CALENDAR

OF THE

STATE PAPERS

RELATING TO

SCOTLAND
AND MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS
1547-1603

PRESERVED IN THE

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, THE BRITISH MUSEUM,
AND ELSEWHERE IN ENGLAND.

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INTRODUCTION.

INTRODUCTION.

THIS volume, though covering less than seven years, deals with a more eventful period in Scottish history than its predecessor, embracing (1) the futile attempts of Elizabeth to commit Mary to an alliance with a favourite of her own, on the pretence that with him the reversion of the English crown would be settled on her: which failed, and Mary, hoping to secure or strengthen her right by other means, was driven to the fatal step of marrying Darnley; (2) the joint reign of the ill-matched pair, ended by Darnley's murder; (3) her hasty marriage with Bothwell, the rising of the Confederate Lords, followed by her imprisonment and deposition; and (4) her escape, defeat at Langsyde, and flight to England. 1563. —

Dealing with the first of these periods, when one reads the Instructions of 26th August 1563[1] from Elizabeth to Randolph, the feeling is surprise at the manner in which she dictates to her equal, certain royal houses where she may not marry, commanding Randolph as of himself, to indicate the person she preferred, set down in her own handwriting, showing her favour for Dudley, though he is not named. But Elizabeth knew she had supporters in Scotland, and could venture what no modern sovereign could do without risk of war. Among these, Knox lifted up his protestation, denouncing any foreign match, and assuring Cecil of his daily thirst for death.[2] He wrote also to Dudley in solemn language, as to a patron of pure religion, to be on his guard in this period of falling away, intimating, not obscurely, that Elizabeth favoured gross superstition.

The Cardinal of Guise penetrated Elizabeth's scheme for his niece's marriage,[3] while Murray and Lethington met the generalities propounded by Randolph with corresponding expres-

[1] P. 19. [2] P. 24. [3] P. 37.

1564. — sions of goodwill.[1] But after much talk on behalf of the anonymous suitor, if possible to commit Mary to an acceptance in the dark, Randolph on 12th March 1563-4 finally confessed his failure.[2] Thereon Elizabeth was forced to name her candidate by letter, instructing Randolph on 5th March (prepared, no doubt, before his last, on seeing the turn things were taking), which only reached him on 17th; whereupon he followed Mary to Perth, and declared the suitor's name—reporting from Berwick to Elizabeth and Cecil on 30th March, its reception by the Queen and her councillors as a surprise, and not to be answered offhand.[3] He did not return to Edinburgh till after 7th May, there receiving further instructions, and towards the end of June left for England, bearing a letter from Lethington to Cecil, desiring more frankness in his dealing if the affair was to end well.[4]

A mean proposal was now made by Elizabeth. She had asked and obtained Mary's licence for Lennox to return to Scotland on his private affairs. Then, on pretence that his homecoming might offend some of her partizans in Scotland, she caused Cecil and Randolph to write to Murray and Lethington to move Mary in secret to stay the Earl's return for a year—a request which they both repudiated in letters to Cecil of 13th July,[5] that of Lethington being in pretty sharp terms. After a lapse of two months, communications were resumed by a long letter of Lethington's to Cecil on 18th September, partly excusing delay in reply by Mary's absence in the North, stating clearly that Elizabeth must give undoubted security for fulfilment of her promises before any answer could be made on her candidate's prospects—Murray writing more briefly by James Melville.[6] Kirkaldy of Grange probably expressed the national objection to Dudley as the son of an attainted man.[7] Elizabeth's admission in her brief note to Cecil of 23rd September, that she was "in a labyrinth" as to replying to Mary, is curious, followed by Mary's

[1] Pp. 44–5. [2] Pp. 49–53. [3] Pp. 54–9. [4] P. 65.
[5] Pp. 67–9. [6] Pp. 70–4. [7] P. 75. [8] P. 76.

of 28th, assuring her that the good reception of Lennox in the Scottish Parliament was entirely due to her earnest recommendation.[1] 1564. —

Her confused instructions to Randolph on 4th October, when she sent him to Mary to justify her dealings in the marriage, and towards Lennox, show the trouble that Cecil had been forced to take to get her out of her difficulties.[2] When appointing Bedford and Randolph, ostensibly as commissioners on Border affairs, she gave them secret instructions on their chief mission—the marriage.[3] These contain extravagant praises of Dudley (now Earl of Leicester) as a husband for Mary, large professions of what she would do to advance him—were it in her power—to her own kingdom, ending with the extraordinary proposal that if Mary and he would "live in household with herself, she would bear all charges"—yet still carefully avoiding all pledges as to Mary's title.

On 24th October Randolph reported at great length his audiences of Mary, conferences with Murray, &c., in endeavours to excuse his mistress, not with conviction in his hearers[4]; and on 3rd November, his further meetings with Murray and Lethington, and a final audience of Mary, who refrained from committing herself.[5] And after his return to Berwick, where Bedford and he met Murray and Lethington on the ostensible business of the Commission, they had to report to Cecil on 23rd that the others told them Elizabeth was but driving time in the matter,[6] as Murray and Lethington declared in very plain terms to Cecil on 3rd December, stating that unless his mistress or himself committed themselves frankly by writing, they must cease to deal in the affair.[7] To this, after a fortnight's delay, excused by Elizabeth's illness, Cecil replied at great length on 16th,[8] repeating her praises of Leicester and her own preference of him—that only with him would she have Mary's title examined, but would commit herself by no pledges or by way of contract, only

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[1] P. 78. [2] P. 79. [3] Pp. 80–1. [4] Pp. 84–8.
[5] Pp. 89–92. [6] P. 94. [7] Pp. 95–7. [8] Pp. 102–5.

1565. — of her own frank goodwill. To this Murray and Lethington replied at equal length on 24th December,[1] pointing out the unreality of Cecil's offers—that what he professed to say plainly in one place he qualified in another, and that his various digressions were practically evasions of the question, adding finally that he had not *signed* his letter—a significant rebuke to such a precise man as the Secretary.

Little passed for a month, till on 5th February 1564-5[2] Randolph informed Elizabeth that Mary had been amusing herself in Fife, and made light of the marriage proposal unless her good sister acted as well as promised; and, on his pressing for her mind to Leicester, said she heard well of him as one whom Elizabeth would marry if he were not her subject, and therefore ought not to mislike him herself.

But the envoy himself had a surprise in a letter of that date from Cecil,[3] of the earnest means that Leicester and he had made for licence to Darnley to follow his father to Scotland, and in his reply did not conceal his chagrin at this subversion of his own mission for Leicester. On the 19th[4] he reported to both, the details of Darnley's reception by Mary and others, and the various opinions about him. He was much disgusted at the matter being carried out behind his back, and showed it as far as he dared.

During March he reported rumours of foreign offers to Mary and occasional hints on Darnley,[5] till on 15th April[6] he wrote to Cecil that the match was imminent, the public belief being that Elizabeth had sent him purposely to ally the Queen of Scots poorly and meanly.

Elizabeth now bestirred herself as if greatly displeased with the news, and resolved on a last effort for her favourite, or failing him would not object to the Prince of Condé, who had been proposed by the Cardinal of Lorraine to his niece. Sir Nicholas Throkmorton was her envoy, with two sets of instructions—one

[1] Pp. 105–9. [2] Pp. 120–3. [3] P. 124.
[4] Pp. 125–7. [5] Pp. 137, 140–1. [6] Pp. 142–4.

(imperfect) dated 24th April[1], the other of 2nd May[2]—permitting Mary to marry any "sortable" noble in England except Darnley, but declaring that only with Leicester would she inquire into or publish Mary's title to succeed her, as "the bottom of her mind." 1565.

But matters proceeded too quickly for her tardy (if genuine) opposition—for Randolph, on the 3rd,[3] writing to Cecil, told him how the intended match unsettled all Elizabeth's friends, of the poverty and pride of Lennox, and the insolent threat of his son to such a man as Chatelherault; on 8th,[4] how Murray, for refusing his written consent to the marriage, was in Mary's high displeasure; and on the 11th,[5] referring to Throkmorton's dispatch, named the dignities and titles to be conferred on Darnley and others. Throkmorton, writing from Berwick that day,[6] reported to Leicester and Cecil the contents of Mary's commission received by Lethington at Newark on his way from London, ordering his immediate return to Elizabeth, with her angry message resenting the latter's "handling" of her marriage, that she would no longer be put off with "Yea and Nay," and had made her own choice. In spite of this order, Lethington came on in haste with Throkmorton to Edinburgh on 13th, and the envoy followed him to Stirling, with some trouble procuring audience on 15th, when, on delivering his commission to object to Darnley's presumption, he had a long dispute with Mary, and could only report to his mistress, on 21st May,[7] that Mary had promised to delay the consummation for three months, though he doubted her doing so. He advised Elizabeth to put severe restraint on her cousin Lady Lennox, who thus paid the penalty, like some contemporaries, of being too near a throne.[8] Randolph joined him in lamenting the failure of his mission to Leicester and Cecil[9]—very openly to the former of the belief in Elizabeth's duplicity, more guardedly to the latter—but in both letters relating Darnley's insolent carriage, with further disagreeable accounts of him on 3rd June, and the general belief that his career would be a short one.[10]

[1] Pp. 145–7. [2] Pp. 150–2. [3] Pp. 152–5. [4] P. 156.
[5] P. 157. [6] P. 158. [7] Pp. 161–4.
[8] P. 165. [9] Pp. 166–9. [10] Pp. 171, 174.

1565. — Discontent increased, fomented by Elizabeth's assurances through Randolph to her Protestant friends on 8th June[1] that she would assist them in opposing the marriage; while Mary's friendly note to her of 18th, by her Master of Requests, was curtly answered on 27th,[2] Lennox and his son being peremptorily ordered to return at once to England. On 10th July she ordered Randolph to assure the Protestant nobles of her moral support in their opposition, to which he rejoined on 16th that the marriage had taken place a week before;[3] and on 28th that Darnley had been proclaimed king that night.[4]

After Tomworth's futile mission in August to prevent what had already taken place, and solder quarrels, Mary took the field against Chatelherault, Murray, and other opponents of the marriage; and by 8th September they were driven to Dumfries,[5] whence, after vain efforts to get assistance from Elizabeth, who replied evasively on 1st October,[6] they fled across the Border to Newcastle. Hence they dispatched Murray on 17th, who, though Elizabeth sent to stop him, was permitted audience on 23rd,[7] only to receive a very severe rebuke in presence of her Council and two French ambassadors, for his presumption and disobedience, which he took kneeling, and wrote very humbly to her a week later.[8] So they continued to hang about Newcastle and elsewhere in rather miserable plight, according to Randolph,[9] during the winter, the Duke only being allowed to go to France on very hard conditions,[10] and the others dreading forfeiture. Elizabeth, for her own ends, desiring their return to Scotland, instructed Randolph accordingly,[11] and either gave, or was suspected of giving, him 3000 crowns to raise men, which, on being called before Mary and her Council, he denied, and was ordered by her to leave Scotland in three days.[12] Pending a question as to his passport, he dropped the first hint to Cecil of the proposed murder of Riccio, and the various motives prompting it. That the insufferable presumption of Darnley,

[1] P. 175. [2] Pp. 177-8. [3] Pp. 180-1. [4] P. 184. [5] P. 204.
[6] Pp. 215-16. [7] Pp. 227-8. [8] P. 231. [9] Pp. 238-41. [10] P. 242.
[11] P. 251, 10th January 1565-6. [12] P. 257, 19th February.

chafing at being a king only in name, moved him to gain the crown matrimonial despite Mary's refusal to give it; besides which he had conceived violent suspicion of her secretary, though a prime agent in forwarding his marriage, as guilty of his dishonour; and, lastly, the desire of the Protestant party to have their banished leaders home made them ready to join in his design.[1] 1565-66. —

The band among the conspirators, dated about 25th February, and copied by Randolph himself from the original, bears to be by Argyll, Murray, Glencairn, Rothes, Boyd, and Ochiltree and "thair complices," to Darnley, with provisions by him in return, and was signed by them all, with the addition upon 8th March of Morton's name.[2]

This cold-blooded design was reported confidentially to Elizabeth, Leicester, and Cecil, also to Murray, Rothes, and Grange, then in England, and, besides the other four lords on the "band," to Morton, Ruthven, and Lethington, as Bedford and Randolph distinctly say in their letter to Cecil of 6th March. It is unquestionable that—apart from Darnley's ambitious desire and his jealousy (whereon the Editor offers no opinion)—the Protestant lords longed for Riccio's murder as Mary's zealous adviser in her efforts to restore the old religion. That such a secret, confided to these fifteen persons, was unknown to many more on the spot is incredible. A well-known writer[3] has been severely attacked by a number of persons, from Dr. M'Crie to the present day, for inculpating Knox as accessory to Riccio's murder, on the strength of what they style an "unauthenticated scrap of paper" found among the *State Papers* by Mr. Tytler, which they all reject as worthless and containing false statements. In justice to Mr. Tytler's memory, the Editor is bound to say that the paper, here printed *verbatim*,[4] is in official writing of the time, indorsed moreover in the well-known hand of Cecil's clerk, and is certainly genuine. The indorsement bears that the

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[1] Pp. 258–66, 25th February—6th March.
[2] P. 264.
[3] Patrick Fraser Tytler, *History of Scotland* (1840).
[4] P. 270.

1565-66. — (persons within) "were consenting to the death of David." The names of Knox and Craig follow those of the actual conspirators or murderers, but it is not said these two men were present. It cannot be doubted that the rumour of such a design, in which their chief friends, Murray, Glencairn, &c.—Knox's own father-in-law, Ochiltree, among them—were concerned, must have been floating in the air of Edinburgh. Murray's guarded letter to Cecil on 8th March[1], when leaving Newcastle for Scotland, shows he was well aware of what was intended for the "weal of religion."

