our kingdome whoe doe palliat French goodis or debtis, and that till the saidis persones be satisfied of the said soume of thretteen hunderith pundis money foirsaid, together with thare charge in prosecuting that busineis ; Or otherwayis, that you grant vnto them such pouare for that effect as shall seeme most fitt vnto you, or as according you haue been warrantid from ws concerning purposes of the like kind, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL AND EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding perfittie the sufficiencie of our trustie and weelbeloued Sir Archebald Achesone of Clancairnye, Knight, one of the ordinarie senatouris of our Colledge of Justice in that our kingdome, and of his affectione to our seruice, wee are pleased in regard thareof, and for his further encouragement and enabling our said seruice, to advance and promoue him to be one of our prive counsell and one of the commissioners of our Exchequer in that our kingdome : It is therefore our will and pleasour,

and we doe heirby require you, that having administrated vnto him the oathes accustomed in the like cases, you admitt him to be one of our Privie Counsell and a Commissioner of our said Excheckquer, receaving him in both places as one of your number whome it doeth concerne; ffor doing whareof, &c.—the 18 October 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that a place of Sessione is at our guift and dispositione, by dismissione made thereof by . . . Sir Archebald Achesone of Clancairney, Knight, wharevnto it bieng requisit that some persone of good learning, knowledge, and experience should be promoued, that in default of the ordinarie number there be no hinderance in the administratione of justice: And wee bieng credibillie informed of the literatour and qualificatione of Sir James Learmonth of Balcomie, Knight, and of his abilitie and willigenes to serue ws in that ordinarie place: Therefore we haue thought good to nominat and present him vnto you, requiring you effectuallie to trye, receaue, and admitt him to the said ordinarie number, and that he haue all the honouris and priueleges therevnto belonging; let him haue voice amongis you and be participant of your contributiones, taking his oath as vse is, as you will haue justice to proceed, and as you will doe ws acceptable pleasour. See we bid yow, &c.—Whitehall, the eighteen day of October 1627.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER DEPUTE.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas in consideraceone of good and faithfull seruice done vnto our late deir father, our deirest sister, and vnto our self, by our trustie and welbeloued Sir Patrik Cockburn, knyght, gentilman of our privie chamber, We werr pleased to grant vnto him a pensione off 1920^{lib} scottis money, and now least by wanting of his pensione at the termes mentioned in our guift for our seruice in these present employments he hath from ws should any wayis be hindered, Oure speciall pleasour is, that with all diligence you pay vnto him or his assignais, with the arrerages of the said pensione, togither with the same yeerlie and lafully according to our said guift; ffor doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 of October 1627.

TO THE LORD NEPER.

Right, &c.—Wee knowing your care and affectione to anything that might tend to the good of our seruice wharein your voice or opinion might contribute to the furtherance thereof, for which wee giue hartie thankis, and will not be vnmindfull thereof when any occasione shall offer wherby we may expres our further respect vnto you, desiring you to continow as you haue begun in the like course for the advancement of our seruice; and whareas wee haue writen to our aduocattis for drawing wpp a legall submissiōe vnto ws, or any other such formall securitie as might best stand the law of the parties interestēd, touching the qualitie and price of tithes and feu-deuties according to our said lettre: Therefore, sieng you are ane officiare whome wee cheeflie trust, and in whose judgment and affectione to our said seruice we doe verie much repose, Wee doe heirby desire you to report vnto ws in writing your privat opinionē concerning those thingis wharein wee haue at lenth signified our pleasour vnto our trustie and welbeloued Sir Archebald Achesone, Knight, to be imparted vnto you: See expecting your ansuer concerning the same with the most convenient diligence that may be; Wee bidd you, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 day of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas we haue latelie required that our priue seall should be deliuered vnto our trustie and welbeloued M^r Thomas Ilopp, our aduocat, till wee should be pleased to appoint some persone

in that place of privie seall : And now knowing weell the sufficiencie of our right trustie and weelbeloued cousing and counsellar the Erle of Haddingtoun, Wee haue signed a guift vnto him for discharging that office according as the same dothe beare : Therefore our pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you caus the said privie seall be deliuered vnto the said Erle, whome we will according to our said guift to enjoy the honouris, precedencie, priueleges, and duties thairin mentioned : And for your see doing thir presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 23 day of October 1627.

TO MR THOMAS HOPE, ADUOCATT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we haue taken speciall notice of your aernest affectione and forduardnes for the good of our seruice, for which we giue you hartie thankis, and will not be wnmindfull thereof when any fitt occasion shall offer for your further preferment : And whereas wee wreat vnto you latelie for drawing wpp a legall submissione vnto ws, or any such other formall securitie as might best stand with law of the parties interested, tuitching the quantitie and price of tithes and few-dewties according to our said lettre, Wee aernestlie desire you to be carefull in drawing the said formall generall submissione or other legall writing in a forme of a decreitt arbitrall or other declaratione of our pleasoure in theis thingis referred vnto our princelie determinatione, together also with your opinionie in writing concerning theis thingis, and the same to be send vnto ws, iff your present ocasionies or our seruice shallhappin to hinder you from reparing to our persone this winter : And in regard we haue conferred the office and dignitie of the Lord Privie Seall wpon our right trustie and weelbeloued, &c. the Erle of Hadingtoun, and writen vnto our counsell to deliuer the said seall vnto him, whareof we did latelie committ the keeping vnto your trust, Wee haue therefore thought fitt to giue you notice thareoff that you may the more assuredlie be warranted to redeliuer wpp the same again, to be deliuered to the said Erle, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 October 1627.

Letter to Sir Andrew Kerr craving his private opinion of the Valuation and prices of the Tithes and Feu-duties in similar terms as is addressed to Lord Napier.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Ryght trustie, &c.—Whereas at your last bieng at our Court wee wer then pleased vpon good considerationes not only to require you from our mouth to mak payment out of the pensione granted by ws to our right trustie and weelbeloued cousen the Duke of Lennox, the care of whose estate wee haue cheeflie taken vpon ws, but since effectualie to write vnto you to this purpos; but bieng informed that noe payment thereof is as yet made vnto him, Wee haue againe thought good heirby to require you that, with all convenient diligence, you mak payment thereof vnto such persones as shall haue pouare from him, both of the said yeirly pensione, couforme to our said guift thereof, as likeways of the wholl arerages of the same, and that befor any payment to be made to any other our pensioners thare, the speedie doing whareof we will tak as a werie acceptable seruice done vnto ws, and for which theis presentis shalbe your warrant, &c.—Given at [no place or date].

TO OUR RIGHT TRUSTIE AND RIGHT WELBELOUED COUSEN AND COUNSELLOUR, WILLIAM, EARLE OF PEMBROOK, LORD STEUART OF OUR HOUSE.

Charles, by the grace of God, &c.—To the Thesaurer and vnder Thesaurer of our Exchequer for the type bieng, greeting.—Whereas wee are pleased to allow a new dyett of seaven dishes evrie meale,

according to the vsuall faire of our household, vnto Sir William Alexander, Knight, Secretarie for our kingdome of Scotland, and are further pleased for the defraying of the charge of the sayd dyett that ane allowance of fyve hundreded pounds yearlie shalbe made by way of encrease of assignment vnto the Cofferer or Cofferers of our sayd household for the tyme being, Our will and pleasure is, and wee doe hereby will and comand yow, out of the thesaurer of vs, our hieres and successors, now and hereafter, being and remayning in the receipt of our Exchequer, to pay or cause to be payed the sayd soume of fyve hundreded pounds yearlie vnto the sayd Cofferer or Cofferers of our house for the tyme being, by way of imprest vpon accompt for the maintenance of the sayd dyett, to beguine from michaelmes last past; and because the sayd allonance shall be certaynlie payed, Our pleasure is, that yow cause a Talley of assignement to be stricken yearlie for the same, vponce the ferme of our generall custumes, to be payed yearlie in Michaelmes terme, and in caise the rent of the sayd flarme should be in any yeare all anticipated or employed for our service, then to stricke a Talley for the said soume of fyve hundreded pounds vpon such of our other revenues as you shall think fitt.—Given at the 24 of October 1627.

The Clerk of the Signett now attending is to engrosse furthwith the bill ready for his Majestie's signature.

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TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—In regard of the remotenesse of the ordinarie residence of our right trustie and welbeloned the Marques of Huntlie from the place of your meeting, soe that he cannot convenientlie attend the same, Wee are pleased, and doe heirly require you, to accept in his absence as a commissioner amongis you oure right trustie, &c. the Lord Gordonne, his sone, of whose sufficiencie and affectione to our seruice wee are confident, receaving him in that place after such forme as is fitt to be vsed; for doing whareof these presentis, &c.—Given at Whitehall, the 30 October 1627.

TO THE MINISTERS OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Wee haue bene credibillie informed of the great care and panis taken by you for helping those raptures in the church of that burgh occasioned by diuers persones, contrarie to the discipline and ordour thareof, wharein wee doe uerie much approue your endeouris, and giue you hartlie thankis for the same: And though we vnderstand the great contradiccion you find in this approued course, yet in regard the caus is good, Wee desire you to continow tharein as you haue beguine, bieng willing that you proceed in the same in the full assurance of our royall protectione and thankfull remembrance of your panis when any fit and lauchfull occasione shall offer, &c.—Whitehall, the 30 of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Heaving vnderstood from you what inconueniences doe ordinarlie arise, and are in possibilitie to fall out by reasone that the full number of the quorum of our counsall cannot be present at all times, though vpon good considerationes we appointed that to be the quorum, as it may aeselic be, in respect of the number that is vpon our counsell, if euerie one of you wer as desirous to attend our seruice in that charge as some of them haue bene aernest to haue ws admitt them to that place, Yet, at your desire to preuent the present inconvenientis, till wee tak ordour to haue the first course kept, Wee wer

pleased, and doe heirby warrant you, that the said quorum that was formerlie of ten be now of seaven, and that they haue pouare to determine of what formerlie they might haue done; and whereas we wer formerlie pleased to appoint the meetings of our counsell at our Palace of Halirudhous, as best becoming the state and dignitie tharcof, sieng you desire during the winter seaseone that your meetings be at Edinburch, we remitt the doing thareof for that time to your owne discretions, ether in meeting at Halyrudhous or in our said burgh, as you shall think most expedient.—Whitehall, the penult of October 1627.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPPIS.

Right reverend, &c.—Wnderstanding perfitelie the great care and panis taken by our late deir father for the good of the churche of that our kingdome, in causing establish and keip the canons thareof, which we, bieng no lesse willing to see duelic obserued, haue heirby thought good to require you, according to the custume obserued in the like cases, to admitt noe persone whatsoeuer to the Ministrie in the church, nor to publict professions in Colleges or skoolis, vnles they giue vnto [you] sufficient assurance of thare conformitie to the said canons, and that you carefullie proceed thairin for the good and tranquillitie of the churche.—Whitehall, the 30 October 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Whereas we gaue warrant to Robert, Erle of Nithesdalle, then our collectour, to allow for the charges and expenses of Sir James Baillie, Knight, the time he stayed heir, for buying, repairing, and putting to sea those our thrie shippis, bought for defence of that our kingdome of Scotland, such soumes of money as should be set doune by those of our counsell of warr: And whereas the said charges are modified by Sir Williame Alexander, our secretairey, and James Spens, appointed for those shippis bussienes, to fyue hunderith poundis sterling, haueing warrant from ws: Oure will and pleasour is, that you allow the same vnto him in his accomptis of our taxatione, as likewayis for his last tuoe jornayis tua hunder poundis sterling, the thrid bieng allowed out of our rentis: And becaus at our command the said Sir James hath payed the whole foure yeir's fees of our taxatione to the said Robert, Erle of Nithesdaill, wherby the said Sir James is denudit of all benefitt as collectour principall, Oure will and pleasour is likewayis that, according to our former warrant direct to the said Erle, you allow him all such soumes of money as war allowed to vmquhill Williame Barclay, collectour deputie of our last taxatione, ether in fee or by precept: And we approve of that Tuae thousand tuoe hundrith tuentie sex poundis thretein shillingis iiij^d scottis money payed by ourdour from our counsell of war to Sir Henrie Bruce, and of that one hunderith pund Sterling payed vnto Archebald Primrose, clerk of our taxatione, for his expensis of his jorney to our Court in April 1626: And at the which premissis these presentis shalbe vnto you a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the penult day of October 1627.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas haueing hard the accomptis and debursmentis of Sir James Baillie, Knight, according to our warrant directed for that purpos, we find by that which you haue certiefed that the said Sir James hath shewn him self a most careful and faithfull seruant, not sparing to engage himself, his freendis and credit, yea his whole estate, for the advancement of our princelie affairs and seruice: And whereas you have most aernestlie recommendit him to our fauour, entreating ws that noe forder burding be layed vpon him till first the-moneys he hath debursit for ws may be payed bak vnto him, and that he

retaine in his oune handis the money of this present taxatioune for that effect, Wee value soe much not onlie his care and great hazard heirin to doe vs seruice, but likwayis his frank and affectioned maner of proceeding to accomplish the samen, that, as wee are bound in honor, we desire by our care for his releiff to encourage others, when our occasiones shall soe require, to tak the like course; and willing not onlie, as you require, that he retayn the taxationes in his handis, but likwayis that he haue all the other helpes that our rents or casualties within that our kingdome are in possibilitie to afford be receaued by him, or deliuered vnto him, as you shall think fitt for that purpose: And therefore oure will and pleasour is, that all our rentis, present or what shall accres to our crowne, casualties, customes, prises, fynes, taxationes, or other benefitis or profittes, present or to come, and all soumes of money arising to vs by the priuelege of our crowne, or which doth appertain or may heirefter appertain to vs by whatsomener right or guift be applied toward the said Sir James, his releeff of what he hath alreddie payed or vndergone, or is to pay or vndergoe by our princelie warrant or directione: And whereas wee appoint heirby that the said Sir James, amongst other thingis for his releeff, shall intromet with that parte of prises belonging vnto vs, Wee intend noe wayis heirby to frustrat Sir William Alexander, our secretarie, of the soume of Sax thousand pound sterling, for payment whereof out of the samen the said Sir James hade formerlie warrant from vs, but that soe much thereof as shal happin to be yet vnpayed be payed vnto him, ether out of our parte of the prises, or of any of the premisses: And becaus we pay interest and vse for the soumes of money awing to the said Sir James and his creditouris, which wee cannot in honour decline, wee desire you to think vpon the most speedie course that can convenientlie be vsed to free vs of the samen; and that vpon your owne considerationes you will soe ordour the payment of our Exchequer that soe farr as you think fitt may be applied to that vse, the warrantis which wee haue formerlie granted vnto the Erle of Nithsdale and the Vicount Dipline, our chancellare, bieng first allowed and payed; as likwayis that you will vse your best endeouour to hastene the payment of our said taxatioune, and to vse the rigour of the law aganis the delinquentis, barring them from all fauour, ether before our counsell, sessione, or exchequer, till they satisfie the samen: And soe trusting this to your diligent care, and to your report bak againe to vs what we may expect heirin, we bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the penult day of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that diuers persones, whoe did formerlie vndertak to serue as soldiouris in the warres in Germanie, haue fled from thence and haue returned to that our kingdome, whoe, as wee are informed, the better to couer thare couardices, doe not onlie cast fals aspersions vpon the ordour and gouernement of those haueing charge in those warres, but likewayis doe discourage all others from vndergoing to serue thair, to the great hinderance of those levies of men intendit to be sent by vs from thence for the betterand of our Uncle the King of Denmark, the consideratione whareof hath iustlie moued vs to require you to tak speciall notice of the said fugitiues; and where you shall find sufficient evidences for proueeing against them of that which is before-mentioned, or where they haue fled away without licience from thare commanders, Wee think it fitt that you tak such a course for causing them to be punished as you shall think most fitt, that all other persones of that unworthie dispositione may be terrieffed from doing the like heirefter, which we will tak as a speciall seruice done vnto vs and vnto the state of that our kingdome: And soe we bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the penult day of October 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—Wee bieng informed how our late deare father, both to pay diuers soumes of money and otherwayis to gratifie the late Erle of Iloome for satling the estate of Condingham vpon Johnne Stewart,

besidis that by a decret saue onlie in the payment of one thousand pund sterling and the annuities thareof, which in respect of the litle benefit the said Johne hath as yet reaped, as we are informed by the said estate, and that he perseued by law diuers persones interested tharein, whoe are liable vnto him in the payment of certane duties out of the samen he could not possibillie performe, notwithstanding, as wee are likeways informed, the now Erle doth persew the said Johne vpon some clauses irritant for the whole estate, but conceaving it to be werie hard measour, iff it be trew as is informed, whollelie to evict the said estate; the said Erle's father haveing hade payed vnto him such soumes of money, both by our said royall father and the said Johne, Wee haue thought good heirby to recommend the consideratione heirof vnto you: And sieng the said Johne is contented that what ducteis and arrerages thareof doe or may belong vnto him out of the said estate be sequestrat for payment of the said thousand pundis and the annuities thareof, Wee think it fitt that you dale that the said Erle wilbe contented to accept of securitie in this kind for payment of the said sonne and annuities thareof; and in the meantime that a finall end, according to justice, be put to that actione depending betuix the said Johne and the said other persones soe adettit vnto him for the said Erle's better satisfacione: Which we recommend vnto you, and bidd you fareweell.—Whitehall, the penult October 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF LYTHWHOE.

Right, &c.—In regard that the quick dispatch from thence of the remanendar of forces left behind by our right, &c. the Erle of Mortoune, to be transported after him, may much import the good of our seruice committed vnto his care; and in regard of the charges you haue from ws as Admirall of that our kingdome for the time, and of the trust we repose in your diligence and affectione to our seruice, Wee haue heirby thought good seriouslie to recommend thare dispatche from thence vnto your care; And to this effect our pleASURE is, that you prouide shippes at the vsual rates payed by ws for others in the like kindis for the transportatione of those persones: Soc bieng confident that you will vse all possible expeditione tharein, and that you will not omitt any fit oportunitie for the purpos, We bid, &c.—Whitehall, the first of November 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas the tithebayers within that our kingdome haveng occasione at this time to meet together for treating all such thingis as may concern them in the buying of thare tithes, Oure pleASURE is, in regard those purposes concerne our seruice, that you licence them ather in the whole number or every parte tharof, and that ether by themselves or by such as shall haue pouare from them, carieng themselves in a civill and decent maner to meet and conveen together during the continuance of our commissione for surrenders, or till we shalbe pleased to signifie our pleASURE vnto you for discharging thareof, and that thare said meetingis be at such times and places as thare commissioners last sent vnto ws, or any of them in name of the rest, shall think fitt; ffor doing whareof thir presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the first day of Nouember 1627.

TO THE HEIGH COMMISSIONE.

Right Reuerend father, &c.—Whereas we are credibillie informed by John Auchmoutie, gentleman of our privie chamber and keeper of our wardrop in that our kingdome, that M^r Andrew Blakhal, minister at Aberladie, did both baulddie and sediciouslie vilipend and disclame our supremacie ouer the church of

that our kingdome, and likeways any pouare the bishopes hade ouer the same, haveing in a most barbarous maner vpon a sonday in the foirmoone, imediatlie before sermone, and in his oune hous, maliciouslie iniured and pressed to haue wounded our said seruant for his duetiefull afferming of the contrarie, of which abuse, if it be soe, as wee are informed, we cannot but command a speedie redresse, sieng the same is done directlie in manefast contempt of our authoritie and of the laudable settled ordour made by our late father, of happie memorie, in the said church: It is therefore our pleasure that with convenient diligence you conuen the said M^r Andro Blakhall before our said heigh commissione court, or any competent number thereof as you shall think fitt, and carefullie trie and examine the same as a mater cheefflie concerning ws and the peace of the said church; and if he be fund giltie heiroff, that you inflict vpon him such examplarie and condigne punishment as the nature of his offence shall justlie deserue, that others may be terrefied from attempting the like heirefter: And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the first day of November 1627.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—In regard of the good seruices alredie done vnto ws by Sir James Scot, Knight, whome, as a persone werie fitt and able to doe ws good seruice, Wee haue been pleased to employ at this time in France: And the better to encourage him to proceed in our said seruice, we bieng willing, for his better assurance of payment, to assigne vnto him the like pensione as Alexander Moncreiff hade of our late deir father, and which, as we are informed, was wplifted by him out of the dueties belonging vnto ws in the Kingis barnes of Fyffe, Oure speciall pleasour is, that you caus draw wpp in due forme to the said Sir James during his lifetime the like gift of pensione formerlie granted vnto the said Sir Alexander, or ane assignement vnto the said dueties of Kingis barnes, as shalbe most sure for the said Sir James his better payment thereof; and that you ether exped the same vnder our caschet there, or otherways with all diligence that you send it hither to be signed by ws: And in the meantime wee require you, our Thesaurer and Deputie-thesaurer, giue present warrant to such as shall haue pouare from the said Sir James to vplift for his vse the rentis belonging vnto ws of this last cropp of the saidis landis of Kingis barnes; ffor doing whareof thir presentis shalbe vnto you, and euerie of you, a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the seavent of November 1627.

TO THE ADUOCAT.

Right, &c.—The peticeone heirwith enclosed haueing been exhibited vnto ws, we haue thoct good, in regard of your charge from ws, to remitt the consideration thereof to you, and the rather becaus wee are informed the peticeoner was borne vnder our unkle the King of Denmark: Therefor our pleasour is, that you ther trye or caus trye the groundis of that which is heirby complaned vpon, together with the interest pretendit by the takers or detayners of the schip and goodis of the said peticeoner: And thereafter that with all convenient diligence you proceed in his fauouris in soe far as you can lauchfullie and equitabilie doe by wertew of your charge: And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the seavent of November 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Humble sute hath been made vnto ws in name of M^r James Straquhen, merchand at Edinburgh, that he might haue pouare to attache and arrest for his vse all such goodis and debtis within that our kingdome as belong to any Frenscheman or other persone naturalised and residing in France,

our seruice, that you caus pay vnto Williame Dick, merchand, at our burgh of Edinburgh in name of the said William Murehead, the said soume of 300^{li} sterling, together with ordinarie interest for the time of the forbearing thereof, and that out of the first and reddiest of the taxationes which you are to wplift for our vse; and for your soe doing these presentis shalbe your warrant and discharge.—Whitehall, the fourteint of Nouember 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon some good considerationes a motione haueing bene made vnto ws for causing dimitt into our handis the office of collectourschip of this present taxatione, Wee wer pleased for that effect to caus deall with our trustie and weelbeloued Sir James Baillie, our present collectour thareoff, whome we fund most willing to submitt himself to our desire tharein, notwithstanding that he and his creditouris haue noe forder assurance of releiff for thare engagding in our seruice: And that your place whareof you haue charge from ws may much contribute to the aduancement thareof in this kind, Wee wer pleased to signe a signatur of the said office of collectorie in your name, which we haue sent by the said Sir James to be deliuered vnto you vpon your taking of a course for his and his said creditouris releiff in thare said engadgementis for ws, bieng confident that you will caus doe what in possibilitie may be done for the speedie collecting of the said taxationes: Therefore we are heerby pleased that vpon the expeding of the said Sir James his bypast accomptis of his receiptis, and before his dimissione of the said office, though he be most willing to doe the same, you tak ordour for him and his said creditouris present releiff, it bieng one of the cheeffest causes of of transferring of this charge vnto your care, wharein for the trouble and charge to be taken by you, though we haue not particularelie assigned vnto you any fee in the said signatur, the same bieng alreddie wplifted by others, yet be assured that both your said charge and panis shall not onlie be satisfied and rewarded, but you likewayis releeffed of what burdingis you, shall wndergoe for the said Sir James and his fairsaidis said releiff, and that ether out of the said taxatione or out of any other thing that may accres vnto ws by our rentis, duties, or casualities whatsoever, within that our kingdome, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 of Nouember 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue conferred the place of cheeff secretarie of that our kingdome vpon our trustie and weelbeloued counsellare Sir William Alexander, together with the keeping of the Signet thare, and all feis and profitis tharevnto belonging, according to our guift granted vnto him tharevpon: Therefore wee doe heirby require you from time to time to be aiding and assisting vnto the said Sir Williame and the keeper of the said Signet for the time, for the better wplifting and enioying of the feis thareof, and all such benefittes and priueleges as haue bene heirtofore receaued or enioyed by any of his predecessouris secretaries for that kingdome, and that in as beneficiall maner as anye of his saidis predecessouris or keepers of the said signet formerlie enioyed the same at ony time: And for your soe doing these our Lettres shalbe vnto you and them a sufficient warrant and discharge.—Whitehall, the penult day of Nouember 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that by ane act of parliament there is ane certane portione of money allowd vnto such persones as shall informe against the wrongous conceallers and wpgniers of moneysis, tharby defrauding ws of thare partis of the taxationes last granted vnto our deir father: And that

Archebald Primrois, clerk thereof, hath employed his freendis in all the partis of that our kingdome for tryeing the offenders heirin : Therefore, and for the better fortherance of our seruice in this kind, and for the said Archebald his further encouraging tharein, Oure plesour is, that according to the said act you haue a care to sie him payed of that portione of money soe allotted for that seruice, and that out of a parte of the moneis to be receaued by you by compositione or otherwayis from the said offenders ; ffor doing whareof theis presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the penult day of Nouember 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are informed there are diuers persones in that our kingdome cited befor you for contraveining the act of parliament made aganis the conceallers and wrongous wpiuers of moneis lent by them for interest, and that you haueing a carefull respect to the weell of our people, and to thare aese in thare panis and charges which they vould be att, iff they should come to Edinburgh to be tryed thare befor you, did commissione for tryeng of those persones whoe hade offended in this kind [in] our Shirreffdomes of Inuernes, Murray, and Banff, at home, into the cuntries whare they duell : Which cours wee approne, as good seruice done vnto ws, and doe require you to tak the like with the transgressouris of the said act in the rest of the shirreffdomes of that our kingdome : And soe soone as the aduocattis for the delinquentis haue seen the summondis, act, and lettres, with thare executiones, that you presentlie giue commissione for tryeng of them in the partes wher they duell or shires nixt adiaacent tharetoe : And this commissione we ordane to be giuen to such persones as the Erle of Marr, oure Collectour of those moneis, shall mak chois of ; ffor doing of all which theis presentis shalbe vnto you a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the penult of Nouember 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that the ward and mariage of Betone of Creiche is at our guift and dispositione : And in regard of the long and faithfull seruice done vnto our late deir father and ws by Patrik Mauld, our seruant, bieng thareby willing to gratiefie him ; Oure plesoure is, that you pas and exped vnto him in due and competent forme the ward and mariage of the said Betone, to the end to him that he may fullelie enjoy the benefite arising thareby, he paying such compositione for the same as you think fitt to be taken : And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the penult day of Nouember 1627.

Thrie Lettres Registrat amongis the docattis, whareof tuoe concerning the Marques of Hamiltoune, and one concerning Sir James Ramsay, which are daited at Whitehall, the Sext of December 1627.

Whareas vpon good consideraceons we wer pleased to entrust our thrie shippis appointed for our seruice in that our kingdome, the one called the Lyone to the Erle of Marshall, and the other tuoe to the Erle of Lythwhoe, our Admirall for the time, according as in thare seueral guiftis, granted by ws tharevpon at lenth, is contined : In regard it dothe import the good of our seruice that the saidis shippis be caried with all convenient diligence vnto the said kingdome, and be vnder the charge of the said noblemen ; and withall that an Inventorie be taken of the wholl ordinance, munitione, furnetour, and other things whatsoever belonging vnto the said shippis, and that ane surveigh be made thereof before they be deliuered vnto them : Therefore it is our plesour, and we doe heirby authoreis and command, that with all convenient diligence you surveigh the said shippis, taking ane Inventour of the whole ordinance, munitione, and

others abonespecificit, belonging vnto them ; and that imediatlie tharefter yee in our name deliuer wpp, by Inventorie aparte, the said schip called the Lyone, and the whole ordinance, munitione, cables, sales, ankers, and whatsoever other thingis tharevnto belonging, to the said Erle of Marshall, or to such as shall haue pouare from him for the receaving thareoff, to be disposed off by him according to our said grant ; And that you tak a noat vnder his hand of his receipt of hir to be anserable for the same, according to the said grant ; and that you likeways caus the other tuoe schippis to be sent vnto the said kingdome, that they may be deliuered vnto the said Erle of Lythwhoe by Inventorie, vpon his noat of receipt thareoff to be anserable for the same, according to our said grant vnto him : Which noattis and Inventories wee will to be registar in our bookis of Exchakker of that kingdome.—Given at Whitehall, the tuelff of December 1627.

Directione.—To our trustie and weelbeloued Sir George Elphinstoune, Knight, one of our priue counsell in our kingdome of Scotland, &c.

TO THE EXCHAKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue entrusted out thrie shippis appointed for our seruice in that our kingdome to . . . the Erles Marshall and Lythwhoe to be disposed of by them according to the guiftis granted by ws tharevpon : Tharefore our plesour is, that you trye what is due vnto the Captans whoe had last charge of the saidis schippis, and to the soiours, saillers, and others vnder thare commandis, and tharefter with all convenient diligence you, our Thesaurer and Deputie-Thesaurer, pay the same vnto them out of the first and reddiest of our rentis and casualities whatsoever of that our kingdome : And likeways that you consider of the panis and charges sustined and debursed by the said Captans in that seruice, and tharefter that you accordingle caus satisfie them for the same ; ffor doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of December 1627.

TO CAPITANE DOUGLAS.

Whereas we haue given ordour to our trustie and weelbeloued Sir George Elphinstoune, Knight, to caus deliuer our good ship called the Lyone to . . . Williame, Erle of Marshall, to whome at the first buyeing of this our schippis for the kingdome of Scotland wee gaue the cheeff charge of them, with pouare to appoint such others as should think fitt to serue vnder him : Oure pleasoure now is, that you deliuer the said schip vnto him, for which he is to ansuer to ws according to the Inventorie to be made of what he shall receaue, conforme to our warrant given conform to the same ; ffor doing whareof this shalbe your warrant, and shall sufficientlie discharge you for any interest you haue at all handis.—Given at Whitehall, the 17 off December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed by the Erle of Annandale that he hath proceedit by a legall course for recouerie of some moneyis, which of a long time hath been due vnto him by the Lord Hereis, and that he wanteth noething but the executione of a decret and lettres given and published in his fauouris, though his losses heerin wer not a sufficient inducement for ws to desire that he might be repared, yet the neglect of our laues in soe contemptable a maner, and in the behalf of him whoe is one of your number, and whoe hath been ane long and faithfull seruand vnto our late and deir father, and soe continou to ourselfe, should justlie moue ws to haue a speciall care for the timelic suppression of ane

abuse soe evill of itself, and dangerous by the example : Therefore our plesour is, you haveng considered the former proceedingis vsed heerin : And if you shall find the abuse to be such as is informed, that according as justice hath been duellie administrated vnto him, in soe farr as concerneth the legall point, soe that you vould haue a speciall care to sie the same put in due executione, with as much diligence, and after the most sure maner that can be considered of by you : Wherein nothing doubting, but that you will vse your best endeououris : Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 17 day of December 1627.

TO THE ERLE OF ANGUIS.

Ryght trustie, &c.—In regard we haue occasione at this time to conferr with you concerning some purposes which wee are willing to communicat vnto you : Oure plesour is, that you and your eldest some repaire with all convenient diligence vnto our Court ; and in the meantime wee haue been pleased to write vnto the tue Archebischopps of S^t Andros and Glasgou, that they suspend their proceeding against you for your religione vntill our forder plesour be made knouen vnto them, bieng confident that you will esteem soe of our fauour in this, that it will induce you to be the more carefull not to giue ane further caus of the like proceedingis against you.—Whitehall, the 19 day of December 1627.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPPS OF S^T ANDROS AND GLASCO.

Ryght reuerend, &c.—Whereas we haue vnderstood of your proceedingis against the Erle of Anguis of his religione wharein though we doubt not of your good intentione, nor of your reasones inducing you to tak that course ; Yet haueing sent for him to repair vnto our court to attend our further directiones, and bieng unwilling that in the meantime he should be trubled, Oure plesour is, that you suspend your said proceedingis against him till our forther plesour concerning that purpos be signified vnto you after his return : See we, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 day of December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Heaving been informed by the peticeone sent you heirwith enclosed of the slaughter of one Johne Yong, Shirreff-Clark of Drumfreis, committed by the parties mentioned in the said peticeone, Wee conceaued it to be agrieable with justice and our princeley care for the due administratione thereof to harken vnto his demand, requiring that the said malefactors might be punished according to the laues of that our kingdome : And therefor oure plesour is, that according to the said peticeone, you direct warrantis with all convenient diligence to such our shirreffis or others our officiaris whome it doth concerne, and in whose iurisdictione the said malefactoris or any of them are knouen to be, or otherways vnto such of the said Shirreffis, or ather of them, or vnto all of them, as you shall think expedient for apprehending and presenting to justice the saidis malefactoris, or soe many of them as shalhappin to be within that our kingdome, to the effect that they may abide the triell of our Lawes prouided in the like cases.—Whitehall, the 19 day of December 1627.

TO M^R THOMAS HOPE, ADVOCATT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee haue been desired to signe a signatour contining a new Dispositione from ws to Sir Donald Makkye, Knight, of certane Landis belenging vnto him, together with ane erectione of

a village of his in a frie burgh of baronie, Though heirin wee are most villing to shaw vnto the gentleman all the fauour that wee can possibillie or lauffullie afford for his great affectione and panis taken at this time in our seruice abroad : Yet knoueng hou much it may import his good and securitie that the same should be formallie and legallie done, Wee haue thought fitt, and doe heirby require you, that you peruse and consider of the said signatour which wee haue sent you heirwith enclosed : And if you shall find the same or any parte thereof informall, deficient, or not fitt to be granted, that with all convenient diligence you caus draw vpp ane other signatour in due and competent forme vnto him, his heres-male and assignais whatsoever, heretabillie of the whole particulars mentioned in the said formall signatour, which may be lauffullie granted by ws, contining as large and beneficiall clauses in all conditiones and respectis as hath been formerlie granted by us or our predecessouris to any other persone in the like kind, and that ether to be signed by ws heir, or to pas our cashote there, as shalbe found most expedient for his good : But if you shall find the signatour heirwith may be lauffullie granted by ws, Our further pleasour is, that you deocat the same and present it before the commissioners of our Exchequer to the effect it may be exped according to the tennour thereof.—Whitehall, the 19 December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon tuoe seuerall peticions exhibited vnto ws, the one by Johne Johnestonne and Robert Kerr, merchandis, and the other by M^r James Straquhen, for attaching and detining in thare handis all such French goodis or debtis as did belong to the subiectis of the French King, extending to the like value of goodis withalden from them in France, Wee wer pleased to write vnto you for granting them lettres of arrestment, which, as wee are informed, bieng granted by you in fauouris of the said Johne Johnestonne and Robert Kerr, they did arrest some goodis of this kind alledged by them to be in the custodie of the said M^r James before our lettre in his fauour cam vnto your handis : Now, in regard he hath againe exhibited another peticione vnto ws desiring that before the other partie haue any proces vpon thare arrestment that they weriefie by write thare debtis alledged due vnto them in France, that thare goodis and debtis are vniustlie detayned and confiscat thare, and that his exceptiones against thare pretences may be hard ; Which peticione wee haue [enclosed] vnto you heirwith : Wee therefore, conceaving thair demandis to be resonable, haue thought fitt to refer the same vnto your consideratione, and that, calling before you thare such persones as are interested heirin, you soe proceed to examine and ordour the differences between them as may best stand with equitie and justice heaving alwayis a respect to the cours vsed by the subiectis of the French King with our subiectis in cases of the like nature : And where in this purpos any doubt or obiectione shall arise, and fit to be cleered by Law, ether in the attaching or detentione of the saidis goodis in the behalff of ether parties, Wee will you to refer the same to our Colledge of Justice, or other Judges competent, that they proceed thairin according as they shall find just caus.—Whitehall, the Nynteint day of December 1627.

TO SIR ARCHEBALD ACHESONE.

Trustie, &c.—In regard that at our desire Johne Steuart of Coldinghame hath surrendered in our fauouris a patent of debtis amonting to the soume of 10,000^{li} sterling, a great parte whereof hath been alredie and is to be wplifted by our Thesaurer heer for dispatch of our necessare and vrgent affairs at this time, Wee haue been pleased in recompence thereof to assigne vnto him for fyue yeirs after the expiraceone of a Leace granted by ws vnto the Lord Naper, oure whole rent, dueties, and casualities of Orkney and Zetland ; and as our intencion is that he and his assignayis should realie enjoy the same, soe to this

effect wee are most villing that he and they be legallie and formalie secured thereof: Therefore, our plesour is, that, calling to your assistance M^r Andrew Aittonne, M^r Lues Steuart, and M^r Robert Craig, his aduocattis, you advise together hou he or they can be best secured thereof; and that thereafter such a grant or assignement be made of the saidis duties and others in fauouris of the said Johnne, or of such as he shall nominat for the said space of fyne yeers, begining at the expiraceone of the said former Lease as was formerlie granted vnto the Erle of Nitthesdale, continuing the like conditiones, and specialie reserving the ministering the yerlie allowance to our falconers, and sextein pound weyght of bulzeon to be payed to the maister of our Minthous thare, or Exchequer, according as is mentioned in the saidis Lord Naper's lease; or otherways that the said grant or assignement be drawn vpp after what other lafull maner as the said aduocattis shall best aduise for his or his foresaidis better securitie, continuing alwayis the said reseruatiounes; which bieng so exped and docated by yow, wee will with all convenient diligence be sent vnto ws for signing thareof: See we, &c.—Whythall, the nynteen day of December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue formerlie writen vnto you that the fines due by penall statutes should not be leaved for a time till our farther plesour wer knouen, as we gratiousely intended heirby a fauour for our subiectis by taking a moderat course for the time past, wee wer soe farr frome thinking that this vould induce them to transgres our lawes in time comming, as wee wer fullelie persuaded that this last of our bountie should haue made them the more loath to prouoke our justice, by living in due obedience in time comming: But sieng you find necessare that another course be taken, as wee only respected and not remitted any such transgressiounes for times past, Soe it is our plesour from thencefurthward you caus punishe all such persones whoe infrng any of those lawes which wer excepted in the last parliament, or which you shall think fitt for the better gouernement of the Kingdome, to be presentlie put in executione, not doubting but you will haue a care to sie it done in such a moderat forme that our subiectis shall not haue just caus to complaine: And therefore we cannot but require you to hasten foreward that course for halding of Justice courtis in everie circuit, as it was formerlie intended, that the delinquentis may from time to time be censured in the Shire where they duell, without bieng put to the charge of a farr woage, that by the frequent doing of this they may be terriefied from offending, and not censured by a long delay, which may mak them presume of impunitie: And soe remitting the management of this to your care, We bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 day of December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Ryght, &c.—Wnderstanding perfitlie the sufficiencie of . . . M^r James Hopp of Craighall, one of our aduocattis, and of his affectione to our seruice, Wee are pleased in regard thareof, and for his farther encouragement and enabling for our said seruice, to advance and promote him to be one of our privie counsell in that our kingdome: It is therefore our plesour, and wee herby will and require you that, haveng administrat vnto him the oath accustomed in the like cases, you admitt him to be one of our privie counsell, receaueng him in that place as one of your number; ffor doing whareof this presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whytehall, the 28 day of December 1627.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right trustie, &c.—Wee haue seen and considered your lettre and aduice concerning such thingis as haue been debated touching the submissione to be made vnto ws, and approue the course which you and

our aduocattis haue hetherto taken, as for that you wreat vnto ws that the creditouris are lothe to submitt such leases of tithes as wer granted before the time of erectiones, of thare care how to auoid the danger of warrandice, and of the distinctione they vold haue made betuix them that did buy or acquire ther erectiones vpon considerable causes from others : Whensoeuer the submissione is perfected, assure them in our name that before wee giue out our decree Wee will heer at lenth what any partie hath to say or can alledge, and will haue a particulare consideratione of euerie persone as, in respect of thare title or danger of warrandice, shall in equitie require ; and what is not submitted vnto ws, let a care be hade that nothing be done to corroborat the rightis of them that pretend a title tharevnto, but that they remain as they are ; flor in all this course we haue nothing before our eyes, but how to accomplish that which may tend to the publike good, with a resolucone to giue them all ressonable satisfacione that doe submitt vnto : Soe wee will vse noe lauffull meens aganis others, whareby this good wark may be brought to perfectione. Soe we bid you fareweell.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath bene made vnto ws in the behalf of Johne Peebles, that a Lease for fifteen or nynteen yeirs of oure custumes of the whole kingdome, or of the wast and middle shires thereof, might be granted vnto him, his assignais and deputies, according as the same is mentioned in the peticeone, which wee haue sent you heirinlosed : In regard that the assurance and offers mentioned in the same doe seem to import a more certane and greater benefit vnto ws then hath been heirtofore or is payed at this day, wee could not but hearken vnto such a motione ; and therefore our plesour is, that you consider of the said peticeone, and if you shall perceaue that the affairs thairin may be performed by the vndertaker and his foirsaidis, that then you grant vnto him and his foirsaidis a Lease or Leases of the said custumes in due and competent forme, with such dues and priueleges as any former custumer of our custumes hath hade heirtofore, according to the intent of the said peticeone, and eather of the wholl kingdome or of the wast and middle shires thereof at thare option, they performing thare saidis offers according to the last peticeon, vnles you shall find some great preiudice and inconvenient to our seruice why the said peticeone cannot be granted, and that a better offer be made to you for our greater benefit ; In which case our further pleasour is, that you signifie the same to the peticeoner, and certifie ws with all possible diligence of your ressones and proceedingis tharein, to the effect we may tak such forder order concerning the same as wee shall find just caus ; Soe wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

[NO ADDRESS.]

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue bene pleased that you should consider of a peticeone exhibited vnto ws in the behalf of Johnne Peebles, and that you should grant his demand tharein concerning Leases of the custumes efter expiratione of the former, according to our letre writen vnto you to that effect, iff soe be you could find that the offers tharein mentioned might be performed by him : And in regard, as we are informed, that it is expedient that the takisman of the saidis custumes should likewayis be Clark of the Coquet Searcherie and keeper of registers of all custumable goodis in the boundis where he is custumer : therefore, if soe be you shall find it that the said offers may be performed by him for our said custumes, and that there is a fitnes that these seuerall charges should be joynd in the persone of one, Oure pleasour is, that you authorise the said Johne Peebles and his assignais in maner requisit, and, during the time of his Lease for bieng custumer, to ansuer and supplie the offices of searcheree Clarkschip of the Coquet and keeper of the registers of all custumable goodis in all such partis of our said kingdome where

he shalbe established taxisman of our said custumes ; Reserving the interest of such persones formerlie recommendit by ws, according to thare signaturis or lettres vnder our hand ; and that he haue all fees, priuelleges, and casualities belonging to the said offices, or ether of them as frielie in all respectis and conditiones as is or hath been accustomed to be enjoyed by any other persone in the like kind in any parte of that our kingdome, without burdening our Exchequer with any fee for the same, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding perfectlie the sufficiencie of our trustie and weelbeloued Mr Thomas Hope, one of our aduocatis, and of his affectione to our seruice, Wee are pleased in regard thereof, and for his better encouragement and enabling for our said seruice, to aduance and promote him to be one of the Commissioners of our Exchakquer thare : It is therefore our will and plesour, and wee doe heerby require you, that haueing administrat vnto him the oath accustomed in the like cases, you admitt him to be one of our Exchequer, receaving him in that place as one of your number ; ffor doing whareof this presentes shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that diuers shippes of our subiectis thare, and the Maisters thereof, haueing not long since been arrested in France, wer by the industree and means of the peticeoner, whoe wes employed by them, released from thence, they haueing promesed vnto him for his panis and charges heirin, such allouances as by the peticeone which wee haue sent you heirwith may appear : And in regard as wee are likevayis informed that he hath intended actione before you aganis the saidis Maisters of shippes, and becaus it seemeth equitable vnto ws that some cours should be taken by them for his better satisfacione heirin according to reassone, Wee haue thought good to recommend his caus vnto you to the effect that such speedie justice should be done vnto him as the equitie thareoff shall require.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1627.

TO SIR JAMES BAILLEE.

Trustie, &c.—Heaveing been informed of the small benefit that doth arise vnto ws by the prises that are taken by the subiectis of that our kingdome, and how that some of them haue agreed with Sir Williame Alexander, our secretarie, for a greater proportione out of the said prises then was formerlie in vse to be payed vnto ws : And in regard thare are moneyis due long since by a precept granted by our late deir father vnto the said Sir Williame, for ansuering whareof vnto him out of the said prises and according to the said conditione it pleased ws at your last bieng heir to giue you directione : Thairefore our pleasour is, that in our name you wplift the said proportiones of goodis or money soe agreed vpon betuix him and the said persones, as likewayis that you agree with all others whoe shall happen to tak prises herefter, soe paying the like proportionable of moneyis or goodis, and tharefter from time to time, as the said benefite shall happen to arrise, that you pay the same vnto the said Sir Williame, or his assignayis, and that vntill the said precept be compleitlie satisfied ; ffor doing whareof these presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 28 day of December 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that thare [are] actiones of law intended [before] yow in the behalff of the Aerles of Wintone and Dumfermeling, and in regard of the good and faithfull services done by the one and by the father of the other, whose memorie is still recent with ws, to our late deir father, of worthie memorie, and vnto our self, We haue thought good to recommend the said noblemen vnto you for the speedie dispatche thereof: And therefore oure desire vnto you is, that therein you administer justice vnto them with the most convenient diligence that may bee, and that in soe farr as the equitie of thare causes shall in justice require, which wee will tak as one acceptable pleasour done vnto ws: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 day of December 1627.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—The Peticeone heirwith enclosed, importing hou that a long time since the Lord Blantire had contracted debt heir, for payment whereof to his creditouris Sir Johne Hungerfoord, Knight, becam suretie, heaving been exhibited vnto ws, Wee haue been pleased to renitt the consideratione thereof vnto you: And in regard, as we are thareby informed, that the said Sir Johne hath satisfied the creditouris without any repayment from the said Lord; and sieng wee conceane the courtesie done by him in this deserueth a farr better requittal then to haue been so long frustrat of his money, or that he was a stranger, and unacquented with the custumes thare, should be forced to sue for that which is his due by law, Oure pleasoure is, iff you find the premisses to be such as is informed, that you call before you the said Lord and require him to tak speedie ordour for payment to the said Sir Johne, or his assignais, the debt mentioned in the said peticeone, with the interestis payable heer for the time of the forbearance thareof, otherwayis vpon his refusing or delaying payment thareof, and vpon the said Sir Johne his forther instructing, if need be, the said debt, that you procee l to caus justice be ministred vnto him, according to the lawes and custume of that our kingdome for his satisfacione, and that with als much diligence as conveniently can be vsed, which wee will tak as acceptable seruice done vnto ws: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

Oure pleasour is, that our trustie . . . M^r James Baillie, or any persone in his name, be licensed and authorized to export from the port at Londone, and caus transport vnto our kingdome of Scotland, for the vse of our right trustie, &c. the Marquis of Hammitoune, the ordinance and others prouisiones specifeit, Vedelicet,—24 Saker, Eight demiculuerone, with thare cariages and furnetour, 200 muskettis, with restis and bandeliers, Threttie barrell of Pouder, and fyue of fyne pouder, Tua ankers of 1300 waight, twoe great cabellis, 100 corslittis, with thare furnetour, Ten dissonne of leather buckettis, a great cadroune, and tuoe dossen lesser, 10 barrell matche, 15 Twinne of shote, flaggis and Enseignes for tuoe shippis, 10 dossen halff pickis, with kettles, compases, sandglasses, and other prouisiones for his owne vse: All which we require may be exported without paying any custume whatsoever for the same, and our Thesaurer of England to giue ordour accordinglie.—Given at our Court at Whitehall, 28 December 1627.

To our right trustie and weelbeloued Cousen and Counseller the
Erle of Marleburgh, our Thesaurer of England.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas our late most deir and Royall father King James, of blissed memorie, did in his liffime translate the Psalmes of Dauid in meeter, which psalmes soe translated, oure pleasour is

shalbe imprinted and published the Psalmes of David, translated by King James: And our forther pleasour is, that . . . Sir Williame Alexander, oure secretarie of state for our realme of Scotland, and his assignayis, shall haue licience for the sole imprinting, selling, and disposing of the same within our realme of England and Irland and dominione of Wales for xxj years, notwithstanding any law or statute to the contrarie; Together with such privileges, clauses, and benefittes as in such grantis are vsuall, and as to you shalbe thought fitt; and that noe other persone or persones during the said terme of one and tuinte years, without licience or consent of our said seruant, or his assignais, shall imprint, sell, or dispose of the samen within our said realmes of England and Irland and the dominione of Wales: These are therefor to require you, calling vnto you Richard Hadfore, esquier, one of our learned counsell for our effairs for our said kingdome of Irland, to prepare a bill fitt for our signatour accordinglie; for which this shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1627.

To our trustie and veelbeloued Sir Robert Iath, Knight, oure
Attorney-generall.

TO THE ADVOCATE.

Trustie, &c.—Wee receaued your lettre, and, according to your opinione, hold it fitt that the tithebuyers should likeways submitt as the erectouris doe, but whither they should doe it in the submissione or in a write apart, we leaue it to your consideratione, and doe approue you in that which you haue thought fitt concerning the tithes of the erectouris owne landis, as for that which they alledge concerning the leases set vnto the erectouris, and the danger they fear concerning warrandice, when they haue submitted the samen vnto ws, as the good of the generall work which wee intend doeth necessarlie require; Wee will see tak thare cause in those pointis to our consideratione, that before wee pronounce our decree they shal haue noe just caus to complaine: Wherefore wee desired our chancellare to assure them in our name, and shall giue them what forther securitie you shall think can convenientlie be granted without any preiudice in any other thing contined in the commissione or intended by the submissione: And as for securing of the tithes to the Sellars iff the moneys be not payed by the buyers within the time prescriued, sieng wee haue been pleased to declair our plesoure to the tithebuyer, and that it is alredie provided that they shall enjoy their tithes and fewmales till that which is decreed he payed, Wee think it not necessarie that a claus be insert tharein, as is desired by them, but they submitt the same vnto ws, wules you, by the aduise of our chancellare and secretarie thare for the good off our said seruice think of a better way tharin, ffor as in all this course wee haue nothing before [our] eyes but how to accomplish that which may tend to the publike good, and a resolucone to giue them all reasonable satisfacione whoe doe submitt vnto ws, soe wee will leaue noe lauffull means vnto wherby this good work may be brought to perfectione: And therefore becaus this submissione contineth many reseruaciones and prouisiones, Wee think it expedient that you considder, if it be necessarie, that a claus be insert in the same, propoing that nether our acceptacione nor ther subscriuing of this submissione shall ether waiken or strenthen our or thare rightis in any particular which is not heirin absolutelic submitted vnto ws, but that such thingis shall continow in the same estate as they wer formerlie, The doing whareof wee will whollelie remitt vnto your oune judgment: And as you haue begun, soe wee expect you will continow till this work be brought to the intended perfectione.—Whitehall, the 29 December 1627.

ANNO DOMINJ 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas in regard of the absence and neglect of Sir John Stewart of Methwen, Knight, whoe had the keeping of the Castle of Dumbartane committed vnto him by the late Duke of Richemond,

you haue appointed our trustie and weelbeloued Sir John Steuart of Traquhair, Knight, to haue charge thereof for the time: And that prouiding it be no way preiudiciall to the Duke of Lennox, his right, nor to any just right or possessione that the said Sir John of Methwen hath therevnto, Wee allowed of your care heirin, and with the course you haue taken with the prouisiones abonespecifeit, And are pleased that the said Sir John, of Traquhair, haue the keeping thereof till the said Duke of Lennox, with his freendis, shall provide otherwayis; and in the meantime, as you haue begun, we intreat you to giue ordour that the said Castle may be repaired, furnesed, and attendit as is most fitting; and soe we bid you farewell.—Whitehall, the Seaventh of Januar 1628.

TO THE LORD NAPER, &c.

Right, &c.—Haveng been informed how by the death of Barnard Lindsay, the place of Seareherie at Leith doth vaik at our dispositione, wharevpon wee wer pleased to grant a guift thereof to one Robert Alexander, merchand there, according to the guift granted by ws therevpon, bot since informed that one Lindsay, a sone of the said late Bernard, doth pretend a interest therein, wee haue thought good that you trie the estate thereof, and certifie ws bak again of the same, or otherwayis, iff you shall find just caus that the said Robert should discharge that place: Wee likewayis require you to vse your best means for causing setle him therein according to our said guift, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 of Januar 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE, &c.

Right trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that there is ane actione depending before you between our seruand James Maxuell and the Laird of Innerweik, and in regard of the daylie attendance of our said seruand about our persone, soe that he cannot as others our subiectis in the like cases may doe, follow and solicit the said actione as is requisit: Therefore Wee haue heirby thought good specially to recommend our said seruantis interest in the same vnto you, bieng willing that therein you shew vnto him as such speedie and lauffull fauour as the course of our lawes can convenientlie efford, which wee will tak as werie acceptable seruice done vnto ws: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 Januar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas out of the aernest care for the daylie encrease of religioune presentlie professed, wee haue formerlie pleased to require that the educatione of some noblemen's sones thare should be carefullie lookt vnto, and they bred in the said religioune: And vnderstanding that it is fit that this course should be obserued in the generall with the whole noblemen's sones of that our kingdome, Wee are willing that you informe your selfis by the bishops of the seuerall diocesess what noblemen haue sones come to the age of discretione, and how they are bred in the ground of the said religioune, and thereafter vpon thare advise vnto you concerning thare educatione, Oure further pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you giue ordour that they haue honest and religioune men to thare pedagogues, and thereafter that they be sent vnto the vniuersities whare we haue enioyned our archebishops and bishops to tak inspectione, and haue ane oversight of thare profiting in Lettres, and specialie in thare breeding in the true groundis of the said religioune. And soe, &c.—Whitehall, 7 of Januar 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right trustie, &c.—Wee bieng informed that a place of Masarie did vaik at our dispositione by the death of one Chambers, wee wer tharevpon pleased to grant the same to one Robert Creichtoune : And bieng willing that he should enjoy the benefitt of our fauour tharein as his guift doth import, Oure pleasour is, iff you shall find the said place to haue been then at our guift, that with all convenient diligence you caus exped the said guift soe granted by ws vnto the said Robert, according to the tennour thareof, and that he haue the said place accordinglie, which we recommend vnto your care, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 of Januar 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARR, &c.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed there is proces depending before our Sessione between Robert Monroe of Foulles, and one Marie Hayes, wharein though wee [doubt] not bot that you and they will proceed according to justice, without respect of persones, yet in regard oure anuncle the King off Denmark, in whose seruice the said Robert is at this time, hath earnestlie recommendit vnto ws that he in his absence should not receaue any prejudice in any actione concerning him, wee are most willing to giue way vnto our said anuncle his request heirin in soe farr as can stand with justice and equitie : And therefore haue thought it to be a faire way and expedient for the good of both parties, that you call before you the said Marie Hayis and the freendis of the said Robert cheefflic interested in the said caus, and endeoure to compose a freendlie agreement betueen them in such maner as you shall think most equitable, and iff you shall find any of the partities refractarie to that which you think fitt to be done heerin, certifie ws thareof with all convenient diligence, together with your opinion concerning the same, and of the most lafull course wee can tak tharein ; and in the meantime, iff you find not a great inconvenient to the contrarie, that you caus all proces concerning this purpos till cease till our further pleasour be signified vnto you.—Whitehall, the 14 of Januar 1628.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed, in name of . . . the Erle of Rothes, of your approbatione by act of Exchequer of a lease for some four yeeres of the few-dueties of Lendoris in his fauouris, according vnto our lettre written vnto you for transactione with him for the guift of pensione of the said few-dueties disposed by our late deir father to James Leslie, whoe, for releeff and payment of his debtis, assigned the same to the said Erle : But heiring now that M^r Thomas Hope, our aduocat, doth in our name impd him in his wplifting the said few-dewties, alledging that he hath noe warrant to decist from conspiring in that course, as wee are loath that any[thing] concerning the good of our seruice should anyways be omitted, soe our intencion is not to hinder the said nobleman of that which is justlie due vnto him, and which, as wee are informed, hath been procured at soe dear a rate : Therefore wee haue thought it expedient that you call vnto you the said M^r Thomas, and after you haue considered of this purpose, iff you shall find that by leaving off to impd the said Erle noe inconvenienc can come vnto ws ; Wee think it reasone that the said Erle should frielic enjoy the benefit of his said lease : And soe we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 Januar 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Though we doubt not but that you will carefully aduert to anything that may concern ws in our Revenues of that our kingdome, and soe need not much in requiring you carefullie to look

tharevnto, yet in regard of our intentione for the tryeing and setting of the estate of the principalitie belonging vnto ws, that from henchfurth our estate tharein may be more exactlie knouen then, as wee are informed, it hath formerlie been : Oure pleasour is, that heerefter noe signatur of landis within the principalitie passe your handis till you ether aequent ws with the particulare estate thareoff, or otherways till you shall receaue a generall directione from ws concerning the same.—Whitehall, the 14 of Januar 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—The reasones heirwith enclosed haneing been exhibited vnto ws in the behalf of Mr James Hannay, minister at Halirudehous, and heaving considered our former intentione by our commissioners that the whole churches of that our kingdome should be sufficientlie provided, wee could not but tak particulare notice of the church of Halyrudehous, both in regard of the eminencie of the place and greatnes of the charge of the said Mr James, whoe, as we are informed, hath nather manse nor gleib, and yet more meenlie provided than many others heveng a farr les charge then hee : Therefore wee haue thought it expedient to require you both to consider of the saidis reasones and of the prouisiones for the ministerie thareat, as likewise that you caus tak a surveigh of the fabrik thareof, and tharefter that you see proccide for the providing of the same as may best fitt the eminencie of the said place and the greatnes of the charge of the said ministerie, and as most convenientlie be done by you : And vpon report made vnto you of the necessitie of helping the fabrike thareof, wee think it expedient that some such course be vsed as was taken formerlie, whareof we will our Thesaurer and deputie to haue a special care : And for the present advancement of moneys towardis the same, leas by the want of some timelie help (besidis that the charges formerlie bestowed wilbe lost) the whole church itself will (as wee are credibillie informed) be in danger of ruine, whareat wee wold be excedinglie sorie.—Whitehall, the 14 day of Januar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—In regard that the place of precedent of our Counsell thare doth vaik at our guift by the death of the Erle of Montrose, last precedent thareoff, and for the more decencie and ordour, bieng willing that the said place should be supplied, and withall, wnderstanding the sufficiencie and affectione of . . . the Erle of Monteith, Oure pleasour is, you admitt him precedent of our said counsell, and that he enjoy the dignities and priveleges belonging to that place : Soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 day day of January 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—The Peticeone heirwith enclosed, together with ane copie of dispositione of Williame Douglas or Drumlanerig, heaving been exhibited vnto ws, and withall haveng considered that the petitioneris demand is cheefflie that the matter in contraversie between him and the said Williame may be again hard and considered by you ; and tharein conceaving his demand to be ressonable, Wee haue thought fitt to send the samen vnto you desiring that you will seriouslie consider of the nature and circumstances thareoff ; and tharefter that you proceed tharein as you shall find the equetie of the cause in justice to require : But whare [he] demandis that a suspension without finding of any catione might be granted vnto him for the payment of those moneys contrauerted vpon betuix the said parties, wee leane that whollelie vnto your owne consideraceone, not doubting bot that you, in soe farr as may staud with justice or any former lauffull custume heertofore observed in that hous, will shaw vnto the said peticeoner fauour thairin that can convenientlie be granted : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 of January 1628.

A WARRANT FOR THE ERLE OF LIGHTWOOE.

Whereas by diuers our late proclamations wee were pleased to approve and warrant all our subjectis for arming thare shippes and with them to empasche and arrest all goodis, shippes transporting prohibited goodis mentioned in the same to any of the dominions of our enemyes or returning thence in the same woage, heaving vented or disposed the same prohibited goodis, and the saidis schippes and goodis to bring to any port or harbour of our saidis kingdome; declaring that wee will hold both the shippis and goodis soe taken for lauffull prise, and caus them be ordered-as duelic forfeated: And whereas wee are informed that long after the said proclamatione one called George Langlandis, maister of the ship called the S^t Peter, of Montrose, and John Wood, maister of a schip called the _____, of S^t Androis, did tak a ship belonging to the State and toune of Hamburg or Lubeck, returning from thare woage to some of our said enemyes dominions, and brought hir vnto the harbour of Montrose without a warrant or lettres of mark from us or you, our admirall for the time bieng: Therefore wee haue heirby thought good specialie to warrant and authorize you that by your self and deputies you not onlie cognose and judge vpon the takers of the said ship and goodis, and thare wholl shipp's companyes, but likewise, according to our royall meening signifiee by our said proclamatione, to cognosch and judge vpon the said shipp and goodis, and finallie and absolutlie to determine vpon bothe, according to the said proclamatione and the lawes and custume of that our kingdome provided in the like cases: Whereunto wee for our interest doe frielic dispense, as if the said takers had been sufficientlie authorized by any warrant or lettres of mark from us or you, and doth fullie and absolutlie dispense with you or your saidis deputies for proceeding in maner abonewritten: And with pouare to you, if the saidis shipp or goodis shalbe determined to be lauffull prize, to tak for our vse for our owne as admirall such a proportion of share thereof as you shall condiscend vpon with the saidis takers, or as you shall think the nature of thare offence to haue justlie mereted.—Whitehall, the 15 of Januar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue been pleased to establish the Erle of Lythquho to be our Admirall of that our kingdome during the minoritie of . . . the Duke of Lennox, and haue, for the better preseruatione in the integretie of the privileges of that office, settled a commissione wherby the said Erle and his assesstouris should be only judges of all pryces: Therefore oure plesour is, that you cause all persones who shall meddle or haue meddled with any pryces since the estabillishing of that commissione, and during the continuance thereof, duelic ansuer vnto him concerning thare proceedingis in thos pryces, or any of them, and that they restore vnto him such thingis of that nature formerlie taken by them, or wherewith they shall meddle thereafter: And in the meantime that you cause intimat at places requisit that non of our subjectis proceed in the like kind, without they be specialie authorised by him, vnder such panis as you shall think fitt; Which wee recommend vnto your care: And soe wee bid you, &c.—From our Court at Whitehall, the 26 January 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue bene pleased, vpon good and waightie considerations, to caus discharge in these our other kingdome the importatione of all French goodis: And bieng villing that, vpon the like considerations, the like course should be taken thare, Oure speciall pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you that you giue present ordour that noe Frensch goodis whatsoeuer, or in whatsoeuer boddome, be imported in that our kingdome; And that our Admirall for the time adiudge as lawfull prize

all such Frensch shippis and goodis as shalbe soe imported or taken by any of our subjectis thare: And to that effect that our pleasour heirin be published at all places requisit; for doing whareof theis presentis shalbe vnto you and our said Admirall a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the 28 January 1628.

TO THE EXCHEKER.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed, in the behalff of Thomas Foulles, how it wer fitt that some reall experiment should be made for fuyng of gold and siluer in Craford Mure; and to that effect desires that he may be encouraged, in hope of some benefitt that may in possibillitie heerefter redound to our vse; in regard of the persones sufficiencie, and the long experience in the trial and practize of minerallis, Wee haue thought good that you call him before you, and if you shall find any ground from him that he can raise for our vse such a proportione of gold as wilbe yeerlie equiualent with the thousand mark scottis which he doth pay vnto our Exchekker for our parte of the lead vre wrought by him thare: Wee require you to assigne the same vnto him for making of the said triall; and that for such time and after such maner as you shall think expedient.—Whitehall, the 28 Januar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that Sir Alexander Gordoune of Clunye, Knight, heaveing, vpon some oppresiones committed against him and his brother by one Alexander Gordoune of Dinkyntie, rased lettres of Laborrous accustomed in the like cases, the said Alexander did present one called Smart, and caused him enact him self as surtie in name of John Forbes of Creishie: In regard that this course is soe ill of itself and dangerous by the example, according to the petitione which wee haue heirwith sent you: And therefore our plesour is, iff you find the premissis to be such as is informed, that you tak a speedie course to caus punish the transgressouris according to the lawes of that our kingdome, that therhy all others may be terriefied from attempting the like abuse heerefter: And least the subseryuer writer and witness of the said surtie should, vpon hearing of the summandis of Improbatione to be rased against them, abandone the kingdome, tharby to disapoint the due triall thareof; Oure forther pleasour is, that you giue warrand to the Shirreff of Aberleen, or to some such persone in those boundis whom you shall think most fitt, for apprehending and presenting them, to abide the said triall; all which we will tak as acceptable seruice, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 January 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee resaued your lre concerning the casting of yrne ordinance and shote within that our kingdome, and doe approue your opinione concerning the course intendit by the vnderakers for prosecuting of that work; And therefore are willing that you, in our name, discharge vnto them the payment of ane rent or duetie payable vnto vs for the space of fyue yeers nixt ensueing, they paying vnto our Exchekker tharefter Tua hunderith poundis sterling money during the continuance of the remander of yeers contined in the former contract betuix vs and them, To which purpos and for thare freer warrant soe to proceed in the said wark, We will you to caus draw wpp such a new grant or other securitie, ether to pas our hand, heir, or our Caschett thare, with such forder clausses as you, for the good of our kingdome, or securitie of the said money, and for the furthering of soe good a necessarie purpos shall think most expedient, causing the said former contract to be cancelled, or otherways made wneffectuall in all time heerefter; And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe vnto yow a sufficient warrand.—Whitehall, the 28 of January 1628.

TO THE EXCHACKQUER.

Right, &c.—In regard of the losses sustined by Sir James Scott, Knight, in our seruice, neuer haveng receaved any recompence for the same, Wee wer pleased a long time since for his better satisfacione and encouragement to doe ws the like good seruices heirefter, to promes to assigne vnto him our few-fermes of Kingis barnes, wherevpon we haue since syne signet a dispositione thareof to him, which wee will and require you to exped with all diligencie, and that he accordingle enjoy the benefett intended tharby, assuring you that from hence forward wee are resoled not to grant any further assignementis which wee find may be in anyways hurtfull to the estate of our rentis, whereof wee require you to haue a speciall care.—Whitehall, the penult day of Januar 1627.