The deed being done (10th March), as described in Mary's spirited letter on 15th to Elizabeth, from Dunbar, whither she had fled with Darnley, she was escorted back to Edinburgh by Bothwell, Seton, and others on the 18th to a house in the High Street. Then, strange to say, Glencairn, Rothes, and Argyll, deserting their associates, made terms with her for themselves, while Morton, Ruthven, Lindsay, and Lethington, thus abandoned, had fled from Edinburgh the day before—the recreant Darnley in the basest manner betraying them and others who had acted at his own instigation. So Randolph reported from Berwick to Cecil on the 21st,[2] confirmed by Morton and Ruthven's letter on 27th to Cecil and Bedford,[3] declaring the godly motives for religion on which they had acted, with a request for Elizabeth's support. The discovery of Darnley's bond, and his all-round treachery to his sovereign and his own instruments, with his false assertion of innocence before herself and her Council,[4] alienated all minds from the contemptible king. Yet he could solemnly assure Charles IX., in reply to his letter by M. Mauvissier, inquiring if he was guilty, that he abhorred the deed, and had declared his innocence to the envoy.[5]

Henceforth he is little noticed here, except as "the Queen's husband," still attempting to implicate others in the murder and

[1] P. 265. [2] P. 269. [3] Pp. 270–2. [4] Pp. 274–86.
[5] P. 277, 6th May 1566. Original from the archives of France, now in the British Museum.

clear himself,[1] and totally neglected at the baptism of his son, 1566-67. till, on 9th January 1566-7,[2] Bedford, just returned from that ceremony, wrote to Cecil from Berwick, that Mary and Darnley were on no better terms, and the latter was at Glasgow with his father, and lying full of smallpox.[3]

An ominous coincidence occurred—that Morton, so betrayed by him in the Riccio murder, who had ever since lurked about the Border, had now obtained his pardon and returned to Scotland.[4] The tragedy of the Kirk of Field, depicted in a spirited drawing,[5] followed ere long (10th February), and so ended Mary's second matrimonial experience with a "young proud fool."[6]

Elizabeth on this event, forgetting her late anger at her deceased rebellious cousin, now urged Mary on 24th February[7] to allay the suspicions against her by taking revenge on his murderers, sending Henry Killigrew with her message. Events passed rapidly: Murray and Lethington both wrote by him to Cecil in judicious terms not to judge rashly of the late "accident," wherein right would be done—and the former left for France not long after.[8] The Justiciary Court acquitting Bothwell, sat on 12th April, followed by cartels against him, and the notorious "band" at Aynsley's Tavern on 19th, where certain principal nobles recommended Mary to marry him[9]—under compulsion, as some of them afterwards alleged. His extraordinary proceedings, whether in collusion with Mary or not, has been, and is still, keenly debated, and his elevation as her consort to a dukedom, aroused the jealousy of his brother nobles, who, after the manner of the time, made a bond on 7th May,[10] ostensibly to release Mary from his thraldom, but asserted to have been more for their own ends. On this document there were at least four—Argyll, Cassillis, Morton, and Glencairn—who had signed the

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[1] P. 296. [2] Pp. 309–10. [3] Good authorities say a more disgraceful complaint.
[4] P. 308. [5] P. 312.
[6] Bishop Lesly's *Autobiography* (Lansdowne MSS.), quoting the Regent Murray's own expression. [7] P. 316. [8] Pp. 318–19, 13th March.
[9] Pp. 319–22. [10] Pp. 326–7.

1567. — Aynsley band three weeks before. But consistency was not a virtue of that era.

Morton took the lead, in the absence of Murray in France, and the well-known proceedings followed, proclamations, acts of council, &c., levies of force on both sides, Mary coining the gold font given at her son's baptism into pay for her forces,[1] till the contest ended on 15th June with her surrender to the Confederate lords at Carberry Hill,[2] and immediate consignment to Lochleven Castle, Bothwell betaking himself to Dunbar, never to see her again.

The Hamilton party, in absence of the Duke their chief, made some show of force, too late to avert Mary's fall, though Du Croc, the French ambassador, reported to his master their ardent devotion to her cause and hope of his aid.[3] Lethington, who had joined the Confederate lords, wrote to Cecil on 21st June excusing his action, ending with a request to Elizabeth for money. She at the same time wrote to Mary, rebuking her for marrying Bothwell, but assuring her of support against her opponents[4]; and a week later (30th) despatched Sir Nicholas Throkmorton with a double set of instructions—one, that she would aid her as a sovereign by God's ordinance, against her rebellious nobles; the other, to these lords, rebuking them for laying hands on their sovereign, which was not the part of subjects, but with a saving clause that till she learned their objects she could not give the aid asked.[5] While displeased at this evil precedent so near at hand, she kept her own ends as arbiter in view. This is clear from Throkmorton's advice to her at starting on 1st July,[6] to take care lest the two factions agreed, and not to favour one too much—and from Melville's request to Cecil that Throkmorton should bring money for the Confederates.

Proceeding leisurely, and making reports by the way, Throkmorton reached Edinburgh on 12th July,[7] and found that next day (Sunday) was a solemn fast, and, according to Morton and

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[1] P. 328. [2] P. 332. [3] Pp. 334–6. [4] P. 336.
[5] Pp. 339–41. [6] Pp. 342–3. [7] P. 349.

Lethington, unsuitable for secular affairs. Yet, after consulting their colleagues, they signified by their spokesman, Lethington, that hitherto they had found more benefits from France than from Elizabeth, for Morton with those "at the death of Davye" got but "cold comfort" at her hands when banished. From this time till his departure, Throkmorton did his best to execute his difficult commission, and, though he was unable to get access to the captive Queen, found means to communicate with her, and undoubtedly saved her life, greatly perilled by her constant declaration that she would never abandon Bothwell. Her freedom would, no doubt, have been disastrous to her gaolers. 1567. —

He also feared the "austerity" of Knox and the other ministers inflaming the rage of the people, the women especially, who were furious against Mary.[1] He conferred on 18th July with Knox and Craig to inculcate lenity, but found them well furnished with texts of Scripture, which they were not so ready to apply to the murder of Riccio, as heinous in the sight of the Almighty as that of Darnley—with a difference, it is true, in the rank of the victims.

Another danger now arose by the determination of the Confederates to crown the infant prince—only thirteen months of age—and establish a regency, as Throkmorton reported to Elizabeth on 21st-26th July,[2] with Lethington's warning that extreme measures would produce a catastrophe. This was crossed by her letter of 27th, still threatening these lords with her highest displeasure, reminding Morton that she had saved his life and procured his pardon, and his associates owed her many benefits—prohibiting Throkmorton's presence at the coronation. In his letter to her of 9th August[3] he gave a startling account of Mary's increased danger of death, as he had foreseen when her authority was taken from her, having been solemnly assured by Tullibardine and Lethington separately on the 7th, that the Archbishop of St Andrews and the Commendator of Kilwinning had that very day assured the Confederate lords that

[1] P. 351. [2] Pp. 358–64. [3] Pp 373–6.

1567. if they put her to death, the whole of the Hamilton party would join them in two days, their cynical, but very practical, reason being that if she were gone, the infant king's life alone stood between them and her crown. If any confidence could be placed in a politician's statements about his opponents, this would be a strange revelation of the then motives of the party who afterwards suffered in their persons and estates fighting in Mary's behalf at Langsyde.

Her life ran even a greater risk when, on 11th August,[1] Elizabeth suddenly broke out in rage against the Lords, ordering Cecil to write threatening war for Mary's release, but paused on receipt of Throkmorton's letter of 5th[2] that he found need of great caution—yet still ordering Cecil to dispatch her letter, to be shown only to Murray and Lethington by her envoy; one reason of her earnestness, Cecil told him, being the bad example to her own nobility.

Murray having now arrived in company with De Lignerolles, the French ambassador,[3] whose commission was merely to press in a friendly manner for Mary's release—Charles IX. being ready to treat with the *de facto* rulers of Scotland—proceeded to accept office as Regent on 22nd August[4] with fitting ceremonies, among these the singular one of singing the 72nd Psalm with his hand on the Bible. Thereon Throkmorton wrote to Elizabeth requesting his own recall, as the Regent would take precedence of all ambassadors; and on 30th August took leave of the Regent and Council, after having done his best for Mary, and, though greatly pressed, refused to accept a present of gilt plate at their hands, as he could only recognise their Queen, not her son, who had supplanted her.[5]

On 4th December[6] the Regent and his Council passed a resolution confirming all their proceedings against Mary since Darnley's murder, exonerating themselves of all consequences, which was ratified by parliament on 15th, also attainting Bothwell and his followers for high treason. He was in Denmark

[1] Pp. 378–9. [2] P. 372. [3] P. 380. [4] Pp. 386–7. [5] P. 392. [6] Pp. 397–9.

by this time, and Frederic II. refused to give him up, though the Regent more than once sought Elizabeth's help in his demand.[1] 1568.

Nothing of moment is recorded here till the apparent quiet was broken by Mary's escape from Lochleven on 2nd May 1568,[2] followed in rapid succession by the muster of her adherents at Hamilton, their bond for her defence, and overthrow at Langsyde, near Glasgow, on 13th, as graphically told in several documents here. Before this result was known to Elizabeth, she wrote on 17th, by Thomas Leighton, congratulating Mary on her escape from prison, oddly warning her against having two strings to her bow, while she herself was thus acting; and also wrote to Murray recommending accord between them, pledging assistance to Mary against her subjects if she sought no aid from France.[3] Whether this reached Mary is doubtful, for that same day she wrote from Workington to Elizabeth[4] relating her misfortunes, her 60 miles' ride from the field, and begging her pity. Next day she was conducted by Richard Lowther, Lord Scrope's deputy, to the castle of Carlisle, the first stage in her long captivity.[5]

Here it is to be remarked that there is no mention in Lowther's or others' letters of the story that she had asked his leave to enter England, but came without waiting a reply—perhaps an afterthought to justify Elizabeth's usage.

Elizabeth, forbidding Northumberland (who had desired to receive Mary as having landed on his territory) to interfere, wrote by Lord Scrope and Sir Francis Knollys to Mary, who, not much satisfied with either letter or messages, replied on 28th May,[6] by Lord Herries, complaining that she had been stayed as a prisoner for fifteen days, though she had freely come as to a sworn friend, bound to help her as the unwitting cause of her present state. Scrope and Knollys next day reported to Elizabeth[7] that on delivering her letters, they told Mary (as commanded) she could not be admitted to her presence till purged of Darnley's murder—an excuse produced for the first

[1] Pp. 401, 636. [2] Pp. 402–7. [3] Pp. 407–8. [4] P. 408. [5] P. 410. [6] P. 414. [7] Pp. 416–17.

1568. — time, and never hinted at in Elizabeth's repeated unconditional promises of help by force, up to Mary's flight!—Knollys adding his opinion that Elizabeth should offer her the choice of leaving England or remaining as her guest, for treating her as a prisoner was dishonourable. Herein he soon changed his mind.

But from these expressions and Cecil's "Memorial,"[1] it is very clear that the design to keep Mary a prisoner was resolved on at once on her entry, and the old claim of superiority, blown to the winds on 24th August 1314,[2] ever revived when Scotland was in difficulties, was now furbished up anew. Knollys, perhaps instructed to that effect, was very rude on several occasions to his royal prisoner—one at his first entrance on duty,[3] when in a very impertinent manner he justified her deposition, asserting that subjects might lawfully depose their prince if lunatic or guilty of murder, drawing tears from the unfortunate lady—reporting his rudeness to Elizabeth direct. Yet he could not withhold compliments to her high spirit and other notable qualities, when, writing to Cecil on 11th June,[4] and complaining of Elizabeth's mere hints to prevent her escape, without giving him direct orders; also of her mean present of clothes for Mary, which he had to excuse as having been sent by one maid servant for another, a convenient falsehood.

Henry Middlemore, dispatched by Elizabeth[5] ostensibly to make peace, but really to spy how things went, and assure Murray of her aid, reported on 14th June[6] his audience and long-winded explanations of her refusal to see Mary, who disbelieved him, wishing rather to hear from Herries, whose letter from Court was purposely delayed on the road.[7] The envoy next day waited on Murray, then engaged in punishing Mary's Border adherents, taking back with him on 22nd an iniquitous proposal from the Regent[8] that as his servant John Wood, then at Court, had copies of letters written by Mary, which in his opinion proved her guilt of the murder, "translated in our

[1] Pp. 418-19. [2] At Bannockburn. [3] P. 420. [4] Pp. 427-30.
[5] P. 424. [6] Pp. 431-5. [7] P. 432. [8] Pp. 441-2.

language,"[1] he desired them to be laid before the judges who should try the case, to learn if they were of the same opinion, assuming the copies to be correct. Otherwise his party would hesitate to accuse her. Surely even for that day an unfair attempt to prejudge a case! Cecil's reply, on 30th,[2] that no proof could be taken without hearing both sides, was straightforward, but modified afterwards. 1568.

Elizabeth, well aware that Middlemore's mission had pleased neither side, wrote on 30th with her own hand to Mary[3] that she neither loved dissimulation in another nor practised it herself, blaming her for doubts, and assuring her own good meaning; yet all the time secretly pressing her removal to Bolton Castle even by force, though she would give no direct orders to Knollys.[4] And in spite of Mary's bold and eloquent appeal to her better feelings on 5th July, the forcible transfer took place on 16th.[5]

Now we find for the first time, under Cecil's hand too, the statement that before entering England she asked leave by Herries from Lowther, but came without waiting his reply—an assertion unsupported by direct evidence, and perhaps concocted to justify her detention.

The announcement that the Regent would hold a Parliament in August, alarmed Mary's adherents, and, at her request by Lord Herries, Elizabeth on 22nd July[6] specially desired Murray to prorogue it till the issue of the conference regarding the Queen of Scots—to do nothing to the prejudice of her or her friends, and to pay more attention to her own requests than hitherto, or she might act otherwise. Herries, to whom she had personally confided this order, with much foresight caused Cecil to repeat several times to him the Queen's own words in substance, but (he said) not "so clear"—and on reaching Bolton, repeated them seven or eight times to Scrope and Knollys, reporting what he had done to Cecil on the 28th July, corroborated by Knollys' letter of same date.[7] The necessity of these precautions soon appeared.

[1] Why so treated seems strange, for Elizabeth knew and wrote in French.
[2] P. 448. [3] Pp. 448-9. [4] Pp. 450-1. [5] Pp. 456-7. [6] P. 461. [7] Pp. 462-6.

1568. — Argyll and Mary's party, now at Largs in Ayrshire, boldly wrote to Elizabeth demanding their sovereign's release as being the least in honour that she could do, and that if not, they would seek help elsewhere[1]; and two days later wrote to the Duke of Alva of her barbarous and deceitful usage, to move his master for help in men and money. Unless written in duplicate, this letter did not reach Alva.

Murray, on 31st July,[2] replying to Elizabeth's request for delay in Parliament, said he could not do so, being alone; but would summon his colleagues. He refused to open a letter from Herries on the subject, because he was not addressed as "Regent"[3]; and on 12th August again wrote to Elizabeth,[4] excusing compliance with her request, declaring that Mary's party had taken arms, and his belief that had she known this she would not have asked the stay. And in spite of Mary's remonstrances, he held the Parliament on 16th August,[5] forfeiting the estates of many of her adherents—one great object of the meeting—and threatening others.

Elizabeth's supineness (if not collusion) in the matter roused Herries, who felt himself deceived and irritated at her charges against himself of stirring up troubles, and after a protest on 17th to Scrope and Knollys,[6] he addressed herself two days later, flatly denying her charges, relating his ineffectual applications to Murray, and requesting her immediate action in fulfilment of her pledges, supported by Mary's own letter to her on 23rd. He also wrote to Scrope on 21st with wonder at Elizabeth's looking on at the Regent's acts, after her words to himself and repeated promises to Mary before entering England, which he styled "doubleness." This doubtless stung her, coupled with a letter from Argyll,[7] that his countenance to her Irish rebels (of which she had complained) would be guided by her conduct to his sovereign; and another to like effect from all his colleagues.

But she took no notice till, on 3rd September,[8] Herries addressed a more vigorous remonstrance to her Council, on her

[1] Pp. 466–8. [2] P. 470. [3] P. 474. [4] P. 476.
[5] Pp. 479, 485. [6] Pp. 481–5. [7] P. 488. [8] Pp. 498–9.

broken promise to himself to suspend the Parliament, and Middlemore's hurtful mission, adding advice to themselves and their mistress to act up to their profession of the Evangel. Then she caused Scrope and Knollys on 11th September to reply "as private persons," first abusing him for ingratitude and underhand dealing, then for omitting a most important saving clause in her promise to stay Murray's Parliament—viz., only in things "prejudicial to Mary and her party." An evasion, if not worse, for in her letter to Murray of 22nd July[1] her request is without any qualification; also her own promise to Mary on 10th August.[2] They added insult to injury by telling him, if he disbelieved Elizabeth, he might seek help where he liked. Elizabeth's real intentions to Mary appear in Cecil's letter to Sussex of 23rd September[3] that she would detain her, guilty or innocent, during pleasure. 1568. —

The instructions to her commissioners (24th September)[4] about to sit at York, while professing great anxiety to clear Mary, seem rather to smooth the way for the opponents' charges being brought forward, herself meanwhile corresponding with Murray,[5] and asking him not to sell Mary's jewels (some of which, it is said, she had herself bought), his reply being merely that he had not personally profited by their sale.

The commissioners (Norfolk, Sussex, and Sadler) met both parties at York on 4th October, and after the usual protest for the superiority of England, and counter protest by Mary's party, the others acquiescing apparently in the claim, began their sitting. Murray and his friends still showed unwillingness to charge their sovereign criminally, unless assured of Elizabeth's support—a course which did not suit her plans, she and her advisers fearing an agreement between Mary and her opponents if they refrained from these charges.[6] It was earnestly pressed on Cecil by Murray's active man of business John Wood, also at York.[7] The unfair attempt already noticed to get an *ex*

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[1] P. 461. [2] P. 710. [3] P. 510. [4] Pp. 510–11.
[5] Pp. 513–14, 517. [6] Pp. 521–2. [7] P. 524.

1568. *parte* opinion was now revived. On 11th October Norfolk and his colleagues reported to Elizabeth that Lethington, George Buchanan, and two others (one a Lord of Session, no doubt Wood), had been sent to them by Murray to show them in private a collection of letters[1] and other documents which had come to his hands by the direct intervention of God, and fully proved Mary's guilt, that Elizabeth might concur in their opinion, sending her an abstract of the letters, copies of which had accompanied Murray's former attempt. The indefatigable Bishop of Ross soon learned this scheme, and informed Mary on the 13th,[2] three days later reporting a conversation with Lethington,[3] showing how Elizabeth's sole purpose was by all means to promote dissension and drive Murray and his party to do their utmost to put Mary to shame before the English, her case meantime being kept undecided—a conclusion to which impartial readers of these Papers must come.

If the reply of Mary's commissioners on 16th October to their opponents' account of her resignation[4] is borne out by writings, as there stated, then it follows that Lindsay and Ruthven grossly perjured themselves at the coronation, in swearing it was voluntary. That Lindsay menaced her is well known, but that Douglas of Lochleven refused to be present knowing she was forced to it, is not so notorious.

It quite agrees with the design attributed to Elizabeth, that Knollys suggested as a fit husband for Mary, Lord Hunsdon's son George Carey, because his family were entirely dependant[5] on her favour, and seemed even to think that the Queen of Scots might agree to such a scheme. While these plans were in progress, Murray, by his useful agent Wood, submitted to Elizabeth a carefully drawn up paper for a speedy conclusion of the case, and also against the claims of Chatelherault and his house to interfere in the government of Scotland as nearest heirs to the crown after Mary and her son.[6] The contemptuous

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[1] The "Casket Letters."
[2] P. 530.
[3] Pp. 533–4.
[4] P. 525.
[5] Pp. 530, 535.
[6] Pp. 536–8.

expressions in this document, both against the Duke and his family and Mary's party generally, which seem to be Wood's own composition (whether true or otherwise matters little) no doubt reached their ears and perhaps prompted the Regent's assassination within little more than a twelvemonth, followed by that of the trusty Wood soon after—a result not wonderful in that revengeful age. 1568.

The Commission was now in suspense till Elizabeth made up her mind—at last adding five of her Privy Council to the original three, with fresh powers (24th November)[1] which sat at Westminster, beginning with the usual protests, &c., as at York. Elizabeth at the outset declared to Murray[2] that she in no way encouraged his party to make any criminal charges against the Queen, with the odd proviso that he should remain Regent till a better claimant appeared, and that none now of his party, who were guilty of Darnley's murder, should escape punishment—a clause possibly directed against Morton and Lethington.

Thus driven to proceed on their own account without a preliminary favourable opinion by the arbiter (unless the whole arrangement was collusive, which seems not unlikely), Murray and his friends, protesting as before the pain which they felt at making odious charges against their sovereign even in self-defence, and that they would banish themselves for ever if thus they could redeem her honour with safety to her son's person, said they were prepared with evidence of her infamy.

This was met on 1st December by Mary's Commissioners, who charged the Regent's party with direct action in Darnley's murder, drawing up the bond with Bothwell, planning to depose her and govern in the infant prince's long minority, retaining the large grants given them by her, and cut her off, only prevented by Elizabeth's help (a skilful touch), and that these, not the pretence of punishing Darnley's murder, were the true grounds of their rebellion. Finally, they demanded that

[1] P. 552. [2] Pp. 554–5.

1568. their mistress should appear in person before Elizabeth, otherwise they must withdraw from the conference.[1] On renewing this motion before Elizabeth and her Council at Hampton Court on 4th December, she made a lengthy reply,[2] declaring her good meaning and desire for her sister's acquittal, and to save her the trouble of personal appearance, would rather roundly reprove her accusers for their audacity, and upon their answer would judge how to proceed, either by hearing her in person or otherwise. On a remonstrance by Mary's commissioners that her personal appearance (as always contemplated by herself) was necessary, and till then no proof should be allowed the accusers, Elizabeth said she required no proofs, unless the latter persisted in offering them, but would receive them for her own satisfaction. It is clear she was resolved not to run the risk of Mary's appearance in person.

Accordingly on 6th December[3] the Lord Keeper, by her command, roundly rebuked Murray and his colleagues for their daring to accuse their sovereign, but would hear what they had to say. Whereupon, they on the spot produced the Book of Articles,[4] with its catalogue of "conjectures, presumptions, likelihoods, and circumstances," to prove Mary's guilt, with an exculpation of themselves for signing the bond for her marriage with Bothwell, as done under compulsion. Next day (7th)[5] they produced to the Lord Keeper and his colleagues, who had by that time read the "Book," the little silver gilt box containing the "Casket letters," sworn to by Morton as authentic, and on 8th a number of other letters of the Queen's to Bothwell, and other documents, all fortified by their own assertions and explanations.

Finally, on 9th, after Morton had produced his written statement how he came by the casket and its contents, pledging his honour and oath to its truth, Mary's commissioners protested and retired from the case. Elizabeth having summoned six of her highest nobility to attend the Council, they were (on 14th-

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[1] P. 563. [2] Pp. 565-6. [3] Pp. 567-8. [4] Pp. 555-9. [5] Pp. 569-73.

15th December)[1] made privy to the whole proceedings in the case, every document being read to them (but in a very curious haphazard manner) under pledge of secrecy. As doubtless was expected, they all approved her reply and refusal to admit Mary to her presence as the case then stood. The Queen, thus fortified, gave Mary's commissioners a final answer at Hampton Court on 16th December[2] in presence of her Council, saying that as the accusers had produced such great and apparent presumptions of Mary's guilt, which she never looked to have heard of, and did now with great grief,[3] she would only re-open matters (1) on Mary sending a trusty person to answer, or (2) making answer to a nobleman sent to her, or (3) by her present or other commissioners. She declined peremptorily to admit her to presence, and dismissed them with her urgent request for an answer of some kind, or Mary would be self-condemned. 1568 —

At the same time, with the unfairness that characterises the proceedings, they were refused, both by herself and Cecil,[4] any copy of the charges produced against their mistress, while Elizabeth, keenly bent on getting some admission out of her (to justify her refusal to see her), specially ordered Knollys to press her therein before her commissioners could join her, delaying Lord Boyd's passport with that object.[5] She wrote also to her on 21st December,[6] with well-feigned astonishment at the heavy charges never before heard of, earnestly pressing for some answer, yet with unqualified praise of her commissioners, Bishop Lesly especially, the bearer of her letter, as a servant unmatched in loyalty. Cecil at same time sent for Knollys' use a paper[7] of mingled inducements and threats if his captive did not reply. In these we see Elizabeth's real feeling on the never-forgiven claim on her crown, and full belief in her superiority over that of Scotland. The ever ready Knollys at once acted on her commands,[8] threatening his Royal prisoner with her dear sister's

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[1] Pp. 579–82. [2] Pp. 583–4.
[3] As if for the first time! She had heard of them two months before.
[4] Pp. 587, 592. [5] P. 585. [6] P. 588. [7] P. 589. [8] P. 589–92.

1568-69. high displeasure, if answer were refused except in presence, and gave advice to Elizabeth to use severity.

Mary, somewhat encouraged by hopes of Spanish aid and proposals of marriage,[1] refused point blank to resign her crown and thus become a cypher[2] to suit the plans of Elizabeth, who was confidentially warned by the Earl of Arundel that resignation was a dangerous doctrine for crowned heads. Mary was also backed by the declaration of Huntly and Argyll that Murray and Lethington were implicated in proposals for ridding her of Darnley, either by divorce or otherwise, in December 1566. Though Murray solemnly denied this charge, especially that he had signed any such proposals, which it was not said that he had done, the charges are very circumstantial, whether true or false.[3] Elizabeth, however, had resolved to support him, and advanced him 5000*l.* in loan "to maintain peace" at this moment,[4] ordering Mary's removal to Tutbury as a more "agreeable" residence, after getting up anger at her own and her party's doings in Scotland,[5] and charges against herself. These Mary denied, as concocted by the spies and creatures of Murray—a disclaimer outwardly accepted by her jealous sister,[6] who, however, advanced Murray a further 5000*l.* in loan on 28th February.[7] With this help Murray proceeded to deal with Mary's party, partly by force with underhand aid from Berwick,[8] partly by negotiation, wherein he succeeded in coercing the Duke, Huntly, and others, and at length shut up her staunch adherent Herries in Edinburgh Castle, in violation of his assurance, as the latter asserted.[9]

Mary, thus deprived of the heads of her party, her retinue curtailed by the grudging Elizabeth, and cut off from all but the most meagre intelligence, fell into such depression as seriously affected her health—so much so that on the urgent request of the Bishop of Ross, two eminent physicians were allowed to visit her and prescribe.[10] She was also removed by their advice to

[1] P. 595. [2] P. 597, 9th January 1568-9. [3] Pp. 597-600. [4] P. 603.
[5] P. 605. [6] Pp. 612-19, 623. [7] P. 626.
[8] Pp. 634-6. [9] Pp. 657, 661. [10] Pp. 641-8.