TO THE ABOUCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Bieng informed of the title we haue to the Priorie of Coldinghame and of the expedienzie for the good of our seruice and other good respectis, that wee should recouer the same by law : Therefor, and in regard of the charge you haue from ws carfullie to look vnto these thingis which may concern oure right, our plesour is, and we doe heirby will and require you that with all diligencie you consider of the estate heiroff, and, according to the validitie of our said title, that you in our name persue for the evicting of the said Priorie, bath spiritualitee and temporalitee thareof, from John Steuart, and all others, his outhouris, or any having right frome him tharevnto belonging ; ffor doing whereof, &c.—Whitehall, the penult day of Januar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Sieng it hath pleased ws to estabillisch a commissione whereby the Erle of Lythquho our Admirall for the time, and his assessouris, are onlie to judge and determine of all prises which shall happen to be taken or brought within that our Kingdome, haveng sence that time particularlie, writen vnto him to this effect : And bieng informed hou of late there was a schip taken by some of our subiectis of S^t Androis and Montrose laedden with Malaga wines and some other commodities wharewith, as wee are likeways informed, diuere persones there haue medled without bieng warranted by our said admirall and others haveng pouare of him against our royall intencion, which for diuers good respectis is to conserue the wholl priueleges of the office of Admiralltie in the full integretie : Therefore our speciall pleasour is, that particularlie in all thingis concerning the said ship and goodis which wer tharein, non doe tak vpon them any wayis to meddle ; and if any haue taken that course alreadie, ether in the whole or in any parte thareof, that you giue present ordour that the same be fulley restored and be made furthcumand to the effect that the said Erle and his assessouris may proceed according to the treu intent of the said commissione, and our pleasour and directione soe signified giuen vnto him.—Whitehall, the penult day of Januar 1628.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we haue seen some lettres at diuers times writen by our late dear and royall father vnto such persones, whoe at that time had the charge of the rentis of the Erle of Argyll, your father, whareby he required that out of the reddiest thareof, there should be payed to the late Laird of Londie, his brother, ane thousand merkis sterling, which by ane appointment made between them in

our said late father's presens, as by the said lettres doe appear, was promised to have been payed, wherevpon humble sute now hath been made vnto vs by his sone, your cousen-german, that payment ought be made vnto him thareof, In regard his said father was specialie employed by our said late royall father according to a lettre likwayis vnder his hand in the settling at that time the insurrectiones of the Makgregour and Clandonald, for which caus this soume of money was then granted vnto him: The consideraceon whareof, and of the good effectis wrought by his said father at that time in bieng a cheeff means to repres the said rebels, haue justlie moued vs seriouslie to recommend vnto you that he be payed of the said soume, together with ane vsuall consideraceone for the forbearance thareof, and he may be releeffed and payed of all such debtis and soumes of money which he or his said father hath debursed for yeeris according to the pleasour of our said royall father, signified by one of the said former lettres: Soe expecting in regard the debt seemeth to be most just vnto vs, and for the better encouraging of your said cousen, to vndergoe the like hazerd for you in our seruice heirefter, that you will obey our desire heirin: We bid you farewell.—Whitehall, the eleuenth of Februar 1628,

TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

Trustie, &c.—^{Whereas} by our warrant we wer pleased of late to giue ordour for causing pay vnto Sir Henry Bruce the soume of fyue hunderith pundis sterling out of our taxationes for this last Mertemes terme; and knoueng our engadgmentis for our service to be such that wee doe not intend that from hence furth any moneis out of the same shalbe required by our directione till you and our creditouris be first satisfied: Yet in regard the said Hendrie is at this, and vpon speciall occasions to be employed in our seruice; and that you be assured that this our desire for our said seruandis' satisfacione shall not be a precedent for others to seek the like: Wee doe heirly recommend the payment of the said precept vnto you with als much diligence as you can, and the sooner it be done, the doing thareof wilbe the more acceptable vnto vs, and will esteem of it as ane continued good seruice done by you vnto vs, whareof we will haue a particulare consideratione, and of any losse that you shall happen to susteen thareby: And for soe doing these presentis shalbe your sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the eleuent of Februaire 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Ryght, &c.—Heaveng considered of the commisionne sent vnto vs, we wer pleased to condiscend vpon ane forme thareof, with aduise of some noblemen of that our kingdome interested tharein, that wer heer present for the time, who haue signed the same which we haue returned bak vnto you by . . . the Erle of Monteith, with whom and such others as you tuoe shall think; We will you to consider of the maner of the presenting of the said submissione and proceeding tharein; And when the same is signed by all such as are willing to submit vnto vs, let it be deliuered vnto M^r Thomas Hope, our aduocat, whoe shall haue ordour from vs concerning the same, together with the names of such persones as doe refuse to submit, whareof we doe desire to be first particularelie informed, that tharefter we may giue forder ordour to proceed against them for the recouerie of our right in a legall maner: And as for them whoe haue submitted or shall submit vnto vs, Wee shall, God villing, after dew consideratione decyde in such a maner as noe persone shall haue just caus to complaine: And soe referring all further to the said Erle whome you shall trust from vs, and expecting, till this vork be brought to perfectione, the continuance of your good endenouris tharein as you haue alreddie done: And for which we giue you werie hartlie thankis.—Whythall, the eleuenth day of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue been pleased to authorise the Erle Lythquho, our Admirall of that our kingdome for the time, and his deputies, to caus mak powder, match, and saltpeter thare, with pouare to him and them, for the better effecting thereof, to search malt sellares, woltis, and other the like places without preiudging the owners according as our grant vnto him proportethe: Notwithstanding, knoueing weell houmuch your assistance vpon diuers ocasioness may contribute to the furthering of this purpose incas that any persone, ether out of ignorance or malice, should, without any just caus, for wrong to be offered or done vnto them hinder the same: Therefore wee haue thought good by these presentes to require you that from time to time, as you shalbe required by the said Erle or his said deputies, you either by a generall ordour from that table or utherwayis, as you shall think most fit for this purpose, or as the occasione shall require, warrant him and them vpon any such persones obstinat refusing to caus the contentis of our said grant be obeyed for digging and searching that mater fit to mak saltpeter, &c.—Whitehall, the xj. of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—This paper, which wee haue sent you heirwith enclosed, heauen been presented vnto ws in the name of Alexander Narne, our servant, importing ane expedience that flankes, trinches, barracadoes, and beakens should be made and set vpp in diuers places of that our kingdome, and thareby perceaving his intentione to doe us and that kingdome suche good seruices as the present estate of the time doth seem necessarlie require, we thought it the rather expedient to hearken to such overtouris, in regard he offerethe to put them in practise for the good of the said kingdome without any charges to ws or impositione to be layed vpon our subiectis, bieng onlie willing to stand to thare voluntarie contributione for the same: Therefore, in regard of the charge and care you haue of all thingis that may tend to the good and safetie of that kingdome, wee herby thought fit to referr the same vnto you, bieng willing that you consider thareof, and of the effectis they are likelie to produce, and tharefter soe to proceed tharein as you for the good and honour of the said kingdome shall think expedient of your proceedings, wharein wee desire to be certified: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the eleuent of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—We haue wnderstood by your lettre that, notwithstanding of the willingnes of Colonell Sinclare towards the performing of his wndertaking in transporting the number of men to be vnder his conduct for the service of our awuncle the King of Denmark, yet diuers impedimentis haue occurred which haue hindered the same: Therefore our plesour is, that you consider thareof, and that you vse all speedie and lauchfull means hou these impedimentis may be remoued, and that the moneyis appointed for that service be employed to the intended vse whareby oure intentione for [our] awuncle's supplie be not any wayis hindered, nor the Lordis Gray and Kinleaven preiudged by thare surtieschip for him, sieng as wee conceaue thare releeff should only proceed from his performance: And likeways that you vse your best means that such wndermakers vnder him be made to performe thare conditione for leavieng of persones for the said service, or otherwayis that they be made to repay the moneyis receaued by them, and to abide what farther censure you shalbe pleased to inflict vpon them for disapointing the service committed vnto them in maters soe heighlie concerning ws.—Whitehall, the eleuent of Februaire 1628.

TO THE FREENDS OF THE HOUSE OF ARGILLE.

Trustie, &c.—Wee vnderstood hou effectualie you did proceed soe to settle all maters between the tuo brethering the Lordis of Lorne and Kintyre, and soe to ordour and dispose of bothe the estates of Argille and Kintyre, according to our lettre writen to that effect, as wee find your care and panis taken tharein haue produced the intendit effectis, and as thareby you haue done good offices to the hous of Argill, and particularie to those brethering; soe we haue taken it werie kindlie at your handis, desiring as you haue begun that soe vpon all ocasionis that may ether concerne our service entrusted to the said Lord Lorne, or which in particulare may concerne the estate of that house, you will continow the like kindlie; whareof wee will not be wnyndfull when any occasione shall offer whareby wee may expres our respect vnto [you]: And soe wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the eleuenth day of Februar 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF HADDINGTON.

Right, &c.—After conferance with some persones interested in the titles whoe happened to be heir present at our Court for the time, heaving considered of the submissione that was sent wnto ws, we haue condiscended with them vpon the forme thareof, which wee haue deliuered, signed by sindrie of them, vnto . . . the Erle of Monteith, the maner whareof may mak the releeff of our subiectis from oppressions intended by titles and encrese of our reuenues to be more vniuersall wher at first it did onlie concerne erectiones; and we proceed in soe fair and equitable a course as noe persone shall haue just caus to complaine: But sieng you are one on whose judgement and affectione to our service wee specialie repose, These are to recommend vnto your aernest speciall care the bringing of this work to perfectione, willing you to trust the said Erle in such thingis as he shall deliuer vnto you from ws: Soe assuring you that we will heighlie value your service in this. We bid you, &c.

Instructions.

1. That some of the noblemen cheefflie interested be prepared to sing the submissione before it be presented to the commissioners in publict.
2. That the opiniones of some of the most eminent persones and of the best affected to his Majestie's service may be prepared concerning the course to be taken in the decree, and that vnder thare handis, &c.
3. That his Majestie's aduocattis draw wpp an commissione for surveighing the lawis and practickis of the kingdome, with a blank for commissioners' names, whareof a Roll is to be sent to his Majestie that he may mak choise.
4. That a care be hade to repare his Majestie's houses for savinge of his gaine, and for helping of the heigh wayis.
5. To consult againe concerning the penal statutes, that after consideratione of the estate of the time, and of the preparatione necessarie for a parliament, the transgressionis of them in times past may ether be wholly respected, or at least a great discretione vsed in making chois of them that should be punished, and great moderacione vsed in the maner of exacting, since his Majestie enclines to a respecting the tyme past and to punish only the present or late transgressionis.
6. In regarde that the sufficiencie of the clark of the shire may contribute much to the good of his Majestie's service and to the gouernoment of the countrie, and to the effect they may be circumspetie made choise off by ane near his Majestie, by whome his Majestie may direct them, and whoe shalbe ansuerable to his Majestie for them.

7. That his Majestie's aduocat draw a warrand to this effect for Sir William Alexander, his secretarie, that as he hath the making the Clarkis of the Signet, soe he may in like maner haue pouare to mak the clarkis of the said shires, &c.
8. And least his Majestie's subjectis whoe are to singe the said submissione should be put to w-necessarie truble and charges in reparing from their duellings to sing it, his Majestie is well pleased that any tuo of them within the shire whoe are warranted from the rest shall signe the samen in name of them all whoe are tithebuyers.
9. To recommend to the commissione for surrenders the erectione and prouiding of the churches desired to be planted at Port Patrik and Craufordmoore, and after they haue considered of the intentione of his late father for providing the church of Greenok, that they likeways tak a course for doing the same.
10. That the commissione for the Circuit Courtis be exped and tak effect according to his Majestie's former directione concerning the same.
11. That James Mouat be placed shirreff-clerk of the shirrefdom of Bervick, according to his Majestie's grant given vnto him tharevpon.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Though out of our great affectione to that our antient kingdome, wee wer desirous to doe such thingis as might tend to the good thareof, chiefly for the planting of churches, and for the freeing of all our subjectis from oppressiones or inconveniencis that ether wer in vse or in possibilitie to be, by the means of tithes; yet as the work of itself was good, soe desyring to compas it by fair as well as lafull means, wee wer pleased to giue commissione to some of all estates of that kinglome to heer all pairties, and to consider of the best course tharein, whose dealing at least hath made the sinceritie of our purpos knouen to all our subjectis: And haue considered of the commissione sent vnto vs, and haue hard the opiuione of some of the Nobilitie, and of some others interested tharein whoe wer heir for the time, wee haue condescended vpon the forme thareof, which wee haue sent you heirwith signed by them, whoe, as they haue done the same after a most hartlie maner, Soe in regard of the approued goodnes of the work, the integretie of our intentione, and equitable maner of our proceedingis, whareof we hope the effect shall proue such that noe persone shall haue just caus to complaine; Wee are confident that all other ther interested in the said submissione will likeways signe the same: And vpon the other part, as we will not barr any such persones whoe refuse to submitt from the benefit of our Lawes, soe wee will not any longer defer in causing all diligenece for tryeng our title in a legal maner, heaving for that effect required that thare names be sent vnto vs, that tharefter we may giue ourdour to our aduocat to proceed against them for the reuerie of our right: And bieng informed hou that the difficulties which doe often arise by the course taken in the valuatione of tithes, and withall hou that diuers rentalis haue been verie advisedlie made of old, Wee think it fitt, whare noe great difficultie is made concerning the said rentalis by the parties interested, that you allow and mak vse thareof in your progresse in that commissione; and whare you shall find it otherways, that you proceed according to the course already taken by you in the said valuatione, or otherways as you, for the good and more speedie perfecting of the said Wark, shall think most expedient: And becaus our Chancellare and Archebischop of Sanct Androis, or at least one of them, bieng specially appointed to be at everie sessione of that Commissione, haue been of late disaesed, and may happen not to be present at all times; Oure pleasoure is, for the better furthering of the said wark, that . . . the Erie of Monteithe, whome we haue appointed to be precedent of our Counsell of that Kinglome, be admitted to supplie that place in your said meeting when both are absent: And as we haue found the great care and panis taken by you in this carand since the first establisshing of that commissione, for which we giue you hartlie thankis, Soe

we expect that you will continow your best and most readie endeouris for bringing this work to the intended perfectione, wharein wee will particularlie tak notice of euerie man's affectione, and, as occasione shall offer, will not be vnmindfull thereof: Soe heving expressit our mynd heerin more particularlie vnto the said Erle, whome wee will you trust from ws. Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 Februar 1628.

TO THE MARQUES OF HAMMILTOUNE.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas wee haue condiscended vpon a forme of submission, by aduice of some nobelmen and others interested tharein, whoe wer present at our Court for the time, which bieng signed by them, wee haue returned bak vnto our chancellare: In regard of our intentione that noe man shall haue just caus complaine by the course to be taken by ws in our decree, and that you, for your interest tharein, desired to be directed what course to tak, Wee think it expedient, for diuers good respectis that you be one of the first thare whoe shall signe the said submissione, sieng wee conceate that in any thing that may concerne ws and the publick good you will endeoure to giue good example vnto others: Soe desiring you to trust the Erle of Montearth in anything concerning this purpos whareoff you desire to be resolved, Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of Februar 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Ryght, &c.—Bieng credibillie informed hou you haue noe peculiare [particular] hous appointed vnto you for meeting together and treating in affais as the necessitie of our seruice in that kind doth necessarilie require, whareby your meetings are both vncertaine and oftentimes at vnseasonable houis: Therefore our pleasour is, that you consider of a fitt place for your said meetings, and that you keep the same for that purpose, appointing such day and houis in euerie week wharevpon you shall preceslie meet [to] treat in affais belonging to that commissiōe: And in regard the Archebischop of S^t Androis, precedent thareof, is by reasone of his seeknes or other ocasionese many times not present, Oure pleasour is, that you accept of the Erle of Monteth, whome wee haue appointed to be precedent of our counsell thare, to supplie the said Archebischopp's place as precedent of our Excheckquer in his absence, giuing vnto the said Erle at such times all the respect due vnto that place: And soe, &c.—Whithall, the 12 Februaire 1628.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE, ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whareas . . . the Lord of Lorne hath condiscendit to surrender vnto ws the title and right of the heretable office of Justice-Generall of that our kingdome, desiring that we might be pleased to cause reserue vnto him the Justiciarie of the boundis of the shirrefdome of Argyll and Tarbet, of the landis of Rosneth, belonging to the hous of Argyll, and of all other landis of the heichelandis of that kingdome except Orknay and Zetland: In regard of our royall intentione for bringing bak all heretable offices vnto our croune, whareof this is one of the greatest consequence, and in regard of the prooff alredie given of his sufficiencie and affectione to our seruice, bieng in this respect the more fitt [for] that charge, which is desired to be reserued for him: Oure pleasour is, that you consider of the maner hou hee and his heers may be left denuded of the said office of Justice-Generall, and hou the samen may be best brought bak to our said croune; and accordinglie that you draw wpp any renuiceaceone or other securitie needfull for this purpose to be signed by him, and that a new gift of confirmatione, or what securitie you shall think fitt for this effect, be duellie made to pas our hand heir or caschot ther, whareby in all times comming he

and his heris male shalbe our Justices of the saidis boundis and llandis, excepting Orknay and Zeland: Providing that he and they be accomptable from time to time, and pay vnto our Exchequer all fines whatsoever due vnto ws in the courtis to be holdin by him and them, as they shalbe charged by the accomptis of our Justice-Clarkis or thare Clarkis deputed by them, whome wee will to sitt in all these courtis, and to vse the pouare and privelege justlie belonging to that office; And that this course shall not any wayis hinder or derogat from that for doeing of justice intended by the means of Justice Courtis and Justiceares prescriued by the act of parliament in anno 1547 to be established by ws, but that the Judges yeerlie appointed for that circuit or boundis shall assist the said Lord and his foirsaidis sitting with them as assessouris in all the saidis courtis: Or otherways, in case of the absence of the said Lord or of the said Judges, in that caise it shalbe lauffull for ether of them bieng present to execute justice according to the nature of thare grantis or commissiones as if both wer present at the ordinarie dayis appointed for that purpos, and at all other times when there is a necessitie to hold courtis vpon some speciall ocasionis, that it shalbe lauffull for the saidis Lords and his foresaidis to proceed to doe justice in maner foirsaid by them, selues and thare deputeis: And for soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 12 of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARRE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding the sufficiencie and effectiōne of . . . the Erle of Lythwhoe to our service whereof he hath at diuers times given good proof: And in regard it is requisit for diuers respectis that thare should be a precedent for our counsell of warr for that our kingdome, Our pleasure is, that you admitt him precedent of the same, and that he haue all dignities and privelegis belonging to that place, or which is fit to belong tharevnto; which wee doe recommend vnto yow.—Whitehall, the 12 of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL OF WARRE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding that by the death and absence of some persones formerlie established by ws to be vpon the Counsell of Warr for that our kingdome thare sitting, and proceeding according to our commissione, is much hindered: And wnderstanding hou that by the same we haue reserued pouare vnto ourselues for adding at any time herefter of any persone we should think fit, and withall knoueing the sufficiencie and affectione to our service in this kind of . . . the Erles of Montethe, Wigtoūne, Wintoune, of the Lordis Erskine and Gray, and of Sir Archibald Achesone, our secretarie thare: Oure pleasour is, that you receave and admitt them to be of your number, according to the most requisit or accustomed forme, and that you all with one harmony and effectiōne proceed in our service according to our said commissione: So, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 February 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wheras our deirest father, of worthie memorie, did signifie vnto yow that Francis Stewart, brother to John Stewart of Coldinghame, sould haue no place to suit for ane thing belonging to his brother till he find suretie of releiff of our servant Sir Johne Auchmouty, who was distressed in cautionarie for the said Johne Stewart; and wee being informed that the said Johne Stewart vseth the names of diuise persones in his whole actiones of purpose to defraud the said Sir Johne Auchmouty, it is our pleasur that they shall haue no place to suit for any thing belonging to the said Johne Stewart, till they find surety for releeff of the said Sir Johne Auchmouty: Wherin not doubting of your conformity to our said pleasure, we bid, &c.—Whithall, 13 Feb^r 1628.

TO THE ADVOCATS, &c.

Trusty and weelbeloved Counsellour, being informed that there is ane actioun intended befor our Colledge of Justice by the towne of Peebles aganst James Hay, who, in regard of his charge in our service, cannot convenientlie repaire homewards to vse his owne defences; and withall that both parties ar willing to submit the differences betwain thame vnto yow, and to stand to your determinatioun therin: Therfor we have thocht it expedient to recommend this bussinesse vnto yow, and that yow vse your best meanes, with consent of parties, to mediat a friendlie agreement betwain thame therin, which we will luk as good service done wnto ws; and so, &c.—Whitehall, 13 februar 1628.

Worthie Sir

—Notwithstanding of the warrant given and of the tallie stroken, ther is no moneyis as yit comed in for ony diett, ffor that is threatned of new to be put down: I know when his Maj. sall heare of it he wilbe the more sensible of it at this tyme, Becaus his Maj. has sent for all his cheff officeris of his State within Scotland, for effaires of great importance, and this is the diett wherwnto they vsuallie repaire when they ar here: Let me entreat the continuance of your wouted favour, that my Lord may tak some course for setting of this, Both for this and for the warrant concerning my fees that I should have out of the Exchequer, that I may once at least begine to have payment of both: Deale with my Lord heerin, and direct me what to doe, and excuse my being so bold to trouble yow who never as yit have bene vsefull wnto yow, Bot I houp by the effects to expres how much I an.

Right, &c.—Having vpon good considerationes intentioun at this tyme to ayde our brother the King of France with such forces as we can convenientlie spare from our kingdome of Scotland, and being willing to furnishe him with some regiments of men from thence, our special pleasur is, that yow graunt wnto our right trustie and weelbeloved cousen and counsellour George, Lord Gordoune, a commission with a sufficient warrant to be expedid vnder the great seale of that our kingdome, nominating and appoynting him to be sole colonell of the said Regimentis, with power to him to elect, nominat, and appoynt all such officeris and commanderis as vsuallie ar elected and appoynted by a colonell, and to levy and transport thither out of all such persones within that our kingdome as he shall find willing to goe with him thither, granting him libertye to tak drummes for that purpose, with alse lardge priviledge as ony vther have haid heirtofor in the lyk kynd, he alwayes giving satisfioun to every on of the said nomber as shalbe agreed vpon betuixt him and thame, according to the former custome in lyke cases; Requireing yow likwyse seriouslie to concure with the said Lord, and give him all the legall assistance and favour that may contribut to his furtherance for the speedie lewyng of the said regiment, according to your accustomed forme in materis of the lyke nature, which we will tak as good service done wnto ws: And for your so doeing these presents shalbe wnto yow a sufficient warrant.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—Wheras we have bene pleased, at the desire of our Vnckle the King of Denmark, to give order for levyng 1000 men in that our kingdome of Scotland, to be vnder the charge of our trusty and weelbeloved Sir Donald M'ky, kny^t; and because that we heere that the south and middle shires therof, by the frequent levyes which have bene alreadye mad therin, can afford few persones to this purpose, and that frome the northeme parts and Handis of the said kingdome a readie supply at this tyme onlie can be

expectit : Out of that confidence which we have of your affection to your service, knowing your care will much contribut to the advancement therof in this kynd, we have therfor thocht fitt to lay some charge heerof wpon yow as the most eminent persone in those bounds : And to this effect have sent yow letters to be delyverit by yow to some personis there, who, as we ar informed, wilbe much ruled by your example, for the speedie lewyng of said number of men : So desyryng yow to acquaint ws by the said Sir Donald of your and there proceedings : And soe we bid yow, &c.—Whitehall, 22 of March 1628.

TO THE LAIRD OF GLENURQUHART.

Right, &c.—Wheras we hau been pleased to graunt a Commission to our right trusty and welbeloued cousen and counsellour the Earle of Nithlisdeall, who hath given sufficient proof of his habilitie and affection to our service, for leveying of _____ men for our wuckle the King of Denmarke service : And seeing no part of that our kingdome doth breed better bodies or more resolute men to gayne credit to ther cuntry, reputatioun and meanes to thame selfis, then those boundis where yow duell ; out of that confidence we have of your affection to our service, speciallie in a cause so highlie concerning ws, and the state of all our freinds and confederatis within Christendome, we have heerby thocht fitt earnestlie to desyre yow to contribut by your best meanes for helping to levy the said number of men, and that with the greatest expeditioun and diligence that can be vsed by yow ; and wpon report mad vnto ws of the effects of your care heerin, wherof we have willed the said Earle to informe ws, we will not be onmyndfull when any occasion shall offer to remember your service in this. So bid yow fairweell.—Whitehall, 22 March 1628.

Our Sovereigne Lord, vnderstanding how that _____ hath to his great charge abroad in forrane portis causit diuerse of his servantis vse great panes and industrie in finding out a true way for making of Saltpeter powder and matche never heirtofore practisit in exact maner within the kingdome, to the great preiudice of his Ma/ subjects there ; and his Ma^{tie} being maist willing to cherish and encourage all such worthie and noble proiects as shalbe from tyme to tyme put in practise by any of his loving subjectis, but speciallie in the persone of noble men of hie birth and dignity, as tend to the honour and safty of the said kingdome in those troublesome tymes : And being with all well pleased that the said _____, his heiris and assignayes, partineris, deputis, and associatis should be encouraged to goe on and practise the said work, and to enjoy the benefeit therof dureing the tyme aftermentioned : Therfor his highnesse, with advyse and consent of the Lordis of his highnesse privie counsell and Exchequer, ordaines a letter to be mad vnder the great seale therof in due forme, giving and granting like as his Ma^{tie}, with advyse and consent forsaid, for him, his heiris, giues and grants to the said his heiris, assigneyis, pertineris, deputis, and their servantis, and to none else, full power, libertie, and sole licence, during the space of _____ yeares nixt ensueing the dait heerof, to mak saltpeter powder and matche within the kingdome of _____ and every part therof, discharging lyk as his Ma/ by the tennour heerof discharges all former patents and grants concerning this purpose to any persone or persones whatsoever who any wayes have forfeitit or resigned the same, as not having in due tyme taken effect to his Ma/ service and good of his subjects ; with powar to the said _____ his heiris, assignayes, pertineris, deputis, associatis, and their forsaidis, to tak in lease such housses and ground as they or any of thame shall think fitt and expedient for the better making of the said saltpeter Powder or matche ; and likvise with powar to them, or any of them, or their forsaidis, by the advyse of his Ma/ privie counsell, to enter, break open, dig, searche, and work for saltpeter, also weill within the houses, lands, grounds, and possessionies of his Ma^{tie}, his heiris and successours that now be, or heerafter shalbe ; as also in the houses, wautes, sellers, towres, castles, stables, dung-housses, groundis, or possessiones of any his Ma/ subjects within the said kingdom of Scotland, and ther to have, vse, and tak such ground, &c. &c. &c.

Our Sovereigne Lord considering how the office of high Constable within his Ma/ kingdome of Scotland hath ever beine from the beginning heerof most honorabill and cheeff office of the Crowne, cheeftlie in matteris of warrefarre, the said office being of all others the most auncient, and likwise a great badge and wark of a free, auncient, and warlike nation; and his Ma/, now considering how by the long continuance of a happie peace in his Ma^{ties} said kingdome, the honours, priviledges, and immunities due and proper belonging to the said office of high Constable ar encroached vpon by mony otheris, and much infringed from which they formerlie wer, contrarie to his Ma^{ties} royall intentioun, which is rather to encourage the posteritie of those weil deserving and famous men in whose persones these honorabill offices wer first established to ane emulatioun of the like vertue, then otherwise by discourseing of them to suffer the honours and priviledges so acquired by thame for the credite and safetie of the said kingdome to be onywise retrinchit: His Ma^{tie} therfor, being most willing to see the integritie and fulnes of that office of high Constable settled in the persone of his highnesse right trustie now high
Constable of the said kingdome, he being lyneallie descendit from the first persone of the noble and auncient race, Ordaynes a Letter of Commissions to be expd vnder his Ma/ great seale of the said kingdome, giving and granting, likas his Ma/ gives and grantis, full pouar and commissioun to Sir George Hay of Kynfanis, kny^t, Lord Chancellour, &c., or to ony six of thame, with the said Earle and his Ma/ right trusty and weilbelovet the Lord Hay, his sonne, or ony on of thame two, to meet and convene at whatsoever dayes, places, and tymes convenient, to try, cognosce, and consider by the Lawes and actes of parliament, or by the formar order and consuetude of that his Ma^{ties} kingdome, or by the auncient monumentis, registers, rolles, and recordes therof, or by a right, title, or evidence whatsoever, that the said Earle or his said sonne can produce or otherwise mak appeare what hath bene the auncient and accustomed honours, hostiladges, priviledges, and immunities belonging, or which did ony tyme preceeding belong to the said office, and wherin the saidis honours, prerogatives, and immunities belonging, or which did belong, to the samyne, ar retrinched and diminished from the auncient and former course kept by the office, or which had bein given thervnto, either at the first restitutioun therof, or at ony time thereafter till this present tyme: And particuarlie to consider the honours, priviledges, and immunities belonging to the said office, both in tyme of peace and warre, and the priviledges and honour due therevnto about his Ma/ persone, or wher the royall autoritie is represented either in parliament, great conventioun, counsell, or otherwise: And if the saidis Commissioners cannot find by evident proof, or by auncient monumentis, registers, and recordes, or otherwise in maner abone writtine, how to clear the honours, priviledges, and immunities which have bein knowen or properlie should belong to the said office of high Constable, his Ma/ doth heerby give further powar to the said Commissioners to consider in so far as they can convenientlie the priviledges, honours, and immunities belonging to the lik office in ony other kingdome, and how far they or any of tham may be thought fit to be added to the said office, having alvise a respect how the same may best stand and be agreeable to the lawes and custome of the said kingdome: And to the effect the said Commissioners may the more exactly try the truth concerning the premisses, his Ma^{tie} gives full power to thame, or ony of thame, if neid be, to search all the records and registers; ffor doing wherof, his Ma^{tie} by these presentes doth specialie warrant and command the keeper thereof: And fynallie with power to thame, in maner forsaid, to try, cognosce, and consider such orderis, priviledges, and immunities which for the credit of the said kingdome, may best fit the present estate of the tyme to be added wnto the said office of high Constable: And after due examinatioun, consultatioun, and deliberatioun anent the premisses, that they draw vpe and set down vnder their handis their opinion and judgment concerning the same in severall Articles, togidder with their advise and overtures for remeid of the defectis in the said office: And to report the same to his Ma^{tie} betuixt and the day of
nixt ensueing the dait of thir presents, to the effect his Ma/ may thereafter tak such order concerning the same, as may serve to the full and perfyet establishment

of the said office in all the honours, priviledges, benefices, and immunities which have been knowne should or may properlie belong to the said office of high Constable: And thir presentis salbe a sufficient warrant for appending his Ma/ great Seale without passing any other seale, &c.

RIGHT HONO^{ll} AND MY VERIE GOOD LORD.

According to his Ma^{ties} pleasure signified vnto your Lo^p beareng date the thirteenth of Aprill 1626, for granteing licence to his subjects of Scotland for transporteing thither of Armes and other necessaries belonging therynto, These ar to recommend vnto your L^c the Lord of Rosse in that kingdome that his servant or any other in his name may be licensed, thirty compleet coslettes, twenty muskettis, with their Baneliers and rests, two hundred weight of powder, two hundred weight of match, thirty picks, thirty leather belts for his owne vse: This much haveing now signified in particular according to his Ma^{ties} generall direction at this tyme.—I rest, Your Lo^p humble Servant, Sic sub^r, SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER.

To the right hono^{ll} and my verie good Lord The Lord Weston,
Lord High Thesaurer of England.

Our Sovereigne Lord ordaines a letter of respect to be exped the privie^c Seale in due forme to Alex^r Innes, burges of the brugh of Elgin, makeing mention that his Ma/ out of his speciall grace, mercie, and favour, hath given respect, tolleration, and oversight to the said Alex^r Innes for the slaughter and killing of wmqhill, Robert Tulloche, in _____, committed by him neare the said brugh of Elgin vpon the fourth day of June the yeare of Jmvi^c twentie-nyne yeares, and that dureing the space of _____ yeare next ensueing the date of thir presents to the effect that in the meane tyme the said Alex^r Innes may travell to give satisfaction to the nearest kin and freinds of the said Robert Tulloche for assithement, and a letter of Slaynes to be purchased by him from them for the crime forsaide, with command therin to his Ma/ Justice-Generall, Justice-Clark, their deputtis, Aduocattis, Clarkis, and officers present and to come, and to all vtlers his Ma/ Justices, as well ordinar as by Commissioun, Judges, Sherriffes, officers, and ministers of his highnes^c lawes, as well spirituall as temporall, within the kingdome of Scotland, and all vtlers whom it effeires heerby, expreslie inibiting them of all calling, conveining, accuseing, or aniwise proceeding against the said Alex^r Innes, his person, landis, goodis, and geir for the slaughter of the said Robert Tulloche dureing the space abone-writtin, directlie or indirectie.—Given at, &c.

TO THE CHANCELLARE, THESAURER, PRIVIE SEAL, MARQUEIS OF HUNTLY, AND TRAQUHARE, CURATORS
OF THE ESTAT OF THE DUKE OF LENNOX, IN SCOTLAND.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas we haue wnderstood of the great care and painis taken by the Dutches of Lennox in managen the effairs of hir sone in this our kingdome, wharein sho hath giuen a good proof of hir affectione for his weell; and in regard he hath of late given a commissioun vnto hir with consent of you, whoe are his curatouris for the managing of his estate and effairs within that our kingdome, Oure plesoure is, that you signe the same, and that you giue vnto hir, or vnto such as shall haue pouare from hir to deall in the saidis effairs, all the launfull faouris and speedie assistance that convenientlie can be given by you, which wee will tak as a peculiere seruice done vnto ws: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, 15 Februar 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas our, &c. the Lord of Lorne hath frielic surrendered in our fauouris, without any conditionall assurance of reuard from ws other then our princely respect touardis him, his title and interest in the heretable office of Justice-Generall of that our kingdom, with the whole priueleges and other thingis tharevnto belonging, thareby preferring our desire in adioyning these heretable offices vnto the crowne to any hope of benefitt or credit he or his successouris culd gayne thareby : And sieng we doe verie much approue the course taken by him heirin, and bieng weell pleased that he should be reuarded in some measour for the same : Therefore, haveng alreadye writen to M^r Thomas Hope, our aduocatt, for perfecting of such writtes as for renuncing his interest in the said office shalbe thought requisit, Wee haue thought good heerby to signifie vnto you that wee are willing vnto him for the same the soume of four thousand poundis sterling, a parte whereof, extending to tuoe thousand poundis sterling, wee require that he and his assignais shall receaue and detain in thare owne handis in what maner thay shall best deuise by his and his aduocattis aduise, and that out of the first and reddiest of the duties belonging from henceforth vnto ws out of the landis of Flay, Kintyre, and out of those duties as are yeerlie payable by the said Lord vnto ws, the first termes payment to begin at Mertimes nixt ensueing, and soe furth, yeerlie and termelic, to be receaued by him and them till the said parcell be compleitlie satisfied and payed vnto them : And oure further pleasour is, that from time to time as any fines shallappin to be due vnto ws by the course of the Justice Courtis and Justiceairs prescriued by the act of parliament made in anno 1587, and intended to be re-established by ws, you warrand him in maner requisit for the immediatlie wplifting of the same till it amount vnto the soume of Tua thousand pound sterling ; for doing whereof these presentis, which we require to be registrat in your book of Excheckquer, shalbe your sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the 17 of Februare 1628.

TO THE THESAURER-DEPUTE.

Right, &c.—We haue been often peticeoned in behalf of our wassellis of Marr and Garioch, shewing the preiudice that we sustein by giveng way to the actione intended against them, and the great losse we shall haue incaise they be ouerthrouen in the same : But now latelie bieng requested, for our further assurance in the premissis, to commit the tryall of what is passed tharein alreidie or may heirefter by further proceeding ensue, to the preiudice of our right and benefeitt, vnto a select number of the Senatouris of the Colledge of Justice and tuoe aduocattis ; Wee haue thought fitt, as we alreadye haue giuen way to the course of justice in the aduerser partie his behoue, soe to doe ourselues that right as to tak notice of our interest ffrom able bot indifferent persones : And therefore we will and require you to conuen to your self . . . the Erle of Lauderdale, the Lord Carnegie, Sir Robert Spottiswood, in our name, to charge them, like as wee doe require your self, also joyntlie with them vpon your alledgeances to ws, that heving takine tryell of the premissis and other particulars contined in this enclosed peticeone from M^r Andro Aitton and M^r Lues Steuart, aduocattis, for the Erle of Marr, and from Adame Cunninghame and Robert Burnewood for the wassalles, you report vnto ws vnder your handis what yee in equitie and conscience find to be treuth ; and for this to return your answer to our Master of Requestis, that wee bieng acquainted tharewith may with the more assurance resoluue what wilbe fitting for ws to doe heirefter : Bot in the premissis wee doe specialie relye vpon your abilities and affectione to our seruice : Soe wee require that yee will vse all convenient diligence, whereof not doubting we, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Februare 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding the distressit estate both of diuers persones of the religeone in France, and of those whoe, least they should be trubled for the professing thareof, haue abandoned that kingdome : Wee out of our royall and tender compassione towardis them haue hearkned to a demand made in thare behalf by one de Sance, desiring to haue a contributione of such of our weell desposed subiectis of that our kingdome as are willing to help them in this kind : Therefore we think it fitt that you consider of the former course taken in the like bussienes : And tharefter that you giue such ordour for raising of the said voluntarie contributione for the purpose abonesaid, as hath been formerlie accustomed in the like cases, or as you shall find the estate of the kingdome and theirs to require, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 Februaire 1628.

TO THE TŨE ARCHEBISCHOPS, &c.

A Letter upon the same subject and in similar terms as the above.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGHE.

A Letter upon the same subject and in similar terms as the above.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased to require that you should call before you the Erle of Cassillis, and if you should find the maner of his proceedingis to be such as was affermed by the Erle of Galloua in bieng a means to hinder his releeff in such debtis for which he stood engaged for one James Kennedie, that ether the said Erle of Cassillis should present the said James to justice for the said Erle of Gallouaes satisfactiōe ; or otherways that the debtis, with the just charges debursed by him in that earand, might be refounded vnto him by the said Erle of Cassillis, notwithstanding, as wee are now informed, noe ordour hath been taken heirin : Therefore, our special pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, that you tak a speedie course to setle this bussienes according to equitie, and our royall intentione signified to that purpos, that wee be not forder trubled heirin : So, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 day of Februaire 1628.

TO THE CHANCELER, &c.

Right, &c.—Some noattis tutching our benefitt hathe been given vnto ws by William Haig, one of our solisters in that our kingdome, wherein, though wee doe approue his panis and good intentione to doe ws seruice, yet, becaus in euerie thing that may import our benefit or the publick good thareof, or the estate of any considerable member of the same, wee are desirous to haue your aduise, and tharefor we haue commandit him to shew those oورتouris vnto you, whereof he hath left ws the said noattis, which wee desire you to consider, and caus help what hath been omitted in the forme and mater, as you shall think fitt for the good of our seruice : And that you informe ws of your opinione concerning the same : Soe, expecting that you will soe ponder the said ouertouris that he and all others our loveing subiectis may be encouraged to put to your consideratiōe in any such purpos for our benefitt which is not repugnant to the Lawes and constitutiōes of that our kingdome : Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon informatione made vnto ws that the powere of Admiraltie in the boundis of Orknay and Zetland was of late disioyned from the office of Admiraltie of that our kingdome, Wee wer pleased to write vnto our aduocattis to trye from whence and vpon what groundis that parcell of admiraltie became peculiare vnto our right of the saidis boundis ; But finding noe report wharby to be resolved heirin, Wee haue thought fitt to require you to call them before you, and to informe yourselves by them, or otherwayis as you can best doe of the trew estate heiroff ; and tharefter, that with all convenient diligence you report vnto ws your opinione concerning the same, to the effect it may be establishid as you shall find just caus, &c.—Whitehall, the nyntein day of Februar 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon consideratione of ane act of parliament that non should be elected prouest, nor yet any other Magistrat of any of our free burghes, but such as wer merchandis and actual trafickers within the same, wee wer pleased effectualie to write vnto you that the said act might be duelic obserued, and the breakers thareof censured for thare contempt, according to the lawes of that our kingdome, or as you should find thare faultis to deserue : Yet wee are informed that our lettres to this effect hath taken litell or noe effect, contrarie to oure royall intencion soe warranteably grounded, the consideratione whareof hath justlie moued ws again to require you to put the said act in due executione : And to the effect that all our subiectis may heirefter tak notice of the same, that you renew the proclamacione formerlie made to this effect, and that it be published at all places requisit, the performance of all which wee expect, with all convenient diligence, or a speedie return of your ansuer why it cannot be done, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 of Februare 1628.

TO THE CHANCELARE.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed that a sute in law betwene Sir Robert Douglas and John Makkellye haveng for some differences sometime depended in our court of chancerie heer, the said John Makkellie hath tharein intended actione before our College of Justice thare, in regard as wee are likewayis informed, that the debt vpon which the said sute is grounded, was contracted heir by the said Sir Robert, and consequentie that all circumstances wharby the said differences betwene them are to be cleered, is to come from hence, Wee haue thought fitt that you vse your best means to mediat a full agreement betwene them, or that you remit the said actione to be tryed in our said court heir, or otherwayis, that before any forder proceeding shalbe tharein thare, that you caus produce before you the wholl ordouris and proceedingis given and vsed heirin in our said court heir, that thareby you and they may the more cleerlie proceed to the decisione of the said differences, according to equitie and the lawes of that our kingdome, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 of Februare 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLER, &c.

Right, &c.—A motione being made vnto ws by . . . the Erle of Linlithgow, humble intreating in regard of his present effairs that he might haue libertie to sell his titles, performing alwayis the conditione required in our commisione for furthering the plantatione of churches for paying the annuetic

condiscended vpon vnto ws, and that everie heretour may haue the tithes of his oune landis, and to this effect that resignationes may be made and receaued in thare fauouris for new infetment to be giuen to them, though it may be that noe inconuenient can come by this his demand; yet wee are soe carefull least anything be done that ether directlie or by the consequence might hinder the generall work that is intended for the good of that our kingdome, that wee will not proceed without due aduise: And therefore our plesour is, that you tak this into your consideration, and haueing aduised with our aduocattis, or such others as you shall think expedient, that you giue way to any purpos that may most convenientlie be taken by him for his satisfacione heirin, without preiudice of the said generall course in appointing the pryce and quantitie of tithes where any difference shall happen to be which wee doe the more earnestlie recommend vnto your care, in regard that he for his interest hath soe frielic signet the submissione made vnto ws: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 19 of February 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—In regard of our resoluceon for supplieng our vncler the King of Denmark, and of the redines and constant affectione of . . . Colonell Mackye to our seruice in that kind, Oure plesour is, that you grant vnto him ane commissioun with ane sufficient warrand for leavieng of 1000 men in that our kingdome, and for the transporting of them from thence, he alwayis giuing such satisfacione to everie one of that number as shalbe agreed vpon betuix him and them, and to that effect that you authorise him to caus beat drumes, and where any persones haue ether receaued or shall receaue money from him or his officiers, or haue conuenanted or shall covenant with him or them to goe vpon this seruice, that you vse your best endeuouris to caus them performe accordienglie, or otherwayis, that they repay the moneyis receated by them, together with ane proportionable satisfacione for the losse he hath thareby sustined; And if any persones haue detined his soldiouris after a proclamatioun made to the contrarie, that you call them before you and exact such fines as you shall think fitt, which we will yon to giue to the said Colonell as some help towardis his present losses, and that you caus giue such speedie ordour for causieng prouide some shippes for thare transportacion and vpon the like conditione as hath been formerlie giuen to any others; and where his humble demand is according to the earnest desire of our said avunkle, that he nor his officiers should not be trubled by suites in law during thare [being] in our seruice, though wee will not hinder the due course of justice, yet wee desire you to giue vnto him and vnto such as are in our seruice vnder him whome he shall name all the fauour that formerlie hath been granted to any other persones in the like kind, or as you can convenientlie grant for effecting of this purpose: for doing of which theis presentes shalbe your warrand.—Whithall, the 19 of Februaire 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE OF SCOTLAND.

Right, &c.—The many good and faithfull seruices performed by the hous of Tillebairdine to our royall predecessouris, joynd vnto the good seruices done vnto our late deir father and vnto our selfis by Sir Patrik Murray, gentleman of our priue chamber, haue been sufficient inducementis vnto ws to giue way to the deuolueing vpon him of the title of the Erledome of Tillebairdine, which by his brother the late Erle thareof, vpon consideratione of his releeff in his oune time, and for the continouing of that house in the name and blood, was, together with the estate thareof, made over vnto the said Sir Patrik, and which title hath been since confirmed by the sone and heir to the said Erle whoe hath the cheeff interest in that earand: Therefore our plesour is, and wee doe heirly will and require you that with all diligence

you caus exped the signatour of the said title signed by ws in faouris of the said Sir Patrik vnder our great seall : And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your sufficient warrand : Soe, &c.—Newmarkett, the secund of Marche 1628.

[No Address.]

Right, &c.—Wee receaned your lettre imparting the weak estate of our exchequer, which becaus of our great and vrgent affairs at this time can hardlie be otherways, yet what wee have done in burdening the same hath been done vpon verie good considerations to deserving persones presently in our employments, and whoe culd not be supplied otherways : But now vpon this pressing necessitie for satisfieng those indigent and clamorous persones whoe wer employet in our shippis and otherways in our service at our counsellis directione : Wee think fitt for thare better encouraging to the like employment heerefter, or when the like occasione should ocure, that they should be preferred in thare satisfacione to any persones whatsoever : And therefore sieng we haue giuen already ordour to our Admirall concerning that Lubeck schip as a purpos properlie belonging to that office to proceed therein as justice and equitie dothe require ; and becaus wee will haue them to be satisfied with all the possible diligence can be vsed : Oure pleasour is, and we doe heirby require you to caus readie payment be made vnto the said persones of what is justlie due vnto them for thare employment in our said seruire before any payment be made of any persones whatsoever.—[No date.]

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee haue vnderstood by your lettre hou that vpon some disorderis arysing in the middle shires you did conveen before you the commissioners for the same for knowing the reasons thereof, wharein wee doe approue your care ; and perceaving thereby that the intermissione of thare ordinarie meetings with our other commissioners for the English side, and that the nott reueing by ws since the death of our late royall father of that commissiōe is the cheeff cause of those disorderis ; Oure pleasure is, that you giue warrant for drawing wpp a new commissiōe, with a blank for the commissioners' names, to be sent wnto ws with all diligence, appointing therein speciall dayis and places of meeting, in soe farr as may be most agreeable with the commissiōe for the other side, with such additiones and prouisiones as you for the good of our seruire in that kind shall think expedient ; and that you certifie vnto ws your opinione concerning a fitting number to be vpon that commissiōe, that wee may prick such of the persones' names as we shall think most fiitt.—[No date.]

To . . . M^r JAMES RATTRAY.

Oure pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you apprehend Captane Robert Innes, whome, iff furthwith he tak not a course to pay vnto . . . S^r Doneld Mackie such soumes of money as he doth justlie owe vnto him, wee will him to be sent into Scotland for ansuering the lawes of that kingdome prouided in those cases ; or otherways, that he find suretie heer for the readie performance of the same : And for your soe doing thir presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 13 day of Marche 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Bieng willing that a supplie of 500 men should be sent vnto our avuncle the King of Denmark, and that they should be levied in that our kingdome ; Oure pleasour is, that you grant vnto Sir

George Keith a commission, with ane sufficient warrant to leaue and transport the said fyue hunder men, with as large priueleges as any other hath had heirtofore in the like kind, hee alwayis given such satisfacione to euerie one of that number as shalbe agreeet vpon betuix him and them, according to the former custume in the like cases: ffor doing whareof this presentis shalbe a warrant vnto you.—Whitehall, the 13 day of Marche 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF HADINGTOUNE.

Right, &c.—Wee haue found by the effectis your affectione to our seruice in the bussienes of the tithes, whareof we haue taken particulare notice, and bieng willing, as hitherto we haue been, to tak your aduise tharein before we fullie resoluē vpon our decree vpon the submissione, we think it fitt that you repaire vnto our court iff your helth and charge can convenientlie permitt you, otherwayis iff you cannot come, wee exspect with all convenient diligence your opinione concerning the same: Soe, not doubting but that you will continow as you haue begune to vse your best endeououris for the furthering of that bussienes, wee bid you fareweell.—Whitehall, the 13 day of March 1628.

Letters “to the Erle of Monteathe, the Chancellor, Mr Thomas Hope, aduocat, Sir Archebald Acheson, and Sir James Skeen,” to repair to Court vpon the same business as the above, and of the same date.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas vpon good consideracones, wee haue caused restraine the exportacone from this our kingdome of all ordinance, munitione, and victuallis to any of theis boundis of our avuncle the King of Denmark, latelie taken by our enemies; and bieng villing, vpon the like consideracones, that the like course should be taken in that our kingdome, Oure special pleasour is, that you giue ordour that non of our subiectis thare carie any ordinance, munitione, or victuallis to the saidis boundis, vnder such panis as you for the restraining thareof shall think fitt, and that you caus the ordour be published in maner requisit: And for your soe doing thir presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 13 of March 1628.

TO MR THOMAS HOPE, ADUOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we formerlie pleased by our lettres to command you to compeir for our interest in the clame of Sir William Cokburn against . . . the Erle of Roxburgh, tuitching the tithes of Longtoun and . . . : But sieng the said Erle hath since that time been of the first whoe hath signed the Submissione made vnto vs concerning the wholl tithes of that our kingdome, Wee will not that any proces be intended against him in our name, nor that you should further insist tharein for our interest: And tharefor oure plesour is, that you desist to compeir further in that action, and withall that you signifio our plesour vnto our chancellare and precedent of Sessione that wee will not at this time mak any vse of any interest which wee can haue to the said tithes, leaueing the parties otherwayis interest to proceed tharein according to the lawes of that our kingdome: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 day of Marche 1628.

TO THE ADUOCAT, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we are informed by Sir John Scot that the Lord Lindsay and his curatouris haue latelie taken takes of the tithes of his landis of Tarved from the persone of Sires, contrair to the act of the generall

assemble for the church and our royall intentione for the generall course for the tithes of that our kingdome : Wee therefore haue thought fitt that you see the said Lord and his curatouris required to subscriue the said submissione, iff they haue not doon the same already, and that you desire them in our name to tak noe advantage by the said takes till the said generall course be setled : But iff they will not heerin obey our royall plesour, Wee require you to concur in our name with the said Sir John for proceeding aganis them, in soe farr as can be lafullie done in that particulare : And that you aduerteis the Sinodell assemble of Fyf of our said intentione heirin before thare nixt meeting, to the effect they proceed against the said Personne according to the said act of generall assemble : Soe recommending this vnto your care, that wee be not forder troubled tharein, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 of March 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—We haue been petitioned, in the behalf of the orphans of one Wylie, that the means left vnto them are vnjustlie detined by the Lairdis of Barnbarrow, Blairwhen, Drumrashe, and by one Gilbert Rose, whoe, as wee are informed, in contempt of our laws, and to defraud thare creditouris, haue liued securlie in rebellione theis diuers yeers bypast, and continou tharein : ffor remedie whareoff, and that all others our subiectis thare may tak notice of our royall intentione for suppressing the like unlauffull and vnconscionable proceedingis, Oure plesoure is, and wee doe heirby require you, iff you shall find the premisses trew, to giue the escheattis of the said persones vnto . . . Sir John Scot, tutour to the said pupillis, he giuing sufficient band to our Thesaurer that he shall vse that escheatt to noe further purpose then only for recouerie of payment of that which is justlie due vnto the said pupillis ; ffor doing whareof theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 15 day of Marche 1628.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

These tymes are for action, wherfore for example's sake I meane not to spend much tyme in words, expecting accordinglie that your (as I hope) good resolutions wilbe speedie, not spending tyme vnecessarlie or (that I may better say) dangerouslie, for tedious resolutions at this conjuncture of tyme is as hurtfull as ill resolutions :

I am sure yow now expect from mee, both to know the caus of your meeting and what wee haue to resolve on. Yet I think there is none heere but knowes that common danger is the cause of this parliament, and that supplie at this tyme is the cheeff end of it : So that I need but point to yow what to doe, I will vse but few persuasions, for if to mantayne your owne advises (as now the case stands by the followinge thereof) the True Religion, Lawes, Liberties of Estate, the just defence of our true freinds and allies be not sufficient, no eloquence of men, nor angell will prevaill :

Onely let me remember yow, that my duetie most of all, and euerie one of yours according to your degree, is to seek the mantaynance of this church and commonwealthe, and certainelie there was neuer a tyme in which this duety was more necessarlie required then now :

I, therefore, judging a parliament to be the most auncient, speediest, and best way in this tyme of comon danger, to giue such supplie as to secure ourselues and save our freinds from eminent Ruine, haue called yow togidder :

Every man now must doe according to his owne conscience, wherfore if yow (which God forbid) should not doe your duties in contributeing what the state at this tyme needs, I must in discharge of my conscience, vse those vther meanes which God hath put into my hands to saue that which the follies of vther particular men may otherwise hasard to loose :

Tak not this as a threatning (for I scorne to threatne any but my equalls), but an admonition from him that both out of nature and duety hath most care of your preservations and prosperitie, and hopes (tho I thus speak) that your demeanour at this tyme wilbe such as shall not only approve your former counsells, but lay on mee such obligatiounes as shall tye mee by way of thankfulnessse to meete often with yow, for be assured that no thing can be more pleasing to mee then to keep a good correspondence with yow :

I will onelic add one thing more and then leave the Keepear to mak a short paraphrase vpon the Text I haue delivered to yow, which is to remember a thing to the end we may forgett it : Yow may imagine I come hither with a doubt of good successe of what I desire, remembreing the distractions at the last meeting ; But I assure yow I shall very easely and gladlie forgett and forgive what is past, so yow will at this tyme leave the former wayes of distractionnes and follow the late Counsell given yow to mantayne the vnitie of the spirit in the bond of peace.

[No Address.]

Whereas the Tuo schippis called the Exchange and the Samuell, belonging to William Cloeberrie, merchand of Londone, whereof the Exchange burding is 200 Twannes, John Brak, maister, and the Samuellis burding fourscore twannes, Rodger Rangers, maister, are to be now sett out towardis Newfoundland, the Riuer of Cannada, and New Scotland, for setting of Coloneis in theis partes, and for other his Iaufull and necessare affairs : Theis are therefore to will and require you, and euerie one of you, to permitt the said schippis companies and planters quietlie and peaceabilie in thare going thither, returning from thence, or during thare bieng furth in any other part whatsoever, wntill they shallhappin to return to any of our dominiones, to pas by you without any of your lettis, stayes, trubles, impresis of thare men, or any other hinderance whatsoever ; you shall not faille, &c.—Whitehall, the 22 March 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed hou that diuers persones in that our kingdome, and specialie those that for crimes committed by them wer lyable to the lawes thareof, haveng gone into our seruice vnder the conduct of . . . the Erle of Mortoune, and heaving for that effect receaued pay, haue notwithstanding, to the discredit of that natione, in soe farr as in them did lye, and to the great hurt of our seruice, most shreamfullie abandoned thare coulouris and fled bak vnto that our kingdome : ffor punishing whereof, and for the better preventing of the like heirefter, Oure special plesour is, that you caus speedelic apprehend the saids persones, wee haveng to that effect sent you heirwith a noat of some of thare names, and that such of them whoe, after due triall, shalbe found guiltie of any crime, wnderlye the due course of justice ; and as for the others, that they be sent bak after such maner as you shall think fit, and as can be most speedelic and convenientlie vsed, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 March 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF NITHESDALE.

To repair to Court.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

To repair to Court.

[No Address.]

Whereas the four schippes called the belonging to Sir William
 Alexander, Knight, sone to Sir William Alexander, our secretarie for Scotland, whareof the
 are to be set out towardis Newfoundland, the Riuer of Cannada, and New Scotland, for
 settling of Colonies in these partes, and for other thare lauffull affairs: Theis are therefore to will
 and require you and everie one of you to permitt and suffer the said schippes and everie one of them, with
 thare wholl furnetour, goodis, merchandice, schips' companies, and planters, quietlie and peaceabillie, in
 thare going thither, returning from thence, or during thare bieng furthe in any other parte whatsoever, till
 they shall happin to returne to any of our dominiones, to pas by you without any of your lettes, staves,
 troubles, imprestis of ther men, or any other men, or any other hinderance whatsoever, whareof
 you shall not faill.—Whitehall, the 26 March 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—According to our plesour formerlie signified touching the religious educatione of noble-
 men's sones in that our kingdome; Wee require you carefullie and speedelie to goe on in that purpose as
 you by the advise of the tue Archebischops shall think expedient, and from time to time you aduertis
 ws of your proceedingis thairin; and withall bieng willing to contribute by all faire means to the
 maintenance and propogatione of the treu religione; Wee haue thought fitt that all our shirreffis, Steuartis,
 baillieffis of regalities, justices of peace, prouest, and baillies within burgh, should compeir before you by
 themselues or thare commissioners authorised by them, bieng preachers knouen to be religeous and sufficient
 men, tvice a yeer, and thare to declare vpon thare oathes what persones within thare seuerall iurisdictiones
 they assuredlie know to be popishlie affected: To the effect all faire means may be vsed to induce them
 to repare vnto the church, and to heir the groundis of true religeone from such persones as shalbe appointed
 by you and the said Archebischoppis for that effect, yet before wee wold absolutlie determine to caus put
 this purpose in executione, wee resouled to acquent you tharewith, that you might ether proceed tharein,
 or in any other course which you should think more fit for effecting our intentione in this earand:
 Which remitting vnto your oune iudgmentis, and desiring likeways to be certiefied of your proceedingis
 tharein: Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 day of Marche 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—As wee wer formerlie pleased to expres our unwillingnes to grant any assignementis to
 any of our rentis thare then those which of late wer granted by ws vpon verie good consideraceons,
 soe we wilbe loathe to tak any course heirefter to the contrarie: And therefore our plesour is that for the
 time you caus exped with all diligence our former grant to Sir Henrie Bruce for his fee as Master off our
 ordinance thare, according to our plesour formerlie signified to that purpos: And for your soe
 doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 Marche 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Whereas our weelbeloued M^r Dauid Balfour remaning at this time in Denmark, is
 desirous to haue a testificatt vnder the Great Seall of that our kingdome, certifieng his lauffull birth and

progenie : And sieng the said David is, as wee ar informed, a natiue borne man in that kingdome, Oure plesour is that you tak notice of his lafull and lineall discent, which bieng see doone by you, oure further plesour is, that you caus append the Great Seall of ths said kingdome vnto the said testificatt ; ffor doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 Marche 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue been informed by you of the losse which diuers of our subiectis are hicklie to susteen if they be not suffered to withdraw thare goodis from France, which was settled thare long before oure plesour was signified for restraining Frenche wine to be brought within that our kingdome : Wee are pleased at this time, vpon your representing thare humble demand vnto ws, to assigne them from henceforth till the first day of July nixt ensueing for withdrawing of those wines, and that such of them whoe haue of late brought French wines vnto any porte of that our kingdome shalbe freed from any danger that can come vnto them for that caus : But bieng vnwilling that vnder pretext of this immunitie our royall plesour should anyways be abused, Oure speciall plesour is, that our Admirall for the time shall carefullie provide and forsee that in the meantime noe French wines be brought of new, and brought vnto that our kingdome, vnles it be for the better obtayning of such moneyis or other goodis within France due vnto them which they could not otherways procure ; And that after the time prefixt noe such wines at all, vpon noe conditione nor intent whatsoever, nor in whatsoever bottome, shalbe imported vnto that our kingdome, vnder the former censure and fine prescribed against the contraveeners, vnles our further pleasure be signified to the contrarie, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 of March 1628.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Letter in similar terms.

TO THE THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Heaving beene informed in your name that some soumes of money might arise vnto ws iff see be you wer onlie authorized to compound for all fines for trausporting of prohibited goodis from Scotland vnto England, wherevpon wee wer pleased at that time to condiscend, and for the better dis-burdening of our Exchequer at that time, did giue ordour that what was resting vnsatisfied of a precept given by our late dear father for repairing of our Castle of Lochmaben might be payed vnto . . . the Erle of Annandale for that purpos ; and the rather becaus of matereallis and work brought and prepared for that vse void proue altogither non profitable iff the said castle wer not spedelie repared, notwithstanding, as wee are informed, noe course hath been taken in that earand to the contrarie to the intencione of our said late father and our owne, Therefor our speciall plesour is, that you mak readie payment vnto the said Erle or his assigneis of the moneyis resting vnpayed of the said precept, and that out of the first of the saidis fines already leaved or to be leaved ; and withall that you particularelie certifie ws the names of all the persones with whome you haue from the begining compounded for thare said fines, together with the particulare compositiones taken from them, iff any haue been taken at all ; and, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 day of Marche 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Wee haveng, by aduise of our privie counsell, and vpon conferance with the officers of our Mint heer concerning the coynes of gold and siluer, caused a proclamatione to be drawn vpp tuitching

the directing and setting thereof of new for the publique good of this our kingdome : And knowing how much it may importe the estate there, wharevnto this hath soe strict and neir relaceone, to know from time to tyme what course is to be taken heir in that kind, Wee haue sent you, with a note concerning the value of those coynes, tuoe draughtis of proclamations, whareof one hath a prouisione wherby moneyis as they wer currant before shall continou still to be currant in such paymentis as by one of the proclamations may appear, ether of which we remitt vnto your judgment as you shall think fitt to be presented by you vnto our privie counsell there; with whome, by aduise of the Maister of our Coyneyebous, and of such others as you and the remanent of our said counsell shall think fitt; Wee will you seriouslie to consider tutching the directing and setting of our coynes of gold and siluer there; and thereafter that you condiscend together vpon such a course for ordering thereof as shalbe fund by you all to be most expedient for the publique good of that our kingdome and our benefit: Respecting the relaceone which that course may haue to the mutuall dealing of vs and our subiectis, and the reference it may haue to commerce with other kingdomes, in which bussienes, and in the whole circumstances depending thereone, wee will relye vpon your judgmentis, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 of March 1628.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPS.

Right, &c.—Wee haveng at this time resolued to caus a generall fast be kept in this our kingdome, wharewith publique prayers vnto God are to be conioyned, for the prosperous conducting off all our affairs at home and abroad, wharevponne the estate of religione and the good of our freendis and confederattis doe soe much depend: And bieng willing vpon the like good consideraceone that the like course should be taken hereafter, Oure pleasoure is, that you about this time caus a generall fast to be kept in all the partis of that our kingdome, and that with such admonitions and after such forme as you shall think most necessarie and effectuall for this purpose; and sieng the 23 of this ensueing monethe is assigned to put some conclusion to the signing of the said submissione tutching the tithes; and that schordlie thereafter wee resolue to giue out our decree vpon the samen; Wee haue thought fitt, iff you shall find it necessarie, that you send hither one or more commissioners in your name, whose opinione wee will heir concerning the planting and priuelege of churches before wee proceed to determine on the said decree.—Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 March 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Letter relating to the education of noblemen's sons, in similar terms to that of 27 March.

TO THE ERLE OF LYNLITHQUHO.

Letter calling upon him to repair to court.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased that some commissioners both for the tithe sellars and buyers should repare vnto our Court; And wee bieng of new moued that the saidis commissioners for the tithes buyers might come againe to our court that wee may heir them before the pronouncing of our decree vponne the late submissione; Wee haue bene pleased to permitt them soe to doe, and signified the same to them by our lettre: Wharefor our plesour is alsoe (becaus non as yet hath desired the like for the

tithsellars) that you caus aduerteis the late commissioners sent vnto ws by the said tithsellars that they may acquent the rest of thare number; and that the said tithsellars, if they think good, may ether caus there said former commissioners, or ony others discreet and iudiceous persones whome they shall think fitt, and authorise with thare warrant repaire vnto our court, that as wee shall thiuk expedient we may heir them likewayis before the pronouncing of our said decree: Soe wee bid you fairewell from our court at Whytehall, the 28 of Marche 1628.

TO THE LORD GORDOUNE AND SIR JAMES LOCKART.

Letter to repair to Court and give opinion anent the Submission relative to tithes.—Dated 29 March 1628.

TO THE DEANE AND CHAPTONE OF THE BISCHOPRIKE OFF THE ILLIS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas the bischoprike of the Iles is at this present [vacant] by the deathe of the late incumbent there, Wee let you wit that calling to our remembrance the vertew, learning, and other good qualities of our trustie and weilbeloued John Leslie, doctor of diuinitie, and one of our chaplans: Wee haue thought good by theis our lettres to name and recommend him vnto you to be elected and chosine to the said bischoprik of the Iles: Therefore we pray and require you further, vpon receipt heiroff to proceed to your electione, according to the lawes of that our realme and our conge de eslier sent heirwith vnto you for that effect; and the same electione soe made, to certifie ws vnder your commone seall thereof. Whitehall, the thrid day of Aprill 1628.

LATINE.

Carolus dei gratia Magnæ Britanniae Franciae et Hiberniae Rex dilectis nobis in Christo decano et Capitulo Ecclesiae Cathedralis insularum Salutem vobis humiliter est supplicatum ut cum ecclesia praedieta per mortem naturalem vltimj episcopi vacet et pastoris solatio sit destituta alium vobis eligendum episcopum et pastorem licentiam nostram vobis concedite dignaremur nos animum ad supplicationem istam fauorabiliter inclinantes alium vobis duximus concedendum rogantes ac in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini precipientes quod talem vobis elegatis in episcopum et pastorem qui Deo donatus nobisque et regno nostro vtilis et fidelis existat: In curus rei testimonium has nostras literas fieri facimus patentes Teste me ipso, apud Whitehall Tertio die mensis Aprilis 1628 anno regni nostri.

[No ADDRESS.]

Right, &c.—The Lord of Lorne haveng villinglie submitted vnto ws his title of the heretable office of Justice-Generall of that our kingdome tharein conforming himself to our royall intentione for drawing bak vnto our croune all the heretable offices within the same, whareof this is one of the greatest consequence: Wee, out of that respect and for the better keeping of those heighe and remote cuntries vnder the due obedience of our lawes, haue the more frielie condescendit to reserue vnto him, as a branch of that office, the Justiciarie of the shireffdomes of Argyll and Tarbett, of the whole Iles, exceptand Orknay and Zetland, and of some heigh landis particularie mentioned in a contract past betuix ws and him, whareby it is prouided that, notwithstanding of the said reseruatiene, we may establish in the saidis boundis circuit courtis, the Judges whareof are to proceed with the said Lord and his successouris

in the due administratione of justice, and that the halff of the fines arrising thereby shall come vnto our vse: Therefore oure plesour is, after his renunciatione of the said heretable office of Justice-Generall shalbe perfected at the sight of our aduocattis or of any of them, that with all convenient diligence you expect the signatour signed by ws in this behalf, and withall that you encourage him to goe on in that charge, carefullie and diligentlie for the good of our seruice.—Whitehall, the thrid day of Aprill 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng informed of the petitioneris demand, and of hir hard estate, are heirby pleased to recommend vnto you the considerationes of those tuoe petitiones heirwith inclosed, and according to our plesure formerlie signified by ane of them, are willing that you first trye the groundis thareof, and thereafter that you tak a readie course to giue such satisfacione vnto hir as in equitie shalbe fund fitt by you, otherwayis that you certifie ws what you think fitt to be done therein: Wee haue been the rather pleased to recommend hir cause vnto your aernest care, becaus hir brother was kild in our seruice at the Ile of Rhea.—Whitehall, the 3 of Aprill 1628.

[No Address.]

It is oure plesour that with all diligence you caus pay vnto the beater James Querrier, one of our falconers, the accustomed yeerlie allowance for bringing of some haulkis vnto ws from the northern partis of that our kingdome, and that you giue vnto him your best fortherance for this effect; ffor doing whareof thir presents shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the third of Aprill 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF WENTOUSE.

Right, &c.—Whereas the confining of Captain Johne Seatone within that our kingdome was cheeffie entrusted by ws vnto the care of . . . the Vicount Dipling, our chancellare, whoe is now vpon his way vnto our court, Wee are heirby pleased becaus of the trust wee repose in you to lay that charge vpon you in his absence: And tharefor our plesour is, that you tak the said Captain into your custodie in such maner as he was in our chancellars, and to his returne or till our further plesoure concerning him be signified vnto you, whareof fail not to be carefull, as you wilbe ansuerabill vnto ws: We bid, you, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 of Aprill 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEITH.

Right, &c.—We haue vnderstood hou carefull you haue been to further our seruice, and doe approue of the resolucone you haue taken till stay till the 23 of Aprill that you may bring the submissione with you signed by all such as haue condiscendit tharevnto, with a certane informatione of them whoe are otherwayis disposed: And thereafter we desire you to repaire vnto our court with all diligence, that we may haue your opinionne in some thingis concerning the decree, that wee are to giue furth, whareof we intend not to determin till your coming: See not doubting bot you will vse the best expediceone you can, we bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the eleuent of Aprill 1628.

TO SIR JOHNE STEUART.

Sir Johne Steuart of Mountgauchme, it is our will, and wee heirby expreslie command you that within fourtie eight hours after the sight heirof you departe frome hence, and repaire to Edinburgh before the last of this instant, thare to remaine to ansuer our counsell and justice of such thingis as you are charged with : And this you fall not to doe, as yee will ansuer the contrarie vpon your perrell.—Giuen at Whitehall, the 16 Aprill 1628.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Right, &c.—Humble sute hath bene made vnto ws, in the name of the Reuerend father in God the Bishop of Brichen, for causing pay vnto him his pensione of fyue hunder merkis scottis ; the meances whareof and the persones qualitie requiring some fauour heirin, Wee haue thought fitt seriouslie to recommend the payment thareof vnto you, togither with the arrearages, if any be due, and that with als much diligence as can be ; ffor doing whareof theis presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 19 Aprill 1628.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Reght, &c.—Whereas wee haue granted a Lease for fyue yeers to the Lord Naper, in the behalff of John Steuart of Coldinghame, of our duties of Orknay and Zetland, efter the expiraceone of a preceeding Lease, likewayis granted vnto the said Lord in behalff of the Erle of Nithsdale : Becaus this last was done vpon the said John Steuart his relinquishing for our vse a valuable soume of money, which at this time wee could not convenientlie caus pay vnto him ; Wee are heirby pleased that you caus expd the said Lease vnder our seallis according to the tenour thareof, taking assurance of the lease that reasonable satisfacione bieng made by ws vnto him in this respect, or vnto others interested in that acrand, the saidis duties shall returne to be disposed of at our plesoure : And that hee nor they shall not transfere to any other persone any interest they haue in the said lease without our consent ; ffor doing of all which these presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 19 of Aprill, the yeir 1662.

TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Oure plesoure is, that John Johnstonne, merchand of Edinburgh, is licenced and authorized to export from the port at Londone, and caus transport vnto our kingdome of Scotland, for the vse of . . . the Erle of Rothes, and of . . . Sir Patrik Hepburne, Knight, Tua hunder barrell of powder, which we require may be exported at one or seuerall times, without paying any custume, impositione, or tax whatsoever for the same : And our thesaurer of England to giue ourlour for the same accordinglie.—Whitehall, the 19 of Aprill 1628.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF S^t ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Heaving receaued a lettre from the Ministers of Edinburgh, whareby they haue desired ws to giue way from the exempting of thare paroehineris from kneeling in taking the Sacrament, contrarie to ane act of parliament which doth approue what forme is most decent to be obserued in that caise ; Wee cannot but be exceeding offended that they durst presume to moue ws against that course which was soe warrantabillie done, and that without your knowledge, whoe are entrusted with the charge ouer them : Therefore our speciall plesour is, that you conuen theis persones before you, and heaving tryed the truth

of this bussienes, and cheeff authouris thareof, that you inflict such conding punishment vpon the said authouris as may by his example mak all others forebeare to doe the like herefter, and continow your best endeououris for satling that ordour which was formerlie established, whareby you shall doe ws most acceptable seruice : We bid, &c.—Whitehall, 21 of April 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whareas humble sute hath been made vnto ws in your name for the benefitt that may arrise vnto ws by our part of the fines arrising by the conceallaris of thare lent money contrair to the Act of Parliament made in anno 1621 : Though wee doe verilie think that your good and faithfull seruices done vnto our late dear father and ourselfis, and the good seruice that wee still expect from you may deserue that and more, yet out of considerationes now knouen vnto ws, Wee haue not at this time thought fitt to giue you a grant thareof; bot for the respectis foirsaid, we intend thareby, or by some other way, to gratiefie you, and in the meantime, least wee should be defrauded of what is justly due vnto ws by theis transgressouris, Oure pleasour is, that you caus prosecute the bussienes of the said fines according to our directione latelie signiefied by the commissione sent doune for that effect, and that you keep all the moneyis soe receaved in your oune hand, saue in soe farr as doeth concerne a grant giuen by ws to Sir Williame Alexander, Secretare for that our kingdome; ffor doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 29 of April 1628.

Wpon the 14 day of Maij 1628 ffour pacquettis wer direct from Whiteball to the Erle off Hadingtoun.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng informed that one James Grant, avunkle to Grant off Carrone, whoe was formerlie denunsed our rebell, and continueth in rebellione, hath now of late vsed oppen oppresiones in the northeren partes of that our kingdome; And wnderstanding that the cheeff of euerie clane in the borders and heighlandis are lyable by ane generall band to be ansuerable for thare freendis surname and dependars : Wee are heerby pleased and doe will and require you to charge the Laird of Grant to apprehend the said malefactour and his complices for bieng ansuerable to the commissione granted by ws vnto the Erle of Murray for punishing the like offenders : Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 of May 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MURRAY.

Letter vpon the same subject and in somewhat similar terms as the above.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Whareas M^r Williame Davidsons, Doctor of Phisick at Pareis, is desirous to haue a testificat vnder the great seall of that our kingdome, certifieng his lafull birth and progenie; And sieng the said M^r Williame is (as wee are informed) a natiue borne man within that kingdome, Oure pleasoure is, that you tak notice of his lafull and lineall discent, which bieng soe done by you, oure forther pleasour is, that you caus append the great seall of the said kingdome vnto the said testificat; ffor doing whareoff, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 of May 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Heaving at the first begining of our regne in taking ourlour with our Colledge of Justice appointed . . . the Erle of Lauderdale, the Bischopp of Rosse, and the Lordis Carnegie and Naper to be extraordinarie Lordis of the said counsell; Bieng resolved as wee declared at that time to change them after some reasonable space, though wee doe acknowledge that they haue verie faithfullie behaved themselves in that which did concern thare charge, for which wee giue them heartlie thankis; yet to continow our first resolucone and priueledge, and perfytlie wnderstanding the qualieficatione and sufficiencie of . . . the Erle of Monteath, precedent of our counsell, the Lord Erskyne, Sir Andro Ker, Maister of Jedburgh, and Sir Archebald Achesone, our secretare: Wee haue made choise of them to succeed vnto the persones abone named: Therefore wee haue thought good to nominat and present them to the extraordinarie places of sessione, requiring you effectuallie to receaue and admitt them to the said places, tak thare ordinarie cathes accustomed in the like cases, and let thame haue wote amongis you as vse is.—Given at our Court of Whitehall, the 14 of May 1628.

Duplicate of the above.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that . . . James Murray, Maister of Wark within that our kingdome, hath by a graunt from our late dear father the choosing off all tradsmen, artificers, and all other officers whose offices haue immediat relaceone to our saidis warkis, ffor whose sufficiencie and discharge of duetie in thare callings he is bound to be ansuerable: Sieng wee haue in our owne time ratified the said grant, Wee are weell pleased, and doe heirby will and require you that you admitt nor passe no giuft of offices concerning our said warkis but such as our maister of wark shall present, and that noe new gift of these offices be past saue such as haue been in vse in our predecessouris times, whareby bothe novationes in offices, and ynecessarie fies for the same, wilbe eschewed: Which recommending vnto your care, we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 21 of May 1628.

TO THE JUSTICE CLARK AND HIS DEPUTIES.

Whereas Sir John Steuart of Methwen is charged to anser before you vpon the Sext of Junij ffor generall adultereis alledgit to haue been committed by him: In regard our aduocat for our other seruices thare employed, he cannot keep the said day; Oure will and plesour is, that you continow the day to the 15 of August nixtoocum, and in the meantime that you tak sufficient catione for his appearence: And for soe doing thir presentis shalbe your warrant,—Giuen at Whitehall, the 22 of Maij 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF LAUDERDALL.

Right, &c.—Though, to prosecute the course which vpon good considerationes was intended and declared by vs at our last placing of you vpon the Sessione, Wee haue remoued you from that Judicatorie for a time; Wee are soe farr from doing it out of any dislik of your cariage tharein, or in any other thing concerning our seruice, that these are to giue you most hartlie thankis for the same, assuring you that wee shall not be wmmynndfull thareoff whensoever any occasione is offered where wee may expres our respect vnto you: And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 22 of Maij 1628.

Another to my Lord Carnegie of the same kind and date.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we gane ordour vnto you formerlie that the mariners whoe had been employed in our seruice should be payed out of the first and reddiest moneyis of our Excheckquer, and that all former preceptis should be stayed till they wer first satisfied : Wnderstanding that you haue taken a course for payment thereof with the moneyis made of the goodis of the Lubeck schip, which by a former warrant, giuen by ws vnto Sir James Baillie, should haue been employed touardis the payment of the soume of 6000^{li} sterling first granted vnto . . . Sir William Alexander, oure secretarie for that our kingdome by our late dear father, and thereafter particularlie appointed by ws to be payed vnto him out of our parte of what should fall due vnto ws out of any prise : Oure plesoure is, that you call Sir James Baillie before you, and heaving tryed of him what part hathe been payed of the said soume, that you giue ordour for payment of the rest out of the rediest moneyis arrising due vnto ws by the prises in maner foirsaid ; as likeways out of the fines due vnto ws by all such persones whoe haue transgressed the Act of Parliament maid in anno 1621 against the conceallers or wrangous wpgiuers of moneyis lent by them : ffor doing whareof these presentes shalbe your sufficient warrant and discharge.—Given at our Court at Whythall, the 23 of May 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng humblie moued in behalf of M^r James Hannay, minister at Halieroodhous, that his accomptis of moneyis debursit by him for helping to repair that church belonging vnto ws might be hard, and he accordingly, satisfied of what he hade justlie aduanced in that erand, and withall that ane new surveigh might be taken thareof, to the effect the rwines and defectis of the same might be timelie repaired, his demandis in bothe which seeming vnto ws to be iust and ressonable : Oure plesour is, that with all convenient diligence you caus trye his accomptis, and that he be payed of such moneyis as shalbe fund justlie due vnto him ; and that you caus some persones haveng skill in that kind surveigh the said church, and the defect and ruings thareoff, and if any part of the same shalbe found ether to be deficient or to stand in neel of some reasonable decorum for better lightis thareto, or otherways, that with the like diligence you caus moneyis to be ansuered out of the rediest of our Excheckquer for doing of the same : ffor which these presentis salbe your warrant.—Whitehall, 23 of Maij 1628.

A Warrant to the Excheckquer for admitting of Seafort and Lorn vpon the counsell of the dait vt supra.

TO THE BISCHOP OF MURRAY.

Reuerend, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that vpon a lettre formerlie wrytin by ws for the tryeng of M^r John Mackenzie, preacher of Godis word vpon such thingis wharewith he was then charged, he hath been since convicted by ane assise for intercommuning and treating with the Clanhattoune against our laues, which bieng secundit by some other complaintis latelie exhibited vnto ws, according to the informatione which we haue sent you heirwith inclosed : Wee conceaue that a persone whoe hath giuen soe great a scandall to his professione doth justlie merit to be tryed and censured according to the nature of his offences : And therefor our plesour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, iff the said M^r John hath been convicted as is affermed, that you deprive him of his Ministrie and benefice, and that you examine him vpon this complaintis contaned in this informatione, and thereafter that you proceed to

censure him according to the nature of his offences, and that with all diligence you certifie ws of your proceedingis tharein, to the effect we may giue such forder ordour concerning him as wee shall find just caus : Soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 of Majj [1628].

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Sieng that vpon consideratione of the sufficiencie and abilitie of . . . Doctor Johnne Leslie, one of our cheaplans in ordinarie ; Wee haue been pleased to giue ordour for his admisionne to the Bishoprik of the Isles in that our kingdome : Wee are heerby pleased for his better and more speedie aduancement tharvnto for the good of the churche in those boundis, to require you to vse your best means for his consecratione after the most vsual and decent maner, and withall that you giue vnto him your best aduise and assistance for his satling thare, and in all such thingis as may concerne Godis glorie, and our seruice in those partes, which we will tak as ane acceptable seruice done vnto ws ; and for the which we will not be wannydfull when occasione shall offer wherby we may conuenient expres our respect vnto you : Soe, &c.—Whytehall, the 23 May 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Though it was our plesour to remoue our late aduocatt from the ordinarie place of sessione which was bruike by him and his predecessouris, aduocattis for the time, ever since the first Institutione of the Colledge of Justice, yet it was not, nor is not, our will that our aduocattis shall anywayis be preindged in any other the honouris, liberties, priuelleges, and respectis appertining to the said place : And sieng, as wee are certanelie informed by Sir Thomas Hopp, now our aduocatt, that M^r Henrie Lauder, aduocat for the time to our vmquhill great grandfather, King James the Fift, whoe was the first institutaire of that Colledge of Justice before he was first admitted vpon the same, hade place to sitt within the Inner hous to heer all causes reasonned and woiited by the Lordis, except those wharein he was ane actual pleader himself, conforme to ane speciall warrant directit for that effect by our said vmquhill great grandfather, which is yet recorded in your bookis of sederuntis ; And that wee judge it necessarie for our seruice, that the said Sir Thomas enjoy the like priuelege, to the effect he may the better consider and wnderstand of what shall concerne ws, oure interest and seruice : Thairefore it is our plesour that iff ze find the said warrant extant in your bookis of sederunt, you insert the like in fauouris of the said Sir Thomas, to the effect he may haue place to sitt in the Inner hous, according to the tennour thareof, and alsoe that yee obserue in the said Sir Thomas, his fauouris, all liberties, priuelleges, and immunities due and appertining vnto the said place, and that yee insert these presentis in your bookis of sederunt for his warrant.—Given at Whitehall, the 23 of May 1628.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that a competent number of our Excheckquer haue subscribed for the payment of Thrie thousand merkis to the musicianes of our Chapple Royall thare, according to ane warrant formerlie direct for that effect, and that noe payment is made thareof vnto them though the last Witsondayis terme was assigned for that purpose : Bieng willing according to the intentione of our late royall father, that the said chappell should be serued, and the musitians interteined thareof, in some reasonable maner till the fundationes thareof should be setled see that the benefit arising thareby may be duclie taken wp for the vse of the said chapple : Oure pleasure is, that the said

three thousand merkis which should haue been payed for the said witsunday last bypast, with 3000 merkis for this witsunday ensueing be payed vnto them with all possible diligence, and that out of the first and rediest of our rentis and casualities whatsoever of that kingdome, and that 3000 merkis be yeerlie payed vnto them at the said term of witsunday till the said fundationes be settled in maner foirsaid; and for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 May 1628.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPS OF S^t ANDROIS AND GLASCO.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng informed that by Act of Parliament wherby the wholl bishoppis are restored to the iurisdictione of Commissaris within thare seuerall dioceses, it is ordaned that the four Commissaris of Edinburgh, and thare successouris shalbe sole Judges in all such maters as are reserued for them in the said act: And heering likewaxis that it was condiscended vpon that the said commissaris should haue for thare maintenance the yeerlie fies agreeet vpon by ane decreitt-arbitrall, and that by contract made amongs the wholle archebischoppis and bishoppis for the time it was agreeet that euerie archebischopp and bischopp should pay his proportionable parte of thois yeerlie fees, according to the proportion of the rent of his bishoprik, according to the which the commissaris for the time becam in possessione of the saidis proportionable partes: Notwithstanding whareof (as wee are likewaxis informed), you or some of your nomber resist or delay to mak payment to the commissaris of Edinburgh, whoe now are of thare partes of the said fees, wharevpon they haue humble peticeoned ws for redres, sieng it apertinethe to our princelie care to sie the Judges of that Seat of Commissariat which is ane ecclesiasticall iudicatorie thare to be preserued in thare liberties and rightis thareoff: Oure speciall plesour is that you sie the saidis Commissaris established and secured of thare said fees, and that they be satisfied touching the same of all yeers restand due vnto them: And to that effect that you conveen your brithering the bishoppis, and certifie them our plesour heerin, taking such ordour concerning the same that wee [be] noe more troubled with peticeons in this kind, and iff ther be any just caus which you or any of your brithering can alledge for your or thare exemptione heirin, that you report the same vnto ws vnder your handis, to the effect we may giue such further ordour thareanent as wee shall find just caus: Soe wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 of May 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . Sir Alexander Hay, one of the Senatouris of our Colledge of Justice, bath out of his humble affectione to our seruice composed ane Historie in the Latine toung, of the wholle actis done by our late dear fater in his time, which he humble peticeoned to be considered off by some learned and iudiceous men whome you shall think most fit for persuing or considering thareof in the full method, and otherwayis; and that they report vnto you thare opiniones touching the same; Which we require may be reported vnto ws to the effect we may resolue what further course shalbe taken tharein: Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 May 1628.

Four Presentationes presented to his Majestie and signed by him vpon the 24 day of Maij 1628, all bieng subscriuit by the Archebischop of S^t Androis, wizt:—

- M^r Robert Montgumrie was presented to the wiccarage of the Kirk off Kinnard.
- M^r Simeone Durie to the Kirk of Aberbrothok.
- M^r Henrie Scringier to the Kirk of Forgounne; and
- M^r David Dalgleich to the Kirk of Cuper off Fyff.

A Respeit for a yeer to David White, whose dochter dyed shortlie after shoe hade receaued a blow from him vpon the cheek, of the dait vt supra.

Tuoe Warrantis of the said date for putting the Erle of Seafort and the Lord of Lorne vpon the counsell.

[NO ADDRESS.]

It is oure plesour that you pay vnto John Mackartnay 30^{lib} sterling, and iff you find more due vnto him for his fees as Isher of Exchequer in Scotland, that you satisfie him accordinglie out of the reddiest of our rentis and casualities of that our kingdome, and that with als much diligence as conuenientlie can be when you come ther : for doing whareoff, &c.—Whitehall, the 24 May 1628.

Thrie Packettis war directed from hence [Whitehall] to the Erle of Hadingtoun, bieng of the dait the 26 May 1628, at 5 at night.

Tuoe Paquettis of the 29 thareof, directed in the lik maner, at 12 of cloak.

TO THE DEPUTIE OFF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Whareas for the setling of . . . the Erle of Desmond in that our kingdome, and for the better encouraging and enabling of him to doe ws seruice thare, it pleased our late deare father and ourself to write vnto you at diuers times and in effectuall maner : Soe at this time, wee are pleased to recommend him vnto you, to the effect you farther him in all such affairs as shall come before you, in soe farr as you can lauffullie and conuenientlie doe, which wee will tak as a speciall plesour done vnto ws : Soe expecting this from you ; Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the second of Junij 1628.

TO THE THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng willing to haue some Muttons yeerlie from that our kingdome, at such seasons in the yeer and in such number as was formerlie accustomed in the time of oure late deare father : And vnderstanding, by a certifiat vnder the handis of the presbiterie of Dumfrees, that Charles Murray, to whome this charge was formerlie committed, is not able to discharge the same, and withall bieng informed of the care and sufficiencie of Johne Geddes, burges of Dumfrees ; Oure plesour tharefore is, that you giue ordour vnto the said Johne for bringing hither for our vse such and the like number of Sheep as war in vse to be brought of before, and that you pay vnto him the like allowances and fees as wer payed by Sir Gedeone Murray, our late deputie Thesaurer, to those persones whoe at that time hade the like charge ; And that you furneis vnto him vpon accompt present moneyis at his first begining in bringing of Muttones for our vse : And for soe doing of all which theis presentes shalbe your warrand.—Given at our Court at Whitehall, the fourth of Junij 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR, THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Sieng yee haue the charge from ws of our Castles of Edinburgh and Sterling, which wee desire to be soe prouided as is fitting, and as the present estate of the time doth require : Wee are heerby

pleased to will and require you to acquaint our counsell thare with the trew estate thareoff, and thereafter that by ther advise, and the advise of the Maister of our ordinance ther, iff he be present, you proceed to caus mount the arteillerie which is tharin, and that you provide such other ordinance, munitione, pouder, and bullet, with such other prouisiones as shalbe found fitt, that vpon any occasione that is possibillie to occurr our said castles may not at first be endangered by want of such thingis wharewith necessarelie they should be furnished, whiche wee seriouslie recommend vnto your care: And bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 4 of Junij 1628.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been gratuslie pleased to grant a peticeone of fyue hunderith poundis sterling vnto . . . the Erle of Monteith, precedent of our Counsell in that our kingdome: Our pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you that with all convenient diligence you caus exped the said grant vnder our prieve seal, and thereafter that you mak good and thankfull payment vnto him of the said pensione, according to our said grant, whareby he may the better be encouraged to attend our seruice committed to his charge: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the eleuent of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL AND EXCHECKER.

Right, &c.—Whereas the schip called the . . . of Lubeck (which was latelie brought to sandis with some Malago wynes and other commodities) was thereafter by the Admirall of that our kingdome and by a warrant from ws vnto him judged to be lauffull prise, Oure pleasour [is], and wee doe heirby will and require you to be effectualle aiding and assisting vnto our said admirall in the due executione of the said Decree and in administrating justice against the intromettouris with the saidis goodis, soe as the parties to whome the saidis prise and goodis are thareby adiudged may actualie receave the same accordingly, and with as litle charges and delay as may stand with justice and the course of our laues and justice thare: And whareas we are informed that you haue caused some of the moneyis and price of the saidis goodis to be disposed off to our vse, and for payment of some of the mariners and officiaris of our shippis thare, and that you haue made ane act of counsell and exchecker with consent of our thesaurer that the commissioners of exchakker should repay the same according to our plesour formerlie signified to that purpose before any other paymentis by reasone we did in March last write vnto the said commissioners to pay the saidis officiaris and mariners before any others: Oure forther plesure tharefor is, that the saidis parties, to whome the saidis prise and goodis wer adiudged, may be repayed iff the saidis soumes soe disposed of formerlie by our said exchecker to the said officiaris and mariners, conform to the tenor of the said act of counsell and exchecker; and for your soe doing theis our lettres shalbe vnto you and euerie one of you from time to time a sufficient warrant and discharge: We bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 of Junij [1628].

TO THE ERLE OF LINLITHWHO.

Right, &c.—Whereas the schip called the . . . of Lubeck was latelie adiudged by you to be lauffull prise and to belong to takers thereof: And forasmuch as the said parties haue referred the decisione of the said schip and goodis vnto our arbitrimt; Wharein you haue with thare ounge consentis arbitrated a thrid parte thereof for our vse: As wee doe weell approue your said arbitrimt, soe wee desire you to caus the said thrid part be payed accordinglie vnto Sir James Baillie, our thesaurer, for many causes to be disposed off according to our former directiones vnto him: And for your soe doing theis shalbe your warrant.—Given at Whitehall, the 14 of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee haue vnderstood hou vpon good and important consideraceones you did formerlie stay all actione in law intendit againt some persones of those Ilandis called the Hebrides, for not payment of some preceeding taxationes due by them vnto vs: As wee doe therein approue your proceeding, soe heirby we haue thought good for your better warrant to expres our intentione in that erand, that they be frielic exemptit from payment of any taxatione preceeding that granted in the yeer 1621, and of all other ducties whatsoever payable vnto vs preceeding the said yeer, and that they be not farther troubled for the same by any suite of law, and to this effect that you (if need be) giue ordour accordinglie; And for your soe doing these shalbe your warrant: Soe, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 Junij 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas our royall progenitouris haue bene alsuicill gratusly pleased to extend thare princelie fauour touardis that our Colledge of Justice, and all the Judges and members thareof in thare persones, estates, and priuelleges, Wee are noe les willing to expres our respect vnto you in the like kind, bieng verie confident that you will behaue yourseffis in administrating of justice, according to the trust wee repose in you: And whereas wee hard of your complaint in regard of lettres written by vs in fauouris of diuers persones, it was onlie to bring a speedie dispatch for such of our seruandis that hade processes depending before you in soe farr as the course of law vould permitt: And wee wish you to doe this of your selfis in time comming, that they may haue no occasione to importune vs in this kind: And as we cannot in justice but heir the complaintis of all our subiectis, bee assured whensoever any persone doth complaine vnto vs vpon you, we will return that which they alledge to be duelic tryed, that the complainer or partie complained vpon may be censured as the case shall require: And to the effect wee may expres our princelie fauour heirin, Wee doe heirby will and require you with all convenient speed to meet and consult togither of all such actis and priuelleges as haue been heirtofore granted and conceaued in fauouris of the saidis Judges and members of that Colledge, and of all such Actis of Sederunt as haue benee formerlie made by you and your predecessouris for the better regulating of the said Colledge of Justice and maintenance of the Maisters thareof: And the same to certifie vnto vs vnder your handis that vpon view and consideraceone thareof, wee may giue further ordour for confirmatione of such or all of them as in our princelie judgment may seem fitting for the dignitie and preseruatioun of that Judicatorie and the good of euerie particulare persone haveng relaceone tharevnto: Which we recommend vnto your care, and bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 of Junij 1628.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP OF GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Wnderstanding by your commissioner the Bischop of Rose hou willing you are to contribute to our vished endis for the vniuersall satling of the tithes of that our kingdome in the handis and possessiones of the proprietaris and possessouris of landis, whareby they may heirefter be free from all the vounted oppressiones and hard vsage of teynding and leading of tithes, and from the heauie rigour of spoliations: And alsoe bieng duelic informed of your aplauding, consent, and willingnes that out of such of your tithes as shall not be thought fitt to be applyed to pious vses, payment be made to vs out of our annuetie, by the _____ of those landis, and of which the same are or shalbe payable and due, according as wee shall decree and determine in generall ordour, to be prescribed by vs, touching the valuatione and quota to be payed for tithes throughout the wholl kingdome: Wee haue sent vnto you a

submissione to be signed and returned to us for that effect : And as we cannot but hartelie thank you for your affectioned endeouris tharin, and acknowledge hou much wee doe owe you for the same, soe wee wish you to be confident of our earnest care of the church of that our kingdome in generall and of your selues in particulare, and of constant resolucone to mainteyn you and your successouris, and to wphold your estates heirefter without intentione to hurt or impaire the same, ether in tithes, rightis, dignities, honouris, or priuelleges belonging to your Bischoprikis and benefices, but rather to joyn with you in any lafull course which may by you be aduised for confirming and bettering of the same, ether in dignitie, right, benefit, or priuelege as wee haue at large expressed to your commissioner whome you haue chosen to your mind, bieng a man noe les gracious with us then trusted by you, and carefull in your bussienes : Soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 14 Junij 1628.

TO SIR THOMAS HOPE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas vpon resignacione of unquhill Sir Richard Cokburne, late Lord Priuie Seall of that our kingdome, Wee did letelie grant a new infetment of his landis vnto him, and his heirs-maill gotten of his bodie, which failzeing to Sir Patrick Cokburne, according to the purpos of the said Sir Richard his procuratoric of Resignacione : And forasmuch as wee are willing that the said Sir Richard his said good intentione towardis the said Sir Patrik should anyways be frustrat, but duelie performed, he bieng now employed in our seruice abroad ; Oure pleasour tharefor is, and wee doe heirby will and require you carefullie to aduert that no seruice or future proceedingis may anyways be suffered vnlauffully to ouerthrow the intent and purpos of the said infetment : And for that effect wee require you to signifie our plesour heirin vnto the Lordis of Sessione, and all other commissioners, shireffis, officiaris of armes, and other Ministers of justice, and to tak such further course by your compirance for our interest, or otherways as the said infetment may be performed in full force as in such beneficiall maner may be most agreeable to our lawes and the true meaning of the said unquhill Sir Richard : And for your soe doing, &c. —from our Court at Whitehall, the 14 day of Junij 1628.

A Lettre drawn by Mr James Galloua for reduceing of Mr William Forbes' grant, which was giuen into the 1625 year of God. The lettre is writen to Sir Thomas Hope, and of the dait the 15 day of Junij 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we haue been graciouslie pleased to signe a signatour of the heretable office of Admiraltie of that our kingdome in fauouris of . . . the Duke of Lennox, as a mark of our princelie fauour towardis him : Oure speciall pleasour tharefore is, that with all expeditione you exped the said signatour according to the tennour thareof, and that noe signatour nor grant whatsoever which in anyways may concerne the said Admiraltie passe your handis, nor our seallis thare, before . . . the Erle of Linlithquo be warned (iff he be not personally present), to perve the same, to perue the same, and priuelleges whareof wee will haue a speciall care : Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 16 day of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL, &c.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer-humble moued by . . . the Erle of Seafort for erecting Starneaway in a frie burgh ; and heaueing considered how requisit such a purpos is for the better ciuilising of those

remote landis, the incivillite of whose inhabitants hath been in former times a great caus of insurrectiones and troubles in those partes, Wee haue tharevpon been pleased, at the humble sute of the said Erle, to signe a signatour of that erectione: And bieng most willing, iff see bee that the same doe not tend reallie to the rwine or decay of the estate of our said other burghes, that all impedimentis for hindering the dispatche of those things vpon whiche the effectis to proceed vpon see good an intentione doe depend, should speedlie be removed; and the rather becaus the said Erle is to haue an care that the course intended for the yrne warkis and casting ordinance in these northerne partis, whither he is in all heast to repair, should tak effect; Oure speciall plesour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you that you call the Prouest and baillies of Edinburgh, in name of themselves and of the said burghes, or the Commissioners of the saidis burghes, to the eight day of July nixt, to propone thare reassones and allegations for limiting or staying the said grant; And iff any thing shalbe materiallie obietit against it, let the same be stayed till wee be aduertised thereof: But if noething materiall be found therein that may tend to the rwine or decay of the estate of the saidis burghes in particulare, or preiudge the estate of that our kingdome in generall; Oure further plesour is, that with all convenient diligence you pas and expede the said signatour according to the tenour thareoff: For doing whareoff, &c.—Whitehall, the 20th of Junij 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that, notwithstanding Androw Hay hade by the due course of our lawes acquired the possessione of some landis which did belong vnto one Robert Scot of Headshaw for moneyis both lent vnto him and which the said Andro payed as his suretie vnto his creditouris, yet he is troubled in his possessione in a most barbarous maner; though you wer not bound by the generall hand to be ansuerable for the oppressiones of your freendis surname and dependars, yet we will expect at your handis to sie those wrongis see repared that the like may be preuented in all time heirefter: And therefore our plesour is, that after a due examinatione of the premissis, and if you find them to be such as is affermed, that you tak a present course that the complainers may be freed from the said oppressiones in all time comming, and the oppressour made lyable vnto the lawes of that our kingdome, iff the said Andro shall sue vnto you for the same, and that in all other his demandis you assist and countenance him in see fare as convenientlie you can doe.—Whitehall, the 20th of Junij 1628.

TO THE BURROWS.

Right, &c.—Whereas our burgh hath by wertew, as wee are informed of our actis of parliament, other rightis, securities, and custumes brooked and enjoyed past memorie of man, sindrie and diuers, liberties and priueliges, and in speciall the setling of price vpon bread, aell, and others vivers, and thirling of multouris of thare milnes, whareoff they and thare predicessouris haue been long and peaceabill possessouris; and wee bieng willing that all thare rightis, priueliges, custumes, and liberties be enjoyed by them, as they wer into the time of our late deir father, of worthie memorie, and other our royall predecessouris: Oure Will and plesour is, that you henceforth tak such course as the same may be still enjoyed by them, and they from time to time continued in the possessione thareof, untill the same may be evicted from them by due course of law before the competent Judge: And sielike that you tak ordour that the inhabitants of Edinburgh and south sid of Leith mak thair musters and wapenshewingis to the Magistrattis of the said burgh, conforme to the lawes of that our kingdome; And that you tak into your serious consideration what may be the best means to manteyn trading by sea eneres of shipping and prereratione of bothe, ffor performing of which work wee intend shortlie, God willing, to repair into that kingdome wher we expect to be noe les welcome vnto you then our royall predecessouris haue been to youris: See we bid you farewell.—Whitehall, the 20 of Junij 1628.

TO THE COLLEGE OF JUSTICE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the Magistrattis of Edinburgh have divers suspensiones depending before you granted upon the late act of parliament made in anno 1621, and late act of conventione made in anno 1625 for annulling of exemptions preiudieiall to the payment of the extentis granted therein for the causes mentioned in the said actis, Wee desire you therefore to doe them justice with all convenient diligence, by discussing the said suspensiones, conform to the saidis lawes, act, and practique of that our kingdome.—Whitehall, the 20 of Junij 1628.

[NO ADDRESS.]

Trustic, &c.—Whereas most of the nobilitie, gentrie, and divers of the commontie of that our antient kingdome have submitted themselves unto our princelie determinaceone touching the quantitie and price of titles and payment of our annuetie out of such thareoff as shall happen to be over and above the maintenance of ministers, colleges, skoollis, hospitallis, and others pious vses mentioned in the said act made by our commissioners for the said annuetie : And wee haveng ever heirtofore hade good proof of your aernest care and affectione to our service, encrease of our revenue, and quiet settling of all the estates of that our kingdome, and of your constant resolucons to advance our princelie intentiones for the good of our subiectis : Therefore We have heirwith sent you such another submissione to be signed by you as the Magistrattis of the burgh of Edinburgh have already signed and sent unto us, which we tak verie kindlie at thare handis, that the same bieng tharefter returned by you and accepted of by us, wee may pronounce our decree heirin, conform to the tennour of the same submissione.—Whitehall, the 20 of Junij 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas the creditouris of the Laird and Ladie Basse have humble peticeoned us that they may be payed of the due debt awind unto them, or otherways that the said Laird re-enter in ward from whence he was freed upon oath made by him that he wold tak a course for the said creditouris satisfactioun, which, to thare great hurt, they have not now after a long time received : Wee ever bieng willing that justice should haue the due course, according to the lawes of that our kingdome provided in theis caises, are heirby graceouslie pleased to will and require you to call before you the said Laird and Ladie Basse, requiring them ether to tak some course for satisfieng thare said creditouris ; or otherways that you caus the said Laird re-enter ward till the said course be taken, and that the ordinarie course of law be taken and presented at the instance of the creditouris against the said Ladie.—Whitehall, the 20 Junij 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been gratiouslie pleased to grant a pensione of Tuoe hunderith pundis sterling unto . . . Sir James Skeen of Currehill, Knight, precedent of our Colledge of Justice in that our kingdome, Ourc pleasour is, and we doe heirby will and require you, that with all convenient diligence you caus exped the said grant under the privie seal ; and tharefter that you mak good and thankfull payment unto him of the said pensione, according to our said grant, whareby he may be the better encouraged to attend our service committed to his charge : And for your soe doing thir presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 20 of Junij 1628.

TO THE JUSTICE-CLARK.

Justice Clark, wee greet you.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that Sir John Steuart of Methven bieng called and convened before you for sindrie odious criminall causes of adulteric committed by him, whoe, after his compirance, hath judicallie confessed the same and became in our will as the act thereupon bears ; Our pleasour is, that you call and convene the said Sir John Steuart compeir before you for the foirsaid criminall causes, and you proceed convict and give doome upon him therefor, according to the laus of the realme of Scotland ; and tharefter that you confine him in our Castle of Edinburgh, tharein to remain in close ward during all the dayis of his liffetime, and vnto such time as our forther plesour be knowne concerning his executione : Whereof thir presentis shulbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 20 of Junij 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been pleased, upon consideratione of the good of that our kingdome, to sign a signatour in faouris of . . . the Erle of Linlithquho for causing mak Poudre, saltpeeter, and match within the same : Therefore our pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to caus exped the said signatour under our great seall thare ; and that by all laufull means and wayis you contribuit to the advancing of soe good ane intentione, and that according to the contentis of the said signatour, and with soe farr as may stand with the aese of our subjectis thare : Wee bid you hartlie fareweell from our Court at Whitehall, the 20 Junij 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—We are informed by peticeons from Arthour Johnestoune that he hathe sustened much wrong and prejudice in tuoe severall actiones at law, whereof wee have taken our advocattis opinione : And becaus it concernis you soe heighlie wee have sent the same upon the peticeons enclosed, willing and requiring you to give the peticeoner relieff if you find it suteabill to equitie and conscience : But if you find it otherwayis, that you tak such course tharefter, nather wee may be in this kind heirefter troubled with such unist complaintis, nor the justice of the kingdome exposed to such daring obloquy and detractione : Whereof, not doubting of your care and diligence, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed that thare wanted thrie hunderith men to mak upp that regement which wee wer latelie pleased to licience to be levied in that our kingdome by . . . Sir James Spens for the service of the King of Sweaden ; Onre pleasour is, that you grant unto Leuetenant Colonell Cunninghame, the bearer heiroff, a commissioun with ane sufficient warrant to leavie and transport the said thrie hunderith men in name of the said Sir James, with such priveleges as others have hade heirtofore in the like kind, he alwayis giving such satisfacione to everie one of the said number as shalbe agrict upon betuix him and them, according to the custume in the like cases : ffor doing whareoff, &c.—Whitehall, the 25 Junij 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wee finding the presence of our Thesaurer in the Session to have been allownd for the good of our service, and least the same should anyways be neglected by his absence, which may fall out

by seeknes or otherwayis : Oure plesour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to admitt the Lord Nepare, our Thesaurer-deputie, to have place, and soe to sit amongis you in the Inner-hous at all accustomed times without haveng voit, and that in absence of the said Thesaurer and noe otherwayis ; for which thir presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitchall, the 26 of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—As we are informed the inhabitantis of the north and west Handis ar frie of all taxationes and debtis due unto us preceding the yeir 1621, soe it is lykwayis our plesour that non of them be called in questione at our instance for any criminall caus before the daite heirof such persones as have just caus to complean bieng first satisfied ; And to that effect that particular remissions be past without compositione unto all such of them as shall desire the samen : And whareas some persones of great qualitie haveng taken assignationes to actiones aganis them, whareby, in regarde of thare unskilfulnes and remotnes from the seat of Justice, they may be extraordinarie vexit : Our forther plesure is, that heaving considerit what they shall represent unto you in this kind, you caus tak the best course that can lauffullie or convenientlie be taken, both for satling of them for the time past, and for preventing of the like in tyme cuming, soe that they may be made onlie to satisfie that which they justlie owe, and noe forther advantage be taken against them ether by assignationes or guiftis of escheat or lifrent, or for productione of thare evidentis sooner then they conveniently can in respect of the remotnes of thare duelling : And whareas they desire to be fried from making thare yeerlie apperence before the counsell : We remitt this to your consideratione to doe soe farr tharein as you shal think may be granted unto them in this or in any other thing without the preiudice of the good and peace of the cuntrie or wrangling of others : And we doe forther require you to give particulare notice to the senatouris of our College of Justice, carefullie to advert that noe bought pleas and actiones assignet unto great men against them be anywayis soe vexationes unto them as to compell any of them to repay what they or any of thare predicessouris have truelie payed unto the Bischopp of the Isles, or to any others pretending right to thare few-deuties or rentis, in soe farr as may stand with law, equitie, or conscience, &c.—Whythall, the 26 Junij 1628.

TO THE THESAURER OF ENGLAND.

Right, &c.—Whareas the Lord Naper, our Thesaurer-deputie in our kingdome of Scotland, hath informed us that diuers soumes of money, which for our service wer payable out of our Excheckquer heir, have been payed out of our Excheckquer thare : Oure plesour is, that taking unto your assistance Sir Williame Alexander, our secretarie for that kingdome, you call for such accomptis of that kind as our said Thesaurer-deputie shall exhibit unto you, and after you have perused the same, that you report unto us what moneyis you find to have been soe delivered, to the effect we may tharefter give such ourldour touching the same as we sall think fitt : Soe we, &c.—Whithall, the last of Junij 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF HADINGTOUNE.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee have written to the Lordis of our counsell thare to have a speciall care of the re-establishing of the antient laudable custume of Justice airs and Circuit Courtis, conforme to the tennour of the act of parliament made concerning the same in anno 1587 : And wee perfectlie understanding your abilitie and affectione to performe our desires in anything which may tend to the good of that our antient kingdome, and reposing much trust and confidence in your care and judgment : Therefore wee doe

heerby will and require you to be active and forward in seting ffordward [the instructions] set doune by us for setting the saidis Justice airs and Circuit Courtis, wherby the abuses may be reformed, vertew cherished, and vice repressed as in law or equitie may seeme most expedient, in doing whareof you doe us acceptable service: And soc wee bid you hartellie fareweell.—ffrom our Court at Whitehall, the last of Junij 1628.

TO SIR THOMAS HOPE, ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whareas wee have directed commiiones of Justiciarie to some of our Judges and Senatouris of the Colledge of Justice to be execut by some of them in all shires of all the four quarters of that our kingdome for administratiōne of justice to all our good people, as wee have writen to all the Lordis of our counsell, and wee bieng confident of your affectione and zeall to sie our princelie intentiones treulie and legallie performed without delay and without suffering any indirect pretentiones to frustrat the effect of soe good a wark: Therefore wee doe heerby will and require you immediatlie vpon sight heirof to caus the said commiiones be duellie past, published, and execut according to the tennour and purpos thereof, and lawes and practiques of that our kingdome: And for that effect that you deal aernestlie and carefullie with the saidis Lordis of our counsell, to set doune all such good, legall, and effectuall instructiones to the saidis Judges, Shirreffs of the shires, Lordis of the regalitie, Commissioners of the borders, Justices of peace, or ony other of his other Majesties' subiectis, as may further the progres, perfectione, and executione of the said commiiones whareby our said subiectis living farr from the state or seat of justice may frielie tast of our happie government and faterlie care of them all for repressing of vice and disorder, and charishing of vertew and obedience to our lawes: Soe bieng confident that you will not be remiss in any of the premissis as you wilbe anserable to us upon your promes alreadie made to us for that effect: Wee bid you fareweell, &c.—Whithall, the last day of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

A Letter to the same effect and in similar terms to the above, and of the same date.

COMMISSIONE FOR THE NORTH WEST QUARTER.

Oure Sovereane Lord heaving taken into his consideration the criminall judgment of his highnes kingdome of Scotland, which consisteth in the heigh and suprem court of Justiciarie, whareupon dependeth the defence of the life and saiffitie of innocentis, and the just and dne punishment of delinquentis; And that his majestie's good subiectis living farr from the Court of justice have been forced long to groan under the burding of many insolent iniuries, crimes, oppresiones, and extortiones occasioned ether by the neglect of the ordinarie officers of justice, unpunitie and pouare of offenders, or for want of means to travell to the state or suprem Court of justice tharein to exhibit thare just and lafull complaintis: And whareas in the eleaventh parliament of his majestie's late father, of happie memorie, holden in the moneth of July 1587 yeirs, it was statute and ordained that tuoe commissioners out of the Colledge of Justice, with a Deputie of the Thesaurer and another of the Justice-Clerk, should be sent tuice everie yeer through everie one of the four severall quarters of the said kingdome for administratiōne of justice and reformatiōne of abuses as the samen at more lenth bears: Therefore, and to the effect that all his Majestie's subiectis of the said kingdome may tast of his majestie's government and royal intentione for administratiōne of justice, Ordanis a letter of commiōne to be expd under the testimoniall of his heighnes great seall of the said kingdome: Makand, constitutand, and ordinand, likeas his Majestie by these presentis, makis, constituitis, and ordanis . . . William, Erle of Monteith, precedent of his Majestie's privie counsell and Lord Cheef Justice of

Scotland, and . . . M^r Alexander Seton of Kelcreuch, one of the Senatouris of the Colledge of Justice, his Majestie's Justices, Judges, and Commissioners in that part for the severall shires within that quarter of the kingdome underwriten: To wit, Fyf, Perth, Kinross, Clakmannan, Dumbartane, Bute, Argill, and Tarbet, to the effect underwrittin, Giveand, grantand, and committand to the said William, Erle of Monteith, and M^r Alexander Seatone of Kilerreuch, his Majestie's saidis Justices and Judges and Commissioners within the saidis severall shires, full pouare and commissione, speciall command, expres bidding and charge in the monethe of August, September, and October nixtocum, to travell throu the saidis shires or head burrows thereof, and to mak inquisitione by the oathe of good and lafull men of his Majestie's saidis shirreflomes, and by all others means, wayis, and midses which they best can, by whome the veritie may best be knouen upon all dittayis to be enquired and taken upp of all persones, criminall contraveeners of any of his Majestie's actis of parliament, lawes, and constitutions of the said realme, as they shall think expedient and agreeable to the lawes and practique of the said kingdome: And that ether at the instances of the parties or ex officio indices, or at the instance of his majestie's advocat or his deputies for his Majestie's interest: And to that effect, with pouare to the said William, Erle of Monteith, and M^r Alexander Seatone of Kelcreuch, to hold Justice Courtis and Justice aris during the said space within the saidis shires, Courtis to hold, fix, and continow, ffense the airs, call the suittis, ministrat justice, call the pledges of them that are ordaned to underlye the law, and upon persones arrested, compirand, and indited, to ministrat justice; and to set the saidis courtis to be holden by them within the said severall shires abone writen at such dayis, times, and places as they shall think meet, their preceptis to direct, and caus be published, persones suspect to be guiltie of whatsoever crime, or crinimallie contravening his Majestie's acts of parliament; to caus warn the saidis persones to call before them to underlye the law, and to the knowledge of ane assise to put if neid beis, and other crimes (at the discretione of his Majestie's Commissioners foirsaidis), to proceed crinimallie upon lafull and summarie probatione, be write, witnessis, or oathe of partie to be led, the parties offenders, to ask, examine, and demand upon thare transgressionne of his Majestie's saidis actis of parliament and lawes of the realme, the same to thare oathes of veritie in such pointis as by the lawes, practique, and consuetude of his Majestie's said realme hath been in use or lawfullie leadis to be done, or to produce and receive lafull probatione and witnessis against them as they shall think expedient: With pouare likeways to them in causes civillie to be persewed and judged upon, the breach or contravening of any such penalt statute as his Majestie or the Lordis of his heighnes' counsell shall think fitting to be put in executione, to compone and agree with all such persones against whome the said transgressionne shalbe intended and tryed by thare oathe or witnessis or assise; And to sett doune the compositiones formallie in a book in write under there handis, writen by the depute of the Justice-Clark thare present, and the same to retorne and deliver to his Majestie's Commissioners or rememberer of exchekquer, and ane extract thereof to his Majestie's Thesaurer or Thesaurer-deputie, according to the said act of parliament: To the effect that his Majestie's Thesaurer or Thesaurer-deputie and commissioners of his rentis may know the persones compondand, there names and compositiones agreed upone and fines imposed, and that the same may be by them brought into his Majestie's exchekquer to his heighnes use: With pouare alsoe to the saidis Commissioners to caus repair and mak sufficient Wardhouses and tolbuithes in everie head burgh in the shire, with sufficient and decent benches and barres for Judges, Justices of Peace, and prissoners, and to put his Majestie's actis of parliament to due executione; and in special for making or repairing of the said tolbuithes, mending of heighways, briggis, and calsayis in everie shire, and for causing the statutes and commissione of the peace to be duelic execute, and all officiaris belonging thareto to be duelic established and authorized in executione of thare severall offices: With pouare likeways to caus summond and warn, and to suear witnessis as oft as neid beis, Ilk persone, under the paine of fourtie poundis pennaltie, according to the laues of the said kingdome: And to mak creat and substitute Seriantis, officiaris, dempsters,

and all other Members of court, Ordining his Majestie's thesaurer, Justice, and advocat, or thare deputies, to be always present for executione of thare offices, according to the act of parliament, that the panis and unlaues contined in the act of parliament, or compositiones or fines, whare the offence is tried by assise, oathe of partie, or otherways be witnessis, may be intrometed with, uplifted, and receaved, accompted for, and delivered to the said thesaurer or his deputie thare present, the fees, charges, and expenses of the said Justiciars and Commissioners and clarkis bieng alloned in the first end thereof; or otherways in such quantitie as his Majestie shalbe pleased to appoint, or as shalbe neidfull by the said thesaurer or commissioners of exchequer, or conform to the said act of parliament: Ordining alsoe lettres of publicatione to be direct to be proclaimed at the head burghes of all shires commanding and charging all and sindrie Dukis, Marquessis, Erles, Lordis spirituall or temporall, Lordis of Regalities, Barones, Justices of Peace, Shirreffis, Bailleiffis, Clamberleanis, Magistratis, and Ministeris of his heimes' lawes, and all the other subordinat Judges within the said severall shires, and whole lieges within the samen, to give thare due respect unto the saidis commissioners, and such speciall assistance to doe and performe thare wholl offices and duties, as inioyned and prescribed to be done by any of them by his Majestie's lawes and actis of parliament, as oft as they shalbe required by his Majestie's Commissioners forsaidis, under all hiest, pain, and charge that after may follow: And the saidis shirreffis to caus sufficient and legall men to compeir before his Majestie's saidis commissioners at such dayis, times, and places as the saidis commissioners shall appoint, by whome the veritie in the premissis may the better be inquired and knouen: Requiring alsoe heirby the shirreffis of the saidis shires and wardans of the severall wardenares, and thare deputes, with the freeholders of the same shires (bieng warned to meit the said Judges and Commissioners at thare entrie in everie shire, and to convoy them to the head burgh of everie shire, and even and whill they be received by the nixt shirreff or his deputie into the nixt shire, according to the tenor and purpose of the said act of parliament: And this present Commissione to endure from the first of August to the first of November nixtocum onlie: And that these presentis shalbe a warrant for appending the great seal, without passing throu any other register or seall.—Given at Whitehall, the last day of Junij 1628.

DOCAT.

May it pleas youre Majestie
 Theis constitute Williame, Erle of Monteathe, and M^r Alexander Seatone of Kilcreuch, your Majestie's commissioners in the quarter of the kingdome abouewrittin, giving them pouare to travell tharein in the monethes of August, September, and October nixtocome (during which time this commissione is onelie to indure), and to mak inquisitione of persones criminall and contraveeners of your Majestie's lawes, to the effect, to hold Justice Courtis and Justice airs tharein during that space at such times and places as they think fitt, the offenders to examine upon thare transgressing of your actis of parliament, the same to put to thare oathes in such pointis as by the lawes and practique of the kingdome hath been in use or lauffullie leadis to be done; to receive and produce lauffull probatione, and witnessing against them as they shall think expedient, with pouare in causes civile to be judged before them for contraveening such penall statutes as your Majestie or your counsell shall think fitt to be put in executione; to compe and agree with the contraveeners, the compositiones whereof are formallie to be sett doune in a book under thare handis written by the deputie of the Justice-clark, and to be returned to the commissioner or remembrancer of your Majestie's exchequer, and ane extract thereof to be given to your Thesaurer or deputie thesaurer to the effect the same may come to your Majestie's use: With pouare to caus mak sufficient tolbutthes in everie shire and ward houses, and thingis thareunto fitlie belonging, and to repara tharewith the bridges, heiglewayis, and calsayis thareof according to the act of parliament; to caus the statute and commissione of the peace to be execut, and all officers belonging thareto duelic established in the execution of thare severall offices, With pouare to summond witnessis as oft as neid beis, everie persone under the paine of fourtie pound according to the lawes; To

mak all members of court, your Majestie's thesaurer, Justice-clark, and advocatt, or thare deputies to be present for executione of thare offices, conforme to the act of parliament, that the panis and unlaues contined tharein, or fines and compositiones wher the offence is tryed by ane assise, oath of partie, or witnessis, may be intrometet with and delivered to the Thesaurer or his deputie thare present, the fees and expensid of the said commissioners and clark being alloued in the first end thereof or otherways in such quantitie as your Majestie shall appoint or as shalbe modiefied by the thesaurer and commissioners of the exchequer, or conforme to the said act of parliament : Publicatione is to be made wherby all noblemen, spirituall and temporall, barones, and all your Majestie's officiers are commanded to give due respect unto the saidis commissioners, and speciall assistance in the said executione of thare offices, your shirreffis are to caus sufficient and legall men to compeir before them at such dayis and places as they shall appoint by whome the veritie of the premissis may be the better inquired and known : The shirreffis of the shires and wardens of the severall wardaeries and thare deputtes, with thare freeholders of those shires bieng convened, are to meet the said commissioners at thare entrie into everie shire, and to convoy them to the head burghes thareof.

The like Commissione of the same date to Sir Andro Kerr and Sir Thomas Hendersone for the southaest quarter, contining the shires of Haddingtoun, Beruik, Roxburgh, Selkirk, Peebles, and Dumfreis.

The like Commissione of the same date to Sir James Skeen, precedent of the sessione, and Sir Andro Flescher for the northaest quarter, contining the shires of Forfar, Kincarden, Aberden, Banff, Elgine, Forres, Narne, Innernesse, Cromertie, Caithnes, and Southerland.

The like Commissione of the same date to Sir James Learmonth and Mr George Haliburton for the southwast quarter, contining the shires of Edinburgh, Lynlithquho, Striueling, Lanerigg, Renfrew, Air, and Wigtoun.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee bieng resolved to proceed in the maters referred to us by the generall Commissioners concerning the few-fermes and few-maillis of erectiones, tythes of other men's landis, rate and caice of the samen and price thareof, and others mentioned in the said submissiones with that equitie, justice, and indifference to particulare persones, and that care and respect to the publick good and caice of the subiectis as might manifest our royall care and fatherlie affectione to satle and establish the peace and tranquillite of that our antient kingdome, with commone and publique applaise and congratulatione of all our good subiectis : Wee wer pleased to call unto us a number of our nobilitie, privie counsell, and others, able, expert, and weell affectioned to give thare advise to us in a maeter of soe great importance, with whome wee haveing at lenth conferred and received thare advise and opiniones, both privatlie and publicquellie, Wee find the mater to be of soe great waight and consequence, and to concerne soe neirle the privat estate of the most parte of our subiectis in particular, and the publique good of that our antient kingdome in generall, that it deserves and meritit our serious consideratione, and more leasour and time then our other present affairs will permit us : And therefore we have resolved to prorogat, like as wee have prorogat the saidis submissiones and everie one of them untill the last day of December 1629, and intendis in the meantime, as God shall give us occasione, to give out our royall determinatione in the wholl maters referred to us by the saidis submissiones : But becaus wee see oft by our generall proclamaciones intimated our royall plesour and resolutione to frie our subiectis of that rigour and extremetie used in drawing of tithes whareby many of our gentrie and others wer grived, and that wee think us bound in honour not to defer or frustrat the expectatione of our distressed subiectis till the time of the giving forthe of our

determinacione upon the rate and price of tithes : Bot to prevent the same in this point, and to tak some course anent the leading of tithes this year 1628, which may be a begining and commencement of that great and generall wark of the universall aese of our subiectis in leading of tithes, which we are resolved fullerie to estabillish in all the partes of that our antient kingdom ; And wee haveing in this point heard all those of the nobilitie and counsell whoe are heer with the reasones of both parties heaving interest, and tharewith haveing thare advise anent the course to be observed in the lifting of the generall annuetic furth of the tithes of this year 1628 and in time comming : It was and is resolved as the fittest and most expedient course for introductione of the generall ordour intended for the good of the heretouris in leading of thare owne tithes, that the tithes which hath bin led, or in use to be led within thrie yeers bygain, shalbe sequestrat this crop 1628 in the handis of some indifferent persones, upon the desire and peticeon to be made to the Lordis of our privie counsell by parties haveing interest alsweell heretouris, as titulars and thare assignes to be furthcomming to the parties heaving right according to our determinacione to be given upon the generall submissione, deducend always aff the first end thareof our annuetic which by consent of all parties, and of such of our nobilitie and privie counsell as are heer present with us, is ordaned to have begining in the present crop 1628, ffor our principall end in the sequestrationes is that the valuations and our annuetic may be the more cleerlie known, and that the heretouris may have the aese of trow and timeous teinding, and that if wee shall happin to determine in the quota or rate, case, and prise of tithes before the first day of Januar 1629, or if the heretouris or thare assignes shall accordinglie pay or performe before the first day of Januar 1629, what wee shall soe determine, then the heretouris to enjoy the said sequestrat tithes of this cropp 1628, Otherwayis wee declare that the titulars shall enjoy thare tithes untill it shallappen us to determine in the said quota, aese, and price of tithes referred to our royall judgment and arbitrimnt, and unto such time as the said titulars shallappen to receive performance of what wee shall soe happen to determine : And therefore it is our special will and pleasour that you caus publicatione to be made of the premissis at the mercatt crose of Edinburgh and other places needfull, to the effect that everie persone grieved or haveing interest to crave sequestratione of all tithes may peticeone the same in due time before yow, to whome wee give speciall pouare, warrand, and command to proceed in the said sequestrationes, alsweell in the nomination of the sequestratouris as in the forme and wholl particulare substances concerning the same, as you shall think fitt and expelient ffor the good of our service and publike weell of our subiectis, without the preiudice always of our commissione for tithes and actis thareof : Which wee recommend unto your care, and bid you fareweell.—ffrom our Court at Whitehall, the last day of Junij 1628.

Letter addressed "to the Commissione" upon the same subject and in similar terms as the above, and of the same date.

TO THE EXCHACKUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas surrender is made in our handis, ad perpetuam remanentiam, of the superiorities of erectiones of temporalities of benefices, by vertew and conforme to the procuratories of Resignacione, contining the generall writes and securities made to us by the Lordis of erectione and others heaving right thareto, and that by vertew thareof wee have undoubtedt right to the entrie of the heirs of the heretabill vassallis of the said temporalities of benefices pertaining to erectiones, whoe are to be entered holden of us by breives forth of our chancellarie ; And sielike all infetmentis and confirmaciones concerning the saidis landis, by resignacione or otherwayis, ought and should pas by compositione of oure Exchecquer ; Together with all guiftis and grantis of lifrent, escheittis, nonentressis, recognitiones, comprisingis, disclamaciones, with all other casualities arising to us by vertew of the saidis superiorities : And to the effect our liege and subiectis whoe have interest tharein may have recourse and acces to us and our Commissioners o

Exchequer, for passing of all infetmentis and securities of the saidis temporalities of benefices pertaining to erections, and alsoe may have recourse to our chancerie for passing of all breiffes and services : It is our will that you caus mak publicatione of the premisses at the markat crosses of Edinburgh, and other places needfull to the effect that non pretend ignorance of the samen : And sielik, albeit wee, by our former lettre, discharge the passing of all signatouris of landis pertaining to our principallitie, yet, understanding that divers of our subiectis whoe have made purchase, or have led comprising of landis pertaining to our principallitie, are or may be prejudged throw want of thare entrie and confirmatione by us, which wee are most willing to grant, providing noe further right be establisshed in the persone of the purchaser then that which stood in the persone of him whoe disponed the saidis landis, or from whome the samen are comprised : And therefore it is our will and pleasoure, that you, upon ressonable compositiones, pas and exped signatouris of the saidis landis pertaining to our principallitie to all such persones whoe craves the samen upon resignationes comprysing or simple confirmatione : This clause bieng addit to the said signatouris—“That by vertue thereof noe further right shalbe establisshed in the person of him in whose favors the signatur is granted then such as stood in the persone of him who disponed or resigned the said lands, or from whome the samen are comprised.” And that wee be not prejudged of the past nonentressis, wards, releeffis, mariages, recognitions, disclamations, irritant clauses, lyverent, escheattis, and other benefices due to us or our predecessouris, by vertew of any of our revocations : And forder, it is our speciall will and pleasour that all these signatouris, alswell of the temporalities of benefices as of the landis pertaining to our principallitie, be seen and dockated by our advocat, conform to his guift made to him thareupon : All which thingis we seriouslie recommend unto your care, and biddis you fareweell from our Court at Whitehall, the last of Junij 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . the Erle of Monteathe at his reparing unto our presents delivered unto us the generall submissions subscribed by the most and greatest number of oure subiectis, and tharewith ane roll and list of the names of those whoe ether by absence, infirmitie, or some other excuse, have not as yet subscribed the samen : And sieng the course wee intend to tak is generall and universall and concernethe the publike good of the kingdom, Wee think it fitt that those whoe have not as yet subscribit be warned to comper befoire you at such diattis as you pleas appoint, that of new they may be required to subscrivye the said generall submissione, or els condiscend upon some ressonable caus of thare refusall, which wee desire you to acquaint us with, that tharefter wee may tak such ordour thairant as appertens for proceeding aganis them by the dew course of our lawes : Which purpose wee seriouslie recommend unto your care, &c.—Whitehall, the last day of Junij 1628.

TO THE SECRETARIE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas . . . the Duke of Lennox hath humbly entreated us that noe warrant, lettre, or signatour may pas or be signeted with the court signet concerning the admirallitie belonging to the said Duke without the samen be duellie registrat in your registre whareby copies may be given to parties interested to remonstrat unto us thare grievances iff any such shallappen : Oure pleasoure tharefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to caus duellie and authentiklie registrat in your registre everie lettre, grant, and signatour which doe or heerefter shall pas our hand, whareby our good subiectis may prevent prejudice, and we may be freed of unnecessare suttes or clamouris : Provyding alwayis that noe more fees be taken for signating, registering, extracting, and signeing than is usuall taken by the secretaries clarkis of the signet of England : And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 4 of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have ben informed of the great losse our subiectis of that our kingdome doe daylie receive by the frequent franchting of strangers' bottomes within the same, whareby schipping thare doth not onlie decay, but the inhabitantis thareoff are discouraged from building or repairing of shipping of warr, ffor remedie whareof oure pleASURE is that you take such a course for the good and eneres thareof as you by the advice of our Admirall shall think most fitt, to the end that natives be preferred to strangers in such maner as may prove best for the generall estate of trade and shipping within that kingdome, which wee seriouslie recommend unto your care, and bidis, &c.—Whitehall, the 4 July 1628.

TO THE ADMIRALL.

Right, &c.—Whereas the houses in Leith called the Kingis work, belonging to the airs and relict of vnuquhill Bernard Lindsay, are thought fitt to be a custome-hous and seat of the admirallitie and admirall courts, the same bieng nixt adiacent unto the shoare and peer of that toun, and most convenient, as wee are informed, for all seafairing men and merchandis for thare more readie custuming of thare goodis exported and imported, weighing or measouring thareof, custodie of the same, and administratione of justice in causes contraverted belonging to the judicatorie of the Admirallitie : Oure pleASURE therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you upon sight heirof to deal with the saidis heirs and relict for buying the saidis houses to our use, and the houses aforesade : And that the price thareof may be payed out of the profettis of the saidis weyghtis and measouris, and that out of such contributione and casualities as you can obtayne for that effect from seafairing men and merchandis whose aese is procured by this means : And oure further pleASOUR is, that the securities of the premissis to be perfected to our use be expedy by the advise of our advocat in due forme of law : And soe, expecting your readie and aernest endeavouris heirin : Wee bidd, &c.—Whitehall, the 4 of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have resolved to repare verie shortlie, God willing, unto that our antient and native kingdome for receaving our Croune and keeping a Parliament in persone for the good of all our subiectis thare, Oure pleASURE is, that you caus, by proclamatione and otherways as accordis, summond and warn a parliament, and to be holden thare in Edinburgh upon the fifteen day of September nixt ensueing : And in the meantime, that you give speedie ordour for repairing and furnessing of our houses, sparing of our game, mending of heighwayis, and for repairing of all other things that you conceave to be necessarie for our coronatione and parliament, and the good of the said purposes, which are fitt to be done by us thare : Soe, recommending these things unto your serious and speedie directiones and care, as you may doe unto us verie acceptable service, whareof wee will never be unmindfull : Wee bid you hartlie farewell.—Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Out of the great desire we have to sie that our antient kingdom whare we wer borne, and to accomplish that great wark which we have aernestlie labored this long time past for the good thareof, heaving resolved to repare thither shortlie that we may receive our Croune and hold our first

parliament in persone : These are to acquaint you tharewith that you may have a care to look in time unto these thingis that concerne your charge for our houses and provisione, bieng assured that you will use your best endeavouris by your advise and travellis for repairing all thingis requisit for the performing of our Coronatione and parliament, which wee shall remember amongis the many vther good services that you have done vnto our late dear father and to vs : Wee bidd you, &c.—Given at Whitehall, the fift of July 1628.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPPE OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have resolved verie shortlie, God willing, to visit that our antient kingdome, and to receive our Crowne and hold a Parliament in persone there, oure plesour tharefor is, to give you notice heirof, that you may prepare for our consecratione and coronatione, according to the antient forme of that our kingdome, making use of what you ever remember to have seen at our consecratione heir, soe farr as it shalbe found expedient : And such of the clergie as you think fitting to be used for attending our persone or supplieng the charges, wee desire you to give them notice and warning that they may be the better provided for executing of your instructiones to be given for the honour of that our kingdome ; Oure plesour alsoe is, that you caus visit the churche and chapple of Halierudhous and churches of Edinburgh and chappell of Striueling, and give such ordour as the same may be prepared in decent maner, as wee have given directione to the Bischopp of Rosse to advertise you at more large : Soe, recommending this unto your speciall care as our trust is in you ; wee bid you hartlie fareweell.—Given at our Court at Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO THE MARQUES OF HAMILTONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee intend, God willing, shortlie to visit that our antient native kingdome, and thare to receive our Crowne and hold a parliament in persone for perfiting that great wark much labored by us and our commissioners thare, Oure plesoure tharefore is that you caus mak readie oure palace and park of Halieroodhous with all convenient diligence fitted for receaving of our persone and court, wherein you may doe unto us verie acceptable service, which amongis many others wee will ever remember : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF HADDINGTONNE.