Chatsworth in a litter for a few days, till Wingfield, Lord Shrewsbury's house, was cleansed—a curious illustration of the times.[1] This, and possibly a letter of condolence from Elizabeth, restored her spirits, as she replied with her thanks for the care of her health and hopes of favour.[2] 1569. —

At this very time the first notice of the Duke of Norfolk's marriage proposal occurs in a paper by the Bishop of Ross, dated 3rd June, and indorsed by Cecil, which bears to have been "moved to her by Murray and Lethington," with her comments upon it. Leaving this matter, which had such vital results for both, for the present, an important secret proposal had been made by Elizabeth to Murray. Its nature appears in two papers by Cecil, dated 1st and 16th May,[3] evidently the result of conferences with the Bishop of Ross, then in London. 1. That the young king's title be allowed. 2. His mother to reign jointly with Murray as Regent for her son till 18: and other favourable clauses for England over France. This being committed to John Wood, Murray on 5th June thanked Elizabeth for doing so privately, and asked delay for a little, being busy in the North settling affairs.[4] A month passed, and on 7th July he wrote both to her and Cecil from Aberdeen, that he had been very successful, and had hoped her proposals might have been secretly handled, but Mary's party, the Bishop of Ross especially, had so published them that now they could only be dealt with openly in a Parliament to be held at Perth on 25th—confirmed to Cecil by Wood the emissary.[5] Elizabeth, displeased at this delay, wrote shortly and sharply to Murray that it might be bad for himself, sending her letter through Lord Hunsdon to procure speedy answer,[6] which Murray sent from Dundee on 24th July, praying her forbearance, as Parliament would deal with them next day.[7] On 3rd August he reported to her that Parliament utterly rejected two of her three propositions in her secretary's writing (one of these

[1] P. 649. [2] P. 651. [3] Pp. 642-3, 647. [4] Pp. 652-3.
[5] Pp. 658-9. [6] Pp. 660-1. [7] P. 662.

1569. touching the joint reign of Mary and her son), while the first, as not
— "so dangerous" (probably her ratification of the king's estate), might be treated on; and sent a special messenger.[1] Elizabeth replied on 12th that this was no answer, and returned his messenger for a more "orderly" reply if he wished further favour, or she would treat with Mary herself, seeing that he considered merely his own interest—following it with a more peremptory letter by a servant of Mary's for immediate answer.[2] His answer on 5th September was that the Council would send the Commendator of Dunfermline to her without delay to confer,[3] and on 5th October he was despatched with instructions calculated to do Mary as much harm as might be; that joint rule of herself and her son was impossible, recalling her claim on the crown and arms of England (a matter not likely to be forgotten by Elizabeth), recapitulating the charges of murder and proofs, and requesting her detention either in England or Scotland, &c. Nothing further is said here of the Commendator's negotiation, except his reception by Elizabeth, a hearing by her Council on 23rd October, and a reference by Murray to some matter with which Cecil had charged him, till his return to Scotland on 5th November.[4]

For in the meantime the affair of Norfolk and the Queen of Scots had aroused the suspicions of Elizabeth, as evidence of a conspiracy to deprive her of her crown by Catholic aid—not the less dangerous that some of her chief councillors—the favourite Leicester for one—were implicated.[5] This change, from the open manner in which, as already seen, Cecil had it before him three months earlier, is not explained by any paper here. But Mary was at once removed back to Tutbury under straiter guard, her attendants reduced to a minimum, and, under a search warrant by Elizabeth on 25th September,[6] her private apartment was invaded by Shrewsbury and Huntingdon, her custodiers, with an armed band, and her coffers, with those of her servants, ransacked

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[1] P. 664. [2] Pp. 668–70. [3] P. 672.
[4] Pp. 691, 698–9. [5] P. 674. [6] P. 679.

for letters, without result, as she complained in an eloquent letter to Elizabeth on 1st October,[1] the two offenders making a rather lame excuse to Cecil for this disgraceful usage of their royal prisoner.[2] 1569.

Norfolk and his father-in-law Arundel, had been committed to the Tower, the latter being twice straitly examined for proofs of complicity, without result,[3] while Cecil advised Elizabeth to be cautious in her language, as in his opinion what the Duke had done did not amount to treason.[4] She however, anxious to convict him, pressed Murray by a special messenger, her cousin George Carey, for proofs that the Duke first moved the marriage to him, not he to the Duke, giving him a broad hint that if he found such proofs her favour would follow.[5] Murray, no way loth to oblige his patroness, made a long and not very clear statement exonerating himself, and making out that the Duke and Lethington had devised the scheme, and sent this to Elizabeth and Cecil on 29th October protesting its truth.[6] His last letters in this volume (October and 7th November) inform Cecil that he had conferred several times with Lethington in Edinburgh Castle, there awaiting his trial for Darnley's murder, who to his surprise persisted in flat denial that the Duke and he ever spoke of it, though Murray asserted he was the sole persuader of himself in the proceedings described.

Thus the affair ended for the moment, though immediately followed by the abortive rising of the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland, put down with savage cruelty to the poor commons who had followed these great nobles—their hereditary leaders. At this point we close a stage in the chequered career of the royal prisoner. Within two months the Regent met his fate by the hands of Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh, followed within two years by Lethington and Norfolk—the one by his own hand, it is believed; the other by the headsman's axe. These events however, belong to a future volume.

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[1] P. 682. [2] P. 685. [3] Pp. 681, 684, 686.
[4] P. 683. [5] P. 687. [6] Pp. 693–5.

1569. With a few remarks on some of the personages who have passed in review before us we may conclude. Putting aside any discussion of the thorny questions of her guilt or innocence, no higher eulogy has been pronounced on the Queen of Scots than that by her first gaoler, Sir Francis Knollys. The woman who could inspire such devotion in men like Lords Herries and Boyd and the Bishop of Ross (two Protestants and a Catholic), must have possessed most attractive qualities. She stood firmly by the religion in which she had been brought up, in the midst of what (in her view) was a crooked and perverse generation, composed, no doubt, of many believers in the reformed faith, but unquestionably of not a few who adopted it for motives of worldly and political advantages, and grudged her the liberty to exercise her own. For this she has been unsparingly blamed by the partizans of the Reformers, while her all but contemporary sovereign, Henry IV. of France, bred a Protestant from his youth, who recanted that purer belief in his mature years solely to gain a crown, has met with a strangely lenient judgment from the same hands. Whatever her faults, and they were many, she was placed in very hard circumstances, and Elizabeth, who was a trimmer in religion, behaved in the most treacherous manner to her when she took refuge in her country. Political reasons have been assigned no doubt for this by those who consider that the end justifies the means; but the fact remains.

The character generally assigned to Elizabeth of selfish hardness and lack of truth will not be modified by anything here. It is amusing to find her, when writing to Mary, warning her against having two strings to her bow, while notoriously doing so herself in her dealings between Mary and her opponents; also saying that she did not love or practise duplicity, her practice being just the reverse.

The Regent Murray, in spite of the high esteem in which he was held by the Reformers of his time, and their successors, and his consistent career compared with some of his colleagues, was mixed up in some very questionable transactions. If his

admirer Randolph can be credited, he was a party to the assassination of Riccio, though not an actor in the deed, as also to the two very discreditable attempts to prejudge the decision of Elizabeth's commissioners on the question of Mary's guilt or innocence before the case came regularly before them at York, by getting their private opinions on copies of the letters, &c., in her handwriting, afterwards publicly produced at Westminster. His complicity in the discussions at Craigmillar as to freeing his sister from her unworthy husband, Darnley, by divorce "or otherwise" (a flexible expression, pointing at violence), a few months before the murder, was circumstantially asserted by two men of equal rank—Huntly and Argyll. And his double dealing in the matter of Norfolk and Mary has been also the subject of keen discussion, without a final judgment being arrived at. By his subserviency to Elizabeth he has incurred the reproach of lack of patriotism. One curious proof of this deference has not, the Editor thinks, been noticed. That in every instance after taking office as Regent, when he addressed Elizabeth, he signed his name "James Stewart," while in writing to Cecil, often on the same day, he used the official form "James Regent"; it may be to avoid touching the Queen's susceptibilities as taking equal rank with her. In one instance, indeed, having begun "Regent," altering it to his surname! 1569. —

With all deference to the case for his celebrated co-adjutor, Maitland of Lethington, so ably set forth by the late Sir John Skelton, the Editor ventures to think that the papers here collected rather bear out the portrait of Lethington drawn by George Buchanan, while at the same time they do ample justice to his ability as a statesman in adverse circumstances. His final adherence to his captive sovereign did much, in the eyes of her partizans, to atone for his many changes.

Ample details regarding other personages named will be found in the Index.

To facilitate reference to the Papers in the Public Record Office, a Table has been prepared to show how the running numbers here given correspond with those of the different manu-

1569. — script volumes there. Those relating to the Queen's Captivity, now for the first time incorporated with the general series in order of date, are indicated by marginal references to each MS. volume.

As nineteen of the original holograph letters of Mary to Elizabeth while in England, for the period of this volume—all, with one exception, in the British Museum—have, by frequent handling, become rather dilapidated, and are also scattered in various printed works, the Editor believed it would serve to good purpose to gather them together here. So, besides the short abstracts in the text, they are printed *verbatim* in the Appendix No. I. The small relics of the celebrated Casket Letters, which are merely copies of copies of translations of the long-lost originals, have been similarly printed in Appendix No. II., with the Earl of Morton's account of their discovery.

In concluding this second volume of these Scottish Papers, which the judicious liberality of Government has seen fit to sanction, the Editor ventures to hope that by thus gathering in one consecutive series all documents relating to the reign of so remarkable a woman as Mary Stuart in our Public and other Records, some questions supposed to be settled may perhaps be placed in a new light. He has felt the importance of the duty entrusted to him, and sought to execute it with all impartiality to the actors in that period of fierce religious strife.

While thankful that he has completed twenty-two years of this historic reign, Time warns him that he cannot hope to carry a work, so interesting to a Scotsman, much farther onwards; yet trusts that in other hands the remaining years of Mary's life may be brought to their tragic close.

Many of those official and private friends who initiated and aided his twenty years' labour in the Public Records are no more. To their memory, as well as to those still living, whose valuable counsel has been freely given, he now offers his most grateful acknowledgments.

JOSEPH BAIN.

LONDON, *March* 1900.

CORRIGENDA, ETC.

Page 569, No. 912. Title: *for* Last Session, *read* Fifth Session.
,, 651, No. 1069. Margin: *add* C.P., Vol. III.

TABLES EXPLAINING NUMBERS, ETC.

Nos. of Text.	Present Volume (1563–69).	Reign.	State Papers (Scotland), MS. Volumes. Nos.	
1–45	Correspond to the Documents of	Elizabeth.	VIII.	(2nd part.)
46–130	,, ,,	,,	IX.	
131–220	,, ,,	,,	X.	
221–324	,, ,,	,,	XI.	
325–458	,, ,,	,,	XII.	
459–541	,, ,,	,,	XIII.	
542–637	,, ,,	,,	XIV.	
638–870	,, ,,	,,	XV.	
871–943	(*See* Marginal References in Text.)			
944–1202	Correspond to the Documents of	Elizabeth.	XVI.	(1st part.)

MARGINAL REFERENCES.

C.P., Vols. I.–IV. Refer to . . State Papers (Queen of Scots), 1568–87 MS.
All others to the British Museum Collections.

Nos. of Text.	Numbers of Vol. I. (1547–63).	Reigns.	State Papers (Scotland), MS. Volumes. Nos.	
1–117	Correspond to the Documents of.	Edward VI.	II.	
118–217	,, ,,	,,	III.	
218–341	,, ,,	,,	IV.	
342–606	,, ,,	,,	V.	
		Mary	I.	
		Elizabeth	I.	
607–705	,, ,,	,,	II.	
706–806	,, ,,	,,	III.	
807–872	,, ,,	,,	IV.	
873–940	,, ,,	,,	V.	
941–1056	,, ,,	,,	VI.	
1057–1179	,, ,,	,,	VII.	
			VIII.	(1st part.)

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS (SCOTLAND).

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS (SCOTLAND).

ELIZABETH.

1563. April 1. **1.** THE PRIVY COUNCIL TO FETIPLACE AND JOHNSON.

We have read your letter written in Kantyre, brought to us by John Inglish, whereby it appears ye are sorry for your evil living for a year and more, though ye say it was through poverty, and now make humble suit for pardon, offering your service there. The Queen has been pleased at our request to show mercy, and we return the bearer to you herewith, letting you "to witt" that if ye do (as you easily may) some service in the north of Ireland against rebels such as "Shane Oneyle," or those that aid him, we shall do our utmost to procure your pardon. Therefore we would you let my lord of Sussex lieutenant there, understand how you will serve against such as he appoints you. Assuring you that unless you do, and leave your unlawful trade, you shall repent it perforce, and have that which obstinate and wilful subjects deserve.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed:* "1 April 1563. M. from the Counsell to Fetiplace and Johnson."

(Document referred to.)

The deposition of John Englyshe before "Master Secretory the xxiii of Marche."