Right, &c.—Out of the great desire we have to sie that our antient kingdome whare wee warr borne, and to accomplish that great work which wee have aernestlie labored this long time past for the good thareof, heaving resolved to repair thither shortlie that wee may receive oure Crowne and hold our first parliament in persone : This is to acquaint you thairwith, that as wee have been perfectlie encouraged heirunto by your lettres unto us, shewing hou necessare it was to have a parliament without which that work could never be brought to ane perfectione : Soe wee are assured that you will use your best endeavouris by your advise and travellis for preparing all thingis requisit for the performing of our coronation and parliament, which wee shall remember amongis the many other good services that you have done unto our late deir father and unto us : Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO THE VISCOUNT STORMOND.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee intend, God willing, to visit that our antient and native kingdome, and thare to receive our Crowne and hold a parliament in persone flor perfiting that great work much

laboured by us and our commissioners thare : Oure pleasour tharefor is, that you caus mak readie our palace and park of Falkland with all convenient diligence fitting for receaving our persone and Court, wharcin you may doe unto us a verie acceptable service, which amongis many others done unto our late and dearest father and us, wee will ever remember : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO M^r THOMAS HOPE, ADVOCAT.

A Letter, couched in similar terms to the last, as to visit, and “to prepare all such billis and informations.” fitting to be passed and presented in the King’s service.—Whitehall, 5 July 1628.

TO SIR JAMES BAILLIE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are shortlie to visit that our antient and native kindome thare to receive our croune and hold a parliament in persone in the monethe of September nixt, God willing : And bieng informed of your painefull and intelligent services done by you to our late deare father at his last bieng in that kindome, and of your carefull and speedie furnesing his houses and court with all provisiones requisit : And bieng confident that you will in like manner applye yourself unto this present occasione of our service as our trust is in you : Therefore these are to will and require you upon sight heiroff presentlie to repare to our Court with all possible speed to receive and performe our directiones for our service, whairof wee will tak speciall notice : And soe, &c.—Whythall, the 5 of July 1628.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee intend verie shortlie (God willing) to visit that our antient and native kindome for receaving of our croune, halding of a parliament in persone, and performing that great work wharcin wee and our commissioners have much labored for the good of that our subiectis thare : And wee bieng confident of your hartie acceptance of our persone and princelie intentiones, as you and your predecessoris hade wount to do unto our royall progenitouris, Oure pleasoure tharefore is to give you notice of our said resolucone whareby you may be the better provided for our entrie, coronatione, and parliament as you and your prediessoris hade wount to doe, whareof wee will tak speciall notice and remember the same at any of your ocasionnes heirefter : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 July 1628.

TO THE MAISTER OF WARK.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are resolved verie shortlie to visit that our antient and native kindome : Oure pleasure tharefore is, that you presently upon the sight heiroff surveigh our houses, and tak some present course for preparing the same to be in all possible readienes for our court, and to doe and performe all such other thingis concerning your charge as the Lordis of our privie counsell, or the Lord heigh thesaurer of that our kindome, shall think fitting to appoint ; and as wee are duelic informed of your abilitie and affectione to doe us service ; soe wee will tak notice of your care heirin, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 day of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Your letre in the behalff of Dame Margaret Hamiltoune, the Ladie of Sir Johnne Steuart, knight, together with hir peticeone thare inclosed, by our princelie bountye and commiseratione of hir estate

was soe prevented by us, as wee before the receipt thereof did gratiously give ordour for allowing unto hir ffour thousand merkis by yeir during hir liftime, out of the best and reddiest of the said Sir Johne Stuart his landis and rentis, wharesoever the same doth lye within any of our dominiones, bieng the just soume (as wee are informed) which you did formerlie modifie unto hir for hir yeerlie maintenance : Oure pleasoure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you upon the sicht heirof to tak such a present course with the saidis Sir Johne his landis and rentis as the said four thousand merkis by yeer may be sufficientlie and legallie secured unto the said Ladie, and duellie and timelie payed yeerlie, half-yeerlie, or quarterlie, as shee shall think most expedient, and before all other paymentis whatsoever, the said modificatione bieng alimentarie, and unfit to admitt of any subterfuge in law or delay in the executione thereof : And our farther plesour is, that the said securitie be sufficientlie performed unto hir, by the advise of our advocat and hir lawyers, before any grant of the said Sir Johne his escheat or lifrent, or custodie of his landis or rentis, be establishid in the handis of any persone whatsoever, as the Duke of Lennox and Aerle of Linlythquho have undertaken unto us to performe : All which wee doe heirby recommend unto your speciall care and judgment as our trust is in you, and in doing thereof you may doe unto us verie acceptable service : And soe wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of July 1628.

Foure Packettis of the 8 of July 1628, at Whitehall at one of the clok in the afternoone, directed to the Erle of Haddingtoun, with ane paquet to Sir William Seatounne of Kylesaurie.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing of late advertised you of our resoluceone to sie that our antient kingdome for receaving our crowne and holding ane parliament in persone, to begin the fifteen day of September nixt : And considering the time to be short for soe far a jorney, and our nobilitie and officiers to have bot short warning for soe chargeabill a wark ; Oure pleasoure heirfore is, that you tak unto your speedie consideratione all thingis fitt and possible to be done thare in soe short a time, and especiallie the place of our coronatione, whither the church of S^t Geillis in Edinburgh, or the church of Halierudhous may be the fittest and most conspicuous and convenient place for the same : And alsoe that yee give warning unto all our officiers thare to appeir before you, and to give them instructiones for executing thare particulare charges not onlie in our houses, bot alsoe at our coronatione and parliament and other places needfull, and if any difference be amongis them, that you for avoiding variance and confusione doe ordour the same according to equitie and time and service, whareby noething may be neglected in soe important a bussines whiche may prove to be the more aesie unto you, becaus of the few number of our intended train and companie, and the shortnes of our aboad thare occasioned by our waightie affaers heir, Yett wee resolve to sie our houses off Striueling and Faulkland, and doe desire to be mett by our counsell neir unto Seatounne, onlie in our going from thence to Edinburgh, whare wee intend to mak our entrie that day, and becaus our coronatione, ceremonies, and roabbis may require the advise of heraldis : Therefore our plesour is, that yee call before you the Lyone King at Arnes, and the most experimented heraldis to deliver thare knowledge concerning the formes of the antient coronationes of our royall progenitouris, that wee bieng advertised thereof by you may tak the same into our princelie consideratione, leaving always nobilitie to be informed by you concerning thare attendance of our coronatione in thare creation roabbes of crimson welwet, ermyne, and our parliament in thare accustomed skaled roabbes, and in such decent forme as may be most convenientlie performed for the honour and credit of that antient kingdome, whiche as soe much in our good respectis as we wish the publict actis thereof not to want the dew and wounted reputation.—[Incomplete, and not dated.]

TO THE MARQUES OF HUNTLEE.

Ryght, &c.—Whereas we have resolved to repair verie shortly, God willing, unto that our antient kingdome for receaving our croune, and for keeping a parliament in persone for the good of all our subjectis thare, heaving for that effect appointed the fifteen day of September nixt ensueing to be the begining of the said parliament : Oure pleASURE therefore is, that you notice heirof that yee may the better and more speedie prepare such thingis as at that tyme befit one in your place to attend us thare.—[No date.]

Letters upon the same subject and in similar terms addressed “to the Erle of Wintoune,” and “to the Constable.”—[No dates.]

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Heaving perceived by your answer unto our lettre tuitching the erecting of barricadoes and beacons in that our kingdome, that that intendit course is verie requisit to be prosecuit : And wee bieng most willing to encourage our trustie and welebeloved Alexander Name, our servant, for his putting in practise what he hath soe intendit for the publick good of that kingdome, Wee are heirby graceouslie pleased seriouslie to recommend unto you both the persone and purpose, together with the speedie putting of the same in executione in soe farr as you can lafullie doe, which wee will tak as acceptable service.—Whitehall, the xj. of July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Heaving hade many prooffes and good experience of the sufficiencie and abilitie of . . . Sir William Alexander of Minstrie, Knight, our principall secretarie for that our kingdome, and of his good affectione to doe us service by performing our trust reposed in him ; Wee are moved in regard thareof and for his better encouragement, and enabling him for our said service to advance and promote him to be one of the commissioners of our Excheckquer in that kingdome : It is therefore our will and pleASOUR, and wee doe heirby require you that heaving administrat unto him the oathe accustomed in the like caise, yee admitt him to be one of the Commissioners of our said Excheckquer, receiving him in that place as one of your number ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whithall, the ij of July 1628.

TO THE THESAURER-DEPUTIE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have directed commissiones of Justiciarie to eight of our Judges and Senatouris of the Colledge of Justice to keep Justice ains and Justice courtis in all the four quarters of that our antient kingdome, according to the tennour of the Act of parliament made by our late dear father, of blisshed memorie, anno dominj 1587 : And considering that theis Judges is to represent our persone and authoritie, and that the decensie of thare robbis may breed respect amongis our people and terrour to offenders, and that the said Judges may be better encouraged : Therefore our will and plesour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to furnesh, or caus be furneshit, unto all the saidis Judges thare first robbis in scarled, made after the forme and maner of the roabbes of the Judges of Assise in England : As alsoe that you pay or allow unto them thare charges out of our excheckquer thare, or out of the reddiest of the fees and amerciamentis of the saidis courtis, according to the tennour of the saidis actis of parliament : Which charges wee do heerby modifie to be twentie shilling sterling a day to everie one of the said eight

Judges for the space of fourtie dayis onlie : And for your soe doing these presentis shalbe unto you from time to time your sufficient warrand and discharge, and shalbe allowed in your accomptis.—Given, &c., Whitehall the ij July 1628.

TO THE BISCHOP OF ST. ANDROIS.

Right Reverend, &c.—Sieng wee doe not allow the excuse sent by you unto us in behalf of the Ministerie of Edinburgh ; Oure pleasoure is (as by our former lettre we desired), that you trye w hoe wer the authouris of that bussienes, and tharefter that you censure them exemplarlie, that others may be terrified from attempting the like : And houseover wee have been informed from you by the Bischoop of Rose that those Ministers are learned men and weeldisposed; yet wee cannot excuse them in this that they give aer to such motiones or should have apprehendit that wee wold infrng those actis which, by our declaratione soe often published, wee have commanded to be by all our subiectis obeyed ; therefore, till wee resolve what further course wee will have taken in that aerand, Oure further pleasour is, that in the meantime you caus the saidis ministers to goe one in the administratioune of the communion, according to the ourdour prescribed, and that they remark and debate unto you such persones of thare congregatioune w hoe shall refuse the same in maner foirsaid.

If wee wold beleive daylie informationes given vnto us of the remisnes of the Bischopps, wee might justlie blame them for the said disordour, and many other in that church wharein wee have particularelie communicated our mind to your commissioner the Bischoop of Rose, to be imparted unto you and them : Thus, expecting your greater care and more exact diligence in reforming the like disorders, and in sieng true religeone and discipline of that church manteyned, and the contemners thareof censured, according to the lawes of that church and kingdome, which we have put in your handis be vertew of our heigh commissioun, Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO SIR JOHNE MONCREEFF, SHEREFF-DEPUTE OF PEARTH.

Trustie, &c.—Heaving resolved to hold a parliament in that our kingdome, whareat we intend to be present in persone, and that the fifteen of September nixt ensueing is appointed by ws to be the begining thareof, Wee have heiry thought fitt, out of our princelie care both of church and commone-welth, to recommend unto you and the gentrie of that shire thare choise and ectione such a persone whome you know to be weell affected to the same, and in speciall . . . Strathachin of Crumer, in the place of the now Lord of Elcho, of whose abilities and affectione to our service and the publike good wee are sufficientlie informed by such as wee trust, and tharefor wee doe not doubt bot you will have speciall care duelic to informe the said gentrie of the good opinione wee have conceived of the said persone, and of his fitnes to be commissioner for this intended parliament with Sir George Achineleck, formerlie chosen by them : Soe, bieng confident that with one harmonie you will all concurr in soe good a wark, according to the trust wee have committed unto you, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of July 1628.

Thrie lettres of this kind to the thrie shereffis of Lanreik, Roxburgh, and Lynlithgow, of the same dat.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng humbille moved upon this peticeone and inclosed articles that the depositions of those witnessis might be perused by you, and that wee might be certified bak of the treuthe of these articles, have thought it to stand with equitie to heir the petitioner's demand, whose estate

seemeth unto us to deserve our princely commiseratione ; therefore wee require you to tak such painis in the examinatione of the truth of the saidis articles as may best stand with justice and equitie, soe that noe materiall thing be wanting which for clearing thereof shall by the petitioner lauffullie be required : And thereafter (if need be) that you report unto us the trew estate thereof ; wherein not doubting of your diligence, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed by M^r Johne Oliphant, our solister, that he hath debursed some moneyis for the dispatch of such thingis as necessare, did concerne the good of our service, and that there are arrears due unto him for his fee by that office, sieng it may be fall out by the untimelie answering of such moneyis as are requisit for the good of our service, that wee may be exceedinglie prejudged : Oure pleasoure is that you tak acompt of his said debursementis and arrears of his fee of 500 merkis Scottis, and as you shall find what is justlie due unto him, that accordingly, with all convenient diligence you pay the same unto him, and that from time to time as the necessitie of our said service shall require you, furnesing him moneyis upon account for that purpose ; for doing whereof, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been humble moved in name of M^r Andro Aittone, advocat, that wee might be pleased to confirme unto him the Landis of Mirecainey, which, as wee are informed, wer changed by our late deir father from a ward to a blanch holding, in consideratione that his predecessouris in these landis did accept of that change (proceeding from our said late father his ounne royall offer and bountie) as a parte of his wife's portione, whoe cam in with our late royall mother, and served her as a gentlewoman of her bedchamber : Though wee are altogether unwilling to herken to any motione against the course intended by us for causing reduce in a legall maner such late tennouris as are prejudiciall to our crowne of that kingdome, yet the caus upon which this demand is grounded hath such respect with us that wee have thought it worthe of our consideratione, and report unto us hou farr we might legallie proceed therein for the parties' satisfacione without our prejudice : Therefore our plesour is, that you call for the evidentis of theis landis, and haveing considered the same, if you find that the confirmatione of it self will nather preudge us in our right, nor by the consequence the said intended course, wee will you to acquent us tharewith, to the effect we may give ordour for expeddung thereof, otherways that you condiscend upon such another course for giving the said M^r Andro satisfacione heirin as may best agree with equitie and our royall intencion, which wee seriouslie recommend unto you, and bids you, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of July 1628.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGHE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have been peticeoned by Francisca Hereot, that such moneyis whereunto shoe pretended right by the death of hir avuncle George Hereot, our late Juellar, might be payed by you unto hir as neerest unto him by blood, in regard shoe is a stranger, and cannot have the means to abide a long sute in law ; wee cannot but recommend unto you that you tak a course to give hir satisfacione willinglie of that which by time the course of law might adjudge unto hir, and though shoe wer not licklie to prevaill by law, yet sieng shoe is soe neer a kinsewoman of soe great a benefactour of your tounne,

heaving left soe much for charetable uses, wee doe earnestlie recommend hir unto your care and charitie that some course may be taken for hir maintenance during hir lifetime, or such satisfacione otherwayes as you in your discrectione shall think most fitt.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng informed that a parcell of those moneyis given for the purchase of that estate which Sir Johne Weyms, latelie killed in Irland, hade in that our kingdome, a band was given by the purchear to the new Lord of Elochoe for the said Sir Johne his use, by whose widow wee bieng humblic moved that shoe might haue the benefitt of our lawes for obteyning of what was due unto hir husband ; And withall bieng informed that he, before his death or since, was freed of all inhibitiones served against him at the instance of his creditouris, which was the resone that the name of the said Lord was borrowed for securing the said parcell of moneyis, wee conceaved it to stand with our princelie consideracione of the distressed estate of this Ladie seriouslie to recommend hir cause unto you ; And the rathor becaus shee hath not hir residence in that our kingdome : And therefore oure plesour is, after you have considered hou the case standeth betuix hir and the partie interested, that with all convenient diligence you grant unto hir all such timelie favour as the equitie of the caus shall in justice require, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE DEPUTIE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas ane thousand pound sterling was borrowed upon precept signed by our late dear father to his use, and accepted by Sir Gedeon Murray, late Thesaurer-Deputie of our kingdome of Scotland, payable to William Murray of _____, whoe now doeth peticeon us of the same ; and wee bieng informed that the most part of the said soume appeareth upon record to be payed, and that thare rested some part behind unpaid : Oure plesour therefore is, that you give satisfacione for the same to the said William Murray, according to his ryght thairunto ; and soe much the rather becaus he demandeth not use for the forbearance thairof : And for you soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the eleventh of July 1628.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that some of those whoe wer at the slaughter of unquhill David Tosehak of Minneyward have divers times found eatione in our bookis of adjornal for thare compirance before our Justice to underlye our lawes for the said fact, and have thereby relaxed themselves from our home, to the frustration of justice and putting the partie and our lieges whoe wer assysouris to grant panis and charges, non of them heaving as yet compred : The cheeff reasone thereof (as we are informed) doth proceed from your neglect in not uptaking the penulties due unto us by thare soe oft going to our home : These are therefor to will and require you, or ether of you, that you with all diligence cans charge for the penulties fallen to us by thare not compirance as said is, and compt thereof be made in our Exchequer without defalcatione : Soe not doubting of your carefull performance of the premissis, wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE CHEEFF-JUSTICE.

Right trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have been latelie peticeoned by the relict, kine, and freendis of unquhill David Tossach of Miniward that justice might be granted unto them against Laurence Bruce,

younger of Coumalindie, Alexander Bruce, his brother, William Oliphant, then of Gask, Alexander Fleeming of Monneis, Peter Blair, and Johne Yew, the complices and associattis whoe wer at the slauchter of the said unquhill David Toshach : Wee knowing that noething doth more concerne us in duetie and conscience then to sie the land purged of soe hynnous a sine by causing inflict due punishment upon the offenders according to our lawes provided in these cases ; Oure pleasour is, and wee doe heirby require you, and ether of you, that justice may be timeously administrid upon the foirsaidis persones, committers of the said slauchter, and that according to the lawes and practique of that our kingdome observed by you our Justices in the like cases, and that notwithstanding of any expired respect or favour granted hade to them or ether of them : See not doubting of your carefull performance of the premissis, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, 11 July 1828.

TO THE THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon the consideratione of the good services done by the late Laird of Lundie in helping to repres the late insurrectiones of the clan Gregour, and of our late father's royall intention to have him satisfied for his panis and charges tharein according to the severall lettres written by him to that effect, Wee wer pleased of late to write unto the Lord of Lorne for making payment to Sir Coleen Campbell, his sone, of the moneys mentioned in the said lettre ; Notwithstanding the saidis Lordis hath not (as we are credibillie informed) takine any course tharein for obeying our just and princelie desire : These are therefore to will and require you to call yeerly for our rentis of Ila and Kintyre assigned by us to the said Lord, and after you have received them it is oure speciall plesour that from time to time you mak readie payment to the said Coleen Campbell out of the first and reddiest thereof of all such moneys as wee did appoint to have been payed to him by our said lettre, till he be compleidlie satisfied according to the same, the copley whareof wee have sent you heirwithe enclosed under our Secretarie's hand.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Wee bieng humble moved upon this enclosed peticeone and reference that the petitioneris case should be by you considered, and that ordour should be taken by his satisfacione iff soe be that it be found by you that his demand wer just and ressonaebill, have againe thought good to referr the consideratione thereof to you, willing you, after due examinatione of the petitioner's request, to tak such a speedie course for his releeff as the equitie of his caus shall in justice require, that wee be noe forder troubled with his complaintis.—Whitehall, the 11 July 1628.

TO THE ADVOCATE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas Robert Dumbarr of Burgie, heaving been alreadye legallie cited at our instance for finding surtie to answer for the crymes of incest, adulterie, and other crymes alledged to have been committed by him, or whareunto he was reputed accessorie, is now desirous to have some legall end of his troubles by bieng judiciallie heard, convinced, or cleared from these imputationes, and from all other crimes alledged to have been committed by him, save onlie for the alledgit slauchter of Johne Dow, ffor which we have been pleased to grant unto him and his associattis ane remissionne upon credible informatione made unto us that the samen was not committed by him nor them by forthought felonie, but onlie whill they wer flieng from such persones whoe, by convocating our lieges in ryotous maner, wer in persute of thare liffes : Therefore our plesour is, that you in our name insist in persuit of the said Robert for the said other alledgit crimes of incest, adulterie, and others, according to the lawes and custumes observed in

the like cases; provided always, that you have a speciall care that his assysouris be knowne to be such indifferent landed men, residing in the four quarters about his dwelling, as have noe relaceon unto any partie interested by blood, affinitie, or whose directlie or indirectlie have been informers against the said Robert, which wee are the rather willing to recommend unto you, becaus wee doe verie much desire the meritiss of his caus to appeare in thare own cullouris, according to a just, legall, and a fare course: Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 11 of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right trustie, &c.—Whereas by many laudable actis and statutes of that our kingdome divers restraintis are made of exportatione of coall and salt to divers forain nationes, notwithstanding whareof wee are credibillie informed that the same is not only exported by our awne subjectis, but alsoe by strangers without any licience at all, wherly not only strangers are permitted als frielie to transport the said commodities as our oune native subjectis, contrarie to the custumie of other nationes, bot alsoe the coalles may quicklie decay, to the uter overthrow of that our antient kingdome: Oure pleasoure therefore is, that you first inquire iff any such exportaceone be fit any longer to be permitted or licenciat without the great detretement of the said kingdome: And 2^{dly} iff the said exportatione shalbe by you thought fit to be licensed for a time, then wee doe heirby require you to consider what is fit to be payed out of everie chalder thareof to be exported by our oune subjectis of that our kingdome, and hou much more for everie chalder to be exported by strangers, and that you certifie unto us your opinions heirin, whareby we may resolve hou the same may be best applyed towardis the maintenance of our shipping, to be manteyned for skouring and frieng the coastis from pirattis and eneyes, and for convoying marchantis in voages heamevartis and abroad, as by you may seem most convenient, and as wee shall heirefter be pleased to appoint: All which we pray you to tak into your serious consideratione and speedie resolucone, for the good of that our kingdome, and keeping upp of our much decayed custumes, Wee bid you, &c.—Given, &c., Whitehall, the 15 of July 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONE.

Right trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have long expected that the mater of valuationes may be speedelie brought to some finall yssue, bieng the ground-wark of our annuetic and of the rate of tithes, Wee doe therefore hartlie will, require, and authorise you to mak and grant submissiones to able and weell affected persones for inquiring of the true value thareof, whareby wee and our good subjectis may have great work brought to some speedie perfectione, to be confermed in our nixt parliament: And though wee doe not heirby set doune any instructiones whareby to direct your proceedingis in the saidis valuationes, yet wee are confident that in a maeter of soe great consequence you will omit noe means or way to find out the treuth and the trew estate of the tithes, and by such unpartiall and judicious neighbouring sub-commissioners as may return unto you a trew and honest accompt of thare proceedingis, justifieable in the eye of our princelie judgment and in the opinionones of all our good subjectis; and as our nobilitie aud privie counsell, whoe are heirin a great number, hath verie frielie and affectionatlie concluded and determined that our annuetic shall begin this cropp 1628, soe wee doe noeways doubt bot you are of the like opinione, and will expres your affectioned confirmatione thareof by some act of that commissione, which tharefter you may publish unto all our good subjectis, off whose willingenes to pay the same accordinglie wee are noeways doubtfull, and for which heirefter wee will endeavour thankfullie till extend our princelie favour unto all our weel deserving subjectis in generall and unto your self in particulare: And soe wee bid you hartlie, &c.—Whitehall the 21 day of July 1628.

TO THE MAISTER OF THE WARDROP.

Trustie, &c.—Wee having declared our princelie resolucon to visit that our antient kingdome and hold our first parliament there, to begin upon the fifteen day of September nixtocome; Oure pleasour therefore is, that you with all expeditions caus prepare our wardropp thare committed to your trust with all convenient preparatiens belonging to the duties of your charge and service, wherein wee expect your wonted performance according to the trust reposed in you; and if any thing be wanting tharein which may concern our aese or credit, that you certifie our thesaurer and us thereof, that the same may be timeouslie provided before our coming to Halyrudchous: And soe, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 21 day of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL AND EXCHECKUER.

Right, &c.—Having considered of the charges requisit for going to that our antient kingdome to receive a croune and to hold a parliament there, which of necessitie requirethe money; and in regard of other great effaris, sieng wee cannot convenientlie efford it at this time; Wee have moved our officiers of state to borrow the same from time to time for our use: And to the effect that they, nor none of them, for thare affection to our service, should anywayis suffer or be in danger of payment, Wee are verie willing to grant them any assurance that they can demand or that wee can grant for thare releeff: And thareof it is our pleasour that for this effect thare be granted unto them any securitie that they shall require upon our rentis, casualties, taxationes, or annuities, to come in generall or by particulare assignementis as for thare releeff shall require by actis of counsell or Exchequer, or by any other securitie requisit for this purpose, wherby theis our officiers for the present whoe are engageded or to engadge themselftis for us may be releified, or any other officiere who may happin to succeed in any of thare offices or places, whome we will and declare by theis presentis that they shall succeed to the burding of the said debt as in the said places, ay and whill the saidis soumes be payed, that non of the heirs of the present officiers may be trubled for the same heirefter: And that the said moneyis shalbe payed before all our moneyis whatsoever, exceptand the moneyis that wer due unto Sir James Bailzie, Knight, and our mariners, to be payed conforme to the former appointment, lettres, warrantis, and actis made by you thairanent: And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe unto you, and everie one of you, from time to time a sufficient warrant; and for that effect wee require you to registrat the same in the bookis of counsell and Exchequer: And soe wee bid you, &c.—Whythall, the 21 day of July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas the Commissioners of the Shires chosen at the last Michelmes head court are to appear by summondis for our parliament, appointed to begin upon the 15 day of September nixt: And in regard the said parliament may continow after Michelmes nixt, which is the usuall time of the nixt electione of Commissioners for Shires: And wee considering how unfitt it wilbe that any change of Commissioners should fall furthe during the continuatione of the said parliament, and how necessarie it is that the same Commissioners whoe are to meett in the begining should bring thare begun bussines to ane finall end before they should be changed: Oure pleasour therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you upon sight heiroff to write unto the severall shereffis of the shires for the time bieng to convene the gentrie of the severall Shires for confirming the former electione of the former Commissioners for this nixt yeer, without admision of ane alteratione, except it be for supplieing the places of such as are dead or preferred unto heigher degree of honour since the last electione: All which, amongis our former directiones, we recommend unto your speciall care and speedie resolutione: And soe wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 21 July 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas divers articles hath beine proponed unto us by the Bischop of Rose in name and behalff of the Clergie of that our kingdome concerning the good of the church thare, and wee bieng most willing to afford unto the said church all the favour which lauffully we can, without our prejudice or hurt of the commoneweth ; And yet bieng doubtfull what may be the most legall course wherby to expres our desire, to plant that church for the aese and comfort of our subjectis, to help the prelatiss of the church in thare estatis, and to minister competent maintenance for the rest of the preacheris of the gospell, for the better propogatione of the trew religiõne : Oure pleasoure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, after the sight heirof and of the within closed articles, to tak the same into your serious consideration and resolucon, and to certifie us with all convenient diligence what is fitt for us tharein to doe, and how farr by law we may proceed for effecting the desire of the said articles, without prejudice to our annuetic and other benefitis arysing upon our revocatione, and with als litill grievance unto our saide subjectis in the mater of tithes as may seem most agreeabill unto the commone course of our said lawes : And see we bid you farewell.—Whitehall, 21 July 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have required our privie counsell thare to enquire if the exporting from thence of coall and salt to forrane nationes be anyways fitt to be licensed, and if by them approved, that they consider what impositiõne is fitt to be payed out of everie chaldre thereof by our subjectis and strangers respective, to the end the same may be applyed towards the maintenance of our shipping, skouring the coastes from enemyes, and convoying such merchand schippis home and abroad as to them shall seem most fitt : Therefore our plesoure is, iff they resolve that impositiõne shalbe layed upon these commodities, that you draw upp in a legall and sure maner a grant thereof from us unto . . . the Erle of Lynlithquho, our Admirall for the tyme, and his deputies, whareby they may be authorised during his liffime to receive and exact, if need be, the said impositiõne to be by them applyed to the use afoirsaid, which grant wee will to be exped with all convenient diligence : And see, &c.—Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Heaving resolved according to our plesour formerlie signiefied unto our privie counsell of that our kingdome, to hold on in that our intendit jorney unto the same ; And knowing that it may much concern the credit thereof, and give us good satisfacione that our Chappell Royall thare be well and decentlie ordered, Oure pleasoure is, that accordinglie you sie the same fitlie done, allowing such moneyis as shalbe thought necessare by you for that purpose : And to that effect thare be nothing wanting that may contribut to this aerand, that you trye what is due unto our Musitiens ; and tharefter that you tak a speedie course that they be payed until this last preceeding terme of what is due unto them from us : And for your see doing theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—ffrom Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—This inclosed Peticoon haveng been preferred unto us, and by us remitted to the consideratione of our deputie-thesaurer bieng heir for the tyme, whose certificat thareupon bieng tharefter

represented unto us, wee are heirby pleased soe farr to signifie our plesour heirin, that if the benefit arysing by the thing demanded doth not exceed in value the soume of 100^{li}^b sterling, that the same be granted for the petitioneris use, iff otherways that you before the passing of our guift thereof unto him lak sufficient securitie, that the superplus shalbe duclie payed unto our Exchequer: And soe we bid you, &c.—Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR, THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Sieng that upon good considerationes latic signified by us unto our Exchequer wee wer willing to allow unto . . . the Lord of Lorne the soume of 4000^{li}^b sterling, to be delivered in his, or his assignais thare handis of the first duties belonging unto us of Ila and Kintyre, and out of those duties payable unto us by the said Lord, till he should be completlie satiefied of that soume: Oure pleasour is, that you give way to the passing of any lafull assignement made for that purpose: And for your soe doing, &c.—Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we wer pleased of late to signe a confirmatione of certane landis in favouris of Robert Innes of Balvenye, which bieng conforme (as wee are informed) to ane originall infetment belonging unto him, Wee culd not bot grant unto him the usual benefit granted, without respect of persons to all our good subjectis in the like cases; Yet bieng since informed that the passing thareof may unnecessarlie trouble Sir Robert Innes of that Ilk, in the right which he hathe to those landis whareof he is now in possessione: Oure speціаль plesour is, that the said Sir Robert may be hard to give in his reassones ether before you, or if you think it expedient before the Judge ordinarie, that it may appear wharein he may be wronged, and tharefter that you proceed in passing or not passing of the same as you shall find just caus: And soe wee bid, &c.—Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas great parte of our taxatione granted unto us in October 1625, and alsoe of the former taxatione, is as yet behind and unpaid or not brought in by our shirreffis, chamberleans, and others cheargeabill with the same, contrair to the lawes and wouted custume of that our kingdome: And in regarde of our intended jorney unto that our antient kingdome for receaving our crowne and holding our first parliament thare we may have extraordinarie use of present moneyis: Oure pleasour therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you to call before you all suche persones as hath trust of that service under . . . the Lordis Vicompt Dupline, our chancellare, or the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, and to inquire of them the caus of the said delay and the names of the delinquentis, and, if any have contemptouslie suffered themselues to be denounced rebellis for the same, Oure pleasour is, that you caus execute our lawes against them upon thare persones, landis, and goodis, and with as great heast and expeditione as hath anyways heirtofore been used and practised in the collectione of any of the former taxationes granted unto any of our noble predecessouris: Soe wee, &c.—Gilford, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been humble moved on this peticione, and inclosed lettre of our late dear father, that wee might be pleased to give ordour unto you for taking a course, that one Nicoll Clepone

and remanent partiners of the tuoe shippis which wer sent unto Denmark in our said father's service at his going thither in persone, might be satisfied according to the equitie of thare cause, the reasone inducing us to hearken to thare demand bieng both for such a service as wee should be sorie that any persone should be unsatisfied, especialie wher moneyis alredie have been allowed for that purpos, and for detecting and punishing such a fraud alledged to have been used to thare prejudice : Oure pleasoure is, that you trye the estate theirow, and if you find what is alledged to be trew, that you caus tak a speedie course, according to justice, with the partie complained upon for making payment to the peticioners of that which they shall mak cleerlie appeer to be thare due, and that the other partie be punished or censured for that fraud (if soe it shalbe found) as you shall think most fitt : Soe wee bid, &c.—Gilford, the 22 of July 1628.

INSTRUCIONES GIVEN BY HIS MAJESTIE UNTO THE ERLE OF MONTEITH, THE 22 JULIJ 1628.

It is oure royall pleasoure that the Erle of Monteath, Precedent of our Privie Counsell, performe theis instructions following, viz^t :—

That he have a care of the setting forward of the circuittis and Justice airs according to thare severall commisione, and that every Shirreff, Steuard, Baillie, Justice of the Peace, and other officiers may be compelled to execute thare severall charges :

That he consult with the Commissione of Tithes for appointing severall Committies for the severall busshenes referred unto the same :

That he give orlour for executing the late Commissione for the lawes, wherby the same may be readie against the nixt parliament :

That he consult and resolve with the Lordis of Counsell concerning the mending of the heighways, repairing of our houses, and providing for our coronatione and parliament, and furnesing of our houses during our abode in that kingdome, and for our carriages and cartis upon everie remove within the same :

That he caus renew the commisione of the bordouris that the same may be duelic executed as it was wount :

That he caus provide the Churches, Parliament hous, Counsell hous, Chappell, and all other thingis fitting for our entrie, coronatione, and parliament :

That he caus send speedie directione to all our forrests for furnesing of deir and venesone for our house :

That he advise with the Counsell for setting doune instructions concerning such penalt statutis as they shall think fitt to be execut in the nixt Circuittis or Justice airs.

TO THE LORD OF LOWDEN.

Right trustie, &c.—Upon motione from your avuncle, Archebald Campbell, concerning the surrendarr of your Shirreffship of Air, Bailzerie and Regalitie of Kilmure, and barrenrie and superioritie of the saidis landis, wee have agreed to secure unto you Twentie four thousand merkis in maner following, viz^t :— That you shall hold your superioritie of the saidis landis pay, and the full and antient few-dewties thareof bieng fyve hunderithe merkis redeemable always be us and our successouris upon payment of tuelff thousand merkis, and reserving to you your right of fishing upon the water of Air, and giving you satisfaction for the few-dewties according to the generall course of our commisione : As alsoe that you shall retayne in your handis tuelff hunderith merkis per annum of your oune rentis, untill you be payed of other tuelff thousand merkis in compleit payment of your said surrendar : Bot if the said forme of securitie shall anyways appear unto the said Commissioners of our Exchequer to be anyways prejudiciall unto us

in that example, or otherways in that cais wee have required Sir Archebald Achesone, our Secretarie, to aequent us tharewith after conferance with the said Exchequer, that wee may tharefter appoint some such other ways and means of payment or securitie as the said Commissioners shall think fitting to be made by your perfecting of the said surrender: And wee doe heirby let you forther know that, in regard of your soe free and forward dealing for advancing our royall designs for the good of that our antient kingdome, that wee intend, upon your perfecting of the said surrender, to put upon you a forther mark of our favour, whareby both you and others by your example may be encouraged to continow affectionatlie devoted to our service: And soe we bid, &c.—Gilfoord, the 22 July 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right trustie, &c.—Whareas we wer pleased, upon informatione made unto us for better civilising the northern ylandis of that our kingdome, to sing ane signatour for erecting a frie burgh within the Lewis, recommending withall by our lettre a care to be hade that nothing might be done thareby that might wroug our royall frie burrows in particuler nor the estate of that kingdome in generall: Bot heering that upon remonstrance made before you by our saidis burghes of divers great inconveniences and dangers thareby likely to ensue unto both, and for theis effectis you hade stayed the passing thareof untill our cumming thare, latelie intendit by us; and that M^r Johu Hay in their names hathe represented unto us how prejudiciall the setling of strangers in theis partis may prove, both concerning the estate of that kingdome in generall and particularely to the great losse of the borroues: Oure pleasoure is, as we formerlie wrett, that haveing [heard] both parties, you seriouslie consider of thare reasones, and aequent us with your opinione of such pointis as you conceave to be most ; and that you late not the said signatour pas till (wee haveing hard both ether heir or at our cumming thare, as we shall think best) you have forther warrand from us; and in the meantime to call the commissioners of the burroues, or some of the cheeff of them, before you, and trye what expedient course they can propound for making use of our fishing, and for civilising of theis northerne partis, that, after due consideratione, wee tak that course which is most liekly to prove best for the generall good of that kingdome, whareof wee doubt not bot that you will have such a speciall care, as the importance of the mater doth require: We bid you, &c.—Southwick, the 18 of August 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF SEAFORTE.

Right trustie, &c.—Bieng informed that upon the objections made by our borroues aganis your signatour for erecting of Starneway into a frie burgh, the commissioners of our Exchequer for the tyme gave ourdour for staying the passing thareof till the time appointed for our cumming unto that our kingdome; Wee have thought good of new to require them to heir and consider of both your reasones and thare objections, and to aequent us with the most materiall pointis thareof, stopping the passing of the signatour till tharefter wee shalbe pleased to signifie our forther pleasour; though wee doe approve your intentione in this work as bieng verie fitt to be done, yet, bieng complaned unto by all our borroues in regard of the harme they feare thareby, as may appeir by thare said objections, wee cannot but seriouslie consider of the same, and therefore give your ansuers tharunto, unto our said Exchequer that the same may be sent us, and that tharefter (haveing considered of bothe) wee may tak that course which is most liekly to effect the work and liekly to prove best for the generall good of that our kingdome: Wee haveing a desire that our oune subjectis should effectuat itt rather then any strangers, always we desire you to proceed in encouraging of these strangers, though not till setle them till we have first determined what wee wold have done tharein.—Southwick, the 18 August 1628.

TO THE BORROW OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—We have perceaved by your lettre and by relaceone of your commissioner hou glade you wer to heir of our intentione to visit that our antient kingdome, and of your aernest affectione and care to have all such thingis in readienes which to give us content wer in your pouare or might concern you to doe, for which wee give you hartlie thankis, persuading ourselves (sieng wee have upon speciall ocasionis heir delayed the time of our cumming thare till the nixt spring) that you will continow in that hartlie maner of resolucon for receaving of us: And as for theis questiones which wer propounded unto us by your commissioner, we have particularelie acquented him with our mynd thareiu, heaving hard your objectiones against the erecting of Starneway in a frie burgh: Wee have been pleased to require our Exchequer of new to heir and consider of the same, and of the answeris of . . . the Erle of Seafort tharevnto, and to aqent us with the most materiall pointis thareof, and that they stopp the passing of the signatour (till haveing considerit of these objectiones and answeris) wee may tak course which is most lickle to prove best for the good of that our kingdome; And be assured that as wee have ever fund you weell affectioned to our service, soe we wilbe carefull to preffer the libertie of you and remanent of our borroues that you receive noe wrong: Wee bid, &c.—Southwick, the 18 August 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed by the Lord Desford that the Lard of Banff did without any lafull warrant apprehend one George Ogilvey, our frie subject, and not onlie kept him in close prisone, but did use him most rigourouslie after an unhumane maner: Wee bieng willing, for preventing the like heirefter, that what is alledgit be tryed, and that suche a course be taken with the offender, according to the lawes of that our kingdome, as the nature of his offence shalbe found justlie to deserve: Oure pleasure is, that after you have hade conference with the said Lord in this purpose, that you informe yourself of the trew estate thareof by other lafull and convenient wayis and meens, and if you find any sure ground whereupon to proceed against the said Larde of Banff, that you in our name call and persew him in a legall maner, according to the forme accustomed in the like caises: And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrant.—Southwick, the 18 August 1628.

TO THE BISHOP OF ST ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas one Mr Mungo Murray hath been recommendit unto us by . . . the Erle of Mortoune as a qualiefiet and sufficient preacher, and therefore thought fit to be placed at the Kirk of Dalkeith, in respect the said Erle hathe interest in this earand as bieng cheeff persone of the parochin, Wee have been pleased to signe a presentatione for the said Mr Mungo Murray his setling at that Kirk: Theis are therefore to require you (iff noething can be justlie objected against his sufficiencie and qualieficatione, nor against his confirmatione to the present discipline of the church) that non be prefered unto him in that charge, but that he be fullie satled at the said Kirk, according to our presentationou and the forme accustomed in like caises: So, &c.—Southwick, the 18 August 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL, &c.

Right, &c.—Sieng it pleased our late dear father to grant and us to confirme unto . . . the Erle of Kellie lettres patentis for erecting of Alme workis and making of alme in that our kingdome, Wee are

pleased that he and others mentioned in the said lettres may fullie enjoy such privelieges and benefite as may arise thareby, and that noe others, contrarie to our grant, presume to undertak or insist in the like work without licience of the patenter, or of such as have pouare from him : Oure pleasoure therefore is, that you tak a course that all our subjectis may tak notice of this oure royall pleasoure, and upon just complaint made by him or his foirsaidis unto you in this behalf, that you be carefull and sie that noe persone whatsoever tak upon them to wrong theis persones in the benefit which may arise by the said grant, according to the trew meening thareof ; Willing you soe farr to mantein and assist them as you can lauffully and convenientlie doe by vertew thareof, which wee will tak as good service done unto us : And for your soe, &c.—Southwick, 18 August 1628.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed that the eschet and liferent of the Lord Heres and of the Master of Heres, his sone, doe stik at our dispositione by thare remaneing urelaxit from the horne above yeir and day, and that they intend, by indirect means, to defraud . . . the Erle of Annandaill (at whose instance they wer denunsit our rebell) of those moneyis due unto him whareby he is like to be much damnified ; ffor preventing whareof we have been pleased to pas a guift unto the said Erle of thare eschet and liferent to be noe farther made use of by him then for his oune releeff : Therefore our pleasour is, that you exped the same according to the tennour thareof, he paying such compositione as is fitting and usuall in the like caises ; otherways, if you shall find that in justice and equitie it is more fitt that any other creditour or other persone be donatour to the said escheitt and liferent, oure forther pleasour is, that the said Erle be sufficientlie secured at the sight of our advocat of all such moneyis as shalbe found due unto him before any gift be past in thare favour ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Southwick, the 18 day of August 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLITHQUH.

Right, &c.—Whereas the submissione made unto us by you and Sir David Livingstoune of Donepace is expyred, and that he as yit is willing to submitt of new againe, as wee hope yee alsoe will, and to the effect we may the more cleerlie proceed in giving our Decreit-Arbitrall betuix you, as alsoe may the better know our oune annuetie out of the tithes : therefore, bieng informed that Johne Erskyne of Balgownye, and Mr Johne Drummond of Wodeokdull, are sufficient and understanding men, and wer formerlie approved by some of our counsell with your oune Consent to have taken notice of the tithes crop 1628, Wee are pleased to appoint them to cognose and separat this present yeer the wholl tithes, both personage and viccarage, of all your landis whareunto the said Sir David hade right, and that they tak particulare notice of everie man's quantitie, and soe much the rather becaus the said Sir David is willing that they likeways sequestrat the tithes of any of his landis whareunto you have right, whareby our annuetie may likeways be knowne ; and what duetie you ought to have for the land, after the expiring of his takis and after the said sequestratione shall haue collected and thrashin out of the tithes, Wee desire to be certified thareof that wee may determine indifferentlie betuix you, according to your severall rightis : In performing whareof wee are confident that you both will agree mutually that nather the sequestratour receive any impediment in thare charge heir, nor that the tennentis or carie away any of thare cornes before the tren tithle thareof be taken : And that we may not have just reason to think that some of you hath not a desire to have these differences composed in a freendlie maner wharein we have been pleased to tak such panis, otherways if you doe not tak this freendlie course, wee will remitt you bak to the ordinarie course of law, and will tak particulare notice of him by whose default this intendit agreement hath not taken the wished effect : Wee bid you, &c.—Southweek, the 18 August 1628.

TO BALGOWNY AND M^r JOHNE DRUMMOND.

Trustie, &c.—Wee bieng willing that the differences betuix the Erle of Linlithquho and Sir David Livingstone of Donepace be clered tuitching the tithes which ether of them hath right unto of others landis, have been gratuitously pleased to tak upon us the determinatioun thareof: And to the effect we may the more cleerlie and equitabilie pronounce our decret theirin, are heirby plesed, in regard (as wee ar informed) you wer employed by some of our counsell in this bussienes with the parties' oune consent, to require you this present crop 1628 to separat and cognose the wholl tithes, both personage and vicarage, of all and whatsoever landis appertining to the Erle of Linlithquho which the said Sir David hade right unto: And that you particularelie tak notice of everie man's quantitie, and that you use all ordinarie and lauffull means for taking a trefy triall, and that immediatlie you thrashe out the cornes, whareby you may report unto us the trefy estate thareoff: And that you tak the like triall of Sir Davidis landis, whareunto the said Erle hath right, and likeways certifie us thareof: Wharein not doubting of your diligence, Wee bid you, &c.—Southwick, the 18 of August 1628.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whareas . . . Sir Andro Ker, Master of Jeddert (whoe hath done verie acceptable service unto our late dear father and us) is now appointed to be a Judge in our Circuit Courtis and Justiceairs to be kept in that our kingdome; and the better to encourage him to goe on in that employment; our pleasour is, that fra time to time as the fines arises in that quarter of the kingdome where he goethe as Judge shall come into our Exchequer, you pay unto him, or allow unto him in his accomptis, all such fees as shalbe found justlie due unto him by us, untill it shall appeir unto you that he is compleitlie payed thareof: And after your soe doing this presentis shalbe your warrand and discharge.—Southwick, the 28 August 1628.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HUNTLE AND ERLE OF MONTEITH.

Right, &c.—Whareas our late dear father and ourselves have been theis divers yeers peticeoned in favouris of such persones who wer at the slauchter of David Toshech of Minnivard, alledging that, sieng the parties hade fled the cuntrie, it wer great severitie now after soe long a time to insist in persute of thare lives, whoe wer butt accidentlie present in that fued; though these or the like reasones cannot induce us to hearken unto anything but that our lawes provided in these caices tak place; Yet finding that . . . the Erle of Anguis laboreth to caus them gif all ressonable satisfactioun to the partie offendit, Wee could doe noe les then desire you (whoe by blood, as we are informed, have some interest in the said David Tosheach) to use your best endeavouris for causing that partie accept of such ressonabil conditiones as shalbe offered in name of the other, and to mediat a freendlie agreement between them in such maner as you can most convenientlie doe, which we will tak as acceptable service done to us: And so we, &c.—Southwick, the 28 August 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Though out of ane aernest desire that we hade to sie that our antient kingdome, and to bring those thingis to perfectione which we have intendet for the good thareof, Wee hade resolved to have repaired at that time formerlie declared unto you, yet after the sight of your lettres, whareby you reported

unto us not onlie the difficultie, bot in a maner the impossibilitie to have thingis in reddienes for the receaving us against that time; Wee have yeeldit to your desire in delaying the time of our coming, heaving given commissione to continow the parliament which wes called to such dayis as we should be pleased to appoint, which wee have been pleased to doe, that you may be the more carefull to have all thingis prepared in due forme: And that a convenient time might be allowed for repairing our houses and preparing all thingis necessarie for our intertinement, And to the end our subjectis may be acquainted with the time of the continuatioun, and time appointed for begining our said parliament, Oure pleasour is, after the prorogating thereof according to our Commissione sent you for that effect, that you give warning to all such subjectis, in such maner as you shall think most requisit, that we have made chose of the 15 of Aprill nixt for the begining of our said parliament, which we intend, God willing, to keep in persone.—Southweck, the 28 August 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Heaving considered of the charges requisit for intertining our hous during the time of our abroad in that our kingdome to receive our crowne and to hold a parliament there, which of necessitie doth require present moneyis: And in regard of our great affars we cannot convenientlie afford them at this time, and we intend to tak such a course for leavieng of them that non of our subjectis can have caus to complain, nor yet to suspect our royall intencione in sieng them at the time appointed by us, Wee have been pleased to move our Deputie Thesaurer whoe wes heir for the time to borrow this moneyis at this time for our said use; and to the effect that he nor noe others whoe shall joyne with him should any wayis suffer for thare affectione to our service, or be in danger of not bieng payed of what they shall undergoe for the same, Wee are heirby willing to grant unto them any assurance that they can reasonabillie demand, or that wee can lauffullie grant for thare releef: Oure plesour is, that thare be granted unto him and them any securitie he shall require upon our rentis, casualities, and taxatiounes present, or to come in generall or by particulare assignmentis by actis of counsell and exchequer, or by Commissioners of intromissione with the same under our seall as he or his counsell at law shall devise for his, and his forsaidis securitie, and that all impedimentis that can arise in thare uptaking the saidis rentis, casualities, taxatiounes present or to come, wherby he or they may be hindered freele to intromet with the same be removed by you till they be satisfiet of all moneyis debursed by them for this purpos, with the ordinarie interest for the same during the time of the forbearing thereof; provided alwayis that such moneyis, as have been already debursit for the present use of our coming by our thesaurer, be first payed or secured unto him: And expecting such moneyis as wee wer pleased to reserve by that lettre written unto you touching the ingadging our officers of state for this purpos, which moneyis we will to be first payed or secured to the persones interested according to our first royall intencione.—Southweck, 28 August 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Upon the same subject and in similar terms as the last letter, and of the same date.

FOR CHOISING THE MASTER [OF THE] HOUSHALD,

Haveing at this time put the charges upon our thesaurer deputie for leavieng of moneyis for the intertinement of our houshold during our abroad in that our kingdome, and bieng willing that all thingis touching our intertinement and ordour of our houses should be circumspectlie considered of before, that at

our comming nothing should be wanting or out of due ordour, Wee, out of confidence of your sufficiency and affection to our service, have made choise of you to whome this presentis are directed as our commissioners for this purpos, requiring and heirby authorising you to convene together, both before and after our comming ther, and taking unto your assistance the Masteris of our houshold, to be named by us, to consult tutching all thingis which any wayis may concern the ordour of our houshold, our interteinement, and provisione necessarie to sie the same ordored and performed accordinglie, and wee are willing (iff soe be you think expedient) to authorise you in the same after any other maner you shall think requisit, wharein we will that one of the clarkes of our privie Counsell be employed, and our clark in our proceedingis tharein.—Southwick, 28 August 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas it is complained unto us in the behalf of one James Lindsay of that now, in his absence, in our service under . . . the Erle of Mortoune, the Larde of Lamington hath wronged him in his possessiones, contrare to equitie and the lawes of that our kingdome; in consideration whareof, and for that he cannot appeer in his oune caus for seeking redres according to our said lawes, Oure plesour is, that you call the said Lard of Lamington before you, and (after due triall taken by you of the groundis of the other's complaintis from any persone interested or warranted by him) iff you find them to be such as is affirmed, that then you tak a course to sie the same redressed, according to our said lawes, of the saidis wrongis, and from hence furth secure from any truble that may vnjustlie come unto him by the means of the said Laird of Lamington, soe that he may not any wais suffer by resson of his said absence.—Southwick, 28 August 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSHOLD.

Right, &c.—Heaving established you our commissioners for sieng all thingis for our intertenement during our aboad in that our kingdome fittie and discretie ordered; and knoeing the necessitie that one should be particularlie appointed for havinge the charge committed unto him for debursing of those moneys which are necessarlie thought fitt by you to be expendit in this bussienes, to be deleriverit by your depute thesaurer for that use; And withall, bieng credibillie informed of the sufficiency and affectione to us of our trustie and weelbeloved Arhebald Campbell: Wee are heirby pleased to put the charge upon him, willing you to receive him tharein, and to give him directiones accordinglie.—Southwick, the 28 August 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—As wee intend in a faire and equitable maner to proceed in our decree with all such persones as have frielie submitted unto us in that busienes of the tithes, and of other things mentioned in the generall submissione: Soe whare persones interested in theis thingis doe refuse to submitt who have alredie submitted, but with farther restrictions and limitationes then are mentioned in the said generall submissione, Wee will (according to our former resolutione) have our title to thingis of that nature tryed in a legall maner: Therefore our plesour is, that with all diligence yee in our name insist by law against all such persones, And to that effect that you use your best means by all lafull wayis to get knowledge of thare names: And whereas wee are credibillie informed that notwithstanding of the surrenders made unto us by the titulars of erectione, yet ther are divers of ther vassillis whoe apprehend a certene feare that the erectouris intend to querrell thare propertie, and to evict the same unto themselves, tharby defrauding us

of what interest we might have pretendit thareunto, Which wee will not conceave to be the meening of the saidis erectouris in thare surrenders; Tharefor we are heirby pleased to require you that all doubtis heirin may be cleered, in soe far as you can lauffullie and convenientlie doe, and that whosoever wer vassellis to any of the erectouris, submitters at the time of thare submissione or since our revocatione, may become soe unto us without ether bettering or imparing of thare rightis, and all title which theis erectouris hade over them may be devolved upon our persone.—Southwick, 26 August 1628.

TO THE BURGH OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Heaving considered the necessitie of using present moneyis for the interteinment of our houshold during our aboad in that our antient kingdome, Wee have been pleased to require our deputie thesaurer to tak upon him the charge for borrowing moneyis for that purpos, whoe for his assurance is to have what securitie he can devise upon our rentis, casualities, or taxationes, present and to come, whareby he nor non who shall goe on with him in this kind shalbe prejudged thareby; Soe iff he shall have occasione to use your assistance for raising any moneyis for this purpos, Wee desire you to farther him theirin for us as you shall find yourselfis sufficientlie secured, and that therby you be made noe lossers by this meens, which wee will tak as acceptable service done unto us, and whareof we will not be unmyndfull.—Southwick, 28 August 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH.

Right, &c.—Wee received your letter, wherby wee perceave the continuance of your care and diligence to doe us good service, for which we give you hartlie thankis, desiring you that you will continow to use your best endeavouris that the valuations of the tithes may be both speedelie and truelie tryed, whareby that great wark of the tithes may be the more quicklie brought to the intended perfectione; wharine nothing doubting of your care and readie pains, we bid, &c.—Southwick, 28 August 1628.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have seen a guift granted by oure late deare father unto Archebald Campbell, brother of Sir James Campbell of Lawers, of the Chamberleene of the west Isles in that our kingdome, in which boundis (as wee are credibile informed) he did him good service, and, as we conceave, is both able and well affected to doe the like unto us herefter: Oure pleasour is, that he be fullie satled in that office of Chamberlenerie during our plesour, and that by vertew of the said former guift granted by our said father: And that yee sie him readelie obeyed in uptaking our rentis within the boundis prescrived in that guift, authorising him iu any lauffull maner requisit for that effect: And you intimat (if need be) our plesour heirin to all our officiaris or other persones whome it may concerne: And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—Southwick, the 28 August 1628.

TO THE MARQUES OF HAMILTOUNE.

It is oure pleasur that the charge of our bookis in that hous which sometime wer in the custodie of Sir Peter Yong, our Almoster, be committed unto Patrik Yong, his sone, keeper of our Libraries heir, and that you posses him in the roome wharein they now reman, and of such others as the said Sir Peter

whill he leived did keep in that hous, and that until such time as wee shalbe pleased to dispose otherways of the saidis bookis and roomes; and to this purpos that you discharge all others whoe have charge thareof, warning them furthwith to rander the keyis unto him, or to any whome he shall appoint for receaving same.—Given at our Court of Southwick, the 28 of August 1828.

TO THE AGENT IN POLAND.

Trustie, &c.—Bieng informed that the want of good ordour amongs such of our subjectis as live under those Princes and States, to whome wee have directed you, is the caus of many inconveniētis amongis them, and that abone all other nationes thare they are most alienated from lauffull justice and civill government whareby they are often crossed in thare necessarie effares: Wee, heirin only respecting thare good, are heirby pleased that you in our name require them to suffer themselves to be advised in such thingis as shalbe expedient for thare good, and to setle such orlour as may best conduce for advancing of thare trade and commeree in those partes wher they leive, and to this effect we have willed you to assist and forther them in all thare honest and lauffull adoes with those Princes and States: Soe upon your report unto us of thare conformitie to our pleasour heirin, Wee will from time to time, as the occasion shall require, continow to doe the like: And soe we, &c. [Not dated.]

TO THE LORD LOUDONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that you have subscrievd the submissiōne with reservatiōne of some right of your superiorities of Kilsmoore and Barnmoore, Wee are heirby pleased to desire you to subscrieve the same without any protestatiōne whareby these superiorities may be absolutlie surrendered unto us as others are, notwithstanding of any former proceeding since the time of our revocatiōne, and we will not be unmindfull to tak particulare notice of the nature of your case heirin, otherways our advocattis is to proceed against you as against those whoe have not subscrievd at all: Wee have been the rather pleased to write unto you in this particulare, becaus wee did formerlie conceive that you, whoe was employed in this bussines, should rather endeavour to be a leading example unto all other our subjectis in soe good wark then anyways by distrusting our royall favour and intentiōne tharein to tak another course, wharein whouseover we doubt not to recover in a just and legal maner what is justlie due unto us; yet we could have wished that you, by condescending as others have done, hade expected our favour in anything whareby we might have lauffullie and convenientlie expressed the same unto you: We bid, &c.—Given at Akin, the 16 day of September 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Wee are soe differentlie informed of the circumstances of a late feyght between the Lairdis of Ballendalloche and Carroune, that wee have thought fitt to recommend the triall thareof to our privie counsell thare; bot by the report of both parties the breach of the peace bieng soe manifest and soe contrarie to our royall intentiōne for satling the quyet of that our kingdome, wee have further thought fitt to will and require you in our name to stop any remissione, respite, or gift of escheitt that shalbe required by ether of the saidis parties till our plesour be forther knownen: Wharein not doubting of your care and diligence, we bid you, &c.—Hamptoune court, the 29 September 1628.

TO THE COUNSEL.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed that in a late fecht betuix the Lardis of Ballendallocke and Carone, the said Carone and one of his partners wer killed outright, and sindrie others wounded to death, which bieng soe manefast a breach of our peace, and soe contrarie to our royall intentione for setling the quyet of that kingdome: But withall the other circumstances of that accident are soe differentlie reported that we have thought fitt to recommend unto you the speedie and exact triall thereof, that wee being from you informed of the treuthe, may tharefter give such forder ordour against the delinquentis as the nature of the case shall require: Wharein not doubting of your care and diligence, wee bid, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1628.

TO THE COUNSEL.

Right, &c.—Whareas it pleased our late dear father, in regard of that memorable deliverie which it pleased God to grant from the treacharous and damnable pouder plot upon the fift day of November, intending the rwing of him, of us, and of the trew religeone professed within his kingdomes, to caus solemlie observe the said day throughout the samen yeerlie, by giving thankis to God with publick expressiones of joy to the effect that the same with due reverence may always be kept in memorie: Oure pleasour tharefor is, that you cans proclamatiome be made commanding the said day yeerlie to be kept by our wholl subjectis thare, as it was accustomed to be during the time of our said late dear father; which recommending to your special care, we bid, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 10th of October 1628.

A Letter to the Bishop of Glasgow upon the same subject, and in similar terms, of the same date.

A Letter to the Session to admit Sir Thomas Hope, Knight, King's Advocate, to sit amongst them.—Hamptoune Court, the 18 day of October 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee wer pleased to grant to . . . the Erle off Linlithquho a patent for making of Saltpeter, which wee conceived, as we still doe, to be a wark exceeding necessarie for the good of that kingdome, and wee desired that you might think of the means how it might (without wronging of our subjectis) be best put in executione, but heering from you of some objectiones made by the toune of Edinburgh aganis the same, as wee desire all lafull and faire meanes to be used whareby the said wark may tak effect, soe wee wold have it done in such sort as our subjectis hade noe just caus to complaine: Thairfore our pleasour is, that you call the parties whoe made the said objectiones before you, and that haveing represented unto them hou necessarie the said work is, that you condiscend upon a certane forme how and when sellars may be best searched for saltpeter, that soe good a work may not be hindered, or otherways that you certifie us of your opinione what you think most fitt to be done tharein: And soe we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 day of October 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Ryght, &c.—Whareas the quantitie and price of tithes have been submitted unto us, and that we intend, God willing, verie schortlie to pronounce our decreitt, bieng loath that any persone in the meantime should anywayis suffer by reasone of thare submitting unto us any rigourous course in law that may be

taken against them : Wee doe heirly advertise you to tak such a care of all theis actiones that concerne tithes heaving any relaceone to the said submissiōe that noething be done therein derogatorie to the trust that is reposed in us, ffor we must not suffer any persone for thare confidence in us to have just caus of greeff, giving the like ourdour to other inferiour judicatories for the same effect : And soe bieng confident of your tender care in this, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 of October 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEITH.

Right, &c.—Heaving already sufficientlie aquented you with our mynd concerning your proceeding in the Circuit Courtis, and knowing that the furthering thereof may tend much to the good of our service for the better government of that our kingdome, bieng verie loath that anything throw imprudence should fall out for hindering of the same, Wee have thought upon their estate in thois whoe have regalities, and as wee intend noe wayis to remove them from that which they posses, but by due course of law or equitie shall require, soe wee are verie confident that as they wer intrusted in that charge for administratiōe of justice, soe they will not doe anything that could not be challenged in their courtis, unles they had been omitted by them, And if any persone shall doe otherwayis it shall give us just cans to provide for a remedie ; And yet, out of our respect to thare right, that we may not derogat from the same : Oure pleasoure is, that you and the Judges appointed for the Circuit Courtis, wharupon they are to sitt in any place, doe call unto them the Lordis of the Regalities or thare ballieffis interested in thare boundis, and require them to sitt with them, that both may concur together for administratiōe of justice ; which wee will think of as acceptable service done unto us : And soe wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 day of October 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas there is a contract past betuix ws and . . . the Erle of Anguis concerning the conditiones of marriage betuix the Lord Douglas, his sone, and our cousen Ladye Anna Steuart, dochter to the late Duke of Lennox : Theis are to require you that with all diligece you sie their securities sufficientlie perfectit, that everie one of them may enjoy that which was agreeet vponē : And expecting to heir from you what you have done therein, Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 day of October 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Whereas divers overtouris have been presented unto us in name of . . . the Erle of Sutherland, tuitching the resigning in our favouris his right of the Regalitie and heretable shirrefship of the same, which offices seeming to advance our intendit course for reduceing of heretable offices to our croune, and withall bieng purposes incident to your commisiōe, Wee desire you at some convenient time to tak the same into your consideration, heaving for this purpose sent the said overtouris to be heirwith delivered into you, that you may more lauffully and convenientlie proceed according to the tenour of your commisiōe to satisfie the nobleman in his demand according as you shall think fit, wharein we desire that he may have all the lauffull favour that can convenientlie be granted unto him, and besidhis his former demand that you consider of the soumes of money demandit by him for the said Shirrefship and Regalitie : And we think it fitt, in regard of the example and for the nobleman's gude intentione towardis us, that (if they doe not exceed ane 1000^{li} sterling) you give way unto the same ; And in the meantime that you deall with the said Erle, or with such as have his pouare to bring the said soume to a lower rate, iff soe be you can effect the same : All which wee recommend unto your care, and biddis you, &c.—Whitehall, the 20 day of October 1628.

TO THE PRECEDENT OF COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Bieng informed that notwithstanding of many fair admonitiones given by some of our clergie thare to Sir John Ogilvey of Craig and George Ogilvey, his brother, for the better reclaiming of them from the oppen professione of Popperie and frequent receaving of Preistis and Jesuittis, And that for thare contumacie they are excommunicated by the church, and denounced our rebellis at the command of our counsell; yet they obstinatlie and insolentlie continow in thare former professione, to the great scandall of the religione presently professed, and contempt of our lawes provided in those caices: for remedie whereof, and for the better preventing the like dangerous courses heirefter, Wee have pleased to require you with all convenient diligence you use your best means for apprehending of them, and bieng taken, that you committ them to some of sure wardis, thare to be kept till wee shalbe pleased to signifie our further plesure concerning them; and that you tak the like course with all such other persones whoe give the like just caus of offence, and with whome the like course shalbe desired to be taken by us or our said clergie: Soe we, &c.—Whythall, the 28 of October 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF TITHES.

Right, &c.—Whereas the Right Reverend and Reverend fathers in God the Archebischopps and Bischops of that our kingdome have alreadie submitted unto us to decree what should be the quota of thaire tithes, and hou the inheretouris, takismen, and rentallers of tithes set unto them and thare predecessouris by the saidis Bischopes or thare predecessouris may be secured thareof for payment of what we shal decern: Wee, according to the mutuall course observed by both the tith buyers and sellars in submitting unto us, have heirby thought good to require you to use all ordinarie meens by causing the said inheretouris and other persones foirsaidis to tak the like course, and that you give ordour unto our advocat for drawing up that submissiōe: And whereas wee are informed that thare ar divers tithes belonging unto benefices which are not of cure whose titlouris and heretouris possessing theis tithes have not as yet submittit, according to the said course taken by others; Oure forther plesure is, that you likewayis caus use the ordinarie means to mak them submitt as others have done: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 October 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Sieng it was one of our cheefest intentiones in this bussienes of the tithes that all such Ministers as wer not alreadie sufficientlie provided should have competent stipends allowed them out of the reddiest of the same, that all parochines thought fit to be disunited, and spaceous parochines, thought fit to be divided, should be planted with new commodious paroch churches; and accordinglie provided that competent provisiones should be appointed for ministers and readers of ilk church within the kingdome, that the poore in everie paroch should have some releeff, and that skoolis should be planted tharein: Wee are heerby pleased seriouslie to recommend these purposes unto you that you will soe advert unto them, that our royall intentione thairin be not made ineffectuall, nor that those pious workis be thought to have had noe respect in this generall work: We bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 of October 1628.

TO THE HEIGH COMMISSIONE.