Captain "Petypase and William Johnsoun [h]is master" will undertake to bring "Jhemes Maconele" or any noble man in the North isles of Scotland "were youre honerse thenkes good." The said captain and master say that two ships with munition and other furniture for war "comes" out of Spain this summer, as the above noblemen told them, "toule Louce Fauye,"* or thereabouts, which they will do their best to take: "and for the Rafrese"† if it seem good to your honours, they will take it, but cannot keep it long without aid. My coming to Scotland was for money due to "Mr. Thoretoune and John Harecastele and one of Hull [Houle], and for goyenge to Loter kengter‡ wase to gete my none of the master, and as it [is] I have note gotene nothenge." *Signed:* John Englyshe.

¾ *p. Holograph.*

April 1. **2.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

If your honour ever deserved thanks at Scotsmen's hands, it is now above any time. Seldom any good comes into this country to comfort "the carefull for Chrystes flocke," but you are the first advertiser.

* Lough Foyle? † Rachrin? ‡ Letterkenny?

Elizabeth.
1563. Since the beginning of this Queen's sorrows, she has taken pleasure to ride up and down, hawking and hunting daily from place to place. On 19th instant (*sic*) I convoyed her to Falkland, and obtained leave to return to St. Andrews, finding myself "verie evle at ease." At my departure, she began to renew to me all her griefs and adventures befallen her since her husband's death, and how destitute she was of friends, and that I should not wonder to see her in such extreme sorrow, whereto she could not possibly put an end. I said what I could to comfort her grace, assuring her that to those that lived in the fear of Christ, all things should turn to the best, and of friendship she could not think herself destitute, seeing God had left her so near and dear a kinswoman as the Queen's Majesty my sovereign: of whose good will and hearty kindness, she has had trial since returning to her realm, and should find more hereafter. It pleased her to hear this with goodwill, till time forced me to take leave.

On the 25th of this present (*sic*) my lord of Murraye returned to this town "to see hys wyf beinge verie sycke." He also came to my lodging, and that night I received your letter of the 15th, with reports of the death of the Grand Prior and the apprehension of the Cardinal of Lorraine. We then had liberty to laugh "at our willes," and contented ourselves as well as if we had been assured of their truth. Lethington also had written a letter to his sovereign, which I delivered to my lord. It contained only (as I heard since) the common news of the Admiral's doings in Normandy, "assuringe nothynge for trothe." He reports very honourably of the Queen's majesty, and the lords of her council.

On the 25th her grace returned to Petlethie, a little house of the Earl of Murray's, 4 miles from this town. The 28th I received your letter of 18th with a letter to this Queen from the Queen's majesty; and next morning prepare myself towards her majesty and meet her on the fields hunting, having before signified to my lord Murray I had letters to her grace. She first asked me how her good sister did and what I heard of her majesty? I said I had a letter to her grace, but would not (except she pleased) interrupt her pastime. 'Nay' "saythe she," 'I shall have more pleasure to see her wrytinge then anye other pleasure that I tayke,' and staying her horse, read the letter not without tears. Then she said 'Monsieur Rand. I have nowe receaved no smale comfort, and the greatest that I cane, commynge from suche one as my dere syster, so tender a coussen and frende as she is to me—and thoughe I can nether speke nor reade but with teares, yet thynke you not but that I have receaved more comfort of thys letter' "(and incontinente puttethe yt into her bosome nexte unto her schynne)" 'then I have of all that hathe byne saide unto me since I harde fyrste worde of my uncles deathe. Nowe I truste' "saythe she," 'God will not leave me destitute, and for my parte I will shewe my selfe as lovinge, and as kynde unto my syster your mestres, as yf God hade geven unto us bothe one father and mother. Yt ys moste neadefull for us bothe, and I perceave yt to be Godes wyll yt sholde so be: for I see nowe that the worlde is not that, that we do mayke of it, nor yet are theie moste happie that contynue longeste in yt.' I gave her grace as good answers as I could, and so talked till we came to her "dyninge place." Those about her (specially the ladies) gave me "maynie a bytter curse," hearing

Elizabeth.
1563. nothing of what was said, or knowing what was in the letter. While at dinner, only those about that served her grace,—she took out the letter and read it again, saying to them, 'God will not leave me destitute; I have receaved the beste lettre from the Quene my good syster of Englande that ever I had, and I do assure you yt comfortethe me myche,' and many other like words. Then another packet came to me from Lethington; at this time the Queen knew nothing of the Grand Prior's death, nor was any man so "hardie" as to let her know it—some thinking best to defer it, others to let her know all her sorrows at once. "Madamoiselle Beton bothe hardieste and wyseste, gevethe the fyrste adventeur, as a thynge harde by my reporte, in good wordes humblye prayeng her majestie to tayke the workes of God with a meeke harte, and as myche as she myght, caste awaye her sorrowes. Here have we not a lyttle adoe: all the whole Courte seekethe but corners whether to retire them selves, some to ease their hartes with shedinge of a fewe teares, other not to be seen that had not so great sorrowe at their hartes that anye water wolde be wronge owte at their yes [eyes]." And some I assure your honour, I never saw merrier hearts with heavier looks, since I was born.

In that packet she received her uncle's "Testamente" and the prayer he made before his death. "Yt was well wasshed in the redinge with maynie a salte teare," and it moved many to pity that heard it read, but mostly to see her grace weep so pitifully. There was another letter from a servant of hers, late departed hence to France, called "Clernoc, a longe yonge man, evle conditioned, withowte a berde, one of her graces esquire trenchantes," giving the manner of her uncle's death. "He blamethe sore the Admirall and Monsieur de Beza," as persuaders of the young man to take the enterprise in hand; and says that the young man's heart failed him "iij dyvers tymes when he was in places to have executed his wyll; and retornynge unto the Admirall to excuse hym self, he sente hym unto Monsieur Beza, whoe with maynie good wordes sayinge unto hym 'Alles vous en, prenes courrage, les Anges vous assisteront,' he never retorned nor harde worde of hyme untyll he had hys purpose." Her grace gives this letter much credit, and takes occasion to speak against the Protestants. It tends also to the slander of the Admiral, and in special Beza, but is believed here of no man, but such as would have it so. Wherefore as there is no appearance of truth, and it proceeds from "a verie malicius and dyspytefull mynde," it is wished that the Admiral were warned, that the man may be known, and at least warning given to him to speak better at his return than he has written. That night her grace returned to St. Andrews, and after supper read the Queen's letter to my lords of Murray and Argyle, and to me. We continued so long in many purposes with her grace "that ve wrynge owte a lawghter or two," and as far as I see, this sorrow will break no man's heart here. I took my leave that night with many good words and thanks for that day's labour, and had also "some better countinances of the ladies, and more favorable lookes then I had at my fyrste arrivall in the morninge." We remain here for 6 days, and then go to Falkland again, where her grace keeps her Easter, and returns either hither or to Stirling till parliament. Yesternight the Lord of Arbroath, the Duke's second son, came to Court to attend on the Queen by advice of his father. "I know that

Elizabeth.
1563. ther is so myche suspicion that waye, that I cane not thynk whear unto yt will growe at lengethe."

[*Here he repeats his* "owne poore case" *as in his letter of 10th March. Complains of his growing charges in so dear a country,* "tumblynge ever to and fro," *without six days' rest, both winter and summer. Thought rather to have asked leave for his return, than to have troubled him thus.*]

I send your honour "a thynge latlye prented amongeste us, estemed here of no smale importance, but to my judgement, I have seen thynges of as greate wayte." In matters of religion we keep what we have got, and hope for "wonders" this parliament. It will not be the worse, if things fall out well in France. Lethington before his departure procured a commission to the Earl of "Montgommerie [Eglinton] the verieste, ranckeste, and despytefulleste papyste of a lorde in Scotlande," and has gotten thereby an evil bruit and much envy. It comes of a good desire he has to do good to all men, but it succeeds ill. After I had written thus much, the Queen sent to me to stay the post, till she had leisure to write to the Queen's majesty, which letter I enclose with one other to Lethington. St. Andrews. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

5½ *pp. Holograph; also address. Indorsed.*

April 10. **3.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On the 7th instant Rawlet this Queen's secretary arrived, reporting very honestly of his good usage. He brought many letters to the Queen from France, full of lamentation and sorrow—two from the Queen mother, one rehearsing her "greves," the other signifying the state of France as then, in what sort things were accorded, and what was further intended to appease the discords there: "not mystrustinge but that yf reason coulde not be had at the Quene of Englande handes, but that the realme of France sholde fynde her reddie and willinge to supporte and defende the righte therof, as by frendeshippe and olde alliance betwene the two realmes she is bound." The words of her letter are "not farre from these—'En quoy jespoir que sil ja besoign que vous ne refuseres de nous assister *et les donner a queue* * (for these wordes I not the whole) selon la faveur encientment porte et la longe alliance entre le royaulmes de France etc.'" How these words agree with her doings, your honour can consider—and by her writing thus to this Queen (as I assure you is true) you may assuredly know that nothing shall be undone of her part to move controversy between this Queen and our Sovereign. This Queen herself mused much how this new kindness came about, that she received two long letters, "wrytten all with her owne hande, seinge that all the tyme since her retorne, she never receaved half so maynie lynes as were in one of the lettres, which I cane my self testifie by the Quens owne saying and other good assurance." I can assure you further she has said that she knows now that the friendship of our Sovereign may stand her more in stead, than that of her "good mother" in France—and as she desires them both, she will not lose

* Italics underlined.

Elizabeth.
1563. the one for the other. "I maye also further assure your honour that whatsomever thoccation is, thys Quene hathe somewhat in her harte, that wyll burste owte in tyme, which wyll manifeste that some unkyndenes hathe passed betwene them that will not be easlye forgotten." In talk with my self, she says that the Queen mother might have used matters otherwise, and doubts much the success of her great desire to govern alone, and in all things have her will. So seeing them in such terms, I thought it better to confirm her in that mind, than say any words in favour of the other—who yet shall receive as friendly writings from this Queen, as she wrote to her. Whether the Queen mother will speak to Lethington of the purpose she wrote of to the Queen, I know not; but if she do, it shall be hard if you get no "savour" of it at his return, or I perchance, by some means here. It may be she only wrote to try what answer this Queen gives, or learn her mind to our Sovereign.

Since Rawlet's return, the Queen hearing that peace was concluded and that all strangers should "woide" the realm, asked me what should become of my country men in "Newehaven"? I said we were no strangers to France, and did but re-enter our own old possessions, whereof no man doubted our right, "no not her Grace self, yf she sholde be judge." 'I kenne,' said she, 'what you meane, but in good faythe I wolde you had Callice agayne, and theie had their Newe haven.' We could not agree then on the purpose, nor was I willing to speak much of it in the hearing of those present.

Yesterday Good Friday, I received your letter of the 2d instant. So soon as my lord President of York sends any man to me, I shall leave nothing in my power undone therein. I heard long since of the murder, but never of any of them coming here.

Where you assure me peace is made, I trust also to hear the conditions are such as that God may be glorified and his word set at liberty through the whole realm: otherwise I am assured that there will be more discord than ever. The book it pleased you to send me, has well satisfied many here. I put it into the Queen's hands, who read part her self, and heard the rest. "Whear men are evle perswaded in any matter, yt is harde to remove them owte of their opinion." For want of that book, which I cannot "honestlye" crave again, I pray you bestow one or two more on me. The Queen knows now that Bothwell is sent for to London, and sent one of her gentlemen to enquire the cause? I answered that I knew no other but his takers were in controversy about him, and it should be judged there. I know she thinks much he is not sent to Scotland; if he were, it is feared he would be reserved "for an evle instrument." If Lethington has not been plain with your honour herein, he is in the wrong to his friends here, but most of all to himself, "yf ther come such a volter in thys realme, that ever that man come agayne into credyt." * There is not a more spiteful man to England than Sir Andrew Carre, who hearing that the Queen knew his practices with Huntly, procured his entry to England and is now in Tynemouth. Murray was lately advertised from the Border, that 400 men of Redesdale had made a raid, hurt 3 men, took 7 of the best of Liddesdale, drove above 100 oxen and "keye," besides spoiling 16 houses, the chief actors being

* This sentence written on margin.

Elizabeth.
1563. John Hawle and the Captain of Harbottle. I answered my lord, that I thought it was false—but if done, it was by device of the Scots themselves, and should be remedied by the wardens without troubling the council; but promised and have written to Sir John Foster to learn the truth. Bothwell had good resort to him where he was, both of Scots men and women. I hear by my lord of Argyle that Shane O'Neill has had lately 2 or 3 of his stoutest men slain by my lord Deputy. James MacConnel is presently in Ireland with "Carliboy" his brother, as the Earl thinks, to conclude with the Lord Deputy. Argyle looks daily for one from O'Neill to him—if he come, I shall see him and know his errand. The Queen purposes this year to take progress into Argyle: but I hear no word of our voyage to England. "Her grace thys tyme of Easter hathe lefte not one jote of her solemnities unobserved: I see nether amendement in her religion nor hope therof—her onlie staye is the Cardinall of Lorayne, for whome nowe ther is no small mone made, and dowte of daynger that maye fawle unto his person." Captain Colborne attends his despatch. Our Court removes within 3 days, and within 8 shall be at St. Andrews again. Falkland, upon Easter Eve. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

5 pp. Holograph; *also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (faint).

April 23. **4.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for John Achesoun her master "cunyeour," with 3 in company, to pass and repass through her realm to France for a year. Under her signet. St. Andrews. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Similar on April 26 for Thomas Forbes and six others to pass through England to France for six months. St. Andrews *Signed*: (ut supra).

Broadsheet. Addressed. Much damaged.

April 30. **5.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Being required by the Queen's grace, I beg your honour's favour for this gentleman Captain "Forbois," ready to depart to France, where he is promised the chief place of a "man of armes." You know the beginning of our acquaintance and his former services, which he has promised to continue: and I would be sorry that anything before misliked in him, should be called to remembrance. It may please you to favour his buying an ambling gelding to take with him. St. Andrews. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 p. Holograph; also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet, quartered as before.

May 1. **6.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

There has been little to write of these 20 days—the Queen has continually remained here sine Easter, looking daily for news from Lethington: and these 4 days past has kept her chamber, not "sycke nor dyseased," but took physic for the time of year. Yesterday I

Elizabeth.
1563. received your letters to her grace from Lethington, who wrote that it passes his capacity to understand what shall become of the accord: he mislikes all their doings, but most of all those of the Prince.* The Queen mother will not let him depart, before answer come out of England, from the gentleman sent to the Queen's majesty: whereby I conjecture, that according as she likes it, she will frame her requests hither. He writes nothing else of effect. Her grace desires these her letters to be sent to him by next convenient messenger, with one from Murray. Some now doubt parliament holding: it greatly depends on Lethington's return. She doubts also to be then "sore pressed for matters of religion"; it should begin on 20th instant.

At Easter 5 or 6 priests were apprehended in the West country saying mass and ministering to the people, "some in secret howses, some in barnes, other in woodes and hylles," and are all in prison.

I send a letter I received from James MacConnel since his return from Ireland. If he purpose to do as he writes, his service may stand my Sovereign in good stead: Argyll puts me in good hope of him. The Queen will take journey this year into Argyll, and provision is already taken for her. I hear nothing now of her journey to England, and speak as little of it myself. One Chaloner came to Edinburgh from Ireland; I cannot yet learn his affairs here, and from the troubles there, I am doubtful of all men coming from thence. I enclose his letter to me. O'Donel's [Adonel] father is dead: "I meane the olde man whome his sone keapte presoner." The Earl of Sutherland that was in the conspiracy with Huntly, has been at a friend's house here in Fife and has spoken with Murray, and is content to put himself in the Queen's will. Lady Huntly has been here a suitor to the Queen, but could get no presence. She spoke with Murray, but receives little comfort, and is this day gone to Edinburgh. St. Andrews. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Please have my humble suit in remembrance.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet as before.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(James MacConnel to Randolph.)

I have seen your letter and "thankis you gretlie of your novellis." As you required me to advertise what end I made with with Captain Pers: I have spoken with him and seen his commission from my Lord lieutenant. "We haif intreatit of divers articlis intercommonit of heirtofoir amangis ws, and hes concludit thairon." I have the double of the said articles subscribed by the captain, and have sent the other part by him to the lord lieutenant. And if they abide for their part, I trust they shall have no occasion to allege "ony break on my side." I will be "sa hamelie" as desire you to send me "ane fyne bow" with the bearer my servant, whom credit. "Off Kintire the xvj day of Aprile 1563." *Signed:* Jaiams M^{c}Onall off Dunavag.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil) "xvj Aprilis 1563. James M^{c}Onell to Mr. Randulph from Cantyre." *Small wafer signet: a shield with an open right hand in fesse, holding a cross in pale.* "I.M.K." *round shield.*

* Condé.

Elizabeth.
1563.
May 15.

7. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Before M. la Croc's coming, I had nothing to write, for we had so little to think on, that we passed our time in feasts, banqueting, masking, and running at the ring, and such like. He brought such a number of letters and abundance of news, that for three days we gave ourselves to nothing but reading writings and hearing tales: "maynie so trewlie reported that theie myghte be compared to anye that ever Luciane dyd wryte *de veris narrationibus*." Among those I send you as "an undowted trothe," that the Cardinal of Lorraine at his being with the Emperor, moved a marriage between his youngest son the Duke of Austria [Austruche] and this Queen, which is already come to this point, that if she find it good, the Duke will out of hand send hither his ambassador, and proceed to the consummation hereof with all convenient speed. And to know her mind better, La Croc is sent with this message from the Cardinal, who has promised the Emperor to have word before the end of May; and so La Croc is ready for his dispatch, "and his lettres wrytinge bothe daye and nyghte." This Queen being before advertised of this "towardenes," hath in many ways sought "farre of" to know Murray's mind, but would never so plainly deal with him, that he could learn her meaning or how she is bent. She uses no man's counsel but this man last arrived; and assuredly till Lethington's return, she will keep it as secret as she can: and as resolution in his absence cannot be taken, she will return La Croc with request to have longer time to devise, and then with all speed advertise the Cardinal of her mind. Of this matter Lethington is made privy, I know not whether before his departure or since his arrival in France: but in divers letters between her grace and him, what was of little import was told some, the rest in cipher was kept to themselves. Whether Lethington conferred with the Spanish ambassador with you, I leave your honour to get knowledge, being loath to guess or surmise in so grave matters. It is certain the Emperor has offered with his son for the Queen's "douare," the country of "Tiroll" said to be worth 30,000 francs a year. The Rhinegrave also wrote to this Queen from France hereon, not long since.

I received your writings by the Scotsman that last came here, who brought also letters from Lethington to the Queen, of old date with news of France only. I see that Newe haven is "sorre bosted"; but I know so much of their nature, that "theie will saye as myche as theie dare do. I will not saye as the proverbe dothe, *Canis timidus fortius latrat*." From hence, I assure them, whatever means they make, or however pitiful their moan, they are like to receive small comfort "for all their longe allie." We stand in doubt what friendship we shall need ourselves, unless we put better order to our "mysruled" papists than we do, or how to be void of them. To-morrow the 16th the Queen departs for Edinburgh. If my "happe" be good, you shall shortly hear some merry tidings of the Bishop of St. Andrews. On Wednesday next, he shall be arraigned with 5 other priests for their "massinge" at Easter last. St. Andrews. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

My lord of Murray has a humour fallen into his arms which has troubled him very sore.

2 ½*pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1563.
May 20.

8. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

As M. Crock the bearer is commanded to report to your honour both the occasion of his coming hither, and the state of things, I will not trouble you with a long letter. He has made honest report of his entertainment at all times with our Sovereign and her subjects. He wishes such an amity as that between her majesty and this Queen might be concluded by our Sovereign with France.

You will wonder to hear that the Archbishop of St. Andrews had yesterday 12 new godfathers; his best shift was to put himself in the Queen's will, and to-day he is entered to the castle of Edinburgh. There are also condemned the prior of Whythorne, a notable "archi-papyste," and 5 other priests as wicked as he. The abbot of Corserogall was summoned, and for his absence shall be put to the horn. This marvellous plague is lately fallen on our clergy that they know not where to hide their heads: and many of them are "cropen" into England, as you shall shortly know, with the whole discourse of this strange tragedy, to see the Bishop "late kynge of Scotlande," committed to prison for papistry in the time of a Queen of his own religion! and I trust shall be example to many other bishops of the world, either to know God better, or come to the like end that is looked for of him. The Queen, to declare it was her will, came to a house not far from where the lords sat in judgment, supped, and remained there till all was ended, near 8 o'clock p.m. I received that night, because my lodging was near the place, the honour to have the whole nobles to such a supper as I could make to them "upon the suddayne." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* ". . . by Monsr le Crocq." *Wafer signet (as before).*

June 3.

9. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

At La Croc's departure, I wrote as much to your honour as I thought fit to commit to such a messenger. The chiefest thing was the "sorrowfull" judgment given on the venerable bishop of St. Andrews, who now likes his imprisonment so well, that he says if he might do my lord Duke any good, he would give up the mass, "and become, he wolde saye, a protestante, but I beleve a verie atheiste, for suche hathe byne hys lyf: and nowe wolde chaynge hys religion for the Dukes sake"! He is like, as far as I see ("be of what religion he wyll") to remain where he is for a good while; and were I as he, I would never desire to come forth, he has so many adversaries, I believe he could not long live here. He was arraigned for transgressing the Queen's ordinance at her home coming, that religion should stand in her realm as she found it. I will not say but if he had been some other, he might have received more favour than many do that bear that name, if they walk not aright. The Duke, though absent in time of Session, yet since then "in wordes" allowed the judgment. Arran and he will not meet at one table, both having liberty of the castle. Many other priests, summoned to a day to underly the law, seeing the good treatment of their marrows, take the nearest way over the water of Tweed, minding I am sure, to do no less mischief in England than they have done in Scotland. I am sorry so

Elizabeth.
1563. many Scots are received in our country: it will be the common refuge of papist offenders that cannot live here, and are unworthy to live anywhere. One in special of whom your honour has heard—Friar Blacke, he that disputed against the protestants in the Abbey while you were in this town—"the self same man that had hys lemman taken with hym in the chapell of the castle of Edinbourge not longe before your commynge, whoe beinge banysshed since that tyme owte of thys countrie, beinge apprehended in advouterie, is nowe with the Ladie Percie, the olde ladie I meane, wheare he saide masse at Easter, and ministerde to as maynie as came." To verify this, I being at St. Andrews, my servant espied a fellow that said he came from England, and coming to "my speache," like a trusty servant for such a master, told me he served Friar Black and had letters from him to the bishops of St. Andrews, Dumblane, Murraye, Lords Seton and Somervell, and divers others. I got such credit as to see the letters, and for a piece of money won the favour that he should return by me with the answers; as he did, and though there was little "effecte" in one or other, I took copies of them, and delivered them to Murray "as presentes sent unto me from the Borders." I write this for the sure knowledge I have, by a servant of the friar's own, named, as his master is, John Blacke, at this time with him within 4 miles of Newcastle; and within a mile of him there is another "as honeste as he" that serveth a cure named [*]. There is also a notable famous friar, "the greatteste lyer that ever was" (saving Friar Maltman *alias* Heborne, as he now calls himself); he dwells and sometimes preaches beside Hull. "Yt muste neades be holsome doctrine that commethe owte of these mens mouthes! Savinge my charitie, I wolde theie were all hanged that gyve me occasion at thys tyme to troble your honour with so maynie wordes."! If it pleased you to warn the bishop of Durham, he would spy them out and cause them return to their "olde kynde a begging," rather than "welthylie" lie lurking in corners working mischief. I desire "no nother" to Sir Henry Percy my good friend, but that his mother might be warned to "tayke heede to her maydes, for I assure your honour that frier is sycker knave; I desyer not that he leave in my countrie anye of the race." With your leave, I will shortly write to the Bishop, and warn the wardens that such gallants be looked to, and convoyed through the "dayngers" of the Borders, if more come that way.

Parliament began on the 26th of last. The Queen herself accompanied with all her nobles, and above 30 of "the chocen and picked" ladies in this realm, came to the Parliament House, "her roobes upon her backe and a riche crowne upon her heade. The Duke nexte before her bore the regall Crowne, the Erle of Argile the Septer, and my lord of Murraye the Sworde. She made an oration unto her people, which here with I sende your honour as she wrote yt, in Frenche, but pronunced it in Englishe with a verie good grace." I had the honour to be present all that day. The Friday† after, her grace came again in like sort, "savinge her crowne upon her heade," and was present at the condemnation of the Earls of Huntly and Sutherland: the manner whereof I have written to my lord Robert, which I am sure he will communicate to you. The Lords of the

* Blank. † May 23th.

Elizabeth.
1563. Articles are chosen, and sit daily, where ordinarily the Queen is present in debating all matters. Next Friday * she comes again to the Parliament House to confirm such acts as are concluded on, and to prorogue parliament as some judge.

I received your honour's warning, "to see well unto my protestantes. I maye be bygiled, but I beleve the Quens majestie my Sovereigne hathe good assurance of them. I here daylie mo good wordes spoken, then I do at all tymes and of all men beleve, but do so assure my self of some, that I put yt cleane owte of dowte ther is no feare of anie harme from hence. And more then that, yf you mister,† you neade not waute the frendeshipe of manie a good falowe to tayke your parte." I am sore troubled to answer my suitors for means to pass; and whether I will or not, there are half a score of good fellows that will take the hazard shortly while the matter is hot.

Your honour by this time has heard La Croc's honest and faithful discharge of his credit from this Queen to the Queen's majesty. I believe the Queen looks to hear before long from the Queen's majesty, "thynkynge that she hathe used a greate familiaritie with her grace, to mayke her previe of her secrete divices before yt was knowne to maynie, and as she thynkethe, was keapte so secrete that yt could not be broughte unto her eares by any other." For herself, as I conjecture, and partly hear by those that have credit to know some what of her mind, "she is well mynded that waye. What maye move her, I knowe not, and howe to bringe yt to passe, I dowte yt greatlie: for I do assure you, I knowe not maynie that lyke yt."‡ Our protestants begin to "pance [think] a newe" of their estate, if strangers set foot again in this country; we have had many good devices hereon, all is referred till Lethington's return. I know not why, but many conceive strangely of him: I would to God he had been plainer with my lord of Murray, but while absent, he never wrote a thing unto him seeming to give him credit, or have that regard to such a friend as he hath been. The Queen and he so determined before his departure. I know Lethington's wisdom is such that he will use these matters well enough at his return; he desires to do good to all men, "and that never framed well to anye man that hathe the lyke place that he occupyethe." It is said if he had been at home, it had not been so evil with the "Bysshope" § as it is, and I believe it. But for him, Ruthven had not been of the council—"the Quene cane not abyde hym and all men hate hym." By Lethington's means, the Earl of "Mungommerie" [Eglinton] the most rebellious papist in Scotland, had a commission of justice, whereby the country is more out of rule than before, and a party taken against him by Lord Boyd. I only write these things, lamenting that such a friend to our country, and such a servant as this Princess hath not the like, able and willing to the continuance of unity and peace, should in any thing overshoot himself, causing evil to be conceived of him by his Sovereign, or loss of credit with his friends. Mr. Knox purposes shortly to write to your honour at good length, he says.