Right Reverend, &c.—Bieng most willing for preventing such evillis as may any wayis, ether directlie or by the consequences, hurt the present estate of religeone presently professed, or be a scandall thareunto,

to have the effect of that commissioun given unto you put in such rewle and practise as the present necessitie of the time doth require : Wee are heerby pleased that haveing assembled yourselfis together you tak ordour with all such persones who are open contemnars of the said religeon, and with persones disconforme to the discipline and canones of the church, and with them to censure and punish all such other offenders as are mentioned in the said commissioun, according to the tennour thareof, wharein wee will expect your care and diligence : And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, 28 October 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas we are informed that by actis of our Privie Counsell thare, and by divers letters from us, it was required that all noblemen's sones whose parentis wer reputed to be disconforme to the present professed religeon should, by the sicht of you and of the Bisshop of the Diocie wharein thare residence was, be bred in the treu groundis thareof ; Which course (as we are informed) hath not taken that wished effect which we expected, and which wer more requisit for the good of that church : Whareupon we are heirby pleased to remitt againe this purpose to your serious consideratione, that the intendit effect thareof may be put in executione, after such maner as you shall think expedient : And withall to recommend unto you M^r Andro Ramsay, Professour of Divinitie (of whose sufficiencie wee have been informed) for heaving the charge of those noblemen's sones, if soe be you shall think it a course fit for that purpose : And whareas we are informed that M^r Robert Bruce hath not kept that ordour which by you was enjoyned unto him, bot hath contravened the samen : Wee heirby effectualle require you that you caus him keep his ounne hous, according to the act of Counsell made in that behalf, till our further plesure tuitching him be signified unto you : So, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 day of October 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF TITHES.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee have presented M^r Andro Ramsay, Professour of Divinitie, to be Sub-deane of our Chappell Royall, a persone verie able for that place, to the effect he may be provided with some compleet mantenance for enabling him to discharge a duetie tharein ; We are hartlie pleased that you or some of you be chosen by yourselfis to consider of all the tithes or other rentis that doe justlie belong unto our said Chappell, and that out of the first and reddiest of the saidis tithes and rentis you provide such competent mantenance for the said M^r Andro as you shall think such a charge doth fitlie require, not prejudging always the Deane and Ministeris of thare competent provisiones, nather these dewties which shalbe thought necessary for keeping and upholding of the said Chappell : And soe, &c.—Whithall, the 28 October 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are informed that George Lauder of Basse, and Dame Issobell Hepburn, Ladie Basse, his mother, do stand our rebell and at our horne at the instance of divers thare creditouris, and notwithstanding thareof doth peacebillie bruk and enjoy some of their rentis, and remain within the Craig of the Bass, presoomes to keep and mantein the same, soe to elude justice and the executione of our lawes, to the manefast contempt of this oure anctoritie : Therefore it is our speciall pleasour that you give ordour to tak and apprehend our said rebellis, and put them in ward within our tolbutie of Edinburgh, ther to remain, aey and whill they give full satisfacione to thare creditouris, and soe relax themselves from our horne : And otherways that you caus the said Craig and Ile of the Bass to be delivered to our herald or our messenger of armes to be kept to the use and behalff of thare creditouris, upon the charge and expensis of the rentis thareof, aey and whill they be satisfied, &c.—Whithall, 28 October 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased to write unto you at divers times of before, anent the passing of that precept grantit by us to . . . the Lord of Lorne for the onerous causes thairin contined, notwithstanding whereof as wee ar informed of yow of some still delay the passing thareof till you acquainted us thareant: And now having hard shortlie from you of some defectis that doe arrise thareby, and have considered the samen, yet being mindfull of his willing surrender made by him in our favouris for which the said precept was granted and of his great affection to our service, Wee are specialie pleased to require you that upon the sight heirof you pas unto him the first precept without any forder delay or impediment, and that you secure him any other maner of way that he shall think necessare for his payment, Whereanent thir presentis shalbe unto you a sufficient warrand.—Whitehall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that . . . John Murray, eldest lauchfull sone to the late Erle of Tilliebardine, is duclie served and retoured narrest and lauchfull heir linealie discendit of umquhill John, Erle of Atholl, and that thareby the title, stile, honour, and dignitie doth justlie apperteen and belong unto him, Whereupone he hath desired our approbatione and patent of confirmatione under our great seall, and being noeways willing to wrong him and his just and lauchfull right, but that the samen may be considered of: Oure pleasour tharefor is, that you tak notice heirof, trye the treuth of his discent, view and peruse the samen, and thareupon draw, forme, and docatt such a signatour as we may signe, and grant heirupon to him for confirmation of his right to the said stile and dignitie and establishment thareof in his persone, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 November 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee understand that . . . Sir James Baillie, Knyght, and Michael Elphinstoune are verie fitt to doe us service in discharging the places of Masters of Houshold thare: Oure pleasour tharefor is, that you draw up to everie one of them such a grant fitt for our hand as will establish them in thare places, and with all fees, casualities, liberties, and duties pertining and belonging thareunto during all the dayis of thare lifetime: And for your soe doing these presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ARDMACH.

Right reverend, &c.—Whereas our deare father, of happie memorie, taking into his most princelie consideratione the good service done unto his Majestie by our weelbeloved Archibald Adayre, in France, to conferr upon him the Deanrie of Raphoe, and intending ane forther preferment for him in the said church, commanded the late Lord Primat in that kingdome to respect him, his Lordship, by lettres appearing unto us, certified our said deare father of the good cariage of the said Dean in the ministerie thare, he in his princelie favour upon the reiding thareof confirmed his former royall intencione unto him tharin: Wee having takine the samen to our princelie consideratione and mynding the furtherance of our deare father's royall intencione towards him for the said fortherance thareanent, are gratuslie pleased to recommend him unto your special care that for our saik yee will respect and assist him in all his lauchfull

ocasions thare untill he shalbe provided for according to our gracious meening touardis him, Wherein you shall doe us acceptable service to be herefter remembered in your lauchfull sutes to us when occasione shall accordinglie serve, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been informed by . . . Sir Alexander Straquhan of Thornetoune, Knight and Baronet, that some partis of our rentis and casualities due to us have been omitted and not duelie accounted for in our Exchequer to our use as was requisit: For remedie whereof and preventing the like inconvenience to be herefter, we have signed a grant and commision to him and his heirs and assignais to search and reteane the samen, they being comptabil of thare intronmissions in our Exchequer, and paying the one half thereof to us free of any charges, to reteane the other half to them selfis for thare panis, charges, and better encouragement to prosecute that service as by our signatour will appeir: Oure pleasure therefore is, that with all diligence you expeed the said signatour under your handis, and give your best concurrence and assistment for the said Sir Alexander and his foirsaidis in all thingis concerning the prosecutione of that our service, and that you reteane such further informatione from our Advocat thareanent as wee shalbe pleased to signifie unto him from time to time: Whereof not doubting bot you wilbe careful, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 November 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

A Letter similar to the above, same date.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the Bishoprik of the Isles is delapidat and a great parte of his rent thereof wrongouslie detined from the Bishop of that Bishoprik, and being most willing that the samen Bishoprik may be restored to the owne integretie wherein it was in former times; And that till such rentis and duties belonging thereunto as are abstracted from the same may be lauchfully recovered according to our royall intencion formerlie signified concerning the church thare; Oure pleasour therefor is, that in all actiones which shall happen to depend before you concerning the said Bisshop of the Isles, you afford unto him all such speedie and lauchfull justice from time to time as the equitie of his caus shall in justice require.—Whitehall, 7 November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas you have been informed that the slaughter of James Ogilvey in Pedull hath been committed by Sir George Ogilvey of Banff in defence of both his life and honour, and for that respect aernest supplicatione hath been made unto us to grant our lettres of remission to the said Sir George, yet considering that nothing imported more both the respect of our Souerane authoritie and the good and quiet of our subjectis then the executione of our lawes made especiallie against malefactoris in criminal causes: Wee therefor altogether refused our lettres of pardone to the said Sir George, notwithstanding of fair and plausible reportis, whereupon wee have been peticeoned: But becaus it importeth alsmuch our justice as our equitie to mitogat sometimes the rigour of our lawes, wee have thought fit to

will you to examine and trye exactlie hou that accident hathe fallen out, and give us such particulare advertesment thereof as thereupon wee may resolve what best becometh our princelie equitie in that case ; And to the effect the said Sir George may have time to recover his indispositione through the woundis received, you may have time to mak exact tryell and informacione of the case to us, and that the parties offended may have leasour to acquent us with that they can say in this case, as wee have hard much in favouris of the said Sir George Ogilvey : Wee have therefor thought fit to will you to command in our name the Ministers of our justice in criminall causis forbear all proceeding against the said Sir George or his complices till such a time as you in your judgment shall think expedient or further during our plesure : Soe expecting to heir from you in this : We, &c.—Whitehall, 7 November 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee understand that Anthonye Alexander, sone to Sir Williame Alexander, our Secretarie for that our kingdome, by his learning and travellis abroad havinge acquired skill in architectorie, is able to doe us service in the place of Master of our workis there : And hearing likewise that James Murray, master of workis, is willing to joyne the said Anthony Alexander with him in the said place, reserving the benefit thereof to himself during his lifetime, Oure pleasoure is, that after conference with the said James Murray and his consent thairunto, that you draw a grant fit for our hand for both joyntlie, to serve in the said place during thair lyves, they havinge all fies and priveledges justlie belonging or fitt to belong thareunto ; and for your soe doing these presentis shalbe your warrant.—Whitehall, the 7 November 1628.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Beinge credibillie informed of the agriement made betuixt . . . the Erle of Murray and Robert Dumbar of Burgie, aent some criminall causes wharewith the said Robert was accused beinge amicablelie composed, we wer thereupon graccouslie pleased to grant ane remissionne to the said Robert Dumbar thereof : And wee now understanding of the said Robert his averse delay in giving content to the said Erle of the said conditiones formerlie agreeet upon as said is : Oure pleasour is therefore that you pas the stopping of the said remissionne through our scallis, untill such time as the said Robert give full satisfacione to the said Erle : For doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the seaventh of November 1628.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Havinge resolved to repair to that our antient kingdome in September last, in regard of the heat then intendit, and of the skarectie of money in our Exchequer, we gave ordour for securing of our Officers of State, whareof such as wer then present did offer to enter in bound for all such moneys as should be thought necessare to be borrowd for our use : But tharefter, understanding by a lettre from you that it was fitt that all whoe hade pensiones or benefeitis of that kind out of our Exchequer should joyn in bound for theis moneys, and that it was expedient a conventionne should be, and a taxatione raised for that purpos : Disliking that course, we gave charge unto the Lord Nepare, our Deputie thesaurer, whoe was heir at that time, to leavie such moneys as should be neidfull for our use, and withall did wryt unto the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, that he should continow in the like kind, intending noe way to derogat any thing from this place give he should be willing to proceed as he hathe begune : Bot now havinge considered of another way more convenient for furthering that purpose then by

borrowing of moneyis, wee have determined (being loath to truble any persone in that kind), not to borrow any money at all at this time : Oure pleasour is, that the warrandis intended for them whoe should have borrowed moneyis for our use be cancelled, and that the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, and the Lord Naper, our Deputie thesaurer, doe proceed in preparing of all charges necessarie during our abroad there, making use of the reddiest moneyis that are or shall come in our Exchequer thare for that purpose, restraining all other paymentis till that be first done, and as they have shewen thare forwardnes alreadie, soe wee hoppe that they wilbe carefull everie one of them according to the charge committed unto them to sie that nothings be wanting that is necessarie for our interteement thare as they have or shall have particulare directione from us : And having conferred at lenth with Sir James Bailzie, whome you sent unto us concerning the preparatiounes for our jorney, we referr to his report what wee have determined therein : Soe being verie confident that you will contribute your best endeavouris, considering such thingis and preparing such necessaries for this purpose, We bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to assigne the payment of Sax thousand pundis sterling granted by our late dear father to . . . Sir William Alexander, our secretary, his airs and assignais, to be payed out of the benefit arysing to us out of the pryces or contented moneyis due by the taxationes, haveing hard from you hou convenient it wer that our share of the pryces for the eneres of our custumes should be lett out with them, according to that overture made by John Peebles for ferming of the custumes, tending soe much to the advancing of our realme, which we wisch to be fordered : We are pleased tharewith, but withall, that the said Sir William be not disapointed of that which doth rest unto him unpaid of the said grant ; Oure plesour is, that having hard from Sir James Bailzie that the said Sir William have resaved out of said prises, or otherways, that you caus our receivers or custumers intromet with the said parte of the prises to our use after such maner as you shall think expedient ; and that you give order that the said Sir William, his airs and assignais, may be payed out of our rentis, custumes, and casualties, or conceilment foirsaidis of the said remander : As likeways in consideratione of his long want of the samen, of that part of the prise wines due unto us which he should have hade, bot was given for payment of the marineris : For doing whereof, and for securing him thereof in any maner you shall think it fitt, these presentis shall be unto you a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased to give ourdour to the Lord Nepare, Deputie Thesaurer, who was heir present for the time, for advancing of such moneyis as was necessarie for our intertinement in that our kingdome during our abroad thare, and heering of your former proceeding, for which we give you hartlie thankis, wee did wreyt unto you likeways for the same effect, soe that it was noeways our intentione to withdraw anything from you that was due unto your charge, bot that bothe should concour together for advancement of our service in preparing of such thingis as warr necessarie for that purpose ; of which wee have conferred at lenth with Sir James Baillie, whoe will report unto you what we have determined therein, to whome you may give trust : And now having resolved to borrow noe moneyis, as was intendit at this time, bot to be furnesit with our oune ; Oure pleasour is, that you proceed freeilie and carefullie togither, everie one according to the duetie and trust belonging unto his charge, for thinking and preparing all such thingis as are necessarie for our intertinement in that our said kingdomè, and aernstlie desire

you to continow your care in that service, which soe much concerneth us and the honour of our antient kingdome: Soe recommending us unto your speciall care, Wee, &c.—From Whitthall, the 7 of November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have appointed Circuit Courtis to be for the better administratiōne of justice in that our kingdome, whareby ther may arrise, as wee are informed, divers and sindrie fines and amerciaments, and being willing that the same may be collected and uptaken by our thesaurer, or his deputtis whome he shall appoint for that effect, as the custume and form that ever hath been; Oure pleasoure tharefor is, that you give ordour to the wholl Judges and Clarkis that are appointed to goe upon the said Circuit Courtis, to caus our said thesaurer, or his said deputties, be readielie ansuered of the wholl fines which shall arrise thareby, and which shalbe imbrought by them to our Exchequer thare for our use, out of the which moneyis wee will that to be first payed which was given by us to the Lord of Lorne for dimitting of his office of Justiciarie, according to his grant; and that you caus the saidis Clarkis give furth extractis continuing the names of the saidis persones fined, the caus, and soumes of moneyis wharein they are decerned. Wee, recommending this unto your speciall care, bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the tenth of November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing been moved by . . . the Erle of Craford, in name of the King of Sweden, from that our kingdome for his better supplie in the warres, wharein he at this time is ingadged: And in regard (as we are informed) of the good opinione that he hath conceaved of former experiences of such as are borne in that kingdome: Oure plesure is, that you grant unto the said Erle of Craford, or to any other whome he shall appoint a commissione, with such a sufficient warrant to leavie and transport three thousand men for the purpose abovesaid, with touking of drumes and other priveledges as any Generall, Commander, or Colonell have had heirtofore, he alwayis giving sufficient content to the said number as he shall agrie upon betuix him and them according to the custume heirtofore: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the tenth day of November 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Haveing according to our first determinatione resolved to reduce the superiorities of such vassallis as hold of erectiones to hold imediatlie of our self that they may depend onlie upon us, wee are verie willing that this purpos may tak effect: But in regard wee cannot dennd the superiouris of such superiorities till they be first satisfied for the same, and that wee cannot convenientlie spare moneyis for that purpose at this time, hearing that sindrie of the saidis vassallis are willing to furnes the money whareby thare few-dewties may be bought from thare said superiouris: Wee will you to deal with them whom you know to be soe disposed, that taking suretie for thare performance you may acquent us tharewith, that haveing freed them presently, without attending the issue of the generall course, wee may tak notice of thare forwardnes to doe us service: And soe recommending this to your care, We bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 10 of November 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDARS.

Right, &c.—Haveing considered of the course that you have taken for the more speedie valuatione of the heretouris estates, and that the trew tithes may be known by appointing the Presbeteries throughout

all the kingdome to mak choice out of every one of them of such a number of persones fit for that purpos as you have condiscendit upon, Wee like verie weell of the same; and to that effect that noe delay may be occasioned by appellations from them to the great commissione, but that thare report may have trust, Oure pleasoure is, that you give unto such as shalbe chosen Commissioners full and absolute pouare for proceeding to mak the valuations of the constant rent of the saidis heretouris estates, after the maner of tryall that hath been heirtofore by you agreed upon at your last meeting, admitting them and giving them charge to prosecute the service enjoynt unto them with due consideratione, and with such indifferencie that noe persone, in soe farr as in them lyethe, may have just caus to complaine: And if any persone after they have determined therein shall complaine, Wee are weell pleased (if a parliament shall find by good evidences that any partie is wronged, ather by any mistaking of the said commissioners or by any particularitie in them) to appoint a commission to be chosen by the parliament, with pouare to them to determin in those particulare complaintis as they shall find the caus in equitie to require: And this wee command to be done iff you doe not adverteis us of a better way for the expediting of this great busienes before the 20 day of December nixt ensueing: Soe expecting a speedie ansuer of this our lettre, wee bid you fareweel.—Whitehall, the tenth of November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been informed of divers slaughters latelie committed in the north partis of that our kingdome, whereof in regard of the different reportis, wee did remitt the triall unto you: And now heiring from . . . the Erle of Murray that the tryall and judging thereof doth belong unto him be vertew of his commissione granted by us, and that he accordinglie thareto hath cited the parties offenders to ansuer in his Courtis to underlye the law, of which some compirand did find catione for that effect, and others not compirand wer denounced our rebellis: And yet being informed that the same parties have been of late likewayis cited before our Justice to ansuer as law will: Wee are heirby pleased to certifie unto you that wee intend noe way to withdraw from the said Erle nether the forsaid priveledge nor any other which doeth duelie belong unto him by vertew of his said right, but are willing that he enjoy the same and all others belonging to his said commissione, soe long as wee shalbe pleased to continow the samen: And in the meantime our plesour is, that in all things which you shall find duelie belonging unto the said Erle by his said commissione, you discharge the ministers of our justice from proceeding against the fairsaid persones, offenders, and that all tryell and judging of them be remitted unto him according to the samen commissione: For doing whereof, &c.—Whythall, the 19 of November 1628.

TO THE CHANCELLAR AND ADVOCAT.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed of the unfortunat slaughter comitted by Sir George Ogilvey of Banff, Knight, whereof, in regard of the different reportis, we remitted the tryell unto our counsell by a lettre: Heiring from . . . the Erle of Murray that the tryell and judging thereof, with the benefitt of the escheitt of the said Sir George and his complices (if it fall), doth belong unto him by vertew of that commissione grantit by us to him; Wee are pleased heirby to certifie unto you that wee intend noe way to withdraw from the said Erle nather his casualities nor any other which you shall find duelie belonging unto him by vertew of his right fairsaid, but are willing that he enjoy the samen, and all other casualities belonging to his said commissione, soe long as we shalbe pleased to continow the samen: And soe we bid, &c.—Whithall, the Nynteinth of November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas in regard of the different reportis made unto us of the late feyght betwene the Lairdis of Ballendalloch and Carone, wharein the said Carrone and tuoe of his partners wer killed outright and sindrie others wounded to deathe, Wee wer formerlie pleased to remitt the tryell thereof to you by our lettre, which lettre, as wee are informed, hath been kept bak or not delivered to you in due time, whareby the said Carone his freendis hath taken occasione to persue and summond old Ballendalloche, with a great number of his freendis, before our Justice, to underlye our lawes, to thare great hurt and damage: In consideratione whareof, we are heirby pleased to require you again that you call before you bothe the saidis parties, granting to ether of them such warrant (if neid be) that they may compeir as you think requisit; and that after due examination, havinge tryed the treuth of the same accident, you certifie the same unto us, that thereafter we may give ordour therein as the course of justice doth require: And in the meantime, till this mater be fullie cleered, wee have thought fitt to will you to command, in our name, the Ministers of our justice in criminall causes whatsoever forbear all proceeding against ether the saidis parties and thare complices, till such time as you in your judgment shall think expedient, or forther during our plesour: See expecting to heir from you in this, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 19th November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . the Erle of Nithsdale did receive four thousand poundis sterling for leavieing and transporting from that our kingdome some forces for our uncle the King of Denmark his better supplie in the warres, wharein he is at this time engaged: And since it was weell knownen that the said Erle did not onlie bestowe the said 4000^{li} realie to that use, bot that the forces levied and trasported by him stood to the said Erle to a great deall of more charges then the said 4000^{li}: Oure pleasure therefore is, that you discharge the said Erle and . . . Sir James Baillie (who became souertie for the employment of that mouey in those leavies) of the wholl conditiones whareto they are bound by ane act for the said moneyis and leavie see conditioned: For doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 27th November 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie moved upon petitione from the Ylanders to write unto you, and signifie that . . . the Lord of Lorne natheraught nor could hold his Justice Courtis for the Shirfedome of Innernes but within the toune of Innernes, Nor for the Tarbet but within the Tarbet of Lochkerren: And now beinge peticeoned by the said Lord of Lorne, and considering of the manefold difficulties that may arise thareby, Wee have thought good to remit both the saidis parties unto you, that (havinge called them, or thare commissioners in thare name, before you) you may mak choice of that place which you in your judgment shall think most commodions for the said Lord as Judge, and for the said Ylanders thare ase, without prejudice always to him to hold his courtis within thare boundis or shirfedome as occasione shall offer: All which recommendinge to your special care, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 November 1628.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF RENTS HEER PRESENT.

It is oure speciall pleasure that you as deputie-thesaurer and remanent commissioners of our rentis of our kingdome of Scotland heir present at court, and everie one of you, upon sight heirof, doe signe with

your handis our commissione of the dait the 7 of this instant, granted to Sir Alexander Straquan, Knyght, for collecting the omissions and concealmentis of our rentis and casualties (which was debated in our presens and condiscendit to by you), whenever the samen shalbe presented to you, ether being conveyed together or severallie : Whereunto this presentis shalbe unto you and everie of you a sufficient warrant.—Whitehall, the 27 November 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATHE.

Right, &c.—Whereas understanding that the ministeris of Edinburgh have hitherto deferred the administratiōne of the holie sacrament to thare people by reason of the factious and turbulent dispositiōne of certane persones within the congregatiōnes that doe refuse to communicat with them, and knowing noe reasone why those that are obedient should for the contempt of others be defrauded thereof, Wee have willed and required them, without forther delay, to doe thare duties in administratiōne of the Sacrament : Lykas wee have required the Magistratis of that toun to look to ther people and sie that no disorder be amongis them, but that all give thare obedience in communicating with thare pastouris : As also have written to the Lordis of Sessione (whome it becometh to goe before others in example of obedience as they doe in place) that they appoint all the members of the Judicatorie to adress themselves to the participatiōne of the holie Sacrament with the rest of the people, and that they themselffis communicat together in the churche off S^t Geillis to the end that others by thare obedience may learne to observe the ordour preseryved in that case : Soe wee have thought fitt to desire you in particulare to be present and countenance that holie actiōne participating with the rest, which wee shall esteem as good and acceptable service done upon your part unto us : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 November 1628.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOP AND BISCHOPPS.

Right, &c.—Whereas by act of commissione for surrenders, it being ordored for the better and more speedie valuations of the heretouris estates that the Presbyteries with that our kingdom shall nominat Sub-Commissioners for making of the said valuatione, Wee have been pleased to determine that the said Sub-Commissioneris to be nominat be the Presbyteries shall have absolute pouare to mak the said valuations without appellatiōnes from them to the great commissione, and that thare report shall have trust ; And if any persone after they have determined tharein should complaine, wee have been likewayis pleased (if a parliament should find by good evidences that any partie is wronged, ether by any mistaking of the said Commissioneris or by any particularitie in them) to appoint a commissione to be chosen by the parliament, with pouare to them to determine in theis particulare complaintis, as they shall find the caus in equitie to require : And since the expeditiōne of this bussienes doth see much concern the weell of that our kingdome and the good of the church thare ; Wee have thought good to require you that you caus all the ministers of the Presbyteries within your dyocies use all convenient diligence in presenting the course for nominating and choosing of the said sub-commissioneris : And whereas thare shalbe necessitie in any of theis Presbyteries of the concurrence and presens of any of your selfis that you doe not withdraw from the same, but be present as occasiōne shall require : And in doing thereof both you and the ministers of the saidis Presbyteries will doe unto us ane acceptable service, and whereof we shall tak speciall notice : We bid, &c.—Whithall, 27 November 1628.

TO THE MINISTERS OF EDINBURGH.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we understand that you have hitherto deferred the administratiōne of the holie Sacrament to your parochiners by ressonne of the factious and turbulent dispositiōne of certane

persones within your congregaciones that refused to communicat with you, as we cannot denye bot you have some ressonne to desire that non of your congregaciones should separat themselves from the comunione ; Soe on the other side we sie no cans why they whoe are obedient should for the contempt of others be defrauded, though the number wer greater then wee conceived it to be : These are therefore to will and require you, without any forther delay, to doe your duties in administratiōne of the sacrament, and gine any shall withdraw them selffis, wee shall mak them find what it is to disobey our lawes by intertining divisiōne to the contempt of God and us : Which recommending unto your care (as you wold have us to reteen that good opinion we have of you), Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 November 1628.

TO THE TOUNE OF EDINBURGH, AND THE SESSIONE.

Two Letters upon the same subject of the same date.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPP AND BISCHOPPS.

Right, &c.—Whereas being peticeoned by your commissiōne of the Bischopp of Rose to give way to the presenting of the censures of the Church against the insolent and obstinat sort of papistis, who contemning all good ordour wil not suffer themselves to be reclaimed, and being complanet unto by divers persones, that some particulare persones are put to the censure of the church, and others noe les, bot, rather more, guiltie are overseene : Wee have tharefor thought good to impart our mind unto you heiranent, which is that wee doe approve your proceedingis against the said insolent and obstinat sort : Soe for eshewing the imputatiōne of partialitie, we think it noewayis ressonable that you should persew some particulare persones overseing others being alike guiltie, which houping yee will amend in keeping ane indifferent and impartiall course heirefter : Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, 27 November 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have bene often peticeoned by the vassallis of Marr and Garrioch for granting of our cencurrance, by appointing ane advocat to compeir with them for our interest in the actione perseued by the Erle of Marr and the Lord Erskyne, his sone, against them, wherein as we wilbe loth to neglect that which may concern our oune interest, soe on the other parte wee are not willing to shew ourselves a partie with one of our oune subjectis against another before our interest do appeir, bot are willing to leaff them both indifferentlie to the ordinarie course of justice : Wherefore our plesour is, till such time as we shalbe pleased to insist that our interest or right may appeir by such legall meens as we think fitt, and that yee shall call before you the Erle of Marr and the Lord Erskine, his sone, and require them to mak a declaratiōne in your presens to be insert in the proces, or what other way you shall think fitt, that whatsoever shalbe the event of that actione perseued by them against the saidis vassallis of Marr and Garioch, it shall no wayis prejudice us of any interest we may pretend whensoever the samen shall appeir : This being done, and they haveing gottine such satisfactiōne concerning our interest ; Oure plesour is, that you proceed and minister justice without delay or any respect of persones according to the equitie of the caus and the lawes of that our kingdome : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 day of December 1628.

TO THE CLARK OF REGISTER.

Letter upon the same subject, and of the same date.

TO THE THESAURER AND THESAURER DEPUTIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas we wer formerlie pleased in regard of the great care, vigilance, and pains taken by Margaret Steuart, our nurse, in our infancie, and of the long time she hath attendit us heir, expecting a reward for the same to hir great lose, to grant unto hir and Frances Russell, hir sone, a yeirlic pensione of 200^{li}. sterling, to be payed out of the reddiest of our rentis within that our kingdome during ther liffetimes, shoe hath returned bak unto us, humble shewing that notwithstanding of our said gift, shoe hath received no part thereof, nor can have satisfacione at all untill you heir from us concerning the same: Therefor our plesour is, that you pay or caus be payed unto hir the said pensione of 200^{li}. out of the reddiest of our rentis yeirlic and termelic, as weell the time bypast as to come, conforme to our said gift, notwithstanding of any former restraint made by us concerning the payment of pensiones: And for your see doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 day of December 1628.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Although we wer formerlie pleased to grant unto the men of the Iles a remissione for all faulties preceeding the dait of our right of the Lord of Lorne his infetment of Justiciar, yet finding by the Bischop of the Iles that he hath sindrie bussienes to doe with them, concerning the restitutione of the said Bischoprik to the'oune integretie wharein it was in former times, which we doe verie much affect, for the good of the church: Wee have therefore thought good to require you to continow these remissions ether untill the said Bischop resave satisfacione or our further plesour be knouen. Which recommending to your specialle care, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 of December 1628.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE'S FREINDIS.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have been divers times informed by . . . the Lord of Lorne of your due concurrence and assistance of him in the peaceabill keeping of Argill and neighbouring partis, about wharewith (though wee did expect noe les at your handis) we culd not but be weell pleased, and whareof we shall not be unmyndfull whan occasione shall offer for your good: Soe we desire you to continow in the like good service and assisting of the said Lord in what shall concerne our service, or his oune weel, as we shall think it acceptable service done unto us: And we bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 of December 1628.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . Sir James Livingstone has been soe long abroad in our service beyond sea, and lickleie that he could nather manage soe weell thare his privat estate, nor possible receive payment of a pension granted unto him by our late dear father, as he might have done iff he had stayed at home: And being ever willing that he should be payed of that which was intendet for him, Oure plesour is, therefore, that yee pay unto him not onlie the arrerages of the said pensione, bot likways the samen yeirlic and termelic, according to his grant thareof, soe soone as yee can convenientlie doe the samen: And for your see doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 of December 1628.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that the sub-deanrie of Glasgow, consisting of the Kirk of Calder and Monkland, have been this divers heirs bygone destitit of ane minister, whare the parochinars

have nether hard the word of God taught, nor the Sacramentis and discipline ministred unto them, for thare comfort and better instructiōne : And in regard thareof, haveing our trustie and weelbeloved servand and Chaplen M^r Walter Whiteford recommendit unto us as ane qualified and sufficient preacher, and therefore thought fit to admitt him tharto, we haveing been pleased to sing presently unto him ane presentatione thareto : Theis are therefore to will and require you, if noething be objected against his qualifieatione or conformitie to the present discipline of the parochie, that with all convenient speed you admit the said M^r Walter to the said sub-deanerie without any further delay or excuse whatsoever, according to our said presentatione : And in soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the nynt of December 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that one Davidsons being declared fugitive for the crime of adulterie, the Commissioners of our Exchakker thare did grant unto him a remissionē gratis, upon his promeis to goe to the warres in Germanie, and not to return to those partis whare he by his leud behavoure had been formerlie offensive, whoe, notwithstanding thareof, falsieficing his promeis, and abusing that our favour, did not at all goe to the warres, but returned to his former abod and cariage, and being therefore cited before you, for his non-compirance being declared fugitive, thare was ane commissione granted to certane persones for apprehending of him, whome our . . . chaplen M^r Walter Whiteford, in the executione thareof, as wee are likewayis informed, was most contemptuouslie opposed by a number of leud persones, whoe not onlie did receau and assist the said rebell, but, without respect to our said commissione, did invade and hurt some of the persones assisting the executione thareof, and sedicewuslie did steir upp others to joyn with them in that thare seditiōne, to the great contempt of our authoritie and lawes : For remedie whareof, and for the preventing of the like dangerous caisses heirefter, We are specialie pleased to require you that you call before you all such persones whoe did receive and assist the said rebell in opposing of our said commissioun ; and after the triall of thare said misdemanour, that you tak such ordour with thame, according to the nature of thare offence, as may mak those to abstean from doing the like ; and that yee give ordour for apprehending the said rebell, and inflict on him such forder punishment for abusing of our said favour and opposing our said commissione in maner foirsaid, by and attour the said former punishment which you did injoyne upon him in the time of the granting of the said commissione : Which recommending to your special care, wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the nynt day of December 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEITH.

Right, &c.—Haveing understood the good service you have done us in setting the Circuit Courtis which wee recommendit unto you, and being desirous to have your advise in some other thingis concerning our service, wee wish you presently that wee may have oportunitie to confer with you ; But becaus we know yee cannot convenientlie be spared for the present from our service, wee remitt you to your oune consideratiōne in the making and choising of ane fit time for your reparing hither, which shalbe verie acceptable unto us ; And soe we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the nynt of December 1628.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we wer formerlie pleased to give ordour unto you that our thesaurer and deutie thesaurer may be protectit in preparing of all charges necessarie during our abod thare, making use of the reddiest moneyis that are or shall come into our exchakquer thare for that purpose, and retining all

other paymentis till that be first done ; yet understanding there are some domestick fees and pensiones restand unpayed to our officiaris of state for managing of our affairs and our Judges for thare continowall attendance thare, and to diyers of our Privie Chamber for thare continowall attendance upon our persone heir : And in regard thereof, being ever willing that they should be satisfied of that which was intendit for them, Oure pleasure is, that you pay unto them thare saidis pensiones and fies according to thare severall grantis thareof, yeerlie and termelie, as weel the time bypast as to come, with such convenient diligence as the necessitie of our effairs will permitt : For doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the Twelfth of December 1628.

TO THE ADMIRALL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been humble peticeoned by the Ambassedour of the Estates of the United Provinces, in the name of the owners of the twoe shippis the S^t Peter and the Green Lyon of Amsterlame, shewing how that thare voage from Langsone, in Norriway, towards the strattes, taking for thare readie way the bakside of Scotland and Irland, to avoid the danger of Dunkerkeris, thay wer taken by the Northend of Scotland by Capten Andro Watsone, whoe alledging himself to be one of our Captens, they yeeldit unto him, thinking thareby to be saiff from others whoe went with comuissiones abroad : He haveing taken them did put the Masters and mariners ashore upon the Ile of Orknay, where they wer with charetable help and releeff of the Bischopp thareof put over to Caithnes, and cam with great truble and miserie to Leith, in that our kingdome, whare they found thare shippes, and after wer imprissoned by you, untill upon the intercessione of others they wer interleaced, as may appeer by the peticeone unto us, which we have sent you heirwith : In consideratione whareof, and in regard of that long esteemed freendship between us and the present estates, Wee are heirby pleased specialie to recommend the saidis parties' caus unto you, that after due examinatione haveing found the same to be such as is affermed, you may afford unto them all such lauchfull favour and speedie justice as thare caus shall require, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of December 1628.

TO SIR ARCHEBALD ACHESONE.

Letter requesting him to repair to court.—Whitehall, 12 December 1628.

[No ADDRESS.]

Whereas in regard of our intentione to repare to that our kingdome of Scotland for the causes and at the time already appointed to that effect, that all preparationes necessarie may be made in due time, we have given ordour that our Thesaurer and Thesaurer Deputie may proceed tharein everie one of them to the charge and trust committed unto them : Understanding that some thingis are necessarie to be furnesit from hence out of our wardrop, and a sufficient quantitie of confectiones, which may be more convenientlie hade heir then in Scotland, Oure pleasure is, that yee, our Chancellare Secretarie, and Sir James Fullertoune, doe meet, and after due consideratione condescend what is fitt to be furnesit out of our Wardropp ; as likeways that, haveing hard our servitour Sergeant Welthew concerning that bargane agriet unto by our thesaurer deputie and him for confectiones, after due tryell, iff you find it for our profiteit, that you allow the same ; or otherways, if you find it not to prove soe, that you certifie us the estate of that, and that with all diligence you agrie upone a better bargane, and that immediathe tharefter the said thesaurer-deputie and Sir James Bailzie with all diligence repaire to our said kingdome to tak care of such thingis importing our service as the said Thesaurer Deputie's place, and the said Sir James Paillie his particulare directiones from us, in answer of that which was recommendit by him to us from our counsell, doe desire ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 13 day of December 1628.

TO THE ERLE OF HOOME.

Right trustie, &c.—Whereas there was a course taken by our late dear father for composing the differences betuix your late dear father and Johne Steuart of Coldinghame concerning the priorie thareof, conform quhairunto the said Johne hath given satisfacione of all the soume appointed, as wee are informed, onlie of ane fourt part thareof; ffor not payment whareof, as wee are likeways informed, if yee will prosecut extremitie of law aganis him, he is lickle to lose both all that he hath given and the benefit intendit to him by the said benefece; though wee are confident that you will not use any such rigourous course for the owing of one whom wee are careful to supplie, as may appeir by our bountay extendit towards him; Yet these are to will and require you to leaff off insisting aganis the said Johne for repossessing yourself again to the said Priorie of Coldinghame till yee shall heare further from us: And we will have a care to sie you not onlie fullie satisfiet of the remanent of the soume due by him unto you, and wholl annueties thareof, but of the arrerages of all such rentis and dueties as are likeways due by the said Johne to you out of the said Priorie, which wee will tak as a great courtesie done unto us: And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 16 day of December 1628.

TO THE ADVOCAT, AND TO THE SESSIONE.

Two letters upon the said subject.—Whitehall, 16 December 1628.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas it is complaned unto us by James Lindsay of Bellstane that in his absence abroad in our service the Laird of Lamingtoune hath most wrongouslie troubled his tennentis and seruandis in those possessiones of a moore thare, as yet undevidet betuix . . . the Marqueis of Hammiltoune and him, and whareof the saidis James and his predecessouris have been these many yeers bygane in peaceable possessione: In consideratione whareof, and for that the said James could not appeir in his oune cause for seeking redres according to our lawes, Oure pleasour is, that you call the said Laird of Lamengtoune before you, and after due tryell taken by you of the said James Lindsay his complaintis, iff you find them to be such as is affermed, that then you tak not onlie a course to sie him redressed of what he hath suffered according to the course of law, but likeways you caus the said Laird of Lamengtoune find sufficient suretie actit in your bookis that the said James' mentennentis and seruandis shalbe from hencefurthe secured from any truble that may unjustlie come unto them by his means, under such pane as you shall think expedient: Which recommending to your special care, We, &c.—Whitehall, the 16 day of December 1628.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Though it be nowayis our intentione to hinder the ordinarie course of justice, yet the case of . . . the Duke of Lennox in the actione depending before you between him and Sir James Kneeland, is soe considerable for sindrie caussis that wee cannot but earnestlie write unto you to have a special care, that our said cousen suffer not by the prosecution of that proces before you, which can onlie be cleered in this our kingdome where the bargane was made, and where it is lickle to be made appeir that the said Sir James hath noe just caus to persue, for the band questioned befor you received satisfacione for the samen from the late Duke of Richemond, notwithstanding whareof he is alledged fraudulentlie to have concealed the samen during the said late Duke, his liftime: And therefore theis are

to require you that there be no further proceeding in that cause till it be first tryed heir (whare the said band was made and the said debt to be payed) what further light can be hade in this mater, which we shall caus to doe with diligence, that tharefter (having certified the samen unto you) you may afford all such speedie justice tharein as the course of law will permitt.—Whitchall, 5 January 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF HADINGTONNE.

Right, &c.—Amongis many other good services done by yow unto our late dear father and unto us wee cannot but verie hartly acknouledge your affectione expressed unto our service, not only by using your best endeavouris for aiding to leavie men as was recommendit by us unto you, but likewayis in sending your oune sone with a companye in persone, whoe hath behaved himself in his charge as we have taken particulare notice thareof, which we will mak knouen by the effectis herefter when wee can convenientlie do it : And soe, being confident in your accustomed care of all thingis that may further our service, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of Januar 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have both hard and found by experience your affectione for furthering of our service ever litherto : And withall being informed of your great care and diligence in ferming and letting out of our custumes and in managing of our affaers thare, ffor which (though wee did expect no les at your hand) we rander to you hartlie thankis, and whareof we will not be unmyndfull when occasione shall offer, whareby we may expres our respect unto you : Soe wee desire you to continow in the like good services as you have begune in preparing all necessaris for our entertaynment during our aboad in that our kingdome : And whareas we are informed by . . . Sir James Baillie, Knyght, that you have borrowed great soumes of money for repairing of our houses thare, wee are verie weill pleased that you be repayed out of the first and reddiest of our rentis, custumes, casualities, taxationes, or any other money that shal belong unto us heirafter ; And in the meantime that you caus our Exchequer thare secure you thareof in such forme and maner as you shall think most fitt : And in regard (for the better ences of our said custumes) . . . Sir William Alexander, Knyght, our secretarie for that our kingdome, is content to renunce all such interest as he hath to the prises thare by a preceeding warrand from us, Oure plesour is, that you accept of any such renunciacione as shalbe maid by him or any other in his name thareof ; And in the meantime that you caus pay unto him with all convenient diligence the remanender of that soume due to have been payet to him by the said prises or otherwayis ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of Januarj 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon good considerationes moving us, we have been pleased to send thither the wholl Scottis Companies which have been abroad in our service, to be traned up and manteyned thare till wee shalbe pleased to employ them again : Yet considering this cannot be commodiously performed, unles some convenient places be made choise of for this purpose, Oure plesoure is, that (after deu consideratione) you may mak choise of such places as you in your judgment shall think most expedient, whare the said Companies may be traned upp during our plesour : And withall that you be very careful to caus them be furnesit with all such provisione and other necessaris at as aesie a rate as you think may be best granted : Which recommending to your care, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 5 of January 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—According to a lettre directit from our Counsell unto us by . . . Sir James Bailye of Lochend, Knight, we have given ordour for such provisiones as ar necessarie for our intertyme during the time of our aboad within that our kingdome, wharein wee will you to trust the said bearer, and particularly of the course wharewith we may be served with wyne, wharein we have imparted our plesour to him : And wee have caused the said Sir James and M^r David Fullertoune, one of the receavers, agrie with Robert Welthew, serjant of our confectiourie, for furnessing off all sortis of confectiones in such quantitie and of such severall kindis as is thought requisit : And in regard our said serjant hade formerlie made a bargane with Archibald Neparé for this purpose, which after due consideratione wee have discharged, and ordain the indentour and bakband given to the said serjant to be produced and cancellit by you, and for suiting the particulars that hathe procedit concerning this purpos to the said Sir James Balzie ; And desiring you to certifie us bak of any thing anent the premissis, that yee shall think worthie of our knowlegement, wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, 15 January 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Having received your lettre concerning the insolent behavoure of some papists in the northe, and of your proceeding for remedie thereof ; ffor your care whareof wee give you hartlie thanks, and as we are sorie that our lenittie with them should have produced noe better effectis : Soe wee did think that the clergie havinge had the care due to thare charge, and that our laues havinge been put in executione against such persones, it wold have prevented theis disorderis before they could have come to such a height, and wee doe think that ordour may be quicklie taken heirwith, you havinge good lawes for that effect, which wee will you put in executione, according as the nature of the offence shall require : And if any shirreff or other officiar whatsomever shall neglect the doing of that which he hath in charge from you as doeth belong unto his place, wee will upon further advertisement from you, not only give ordour to any persone or persones with such authoritic as you shall think it fitt, for apprehending and punishing of the persones complaned upon, but likeways to tak ordour with any such magistrat or other officiare as shal happin to have neglected his charge heirin : And soe, wishing you to continou your care as you have begune, and to alverteis us after yee find the effectis or the directione alreadie given, what further you advise us to doe, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 day of January 1629.

Letter in similar terms, dated 23d January 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been petitioned by Sir William Montethe of Kerse, Knight, and his Ladie, humble shewing that being engaged to divers thare creditouris in sindrie soumes of money, they cannot convenientlie give that satisfacione which they are willing, unles we be pleased to grant unto them a competent time, frie from the executione of the rigour of our lawes, for performance thareof, intending within the said space to tak a course for giving satisfacione to ther creditouris, which goodlie we culd not have refused unto them, if the Bischopp of Rosse hade not informed us of thare disconformity from the treu religione presently professed within that our kingdome, for which the church hath them presently under proces : Wherefor, least others of that professione, under the like pretext, should importune us, wee refused to grant thare said peticeone, unles they shall compeir before you and give sufficient assurance that within the space of sex monethes they shall conforme themselves to the treu religeon, oterwayis that they shall remove themselves out of that our kingdome, and that during the said space they shall

behave themselves in such sort as they shall doe nothing contrarie to our lawis, nor give no caus of open skandell, nor no other offence to our church and cuntrie; And in the meantime that they use such lauchfull ordinarie means for thare instructiouns and reclaiming as the church shall think fitting to preseryve: But if they shall compeir before you and find sufficient suretie to the effect foirsaid, and that they tak a resonabill course for the payment of the debtis owing by them to thare creditouris within the said space, then our plesure is, that during the said tyme of sax monethes, and of thare good cariage tharein in maner foirsaid, the rigour of our lawes in any maner be not execute against them: And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 January 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that the Landis sountyme called the Coynehous, neir our Pallace at Halyrudhous, is lyen waist and not as yet repared, and understanding that it is necessarie for lodjing and receaving some of our trayne, and decoring that part of our outward court that the saidis boundis wer buildit and repared, against our comming to that our kingdome: And knowing that the Lord Naper hath laid out soume moneyis in repairing of the ould houses within the saidis boundis, formerlie belonging to William Murray, cadger, which cannot be resumed whill first he be satisfied of what he hath debursit reallie, according to the clause of requisitiouns contined in his heretabill gift, and the treu meaning of the lettres direct thareanent to you: Oure pleasure tharfore is, that after you have taken tryell, after such maner as you shall think fitting, of what the said Lord Naper hath bestowd and debursit upon the said work, you give present ordour for his satisfactioun; and that thairefter (resuming the said hous for our use) you tak the most speedie course for repairing and building the remanender of the saidis boundis, which we wish to be soe contrived that after our parting from thence they may serve for an Exchequer hous and sufficient ludgingis both for our thesaurer-deputie and tuoe receivers, and for chambers of the clarkis of our Exchequer, that they may the better attend thare severall charge of service wharewith they are entrusted, as particularelie we have declared our mynd to Sir James Baillie, whome we have willed to confer with you thareanent: And soe, trusting this to your care, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 of January 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are latlie pleased, in regard of the good and faithfull service done unto our late deir father by Sir John Seatone, Knight, and our willingnes to encourage him in the like good service to ws heirefter, to bestowe upon him ane yeirly pensione of 200^{li} sterling, to be payed out of the first and reddiest of our rentis within that our kingdome, as our gift grantit by us to him thareupon will shew, therefore our plesure is, that you caus expeed the said guift throu the seallis, and tharefter give him satisfactioun frome time to time, conforme thareunto, soe sone as convenientlie you may: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 January 1629.

TO THE MARQUES OF HAMILTOUNE.

Right, &c.—Whereas, God willing, we are to repair shortlie to that our antient kingdome, and doe desire that all thingis necessarie for our enterteinment during the time of our abode thare may be providet with all conveniencie in due time: Oure plesour is, that you have our Palace of Halyrudhous free from all encombrances, and readie to be disposed upon by our gentleman Usher, whome we shall appoint for that purpos: In doing whareof thir presentis, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 of January 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to approve your cours in making chose of sub-commissioners, desiring withall that as they should be chosen by the presbeteries of men best esteemed of for thare sufficiencie, soe that trust might be reposed in them for that which they should agree upon, unles they should advertis us of a better way for the more speedie dispatche of the bussienes, Though by your answere you have represented unto us the conveniencie of appellatione from the said sub-commissioners to the great commissione; yet we hope, God willing, that betuix nixt meeting after the receipt heiroff and the parliament, the time wilbe soe short that the making of the Sub-Commissioners and of others our lieges apprehend a truble and attendance by reamiding of thare proceedingis may doe more harme by discouraging of them then it can doe good by any new travell thareby in preparing the mater for the parliament: Therefore our plesour is (according to our first intentione), that the most honest men in everie part being made choise of for Sub-Commissioners, and haveing absolute trust they may prosecute the service enjoyned unto them, and after they have ended that which is recommendit unto thare charge, that they retorne and report and give ane accompt unto you of what they have done, that as it is expected to be with all fairenes and indifferencie in that which may concern the trew value in any maner whareby they may best informe themselves, soe it may be seen that it be not prejudiciall to the church in that which is intended for thare good, nor to us in that which is intended for the encreas of our revenue: And then if any momentall thing in any of the premissis have need to be remedied, wee will give ordour to our parliament to tak a course for the samen as the caus after due consideratione shall require: And soe willing you to proceed in other things belonging unto your commissione that may finish or facilitat them before the parliament, Expecting your diligence and accustomed endeavouris, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 of January 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Whereas you have written unto us hou you think it convenient that thare should be a generall production of all tithes of teyndis whatsoever before the commissioners or to our advocat, as that course may prove expedient and resonable wher ether our advocat for our interest or that any persone justlie interested for securing himself doth require the samen: Soe in our judgment we think it not necessarie that a generall productione without any limitatione at all be appointed, which may put many of our subjectis against thare will to ane unnecessary charge: But becaus many considerationes therein may occur unto you wherewith wee are not acquainted, wee are willing to heire your desires concerning the same, but will not have you to proceed in any thing anent the generall productione till we be first satisfieit by reasones from you thairament, &c. [No date.]

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—In regard of the treu and faithfull service done unto our late deir father and us by . . . Thomas, Erle of Kellie, and for divers others respectis, we are willing to gratifie Elizabeth Moubray, his grandchild, for furthering of hir marriage by bestowing upon hir the benefitt of ane ward of marriage within that our kingdome: Therefor our plesure is, and we will and require you, whensoever the first ward of mariage such as you shall think fitt for hir shal happin to fall in our hand, that you let hir have the benefitt thereof, shee paying unto us the ordinarie compositione due unto us for the same: And for your soe doing thir presents shalbe unto you, &c.—Whitehall, the 15 January 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas, understanding perfectlie the sufficiencie of . . . Andro, Lord Jedburgh, and of his affectione for our service, Wee are pleased in regard thareof, and for his further encouragement and enabling of him for our said service, to advance and promote him to be one of our Privie Counsell in that our kingdome: it is therefore our will and plesour, and wee doe heirby require you, that haveing administrat unto him the oath accustomed in the like case, you admit him to be one of our Privie counsell thare, receiving him in that place as one of your number; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, 16 day of January 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased, in regard of the gude and faithfull service done unto us by our seruand Johne Sandelandis, Gentleman of our Privie Chamber in ordinarie, to bestowe upon him ane yeirlic pensione of 200^{li} sterling, to be payed out of the first and reddiest of our rentis in that our kingdome: And sieing it is our intentione that those whoe attend on our persone in daylie service shalbe first payed of that which is due unto them, Oure plesour is, that you caus first pay our said seruand Johne Sandelandis of what is resting due unto him of our father's pensione, for the time bypast and in time comming, at the times appointed, conforme to our said guift, notwithstanding of any preceeding warrant heirtofore granted by us concerning the payment of pensiones: And for your soe doing this presentis shalbe, &c.—Whitehall, the 22 January 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we formerlie gave orlour unto you for repairing of our houses thare, against that our comming to that our antient kingdome; and heving understood that you have proceedit effectualle in performing our said directiones for our house of Halieroodhous, Sterling, Falkland, Linlythquho, and Dumfermling, for which wee give you hartlie thankis; And being no les desirous that the like care may be taken of our Castell of Dumbartone, being the principall strenth of that our kingdome which most needeth to be carefullie looked unto, the samen being nou altogether out of reparatione, as wee are informed by certificat from our counsell thare: Oure plesoure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, upon sicht heiroff, to call for the Maister of our Warkis thare, and to give him present directiones to have our said Castell of Dumbartone repared and ordinance mounted, which wee will tak as a verie acceptable service done unto us, much tending to the credit and securitie of that our antient kingdome, specialie at this time, when wee in persone are like to view the same, accompanied with some principall men of our Court and strangers, whoe may be desirous to sie the samen: And soe not doubting of your special care heirin, we bid, &c.—Whithall, the 23 January 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas, upon good consideratione moving us, we wer formerlie pleased to signe in favouris of . . . David Ramsay, Gentleman of our Privie Chamber, a gift of the eschett of unquhill Johne Edmestoune of that Ilk, and of his tuoe sones, together with the guift of ward, mariage, and nonetrie of thare landis: And being informed that the samen guiftis are not as yet expel under your handis, but all passing thareoff delayed till you shall heir first from us thareanent: Oure plesoure tharefor

is, that with all convenient diligence you pas and exped the said gift unto the said David Ramsay according to the forme accustomed, and that gratis without payment of any compositione therefore; for doing, &c.—Whithall, 23 January 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas, being informed that one inhabitant in Bristol, haveing of late taken upon the coast of Spaine a schip wherein there are prohibited goodis and divers lettres of advise, and that the samen by distres of weather is driven in upon the Yle of Orknay, Wee have heirby thought good to require you with all convenient diligence send upp unto us such lettres of advise as shalbe found in the said schip, and that you signifie unto our Admirall there oure plesour heiranent, that thereafter he may proceed therein according to the lawes of that our kingdome provided in the like case; And withall that you caus the Master of the said schip be used in such a kindlie manner as he may not have just caus to complaine: Which recommending to your special care, wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 day of Januar 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas your Commissioner Sir James Skeen of Curriehill, Knight, Precedent of our Colledge of Justice, haveing been a humble suitter unto us for confirming of those privelleges which wer granted your predecessouris by our royall progenitouris for the good of that Judicatorie where you are Judges, Wee are verie willing to doe the samen: And for the better effectuating thareof wee are heirby plesed to require you that you consider of all such particulers as you wald have confermed, which being sent unto us from you and fund ressonable, Wee doe purpos not onlie to ratiefie and approve, but likewais to give ordour for inserting of the same in your bookis of Sederunt for a testimonie of our gracious intentione towards you, and to add further unto them iff need be: And whereas there are divers actis of parliament made by our noble progenitouris continuand the actis of parliament and bookis of Sederunt concerning the triall and admisionne of ordinar Lordis this long time past not put in executione, Wee will and require you to review the samen, and enact what order you shall think necessarie for effectuating thareof, and thereafter that non be admitted but conforme thareunto, otherwayis the said admisionne to be null: And considering that the maintenance of the said Lordis, in regard of thare daylie attendance on the administratiome of Justice to our subjectis, is mean and small, though wee cannot convenientlie at this time (in regard of our great and urgent affaers abroad) augment and bestow what is fit and expedient for the same, yet wee intend and are most willing to doe the same soe sone as convenientlie wee may, Willing you to advertis us against our nixt ensuing parliament what course shalbe most fitt for us to be taken heirin: And likewais that you propound to the said parliament what shalbe most necessarie and requisit for the better estabillishing of the Seat of Justice, in administratiome thareof equalie and indifferentlie to all our subjectis, and that the samen, with all other privelleges belonging thareunto, may be ratiefied in the nixt parliament: And soe, &c.—Whitehall, 23 January 1629.

INSTRUCIONES FOR SIR JAMES SKEEN.

Inprimis, Wee recommend to Sir James Skeen, Precedent of our Colledge of Justice, that lettre direct from us to the Lordis of Sessione concerning the actiones of spoolzie: Wee will and require the said Precedent that there be a special care hade of all lettres directed from us to the saidis Lordis, and that they returne us ansuers thareoff.

Wee recommend to the said Precedent all actiones perseued by our seruand Maister Patrik Murray anent the Abbacie of Incheffra.

Wee recommend to the said Precedent all actiones that doe concern our seruand James Livingstone.

Wee by thir presentis gives pouare and commiession to the Lord Chancellare, and in his absence to the said Precedent and the wholl Lordis of Sessione, or soe many as they or ony of them shall think fit, to reforme all abuses into the seatt of Justice which are contrair to the actis of parliament and statutes of the hous.

Wee by theis presentis doe likewayis give pouare and commiession to the foirsaidis persones, in maner foirsaid, to call and conveen before themselfis whatsoever persones or persones whoe have or shall dishonour or lightlie the wholl or ony of the saidis Lordis, and being tryed and found giltie, to punish them after such forme and maner as is contined in the 68 Act of the Fifth Parliament of King James the fift.—Whithall, the 23 of Januare 1629.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Whereas one Maister David Balfour, remaining at this time in Denmark, hath caused humble sute to be made unto us that he might have a testificat under our Great Seal of that our kingdome of his lauchfull birth and progenie: Oure pleasoure is, that (haveing enformed your self thareof) you grant unto him what is usual to be granted unto other persones in busienes of the like nature: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whithall, the 23 Januarij 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas our loving subject Williame Park of Rosberrie, heving already at his proper charge built upon the rivers of Lader and Coven, each of them, a bridge with calsayis belonging tharto, doth yet forder intend, by the help of our pious and weell disposed subjectis thare voluntarie contributiones, to build upon the rivers of Olyd and Duneytoun, each of them, a sufficient bridge, to the great aese of all our loving subjectis: Wee therefore, out of our Princelie dispositione, being willing to charreish the undertakers of such good warkis, as likewayis to encourage others in such vertewous endeavours as tend soe manefastlie to the good and ornament of that our kingdome, have thought fit to will and require you to give ordour for breeffis or such other writtes as you shall think fit to goe furth in our name, recommending the undertaker to the charetable and voluntarie contributione of our loving subjectis, of whatsoever degrees, that by thare assistance soe necessare a wark may have the more speedie performance: Wherein not doubting bot you wilbe carefull, Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 23 of Januar 1629.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HUNTLEE.

Right, &c.—Wee have receaved your lettre entreating us not to give eare to any sinistrous informatione made against you, assuring us withall that you have noe caus of public offence: It is noewayis our dispositione to trust unto reportis, unles wee find them conformed by effectis, but haveing heard of late of the misdeameanour of sindrie excommunicat persones in the north, and of others popishlie disposed, whoe doe leive after such a maner as doeth deserve examplarie punishment, seing a great part of them by name, kinned, or dependencie have relaccone unto you, and doe leive within the boundis you have in charge, it haldes as being more fit for you to have taken ordour with them yourself in due time according to our lawes appointed in like cases, then to leave ane occasione for others in doing thareof, whareanent wee have

written unto our Privie Counsell; and wee hope yee will now use diligence for remedie thereof as you have in charge from our counsell: And be assured that you haveing behaved yourself as a good and duetiefull subject, and haveing a care to discharge the trust reposed unto you; Wee will have a care of you, as of one whome wee specialie respect: Wee bid you, &c.—Whythall, the 27 January 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been peticeoned in the name of the measons, wrightis, and others thare dependences within our burgh of Dundie, that they may have the like libertie as the rest of the said burroughes within that our kingdome, to chois and creat amongis themselves a Deacone for the weell of the said craftis, and the better reforming of abuses tharein: Though wee perceave noe inconveniencie by granting thareoff, yet least the same should be prejudiciall to the rest of our frie burroughes thare, wee have thought good to remitt the samen unto your consideratione: And therefore our plesure is, that you informe yourselfis off the trew estate thareoff, and if you shall find the samen requisit to be done, and for the weell of the saidis craftis, and noeways to prejudice the rest of our frie burroughes thare, that tharefter you caus our advocat forme, draw upp, and docatt such a signatur as wee may signe and grant to them thareupon for choosine of thare said Deacone, whareby in time comming the said abuses may be reformed: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 day of February 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have sent you herein closed a Minute of our decree to be extended by you in a legall and formal maner; and becaus the speedie perfecting thareof may both import the good of our service and the use of divers of our subjectis; Oure plesure is, that you use all expeditione in the dispatche of the same; and tharefter (iff your helth and the estate of our affairs entrusted unto you can convenientlie permitt) that you repair hither with the same; otherways that with all possible diligence you send it unto Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie, to be presented unto us.—[No date.]

Another letter similar to this addressed to the Advocate, dated 12 March 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that . . . the Erle of Arroll hath been long seek, and that for the better using of means to recover his health he is to goe beyond seas: Therefore our plesure is, after he hath found cautione unto you, after the maner accustomed, that you grant unto him a hieience for that effect, limitating his residence thare till wee shalbe pleased to give ordour for recalling of him, &c.—[No date.]

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing been moved upon this enclosed peticeone [concerning the trial of one Durie], wee have thought fitt to referr the samen unto your consideration and tryell of the true state thareof, after such maner as you shall think most requisit, willing you, iff yee find the same to be such as he doethe now affirme, and that we may lafully grant his request without wronging of any persone justlie interested, to grant him a remissione; and if in the meantime his alledgeances be trew, that you discharge (iff need be)

any inferiour Judge or officiare any wayis to truble or call him in question for that accident : And soe wee, &c.—Whitehall, daitit ut supra.

A similar letter dated 18 March 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . Sir George Hay off Kinfaynes, Knight, is to leavie a regement of men within that our kingdome to serve the estate of the Low Cuntries : And to that effect wee being willing that he have all such readie and favourable assistance and encouragement that can be lauffully granted ; Oure pleasoure is, that you grant vnto him a warrand to touk drummes for this purpose, and to leavie and transport the said regement on thois large priveledges as ony Colonell or Commander whatsoever hathe heitfore in the like kind ; and that oterwayis you give vnto him all such readie fortherance as he can launfullie require or you can convenientlie grant, which wee will tak as verie good service done to us.—Daited ut supra, &c.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas yee haue written vnto us concerning the fitnes of the granting of a commissione vnto one Johne Balfour, latelie convicted for thift, as partaker with tuoe others, whoe vpon thare executione did cleer the said Balfour vpon thare oathe and death : Wee are therefore weell pleased that you grant the said remissione, since you are confident of his innocencie : Soe we bid, &c.—Whitehall, daitit ut supra.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPPS OF ST ANDROIS AND GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Whereas, out of the good opinion and hope we hade and conceaves of . . . the Erle of Anguse, that notwithstanding of his educatione, yet he might be fare means be reclaimed : Wee wer pleased to signifie soe much vnto you, desiring that he might be weell delt with, and looking alwayis that wee should have been advertised before you hade proceedit to any censure against him, but haveing understood that notwithstanding of this you have taken another course, and not heering of any new occasione given by any misbehaviour of his, whareby you might have been induced or provoked thareunto : Wee doe heirby desire you again, that before you doe proceed any forther against him, you first acquent us with the reasone thareof, suspending your processe in the meantime against him, till we have hard the true estate thareof ; and as we have hitherto nather done, nor are willing to doe anything that may hinder your preceedingis, but alwayis to strenthen your authoritie in your charge in soe farr as shalbe found requisit ; Soe we wold be verie loath, any man altogither, and specialle one of his qualitie, soe long as thare is any hope of recoverie ; And not doubting of your discretion in the cariage of this, by shewing a respect due vnto his persone, as we look to heir by the report : We bid, &c.—Whitehall, daitit ut supra, &c.

TO THE ADVOCAT, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the Kingis moor, or the commontie of the Larggis, is for the most part possesed by divers neighbouring persones which have not any right thareunto, nor which cannot be secured to any but from a title imediatlie flowing from us, to the effect wee may reduce thais landis to be holden of our crowne for payment to us of a constant yeerlie rent : And for gratiefieing of some weill deserving servant by conferring vpon him any forther title which wee can have of those landis,

Oure pleasour is, that having informed yourself of the treu estate of that bussienes, and if you find our right thareunto to be good, that you draw upp a signatour thareof for our hand, leaving a blank for the persone's name to be filled upp by our directione heir; and tharefter that you send them, decated by you, unto Sir William Alexander, our Secretarie for that our kingdome: ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the last day of February 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we have been informed that a project made by James Philp for transporting from that our kingdom Milne stones, and all other kind of stones fitt for building and decoring of houses, and for divers others uses, is a purpose which is liklie to be profitable to many poore people thare, by setting a work in preparing these stones, besidis that he is to pay us custume both heir and thare: And being informed that that intendit trade was never practiced thare, we are willing that he have the benefit of his oune inventione, according to the custume in the like cases: Therefore oure plesour is, that you draw upp a signatour for our hand, whareby he, his partiners and deputies, may have the sole pouare for transporting all sort of stones whatsoever into this our kingdom, or to any forane part being in leag and amitie with us, continuing such number of yeirs, and with such conditiones and limitationes as are necessarelie requisit for that purpose, or as one usuall in the like cases; And tharefter that you send the same, decated by you, unto our Secretarie for that our kingdom.—Whitehall, the last of February 1629.

TO THE CLARK OF REGISTRE.

Trustie, &c.—Being informed that . . . James Balfour hath taken great panis to illustrat the antient genologies of our royall predecessouris and nobilitie thare, wharein we do verie much approve his endeavouris: And to the effect he may proceed in soe commendable a purpos, oure plesour is, that from time to time, when he shall have occasione thare, admitt him for this purpos to the inspectione and to tak noattis of all such recordis which are in your custodie: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the last of Februaire 1629.

A PRECEPT TO THESAURER AND DEPUTIE.

Whereas it was our late royall father's intentione to have caused give unto one Mr Timothie Pont, deceased, some moneyis touardis his charges in the perfecting of the descriptione of that our antient kingdome, as by a noat under his hand doethe appeir: Wee being noe les willing to further a purpos soe much tending to the honour thareof, and seing . . . James Balfour, Esquire, hath, as wee are credibillie informed, coft these mappes and tabellis from the executouris of the said Pont, and is about to perfect and publishe the same, which will both require great panis and charges: Oure pleasure is, therefore, and wee doe heirby will and command that with all convenient diligence you pay or caus be payed unto the said James Balfour, his assignayis or servantis having his pouare, the soume of j^e lib sterling, and that out of the first of our rentis and casualities whatsoever of that our kingdome, resting, or which at any time heirefter shal happin to rest due unto us and be in your hand: And for your soe doeing, &c.—Whitehall, the last of Februaire 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Having intentione upon verie good considerationes at this time to aid our brother the King of Suaden with such forces as wee can convenientlie spare from all our kingdome, and being

willing to send him from thence 1200 men; Oure pleasour is that you grant unto . . . Sir George Cuninghame, Colonell, a commissiōne with ane sufficient warrand to leaue and transport thither the said 1200 men, granting him libertie to tukke drumes for that purpos, with as large a priueledge as any other hath hade heirtofore in the like kind, hee alwayis giving satisfactiōne to euerie one of the said number as shalbe agried upon betwixt him and them according to the former custume in the like cases; ffor doing whereof, &c.—Whitehall, the first of Marche 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas Patrik Murray, our coupbearer, hath procured our leaue to repair unto that our kingdome ffor doing of his lauchfull affairs; And becaus he cannot long attend there in respect of his charge about our persone: Our pleasoure is, that in all actione depending or which shall come before you concerning our said servant, you administer justice with all lauffull and speedie diligence: Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of Marche 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas for the greater aese of such of our subjectis as are cited before you at the instance of our Thesaurer and Advocat for conceilling thare lent moneis, not giving upp in Inventories, and for wrongous upgiving of moneis alledgit to be awand to them by other persones, thareby to defraud us of the taxatiōnes due unto us, contrarie to the act of parliament made in anno 1621, We have thought fitt that the delinquentis be tryed in the shires where they duell, or into the shires nixt adjoining: Therefore our pleour is, that from time to time you give commissiōnes to such of your number as our said thesaurer shall mak chois of or to any other sufficient and able persones as you with the advise of our said thesaurer shall think expedient to be commissioners for tryeing and examining the said delinquentis and all thare offenders in that kind, with pouar to that effect to hold courtis at such convenient places within the boundis preseruyed as our said Thesaurer shall think fitt, and to report unto you thare diligence and the depositions of the delinquentis, that you may tharefter tak a course for thare punishment according to the lawes and practique of that our kingdome: And whereas by our intendit jorney thither for receaving our crōune and holding our first parliament thare, wee may have great use of present moneis, Wee are heirby pleased carefullie to advert that the proces intendit or to be intendit before you touching that purpos be carefullie lookt to and justice executed against the offenders in this kind, according to the course of our lawes leaving the compositiones to be made with them to the commissioners appointed by us for that effect: Sua expecting your care and diligence heirin, wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of Marche 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas complaintis hath been made unto us by James Creightōune of Frenndright that William Gordoune of Rothemay, Johnne Gordoune, his sone, Johne Innes of Crombye, and thare complices, have, in manefast contempt of our authoritie, remaned of a long time in rebellione, and noe ordour taken tharewith: Wee wonder that such abuses should be suffered within the cuntrie, at least (haveing used your diligence) that you hade not exacted ane accompt of the ordinarie officiare or magistrat to whome that charge doth belong: Oure pleasoure is, that you give ordour to the shirreff of the shire where the saidis persones doe leive, or to any other haveing charge from ws, or to any whome you shall think fitt to be employed for apprehending of them, and presenting of them to justice, or otherwayis

to caus sease upon thare houses, landis, and goodis, according to the lawes and practique of that our kingdome : And as wee are confident that you will use your means according to the authoritie you have from us for sieing our lawes put in executione, in repressing this or any other like abuse : Soe apon advertisement from you, wee will provide for any such further remedie as you shall require of us : And soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 13 of Marche 1629.