Your honour's advertisement of the happy beginning and doings of

* June 4th. † Need. ‡ The Austrian marriage. § St. Andrews.

Elizabeth.
1563. our countrymen at New haven, is too good news to be kept "in coverte": the Queen herself shall see the copy of the letter because it was written to a Queen. She will be glad to hear that Lethington will shortly be here, peradventure parliament for this may be continued the longer. I am glad also of my friend Mr. Killegrew's return. It has been largely bruited here that M. Danville should come to England; and advertised by Lethington in his last pacquet to the Queen, that he was stayed by the Constable, who misliked the message and favours very little the party from whom he should come. This Queen's opinion of them that now govern, I have written in my letter to Lord Robert, as I have heard from herself and others near about her.

We hear that Bothwell is at liberty "upon hys faythe. I thynke yt the best waye to mayke hym of a verie begger, starke naked, naughte. Hys su[b]stance is consumed ther more then xx dayes since, savinge a Portugall peece, which he receaved for a token owte of the northe, from a gentle woman, that yf ever she be a wyddowe, shall never be my wyf." I advise all my friends to take heed how they lodge such a guest! I beseech your honour put him where you will, saving in Dover Castle—"not for feare of my olde mother, but my syster is yonge and hathe maynie dawghters." He has sought to borrow money from his countrymen merchants lately there, but can get none. I trust my country men will be as wary as his own. La Croc in coming hither, spoke with him, promising much on his return—but I know not what he has performed. I beseech you have me in remembrance, for it passes my power to do as I ought here, except it please her Majesty to enlarge my "diettes," for my expenses daily increase. "Thys beggerlie countrie is growne unto a mervileus dearthe, and no man can serve in thys Courte withowte a greate charge. Let me onlye repose my self upon your honour, that I maye be hable onlye to lyve to serve." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

5¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Very closely written. Indorsed. Quartered wafer signet (as before).*

June 5. **10.** THE QUEEN TO RANDOLPH.

Licensing his return for a short space on his private business, whereon she has written to the Queen of Scots *etc.*, leaving it to his discretion whether it were not better to abide there till it may appear what insues of the parliament.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed.*

June 5. **11.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Requesting her to license Thomas Randolph to return to England on his own business for a short space, for which his friends have of late made very earnest suit, though she is loth to lose his good offices and frequent advices of Mary's health.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed.*

June 5. **12.** THE QUEEN TO VALENTINE BROWNE.

Having licensed Thomas Randolph to return for a season on his own business, she commands the Treasurer to pay his diets as in her former warrant, and to give him 100*l.* besides.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed. On same page with preceding.*

Elizabeth.
1563.
June 13.

13. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On the 4th instant I wrote to you of all the proceedings of this parliament worth reporting. Of things concluded I send the chief heads; the most notable being that "advouterie" shall be punished with death, "which our ministers have wronge owte, *tanquam clavum é manu Herculis*. The self same nyghte that thys acte was accorded upon, the Quens Frenche preste, her ordinarie chaplayne, was taken with another mans wyf in his bedde; I assure your honour of thys for a trothe." The Parliament ended on the 6th with as great solemnity as it began, and now "our" nobles and many of "our" notable ladies are retired to their own houses, we are not like to see so many together for a long time. As many as are going to Argyll are preparing their "Hyeland apparell, which the Quene hathe reddie, mervileus fayer, presented unto her by James Macconel wyf. I framed my selfe as nere as I coulde, in utter [outer] shape to have beyne lyke unto the reste," but in good time had some comfort from your honour for my return, which does me more good than any pleasure I should have had in "a safferon shyrte or a Hylande pladde"! I dare make no man privy to my hope, I am reported often to be away when I am "faste sleapynge in my bedde," and if my departure should be known before Lethington's return, it would incontinent be said that open war would ensue.

This morning I received your letters of 6th instant, with a letter to this Queen from the Queen's majesty, and from Lethington to her grace. As for some "dysease" the day before, she kept her bed, it pleased her majesty to admit me to present those letters; and I saw as well by her countenance, as by the purposes I had with her grace, that she kept her bed rather for ease, than any "greef" in her body. I presented first the Queen's majesty's letter, and having kissed it, 'I wyll kysse yt also' saith her grace, 'for her sake yt commethe from.' After reading it, she said to Murray, 'Nowe that Lidingeton is in Englande, I care not, nor howe longe he tarriethe, but' said she, 'I do not see that ther is lyke to be anye accorde yet for the matters of France.' Of this we talked long, and the late doings of my countrymen at Newhaven. She seems sorry for the death of "gentle Tremayne," no less lamented here than at home. What this man M. de Haye is, she knows not, nor ever had a great opinion of Dalluy, but as of a young man, as she says, "withowte a bearde." I staid the post, as her grace requested, till she made answer to my Sovereign as here inclosed. After thus talking at her grace's bedside for "a hole hower and more," none present but my lord of Murray, I took my leave, with marvellous wonder of a great number of councillors and others that stood without, what great affairs there were that the Englishman must be brought to the Queen's bedside, she being in her bed! I was content for a little to let them feed themselves with their merry conceits and devices, for there were none there with whom I cared to discourse, and some who like not the common intercourse of letters between the Queens. But I trust to see them rather burst for envy, than interrupt their amity. I thank your honour for procuring my return. Edinburgh, late at night. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I am disappointed of the "Heades of the Actes concluded," but you shall have them by next.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
[1563. June 13.] **14.** THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT.

Heads of the Acts passed in the late Parliament, as I can remember.

(1.) The law of oblivion ratified amplified and "prorogat" to 1st September 1561, from 6th March 1558.

(2.) Penalty of death against witches [wychtis] "nycromantieris" and manifest "adulterayris."

(3.) For avoiding of derth, that all "stakkis" be cast in before the 6th of June for 3 years.

(4.) That no "gyrnelling" of victuals be had for "keipping up unto ane dartht."

(5.) That all "yaris and crwwis [cruives] upon watteris" be demolished.

(6.) Ane commission direct for reformation of the University of St. Andrews.

(7.) Anent the repressing of "fals notaris."

(8.) "The auld previlegis of broughis quhilkis are confirmed of new."

(9.) For stanching of convocations of armed men without the Queen's majesty's licence.

(10.) Inhibition of "remwifing of ony tennandis be exten . . . and occasion of ony few sett be kyrkmen sence the 6 of Marche 1558."

(11.) "Defence that na fewis be sett for iij yeiris to cum, be ony of the clergy."

(12.) "Ane Act for restitution of mansis and glebis unto the ministeris of the kyrk."

(13.) "Ane Act for reparing of the parochial kyrkis and burialis."

(14.) "An Acte for the valuation of golde, after iiij markes Scottes the crowne."

(15.) "An Acte for the pullinge downe of the [*] for the abundance of fyshe that is destroide in them." (On back) "Maister Randolphe, I send you my recollected memory of sic actis as ar sett furtht, quhayrin I suppose I haif forgott veray few or non."

1½ *pp. In a Scottish hand. Clauses 14 and 15 in Randolph's. Indorsed* (by him), "Aldermarston, Goldicot and Ustharp in Wigorn," *and some figures.*

June 16. **15.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Having been sundry times requested by her dear cousin the Lady Margaret and her husband the Earl of Lennox, to recommend their several suits which have long continued in Scotland, and now earnestly renewed while her principal secretary Lethington is here—having spoken to him, and considered the nearness of the lady's blood to herself and Mary, she now urges the latter to give their causes such consideration as in honour and reason they shall merit.

1 *p. Corrected draft by Cecil. Indorsed.*

(1) Fair copy of same in another hand. *Indorsed.*

* Blank.

Elizabeth.
1563.
June 19.

16. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

We have now looked so long for Lethington, that we are at our "wyttes ende." The Queen has stayed her journey to Argyll these 7 days, with purpose whether he come or not, to depart upon Tuesday next. * Some think misfortune is fallen to him, others maliciously report he is stayed there, and commanded to keep his house. Thus they dally with their own merry conceits. On Friday † after supper, I presented my Sovereign's letters for my return, and it pleased her grace to accept them in good part, and with marvellous good words; adding she was glad I might be the reporter of her good will, to whom she had so often uttered her mind of my Sovereign. She is content I depart, but not before Lethington's return, by whom she looks for answer of some letters from the Queen's majesty sent to her by Le Croc, and would write by me again to her majesty. I look not therefore to leave till 2 or 3 days after his return, and if he come not before Tuesday I must follow her till he do. As I talked with her grace, a merchant Scot from Flanders comes, that arrived at Holy Island. He and his company were searched at Berwick, and the Queen's packet he brought "broken up," which he delivered in my presence. She was at first earnestly moved, but finding nothing but the covering taken away, and a letter of Murray's and two of her gentlewomen's open, she desired me to advertise that the like might not be used hereafter. I excused it as well as I could, saying that there was an old order that no merchant should carry close letters through the country, specially pass the border with them—showing her grace how any crafty man might put her name on a pacquet, and convey letters to whom he liked. She assures herself it is not our sovereign's will, wherein I confirmed her, and for the rest I care not who bears the blame. It grieved Murray very sore, not for his own letters broken open, but that while he is travailing daily for amity, the mouths of the enemy should be opened to speak as they do of it, and most spitefully. It was said to my face that if this were done, "my pacquettes sholde be visited." The man that "that daye" brought me the advertisement of the 6th instant, of Newehaven, was threatened on his way to have his letters taken from him. If letters come hereafter, he in charge of them may either inclose them to my lord of Murray, or, if thought good, to the Queen, to be sent to him "that servythe the Quens majestie" here. Most part of the letters were from Captain Colborne, written long since and to little purpose.

That same day it was reported to the Queen by a man whom I know, that the Englishmen in Newhaven were in great extremity, hardly besieged, and in great distress for lack of water, "cutte awaye" from them. Her grace thus conceived of those that first persuaded the Queen to plant her force there, that they would have had wisdom not to neglect that of most consequence—*viz.*, to have fresh water at will. I had about me the news you sent me of our success there on the 5th instant; she read it and reported it to divers about her, asking me what man Gylbert is? whom I know not. I said Mr Vaughan was the controller, Pelham is well known here. Bassenpierre she does not remember, but thinks he dwells not far from the frontiers of Lorraine.

* June 22. † June 18.

Elizabeth.
1563. "Our pestilent prelate," put in the castle as you know, made great means to the Queen for deliverance, so far that he "wane" her consent; but "the lordes were fayne to resyste her wyll so farre, as the teares burste owte, but nothynge hable to prevaile."

We have daily complaints from the Borders—some seek to revenge injury with injury rather than reform matters by justice. It is now "due" time some man were appointed to have charge at Berwick, and wished here that he were one minded to amity and justice. Edinburgh, "late in the nyght." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Please excuse me to my lord Robert. I have nothing to write but many tokens of my lord of Murray's good will to him.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Quartered wafer signet.*

June 26. **17.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I doubt not your honour thinks me somewhere else than now writing here: but as you remember we waited for Lethington, who arrived on Thursday last, * and these three days past have been too little to satisfy the Queen's demands. I perceive no mislike of his doings or worse opinion of him than at his departure. She takes all reports well of his "travailes" with our Sovereign, the particulars I can report better at my return. Her grace within four days departs for Stirling, and I trust to make an end here. I make less haste, for an ambassador from the King of Sweden arrived at St. Andrews on 24th instant—it is suspected either to renew his master's old suit to marry this Queen, or crave support against Denmark, or some say the "Moscovites." There are but five in company, and the Secretary late here, the principal, who I am informed is somewhat sick since arrival, and therefore like to follow the Queen to some other place, as she is not minded to tarry their coming hither. As occasion is, I will hasten or protract my journey for a few days, taking care always your honour hears of their proceedings, and will bring as much as I can learn. These five days Murray has been at St. Johnstons; and this Saturday night he arrived here, and found Lethington and me communing on those points whereon unkindness rose between them. I doubt not Lethington will well satisfy him, and though I desired not to "meddle," yet Lethington wills I say somewhat before my departure. Their natures are both so good, that I mistrust not but all matters shall grow to a good end. This night I received your honour's letter to Lethington, which I have sent to him, but have not since spoken with him. Edinburgh, "late in the nyghte." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Armorial wafer signet (as before).*

June 30. **18.** MARIE DE BETHUNE TO LADY THROCKMORTON.

"Madame . . . fyndan the commodite of Lord Randell your ladeschippis guid freind and myn, berar off thir presentis, I t[h]ocht necessair to vret this missive" only to certify you that by his report and by a ring and token "quhilk in your ladeschippis

* June 24.

Elizabeth.
1563. naim vais delyvret to me be Cappitain Tramain ane vertuus and guidle gentilman at hys last being in this cowntray," I was assured of the good love which without my deserving, you bear to me—for which, as the bearer will testify, I shall do my "uter debvoir" to be equal with your ladyship, also making your commendations to my sovereign lady and mistress, in whose highness's good favour and conceit I am assured your ladyship "is rycht tenderle." My hearty commendations to my lord your husband. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your ladeschippis humble and obedient syster at command, Marie De Bethune.

"For ane taking and intertenement off owr guid luiff and amitie, quhill I may be mair able to do your ladeschipp bettar service, ye sell presentlie resave ane littill ring quhilk I vais accustumat to veir dayle, and considder noth the sobyr propine * bot the sendars hart and guid mynd."

1 *p.* *Addressed:* To . . . my Lade Throgmartin."