Carolus dei gratia Magne Britannie Francie et Hibernie rex fidei. defensor, &c.—Serenissimo ac potentissimo principi ac domino Christiano quarto eadem gratia Danye Norvegie Vandalorum et Gothorum regi duci Slesuici, Holsacie Stirmarie, Dithmarsie comiti in Oldenburg et Delmahorst fratri avuncule et consanguineo nostro salutem Serenissime frater avuncule et consanguine charissime presentium lator Stephanus Philp subditus noster fidelis cum multis in Suedia et Burressia vestre maiestatis ditionibus oberatos sibi habeat literas hasce ad maiestatem vestram commendatitias humiliter a nobis petiit quod si impetrauerit ut ei satisfieri debitumque pro jure et æquo exolui possit sicut ei per gratiam erit ita maiestas vestra nos ad parem demeritorem vicissitudinem amicissime devinct Datu in Palatio nostro alba aule.

Vestre serenitatis frater et ex sorore nepos amantissimus.

CAROLUS REX.

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—Whereas we have given leave to Sir George Hay of Kinfaunes, Knight, to levie a regement of tuoe thousand men in that our kingdome for the service of the estates of the low cuntries, and in regard the soldiouris of the late regement of . . . the Erle of Mortoune are as yet manteyned there at our charge, and have been kept in pay to be in readines for the use of us and our freendis, and that wee thinke it expedient that they shall goe with the said Sir George Hay, in the said regement and for the said service : Oure plesour therefor is, that such of them as have received our pay and interteyment there may be required by authoritie from you to be readie to imbarque for the said service whansoever they shalbe commandit by warrand from the said Sir George, or any of the severall commanders haveing authoritie from him for that effect : And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 March 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—The lettre sent be you unto us of the 12 of February 1629, concerning the stricking and printing of some copper money within that our kingdome for releeff of the poore and for the fortherance of small exchange amongis the commone people, was soe considered of by us and some of our nobilitie and counsell now present at our court, as wee are graciouslie pleased heirly to require you to give present ordour for stricking and printing of such a reasonable quantitie thereof in penneyis and tuoe penny peeces as you shall think convenient for the state and conditione of that our ancient kingdome, and for the aese of our good subjectis thereof ; and that you doe carefullie provide that the benefit of the said coyne may be applyed to our vse : And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, 18 Marche 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . the Bischopp of Dumblaine being perseued for his tythes for some late yeers by the Laird of Balcarras, they did submitt themselves unto some of your number, as wee are

informed, whoe, as arbitratouris made ane ordour and arbitrimnt between them for a certaine soume to be payed at Witsunday nixt by the said Bischopp, whoe was to put in securitie for payment thereof accordinglie : But, wee being given to understand that ether the securitie offered did not pleas the perseuare, or that the Bischop culd not find such choice of sureties as the said Laird of Balcarhous desired, therefore he hath renened his sute again against the said Bischopp, whoe now having peticeoned us and set furth that he is willing to obey the said ordour and arbitrimnt, and undertaken accordinglie to pay the same awarded by the said arbitratouris, under pain never to be admitted to sue unto us for any grace or favour in that bussienes after the said terme of Witsunday : Oure pleasour is therefor, and we hold it fit and faire, for you in your respect to be a prelate of his partis and qualitie to be sparing to pronounce any legall decree against him untill first he doe fail in performing of the said arbitrarie ordour, at least to grant unto him a suspensioe untill the day of Junij nixt, for wee doubt not of his willingnes to give present content, though perhaps he cannot find choice sureties to undertak for him, hee being a prelate and churchman, whose mortalitie may be more suspetic then ether his abilitie or honest intention to performe : Soe leaving this unto your tender consideration and opinione how much a fournightis time may produce in such a bussienes : Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Marche 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas by our Commissione granted to Sir Alexander Straquhen, Knight and Barronet, of the dait the sevint day of November last bypast, now exped under the Great Seall of that our kingdome, We have given pouare to him, his airs, deputies, and assignes to persew for and collect all the omissions and concealmentis of our rentis, casualities, and others which have not been deulie payed and accompted for in our Exchequer thare, before the penult day of March last bypast, but have ether been neglegentlie omitted by our officers, and soe as yet resting into the handis of other persones, or otherways have been introumetit with by some of them, and notwithstanding not duelic made compt of in our said Exchequer before that time as our said commissione beareth, which we granted upon verie good groundis and considerations, and was debated and allowed in our presens by all the Comissioners of our said Exchequer whoe wer heir for the time : Oure pleasour is therefor, that you give your best concurrence and assistance to the said Sir Alexander and his foirsaidis in everie thing may concerne our said submissione and prosecutione thereof, and that in all actiones and causes which they shall intend or persew before you tharevpon you grant them summar and speedie proces and justice without delay, and that at all ocasionnes necessarie you grant and caus give out unto them summondis, lettres of horning, and all other lettres and charges requisit for the better fortherance and prosecutione of everie thing concerning our said commissione and service committed unto you : We bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Marche 1629.

OPEN WARRANT CONCERNING ROLLIS AND REGISTERS.

Whereas by our commissione granted unto Sir Alexander Straquhen, Knyght and Baronet, of the date the seaventh of November last bypast, now exped under the Great Seall, &c. [the remainder of preamble similar to last letter] : It is oure special pleasour, and we doe heerby command all and everie one of you, our officers and others persones whatsoever, havers, keepers, or anyways entrusted with the charge or custodie of any recordis, rollis, rentallis, registers, actis, decreittis, handis, accomptis, bookis, summondis, or noattis whatsoever of or concerning any part of our rentis, casualities, or others due or any way appertening unto us (these presentis or ane extract thereof by the hand of our clark of registre for the time being once shewen unto you) that you mak it patent to the said Sir Alexander and his foirsaidis (at all

such times as they shall have adoe for our service and desire the same) the saidis recordis, rollis, &c. . . . being in the handis of you or any of you, or in the custodie of you or any of your servandis belonging to your offices and charges, or others entrusted tharewith by you ; And that you suffer the said Sir Alexander and his foresaidis to have frie acces thareunto, and to peruse the same at ther pleasure, and to neatt and extract furth thareof whatsoever they shall think necessarie for the advancement of our said service : And it is forther our pleasour, that you our Clark of Registre, now and for the time being, doe registrat theis presentis in our registre kept by you, whensoever the said Alexander and his foresaidis shall desire you to that effect, and that you deliver unto him soe many just extractis thareof under your handis as they shall from time to time to desire the samen for the use foirsaid, and that you and everie one of you, our offiicars and others persones, doe extract and deliver to the said Sir Alexander and his foirsaidis when they or ether of them shall desire you just and autentik doubles and extractis subscribed with your handis of all and sindrie the saidis recordis, bandis, and others foirsaidis ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of March 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—After our receipt of your lettre of the 12 of Februarij, and depositions thare-inclosed, concerning the precognitione taken by you in the differences between the relict of the late goodman of Carrone and the goodman of Ballendolloche, wee wer pleased to call before us the Lord Chancellare and Precedent of our Counsell, and such other noblemen and counsellars of that our kingdome as are present at our Court, and upon perusall of all the said depositions and heering of the saidis Lordis concerning the causes and circumstances of the slaughter of the said gudman of Carron, and of the other tuee slaine in the side of the said Ballindolloche, wee doe conceive that though the slaughter of the goodman of Carrone is not in law justifiabill, yet in regard that it doeth appeir unto us that Ballindolloche hade noe intentione to doe any harme unto Carrone, but onlie to apprehend the rebell Findla Makgrenan, who was that day in his Companye, and that Ballendoloch hade ressonne to gather and arme his men for the executione of our commissioun directit unto him for apprehending James Grant and his complices and others rebellis, late murthers of his kinsmen, Patrik Grant of Letgagh, and of his unkell, Johne Grant of Dalnaboe, whareof Makgreenan was one, a fugitive and rebell for that fact, as wee are informed : Therefore, in regard the case is verie considerable, wee are graciously pleased out of our princelie clemencie to forbear the strict rigour of our lawes against the said Ballendolloche and the rest of his Company and Complices, accessouris to the said slauchter : But yet out of our compassione of the widow and childring of the said Carrone, wee will and require that the said Ballendolloche deall, by all means to give content and mak ressonabill offers unto the said widow and childring for a freudlie agreement and ressonable compositione for assittment and lettre of slaines between the dait heirof and the first day of August nextocume, during which space or longer, as you think fitt, wee require you to grant them a protectione or respect : And if the saidis parties shalhappin not to agrie amongis themselves betwen and the said day, then and in that caice we will and require you, out of your judgment and consideratione of the parties and circumstances of the fact, and of the treuthe of the allegations concerning the foirsaid Makgrenan's rebellione, for the said fact and guiltienes thareof, to set doune and appoint suche ressonabill compositione for assittment as you shall think fitting, wharby the parties' remissiones may pas, according to the custume of that our kingdome in such caisses used, the said compositione being always first payed or deposed in the handis of the Clark of our Counsell or in our Exchequer to the use of the foirsaid widow and hir childring before the said remissione doe pas : And withall wee will expect that you provide carefullie for the peace and quiet of that our ancient kingdome : And for apprehensione of James Grant and his complices, receavers and receivers, and others such malefactoris in that our kingdome as doe stubbornelie remain rebellis in contempt of our

lawes and authoritie : And as . . . the Erle of Murray and . . . the Lord Gordoune have promised unto us to be activelie carefull of the apprehensioe of the said James Grant and his complices within the boundis of thare severall jurisdictiones ; See wee doe heirby require you to caus all others our Shirreffis officers and loving subjectis to be aiding and assisting unto them in that good service, which wilbe verie acceptable unto us : And see we, &c.—Whitehall, the 25 of Marche 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Notwithstanding of the great desire wee have to repair to that our ancient kingdome, to the effect that after due deliberation, with the advice of our estates, wee may fullie settle all thingis for the good thereof that shalbe fund necessarie ; yet for sindrie considerationes knowne unto us, finding it not liklie that wee can keep the time appointed, according to our first intentione, for holding of our parliament : Oure pleasure is, that you prorogat the same unto the fit day of September nixt ; and that for doing heiroff that you use forme usuall or fit to be used for that purpos, that all our subjectis may tak notice thereof ; for doing whereof, &c.—Whitehall, the 25 day of March 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed by peticeone from the Master of Hereis that he is in nonage out of his filiall dutie, haveing enterit in band with his father for greater soumes of money then his estate is able to pay interest for, is notwithstanding willing that not onlie his present estat, but his debtis alsoe that shall accresce unto him by law, and the wholl inheretance whereunto he is to succed shalbe, before he apprehend possessione thereof, liable to the payment of his creditouris : Wee therefore out of our princelie commiseratione have signet a protectione for his persone, willing and requiring you to give ordour for expeding of the same unto our Great Seall, after you have taken him bound for performing of such conditiones in his creditouris behalf as are abonespecifeit, and more largelie exprest in the said grant : Wherein not doubting of your care and diligence : Wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 Marche 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed by the patentis for making of yrone cannon, that the workis being now begune and in good way to continow, may notwithstanding in a short space be ether abused in goodnes or possibilie interrupted for want of Boggmyne, if it should not, upon occasione be supplied from the nixt nighboureing places : Wee therefore out of our princelie care towards the strength and ornament of that our kingdome, being willing that such publick good warkis should continow, have thought fitt to will and require you fra time to time as the occasione shall require, to authorise the saidis patentes by commissiones from you for frielic taking and transporting the said Boggmyne (as belonging to us,) wharesoever it be fund, but see as the proprietars be satisfied for braking of thare ground at the sight of our nearest Justices of our Peace or others as you shall think fitt : Wherein not doubting of your care and diligence : Wee bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 day of Marche 1629.

TO THE LORD OF STORMONT.

Right, &c.—The good affectione to our service of . . . Sir Mungo Murray, gentleman of our Privie Chamber, your neir kinsman both by blood and mariage, of whome (as wee are informed) you have

hade a speciall care, as a father, hath moved us at this time seriouslie to recommend him unto you that you will continow your wounted affectione, and mak good in some measure your intended favour towards him, whareby as you are to leave him a title of honour, if soe be he shall happen to survive you, soe he may have from you some reasonable estate answerable thareto, in soe farr as you can lauchfully and possible doe, and that the rather that he is our servand, which amongis many experiences that our late dear father and ourself have hade of your affectione to both our services we will not accept one of the least, and for which we will not be unmyndfull when occasione shall offer, to expres our further respect unto you : Soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 30 Marche 1629.

TO THE LORD LORNE.

Right, &c.—Being informed that your father and predeessouris hath this many yeers used the office of Cheeff Master of Houshold to our royall progenitouris of that our kingdome : Oure plesure is, if your father shall happen to be absent at our coming thare, that you supplie his place in anything that may concern that office, as he hath formerlie done : Whereupon, not doubting bot you will weell and carefullie discharge yourself ; wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 30 March 1629.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF MURRAY.

Reverend, &c.—Whereas Maister Johne Mackenzie, minister of . . . to . . . the Erle of Murray, for that a tenent of his was supposed to have harboured hir husband, being outlaw, and accordingly hath payed his fine for that supposed offence, as wee are credibillie informed, yet notwithstanding some of his neighbouris doe think thareupon that he may be deprived from his spirituall living for that offence : And whareas the Erle of Seafort did latelie procure our warrand unto you for proceeding against the said Maister Johne Mackenzie, of his diocesiane bischopp, wharein wee are informed you have been verie warie and sparing, by reasone the said Maister Johne Mackenzie is ane old minister, and of long continuance in his professione, and is one of the dioesse of Rosse, and that the Bischopp of Ross is now resident at our court, whoe is the onlie Judge competent to the said proces of deprivatione within the said dioesse : Oure plesour tharefor is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, if the said Maister Johne shall happen thereafter to be questioned by deprivatione by reasone of the said offence, or any other, that the same proces of deprivatione may be deeydit onlie before the Archbischopp of S^t Androis, primat and Metropolitane of our said kingdome, or before the heigh commissione, whareby the man may have a faire and legall triall, in the absence of his said diocesian bischop : And soe wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, 30 Marche 1629.

Carolus dei gratia magne Britannie Francie et Hibernie rex fidei defensor etc. serenissimo ac potentissimo principi ac domino Gustavo Adolpho eadem gratia Suethorum Gothorum Vandalorumque Regi magno principi Finlandie Eschonie Carelieque duci ac domino Ingrie fratri et consanguineo nostro salutem serenissime frater et consanguinee charissime presentium lator Stephanus Philp subditus noster fidelis cum multis in Swedia et Borussea vestre majestatis ditionibus oberatis sibi habeat literas hasce ad majestatem vestram commendatitias humiliter a nobis petit quod si impetrauerit ut fieri debitumque pro jure et aequo exolui possit sicut ei per gratiam erit Ita Majestas vestra nos ad parem demeritorem vicissitudinem amiceissime divinet Datum in Palatio nostro alba aula penultimo die mensis Martij 1629.

Westre Majestatis frater et consanguineus amantissimus.

CAROLUS REX.

TO THE EXCHACQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas, after some differences of the maner for the providing of moneys for our jorney to that our kingdome, haveing resolved without any need to mak use of our officiairs thare to tak another course for the samen, Wee wer pleased to write unto you that the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, and the Lord Naper, our deputie thesaurer, should proceed in preparing all charges necessarie for our interteynment during our aboad thare, making use of the reddiest moneys that wer or should come in our Chackquer for that purpos, restrayning in the meantyme all other paymentis till that wer first done : Oure pleasour is, that the like course be continoued according to our former lettre, and that our said thesaurer depute exercise and have the benefitt of his place in our service, enjoying the full payment of all his pensiones and fees duelie belonging unto him, and that he resaue noe wrong, whareunto hee hath right according to our royall intentione : And that thir presentis be insert in the bookis of our Exchequer for your and his further warrand, that notice may be taken of this our graceous plesour towardis him, as one whome wee esteem to be ane honest man, good servand, and worthie of our trust reposed in him : Soe wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 day of Aprill 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Letter upon the same subject, and of the same date.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Letter to grant Commission to Sir John Meldrum, Knight, to levy 1200 men for the service of the King of Sweden, in the usual terms.—Whitehall, the 9th of Aprill 1629.

TO THE EXCHACKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been moved to signe this signatour for encouraging of all our good subjectis whoe intend such workis as tend to the publique weell of that our kingdome, and for giving us a yeerlie rent whare wee had none before : Theis are therefore to will and require you, if yee find this purpos (as wee conceive it to be) for the publique good, without wronging of any, that yee caus exped the same under our seallis according to the former custume : And seing we have caused leave a blank tharein for the yeerlie duetie payable unto us, Wee will likewais before the passing thereof that you consider of such a rent to be insert tharein as will be most for our advantage, without discouraging of the partie from the prosecuting of that chartour : And soe we, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Aprill 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Haveing had proof of the affectione of Sir Richard Grahame, Knight, to doe us good service, wee have thocht fit in regard thereof, and for his further encouragement and enabling tharunto, to advance him to be one of the Commissioners for the Middle Shires of that our kingdome : It is therefore our plesour, and wee doe heirby require you to give ordour for admitting him to be one of the said Commissioners, and for receaving him as one of that number according as is requisit, or hath been acustumed in the like cases of before : And if there be necessitie of renewing thare Commissione, that you likewais give ordour for doing the samen that his name be insert tharein ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Aprill 1629.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Though the estate of our Coffers in that our kingdome is such at this time as hardlie all pensiones payable there can be duellie answered, yet wee wish that due respect should be had to such of our servandis as give there ordinarie attendance about our persone; and whoe (in regard thereof) cannot at all ocasioness provide themselves, as otherways possibillie they might do, amongis whome being informed that Sir James Livingstoune, Sir Williame Balfour, Sir James Ramsay, and Johne Sandelandis, gentlemen of our privie chamber, are behind for divers termes: Oure special plesour is, that with all convenient diligence you mak payment unto them or thair assignes of such arrerages as you shall find to be justlie due unto them, together with there said pensiones yeerlie and termelie, according to there severall guffits from us: And for your soe doing theis presentis, with there acquittances, shalbe your sufficient warrand.—Whitehall, the 18 Aprill 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustic, &c.—Understanding of the good and faithfull service done to our late deare father and us by Patrik Bischopp of Rosse, with the great owing of his estate, which was intendit by our said late deare father to have been repared: And wee haveing the like care and respect unto the said Patrik Bischopp of Rosse his trew service performed unto us both, doe continow in the said intentione: But becaus wee cannot at this time advance moneis convenientlie to him out of our coffers in regard of siudrie other great affairs; Wee have resolved for encouraging and enabling him to continow in his fordwarnes and readines to doe ws service heirefter, to gratifie him with the soume off fyve thousand pound sterling money: And we desire you, haveing considered out of what places and how soon the same may most convenientlie be done, that you draw such a warrand for our hand whareby he may be secured and payed of that soume, as you in your judgment shall think fitt: And seing we intend to helpp his estate further see soone as possibillie we may, we desire you to draw upp such a warrand as you in your judgment shall think fitt: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Apryll 1629.

TO M^r DAVID FULLERTONE.

Oure pleasoure is, that out of the first and reddiest of our moneis remaning, or which shalhappin to be in your charge, you pay unto . . . Eduard Kellie, chanter at S^t Marie of the Lowes, the soume of Thretie-thrie pund sex shillingis viij^d english money, and that for the present buyeing heir of bibles, singing and service bookis for the use of our Chappell Royall in that our kingdome: And for your soe doing these presentis, with the said Eduard his discharge, shalbe your sufficient warrand and discharge.—Whitehall, the 18 day of Aprill 1629.

To our trustie and weelbeloved M^r David Fullertone, one of our receavers of our rentis within our kingdome of Scotland.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—Whereas the Bischopp of the Isles hath acknowledged before us that hee forsuke many kind favouris at your hand for advancement of his Bischoprike and his encouragement therein, wee are therefore graciously pleased to give you hartlie thankis for the same, and to request you not onlie con-

stantlie to continow in that course, but alsoe to doe what you can to provid him, during your pleasour and without your prejudice, with ane competent hous to dwell in, free from danger, and comforted with good and civill nightbourhead, employing always your authoritie and jurisdictione for his enjoying of what belongeth, or shall heirefter be deemed to belong to his said Bischoprik : And see we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 21 Aprill 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas the Hiesmen of that our kingdome haveing by ancient actis been bound to appeir yeirlic before you to give ane accompt of thare behaviour and performance of your directiones ; wee are gracioslie pleased that they be enjoynet from time to time to doe thair dewties to thare Diocesiane Bischopp in anything which concernes thare respect unto him, or for performance of what they owe : Oure pleasoure is, therefore, that upon thare appeirance yee enjoyn unto them such performance as you may find fitting in law or equitie, not onlie for the good of the Bischopp, bot alsoe for the quyet and government of those Hies and cuntries wharin they leve, and for the reformation tharof, estabillishment of the trew religion, education of the youthe, and obedience to our lawes tharein : And alsoe our plesour is that you grant a commissione to the said Bischopp to caus execute our said lawes within his diocesse, and you use all your best endeavouris for providing of firmment-hous wharein to dwell within his said diocesse, for the better executione of his commissione and pasterial charge thare : All which wee will accompt to be good and acceptable service done to ws : And see we, &c.—Whitehall, 21 Aprill 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Right, &c.—Whereas the reverend father in God, Johne Bischopp of the Hies, hath represented unto us the miserable estate and conditione of his Bischoprike, and of the means of his rent as not being able to mantene the estate and dignitie of a Bischopp : Therefore We are piouslie and gracioslie pleased, not onlie to unite unto his said Bischoprike the Priorie of Ormslie, and Nunrie of Icolmakill, but alsoe to grant unto him and his successouris all such right and titill as we have or can pretend unto the same, or to the Abbacie and Nunrie of Icolmakill, and priories of Ardchaten and Ormsey, be vertew of our revocatione, commissione, and declaratione, or by any other maner of way whatsoever : Oure pleasoure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, not onlie to draw upp a signature of the premissis readie for our royall hand, but alsoe to concurr with him in our name and for our interest, or in his oune name, for the recoverie thereof ether by improbatione, reductione, or otherways : And that in the signatour you sett doune some legall claus for the provisioun of the churches of the said Abbacie, priories, nunries, out of the saidis teyndis and fruttis thareof ; And for preventing of all delapidationes of the said Bischoprik and benefice, and without prejudice of our annuetic : And we alsoe require you to be seriouslie advertung unto the re-estabillishment of the said Bischoprik, and the said benefice annexit and united, or to be annexit and united thareunto, soe as the Bischopp may find the fruttis of our royall bountey touldis him : And wharesoever any of the tenentis and vassellis of the said Bischoprike and benefice shal happen to produce thare rightis and titillis, Oure pleasoure is, that yee tak due consideratione thareof, and ye advertis us of your opinion concerning the validitie or invaliditie of the same, that according to the strenthe or weaknes thareof Oure decre may be pronounced aganis such as have submitted or heirefter shall submitt unto our royall determinatione, leavinge the rest whoe shall not submitt unto the due course of our lawes : And in doing thareof wee will not be unmyndfull : And see we, &c.—Whitehall, the 21 Aprill 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Letter similar to the above of the same date.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Letter for levying men for the service of the King of Denmark, similar to former letters.—Whitehall, the 25 day of Aprill 1629.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Letter regarding the Earl of Mar's security for money expended in repairing Castles and Palaces before contemplated Visit of the King, in same terms of letter, dated 2 April 1629.—Whitehall, 2 May 1629.

[NOT ADDRESSED.]

Whereas wee have seen, under the hand of our Clark of Registre, a Copie of ane act of Exchequer, whareby . . . M^r David Fullertone, ane of the receavers of our rentis, is provided, since his first entrie to the office, to a yeerlie allowance of tuo thousand and fyve hundreth poundis scottis, and tuo chalders of aittis: Though we think it not convenient to grant the same unto him as a yeerlie allowance particularelie belonging to his Office of receiver, which wee will that he shall still use, having all dues, fees, and priveledges thareunto belonging, according to his grant thereof; yet in respect of his good and faithfull service which he hath done unto us, and of the good opinione wee have conceived of him to continow in the like heerefter, Wee are pleased (you discharging the said act, and all benefitit that may accres unto him thareby, after Witsunday nixt ensueing, excepting onlie the arrearages thareof due unto before that terme) to grant unto him the like allowance by way of pension; whareupon we have signed a quift thareof, which wee require you to caus exped with all diligence: And soe, &c.—From our Court at Greenwich, the 2 of Majj 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH, SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER, AND SIR ARCHEBALD ACHESONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas, according to the course begune by our late deare father, wee wer pleased to give ordour for creating of Knight Baronettis within that our kingdome for the planting of the plantatione of New Scotland, as the Commissione given for that effect particularelie beares: And havinge alwayis a desire that those of the most ancient families and best estattis might be first preferred, Notwithstanding that they had been duellie warnit by proclamatione for that purpos; yet out of our earnest desire to give them all ressonable satisfacione, wee did sign patentis for sindrie of them, that in cais they should in due time accept thareof they might tak place from the signing the same, notwithstanding that others whose patentis wer signed by us tharefter had passed our Great Seall before them: And becaus the most part of these patentis bieng signed by us at one time, wee suld not them give orlour by making of them of severall daites for thare particulare proceedingis as was requisit: Oure pleasour is that you, or any tuo of you, havinge considered of the qualitie and estate of those for whome such patentis wer signed, doe fill up the dates of everie one of them as you in your discretione shall think fit; ffor doing whareof, &c.—From our Court at Greenwich [not dated.]

TO THE DEPUTIE OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Whereas, upon peticeone preferred unto us by Eduard Betach of Moynaltie, in that our kingdome, in the yeir 1627, against our weelbeloved Henrie Betach, of Newcastle, in Ireland, wee wer

pleased, in the absence of our Chancellare, to referr the heiring and speedie determining of the causes thareinmentioned to the Commissioners of the Chancellarie, calling to thare assistance the Lord Cheeff Barrone: Now, forasmuch as our said Chancellare is returned unto his charge there, and the said Commissione of the Chancellarie thareby determined, see that it may be inconvenient that the hussienes of that nature should be otherways determined than by the ordinarie course of justice or equitie of that realme: It is oure plesour that furthwith you direct our Judges of our severall courtis upon actiones to be brought by the said Henry, his heirs or assignes, to give him or them a legall hearing and determining of the contraversies which doe or may arrise betuix the said Henrie and Eduard, thare heirs or assignes, in some of our courtis of Justice thare, most proper for determining causes of that nature, according to law or equitie: And theis our lettres, notwithstanding our former reference, shalbe as weell unto our Deputie and Chancellare thare now being, our Keeper of our Great Seall of that our kingdome for the time, shalbe, and to all other our officers and ministers thare to whome it may or onyways apperteen, a sufficient warrant and discharge.—Given at our court at Greenwich, the 2 day of Majj 1629.

TO SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER AND SIR ARCHEBALD ACHESONE, KNIGHTIS, SECRETARIES FOR THE KINGDOME OF SCOTLAND.

Whereas upon good considerations wee have granted a generall and speciall commision unto Sir Alexander Straquhen of Thornetoun, Knight, for collecting our arreares, omissions, and concealementis of rent and casualities of our royaltie and principalitie, and others tharein mentioned, which wee are verie desirous may be preserved in thare owne integretie, without any prejudice quhatsoever: Oure pleasoure heirfore is, and wee doe heirly will and require you, and everie one of you, to tak the said commisiones into your serious consideratione, and that you heerefter forebare the moveing or docating or presenting unto our hand any signatour, grant, precept, assignement, letre, or any other warrant whatsoever, which in any maner of way may be prejudicall or derogative unto the said commisiones, or ony thing tharein mentioned; and from time to time to give informatione unto us and our thesaurer, and others commisioners of our Exchackker, for preventing and stopping the granting or passing of such thingis as may fall within the comptis of the said commisiones; and that noe lettres, precept, or other writtes whatsoever, may pas our signett which in any wayis may be comprehendit within the said commisiones, excepting the said Sir Alexander Straquhen be consenting thareto: And if need be you may insert a clause in all signaturs to be presented by you, that nothing shall prejudice the said commisiones, or any thing tharein mentioned, for our profit: For doing whareof, &c.—Greenwich, 2 day of May 1629.

TO THE EXCHACKQUER.

Letter similar to the above of same date.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that our vassellis of the principalitie of that our kingdome are verie desirous to strenthen and renew thare securities of thare landis and possessiones of the said principalitie by new grants and infetmentis, or such other securities from us as you shall think fitt, And for such reasonabill compositiones as you shall think the meritiss of thare severall cases and weaknes or defectis of thare severall rightis to deserve: And wee being willing to yeeld unto theis said just desires of our said vassellis, they always securing our annuetie, and preserving the antient tenurs as you

shall advise: Oure pleasour therefore is, that you publishe our royall bountay heirin to all the said vassallis by open proclamatione, that they thareby may be invited to imbrace our royall grace and favour in due time as they shall find most convenient for thare oune securitie, by the advise of our advocat for our interest, and by the advise of Sir Alexander Straquhen of Thornetoune, Knight, for the interest of his commissione granted by us: And thir signaturis being first soe considered by them, and presented unto you to be passed, we will authorize and require you to sett doune thare severall compositiones and encrease of rent, and to posses the same accordingle, with the said Sir Alexanderis consent, and noe otherways, and without confirming of any heretable offices, and that notwithstanding any former restraint made by us to the contrarie: Which restraints wee are verie graciouslie pleased to dissolve and annull in favouris of our said Vassellis for the purpos aforesaid: And soe wee bid you, &c.—Greenwich, the 2 of May 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Having understood by the lettre sent unto us by you and the rest of the Exchequer that the soume of Seavin thousand merkis is yeirlye payed by William Dick to . . . the Lord Naper for the lease of Orknay, wharewith he was entrusted by us by and attour the ordinarie rent thereof disposed of by us to the use of the Erle of Nithesdaill, which we think should justlie belong us till the same be dnelie decydit: Oure pleasour is, that with the advise of our Advocat you consider what legall course may be used for staying of the said soume in the hand of the said William Dick till the mater be tryed or that we signifie our further pleasour: Soe requiring you to have a care of this; we bid you, &c.—Greenwich, the Sext day of May 1629.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPP OF S^t ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas we did formerlie desire you by the Bischopp off Rosse, Commissioner for the church of that our kingdome, that you should give no collatione nor admisionne upon any peticcon to the church and benefice of Oldhamstocks for the reasones contined in his lettre, untill wee should signifie our plesour to you thareant, which directione we hope yee have obeyed: And now being enforced that the said benefice is void and vacant in our handis by some legall way, wee have presented thareunto Maister Johne Patersone, our chaplen and elymosiner of our said kingdome: Oure pleasour therefore is, and we will you to give institutione and admisionne to him without delay upon the sight of our said presentatione granted unto him, notwithstanding former presentatione or institutione granted by you to any other persone since the date of our said former lettre, that thareby our said elimosiner may trie his title to the samen and fruitis thereof before the ordinarie Judge, according to the due course of our lawes: Soe expecting your speedie and readie performance thereof: Wee bid you, &c.—Greenwich, the mynt of Majj 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been importuned at divers times by Euphame Litlejohne to have the small allowance from us which (as shoe doeth alledge) shoe hade in the time of our late dear father: Oure pleasour is, that you trie if shoe hade any such allowance, and if you find it to be treu, that you grant the same unto hir during hir liftime: And for your soe doing, &c.—At Greenwiche, the 26 day of May 1629.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon good considerations wee have been often pleased to write unto you that the takers and others interested in the goodis of the Lubeck schip, judged to be lafull prise, should be payed according to any just or legall ordour preseryved in that behalf as by our warrantis given concerning the same may appeir: But understanding that out of the reddiest of those goodis the mariners whoe wer before that time in our service thare wer payed of the soume of Tua thousand poundis sterling, which by act of counsell and our former pleasour signified tharein should have been repayed unto the saidis persones interested before all paymentis whatsoever: Wee are heirby pleased to require that with all possible diligence you cause the said moneyis be repayed according to the said act and our said former directione: And for your see doing theis presentis, &c.—Greenwich, the 29 May 1629.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE-THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Understanding that . . . Sir Andro Gray, Knight, hath not receaved payment of his pensione these diverse termes bypast, contrare to our royall intentione, seing that upon verie good considerations wee wer pleased to grant him the same: Oure pleasoure is heirfore, and wee doe heirby, will and require you to pay unto him or his assignayis the arreirs thareof which shalbe fund due unto him, together with the said pensione, yeerlie and termelie, according to our guift granted unto him thareupon: And for your see doing theis presentis, &c.—Greenwich, the 29 May 1629.

INSTRUCIONES FROM HIS MAJESTIE TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH CONCERNING HIS SERVICE, &c.

1. To send how his Majestie's decreitt is lyked, and iff ther be any just exceptione taken against it, to advertis bak what may concern the same, with diligence.
2. To advise what course is best to be taken with the Lordschipp of S^t John, and the directour and heretouris thareoff may ether submitt or be persewed by due course of law for the samen and regalitie depending thareupon.
3. To treat with such as have heretable offices that they may be surrendered for reassonable satisfacion, and to acquent his Majestie what noblemen or men of qualitie haveing them doe affect a titell of honour that they may first demitt whatever heretabill office or regalitie they have, or his Majestie harken unto thare suttes.
4. To treat with such as haveing noe heretable office are curious to have a title of honour, and to trye what men they will furneshe to be planted in New Scotland, whareby thare honour may in some measure be deserved.
5. To advertis what course may be taken for making out the number of Knight Baronettis, that the plantacione of New Scotland may be prosecuted, and the charges alreadie debursed thareupon recovered.
6. To deall with the Judges of the Circuit Courtis, that they sitt at thare nixt meeting upon such penall statutes as wer recovered by the counsell the last yeer.
7. To represent unto the counsell what the cuntrie doth suffer by the frequent resort of numbers heir, that the best remedie be devised for preventing the like in time coming.
8. To propone unto the Commissione that everie paroch may have some allowance for pious uses, to be disposed of by the ministers and elders of the paroche.
9. To crave an accompt of the lettre written for Sir James Stewart, willing him to be payed of what is found justlie due unto him conforme thareunto.

10. Whereas there is a propositione made concerning the fewing of Orkney, Zetland, and the Udall landis, that the tennentis may use policie, and our rentis be the better secured, let it be advised by your Counsell or Exchequer whither it be convenient for us to doe soe or not, and to certifie the samen bak with diligence, with such reasons as are given concerning the samen.

11. To advert unto the caus which is debated between the Lord of Lorne and the Ilanders, and to advertis us what is fit to be done therein.

12. To hold bak the lettre concerning the principalitie till haveing advised with our Advocat, or such others as you think fit, whither it be convenient to deliver it presently or not, you advertising us concerning the samen.

Greenwich, the seaventh day of Junij 1629.

TO THE VICE-THESAURER OF IRLAND.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas . . . Sir Archibald Achesone, Knight and Baronet, our Secretarie for our kingdome of Scotland, is authorized by his brother, Sir Harie Achesone, Knight, and Capten James Ramsay, esquier, to receive the soume of Twelff hunderith and fiftie poundis sterling, which is, and appeareth to be due unto them from us, and which wee are graciouslie pleased shalbe furthwith satisfied out of any of our revenues of that our kingdome of Irland: Oure plesour therefor is . . . upon sight heiroff to pay the said 1250^{li} sterling to the said Sir Archibald Achesone, his executouris, administratouris, or assignayis, out of any of our revenues, ifynes, casualities, and custumes of our said kingdome of Irland, which shall first come to your hand: And for your soe doing, &c.—Greenwich, the 29 of Majj 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Being informed that . . . James Douglas hath not received payment of his pensione these divers yeirs bypast contrarie to our royall intencion, being upon the consideratione of the long and painefull service done by him to our late deare father, of worthie memorie, the same was grantit unto him: Oure pleasour therefore, after due triall, how much he is behind of the said pensione, that with all convenient and speedie diligence you caus pay unto him the arrears thereof, together with the same yeerlie and termelie according to his guift granted unto him thereupon: And for soe doing, &c.—Greenwich, the 12 of Junij 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas it pleased our late dear father to grant a pensione of j^o ^{li} sterling to Agnes Prowd, the widow of Johne Milward, doctor of divinitie, whoe died within that our kingdome, being employed there in our said father's service, for the maintenance of hirselff and hir poore childring: And being informed that our said royall father in his lifetime was verie carefull upon verie good considerationes to have it duellie payed, having both often and seriouslie written to that purpos: Oure pleasure is . . . that with all convenient diligence you pay for hir use all such arrears for that pensione as are due unto hir, and that you tak such ordour for payment of the said pensione heirefter, that shoe be not put to any more unnecessary charges in suing for the same, nor that wee be not further troubled with hir petitions in this kind, which wee will tak as good and acceptable service done unto us: And for your soe doing, &c.—Greenwitche, the 12 Junij 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made unto us by . . . the Erle of Linlithquho for such warrantis or commissiones as are already granted tuitching lettres of Mart might be confirmed, and that a warrant of new might be made fit for our royall signatour for granting such lettres of mart as the occasione of the subject and the estate of the time should require: Wee are heirby pleased to will and require you to consider what is fit to be done by us heirin: And after conference hade with the said Erle concerning this purpos, that you draw upp such a signatour as you shall find to be lauchfull and fit for our hand, which may both confirme any former grant given by us to this purpos, and authorize such of our subjectis of new as have just reasone to demand any lettres of mart: And thereafter that you send the samen, decated by you, to be signed by us: And for your soe doing, &c.—Greenwich the 12th of Junij 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas divers complaintis hath been made to us, both by you and the clergie of that our kingdome, of the great encrease and insolencies of Papisis, as alsoe being daylie importuned by sindrie of that sect, complaining that they are most strietlie and severlie delt withall and put at, nor many others whoe are alike guiltie, and yet overseen and spared: Therefore wee, out of that princelie, fatherlie, and zealous care which wee have of the flourishing of the gospell and treu religeone and good of the church, and good peace of that our ancient kingdome, have concluded, and doe heirby require you to appoint a meeting to be kept at Halierudchous upon the 23 day of July nixt by our wholl counsellars and clergie, videlicet,—the Archbischopps and Bischopps, and such Commissioners of thare diocessies as they think fittest, whoe shall bring with them and produce before those assembled at that meeting the names of all the profest Papisis within thare boundis and diocesse, alsweell those as are not as yet as this whoe be already excommunicated and denounced our rebellis, to the effect you may resolve upon a more solide course to be prosecuted aganis them as you shall think fittest for reclaiming of the tractabill and obedient, and for due censuring and repressing the insolent, stubborn, and refractarie sort thereof: And wee will you to caus intinat this our resolucone be publique proclamacione at the markatt crosses needfull, that all our counsellars, prelattes, and commissioners to be nominat by them may be required to coupeir and meet at the said day: And in the meantime that all petitiones and affairs to be made by any papisis be referred and continued to that meeting, and thare to be propounded and taken orldour tharewith: And because of the cheeff occasione of the ences of that superstitious professione is the frequent resort and receipt of preestis, jesuittis, trafequeing papisis within that kingdome: Therefore wee have thought it fitting that all such persones shalbe removed out of the kingdome, and thare receive punishment according to the lawes thereof: And to that effect that you caus proclamacione to be made at all crosses requisit, charging them all to remove within fourtie dayis after the publicacione thereof under the pain of death, and if any shalbe found within the kingdome after the expyring of the said time and space, it shalbe lafull to any subject whatsoever to tak and apprehend them and present them before the Counsell, to be punished at thare directione according to the lawes, and require you to gif commissione to all Shirreffis, Justices of Peace, and other officars requisit for thare apprehensioe.—[Not dated.]

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon informatione given unto you in name of our clergie of the greef and danger apprehendit by the most parte of our subjectis best affected to religeone, you did latelie write unto

us of the dangerous consequences following upon the preferment of papists to the counsell, judicatories, commissions, and others determinations of the affairs of that our kingdome, contrarie to the lawes, actis, and statutes of the said kingdome in that cais provided: As alsoe wee beinge informed by your said lettre that the said Papists are vehementlie suspected to have dispensiones from thare oathes, and to manteyn equivocaciones as if they wer not tyed in conscience to performe what they swear: And wee conceaving the due participacione of the holie communione to be a ready and ane easie way of discoverie of recusantis whose many times after the taking of the oathe of alledgeance doe usuallie return to thare vomitt againe for all thare simulate professiones of the true religeone: And this beinge a mater of soe heigh and dangerous consequence, especiallie amongs such as are preferred to the Counsell and other judicatories, Wee cannot in our princelie respect to the good of that our ancient kingdome but be verie sensible thareof, and of your wholesome advise given unto us for remedie of the same, houting alsoe that the due administratione of the said Communione will much conduce to that purpos: Oure pleasoure therefore is, and wee doe heirhy will and require you to give present ordour, that the Communione may be duelic and ordourlic celebrated everie quarter into the Chappell of Halyrudhous, and that the Lordis of our Privie Counsell, Commissioners of our heighe commissione, Exchequer, Justiciarie, and the Lordis of Sessione, advocattis, clarkis, writers to the signet, Keepers of our Seallis, Registers, and writers thareunto, together with the Commissioneris of Edinburgh and thare clerkis, and the clarkis and members of Justiciarie, may communicat in our said Chappell quarterlie, or at the least once in everie yeer, and that the Deane of our Chappell may certifie unto you quarterlie the names of the communicantis, and the names of such of the foirsaidis persones as shalhappin to refuse or neglect soe to communicat, that by directiones from you that such of them as shalhappin to forebears receiving of the communione in the said Chappell, may alsoe be required by you to forebear the executione of thare severall places untill they may bring the Deane of our Chappell testimonie or certification of thare receiving of the holie communione in our said Chappell as aforesaid: And oure forther pleasure is that by proclamatione or otherways you caus require the saidis persones to receive the said holie communione upon the xxj day of July nixtcome in our said Chappell, whare we have appointit the same to be readie against the said day, and alsoe to require all other our good subjectis of our said kingdome to communicat at thare severall parosche churches once everie yeir at least: And that the incumbent Ministers in everie parosche may certifie the names of the not communicantis under thare handis to the ordinarie Archbischopp or Bischopps of thare severall diocesses, and the saidis Archbischopp and Bischopps to our secret counsell yeerlie to be registrat in the bookeis of counsell, whareby such persones may be prevented from beinge preferred to any judicatories or other offices within our said kingdome, or removed from the said judicatories or offices as vehementlie suspected of papistrie untill they shall happin to communicat as aforesaid: Soe recommending the wholl premissis to your speciall care, wee bid, &c.—At Court, Greenwich [no date].

TO THE CLERGIE.

Letter on the same subject, and in similar terms.—[Not dated.]

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Since the last directione we gave you for the staying of the seven thousand merkis payet out of Orknay to the Lord Naper or Deputie thesaurer (by and attour the knouen rent thareof formerlie disposed of by us) in the handis of Williame Dick, which wee understood was

accordinglie done: We have hard from the said Lord that he is willing to quite the samen to our use, which he hath offered by one in his name at our sight to doe, without giving ocasion of any forther processe concerning the same: And therefore oure plesure is that you caus a forme of surrender to be made by advise of our Advocat, and presented to the said Lord, to be signed by him, whareby he may be denuded of the said soume, and that it may be entered in Exchequer, to continow in record, as ane eneres of our rent; as likewaxis that you certifie unto us hou long he hath taken upp the said yeerlie soume; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Greenwiche, the sixteen day of Junij 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whareas by a former lettre unto you wee wer pleased to cause stay that actione tuitching the Abbacie of Kelsoe, spiritualitie and temporalitie thareof, which doth depend before you against Frances Stewart at the instance of . . . the Marquis of Hamiltoun and the Erie of Roxburghe: And whareas wee are informed that one Frances Durhame of Duntarvie is specialie cited in the summondis of reductione and improbatione intendit by our said cousines and counsellers against the said Frances Steuart, and him whoe doth pretend right to a yeerlie pensione out of the tithes of Langtoun and belonging to that Abbacye, for which the assignes of the said Frances Durahame have actiones likewaxis depending before you against the said Erie of Roxburghe, seing the saidis actiones concerne the tithes of that Abbacie, and seing we have been pleased to caus stay the actione of the saidis Marquis and Erie wharein these tithes are specialie comprehendit: Oure speciall pleasure is that the actiones likewaxis of the said assignayis of the said Durahame be in like maner continoued, and that noe persone pretending interest in the said pension be hard heirefter till our further plesour be knowne tharein: Soe not doubting of your conformitie to our pleasure heirin, Wee bid, &c.—From our manor of Greenwich, the 18 day of Junij 1629.

TO THE BORROWES, &c.

Trustie, &c.—Whareas wee are informed that there are divers merchandis of that our kingdome that send thare merchandice to such factouris at Campher, whoe doe not obey the act of parliament, privie counsell, and borrowes, provided for obeying of our lawes and for the good of the merchand trade thare; ffor remedie whareof wee have writen unto our privie counsell to consider thareof and to tak such a course tharein as they in thare judgmentis shall think fitt for the good of that kingdome: Therefore oure plesour is, that you likewaxis, after due triall of the premissis, consider what is fit to be done heirin upon your partes, ether by making ane act of new, inhibiting all merchandis from taking the like course heirefter, under the panis contined in the said act, which wee require may be strictlie exacted of the persones transgressouris in that kind; or otherwayis that you tak such a course tharein as in your judgmentis shall think most fitt ffor the better observing of the good lawes and actis preseryved in that behalf, whareby both our subjectis thare may leive according to the laudable order prescribed for that purpos, and that such as reside in that kingdome trading thare be noe wayis hurt in thare estate and goodis by thare disconformitie, as heirtofore they have been, nor our said consenitour troubled heirefter by seeking to reforme the like abuses: Wharein not doubting of your diligence and care, We, &c.—Greenwiche, the 19 Junij 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are informed that it is specialie providet by act of parliament and privie counsell of that our kingdome that noe persones be admitted factouris at Campher for the Scottis thare bot

such whoe give thare oath unto our Conservitour for givinge due obedience unto the lawes of that kingdome : And bieng likeways informed that some factouris thare have in a most contemptible maner refused to conforme themselves to theis actis, and that the widowes of divers of them have assumed the libertie of the States of the united provinces in seazing upon the cheefest and greatest parte of the goodis remaning in the custodie of thare deceased husbandis, thareby defrauding the just owners thereof residing within that our kingdome, to the great hurt thereof, and contempt of our authoritie and lawes ; flfor the timelie preventing of the like whareof heirefter, Oure speciall plesour is, after you have seriouslie considerit heirof, and if you find the premissis to be such as is affermed, that you consider of some fitt remedie for the same, ether by causing mak ane act of new, or by causing add unto theis former actis that noe persone whatsoever shalbe admitted nor continued further but such as,whoe, with thame selfis, thare parentis, and wiffes, doe realie acknowledge us to be thare supream head and governour, and doe continow to be subject to our lawes, and to non els tharewise, renunsing all libertie of the saidis States, and taking themselfis to be subject unto us and the lawes of that kingdome, givinge to this purpos thare oathes of obedience unto our said Conservitour, when he shall require the same ; or otherways that you tak such a course heirin as yee in your judgmentis shall think most fitt for the good of that kingdome : And understanding how much aebill and discreit persones who are to bear charge at that church may contribute for the better observing of theis thingis ; And whareas wee have been pleased to write unto the right reverend father in God and our right, &c. the Archbischoff of S^t Androis that non be admitted nor continued to bear charge in that churche but such as ar weill affected to our service and to the good and credit of that our kingdome, and whoe shall frielie for these respectis give thare oathes of obedience unto our said Conservitour ; Oure forther pleasour is, that, if need be, you interpone your auctoritie that non bear charge at the said churche but such as conforme themselves as afoirsaid, and whoe actualie enjoy the liberties of our said kingdome : Which recommending unto your speciall care, Wee bid, &c.—Greenwich, the 19 Junij 1629.

TO THE BISCHOFF OF S^t ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are informed that Maister Johne Forrett, Minister at Campher, hath not onlie done great injuries to the Conservitour for that our kingdome thare, bot hath likeways in a most undutiefull maner countenanced such persones who have refused to mak publict satisfactioun for disclamatioun in a publicque maner our authoritie and lawes, whareof wee have been pleased to mak such notice, that heirby we have thought good to will and require you with all diligence to tak particulare informatione from the said Conservitour of these unreverend and seditious misdeamanouris, and after due triall, if you find him to be such, as is affermed, that you tak such a course with him for the said contempt due unto us, and that our kingdome, and for the saidis conservitouris satisfactioun as shalbe most agreeable with justice and equitie and the ordour of the church thare, recommending unto your speciall care that non heirefter bear office in that Church but such as shall give thare oath unto him for thare obedience unto us, our lawes and auctoritie, and actis and ordouris prescribed in that behalf : Soe wee, &c.—Greenwich, 19 Junij 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whareas we intendit this long time bypast to have conferred with you touching some of our speciall affairs concerning that our kingdome, wharein we had a mynd to have had your opinione as one upon whose long experience and faithfull service our late deare father, of worthie memorie, and ourselves have reposed a cheeff trust, yet heering the indispositione of your bodie, wee for that caus have long ceased to require your coming unto us : Bot now our pleasour is, if your helth can see permitt, and if you think

you can saiffie adventour upon a jorney that with alsmuch diligence as convenientlie you can use, you repaire unto our Court, whare wee wil impart our forther plesour unto you in such things as may concern the good of our serviee there : Soe, &c.—Greenwich, 23 Junij 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Having heard of the lamentable estate of the poore exiled ministers of the Palatinate, extending (as wee are informed) to the number of Sex hunderithe persones, with thare wives and childring, whoe, falling into the powate of thare cruell enemyes, being spoyled of all thare estates, are exposed unto extreme miseries, in commiseratione whereof wee have been pleased to give present ordour that a generall collectione be made throughout all the churches within this our kingdome, such as the charetable devotions and liberalities of all such persones as are that way disposed touardis the succouring and releiffing of the said poore exylers will willinglie afford : And wee doe heirby recommend them unto you that you wilbe pleased to give ordour to everie Archbischopp and Bischopps in everie dioeesse throughout that our kingdome, that a course may be taken there for collecting that which can be hade from such as are charetabillie disposed to support thare distressed people, after such maner as shalbe found most expedient : Which wee recommend unto your care, and bid you, &c.—Greenwich, the 30 Junij 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE TITHES.

Being ereditbillie informed houe our late deare father, of worthie memorie, did intend upon verie good considerationes to have all difference between the Marques of Hamiltoune, the Erles of Roxburgh and Balcleuch, and Frances Steuart, sone to the late Erle of Bothuell, removed, and being willing to tak the like course : Wee have been and are graciouslie pleased to tak upon us to deall to that purpos in regard whereof, and that the Erle of Roxburgh cannot be abell to attend that commisionne granted unto you becaus of his necessarie and urgent effairs at this time : Oure pleasoure is, whatsoever shall come before you concerning . . . the Erle of Roxburgh, that it shalbe continoued till our forder plesour be knownen ; the generall valuatione of the tithes pertening to him, always havinge the commone course appointed to be taken by the sub-commissioners, except such as he may convey before your selfis, according to the act of commisionne granted by you to him, for citatione of parties before you, conforme to the tennour thereof ; for the which alsoe oure forther pleasure is that you grant him such time as you shall think most fitt, that he may convenientlie attend the same : Soe we bid, &c. . . .—Tenth of July 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee did latelie send doune to you to be passed a signatour for erecting that burgh of Starneway, in the Ile of the Lewis, a frie burgh royall with frie port and herberie, in which signatour there are some clauses which have been opposed (as we are informed) by some of the borrowes under pretence of some prejudice arrising thereby unto them in particulare, and unto the commonewelthe in generall : Oure pleasour therefor is, that you peruse and examine the said signatour, and to certifie the same in such maner as the same may pas for the better civilizing of that rude Ile, and for imbringing of trade and traffeque unto the same by natives and such other subjectis of our freendis and confederattis as are to be naturalized in that our kingdome : And alsoe that you call before you the Provest and baillies of

Edinburgh, and invite and induce them (if you can) to deall with the rest of the borrowes to concurr with . . . the Erle of Seafort for planting of the said toune in such a fair way and maner as may seeme most fitting for the commonewelthe and the good of our subjectis and inhabitantis within the saids Iles and countries about the same ; and iff the said borrowes shall happen to refuse thare assistance or oppose the said plantatione or signatour ; Then wee desire you to tak thare reasons into your serious consideratione that if they be by you found immateriall the said signatour may not be any longer delayed under cullour thareoff : Which recommending unto your care, Wee, &c.—Windsore, the 16 day of July 1629.

TO THE COUNSELLARS.

Right, &c.—Being enformed of the qualitie and sufficiencie of our trustie and weelbeloveld Michaell Balfour of Denmilne, and of his affectione to doe us good service thare : Oure pleasour is, that with all ceremonye requisit you dubb him Knight according to the use and custume of that our ancient kingdome observed in the like cases : And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrand : Soe wee, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Understanding that . . . Alexander Colvill, our Justice-Deput, must necessarelie attend with other Judges at the Circuit Courtis, and least by the want of the tuelie payment of his fees he should be forced not to goe with them for executing : Oure speciall plesour is, that at the time the said Judges are payed of what is due unto them by us, that he likewise at the same time be payed of the fees of his office according to his quift granted thareupon : And for your soe doing these presentis, &c.—Windsore, the 16 day of July 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have been pleased to present . . . our servitour and chaplen, Maister Walter Whiteford, doctour of divinitie to the sub-deanrie of Glasgow, consisting of the churches of Calder and Monkland, to the effect the desolat estate of the people within the parochie of Monkland, wanting a pastour through a dispute concerning the patronage of theis churches, may be helped ; And understanding that Sir James Kneeland of Monkland, Knight, pretendis right to the patronage of the saidis churches, whareby our royall intencion in planting the said churchie of Monkland may be impedit and our right of the patronage thareof prejudged : Wee will that you concurr with the said Maister Walter, and doe your endeavour for persewing or defending our right of the said patronage, alsweell by way of actione as by way of exceptione : And alsoe that you intend reductione in our name and for our interest, with concourse or at the instance of the said Maister Walter for reducing and annulling the said Sir James Kneeland, his pretendit right of patronage of the said churches, iff need beis, and persue all other actione necessare and competent for establisshing our right foirsaid in the persone of our said servitour according to the lawes of that our kingdome as yee will doe us acceptable service : And soe wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE EXCHEKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas the widow of Robert Broune, whoe did long serve our late royall father in a charge in the wyne sellare, hath humblie petitioned us that schoe might have the arrears of the fees and liveries which wer due unto hir husband at the time of his decisis as aid of the wine sellare

in that our kingdome : Wee being enformed of hir hard estate, and out of our royall clemencie commiserating the same, are heirly graciouslie pleased to will and require you to examine what fees and liveries are resting unpaid to hir said husband as aid of the said sellare, and if you find anything to be due unto him, that with all convenient diligence you tak a course for paying the same unto hir : And for your soe doing, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE EXCHACKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made unto us in behalf of Thomas Burnet, that wee might be pleased to grant unto him the arrears of the fees and leiveras belonging to the office of Master of the Larder in that our kingdome with a new gift thereof, in respect that he at the time of the coming of our late deare [father unto] this oure kingdome was to have succedit, as wee are informed, to have been Master of that office, as being first aide of the same by a giuft under the privie seall : But being unwilling ether to grant him the said arrears or any new office importing a forther charge to our Excekker, and yet out of our royall clemencie commiserating the hard estate of ane old servand whoe hath this many yeirs suffered by wanting a charge from our said late father or us : Oure pleasoure is, that you trye what fees and leiveras are due unto him by his office of first aide of the Larder thare, and if you find anything to belong unto him, that you caus pay the same unto him for the time past, and to come conforme to the giuft wharein wee desire that the speedier course may be taken to the effect, he may be enabled to give his attendance in any charge in our service which shalbe thought fitt for him at our coming to that our kingdome : Soe wee, &c.—Windsore, the 16 day of July 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have taken into our consideratione the long fore . . . of the collectione of our annuetic out of the tithes granted unto us by divers actis of the commissione for tithes and being loth to multiplie officiaris or to appoint any new collectouris for the same : Oure pleasour therefore is, that you give commissiones and directiones unto the elective shirreffs and thare clerkis for collecting the same in thare severall shirrefdomes, and unto the clerkis of the peace for the shires wharein the shirreffs are not elective but heretabill, and unto the chamberleans of our principalitie for the boundis within our principalitie according to his gift ; And that you allow unto them soe much out of the pound as others collectouris or custumers usethe to have allowed to them for thare collectouris, and that the said commissiones of collection be onlie granted unto the persones foirsaid during our will and plesour onlie [unfinished].

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that in our late deir father's time thare was ane ordour made by him in that our kingdome for making of a new Grammer to be taught in the gramer skoolis for the better proficiencie of young students, and that in prosecution of the said ordour Maister Alexander Home, skoolmaister of Dumbarr, did learnedlie and skilfullie and painfullie compose a new grammer to the good liking, approbatione, and commendatione of such learned men unto whome the triall and examinatione thereof was committed : And forasmuch as after the said approbatione the Lordis of Counsell did by proclamatione publish it, and did forther ordour the said grammer onlie to be taught in the gramer skoolis, and noe other grammer under penalties contined in the said proclamatione ; And within a short time tharefter complaint being exhibited by some persones suggesting the obscuritie and difficultie of the said

grammer, the executione of the said proclamacione was stayed and suspendit untill a triall should be taken of the treuthe of the said allegatione, and of the sufficiencie and facilitie of the said grammer: And wee being most unwilling that ether the said young studentis should be any longer frustrat of the help of the said grammer, or the said Maister Alexander of the fruite of his labouris thareupone bestoned, iff the same shalbe thought meet to be taught: Therefore wee are graciouslie pleased, and doe heirby will and require you, to appoint a committee of some learned indifferent men not interested in the busienes to peruse, examine, and trye the said grammer, and to heir the objectiones of parties against the same, and upon thare approbatione or disallowing thereof you caus authorize a suppress of the same accordinglie, by all the lauffull wayis and means that you shall think most fitting and agreeable to reasone, and the good of the posteritie of that our kingdome, and that the said former ordour may be put in due executione, if the said grammer shalbe found fitt by the said committie, and approven by you, after proclamacione made, to give intimatione to all parties haveand or pretendand to have entres, to compeir, oppose, and object against the sufficiencie and facilitie of the said grammer at ane certane day and place, to be prescribed by you with such certificatione as you shall think fitt: And for your soe doing, &c.—Windsore, the 16 day of July 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the commissions of the peace of that our ancient kingdome hath not as yet been renewed since the death of our late dear father, by whose deceas the same are determind: And that many of the Justices tharein mentioned are ether dead or living in some other shires, or aged and infirme, to the great hinderance of Justice and of the peace and quietnes of that our said realme: Oure pleasour heirfore is, and wee doe heirby authorize, will, and require you to caus renue the saidis commissions of the peace, during our pleasour onlie, and with additione of such others Justices as you shall think fitt for that charge, haveing always a speciall care that they be men of sound religeon and of sufficient integritie and abilitie to leive as men of that qualitie: And that in everie one of the said commissions all the Lordis and others of our privie counsell be first named as being commissioners of the peace throw the wholl kingdome; and nixt the Custos Rotulorum of everie shire; and thridlie the rest of the Justices, according to thare qualitie: Reserving always the nominatione of the clarkis of the peace of everie shire unto our Secretaries, whoe by theis presentis are authorized by us for that effect.—[Not dated.]

TO THE COUNSELL

Right, &c.—Whereas we have taken some course by our decree to prevent the many mischeeffis which usuallie did ensue upon the casting of stackis, and wilfull leading and carieing away of the tithes of other men's landis, which formerlie was not in use to be led, but usuallie sett in Takis: And least any titulare of such tithes should this year 1629 presume to carie away the samen without the good liking of the heretouris of the same, whoe are willing to buye and pay for the same when duely valued: Oure pleasour tharefore is, that you by proclamacione or otherwayis caus mak intimatione to all such titulars to forbear such wilfull carieing away of such tithes of other men's landis of this yeir 1629, least the heretouris opposing themselves to such wilfull collectione, the peace of that our kingdome may be anyways prejudged, or any other evill follow thareupone, which wee wold glaidlie have to be tymeouslie prevented by our princelie care of all our good subjectis whoe are lyable to the lawes of that our kingdome for not payment of what is due unto any: Soe recommending this particulare to your speciall care, Wee bid you, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have writen our princelie directione unto the commissioners of parliament to prorogat and continow the same unto the first day of Junij nixtoocum, whareby wee may have some more time and leasour to be thare in persone at the said Parliament, and to receave oure Croune for the peace and securitie of that our native and ancient kingdome : Oure pleasoure therefore is . . . that after the said parliament shalbe prorogated and continoued as said is, you caus intimat the said prorogatione and continuatione to all our good lieges within our said kingdome by proper proclamacione at the Mercat Crosse of Edinburgh and other places neidfull, and warn all prelattis, noblemen, commissioners for borrowis and barrones, and all others haveing place, voit, or awine attendance in the said supream court of Parliament to attend and waitt upon the same the foirsaid day, with continuacione of dayis, and to performe all and sindrie such other thingis as to thare places and offices doe appertene ; And for doing of the premissis theis our lettres shalbe unto you and everie one of you ane sufficient warrand and discharge in that behalf : And soe, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE PARLIAMENT.

Right, &c.—Whereas we did latelie caus prorogate our Parliament unto the first of September nixtoocum, in hope that wee could have been thare our self in persone at that time : And now considering that the present estate of our affairs cannot convenientlie permit us to be thare then as wee desired, and yet being unwilling to be absent from our first parliament, and desirous to receave our croune in persone and to settle all busienes thare for the good and quyet of that oure ancient kingdome, and with the applause of all our good subjectis thare : Oure pleasoure tharefor is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, to caus fence said court of parliament, be vertex of our said commissione latelie granted unto you by us, and to prorogat or continow the said parliament again to the first day of Junij nixtoocum, with continuatione of dayis, that wee may have time settle our affairs heir before wee begin our jorney towards that our ancient kingdome : And for doing of the premissis theis shalbe unto you, and everie one of you, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE DEPUTIE AND CHANCELLAR OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that Sir James Cuninghame of Glengarnok, Knight, deceased, was at the time of his deathe in that our Kingdome indebted in divers soumes of money unto . . . Lord Kilmawers in our kingdome of Scotland, as the billis, bandis, and specialities made thereupon may appear : And forasmuch as the most parte of the said soumes wer payed by the said Lord Kilmawers as souertie for the said Sir James, being his awne brother-in-law, whome he wold have been loathe to have damnified if he had : And whareas wee did latelie write our lettres unto you our Deputie for passing the said Sir James his land in Ulster unto his sone, or some others ffeoffes to his use, and the use of his mother, who is sister to the said Lord Kilmawers, and whoe, as wee conceive, wold be loath to prejudge his said brother, or binder the payment of the said just debt : Oure pleasoure therefore is that you stay the passing off all lettres patentis of the saidis landis, or any parte thereof, unto any persone whatsoever, unto such time as the saidis debtis be first payed and discharged, or at least that you tak some speedie course whareby to charge the saidis landis with the saidis debtis, and for payment unto the said Lord Kilmawers, or his executouris or his assignayis ; And for payment of some small debt due unto Maister Johne Drummond, Servitour to . . . the Erle of Monteathe, Lord Precedent of our Counsell of our said realme of Scotland,

whoe hath been a suter to us in his behalf: And for doing of the premissis these our lettres shalbe unto you our Deputie and Chancellare now being, and to any other Deputie, Justices, Chancellare, and Keeper of our Great Seall, which heirefter shalbe from time to time a sufficient warrand, &c.—Windsore, the 16 day of July 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made unto us by . . . Sir Johne Scatone, Knight, gentleman of our Privie Chamber, for these our lettres in his behalf, requiring you to pay, or caus be payed, unto him or his assignais the arrears of his pensione due unto him; And though wee know that your many debursmentis for our service hath in a maner exhausted our treasure thare, yet in consideratione of the many good and acceptable services done by the said Sir Johne, both to our late dear father and us, both abroad beyond seas, and at home within our owne dominions; And for his better subsistence and encouragement heirefter to doe us service, wee are graciouslie pleased, and doe heirby will and require you, not onlie to pay or caus be payed unto him his said arrears with all convenient diligence, but alsoe to weell and timelie caus him to be payed and answered of his said pensione from time to time, as the same shall grow due heirefter; Which we will accompt as acceptable service done to us, &c.—Ut supra.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Being informed by Lodovik Carliele, our servand, how that in the time of our late dear father, of worthie memorie, ordour was given for breeding of good houndis within sex miles of Drumfrees, Lochmaben, and the toune of Annand, and for restrayning the killing of hayrs with gunnes and grayhoundis within the saidis boundis: And wee being noe les willing that the like course should be taken now for preserving the game ther, Oure pleasour is, that you call before you Harbert Carliele, of his father, whoe, as wee are informed, was cheefie entrusted to sie that ordour put in executione, And after you have informed yourselves by him of what hath been formerlie done in that purpose in the time of our late deare father, and how farr at this time you may lafuldie and convenientlie proceed therein, that accordinglie you give ordour to the most sufficient men in those partes for seing the saidis abuses restraned: Which recommending to your care, Wee bid you, &c.—Windsore, the 16 July 1629.

TO THE ADVOCATT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have been moved to signe tuee signaturis of the Universities of S^t Androis and Glasgow touching the ratiefeing of thare liberties, but being willing to proceed therein with due advise, soe that nather wee, they, nor non of our good subjectis be prejudged, Oure pleasour is that you peruse the same, and if thare be noe materiall thing therein importing any new grant from us, whether of itself, or by the consequence doth reallie appear to prove hurtfull unto us or unto any of our subjectis: Wee require you to deocat the same, and ether to send them hither to be signed by us, or otherways to caus exped them thare: And for your soe doing, &c.—Greenwitche, 23 July 1629.

TO THE TWO MAISTERS OF WORK.

Whereas wee have hard of your care and diligence in repairing our houses of that our kingdome, in soe farr as the time first intendit for our coming thither could then convenientlie permitt, seing upon

our said unckle, whereof we have been pleased to tak speciall notice : And whereas he hath been seriouslie recommendit unto us by our said unckle that fyve hunderith poundis sterling might be payed unto him by us as due ffor his service and parte of ransome of prissoners, which our coffers cannot at this time convenientlie spare : Wee are heirby pleased that wee intend shortlie to caus pay him these moneyis, and aernestlie to desire you that, according to that naturall duetic which you owe him as your onlie sone (whereof wee doe not doubt), he may have that supplie from you for payment of his debitis contracted in our service, and for his yeerlie interteynement, as may best be spared out of your estate, and as may best fitt his qualitie and charge, which wee will tak as a pleasour due to us, whereof wee will not be unmyndfull wheu any occasione shall offer to expres our further respect unto you : Soe wee bid, &c.—From our Maner of Greenwich the 23 Junij 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—After sight of your lettre, taken into our serious consideratione that bussienes between the Lord of Lorne and some of the northe Hlanders, wee find noething materiall to stay our intendit course for doing of justice within the boundis of those remote places, conceaving it to be a great comfortt and eas to our good subjectis and a terrour to malefactouris that transgressiones be punished in the partes where they are committed : And whereas you have desired us, least the course of justice should be interrupted or receive any delay, to let you the more speedelie know howe to carie yourselfis tharein ; and if wee should be pleased to allow the said Lord to hold Court at Invernes, it being without the boundis of his commissioun, that wee may be pleased to send doune our warrand to that effect, seing wee are weell pleased with the course which we have already begune tharein : And as you have desired that justice be noe longer delayed, Oure pleasoure is, that you caus our advocat draw upp such a warrand as shalbe requisit for authorising the said Lord and his deputies to hold Courtis at Invernes, leaving them to hold Courtis in any other place where, by vertew of his grant from us, he may doe the same, and that you suffer him not to be any longer interrupted tharein, but that you give him all the assistance that is fit to be granted for that effect : Thus we bid, &c.—Windsore, the 26 July 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH, THE BISCHOPP OFF ROSSE, SIR ARCHIBALD ACHESON, AND SIR THOMAS HOPE.

Right, &c.—Whereas thais enclosed overturs touching the decree which wee intend to pronouce upon the generall submissione made by the erectouris and others interested in tithes have been propounded unto us in behalff of the tithbuyers, which seem to be reasonable ; and being willing to proceed tharin by due advise, before any course should be resolved upon by us touching the same, Oure pleasoure is that you peruse and consider thareof ; and thereafter that you report unto us your opiniou concerning the same, and how farr we may tharein proceed in justice and equitie for our benefit, and generall good of all our subjectis interested tharein : And in the meantime that you resolve upon some convenient course for preventing the leading of tithes this year, and all inconveniences that may arise thereby : Which seriouslie wee recommend unto your care : Wee bid, &c.—From our Court at Theobaldis, the 28 July 1629.

TO JAMES AND WILLIAME MAXWELLIS, GENTLEMEN, USHERS FOR SCOTLAND.

Oure pleasoure is, that with all convenient diligence, you, or ether of you, as the occasione of our service heir shall permitt, repaire unto our kingdome of Scotland, and there, by vertew of your offices, that you carefullie put and caus put in good ordour all such ludgingis and rowmes within our Castellis and

palaces thare, whare wee intend to be, as can be best and most convenientlie done by you, disposing thereof for our use and the use of our officiairs and seruandis as shalbe most fitt: And for your soe doing, &c.—At Theobaldis, 28 July 1629.

TO M^r JAMES OLYPHANT.

Whereas wee have been pleased to put you to ane ordinarie place of our Colledge of Justice formerlie discharged by Sir Alexander Hay of Fosterseatt, wharein wee expect that you will carie yourself soe as becometh one in such a charge: And least the said Sir Alexander (who hath tharein long served our late dear father and us) should think himself wholelie neglected: Wee desire you if you have not alreadie taken a course with him to give him content, that you spare him the benefit of his place during his lifetime, and what losse you will sustean thereby, wee will consider thereof: Soe, &c.—Theobaldis, the 28 July 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH.

Letter to repair to Court, in the usual form.—Theobaldis, ut supra.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we have been pleased upon verie good considerationes to give ourdour unto our counsell for authorising . . . the Lord of Lorne to hold courtis in any part whare by vertew of his late grant from us he is warranted to doe the samen: And whareas our burgh of Innernes, which was of old designet for holding of courtis for the north heighlanders, is without the boundis of his commissiione, Oure pleasure is that you draw upp for our royall signatour, or to be exped by our Exchecquer at the optione of the said Lord, a sufficient and legall right for authorising and enabling him and his deputies to hold courtis within the said burgh, without hindering of them to hold courtis in any other part whatsoever within the prescribed boundis of his said grant, and if at any time heirefter any questione in law shall arise tuitching this purpos which may concern us, Wee will and require you to compeir and concurr tharein for our interest in soe farr as belongeth to your charge from us: And for your soe doing, &c.—Theobaldis, the 28 July 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Understanding that the ordinarie place of our Sessione before discharged by Sir Alexander Hay of Fosterseat, Knight, doth now waik in his handis by his demissione: Tharefor we have thought fitt to put into the said ordinarie place . . . M^r James Oliphant of Newton, one of the ordinarie Advocattis of our said Colledge, requiring you to trie his qualificatione and sufficiencie, and if you find him ffit and qualiefied for the same, to admitt and receive him in our ordinarie place of our sessione to be discharged and possessed by him with all priveleges, immunities, fees, and prerogatives thareunto belonging, and as frielie in all respectis as any ordinar senatour of the saidis Colledge hath discharged or possessed therein at any time preceeding; for which these presentis shalbe, &c.—Theobaldis, the 28 July 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas we are informed that there is ane warre shipp pertining to the estates of the United provinces of the Low Cuntries cast away upon the coast of that our kingdome: And wee being willing, in

regard of the Articles past betuix us and them for the saiffie of both our schippis, as need shall require on ether of our coasts, to give them any fortherance that convenientlic can be effected for the recoverie of the said schip with all thingis thareunto belonging, as wee expect the like from them: Oure plesour is that you give ordour they may be assisted tharein, And that they may imploy upon thare owne charges ony persones for that purpos, and that non be suffered to truble or molest them in doing thareof: Which recommending to your care, Wee, &c.—At Oatlandis, the 8 August 1629.

TO THE ADMIRALL.

Letter upon the same subject, dated ut supra.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Whereas wee wer pleased, in regard of the willingnes, as wee wer informed, of Johne Steuart of Coldinghame, to give satisfacione of . . . the Erle of Home, to write unto him to leave off to insist aganis the said Johne in that actione depending between them before our College of Justice, and to require you to desist from compeiring tharein in behalf of the said Erle untill you should receive a warrand from us to the contrarie: Though wee are still confident of the said Johne his willingnes to tak a course for paying or securing what is justlic due unto the said Erle, as we hope that he will urge no forther, but to accept of such ressonabill satisfacione, yet we will not that there be any let by us why the said Erle may not succeed in that actione, according to the lawes of that our kingdome: Therefore wee leaff it to his owne choise to insist tharein or not, and to youris to compeir or not for him in the same, or in any lauffull caus wharein he shall imploy yow: Not doubting bot you will have a speciall care of such thingis, wharein we are particularelie interested, Wee bid you, &c.—Ut supra.

[NOT ADDRESSED.]

Whereas wee are informed that some painters and goldsmithes and divers others takis upon them to paint, grave, and give coattis of armes to such persones as are not privileged by the law of armes, nor any way warranted from us to wear coatt armour, or cognissance of gentrie, which disordour wee will not suffer any longer to be continued, seing that both we and our ancient nobilitie and gentrie of that our kingdome are thareby wronged, and our King of armes and his brithering heraldis, whose maintenance hath ever heertofore dependit, as we are informed, upon the like service: Tharfor our plesour is, and wee do heirby will and require you, or any tuee of you, by vertew of your severall offices, and in soe farr as you can be thareby warranted, to call before you all suche persones as you shall know to transgres in that kind, ordining them to deliver up unto our said King of Armes all such rollis, geneologies, bookis of armes, or other papers or draughtis buitching that purpos, which shalbe tried to be in thare custodie: And in soe farr as you can be warranted by the giftis of your office, or ony of them, that you fine, imprisnone, and mak actis for preventing the like misordouris heirefter: And for your soe doing, &c.—Oatlandis, ut supra.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Whereas at this time we have signifiet our plesour unto our Privie Counsell thare touching the accepting of . . . the Marques of Huntlie his submissione and acknowledgement of his oversicht, concerning which they

of late did wreyt unto us : Therefore our plesour is, upon his acknowledgement likeways unto them of his oversight, that immediatlie thereafter you pas unto him, or to any other whome he shall nominat, the guift of his oune escheat to his oune use, without any compositione ; or that you give way to any other spedie legall course as he shall think fitt, ether for annulling and reduceing of the said horning, or for preserving himself and his estate from any prejudice which may thereby befall unto him : And for your soe doing theis presentis, &c.—Oatlandis, the eight day of August 1629.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF S^t ANDROIS.

As our late deir father, of worthie memorie, did, as we are informed, upon some good respectis allow unto . . . the Marques of Huntlie some time for being trubled for his religeone, soe wee conceive that his age, qualitie, and some other good considerationes, touching which wee have writen to our Counsell thare, doe likeways require some time from us ; wharein, as wee expect that he will give noe just caus of scandell to the professed religeone, Soe if he should doe anything to the contrarie, will, as altogither unwilling to give way to the least contempt that can be offered in that kind, require you to adverteis us of the same, that wee may proceed for remedie thareoff, as we by your advise shall find just caus : Therefor oure plesure is, that noe proces be intendit aganis him, his Ladie, or childring for thare religeone till wee shall hear the reasones that may induce us to tak a course to the contrarie : And soe, &c.—Oatlandis, the 8 August 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas you wreat unto us of the neglect and contempt of the Marques of Huntlie in his charge, and of his rebellione and leaving the kingdome without licience and your knowledge, for which wee did for a long time restraine him from coming to our Court, and a long time from our persone, untill, in all humilitie acknowledging his offenses, he did promes to return to give you satisfactiōe : And forasmuch as he and his sone, the Lord Gordoun, hes resigned unto us the Shirreffschippes of Aberdeen and Innernes ad perpetuam remanentiam, soe that they cannot any more be charged to apprehend rebellis and excommunicat papistis, as Shirreffis of these shires ; And that the said Marques hathe protested unto us that he was not able to apprehend those persons in soe short a time as was prescribed unto him by his charge, and that he did not pas by you in contempt or neglect, but out of fear to offend you iff he should have come at you, being then at the home : Wharewith wee being satisfied, Onre pleasoure is, that howsoever the said Marques shall appear before you, And submissivelie in your presens mak the like declaratione and acknowledgement for his negligence or contempt as heir he hath done unto us, that then you immediatlie give ourdour for relaxing him from the home, And for passing unto him or any other whome he shall nominat the gift of his owne escheat to his owne use without compositione, or that you give way to any other spedie and lauffull course for annulling the said horning ; which remitting unto your care, We bid you, &c.—Oatlandis, the 8 of August 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas Sir Patrick Agnew, Knight, hath compleaned unto us of divers oppresiones done unto him by the Erle of Cassillis, as by the inclosed petitione doth appeir : Oure plesour is, that you consider thareof, and after exact triall, and what is tharein mentioned, iff you find that our lawes and auctoritie hath been contemned and broken by the said Erle, or that he hathe oppressed the partie in his office, estate, or persone, that you censure, fine, or caus punishe him as you shall find the nature of his offence to

have justly merited, And that you mak him give sufficient satisfacione to the petitioner for what losses he hath sustined by him, that others may be restrained from attempting the like heirefter : And that our peace in these partis may be duclie preserved for the generall good of all our loving and weell disposed subjectis there.—Bagshote, the 13 day of August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Whereas wee are informed that by the grantis of the taxationes in anno 1621 and 1625 Wee have a just clame to more moneyis then have been contined in the rollis made by the Clark of the said taxationes subscrivit by some of our Privie Counsell for the barronies and benefices partes thereof, and that there have been much more levied by the ingatherers of the particulare taxatione of the saidis barronies and benefices, and by some alsoe of the barrones and frieholders, then they have been charged for by the generall collectouris of the said taxationes and warrand of the saidis rollis, whareby we have been deferred of what is justlie due unto us, and our subjectis wronged in thare good intentiones for our use, ffor better preventing of the like abuse heirefter by a speedie drawing bak of theis moneyis unto us, as was treulie intendit, Wee have thought fitt to give poware unto . . . Williame Haig, one of our sollicitouris there, whoe hath the alreadye taken and is to tak panis for prosecuting our service heirin : Therefore our pleasour is that with all convenient diligence you draw up for our signatour a sufficient commissione to be docketed by you and sent unto us, whareby he, his airs, assignes, and partiners, may be fullie authorized to uplift and receive the saidis soumes due unto us more then have been contined in the rollis made and subscrived as said is, or uplifted by the said particular collectouris, more then have been charged for by the said generall collectouris, without prejudice to the said generall collectouris in any thing that can be charged for by vertew of the saidis rollis, and to call and persew for the same before whatsoever Judges competent, and for the better fortherance of our service heirin, that you both advise all processis may happen be intendit at our instance for that effect; and that you compeir in our name to plead, as you shalbe required by him or them before our Colledge of Justice : And becaus wee intend to gratiefie the said Williame for the panis and charges hee and his forsaidis have been or shallappin to be heirin, Oure forther pleasour is that you assigne them by the said commissione the just equall half of whatsoever they shall see recover for our use, and that you insert in the said commissione all such clauses as by you shalbe found lafull and necessare for the better prosecutione of our said service : All which wee recomend to your care and biddis, you, &c.—Bagshot, 14 August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas upon peticeone formerlie exhibited unto us by Sir Patrick Agnew, Knight, shewing how that he and his predecessouris had been long in peaceable possessione of some landis and tithes, till the Erle of Cassillis hade intendit removing and spoliatione against him, notwithstanding that thois landis being parte of our propertie wer fewed for increse of policie and securing our rentis by continowing the possessouris in thare possessiones : Wee wer pleased to wryte unto the said Erle to forbeare any such rigourus dealling, least wee should be induced to interpose our title for the petitioner's releeff and safetie, and if he should tak a fair and freendlie course with the petitioneris, wee wald be the less urged to use our right to his disadvantage : But being advised that this advise hath rather moved him to proceed more harslie against the petitioner, and that otherwayis he hath committed divers ryettis and oppressions contrair to our lawes, and all good and civill governement, tuiching which wee have writen to our counsell, Oure pleasour is, iff he shalbe found guiltie of what hath been layd against

him, ether touching the wronging of the petitioner or by contemning our said auctoritie and lawes, that you informe yourself both by the said Patrik, and all other wayis and means of any interest and right which he can have to the saidis landis and tithes, and if you shall find that wee may lawfullie proceed for evicting thereof, that you in our name intend actione for reducing the same to our use that wee may tak a course for the petitioneris better releeff and safetie by condeucing with him for the saidis landis for our best advantage.—Bagshote, the 15 of August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Whereas we have agreed with Sir Patrik Agnew, Knight, for his heretable office of the shirrefship of Gallowa, for the soume of fyve and twentie thousand merkis scottis money, as the pree thereof to be payed unto him out of our Exchequer, with ordinarie annuelrent for the said soume if it be not payed betuix this and the terme off Witsunday nixt : Oure pleasoure is, that you draw upp a surrender whareby he may be denudit, And wee and our successouris sufficientlie secured of that office, and that you likeways draw upp a suretie or other write needfull for our hand, whareby he may be payed of the said soume out of the reddest moneyis whatsoever in our said Exchequer, with ordinarie interest for the same if it be not payed at the terme foirsaid : And for your soe doing, &c.—Bagshote, the 15 August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Being informed by the inclosed peticcone which we require you to consider that Johne Gordoune of Rothemay, whoe of late is denusit our rebell, hath in contempt of our authoritie disobeyed a charge from our counsell : Oure pleasoure is, that you informe your self how farr you may be lauffullie warranted from us to proceed against him for his contempt and rebellione, and to advertis us thereof, that we may give such forder ordour therein as we shall find just caus, both for the petitioneris redres and the better preventing the like contemptis heirefter : Which wee recommend unto you, and biddis you, &c.—Bagshotte, the ffytene day off August 1629.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF ROSSE.

Right, &c.—Because the Erle of Nithesdale is to stay within this our kingdome till the nixt terme for the settling of his affairs, and to gif his creditouris satisfactioun, least he should be troubled in soe good a course by being inseasonabillie molested ; in the meantime wee desire you, as one whome we specialie trust to deal with the Archebischopp of Glasgow, or any other, as you shall think fitt, and by any means you conceave to be best for that purpose, that noe proces by the church be used against him nor his Ladie, in his absence during that time, he behaving himself weell, without givinge ony publique scandell, as wee are confident he will not doe : And soe recommending this seriouslie to your care ; Wee, &c.—Bagshotte, the 15 August 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are pleased to grant the office of Maserie before the Lordis of our counsell and Sessione which did waik in our handis by the death of Robert Chalmers unto Robert Creichtoune, whareof, notwithstanding (as wee are credibillie informed) he hath been disapointed contrarie to our royall intencion : Now, least others should unreasonabillie importune us to have that office, or least the said

Robert should be farther disappointed of what wee intendit for him, Oure pleasoure is that yee tak notice of our royall intentione . . . that you harken unto non that wold be suters unto us for the same, seing, according to our first intentione, wee have resolved to grant the same unto him : And to this effect that bothe you mak ane act of counsell and Sederunt : And for your see doing, &c.—Bagshot, 15 August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Whereas we have been pleased to renew a lease of the assise herring to Mr George Fletcher, contining the old takk duetie payable unto us, with the augmentatione by him of new, upon consideration that notwithstanding of the good and considerable causes, whareupon the erectione belonging unto him was first granted, hee hath not onlie frielic submitted unto us, as other erectouris have done, but likewyis is willing freele to surrendare his few-dewties thareof : Therefore oure pleasour is, that you sie theis superiorities and few-dewties surrendered unto us in a due and legall maner, and us secured thareof ; and tharefter that the said lease be past and exped with all convenient diligence : And for doing whareof, &c.—Bagshoat, the 15 August 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to grant the duties at that time due unto us out of the rentis of Orknay, first to the Erle of Nithisdall, and tharefter, when his lease should expire, to Johne Steuart of Colkinghame, with such reservationes and for such a space as thare severall giftis did beare, haveing now accepted of a surrender from the Lord Naper of the soume of 7000 merkis to be payed yeirlic to him by William Dick, merchand, by and attour the ordinarie rent which wee have been pleased to dispose off as said, is to the effect it may be payed in one with the rest, and continow recorded for the entres of our revenue : Oure pleasoure is, that you caus draw upp a new lease of Orknay, and of all other landis and commodities which the former lease did conteane, with the like reservationes, to the said Williame Dick ; And incais he will not accept thareof, with a blank for the name of any such persone as wee shall pleas to caus be insert tharein paying unto us yeerlie 52,000 merkis Scottis, by and attour theis thingis reserved in the preceeding grantis : And withall, in regard of the good service done unto our late deir father, and unto us, by . . . the Erle of Annandale, our fforther pleasour is, that you draw upp for our hand a sufficient right unto him whareby he may uplift and enjoy the said soume of 7000 merkis latelie added to our revenues thare, by and attour that which was formerly assigned to the Erle of Niddisdall and Johne Steuart : And the said right to continow during the termes of yeers granted unto ether of them, he begining to receave what my Lord Naper hath not as yet receaved, and continowing him in his right from that time forward till Johne Steuardis time be expired, that the whole rent may returne to us together at one time : And likewayis caus draw upp a surrender of the Stenartry of Annandale, whareby we may be secured thareof, to be provided for the time coming, as wee shall think best : ffor doing whareof, &c.—Woodstock, the 27 August 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas wee are moved concerning tuoe Frensch shippis and French goodis tharein, whareof the one is called S^t Peter and the other S^t Michall, which (as wee are informed) wer taken since the last pacificatione by the said Scottis schipis and caried unto Leith ; and that noe breach should appeir on oure parte, like as wee expect performance of the like of them when the estate of any of our subjectis shall require the

same, Oure pleasoure is that you caus trye the same; and if after triall you find that these scrips and goodis belong unto the subjectis of France, that you caus redeliver them to thare owners: And for the better expeditione of justice, iff any questione shalbe betuix parties concerning anything that may hinder the dispatche heirof, let as speedie a course be taken for deciding of the same as can be lawfully used: Which recommending unto your care, wee bid, &c.—Woodstock, the 27 August 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Having considered your lettre tuitching the incestuous mariage contracted by one Weer, and perceiving that you think it for some good respectis that our elemencie may be extendit to him in causing change the doome of death in his banishment, Wee enclync rather to our opinione then otherways to have the rigoure of the law put in executione against him, and therefore doe fullie remitt unto you to tak what course you shall think most fitt concerning him; and for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrant:

And whereas by a lettre from the Erle of Linlythquhe, Wee have understood of the apprehending thare of some persones, borne within this our kingdome, for having taken from hence a fischer's boat belonging to some of our subjectis heir: Oure pleasoure is, that you caus them be put to extraordinary triall accustomed in the like caises, suspending (if they be found guiltie of the fact) the executione of justice upon them till our further plesour be signified unto you in that behalf: Soe wee, &c.—Woodstock, 27 August 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Whereas upon some good considerationes wee wer pleased to write in favouris of the Handers that they might not be troubled for such reasones as wer mentioned in our lettre, not intending tharely to hinder thare due course of justice: And being informed that . . . the Lord Gordoune is to intend ane actione of law aganis them before you, Oure plesour is that you administer justice tharein unto him according to the lawes of that our kingdome, and as you shall find the equitie of his caus to require: Soe wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the 2 of September 1629.

TO THE ERLE HADDINGTONNE.

Having resolved after due deliberatione touching the settling of that bussienes of the tithes to caus publishe our determinatione upon the submissiones made unto us, wee (becaus of our Chancellars indispositione of bodie not being able at this time to attend our service tharein) have sent the same unto you, which wee desire to be more speedelie done, that all our subjectis interested and willing to proceed according to thare interestis may at this time mak use of the course intendit thareby: Oure pleasour is that with all diligence you convene our counsell signifieing our pleasour heirin unto them; And thereafter that you caus intimat our said determinatione at all such places as are usual and fitting; which wee recommend unto your care, and biddis you, &c.—Windsore, the 2 of September 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Whereas we have agreed unto the Lord Gordoune the soume of fyve thousand pund sterling ffor the shirreffschippis of Innesnes and Aberdeen, resigned by his father and him in our handis ad perpetuum remanentiam, ffor paying whareof Wee have given a precept unto our thesaurer and other our officiairs whom

it may concern: Oure pleasour tharefore is that you accept thareoff, and that ane Act of Exchackquer be made heirupon for the said Lord his better securitie, according to our plesour signified by our precept; and for your, &c.—Windsore, 2 of September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Understanding of the death of the Clark of our taxationes [Archibald Primrose], and how necessarie it is for the good of our service in that kingdome the place be supplied with ane able and sufficient man, bot not knowing whither the right of the disposing of that charge be in us or in the persone of our Clark of Register, which he doth claime by vertew of his office, Oure pleasoure is, that you informe yourselfis thareof, and if you find that it belongis unto us, certifie us of the same; bot if it doe belong unto him, we leave him absolutie to make choise of what able persone he shall think fitt to serve us in that charge, for whome he wilbe ansuerabill; otherways, if our titill or the titill of any persone claimeing right thareunto cannot be cleerlie decydit by you, remit the same to the ordinarie Judge; for wee are unwilling to wrong any of our subjectis in anything that doethe depend upon thare offices from us, if our awne right be not good: Soe, &c.—Windsore, the 2 of September 1629.

TO THE THESAURER AND DEPUTIE THESAURER.

Whereas . . . the Lord of Lowdone hath surrendered unto us the superioritie of Killesmore and Barnmore, together with his heretabill offices of the shirrefship of Air and baillerie of the regalitie of the saidis landis of Killesmore and Barnmore; ffor which causes, and for his soe free and faithfull dealing to advance our designes thare, tending to the publique good of that our ancient kingdome, Oure pleasoure is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, that with all convenient and possible expeditione you pay unto him or his assignayis the soume of eighteen thousand merkis scottis money, and that out of the first and reddiest of our rentis and casualities whatsoever of that our kingdome, being for the present or which shallhappin to be heirefter within the same, and in cais the estate of our coffers cannot at this time spare the payment thareoff,oure forther plesour is that you pay unto him or his foirsaidis yeerlie and termelie the soume of, &c., as ordinarie annuelrent for the forbearing of the said principall soume untill the same be compleitlie payet unto him or them, and that of the first and reddiest of the saidis rentis and casualities, and for his forder securitie that you caus mak ane act of Exchequer heirupon, or that you grant unto him any other securitie upon the premissis that he can lauffully require, or you can convenientlie grant, and as may best subsist a good and valeid right unto him and them thareupon: And for the doing, &c.—Windsore, the 2 September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Letter upon the same subject and of the same date.

TO THE ERLE OF LYNLYTHQUHO.

Whereas wee have writen at this time unto Johne Drummond of Woodcockdill and Alexander Stirling of Powhouse, to seperatt and cognose the wholl tithes for this crop of all the landis belonging unto you and Sir David Livingstoune of Donepace, whareunto ether of you doth pretend right according

to our pleasour signified the last yeer unto Johne Erskyne of Balgownye, and the said Johne, which, as wee are informed, could not then be put in executione becaus the season of teithing was neir past before our warrand cam to thare hand : In regard wee are willing to expres our royall pleasour touching the settling of the differences between you and the said Sir David, as if the submissione formerlie made by you both unto us wer not expired which wee cannot weell doe till wee be certiefed of the just quantitie of these tithes, wee desire you noe lett be made upon your part why the saidis persones may not both timelie and exactlie cognose thareof, but that you give them tharein all the laifull fortherance you can, suffering non of your tennentis to carie away nor imbezill any of thare cornes (out of which those tithes are to be led) till the said tith be taken away at the sight of the saidis personis, otherways if you cannot mutuallie agrie upon this freendlie course, and reallie put in practise what you can to effect the same, wee will, without longer delay, remitt you both tharein to the ordinarie course of our lawis, and will tak noe further panis tharein : We, &c.—Windsore, the 4 September 1629.

TO M^r JOHNE DRUMMOND AND ALEXANDER STIRLING.

Being willing that the differences between the Erle of Lynlythquho and Sir David Livingstoune of Donepace, touching the tithes whareunto ether of them hath right of others landis, be cleered according to our plesour formerlie signified to this purpose : Oure plesure is, that you separat and cognose the saidis tithes for this crop, bothe personage and vicearage, and that in due season, least the tennentis receive hurt by having their cornes stand longer in the feildis then is fitt ; and after ane exact trial of the quantitie thareof, that you certifie us of the same, that though thare submission made unto us be expired, we may the more cleirly and equitabilly expres our royall plesour for taking away those differences, otherways if they cannot mutuallie agrie upon this freendlie course, and reallie put in practise what they can to effect the same, we will, without longer delay, remitt them both tharein to the ordinarie coursé of our lawes, and will tak noe further panis heirin : Soe in the meantime expecting your care and readie endeavouris tuitching the premissis, Wee bid you, &c.—Windsore, the fourth of September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCATT.

Being humbly desired by the reverend father in God, the Bischopp of Rosse that as wee wer pleased to direct you to draw upp a signatour for the Bischopp of the Isles, touching the Priorie of Ardchatten and Nunrie of _____ that he might have the like, and what forther favour wee could grant unto him touching the ratiefieing of the signatouris given him by our late deare father of the Bischoprike of Rosse, and thingis thareunto belonging : Oure pleasour is, that you draw a grant for our royall signatour heir, or to be immediatly exped the Seallis thare, as you shall think fitt, for granting him the like benefit and favour, and for ratiefieing his former signatouris granted him by our said late father, of the said Bischoprike, the Abbacie of Ferne aljoyned thareunto, as wee are informed, and of other thingis mentioned in the said signatouris : And being informed of the ruinous estate of the Cathedrall church of Rosse, we likewise require you to tak the informatione of the said Bischop tuitching that purpos ; and if any laifull and convenient means can be found, thought fitt by you bothe for helping of the said church, that you certifie us thareof, that wee may give forther order touching the same : And which wee recommend to your care, &c.—Windsore, the 4 off September 1629.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Having resolved after a due deliberatione touching the satling of that bussines of the tithes to caus publishe our determinatione upon the submissiones made unto us, Wee to that purpos have sent the

samen unto you, with all desire that it may without any longer delay be the more speedelie done, that all our subjectis interested and willing to proceed according to thare entres may at this time mak use of the course intendit thereby : Oure pleasoure is, that with all diligence you convey our counsell, signiefying unto them our will heirin, and tharefter that you caus intimat our said determinatione at all such places as are usuall and fitting : And if any indispositione of your bodie should hinder your presens to attend this our service, wee have sent you a lettre to the Lord Privie Seall signiefying our pleasour likeways touching this purpos to be sent unto him with the determinatione : Soe, &c.—Windsore, the 4 September 1629.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Whereas the Marques of Huntlie and the Lord Gordoune have surrendered unto us thare heretabill shirrefships of Aberdeen and Inernes, and being willing that our service committed to the shirreffis charge should without intermissione be duelic performed for the good of our subjectis of those partes : Oure pleasoure is, that you in our name authorise, after what lafull maner you shall think fitt, Sir Robert Gordoune, Knight, Barronett, shirreff of Inernesse, and Alexander Irewing of Drwme, shirreff of Aberdeen, to continow in these offices till the time accustomed for our designing of shirreffis of new : And our further pleasure is, that you continow for this ensueing yeer Sir Coleen Campbell, shirreff of Forfarr, iff the persones alreadie prict for that shire be not entered in that charge of shirreff ; for doing of bothe thais presentis shalbe your warrant : Soe, &c.—Windsore, the 5 September 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MURRAY.

Though wee wer pleased at your last being heir to renue your commissione notwithstanding of the complaintis made unto us against the same, yet you promised that you wold lay doune the same whensoever you wer required by us soe to doe : Sieing all such commissiones should onlie indure till the service for which they wer granted be accomplisshed, and that the Marques of Huntlie hathe demittit his heretabill shirrefshippis : Oure pleasoure is, that you exceed not the space of sex monethes to dispatch all suche processis as are alreddy intended or thought fitt by you to be prosecuted aganis any persones by vertue of your commissione : And tharefter that you surrender the same, not proceeding aganis any unles it be by warrant, which you have or shall have from our counsell : Soe wee bid, &c.—Windsore, the fift of September 1629.

TO THE CHANCELLER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that one Mr David Caderwood, sometime a preacher within that our kingdome, whoe for writing some infamous libellis aganis the royall persone of our late dear father was baneshed the kingdome is now of late returned : Oure pleasoure is, that you caus trye where the said Caderwood dothe remane in that our kingdome, and if he can be found that yee ather give ourdour to the shirreff of the boundis or commissione to any personne whome you shall think fitt to apprehend him, causing him tharefter to be put to ane triall, and if he be convict that yee certifie us thereof before you caus proceed any further aganis him, till such time as our further pleasour shalbe signiefied in that behalf : Soe, &c.—Windsore, the 5 of September 1629.

TO THE ERLE MARSHALL.

Wee received your lettre, and have remitted it to the Judge ordinarie to cle^r such thingis as are contraverted upon betuix you and the Erle of Lynlithquo, not doubting bot they will proceed tharein

according to justice and equitie as to our schipp which is in your custodie, becaus wee intend, God willing, this nixt spring to be in that our kingdome, and may have soone occasione to mak use of hir, Wee are willing that you till our coming thither employ hir to what lafull and good use you think fitt, frieing you in the meantime of any conditione or benefitt which shallappin to be due by hir unto us, and as noe other during this time shall have any right or pouare from us to middle with hir, soe that at our coming thither we will give you forther satisfactions tuitching hir, and will forder acknowledge your good and faithfull service done with us in any maner we cau lafully and convenientlie doe the same: Soe, &c.—Windsore, the 5 September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Havinge alreadye had good proof of your sufficiencie and affectione to our service and the publique good of our kingdome of Scotland, and being willing for the good of the church and commonewelthe that sufficient and able men be chosen commissioners at the nixt Michelmes for the parliament which wee intend shortlie to hold thare in persone, Wee require you in oure name to goe throughe such shires of our said kingdome as you shall think needfull, and to deall with the shirreffis thereof, and such others whose pouare may procure most voices to the electione of the said commissioners, for choosing them such able and sufficient men as you know to be weell affected to our service and the publique good, desiring them likewayis to be carefull in procuring the consent of those whoe have entres in the said electione to confirme such of the commissioners as wer chosen the preceeding ycer, whome you know to be weell aquented with the estate of our present affairs, and of whois abilitie and affectione to our service wee are confident, thus in respect of the former trust you have had in their bussinessis, and of your duetifull discharge thareof, expecting that you will tak the best course you can, for advancing our said service after this maner, and to advertis us of the saidis persones whoe by effectis hes shewen or shall shew thare affectione thareunto: Soe, &c.—Windsore, 5 September 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Whereas the Lord Lowdoun is to tak the wadsett of the superioritie of Killesmoore and Barrmoor for the soume of 18,000 merkis scottis, we are to caus pay unto him as the price of his few-dueties, and as a part of the price of his heretable offices: And conceaving it to be hurtfull to our service and disagreeable to our intencions to suffer the superiorities to remain with those whoe by erectione did formerlie pretend right thareunto: Oure pleasoure is, that out of the reddiest of our rentis and casualties whatsoever you caus pay unto the said Lord at Mertimes ensuing Ten thousand merkis Scottis, with eight thousand merkis to be payed unto you by the vassellis of that erectione, as compositione agreed upon unto us for renewing of thare rightis, which making upp 18,000 merkis will compleitlie satisfie the said Lord for the said intendit wadsett: And our forther pleasour is, that you receive the inheretouris of the saidis landis to be our vassellis, and caus supplie any defect in thare former securitie, iff any be, admitting noe compositione to be put upon thare signatouris in respect of the said compositione to be given unto us; and becaus that many of them, as wee are informed, have bought verie small parcellis of landis, wee forther require you to shew them all lafull favour convenientlie can be conferred upon them by your passing thare said signatouris: And whereas by our precept wee have required that 14,000 merkis scottis should be likewayis payed to the said Lord out of the reddiest of our rentis and casualties, which, with the said 18,000 merkis, compleitlie satisfies him for his wholl interest in the said superiorities, few-dewties, and heretabill offices; wee doe seriouslie require you with all possible diligence to caus pay the samen unto him or his assignais: And for your doing whareof, &c.—Windsore, the 5 of September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas Sir George Home, Knight, the better to frie himself of the devilesh practizes of witchcraft used, as wee are informed, against his persone and estate, and of such calunnies whareby he hath been traduced by them, have caused petitione us to have our protectione for repairing in publike till his innocencie or thare guiltienes should appeir : The foulenes of the crime allegit, and the state of the gentleman distressed in soe wicked a maner, hath justlie moved to commiserat the same : therefor, iff any groundis for manefasting that abuse shall appear unto you, Oure pleasure is that you grant him our protectione for such time as you shall think fitt for cleering of what is alledged, during which time it is promised unto us in his name that he will use his best means to give his creditouris satisfactiōe ; and for your, &c.—Theobaldis, the 16 September 1629.

TO THE JUDGES OF CIRCUIT COURTS.

Whereas by our tue commissiones granted unto . . . Sir Alexander Straquhen, Knight and Baronet, the one of the dait the seaventh of November, the other the 30 of March last bypast, we have given him pouare to call for, collect, and receive all partes and portiones of our rentis and casualities whatsoever which are or may be found due unto us, for whatsoever caus, preceeding the penult day of Marche 1628, not duellie payed to us, accopted, and alloued in Exchequer before the foirsaid day, as our said commissione beareth ; and to compone and agree therefor with all parties haveing entres, as he shall think expedient ; and being comptable to us for the one half of the compositiones, to retayn and applye the other half to his oune use : And forasmuch as the Circuit Courtis of that our kingdome are to be holden in October next (according to our other commissiones granted to our Judges thare named), wharein the said Alexander will have speciall interest (by vertew of our said commissiones granted to him) for the fines and compositiones of all transgressouris of penal statutes and crimes committed before the penult day of March 1628 ; Oure speciall pleasour therefor is, that the said Sir Alexander, by himself and by his deputies, assist and be present at the said Courtis, and all circuit courtis to be holden heirefter in that our kingdome at any time during the continuance of our said commissiones granted unto him, and receive the wholl fines and compositiones to be imposed upon whatsoever transgressouris, for all crimes and transgressing of any of our lawes or statutis before the said penult day of Marche, the one half thareof to our use to be compted in our Exchequer by him according to his commissione : And wee doe heirly declare his or his deputie's acquittances and discharges to be given upon the receipt of the saidis fynes and compositiones to be sufficient and valed exoneratiōe to the receivers thareof ; And ordane this our warrant to be once shewen to the saidis Judges of our Circuittis, that they may caus insert ane just double thareof in thare bookis, to the effect non pretend ignorance of the same, and tharefter redeliver the principall to the said Alexander or his foresaidis, to be kept for his warrand, &c.—Theobaldis, the 18 day of September 1629.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF ST ANDROIS.

Being informed of ane ordour of our Privie Counsell whareby the Bischopp of Caithnes is appointed to his diocesse, and to mak his residence thare, and of your care to have that good ordour put in execution, wee doe verie much approve of your proceedings tharein ; yet in regard (as wee are informed) of his infirmitie ; and haveing occasione to use him in some thingis touching our service, Oure pleasour is that you suffer him to stay in the partes of his ordinarie residence during the winter seasoene, suspending in the meantime any executione may proceed upon the said ordour, and if need be that you signifie soe much to our said counsell : And for your soe doing, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th of September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Whereas humble sute hath been made unto us in the behalf of one James Skeen that wee may be pleased to confirme a deputatione made unto him of the office of Isherie of our Exchecquer by Sir William Ballantyne, heretabill Isher thareof: As wee will not doe anything may add strenth to heretabill offices, which wee intend to draw bak unto our crowne of that our kingdome, soe wee wold be loath that our said subject should suffer by want of what wee might otherways lauffullie and convenientlie grant unto him for strenthening his said deputatione: Therefore oure plesure is that you informe yourselfis if wee, without prejudging our pretendit course, may grant unto him any lauffull favour heirin; and if you find that wee may doe the same, that you draw up for our signatour what confirmatione or other securitie you shall think fitt for that purpos; and in the meantime that he enjoy his said office as formerlie: Soe, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th of September 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Understanding that out of the great desire you hade to see us, and to give your best advise for the good of our service at this time, you wer upon your jorney long agoe towards our court, and understanding that by the way you hade a dangerous fall (whareat we are trueлие sorie), which for a time hath impedit you from seing our presence, Wee, out of our care of your health, have thought good to direct our servand, Sir James Baillie, unto you, willing you by him not to stirr or hazard your bodie in any jorney till you be able to travell, assuring you in the meantyme of our princelie favour, and at your heircoming a graceous acceptance and welcome: Soe, &c.—Theobaldis, 20th September 1629.

TO THE LORDS CHANCELLER, PRECEDENT, THE BISCHOPP OF ROSSE, AND THE ADVOCAT, &c.

Whereas, being to estabillishe the circuit courtis, wee wer pleased to purches from the Lord of Lorne the heretabill office of Justiciary which his predecessouris for good service done hade for a long time discharged, and given him satisfacione for the same, notwithstanding of any former title that wee could have pretendit thareunto, and granting unto him all the heretabill offices of Justiciarie of the Northe and West Iles: But now of late humbly intreated by the Erle of Seaforth for himself, and in name of some others to be free from the inconveniences and troubles which they alledge it may breed unto them, wee are desirous to purchese that parte likewise from him; and havinge made choise of you for that purpos, oure pleasure is that you call for the said Lord of Lorne, and that you use your best means to treat, transact, and agrie with him for the Justiciarie of the saidis boundis, and that you ether absolutelie agrie with him and certifie unto us what the difference is, or what your opinione is touching the same: And our plesure likewise is that you deal with the said Erle of Seaforth to sie what means he or those for whome he doeth deall will contribut towards the buying thareof: Soe, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th September 1629.

TO THE TOUNE OF JEDBURGH.

Understanding that it hath pleased our late deare father upon divers good considerationes mentioned in his letre unto that our burgh of Jedburgh to desire them to choise and elect ther Provestis by the advise of Sir Andro Ker thare, Capten of our guard, soe wee upon the like good considerationes have at this time thought fitt that you mak chois of your Provestis by the advise of . . . the Lord of

Jedburgh, wharein assuring ourselffis of your obedience to our royall pleasure heirin, as you will doe us acceptable service : And for which theis presentis shalbe your warrand, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas we have been humblic moved on the behalf of our brother the King of Sweaden to suffer 300 men to be levied in that our kingdome, and transported in his service in the warres, which number, though but a parte of a greater formerlie licensed by us, and have been sent from thence for his use, cannot now for some respect be warrantabilie levied (as wee are informed) by tuck of drume without our direction of new : Oure pleasoure therefore is that you give licience to touck drumes for the better leveiing of the said 300 men, and that you grant unto Captane Cunninghame and unto Captane Home a Comissionne with a sufficient warrand to transport them, with als large privledge as any other have hade heirtofore in the like kind, they always giving such satisfacione to everie one of the said number as shalbe agreed upon betuix the saidis Captanes and them according to the former custume in the like cases, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th of September 1629.

TO SIR ARCHIBALD ACHESONE.

Understanding that by just accompt there is due from us unto Sir Harie Achesone, Knight, your brother, the soume of 1200^{li} sterling, ffor payment whareof we war pleased to grant him a Privie seall heir, and tharefter to grant him our warrand, haveing cleered our said privie seall that he might be payed of that soume in Irland by reasone of some important ocasionnes at that time was stayed, in regard whareof, and of the said Sir Harie his acceptable service done unto us, and his burdens thareby contracted, as wee are credibillie informed, wee are willing that he be payed in that our kingdome; but understanding the estate of our affairis to [be] such at this time our revenues and casualties due or which can accres unto us for some time being alreadie soe destitute [by] oure urgent affairis (as wee doubt not is knowne to yourself), that the said soume cannot convenientlie be payed unto your said brother at this time, yet wee acknowledge that soume to be due unto him by us : And wee are heirby pleased to signifie unto you that soe soone as our Coffers there can afford the soume, wee will grant our warrand for payeing thareoff unto him, his heirs, or assignais ; otherways, if in the meantime you by your endeavouris can find out anything within that our kingdome fitt and lafull to be granted, not alreadie in charge or put in foot for our use, Wee are willing that thareby your said brother or his foirsaidis be payed of the said soume ; And to that effect that you caus draw upp for our signatour what warrand you shall think most expedient : See wee, &c.—Theobaldis, the 20th day of September 1629.

TO THE CLERGIE.

Wee received your lettre and give you hartlie thankis that in your meeting and conveneing with our Privie Counsell tuitching religeone, and giving up ane exact compt of the number of papestis in that our kingdome, you have taken such pains and used such great diligence tharein as you have begune ; soe we earnestlie desire you to continow as yee shall find occasione thare require, and that with your zeall you joyn (as we doubt not) such moderacione as thare conditione and desert sall require, assuring you that wee will noeways be wanting to assist your aerand, and to incourage you in all such your proceedingis as shalbe fund necessarie and fitt, haveing for doing whareof at this time by our lettres required our counsell to that effect ; which recommending to your care, wee bid you, &c.—Theobaldis, the 21 of September 1629.

A PRECEPT TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Oure will and pleasour is that you mak due and readie payment to the Judges and Clarkis of the Circuit Courtis, conforme to the Actis of parliament, commissione of that Judicatorie and Exchechquer made and given thereupon, and that out of the first and reddiest of the fees and compositiones arysing or which shal happin be any maner of way to acresse unto us by all transgressouris, censured, fyued, or compounded within the said judicatorie, that our service tharein tending soe much to the publict good of that our ancient kingdome be not neglected by want of timelie and necessarie means, and that you caus insert theis presentis in your bookis, and deliver the extract thereof to them, which with thare acquittances shalbe your sufficient warrandis and discharge tharein.—Theobaldis, the 21 September 1629.

TO THE MARQUEIS OF HUNTLE.

Being willing to caus proceed in maters of religeone according to the determinatione of our counsell, and understanding that divers aspersiones have been laid against you as a hinderer of that course in these northerne partes: The better to frie you thareof we have thought fitt to desire you that during this winter sessione you mak your residence at Melgound; And that your going northward be not forder then tventie miles, leafig you to repare southward to any parte of that our kingdome, whither to ourself or our counsell yee doe repare: And as wee are confident that you by no maner of way will give any publict scandell to the professit religeone, soe be assured of our princelie favour and affectione towards you, and remitting unto the Archbischoff of S^t Androis to signifie unto you our forder pleasure touching this purpose as occasione shall require: We bid, &c.—Theobaldis, the 21 of September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Being informed that one James Steuard, burges of Glasgow, hath both caused give wrong informatione unto us touching a commoditie of currentis which he hade transported from that our kingdome unto this, under coulour of lafull merchandice bought by him in France, whereas (as we are since informed) the same war taken from one Capten Hinchelie, a pirrat for the time, and that he hade obtained our lettre to our counsell tharefor tryeing the truth thareof: Oure pleasoure is, that you trye the estate thareof, and if he be fund guiltie of what is alledged, that you certifie us of the same that wee may give such forther ordour for his punishment as wee shall find just caus: Wee bid, &c.—Theobaldis, the 21 September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

The inclosed articles touching the setling of the courtis of Justiciarie of that our kingdome in the first integretie haveing been considered by us, wee, out of our princelie care and inclinacione to the generall good and tranquillitie thareof, are most willing by all lafull and convenient wayis to contribute unto that purpos, yet to the end the same may be lafullie and formallie done, wee have remitted these articles unto you, requiring you with all convenient diligence to consider what is fitt and lafull tharein for us to grant, or what formerlie hath been justlie due unto that court, that thareupon you draw upp what evident or securitie you think fitt for our royall signatour, with conditione thareunto of what shalbe thought just, necessarie, and convenient by our Justice Generall, Justice Clark, and yourself touching that purpose.—Theobaldis, 21 September 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Having perused your lettre, with the articles you sent us, we hartlie thank you for your care in doing that which we had soe seriouslie recommendit unto you concerning Papistis, and wee will have a speciall care to sie that which you have determined put in executione in soe farr as it may tend to the advancement of the gospell, and to the good of that our ancient kingdome: And to that effect have heirwith enclosed returned you a copie of these articles as wee have approved them, which, after you have received off new, we require you to caus publish in such maner as you shall think fitt, keeping the substance thereof, ffor wee are confident that the prelatiss of that our kingdome will use all ordinarie means for thare conversiõne, and will with moderat prudence and discretione proceed with everie one of them according to thare qualitie, dispositiõne, and desert: But in this wee doe remitt ourselves unto our said prelatiss, requiring you to give unto them your best help in soe farr as can be warranted by law for strenthning of them whensoever the same shalbe required: Soe we, &c.—Theobaldis, 21 September 1629.

TO THE BISCHOPP OF S^T ANDROIS.

Whereas upon some considerations wee wer pleased to require you not to proceed aganis the Marques of Huntlie, his Ladie and childring, with any ecclesiasticall censure till wee wer acquainted with the reasones thereof, providing they give noe publict scandell to the professed religeon, wherein our royall intentione was and still is that our forbearance of them during our plesour should be extendit to non, but particularie to him: As for his childring residing with him in his oune famelic, oure expres plesour is that you sie such a course taken for ther educatione as is to be taken with other noblemen's sones in the like kind: And whereas we are informed that many of his servandis and officiaris are ether professed papistis or excommunicat rebellis, oure plesour is that yee in oure name require the said Marques forthwith to put all such persones from his hous and service, unles they conforme themselves to the said religeone and our lawes: And to the end the course intended for repressing poperie in that our kingdome may have the more smooth and happie issue in the northerne partes, wee have by our lettre required the said Marques to reside this winter at Melgoune, limiting his north-going to tuentie miles from thence northwardis, leaving him to repaire southward to any parte of that kingdome, whether unto ourselff or our privie counsell shalbe thought fitt for him to repair: Soe expecting that in the meantime you will sie noe means omitted for reclaiming them and thare childring, the cariage whereof wee entrust to your discretione and judgment as you upon ocasionẽ shall hear from us heirefter: Wee bid you, &c.—Theobaldis, the 21 September 1629.

TO THE EXCHERQUER.

Whereas wee did write unto you to pay 18,000 merkis scottis to the Lord of Lowdone at Mertimes nixt ensuing for redeeming his wadsett of the fewdewties and superiorities of Killesmoore, and to receive eight thousand merkis thereof fra the tennentis as a compositione offered to us in thare names to renew thare rightis and supplie the defectis thereof, without any forther compositione to be put upon thare signatouris: And being now informed that the accepting of soe small a compositione for renewing and supplieing the saidis tennentis rightis, and for releiming of the said wadsett, may be prejudiciall to us, Oure plesour is, and we require you to tak particulare notice of the premissis, and that you (having speciall regard of our interest and lafull benefit) may tak such a course tharein as may best conduce to that end: Whiche recommending to your care, we, &c.—Theobaldis, the 21 September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

After we hade conferred with . . . the Erle of Monteathe, considering his right and title of the Erldome of Stratherne in that which doeth particularlie concerne us, as you wreat unto us, to be of such importance that it is not fitt for us to neglect the same, sieing he hath willinglie submitted himself unto us, to be disposed of by us as we pleas, in all theis landis belonging thareunto that are of our propertie, wee desire to be secured of the same, leaving him to prosecute his right against all others for all other landis which he can can justlie clame by vertew thareof: Our plesour is, that you draw upp a surrendare of all landis of our propertie comprehendit within his evidentis, to be signed by you, or any other such rightis as you shall think requisit for our securitie, to be registrat for that effect: And as, after due consideratione, wee intend to give him resonable satisfacione for the same, Soe wee are willing that you assist him in his other actiones, soe far as you can lafullie: Soe wee bid you, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH.

Whereas you are willing to surrender upp unto us your right of all those landis that are of our propertie lying within the Erldome of Stratherne, wee have writen to our Advocatt to draw upp a sarrender, that all them that are contained in your evidentis be signed by you, leaving you to prosecute your right aganis all others for other landis whereunto you can justlie clame ryght: And as you have frielic submitted yourself unto us, to be disposed off as wee please, in all those landis that are of our propertie, Soe wee intend, after due consideratione, to give you a reasonabill satisfacione for the same, and hath willed our Advocat to assist you in all your other actiones, soe far as he can lafullie doe: Soe, being to acknowledge this amongis the rest of your good services done unto us, we bid, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH.

Being informed that divers our subjectis fear the shortnes or generalitie of sudden citatione before our circuit court, oure plesure is, that you give orldur to our Judges thareof, and others whome it concerneth, that parties to be indicted befor them have copies of thare dittayis according to the time limitat by a late ordinance of our privie counsell made to that purpos: And whereas they referred unto you the last yeer the nominatione of all penall statutes fitt to be executed, though we are loathe that you caus proceed tharein, bot in ane moderat maner; Yet least impunitie should imbolden transgressouris not to leive in due obedience of our lawes, our pleasoure likewais is, that as occasione shall require, you give ordour unto our said Judges, and that otherways of yourself you caus execute such of those statutes as yee shall think most agriciable to our princelie pleasour and the lawes of that our kingdome, wherein willing you to signifie our royall intentione unto our privie counsell and our said Judges, and not doubting bot that you will caus proceed with such moderatione as our subjectis may not have just caus to fear undeserved censure, nor yet to hope for impunitie where they doe justly deserve punishment: Soe, &c.—Hamptoune Court, 29 September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that there is divers persones whoe have not submitted unto us as others have done tutching the price and quantitie of tithes, whereupon as we conceave will have it at this time given out oure ordour in a faire and equal maner: Seing our royall intentione in that purpos

was cheeflie for the publique good and eas of our subjectis, and that the standing out of their persones doeth hinder the generall progres of soe good a wark, which wee by all lafull wayis and means intendit to bring to perfection, Oure pleasoure is, that with all convenient diligence you inteed actione in our name for reductione of such of thare rightis to the tithes possessed by them as are mentioned in the submissione made unto us, and that you prosecute these actions by all lawfull and speedie wayis : Soe willing you to send us a roll of the names of the cheeff persones whoe doe stand out in this kind, &c.—Hamptoune Court, 29 September 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas we have been humble moved in the behalf of Margaret Home, the wiffe of Johne Steuart of Coldinghame, for causing secure hir of hir conjunct fee out of hir husbandis estate ; And wee, being willing to grant hir any lafull favour thairin, are heerby pleased that, haveing informed yourself of hir conjunct fee you considder what can be lafullie granted by hir husband for that purpos : And tharefter that you draw up what securitie you shall think most requisit for securing hir thereof : And that noe other securitie be granted to any persone whatsoever, upon any estate belonging unto him, till hirs be first exped ; reserving always what annuetic or other benefit due unto us, if any, be out of his said estate : Wee, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLYTHQUH.

Right, &c.—Understanding by your lettre that those persones apprehendit thare for stealing a catche from hence, and by jurie found giltie of that crime, and that the Erle of Crawford had dealt with you to have them under his charge for the warres of Suaden : Seing by your lettre it appears to be thare first fault in that kynd, wee enlyne rather to mercie then to have them to suffer death for the same : And therefore our pleasure is, that you give notice heirin unto our privie counsell, and that a pardone fitt to be granted to them be sent unto us for our royall signatour ; otherways if any schorter way can be found for thare releeff, wee are weell pleased, and doe heirly authorise that the same be taken, they going under the charge of the said Erle, if he doe goe at this time : And for your soe doeing, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been pleased to signe a giift to M^r Williame Drummond of the landis of Newtoun off Rirasse, in Fyff, as fallen in our handis by diminutione of the rental, which pertined of before to unquhill Sir Williame Scott, which giift as wee are informed he intendis to prosecute by law before you, alsweell for our benefit, and securing himself in the saidis landis, as for being a precedent for others haveing the like entres to reduce for our use rightis of the like kind : Therefore wee have thought fitt by this presentes to recommend to your care the said actione, seing the same concernes us soe neirly, willing you to advert thareto diligentlie, and to caus our advocat appeir tharein for our entres, and to sie that the said Master Williame get summare proces without delay, and according to the lawes of that our kingdom, which earnestlie wee recommed unto your care, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 29 September 1629.

A Presentatioun to the Lordis of the Sessione in favouris of Makgill of Cranstoune-Riddle, by dimission of Sir Archibald Neper of Lourestoune, like to that of M^r William Oliphant : this is of the daite at Hamptoune Court, the 3 of October 1629.

A similar Presentation dated 5 October 1629.

Thrie paequettis contining tuo lettres from his Majestie to the Advocatt for intending actione against those persones whoe wold not submitt as others had done touching thare entrest in tithes, and one for the conjunct fee of Johne Steuartis Ladie ; one to Linlithquo touching the sex Engliche condemned prisoners ; one for James Balfour concerning the graveing of armes ; a Presentatione to S^t Andrews, with lettres of the Erle of Monteathe wer sent from Hamptoune Court the Sext of October 1629, at nyne of cloak or therabouttis in the foirnoone.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPP OF GLASGOW.

Whereas wee have been humble petitioned by . . . the Erle of Abercome, that he might returne to Scotland for dispatch of his urgent and necessare affairs, and be fred from the censure of the church during the space of sex monethes, promising to admitt conferance for his better informatione with any that you shall appoint, and to give no scandell nor offence to the professed religeone ; and if at the expiring of that time he conforme not himself thareunto to leave that kingdome, as wee are althogther unwilling to doe any thing aganis the course intendit for repressing of poperie, soe wee are loath that he shalbe disabled for helping the distresses of his estate, iff soe be that in the meantime you caus use all possible means for his reclaiming, in hoppe whareof wee think it fitt that you suspend your censures for the saidis space, and during his absence, being confident he will performe what he hathe soe promised unto us, and that all excommunicat papists be removed from him : All which recommending to your care, wee, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 13 of October 1629.

[NOT ADDRESSED.]

Right, &c.—Haveing been petitioned at sindrie times touching theis differences between the widdow of Carron and Ballendalliche, wee wald give eare to nether parties further then to remitt them to the ordinarie course of justice ; Bot being informed of late that these differences are not as yet satled, we are heirby graceouslie pleased that you informe your self of the trew estate thareof ; and after due triall that you tak such a course for satling of the same as we wer pleased to preseryve unto our counsell touching that purpos, and as you shall think most fitt for the good and quyet of theis parties that wee be noe more troubled with such complaintis.—Hamptoune Court, the 13 of October 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Understanding that there is a process depending befor you aganis Williame Forbes of Cragiewarr touching ane erectione procured by his father, against which we have been petitioned at divers times, and by ane great mony of our subjectis, whoe are thereby made his vassallis, for haveing them fred from holding that erectione, wharein, respecting the good and ease of our subjectis and our awne benefit, thought to be due unto us by becoming our immediat tennentis : Oure plesoure is, that you carefullie and diligentlie [look] to the true estate of that cause ; and tharefter that you proceed with all convenient diligene to put a finall end tharto, according to justice and the lawes of that our kingdome ; and that our advocat be hard tharein for our interest, notwithstanding that before that he had that publick charge in our service he was upon the knowledge and consultatione of the saidis Cragiewars infetmentis, which (as we conceave) cannot hinder him to prosecuit, according to the lawes of that our kingdome, oure service committed to his charge, ether in that or in any other particulare concerning us : Soe wee, &c.—Theobaldis, the 14 October 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Whereas we are informed that divers contemptis and disordouris committed by some of the inhabitantis of Leith against the magistrattis of our burgh of Edinburgh, oure pleasour is that you attend to the estate thereof, and if you find that these commotiones have procedit upon any seditious humour, without any just caus of offence given them, that you repress the same, as is most requisite for reforming thereof and preventing the like heirefter, assisting our said burgh by your auctoritie in seing this or any other contempt offered unto them duclie punished, and ratiefeing what they have done or shall heirefter lauffullie doe for censuring and punishing of any offenders, that our royall auctoritie in the executing our service be not contenned, nor seditious persones suffered to committ such abuses heirefter: And for avoiding any forder unnecessarye questiones that may arise between our said burgh and the said inhabitantis of Leithe, oure fortherd pleasure is, that you grant noe summondis which may concerne them at the instance of any persone whoe hathe not a particulare interest, and whare there is any questione aganis our said burgh which hathe already been tryed by you, wee will that noe forder proceeding be hard therein but what hath been alreadye decerned by you may stand: And as touching that petitione exhibited unto us in name of the inhabitantis of Leithe, referred by us unto you, becaus the tryell thereof dependeth upon the Infetmentis of our said burgh, and upon productione of the same and of other ther rightis which is to be decided by our Colledge of Justice as the competent judges, wee will you to remitt the same tryell thereof with all other civill actiones intendit or to be intendit by you aganis them, ether touching the productione of thare rightis or interpretatione thereof to our said Colledge of Justice, and that you mak ane act of counsell therevpon: All which recommending unto your care, Wee bid you, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 17 of October 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Being informed that the inhabitantis of Edinburgh are cited before the circuit courtis touching the penal statutes, but being unwilling for some good considerations known to us, wharewith we have acquainted . . . the Erle of Monteathe, our Justice-Generall, oure pleasoure is, that you desist from the said citatione, and from anything that may follow thereupon, till the comming thither of the said Erle, to whome wee intend to give forther ordour touching that bussines: And for your soe doing, &c.—Hamptoune Court, the 17 of October 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee required the Archbischoff of S^t Androis to trie the differences between M^r Johne Patersone, our chaplen, and one Hepburne, touching the personage of Oklhamstockis, wherein though we leave the decisione of our right of presenting to that church and that of the Erle of Balcleuch to the ordinarie course of our lawes, that if it be trew, as is informed us, that the said Hepburne hath payed a soume of money to the said Erle for the same, which by the canones of the church is condemned as symonie, we thought it fitt to acquent you tharewith, wishing that you might not proceed in any actione touching this purpos till the trowth which is alledged be tryed.—Hamptoune Court, the 17 day of October 1629.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPP OF S^t ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that one Hepburne, whoe was presented to the personage of Oldhamstockis by the Erle of Balcleuche, hathe payed unto him a soume of money for doing thareof,

which, as wee are informed, being contrarie to the cannons of the church, oure pleASURE is, that you conven him before our heigh commissiONE, and if it be found Symonie after due tryell, that you proceed against him according to the ordouris prescryed in the like cases, which will require to be the more speedelie tryed that the church of Oldhampstockis be not unprovided of ane preacher, which wee earnestlie recommend unto your care.—Hamptoune Court, the 17 day of October 1629.

[NOT ADDRESSED.]

Right, &c.—Whereas our trustie and weelbelovED Sir Williame Alexander, our Secretarie, hath agreed withe some of the headis of the cheeff clannes of that our kingdome, and with some other persones, for transporting themselves and thare followers to settle themselves into New Scotland, as wee doe verye much approve of that course for advancing the said plantaceone, and for debording that our kingdome of that race of people which in former times hade brel soe many trubles ther, soe (since that purpose may verie much imparl the publick good and quiet thareof) wee are most willing that you assist the same by all fair and lauffull wayis; And becaus, as wee are informed, divers are willing to contribute for thare dispatche by thare means, Wee require you to tak the best and most faire course heerin that possibillie you can that a voluntarie contributione may be made for that purpos in such maner as you shall think most fitt, and that you substitute any persones who you shall think expedient for the managing and collectione thareof.—Given at Hamptoune Court, the 17 of October 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas it pleased us, on commiseratiONE of the distrest estate of the widow of one Abell Lyone and his childring, to give ordour that ane guift of escheat concerning him sould pas till his creditouris war payed, and the widow and childring in some sort releeffed of thare present necessities, without knowing that it was in the pouere of . . . the Erle of Roxburgh to dispose of that escheat as falling within the jurisdictione of the regalitie of Broughtoune belonging unto him: And whereas he hath promised unto us to tak a course with them according to conscience and equitie: Therefore, least any interruption or wrong should be done unto him in his right of that regalitie by whatsoever persone or persones under pretext of our name, Oure pleASURE is, that according to his said right you leave the said guift to be absolutie disposed of by him, and if any course be already taken touching the dispositione or sequestering the goodis of that escheatt, that the same be recalled by you, remitting him to proceed in that aerand according to his said right and the lawes and practique of that our kingdome provided in the like causes, and that you require our advocat to desist from any compeiring in our behalf in that aerand till our further plesour be knowen, but that he concurr with the said Erle tharein in soe farr as may be most agreeable to justice and our said lawes.—Whitehall, the 21 October 1629.

TO THE ARCHBISCHOPP OF S^t ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are informed that the late unlauffull convocatiONES and disordouris made by some of the inhabitantis of Leithe against the Magistrattis of our burgh of Edinburgh, haveing cheeffly procedit under collour of Kirk sessiones, and that it concernis you, as cheeffie interested by us in the affaers of the church thare, to se that abuse in that sessione reformed: Oure pleASURE is, that you use your best endeavouris to conforme the ordour thareof in soe farr as can be to the Kirk sessione of our

burgh of Edinburgh, which it pleased us by your advise after the death of our royall father, whoe a litell befor hade intendit to caus establishich that good and civill ordour, and that you use your best means, in soe far as may concern you, for preventing the like disordouris heirefter, and for sieing of modest and qualified ministers planted in that church: Wee bid you, &c.—24 October 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE TITHES.

Right, &c.—Whereas now, after a due consideratione and great painis taken by us for satling that bussienes of the tithes, tending soe much to the publick good of our subjectis, we have given out our determinatione upon the submissione made unto us, which wee conceive to be done in such a just and indifferent maner that non of our subjectis interested can have just caus to complaine: And sieing we have referred the triall of certane particulars mentioned in the said determinatione, Oure plesoure is, that yee proceed to trye the same with alsmuch diligence as possible can be used before the ensueing parliament, which wee intend to hold ourselve in persone: And understanding that though our said determinatione be published, yet the same cannot tak effect till the valuations be füllelie made and returned unto you, oure further pleasure is, that you caus the submissiones goe on with all possible expeditione, making and reporting the said valuations according to the course prescryved by you: And whareas divers complaintis have been made unto us of the unjustnes of the valuations, wee, for the better redres thareof, have remitted any wronged thareby to appeal unto our parliament; bot in the meantime, if you can think of any way to rectifie that abuse, or of any other better or more speedie course touching that purpose, wee leaif it to your judgmentis to tak the same, wharein (if need be) wee will approve your proceedingis after what maner you shall think fitt: Soe we, &c.—Theobaldis, the 24 October 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that the Castell of Duneveg in Ila, which formerlie was a recept to the rebellis of the Clan Donald, will rather be a sheltour for such malefactoris and contennouris of our auctoritie as was found in the time of our late deare father, to the great charge and truble of the cuntry then anyways profitable for our service in this partes: The repairing and keeping thareof being lieklye to be both trublesome and chargeabill unto us, that being loath to give any ordour ether touching the repairing or diminishing of the same without due advice, Oure plesoure is, that you consider of this purpos, and tharefter that you tak such a course tharein as you shall think most fitt for the good and peace of this partes: And for what you shall doe tharein to this, this presentis shalbe a sufficient warrand.—Theobaldis, the 24 October 1629.

A PRECEPT ADDRESSED TO HIS MAJESTIE'S THESAURER OR DEPUTIE THESAURER OR COMMISSIONERS.

Whereas . . . the Marques of Hamiltounne hath done unto us divers good and acceptable services, whareof wee have taken speciall notice: Therefore, and for divers others important causes concerning us, oure plesoure is, that with all possible diligence after sight heirof, you readelie pay unto the said Marques, his heirs or assignais, the soume of 5000^{lb} sterling out of any of our custumes, great or small, in that our kingdome, and of the first and readiest of our rentis, dueties, casualties, or other benefitt whatsoever now due unto us, or which heirefter shall appen to be due and accres to us in our said kingdome: And this precept be registrat in the bookis of Exchequer, and that one act of Exchequer be made thareupon for our said Cousen and his better securitie: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 27 October 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas, upon informatione made unto us that one Frances Durrahame of Dunteran was specialie cited in these summondis of reductione and improbatione which, havinge beene intendit by . . . the Marques of Hammiltoune and the Erle of Roxburgh and Frances Steuart, touching the Abbacie of Kelsoe, war continuow by us, wee, by our lettre unto you, did signifie our plesour for continuow likewise ane actione depending before you at the instance of one Nenian Makclenane, the assignay of the said Durrahame, against the said Erle, in respect that that actione did depend upon the former, rased at the instance of the said noblemen: Bot beinge informed that you hade farr proceedit tharein before our lettres cam unto your handis, and that it was requestit that our plesour of new should be signifieit unto you touching that purpose, our plesour is, that all such actiones at the instance of the said assignay against the said Erle concerning the said bussienes be continuow, without forder proces or truble unto him, till our further plesure be knowen tharein.—Whitehall, the 27 October 1629.

COMMISSIONERS OF EXCHECKQUER BEING AT COURT.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that without a speciall warrant from us you cannot pas any signatour without you warr in our kingdome of Scotland, and beinge informed that there is ane lease of Orkney latelie signed by us in favouris of Johne Stewart, and ane signatour touching one M^r Johne Aittone, the not expeding whereof at this time may much prejudice them in what, upon good considerationes, we have granted unto them: Therefore, beinge unwilling that they be hurt tharein be ony delay, Oure pleasure is, that you exped unto them the said lease and signatour under your handis with all diligence: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 2 of November 1629.

TO THE CLERGIE.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon verie good and important considerationes, which wee doubt not are knowen unto you, wee intend to reduce unto our crowne by all lafull and fitt means the rightis of all patronages and churches which did belong thairunto; and though that thereby wee are not to wrong any of our subjectis in thare rightis, yet wee will that in a just maner all means flowing from us or you, which doe not contribut to soe good a purpos, be removed: Thairfore our plesour is, that when such patrone shall happen to require collatione of you upon thare presentationes, that you doe not grant the same till you be certified under the hand of our Advocat that by noe maner of way we can lafullie claime right thairto: And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 3 of November 1629.

A similar letter to the Archbishop of S^t Andrews of the same date.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas a motione hath beene made unto us by one Robert Seatone, that he might be licensed to open ground and search for mettles in that our kingdome, desiring that he might have advanced for that purpose ane thousand poundis sterling, offering the Erle of Wintoune and William Dick as sureties for repayment thereof to our use at what time wee shalbe pleased to caus demand the same, except that in the meantime ye deliver for our use soe much gold mettle found within that our kingdome as shalbe judged worth such a soume of money: Sieing the purpose is commendable and may breed good effectis for the

publict good of that kingdome without any great hazard unto us, Oure pleASURE is, that you, with consent of the Maister of the Mint, grant unto him and his partiners a commissione for searching of all sortis of mettle within the same, contining such conditiones as have been or shalbe thought fitt by you to be granted in this or caises of the like nature, and upon the saidis tuoe sureties band or the band of any one of them for payment of the saidis moneys unto us, or the full worth thareof in gold mettle as aforesaid, when they shalbe demanded for our use that you advance unto him with all convenient and possible diligence out of the first and reddiest of our rentis and casualties thare the said soume of ane thousand poundis sterling money . . . Which recommending the more seriouslie unto your care, in respect wee would sie some fruttis of his undertakingis heirin at our coming to that our kingdome, Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 4 November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Wee received your Lordships' commissione for examining the thrie dochters of Charles Forday, and the husbandis of tuoe of them, upon that interrogations mentioned tharein, in regard of his Majestie's late return from his progres, and specialie that one of the sisters is surs, and cannot conveniently be examined : And sieing your commissione did without any exceptione require all of them to be examined, and with all the shortnes of time from his Majestie's return hither, wher the persones leive, till the expyryng of the time limited in the said commissione, wee could not soe exactlie proceed tharein as was requisit, which wee have heirby thought good to represent unto your Lordships, and withall to expres that iff your Lordships shall think fitt to grant unto us a commissione of new for that purpos, contining some competent time for tryeing of what by your Lordships shalbe found requisit : Wee will give ane exact accompt of our endeavouris tharein.—Whitehall, the sext of November 1629.

Sic subscribitur, ERLE KELLIE, SIR WILLIAM ALEXANDER.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPPS OF Sr ANDROIS AND GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Wee have seen and considered your articles sent hither unto us by your Commissioner, M^r John Maxuell, and doe verie much approve of your proceedingis, willing you soe to insist in that purpos as may best reduce in a faire maner such as are disconforme to the professit religeone, specialie whare thair is any hope of thare reclaiming, and to be confident that wee will not be wanting in what we can lauffullie and convenientlie doe for the maintenance and propogatione thareof, havinge at this time given such dispatches upon the said articles as may much contribute in our judgment to that purpos as your commissioner (to whome wee have in a particulare maner expressed our pleasour to be imparted to you tharein) can relate unto you : Soe, &c.—Whitehall, 6 November 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that . . . the Bischopp of the Iles hath been put to great charges in endeavouring to recover the estate of that Bischoprike, ffor restoring whereof in the integretie oure late deir father and ourselve have been verie carefull : And wee being still willing to contribute to that purpos by all fair and lauffull wayis : Oure pleASURE is, that you give him your best advise tharein, and wherein he may be strengthened without our prejudice by any right or titill that is in our persone, that you concur and compone for him tharein before the Judge ordinarie, which wee will accompt as good and acceptable service done unto us : And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, 6 November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Letter upon the same subject and in almost similar terms, of the same date.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee formerlie gave ordour that by sound of trumpett the communion should be administrated in our Chappell Royall in July last, that all of our privie counsell, College of Justice, and members thereof, and others mentioned in our lettres written to that effect, might be warned to communicatt, and that such of them as wold not, should alsoe be required to forbear the executione of thare severall charges in our service, untill they brought a certificat of thare receiving the communione from the Deane of that Chappell: But now, understanding that some papistis affected have neglected this course, Wee, out of our care and affectione to the maintenance of the professed religeone, are heirby pleased to will and require you that, according to our former pleasour heirin, you remove from our counsell table all such whoe are dissobedient in that kind.—Whitehall, the 6 of November 1629.

TO THE PRECEDENT OF THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed that our late royall father did purchase the landis of Marpille and Trappone, and did appropriat them to the use of our Chappell Royall, the tithes of which landis being as yet in the possessione of the Laird of Smeeton, being willing for the better and more speedie helping of these persones whoe serve in the chappell that some present course be taken for thare maintenance and ease of the tenentis of these landis: Oure pleasure is, that by the advise of the Deane of the Chappell and our Advocaat you use your best and most readie endeavouris for dealing with the said Laird for buying these tithes for him: But if you find just caus for reduccing thereof to the use afoirsaid, that you proceed therein as you shall think most fitt, and upon your certiefeing of us what shalbe thought expedient to be done upon your parte, we will accordinglie give ordour for doing thereof: Willing that you in the meantyme in our name require our chancellare and keeper of our seall not to pass any new grant of theis landis or titillis in favour of any persone till our forther plesure be knowen tharein, willing you likeways to signifie unto the said Dean that when any competent benefitt shalbe thought fitt by the commissioners for tithes to be appropriat to the patrimonie of his see wee will accordinglie give way thareunto: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 6 of November 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas our trustie and weelbeloved servand and chaplen Walter Whiteford, doctor of divinitie, upon our presentatione and lettre directed to the Archbischoff of Glasgow, haveing received collatione and institutione to the said sub-deanerie of Glasgow, whareunto the churches of Calder and Monkland are annexit, is impedit and disturbed (as we are informed) in the discharge of his functione at the said church of Moukland by Sir James Cleeland of Monkland, Knycht, be a disorderlie and barbarous convocatione of our lieges kept in armes at the said church, thereby not onlie impeding him to discharge his calling, but alsoe preassing to interrupt our possessiones of the patronage of the said benefice belonging autientlie to our croune, and continoued by the admisionne of our servitour: Oure plesoure is heirfor, that you call before you the said Sir James Cleeland and his complices, and after triell of his or thare demanour foirsaid, if the same shalbe found, that you tak such ordour tharewith as apperteenes for restraint of the

same, and terrour off others to committ the like : And in regard of our servand his great charges already expendit or to be expendit for the preserving of our right in his persone by satline his possessione at the said church, wee will that noe grant be expedit to any other persone of the benefitt arrysing, or which shall happen after due triall to be found due unto us by the vacancie of that benefice, bot unto our said servand (if need be) ; we will you to signifie our plesour to our Exchequer, that they likewise may proceed according to our royall intention heir, &c.—Whitehall, the 6 of November 1629.

TO THE ARCHBISHOPP OF GLASGOW.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee did present . . . our chaplen, Walter Whytefoord, doctor of divinitie, to the Sub-deanrie of Glasgow, comprehending the churches of Calder and Monkland, to whome alsoe we understand, be your lettres wryten unto us, you have given collatione and admission to the said benefice upon our representatione : Oure plesour is, that you proceed to posses our said servand in the said benefice, and cure belonging thareto, by all such ordinarie and necessarie wayis as you can lauffullie doe, and after what maner you can best devise to that purpos, that those parochiners soe long destitute of a pastour be not any longer disappointed of that benefitt : Which specialie recommending to your care, &c.—Whythall, 6 November 1629.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CLAIRGIE.

That they use the Marqueis of Huntlie and the Erles of Anguis, Nithesdall, and Abercome with discretione, endeavouring by faire means to reclaime them to the professed religeone, and not to processe them till his Majestie be first acquainted tharewith :

Iff any of them give any offence by thare insolent cariage or contempt, that his Majestie be acquainted tharewith, who will not suffer the least wrong or contempt in that kind :

That the Archebischopp of S^t Androis consider of the deductiōe of the processe of excommunicatione against one Patrik Dickson, servant to the Erle of Anguis, sieing his Majestie is informed that the proces is not lauffull deduced :

That noblemen's wyffes whoe are popishlie affected be not excommunicat, providing alwayis that thare husbandis be answerabil to the Counsell and Clergie that they shall not receipt Jesuittis or papistis, nor be served with such ; and that the Ladies shall give noe publict scandell, but admitt conferance with such as be the church shalbe appointed for that effect.—Whitehall, the 6 of November 1629.

TO THE AMBASSIDOR FFOR FRANCE.

Trustie, &c.—As you have, according to the directione you hade from us, procured our trustie and wellbeloved servand Sir Thomas Dischingtoun to be set at libertie, soe, in regard of some thingis specialie importing our service, whereof we desire to be resolved by him, wee have willed him to return with all convenient diligence ; and if he shall stand in need of anything necessarie for his present dispatche, whatever you caus furnes him for that purpos wee will give ordour for your satisfactiōe, and will tak it as a very good service done unto us : Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the nynt of November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Letter as to settlement of Walter Whiteford to the sub-deanerie of Glasgow, in similar terms to letter dated 6th instant.—Whitehall, the nynt of November 1629.

TO THE CLARK OF REGISTRE.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas . . . the Erle of Monteath, precedent of our privie counsell, is, for some important considerationes knowen unto us, to searche for some writtes amongis our evidentis and rollis, whareof you have the charge: Oure pleASURE is, that you in that purpose mak patent unto him what recordis, evidentis, or writtes whatsoever you have in your custodie and charge within our Castell of Edinburgh or elsewhere, and that you give unto him such thareof as shalbe found by our advocatt to concerne the purpose for which wee have granted unto him this licience, together with any extractis that they to this effect shall require: And for soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 9 November 1629.

TO THE EXECUCQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas the within petition, exhibited unto us by James Law, is considerable by you, whoe best knoweth his imploymentis in our service: Therefore wee have thought good to refer the same unto your considerationes, authorising you heirby to grant unto him such time of protectione as you and our thesaurer shall think fitting for our service in our taxationes, ordinarie or extraordinarie, and for the better enabling of him to recover what is due unto us, and such soumes as are due unto us by him in his former collectiones: And for your soe doing theis our lettres shalbe your sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf, &c.—Whitehall, the 12th day of November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas for the better releeff of the burding of Johne Steuart of Coudinghame, contracted, as wee are informed, by the means of repossessing himself of the priorie of Coldinghame, wee have been pleased of late to signe for his use a leace of Orknay, wharein . . . the Erle of Home and divers others, his creditouris, are particularelie mentioned to be payed of what by him is justlie due unto them: Sieing in the meantime, as wee are likewayis informed, that he is soe distressed in his estate that he can be hardlie able to subsist in any good estate, except he have such thingis as he informed us is due unto him, for obtaining whareof he is to intend actiones before you: Oure pleASURE is, that tharein and in all his actiones of spoliacione preceding the date heirof, he or any intrusted by him have all such lauffull favour and speedie justice as the equitie of his caus shall in justice require: Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 of November 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF HOME.

Right, &c.—Whereas for the better and more sure payment of such moneyis as are due you by Johne Steuart of Coudinghame, you amongis some others, his creditouris, are first appointed to be payed in the Lease of Orknay lathie granted by us for his use: Sieing in repossessing himself of the Priorie of Coudinghame he hath contracted, as wee are informed, great debtis, and is thareby reduced to undergoe a great charge and truble in his affairs: And being willing that all maters betuix you be composed in a fair and equitable maner without any advantage to be taken upon ether part, you being secured of your principall soume, arrears, and other thingis due unto you bothe of the said Lease and of that Priorie: We would tak it as a favour done unto us if you upon this assurance wold allow him some competent time to give you satisfacione for those moneyis due unto you, desisting from that actione of repossessione against

him intendit by you till you should heir our forther plesour tharein; and as heirto you have obeyed our plesour touching this purpose, for which we give you hartlie thankis, soe be assured that wee wilbe careful to see you payed of what is justlie due unto you: Soe, &c.—Whitehall, the 12 November 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas for ane constant uphalding of our cheeff palaces and castellis in that our kingdome in a good and decent maner, and for avoiding of that untimelie and great charge and truble in causing repaire them at such times onlie as the present necessitie of our using them doth require, it hath been motioned unto us by our Maisteris of Wark that a certane soume of money, to be condiscendit upon betuix you and them, might be yeerlie allowed for that purpose: Oure plesoure is, that you consider of that motiōne, and if yoe find it to be for the good of our service, that you agree with them after the best and most advantageous maner you can for our benefit tharein, and that you caus mak ane act of Counsell and Exchequer, or other securitie needfull upon the consideratiōnes to be past between you and them, both for ther performance of thare undertakeings and for timelie payment to be made unto them of what shall be condiscendit upon amongis you.—Whitehall, the 12 November 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas wee have both hard and found by experience your affectione for furthering our service since your entrie thairunto, since which time the estate of our affaires have required in your charge great pains and truble: But understanding the estate of our coffers to be such at this time that noe moneys can convenientlie be payed by us, yet wee intend to give unto you the soume of 24,000^{li} soe soone as we can convenientlie doe the same, whareof wee have heirby thought good to give you notice: Soe expecting that you will from time to time continow as you have begune to advance our service in your charge, Wee bid you, &c.—[No date.]

[NOT ADDRESSED.]

In regard of good and considerable causes knowen unto us, it is oure will and plesour that with all convenient diligence you pay or caus be payed unto Hughe Wallace of Cragie-Wallace, or his assignais, the soume of Twentie thousand pound usual money of that our kingdome of Scotland, and that out of the first and reddiest of our rentis and casualties whatsoever present and to come, and out of the taxatiōne granted or to be granted unto us in that kingdome; ffor your doing whareof these presentis, together with his or his foirsaidis acquittance or acquittances upon his or thare receiptis thareof, shalbe unto you and everie one of you a sufficient warrand and discharge.—Whitehall, the 17 of November 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas for tryeing in the gold warkis in Crafordmoor, wee wer pleased to wreit unto you that vniuersall Thomas Foulis might detayne in his handis oure duetie of the lead workis payable by him unto our Exchequer: And whereas one Robert Seatone offerethe to prosecute what hee to this purpose hade formerlie intended, and to be acceptable unto you after the maner condiscendit upon with the said Thomas, or as shalbe thought fitt to be condiscendit upon by you: Oure plesoure is, haueing from him what securitie you think requisit to this effect, that you ether assigne him to leaue the said duetie soe payable unto us imediatlie from the persone whoe is lyable to pay the same, or otherways that

he resave payment thereof out of our Exchequer : And according as you resolve upon any of theis courses, require our advocat in our name to draw upp a signatour accordinglie to be exped under our Caschet there : Soe recommending unto you to further in soe far as you can convenientlie all such overtouris as may tend to the publick good, &c.—Whitehall, the 17 November 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas humble sute hath been made unto us in behalf of . . . the Lord of Lorne, that you might consider of wreittis of some landis thought to belong unto him within Ila, that it may appear unto you for our interest in these landis that he doth not intend to claime any title unto any of them, but in a just and legall maner according to his right and the course of our lawes, whereof being unwilling to refuse any of our subjectis the benefit : Oure pleasoure is, that you peruse the same, and if anything be found therein considerable touching his right to any landis thare advertis us thereof, and of your opinion in law touching the same, that we may give you such further ordour tharein as wee shall find just caus.—Whitehall, 17 November 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas complaint hath been made unto us by Sir James Ramsay, our servand, that one Ramsay, the base sone of one Michall Ramsay, about the instant time before his father's deathe, did without any warrant or just caus tak away a cheast whare his father's writtes and money werr : The foulenes of the alledged fact, and the dangerous example it may give unto others to commit the like, with the losses the partie justlie interested may thereby susteen, being sufficient inducementis unto us to hearken unto such a complaint : Oure speciall pleasour is, that with all convenient diligence you caus the said Ramsay, and any other whee upon apparent groundis are suspected to have hade ane hand in that fact, to compeir before you, and after due trial of the same, if it be found trew, that you caus proceed to doe justice tharein according to our lawes provided in those cases : But if you find the fact to deserve present death of the transgressouris, wee will that they be imprisoned till our further pleasour touching them be knownen.—Whitehall, the 17 November 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas, upon good consideratione, and for the better advancement of the plantatione of New Scotland, which may much import the good of our service and the honour and benefit of that our antient kingdome, oure royall father did intend, and we since have erected the ordour of the titill of Baronet in our said antient kingdome, which wee have since established, and conferred the same upon divers gentlemen of good qualitie : And sieing . . . Sir Williame Alexander, our principall Secretarie of that our antient kingdome of Scotland, and our Leiwetennant of New Scotland, w hoe these many yeirs bygone hath been at great charges for the discoverie thereof, hath now in end settled a colonie thare, whare his sone Sir Williame is now resident : And we being much willing to afford all possible means of encouragement that convenientlie wee can to the Barronettis of that our antient kingdome for the furtherance of soe good a wark : And to the effect that they may be honored and have place in all respectis according to thare patentis from us, we have been pleased to authorise and allow, and be theis presentis from us and our successouris we authorise and allow, the said Leiwetennant and Baronettis, and everie one of them, and thare heirs-male, to weare a carfe about their neckis in all time coming, ane orange tanney silk ribbane,

whereon shall hing pendant in a sentcheon argent, a [saltoire] azeir thareone, ane inscutcheone of the armes of Scotland, with ane imperiall croune abone the scutcheone, and intituled with this motto, Fax mentis honesta gloria : Which cognissance oure said present Lewetennent shall deliver now to them from us, that they may be the better knowen from others persones and distinguished : And that non pretend ignorance unto the respect due unto them, Oure pleasoure therefore is, that by oppen proclamations at the markett crosse of Edinburgh, and all other head borrous of our kingdome, and such other places as you shall think necessarie, you caus intimat our royall pleasour and intentione heirin to all our subjectis ; and if any persone, out of neglect or contempt, shall presume to tak place or presedence of the said Barronettis, thare wiffes or childring, which is due unto them by thare patentis, or to wear thare cognessance, wee will that, upon notice thereof given to you, you caus punish such offenders by fynyng and imprisoning them as you shall think fitting, that others may be terriefed from attempting the like ; and wee ordane that from tyme to time, as occasione of granting and renewing thare patentis, or thair heirs succedding to thare said dignitie shall offer, that the said pouare to them to carie the said ribbine and cognessance shallbe tharein particularlie granted and inserted : And wee likewais ordaine these presentis be insert and registrat in the bookis of our counsell and exchequer, and that you caus registrat the same in the bookis of the Lyone King at Armes and herandis, thare to remain ad futuram rei memoriam, and that all parties haveand entres may have autentick copies and extractis thereof : ffor your soe doing theis our lettres shalbe unto you, and everie one of you, a sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf.—Whitehall, the Sevinteinth of November 1629.

A Respeit granted to one Straintrie, alias Coiller, for a yeer, for the slauchter of one Berdner, being daitit at Whithall, the 17 of November 1629.

TO THE CONTRACTERS FOR BARRONETTS.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee understand that, out of your regard to our service and the honour of that our antient kingdome, for forthering the plantatione of New Scotland, soe oftentimes recomendit by our late dear father and by ourself, you have agriet with . . . Sir William Alexander, oure Secretarie for Scotland, for advancing great soumes of money for that purpos, taking the benefitt that may arrise by the erectione of Barronittis of the number granted unto him, as yet to be made for your releeff, wee doe heartlie thank you for the same, and doe acoempt it as a most singulare service done unto us, wissing you to proceed with confidence and diligence, that the nixt supplie may goe out in time, ffor wee wilbe verie sorie and loath to sie you suffer for soe generouse ane actione, which may tend soe much to our honour and the good of that our kingdome : And for your better encouragement and more speedie repayment, whensoever any persone of qualitie fitt for the dignitie of Barronet hath any particulare favour to crave of us, wee will and allow you, according to the severall charge that any of you hath from us, to require them first to accept of the said dignitie according to the conditiones formerlie condiscendit upon withe others, which shall mak us the more willing to gratifie them, ffor wee desire much to have that work brought to perfectione : Soe, willing that this our lettre be recorded in the bookis of our counsell and exchequer, We, &c.—Whitehall, the 17 November 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas for a more assuring of our rentis of Orknay and Zetland, and for encouraging our subjectis thare to improve ther estates, and for increas of greater vertew and policie amongis them, a motione hath been made unto us for fewing thereof to the kyndlie tennentis : But wee being willing to

proceed therein by due advise, Oure plesour is, that you consider of this purpose, and if it be found fitt by you, that you report unto us with all convenient diligence what the effecting thareof may import us or the good of theis tennentis, that wee may resolve upon that course which shalbe thought best to be taken therein : Which recommending unto your serious care, Wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 18 of November 1629.

A pacquet direct to the Erle of Melros the 23 November [1629], wharein was contined tuo procuratories of Resignatione, one of the Marqueis of Hamiltoune, and the other of the Laird of Cragie-Wallace.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas by our intider jorney to that our antient kingdome for receaving our croune and holding a parliament there, and divers others important causes at this time, Wee have great use for present moneyis : And whareas the abuse used by the conceallars and wrangous upgivers of thare moneyis of the taxatione granted in anno 1621 is contrarie to our actis of parliament provided in theis caissis, and directlie to defraud us of whatt is justlie due unto us, Touching which purpose wee wer formerlie pleased to wreat unto you, our speciall pleasour is, that you carefullie advert that the proces intendit or to be intendit before you touching this purpos be carefullie loockt unto, and that justice be execute aganis the offenders according to our said actis, and in all other thingis that may concerne this bussienes that shalbe signified unto you by . . . the Erle of Marr, our Thesaurer, that tharein he may have all the laulfull favour you can afford him, Sieing we have at lenth imparted our plesour unto him touching our present affairs thare to be supplied by that means and otherwayis.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEATH.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have been delt with for divers persons of that our kingdome that they might be advanced to titles of honour, some by a new creatione and others by being raised to a more heigh dignitie then they presently enjoy : Sieing these prefermentis are the cheeff markis of a Prince's favour, whareby the present age and the posteritie tak notice of his judgement, and of the subjectis as they find them to be conferred, wee will noe way proceed in that kind but upon due consideratione : And tharefor it is our pleasour that you, as one whome wee specialie trust, informe yourself and advertis us of the qualitie and service done or to be done unto us by any whoe desire that favour, and that you have a care to acquent us whoe of them have any heretable office, shirrefship, baillierie, steuardrie, or regalitie, that they first agree for the same, for wee will not advance them with whome we are to plead for recovering our right to estabillish that which wee intend for the good of that our kingdome : But whare non of them have any such thing to demitt, that there may be some publick service done for thare preferment, it is our forder plesour that you agree with them for some ressonable number of persones to be furneshit out upon thare charges towardis the plantatione of New Scotland at the sight of . . . Sir William Alexander, oure Leivetennent of that boundis, whareby he may be supplied in that great wark, and that our Advocat haveing considered those thingis recommendit, draw up and docatt the patentis of such as you agrie with and send them unto us, that wee tharefter may proceed as we think fitt : Soe recommending this unto your care, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPP OF S^r ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Being informed that M^r Johne Forret, late minister at Campheir, is dead, and that it doeth much contribuit unto the good of our service in theis partis, and to the good keeping of the ordouris

preseryved by our borroues of that our kingdome, that one able, discret, and qualified persone should succed him in that charge : Oure pleasour is, that to this purpose you be carefull that the persone to be presented to our borroues be one of that qualitie and conditione, for whome yee wilbe anserabil; which specialie recommending to your care, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that the Laird of Lee hath led off some landis the teithes belonging unto . . . the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, and which these divers yeers haveing bene led by him, wharein wee doe exceedingly dislike of the Erle's proceedingis, sieing by our decree wee have appointed the titulars to keep their tithes, as formerlie they did enjoy them, till they warr first satisfied for the same according to the said decree : Therefore our plesure is, that with all convenient diligence you administer justice unto the said Erle in any actione of his, or of any other our subjectis in the like caisses, which shall come before you touching this or the like purpose, according to the lawes of that our kingdome provided in these caises.—Whitehall, the 26 of November 1629.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Haveing hard of the abuses touching our antient patrimonie and casualities of that our kingdome, and how that the ordinarie burleans of pensiones, fees, and others allowances doe farr exceed our yeerlie rent, Wee have sent articles to be imparted unto you by . . . the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, whareby you may perceave our intentione to have our rentis encessed and expensis lessened or rectified : Therefore wee require you, according to our trust reposed in you, to reforme that abuse before our coming to that our kingdome ; and as any difficultie shalhappin to arrise in your proceedingis tharein which require our forder auctoritie and help, aqouent us tharewith, that wee may give such ordour touching the same as wee shall find caus, and that you caus publishe unto our subjectis such of theis articles as you shall think fitt : ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed by peticcon from James Inglis that he haveing served our dear father, of blissed memorie, and ourselves theis 22 yeers, and having from time to time much improved our custumes of our Citie of Glasgow, to his oune great losse and damage, as haveing in speciall been forced to draw in partiners, ffor whome he payed into our Exchekquer at one time the soume of ane thousand merkis sterling : Wee therefore, out of our princelie commiseratione, think fitt to will and require you to tak the premissis into your consideratione, and after tryell thareof to give him such compensatione for his losse and long service as you in your judgment and equitie shall think fitt : ffor which doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Wee have often written unto you for expeding our guiftis of escheatis, nonentrie, ward, and mariage of M^r James Edmestoun, late deceased, of his landis and his apparent heir bestoued upon our servand David Ramsay ; but being delayed, we wer pleased to require our advocat to sollicite in our name either the present expeding of them, or otherwayis to certifie us upon what ressonne it wes refused : And

now having returned to us noe other but the allegatione of the partie interested, without any certificatione from you of the treuth thereof or opinionne thareupon, And thare verie first reasone noe wayis ansuering nor coming neir in equitie that which is alledged for James Haitlie, to whose behoof we have cled the donatour with our right ; And forther considering that the prerogative of our free disposall of such casualities upon our servantis, though the ressones wer equal weyght to wey doune the ballance : Wee tharefore have thought fitt again to will and require you, without forder delays, to exped the saidis guffits, or other wayis to certiefie us of some necessarie reassone in your judgment why wee ought not forther to urge the same : Wharein not doubting of your care and diligence, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE ARCHEBISHOPP OF S^r ANDROIS.

Right, &c.—Wee are informed by peticcone from M^r Peter Hewat, that he haveing these 10 or 11 yeers since his confinement behaved himself without offence or scandell, and that now, by reasone of his age and weaknes inferring great inconveniences and dangers to his healthe, pleedis his releeff from our princelie commiseratione : Wee tharefore think fitt to will and require you to examine and trye the treuthe of the premissis, and if he have soe behaved himself since his confinement, and will give assurance of his conformitie to the church discipline thare estabillished for the time coming, Wee are content that you give ourdour in our name for his release ; ffor doing which theis presentis shalbe your warrand : Wharein not doubting of your care, wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 26 November 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are pleased to grant unto . . . the Erle of Monteith, precedent of our privie counsell, a guffit of fyve thousand pundis sterling, to be passed in our Exchequer thare ; oure speciall pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you upon sight heirof to put your handis thareunto, that it may be exped with all possible diligence ; and for your soe doing, &c. : the 30 of November 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whareas . . . the Erle of Monteathe haveing furnished Robbes for the Judges of our Circuit Courtis, and hathe sent out his deputies in that our service upon his owne charge : Oure pleasour is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, that out of the first and reddiest moneyis arising due unto us by any fynes of thais courtis you pay unto him or his assigneis the soume of 5000^{li} sterling, and that howsoone the same can be levied ; And for your soe doing, &c.—The 30 of November 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Whareas informationes hath been given us concerning the Lord Naper, our deputie thesaurer ; oure pleasour is, that iff any accusatour shall appear against him in the articles given unto us, that you heir and trye the accusatouris, and tharefter send upp the triall, together with himself and his accusatouris, to the effect he may ansuer unto us, and receive our determinations from our owne mouthe ; and in the meantime that he have the full exercise of his place according to his patent, and be payed of all moneyis due unto him before any officiare of Exchequer inferiour to him to be payed of any in time to come : And that you caus intimat our pleasour thairament to the receivers, clarkis, collectouris, and taxmen, and registrat theis presentis in the bookis of Exchequer ; ffor doing whareof, &c.—Whitehall, the 30 of November 1629.

TO THE GOVERNOUR OF THE TOWN OF PLIMOUTH.

Whereas wee have directed Samuell Jude, post of our towne of Plimmouth, to repair thither for conducting and bringing hither to our Court one of the commanders of Cannada, attended by some others of that cuntree whose is directed to us in name of the rest : Wee doe heirby will and require you to give unto him all the lafull fortherance it shalbe found requisit for thare conducting and transportatione hither, with all such provisiones as they have to bring along with them ; and that you signifie this our pleasour to any others whome it may concern.—[Not dated.]

To our trustie and weelbeloved Sir James Bagg, Knight, Governour of our towne of Plymmouthe, and to all other our officers to whome theis presentis doethe or may concern.

INSTRUCIONES TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

That the impost of wines be fermed at the heighest rates to such as will give most for them, oure fermouris of our custumes being first hard and prefered, in regard they have augmented the customes, and undergone for our advantage great hazard in the time of warres.

That in regard our decreit is published which was the caus we made a stay of passing of signatouris in Exchequer which wer prejudiciall to our Revocatione, oure plesure is, that you renew all men's rightis, holding ether of royaltie or principalltie, taking such fynes and compositiones as you and they sall find requisit, adverting alwayis that all men be liable to our decreitt, and that noe signatouris passe contining heretable offices and regalities, and other thingis that are reserved within the compas of our commissiōe of Surrenders.

That yow and they informe yourselves what have been the usuall compositiones of signatouris in former times, and that you and they rais the said compositiones proportionable for our best advantage, without wronging our subjectis ; and incais they refus to pay the said compositiones, that you caus our advocatt insist aganis them, and bring the wholl benefitt arrising thereby due unto us.

That you and they informe yourselves what have been the antient patrimonie of the crowne, making upp a petite rental of the same, to be recorded in our Exchequer : And in regard wee are credibillie informed of the prejudice wee and our prediecessouris have sustiened by granting of assignationes and allocationes, wee require you to pas non heirefter upon any warrant whatsoever, and that theis that are already granted may be by you considered of, and a legall course set doune, ether for reclaiming them or by transactione with the persones, as you shall find most just and equitable.

That you consider of such parte of our propertie as have been acquired or evicted from us or our prediecessouris, and, by advice of our advocat, to tak the fairest and laful course for reclaiming the same to our crowne.

That yow and they consider of the prejudice wee suffer by giving fees, wages, and livereays to severall houshold servandis whose services, in regard of our not residence thair, are unusuall, that tharefter you tak a course that thare places, and all other the like inferiour offices, be extingused after thare deathe, and that non be admitted upon any surrender or new sute unto his Majestie to any other persones, and that you draw upp a booke of the fees and other burdingis lying upon our rent for our hand to the end wee may know the certantie thereof.

That yow and they mak Actis of Exchequer discharging the buying of pensiones, except it be for our awne use, and that the pensiones be payed heirefter according to our plesour to be signified unto you.

That yow and they doe not multiplie officers for collecting the annuete and few-dueties, bot that everie man enjoy his place according to thare severall imploymentis, wharewith they are entrusted without any additione of new fees except to such as shalbe ordained by you to bring the same unto the receipt of our Exchequer, which wee require to be done at the easiest rate, and that present course be taken for collecting and ingaddering of the said annuete to our Exchequer.

That yow with our Masteris of Wark for uphalding of our houses in the same cause thay are for the present sequester some part of our rent for that purpose, and for such new buildings for which wee shall hereafter give ourlour.

That yow and they advise whither it be convenient for the good of our service and our benefitt to take bandis from the donatouris, the continuance whareof wee conceive to prove prejudiciall to our former intentiones to raise the compositiones of our signatouris, and will encourage our subjectis to goe contemptuouslie to the home, and remain in rebellione when they are assured that all thare escheattis and other guiftis cannot be taken but for thare owne behooff.

That you and they appoint at least one wholl day in the week, that our Exchequer may meet both before none and after none, ffor dispatching and managing of such bussineses as shall occur concerning our rentis and casualties.

Whitehall, the 30 of November 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are credibillie informed that some persones have led and wrongfullie detayned from . . . the Lord Halyrudhous some teyndis belonging unto him, without giving him any due satisfacione at all for the samen : Therefore oure plesour is, that with all convenient diligence you administer justice unto the said Lord Halyrudhous againis the said persones whoe have wrongfullie led and detayned his foirsaidis teyndis to the effect he may have satisfacione for the samen for all times bygone, and in time coming till he be compleitlie satisfied and payed thareof conforme to the tennour of our decreitt.—Whithall, the first day of December 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee have written to you to trye ane overtour proponed unto us touching the fewing of Orknay, and to report us your opiniones thareof wharein if wee shall resolve to proceed, and if any moneis shal thareby arise (over and above the yeerlie dueties payable unto us), wee for good considerations known unto us intend to bestow thrie thousand pund sterling of the same upon . . . the Erle of Carreck, to be payed unto him, his heirs, or assignais out of our Exchequer soe soome as conveniently may be (whareof wee will you to take notice), and if it shalbe found fit by you and him, that you make ane act of Excheckquere thareupon : Soe wee, &c.—the 2 of December 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . the Erle of Marr, our thesaurer, hath upon our warrand and actis of Counsell and Exchequer following thareupon borrowed sindrie soumes of money for the repairing of our houses, and for divers furnesingis necessarie and requisit during the time of our abroad in that our kingdome : And whareas of late we have been gratuslie pleased to grant unto a number of our weell deserving servantis and subjectis, preceptis and warrantis, for great soumes of money : Oure pleasure is, and wee

require you that non of the said preceptis passe in exchequer till the persones to whome they belong consent that our said thesaurer be first repayed and releeffed of all soumes of money he hath alreadie borrowed or shalbe required to borrow for our use, and for defraying of our expensis during the time of our abroad thare: And to this effect that they enactt themselves in your bookis authorising our said thesaurer to refuse to pas any of the saidis preceptis till first the said consent and actis be observed: And for your soe doing theis presentis, &c.—Whitchhall, the fift of December 1629.

TO THE THESAURER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased to give severall warrantis for paying the arrears of the fees belonging unto the Erle of Annandale, Sir Johne Levingstoune, and Sir Johne Auchmowtie, Knightis, out of the reddiest of the rentis of the principallitie now belonging unto us: Oure pleasoure is, after due examinatione and account, that you caus pay unto them or thare assigneis these moneysis which rest unpayed to them of thare said fees according to thare severall guiftis and our saidis warrantis granted to that effect, and that thare bee allowance taken in the time coming of the tuoe survivantis thair yerlie fees; for doing whereof, &c.—Whitchhall, the fift off December 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas we have been plesed to grant unto Hough Wallace of Cragie-Wallace ane precept for the soume of Tuentie thousand poundis scottis, to be payed unto him for his surrender for the baillierie of Kyle and regaletie of Newtounne, and in regard (as we are informed) of the estate of his hous, which at this time is verie much burdened with debt, and which for the good and honorable service done of old by William Wallace for the defence of that our kingdome (whose descent was out of that hous) wee doe verie much tender: Oure speecall pleasour is, that since tymeleie payment of that soume may verie much tender the standing of his hous, you be carefull he be payed soe soone as it may onywayis be convenientlie done out of the first and rediest of our rentis and casualties, and that presentlie after the sight of the said precept it be enacted and inrolled in the buikis of Exchequer, with the usuall and ordinarie reservationes for which thir presentis shalbe your warrant: Soe we.—Whitchhall, the 8 of December 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas for providing a peall of Bellis for the church of Halieroodhous, fitt to be hung thare against our coming to that our kingdome, Wee have given directione to Sir Henrie Bruce, maister of our arteillerie, to deliver unto Maister James Hanna, minister at that church, theis tuoe broken cannons in our castle of Edinburgh: Oure pleasure is, that noe let nor hinderance be made heirin by you, but that they be forthwith delivered unto the said Maister James for the use aforesaid, and, if need be, are willing that you be farther secured by act of counsell; for which theis presentis shalbe unto you a sufficient warrant, &c.—Whitchhall, the 8 December 1629.

PRECEPT.

Oure pleasure is, that with all convenient diligence after the sight heirof you caus deliver unto . . . Maister James Hannay, minister at Halierudhous, theis tuoe broken cannons in our Castell of Edinburgh,

touching which purpose we have writen to the Erle of Marr, capten of that castell : And for your soe doing, &c.—Whitehall, the 8 of December 1629.

To our trustie and weelbeloved Sir Henrie Bruce, Maister of
our Arteillerie in our kingdome of Scotland, &c.

TO THE ERLE OF MARR.

Right, &c.—Whereas we are credibillie informed that . . . Maister James Hannay, minister at our church of Halieroodhous, hath at the desire of our Commissioneris of Exchequer repared the said church at his oun charges upon thare promise of satisfacione, as wee formerlie directed them by our lcttes wryten to them for that purpose : And we being unwilling that his pious and forward proceedings in soe good a work (which wee account as good service done unto us) should any wayis be discouraged, the same being by him undertaken in hop and confidence of our princelie care of his satisfacione : Oure pleasure therefore is, and wee doe heirby will and require you that after our saidis Commissioners of our said Exchequer have receaved and hard the accomptis of his debursmentis, and allowed the same as in ressonne and conscience they shall think fitting, you mak present payment thareof to him for his encouragement in our service, he now being willing as wee have required him to re-employ the same againe in finishing the said wark by building upp the rwin at wast gavell of the said church, and doing whatever hath been found necessare by the Lordis of our Counsell, whoe by our former directione wer appointed to survey the same : And for your soe doing thir presentis, with the said Maister James his acquittance, shalbe unto you a sufficient warrand and discharge in that behalf.—Whitehall, the 8 day of December 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Haveing been informed in regard of the act of parliament made concerning proseripti-
ones, which is shortlie to expire, that if we shall not before the expyryng thareof tak a course to enable
Francies Steuart, eldest sone to the late Lord Bothueell, to plead for these thingis whareunto he doethe
pretend right ; though wee should be pleased tharefter to extend our favour towardis him for the recoverie
thareof, yet he shalbe utterlie disabled from any benefit wee can conferr upon him tharefter for that effect,
not onlie in the landis, tithes, reversiones, or others possessed by . . . the Marquis of Hammiltoun and
the Erles of Roxburgh and Balclench, but likeways in all thingis that are clamed by him that is possessed
by any other persone : Therefore being resolved, till wee shall think fit to expres what we intend to doe
heirin, to reserve still the possibilitie of doing thareof in our will, it is oure plesour that you, haveing hard
the Advocattis for bothe parties, shall with all diligence advertis us likeways whither he be in such danger
by the said act as is alledged, or not ; and if you find it to be soe, to advertis us likeways what is fit for
us lauffully to doe for preventing any inconvenient that may come in that case, soe that wee may, as wee
have it now, have it still in our plesour to doe what wee think fit to doe concerning them or him : And
soe recommending this speedelie unto you, &c.—Whitehall, the 8 December 1629.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to signifie our plesour unto our privie counsell touching
the accepting of . . . the Marquis of Huntlie his submissione and acknowledgment unto them of his oversight,
concerning which they of before did wreyt unto us, that upon his submissione and acknowledgment unto

them of his oversight you should immediatlie thereafter pas unto him, or to any other whome he should nominat, the guift of his owne escheit to his owne use, without any compositione; or that you should give way to any other speedie and legall course as he should think fitt, ether for annulling or reducing of the said homing, or for preserving him self and his estate from any prejudice which thereby might befall unto him: Therefore our plesour is, that you passe the said guift unto him, or any others in his name, upon sight heiroff, without compositione or any other guift in that kind: For doing whareof these presentis, &c.—Whitchall, the 8 of December 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas . . . the Marques of Hammitoune hath surrendered unto us his heretable office of the Shirrefdome of Lanreck, whareby the placing off a Shirreff there is at our disposing: Being informed of the sufficiencie of Sir James Maxuell of Caderwood to serve us in that charge, and least our service in that kind should be neglected, Oure pleasoure is, that you in our name authorise him to be Sheriff of Lanreck for this year, and at the next Michelmes that you retorne ane roll of that shire, and all others dimitted in our favouris, according to the maner accustomed.—Whitchall, the 8 of December 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee are informed that the tenmentis of Skathmoor havinge required Sir David Livingstone of Donepace to lead out of those landis the teithes belonging unto him, which he accordingly havinge given onlour to doe the same, was violentlie taken away by one Alexander Moore of Skathmoore, whoe, to the great contempt of our authoritie and lawes, and contrarie to our late decree for ordering maters of tithes, hade raised for that purpose about sex men in armes: This insolent and barbarous maner of thare proceedingis heirin, the dangerous example it may give to others to committ the like, and the losse the partie interested may susteen thairby, have justlie moved us to require that a due triall be taken by you for examining of what is heirin alledged; and if it be trew, that you see proceede touching the same, that by all example of censuring and punishing thareof, others oure good subjectis may be fred from the like oppressiones heirefter.—Whitchall, the eight of December 1629.

A PRECEPT.

Right, &c.—Whareas wee directed a precept in Aprill last for the payment of 500^{li} sterling, in one Patrik Baxter's name, for the use of the Lord Ochiltrie, which soume (being for his present expeditione to Cape Brittan, for planting a Colonnie thare) wee required our seruand Maister David Fullertoune to borrow to him heer, which he accordingly performed in Maij thereafter, as appeareth by a certiecat under the Lord Ochiltrie's handis: Oure pleasour therefore is, that you pas and exped the said precept, granting unto the said Maister David the usuall allowance for the forbearing of the said moneys from the date of the said certiecat till the said precept be compleitlie payed: And for your, &c.—Whitchall, the 10 off December 1629.

TO THE LORD GORDOUNE.

Right, &c.—Whareas, upon motione made to us in behalff of the clergie of that our kingdome to grant a commissione to some fit and able person for apprehending of such excommunicat papistis as stand

out in the Northern partes thereof, in contempt of our lawes, Wee, out of a confidence of your care and affectione to our service, have been pleased by our lettres unto our counsell to require them (if the Arch-bishop off S^t Androis, in behalff of the clergie, shall think it expedient) to grant unto you and your deputies a full commission for apprehending all suche papistis within all the northerne partes of our Kingdome as are in rebellione and excommunicated, with pouare to intromet with thare lifrentis and escheattis for your owne use, providing it be not employed to the benefit and use of the rebellis themselves; and to authorise you and your foirsaidis to intercommune with them for the easier bringing in of them, and for the reclaiming of them, with the advice of the minister of the parosche wher they dwell, to the church in a fair maner, some few dayis being granted in which they may not be troubled: Wherein, as wee have soe freelie put a charge of suche consequence upon you, soe wee will expect at your handis a reall obedience to our pleasour heirin by performing what possibillie can be done by you for the good of our service in this purpose.—Whitehall, the 10 day of December 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Letter upon the same subject and in similar terms, same date.

TO THE CHANCELLARE, ERLE OF MARR, AND ADVOCAT.

Right, &c.—Having renewed the grant given by our royall father of the Abbacie of Incheffray to . . . Patrik Murray, our seruand, whoe (as wee are credibillie informed) hath carefullie and faithfullie bestowd great panis and charges in recoverie of the delapidat estate of that Abbacie, in planting the churches thereof, and in releaving many of our subjectis from the exactiones of tithemaisters, having beside used his best endeavouris to evict in a legall maner for our use all thingis of that Abbacie belonging unto us: Therefore it shalbe thought expedient to unite that Abbacie to our croune: Oure pleasure is, that you tak unto your serious consideratione what satisfacione is fitt for us to give unto oure said seruand for his panis and charges bestowd in that bussines, and for his long and faithfull service done unto us; And in the meantime that he convert to his owne use soe much of the temporalitie and spiritualitie of the said Abbacie, the same being granted unto him, both by our said father and ourselves, as he hath received, or shall evict, recover, or receive, ether by course of law, by way of arbitriement, or otherwayis by procuratorie granted to him by us for that effect, to supplie some parte of his charges, and to encourage him to goe on as he hath begun unto such time as thare shalbe some course taken further with the estate of all Abbacies thare; And that you concur with him in the meantime, as formerlie you have done, in the recoverie of that estate, especiallie from such as enjoy other men's tithes, and have not submitted unto us.—Whitehall, the 10 of December 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF LINLYTHQUHO.

Right, &c.—Whereas it hath been shewen unto us, in behalff of the Erle of Marschell, that having granted a Commission for putting of schippis to the sea be vertew of certane articles drawn by our appointment betwen . . . the Duke of Lennox, with consent of the Ladie Dutches, his mother, the said Erle, and you, he cannot have the prises taken be vertew of the said Commission, or by the fyve or sex shippis reserved unto him by these articles judged by M^r Thomas Nicolson, advocat, whoe was thareby to have been deputed by you for that purpose, whareby he and his partners suffer great losses: Understanding that by theis articles is cleerlie condiscendit upon amongis you that the said Erle of Marshall have full right to the profittes of all such lawfull prises, and seing at our desire, and for avoiding of all

contentione with our said cousine, he did fergoe a greater benefeitt likelie to have arrisine unto him by his pouare of Admiraltie from our cousing the late Duke of Richemond, and specialie by a commissione which wee of late wer pleased to grant him, whareby he was to be Judge himself of all prises taken by that means, Wee, in our princelie judgment, think itt fitt that all differences heirin be removed; and to that effect that, according to the saidis articles, you deput the saidis Maister Thomas Nicolsone to judge these prises, admitting him for the better doing thereof to hold courts, sieing it was soe concluded by our directione, and by such advice and mutuall consent, that the said Maister Thomas should be only judge tharto, and that the said Erle should have full right to the profiteits of all such prises: Soe wee, &c.—Whitehall, the 10 December 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR SURRENDERS.

Right, &c.—Understanding that Sir Andro Ker, Maister of Jedburgh, whoe by us was added unto our number of theis Commissioners of Surrenders, is now dead, and that pouare is in us to supplie any place vaikin by death, or otherways with any persone thought fitt by us; And knowinge the abilitie and affectione to our service of . . . the Lord Erskyne, Oure pleasoure is, and wee doe heirby will and require you, that you admitt him to be one of your number according to any course acoustumed by you in the like causes: And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe your warrand.—Whitehall, 10 of December 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whareas . . . the Erle of Carrike, in regard of satisfacione given by us to him, is willing to surrender upp unto us all title, right, and clame whatsoever he hathe to the Erledome of Orknay: Oure pleasoure is, that you draw up a sufficient surrender of the same, to be signed by him as you shall think requisit for our suretie, whareby wee and our successouris in all time coming may be fullie secured from all titill, right, and clame whatsoever he hathe to the foirsaid Erledome, reserving always to him the landis that he hathe purchased there.—Whitehall, the 10 of December 1629.

TO THE EXCHECQUER.

Right, &c.—Whareas for the better obtayning of such debtis as wer due unto . . . the Erle of Annandale by the Lord and Maister of Hereis, whoe at his instance wer put to the horne and denueed our rebellis, wee formerly pleased to grant unto him thare escheatis and lifrentis: And haveing to this purpose signed a signatour unto him of new, oure pleasoure is, that you caus exped the same under our privie seall with all convenient diligence, takinge suche assurance for the use of the saidis Lord and Maister of Hereis and ther other ereditouris (the said Erle being secured or payed of what by them is justlie due unto him) as you shall think fitt for the good of our service, or as is accoustumed in cases of the like nature: Soe wee bid you fareweell.—Whitehall, the 10 December 1629.

A PRECEPT.

Whareas formerlie wee directed a precept unto Sir James Baillie, Knight, that haveing the same charge in our service, wharewith you are now intrusted to pay unto Sir Williame Alexander, Knyght, oure principall secretarie for Scotland, the soume of sex thousand poundis sterling out of our parte of the prise moneys which the saidis Sir James was then orlaned to resave, and are now appointed to come unto the

Exchackquer : Therefore oure plesour is, and wee doe heirly will and require you upon the sight heiroff to pay unto the said Sir Williame Alexander, or his assignais, that which you shall find remaining unpaid of the said precept, and that out of the first and reddiest of our rentis and casualities, or out of any other moneyis belonging unto us presently remaining in your custodie, or that shall nixt come into your handis : And for your soe doing theis presentis shalbe unto you a sufficient warrant : And we doe heirly command our thesaurer, deputie thesaurer, commissioners of our exchequer, and all others auditouris whoe are or shalbe heirefter to allow and defeas unto you the remanendare of the said Sir Williame, his precept upon acempt.—Whitehall, the 10 of December 1629.

To our trustie and weelbeloved M^r David Fullertone, one of the
Receavers of our rentis in Scotland.

TO THE LORD OF LORNE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer pleased of late to require you and oure deputie thesaurer that the thousand merkis sterling money condiscendend npon in our late dear father's presence to have been payed by your father unto the late Laird of Lundie, for the good service done and charges undergone by him in helping at that time to setle the insurrectiones of the Makgregouris and Clandonald, might now after a long time, and our said father and our oune plesour soe often signified to that purpose be payed unto Sir Coleen Campbell, his sone, gentleman of oure privie chamber : But understanding that noe course as yet is taken tharein, and oure said seruandis estate is burdeaned in paying interest for these moneyis theis divers yeers bypast, it is our plesour that at the first time at which that yeerlie rent is to be payed be you unto your father, you mak readie payment out of the first and reddiest thairoff unto our said seruand of the said thousand merkis sterling, with the usuall consideratione thereof for the same of the ordinarie forbearand thareoff, whareby he may be releived of the said burdein according to equitie and conscience, and encouraged to undergoe the like hazard in our service as his father did iff the like occasione should fall out in that our kingdome : Wharein not doulting of your conformitie, wee bid you, &c.—Whitehall, the 10 December 1629.

TO THE EXCHEQUER.

Right, &c.—The inclosed petitione whiche we have heirwith sent unto you being presented unto us in behalff of Maister Williame Chambers, humblie desiring that wee might be pleased to remit the consideratione thareof unto you, that he may be righted of what doeth justlie belong unto him by his guift of the office of our thesaurer clark : That noe new charge of fee or expence might ether be unnecessarilie imposed upon us or our subjectis for what by that office and for the accustomed fees thareof is onlie due to him to discharge : Oure plesoure is, that you consider of the peticoone, and after due triall to certifie bak unto us the trew estate of what is thareby affirmed, that wee may give such forder ordour touching the same as we shall find just caus.—Whitehall, the 10 day of December 1629.

A PETITION BY M^r JAMES DURHAME.

WHITHALL, the 27 December the yeir 1629.

His Majestie is gratiouslie pleased to refer the consideration of this petitione to the Erle of Marr, his majestie's hiegh thesaurer of Scotland, and to the rest of his hieghnes' commissioners of exchequer, thare warning them to examin and trye what is justlie due to the petitioner, and tharefter to give satisfacione of what they find due unto him.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee are informed there is ane actione depending befor you at the instance of Charles Fortee, deceased, against . . . Johne Erskyne of Balgownye, as souertie for our seruand Sir Williame Irewing, Knight, for payment of some small sommes of money alledged due by vertew of ane band made by them to the saidis Charles : And forasmuch as wee are credibillie informed that the most parte of the same soume was payed heer by the said Sir Williame, whereof he can mak good proofe heer in our Chancerie, whereunto the said executouris are liable, withiu this our Kingdome of England, and whereunto they are cited by proces out of the said court for this effect : Oure pleasoure tharefor is, that you doe suspend all proceedingis thare, for such a ressonable time as you think fitting, untill the said prooffe may be made in our said court, that thareby the treuth appearing, justice tharefter may be ministred unto all parties as the equitie of the caus may require : And for your soe doing this our lettres shalbe unto you, and everie of you, a sufficient warraud.—Whitchall, the 28 of December 1629.

TO THE CHANCELLARE.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . the Archebischopp of S^t Androis hath caused mak remonstrance unto us of the rwienuous estate of our Castell of S^t Androis, and of the necessitie of the repairing thareof, desyring (becaus of the present estate of our coffers thare, whereby moneysis cannot convenientlie be hade at this time) that he might detayn in his handis such moneysis of our taxationis granted in anno 1625 as were payable by him unto you, as our collectour generall : Though wee doe not intend that this should be a precedent for any other, and that wee will not interpose this on you, nor requyre you thareunto forther then convenientlie you may doe without your oune prejudice, yet it wilbe acceptable unto us, in soe muche as can be spared besidis your owne releeff, that he have ether the said parte of his taxationis which are in his handis, or that the samen be continowed till our coming in that our kingdome.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1629.

TO THE ARCHEBISCHOPP OFF S^t ANDROIS.

Letter on the same subject and of the same date.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee wer formerlie pleased to writ to you to be sparing in pronouncing any decree in favouris of . . . Sir David Lyndsay of Balcarras, Knight, aganis . . . the Bischopp of Dumblane, concerning his tithes : And in regard, before the pronouncing of our decree and the said Sir David his submissione to us, wee wer not pleased that he should have actione and proces before you for any tithes or other thingis lyable to our decree : Now sieing the said Sir David hath signed one of these submissione made to us concerning tithes and erectione, and soe is lyable to our decree as others whoe have submitted, And in regard our decree is now published, it is oure plesour that you grant unto the said Sir David proces and justice without delay in all causes and actiones of law depending before you at his instance, or which he shall mak or intend against any persone or persones ether for tithes or any other thing due unto him, as frelie as to any other our subjectis whatsoever in the like case, &c.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS.

Whereas wee have given you in charge by vertew of your commissione to provyde out of the tithes some proportione for pious uses, which though it cannot be hade in a competent measour for erecting off hospitallis, which require a great charge ffor the mantayning of a few persones, thare hath been ane overtour made unto us that some reasonabill means, such as according to the quantitie of tithes might be best spared, should be established in everie paroshe to be joyned to the ordinarie contributions thareoff, to be disposed off by the ministers and elders of the same for supplying of thare owne poore, and for other necessarie warkis in the paroshe as they shall find most needfull: And though the first stock be bot small, yet it may be encreased by time by the voluntarie legacies or giftis of chereable persones for such a publick good, whareof by preventing and taking ordour with beggers, besiddis other good workis, everie one within the parosche must in some measour participat of what they have, being bestowed for the good of thare owne boundis, everie paroshe by this meaus haveing some commone good which by the charetie of weel disposed persones is capable and possibill of further ences, though this purpose wold seem expedient unto us, yet wee will not determine anything of this nature without your advise, whoe are warranted by your commissione to provide for pious uses: And it is oure plesour that yee tak that which is proponed heirby in your serious consideratione, and if you find the same fitt for the good of the kingdome in generall, and necessarie as it is supposed to bee, that you advisedlie consciscend upon such a course thairin as you think best according to the trust you have from us.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1629.

A PRECEPT TO M^r DAVID FULLERTOUNE.

Whereas wee are informed that our Maister of Wark and Maister of Ordinance and Alexander Peers contracted with Johne Milne, measonc, for making a water pond neir to our Pallace of Halierudhous for the use of our Curie thare, and have agreed to pay unto him the soume of fourtie fyve poundis sterling for perfecting thareoff: Oure plesoure tharefore is, that you pay or caus be payed unto the said Alexander Peers the soume of fourtie fyve poundis sterling, to be delyvered unto the said Johne Milne after the performing of the said wark by the advise of the said Maister of Wark: And for your see doing these presentis shalbe your sufficient warrant, and the same shalbe allowed to you in your accomptis.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1629.

TO THE COUNSELL.

Right, &c.—Whereas by your lettre unto us you recommendit a motione made by you for imploying the Erle of Seaforth for apprehending the Erle of Caithnes; but being informed that divers inhabitantis of our burgh of Edinburgh have interest in his estate, and may tak a course for his appearance before you, which course wee will approve iff it could be effected without charge or truble unto us or to the cuntrie thare: Oure plesoure is, that you signifie our plesour heirin to the Provost and Baillies of the said burgh, causing them to mak theis persones interested in his estate to compeir before you, and to trye what may be expected of them for undergoing of that charge, and if they will not undertak the same, that you advertieis us, that we may resolve what course to tak tharein.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1629.

TO THE LAIRD DRUMLANERIG.

Right, &c.—Whereas . . . Sir Richard Grahame, Knight, hath latelie by a warrant from us taken some presoners in the borders, it is our plesour that the sext of Februarie nixtocum you resave at

the Scottishe ditch from the Shirreff of Comberland these persones, Johne Armstrong with the one hand, Christopher Armstrong of Stubhome, Andro Armstrong of Stubhame, Johne Johnstone of Whyte-cassellis, Andro Johnnestone of Tindergarth, Thomas Armstrong of Kirktoune, Frances Armstrong of the Kirktoune, Williame Johnnestone of Calle, Robert Grahame of Driff, George Betay of Crepholme, and that you commit them in saiff ward at Jedburgh, thare till remaine till they receive thare triall, ffor whiche theis shalbe your sufficient warrand.—Whitehall, the 28 of December 1629.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EDINBURGH AND WEST LOUTHING.

Right, &c.—Whereas M^r Johne Hay, commissioner for our burgh of Edinburgh, for removing of all questiones betuix the noblemen and gentlemen of West Louthiane and that burgh concerning the extentione of thare Shirrefship and Crouership, and holding thare gild courtis and custome of the load of . . . confined into the chartour granted unto them in anno 1603, hath made thare offer nnto us heir inclosed, whareby allocation of contraversie may be taken away: Wee tharefor give and grant unto you our full pouare and commissione to call before you the commissioners of both the saidis parties and heir thare differences, and soe compose the same as is most fit for the good of both and thare severall interesit for avoiding of all questione in time coming, and that you see the same doon in a legall forme, and if any difficultie shall arrise which cannot, with consent of both parties, or be by you composed, that you certifie us of your opiniones tharein, that wee may tak such course for settling thareof as in our princelie judgment wee shall think fitt.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1629.

TO THE ADVOCAT.

Trustie, &c.—Whereas some articles hath been presented unto us aganis our burgh of Edinburgh in name of the toune of Leith, complaning of divers strange priveledges granted by our royal progenitouris unto our said burgh, whareof wee doe heirby send you a trew copie to be considered of by you: Oure pleASURE tharefore is, and wee doe heirby require you to informe yourself of the chartour granted in anno 1603, and of the offers made unto us by M^r Johne Hay in thare behalf, which wee also heirwith send unto you, that you may devise some legall course whareby to secure us tharein. As likewayis wee desire you to advert if our said burgh have any strange or exorbitant priveledge net usuall to other subjectis nor fitt to be enjoyed by them, and if you find it soe, wee require you to certifie us thareof, and of your opinione how to remove the same, that tharefter wee may tak some such fair course for certiefing thareof, as in our princely judgment may seem most agreable unto justice and equitie, and the lawes and and government of that our kingdome: As likewayis wee will you to advertis us by what lafull and convenient priveledge that they have not alreadie, that wee may gratifie them in lewe of that which they soe willinglie have done to pleas us: And whareas wee have given commissione for composing the differences between our said burgh and the noblemen and gentlemen of West Louthian arrising upon thare chartour past in the said yeer, wee desire you to give your best assistance and advise to bring the same to a wished end.—Whithall, 28 December 1629.

TO THE BURGH OF EDINBURGH.

Letter on the same subject, and of the same date.

TO THE COUNSELL—EXTENTS.

Right, &c.—Being informed that it hath been a custome, groundit upon verie good ressonne and causes that whare the commone rentis of our burghes, and specialie of Edinburgh, wer not sufficient to defray thare partis of the burdingis of the affairs of the estate and others thare necessarie bussineses,

Extenters chosen by thare provest, baillies, counsell, and deacons of craftis, did extent thare nighbouris, and that ether when any oure taxationes wer to be leavied, or at other times when any other occasiones for advancing our service, or for thare owne publick good did require : Wherein being willing to encourage them, wee are heirby pleased, upon the humble sute unto us to have that custume ratified, to require you to mak ane act of counsell thare upon thare further warrand tharein.—Whitehall, the 28 December 1629.

TO THE ERLE OF MONTEITH.

Right, &c.—Whereas our trustie and weelbeloved seruand Sir Richard Grahame, Knight, hath by a commissione from us apprehendit and put in ward some theeffis and rebellis of the borders, and being willing that justice should be execute aganis them : Oure plesour is, that the tent day of Marche nixt to come you hold ane Justice Court at Jedburgh for that effect, and that you call unto you for your assistence the said Sir Richard, whoe was due actour in the said service, and any other whoe may most convenientlie be hade, and whoe is alreadie in our commissione for the borders ; and if noe evident proof can be hade against them, that, soe farr as law will permitt, you admitt of probaill and apparent circumstances and presumptions for thare conding punishment.—Whitehall, the 30 of December 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee did formerlie wreyt unto the Commissioners of our Exchequer to stop Robert Dumbar of Burgie his remissione untill . . . the Erle of Murray should be first satisfied by the said Robert Dumbar, according to the agreement made between them ; and now being informed that the said Robert Dumbar endevoeth to avoid the agreement, and of his band to the said Erle, and that he hath intendit actione or raised suspensioe before you, intending thareby to defraud the said Erle of the benefit of the said agreement : Oure plesoure tharefore is, that (in consideratione of the said Erle's many and faithfull services done unto us) you have a care of the said actione or suspensioe ; and the said Erle may have equitie and justice done unto him, according to the lawes of that our kingdome, without being any longer vexed with unlawfull delayis or subterfuges : And soe we bid, &c.—Whitehall, the 31 of December 1629.

TO THE EXCHECKQUER.

Right, &c.—Whereas by our commissione granted by us to Maister William Haig, one of our solicitous, for discoverie in legall way such soumes as are resting yet awand to us of the ordinarie taxationes granted in anno 1621 and 1625, we have given to him pouare to compone, transact, and agrie thareanent : Notwithstanding whereof, the said Maister William, for eshewing of obligatione whareto he might happen to be obnoxious in making the saidis compositiones by himself alone, hath offered unto us at his first appearance in our Exchequer thare to act himself, not to compone any with[out] advise and consent of some of our Exchequer, wharewith wee are verie weell pleased : It is therefore our will, not only that you end what it is fitting to be done by you for the expeding of the said commissione under our Great Seall, but that you assist alsoe the said Maister Williame Haig in the way undertaken by him for our service.—Whithall, the 31 day of December 1629.

TO THE SESSIONE.

Right, &c.—Whereas upon informatione made unto us by Maister Williame Haig, one of our Solicitous, that there are sindrie soumes of our ordinarie taxationes granted in Anno 1621 and 1625, as

yet resting due unto us, Wee wer pleased to grant unto him a commissione for discoverie and bringing the same to our use, which he hath undertaken to mak appeir unto us, though wee doubt not bot he will carie himselfe fairlie and faithfullie in the prosecutione of the same: And though it is liklie that he will not hazerd the charges of the persute and our censure of his service without good groundis, yet becaus wee have a speciall care that our lieges be not unnecessarie trubled, wee have not only ordaned the commissione to expire iff by proces aganis these persous as he hath undertaken he doe not mak good sommes appear due unto us, but likewayis that he give suche satisfacione to the defenders that shalhappin to get absolvitour from his persuit as uses to be given in the like cause.—Whitehall, the 31 of December 1629.

TO THE JUSTICES OF IRLAND.

Right, &c.—Whereas wee did in Maij last direct our lettres unto our thesaurer at warres, and our vice-thesaurer of that our kingdome of Irland, requyring them upon resaitt of your saidis lettres to mak present payment unto our trustie, &c. Sir George Hammiltoune, Knight of the Capitans of our name there, of such arrears for his interteenment as was due unto him, untill the dait of the foirsaidis lettres: And forasmuch as wee are informed that our saidis lettres have not taken our intended effect by reasonne that you wer not sufficientlie warranted by the same to give allowance of anything due in that kind befor you being entrusted with our Suord and Commissione in that our said kingdome: Wherefore, in consideratione of the trew and faithfull services done unto our late dear father and us by the said Sir George and his brother Sir Frances Hammiltoune, one of the gentlemen of our privie chalmer, and in consideratione of thare great charge bestoued in manteyning and relieving thare severall companies for our service, Wee are therefore graceouslie pleased, and doe heirby will and require you, without forder delay or excuse whatsoever, that you give present ordouris for thare warrantis of full pay untill the day of the receipt of theis our lettres, that you likewayis give ordour to our thesaurer at warres to mak upp thare severall accountis of what shalbe due unto them and thare severall officiers and soldiouris under thare commandis, and thereupon to require our thesaurer at warres and our vice-thesaurer to tak speedie course for present payment to be made to them, the said Sir George and Sir Fradrik Hammiltounes, of what shall appeir to be justlie due out of the first and reddiest moneis that is or shall come into the handis of our thesaurer at warres, or vice-thesaurer of whatsoever our revenues of that our Kingdome: And lastlie, our royall plesour is, that for the time coming you respect them in thare severall paymentis heirefter groues due, as men whom wee much favour and respect, both for thare service, and birth, and qualities, whome wee should be verie unwilling to see any way discouraged or disabled in our service there: And for your doing of the premissis theis our lettres shalbe alsweell unto you our now Lord Justices, and to our thesaurer at warres and vice-thesaurer, and all others our officiers for the time being, whome it dothe or may concern; as alsoe to all other our deputies or Lordis Justices, or other cheeff governouris which for the time, shalbe a sufficient warrand and discharge in that behalf.—Given at Whithall, the last day of December 1629.