July 10. **19.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

You remember our communication before I left you, for a meeting of commissioners to take some order on past Border offences, whereof I drew and left with you a small memorial, giving also a copy to Sir John "Forestar." I have since returning, opened the purpose to the Queen's highness and the lords of Council, who finding it very convenient, will direct a commission to the Master of Maxwell, warden of the West Marches, the laird of Drumlanrick, the Justice Clerk, and Sir Robert Carnegy, or any 3 or 2 of them, to meet with Lord Scrope, and others to be named for you: wherfore it will please you to send commission to such as you think fit, and instruct them for an early meeting with the Master and his colleagues. I must also require you to redress this disorder brought to me on the Border—that whereas I believed Thomas Clavering was a prisoner in Berwick, he was not only at liberty in his own house at Norham, but has of new set his servants to trouble Lord Home in his fishings of Holywell, cutting his nets "laubouring the same". You know well enough what man Lord Home is, and how easily he will be irritated at injury by that man of whom he has often justly complained—so I recommend the matter as of no small consequence. Desiring commendations to my lord Robert. Glasgow. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed:* (by Cecil): "L. Scroope, Sir Jhon Forster, Sir Tho. Gargrave, D. Rooksby."

Aug. 4. **20.** COMMISSION FOR THE BORDERS.

The Queen appoints Henry Lord Scrope of Bolton, warden of her West Marches, Sir John Foster, warden of her Middle Marches, Sir Thomas Gargrave, Vice-president of her Council in the North, and John Roxeby LL.D., chancellor of York and one of said Council (or any three or two of them), her commissioners to treat with those of

* *i.e.*, Humble gift.

Elizabeth.
1563. Scotland on Border matters. Under her great seal. Windsor 4th August 1563, 5th of her reign.

2 *pp. Latin. Draft corrected by Cecil.*

(2) Another copy of same.

1 *p. In different handwriting.*

[Aug. 4.] **21.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THE ENGLISH COMMISSIONERS.

You Lord Scrope shall cause Sir John Forster to come to you privately, without notifying the cause to any other, and then you two shall devise secretly with the Master of Maxwell as to his commission, which our good sister advertises us by her Secretary, shall be directed to him, Drumlanrig, the Justice Clerk, and Carnegy—and thereon, (as you Sir John Forster know,) you two shall secretly meet with Maxwell, to arrange places and times of meeting without any assembly of people; and if assistance be required, you may summon Sir Thomas Gargrave and "Mr Rowkesby" or one of them, to attend you.

After fully informing yourselves of the state of the East Marches—the causes undetermined, desperate etc.—the state of the other two marches being sufficiently known to yourselves, you shall proceed to treat with the Scots, the special purpose, as we mean it and trust the like on the other part, being to settle all the broken matters and quarrels on the frontiers, and maintain peace hereafter. And herein ye shall proceed not as parties, but join with the opposites (if like disposition be in them) as persons equally chosen for both realms, to redress as well things already passed, and devise some good order for future maintenance of the marches—among which we think none better than keeping more days of truce, and that by the wardens themselves, not merely by the deputies, and not slipping the days, as has often been. That there be no reset of rebels on either side openly or privily by the wardens, and that other good orders anciently devised, be renewed.

Ye shall conform to the dealings of the other commissioners and "not stick in trifles or ceremonyes more than they, but rather agree by lott or otherwise" for the places of meeting at first, and then follow in order. To abridge charges, ye shall sit no longer than needful, nor except matters so require, "you Sir Thomas Gargrave and Doctour Rowkesby shall either not be there or not tary long."

5 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

(2) Copy of same.

3 *pp. In another handwriting.*

Aug.[20]. **22.** REMEMBRANCES BY RANDOLPH.

(1.) Whether I shall by all means I can, withdraw the Queen and her subjects from the French or not? And your advice how?

(2.) What and how far I may promise to those I deal with?

(3.) As it has been moved to me that some respect be had to such as had pensions from King Edward—as "Mr Henrie Balvanes" and the Laird of Grange—and without offence done, were taken away by

Elizabeth.
1563. Queen Mary, they being friends to this nation—what answer may be made to them?

(4.) Also some consideration be had of the Laird of Ormiston.

(5.) Straiter order as to conveyance of money and horses into Scotland.

(6.) That for amity between the subjects of either nation, prisoners may be put to ransom.

(7.) What may be done or said to English men going into Scotland without passport?

(8.) As the Queen of Scots' letters have been opened at Berwick, and her servants stayed there: order to be taken for conveyance of letters to and fro, and I be no further charged, or have allowance for it.

(9.) How far and to whom I may commend Scotsmen passing into England?

(10.) Your honour's favour to Mr. Geningeson, controller of Berwick, for continuance in office, also some "support" to Mr. Colwiche in respect of his unrecompensed travail on the borders.

1½ *pp. Holograph of Randolph. Indorsed:* "Remembrances of Mr. Randolph" (and by Cecil), "August 1563."

Aug. 20. **23.** INSTRUCTIONS TO RANDOLPH.

Memorial of certain matters committed to the charge of Thomas Randolph, "esquire," our servant, sent by us to "our good deare sister" the Queen of Scots, to be by him declared to her.

Having found you (as you shall declare) an agreeable minister to her in the amity between us, we have sent you in this weighty matter of her marriage. We have already opened our mind therein to her principal secretary Lethington. Omitting two points, (1) love between the husband and wife, (2) that her choice be liked by her people, the third which chiefly concerns us is, that her husband be not opposed to the amity of us two and our two peoples. Knowing that means is made *by her uncle the Cardinall, of whose practises against us we ar not ignorant,** for a husband in the Emperor's family for our sister, we affirm plainly that thereof appears no sincere meaning to preserve our amity; *not that we think she meneth any thing against us, but of them we spek who we have named afor.** It would hinder our wish to favour by all means that we can to try and determine her right and title, whether she be or ought to be by the law of God and man, our next cousin in blood by our father,† and succeed us in this crown of England, if we shall depart this life without children.

And if further pressed to say what ye think would best content us in her marriage, "ye maye of your self, saye that yow thynk by such indirect speches as we have used, that none cold better content us, than if some person of noble byrth within our realme, having also conditions and quallitees mete for the same,—*yea perchance suche as she wold hardly thinke we could agre unto,**—might be found owt to content hir, and therwith be also agreable to us, and to both our nations, and therwith furder hir interest, if so she shuld appeare, that she be our next heyre."

* These italics are interlined by Elizabeth. † Originally "grandfather."

Elizabeth.
1563. Yet if you find "that the mention of a noble person of this realme shall not be lyked, than may yow discend furder, and saye that yow thynk some other noble person of any other contree, being not of such a greatnes, as suspicion may be gathered that he maye intend trooble to this realme, might be allowed—for ye shall allweise rest uppon this argument, that nether we nor our contry having regard to the late attemptes intended, when she was marryed to the French Kyng, can thynk any mighty prynce a mete husband for hir." And if she or her Council regard either amity or the favour of this realm to her, "ye maye well inferr by consequence, that no such mighty mariadg may be sought for." [*On the final leaf is a clause expressly declaring that as there are others of the blood royal in England, Elizabeth must be well advised how to deal with Mary's claim to succeed her, to content them and her people of England, and broadly hinting that the question will depend on whom she marries.*]

9 *pp. Corrected draft in Cecil's writing, with additions by Elizabeth. Indorsed:* "16 November 1563"—*which Mr Lemon notes* "as not relating to the document."

(2) Fair copy of the same.

2 *pp. Closely written. Without the Queen's additions,* and otherwise varied.*

Aug. 20. **24.** RANDOLPH'S MEMORIAL TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

[*Substantially in accordance with the foregoing instructions, omitting Elizabeth's additions, pressing more directly the danger to Mary's claim of succession from the rival English claimants, if her marriage be not liked there, and saying nothing as to the option of marrying a foreign nobleman, if not too great a prince.*]

5½ *pp. Holograph. Indorsed:* "1582" *(sic).*

Aug. 21. **25.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By your letter of 5th instant I understand the surrender of Newhaven to the French, and the occasion; whereof I am most unfeignedly sorry, and would have wished that her Majesty at the very first, had given it up on honourable conditions, and not been driven in the end to this necessity. But like the rest of the world, her Majesty must be ordered by God's appointment, and yield to his pleasure. As the first part of your letter was "to me dolourous," so the latter part was somewhat comfortable, "althogh in so short tearmes, that I was not able thearby to conceave fully your meaning." If it be as I take it, it must fall out well for both realms—that is if your Sovereign means to grow shortly to some resolution with my mistress. The protracting of time cannot be but hurtful to both, "and that is alwayes best done, that is done in due season." You seeing more deeply in the matters of your own commonwealth than any stranger can, "may perhaps espy some commodity and advantage to have your maters with other princes hanging in suspens, althogh the contrary do appeare to me, but (as I have often tymes declared onto

* Original with sign manual in Cotton *MSS. Caligula* B x. fols. 208, 218.

Elizabeth.
1563. yow) well I know that the Quene my maistres estate is soche as may not long stand in doutfull tearmes with foreyn princes, and therfor must shortly resolve one way or other." I need not trouble you with many words herein, having many times before "conferred my jugement therin with your selff, as also frankly utered my mynd to her hyghnes selff, althogh I must confes it wes not at all tymes so weyed as I think the wecht off the caus did requyre." I may be thought partial in this matter, but howsoever it falls out, time will declare I have looked to the commodity of both realms. I pray God time be taken while it last, for I fear if the present be not well "plyed," the like shall not be offered hereafter!

Pray let us not intermit correspondence to and fro, and intelligence from time to time. Desiring my most hearty commendations to my very good lord my lord Robert. Dumfries. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

It may please you to see this other letter from my mistress delivered to the French ambassador.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Aug. 23. **26.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

"To the Erle of Marr." As he has always bent himself to maintain concord betwixt England and Scotland, she has thought it not unmeet to assure him he shall find no lack therein on her part. Requiring him to have good regard thereto and give her sister whom he "so dearly and reverently" obeys and serves, his good counsel towards the same.

1 *p. Corrected draft by Cecil. Indorsed:* ". . . Copie of the Q. Majesties lettre to the erle of Murray." *Stained by damp.*

Aug. 29. **27.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

The Queen his mistress having directed the bearer Secretary Raulett to France on her private affairs, and to return shortly, he requests that he may have a favourable passport both by sea and land: for he fears as the case stands between England and France, that no French vessel will hasard to transport him. Looks every day to hear from him by Randolph or another. Requests credit for the bearer.

Borthwick. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* " . . . by Raulett."

Sept. 4. **28.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I arrived here on the 1st instant, hearing by the way that the Queen was at Cragmillour, but that Murray and Lethington were here. To them I addressed myself, both to know somewhat and enter into such purposes as I should have with her grace. I found no discouragement in them why I should not boldly attempt the Queen herself, so far as I had warrant. I dined that day with them and most of the nobility then present, finding in all, good liking of my return, receiving many good words and giving as many. After dinner, we all repaired to the Queen, and the honour I received at my arrival might have contented a much greater personage. The Queen's

Elizabeth.
1563. majesty's letters were thankfully received; and at good length "(or as well as I coulde) I declared my Sovereigns mynd, geven me in my instructions, in utteringe whearof maynie interruptions were made by the Quene her self, and maynie questions demaunded, so that scharce in one howre I coulde utter that that myght have byne spoken in one quarter"! I know not yet her liking of the matter: she desired me to confer (as I had done with herself) with Murray and Lethington, and that no other man might be made of counsel. I accorded thereto, and as her grace was not well at ease, and I also somewhat weary of travel, having been cumbered the whole way with ("savinge your honor,) a flyxe," though not sick, nor am I, was dismissed. At departing, her grace requested, that as much had passed between us, and she remembered not fully all that I had said, that I would give her my Sovereign's mind shortly in writing, that she might better consider it, and better answer every point. I said I would rehearse it so oft as seemed good to her grace; but "she sayde that yt sholde be better done in wrytinge," and her meaning was no other but good. I could not "stycke" with her grace therein, lest it should breed suspicion that I would not abide by as much as I had said. So in a day or two I purpose to deliver her grace "some notes of my sayinges, and as tyme servethe, to purchace an answer," conferring meanwhile with others.

Thus much of my negotiation hitherto. I find as many here evil willers to the match "a makinge," as we are ourselves. I fear she is more Spanish than Imperial; and if my judgment fail me not, you shall find it true. Our Sovereign's credit was never greater here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I am well assured that the intercourse of messengers and packets between this and France is not prejudicial to amity. Though I have no liking of it myself, yet I put these men in great fear that despite any safe conduct of our Sovereign's no man for any money will take upon him to transport them. I made Raulet quake for fear, and soon you shall have Hamilton that came last, "a man lyke hym self."

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Armorial wafer signet (as before).*

Sept. 8. **29.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for the bearer James Hammyltoun lately come to her from France on her affairs, and returning there by her command; and that an English vessel may transport him to France, or at least to Flanders. Under her signet. Palace of Holyrood House, 21st of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

Sept. 23. **30.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have "at lenght considerit" your letter, and as I thank your honour "most hartfwlly for this your freindly adwyis, so it appeareyth to me you bear moir solicitude in this matter nor you haif just cause —for albeit the brwyt is grit thairof (as I heir say) in sundry partis

Elizabeth.
1563. of the world, yit I understand but veray smal handilling to haif bene thairof heir." It is in truth in no great towardness, though great and "wechtye." I am most assured my Sovereign will not be "suddane" therein, nor resolve without long deliberation and the advice of her loving subjects and most assured friends. Yet it is neither her Majesty's honour to "impede and stop" the suit of princes, nor can I advise her highness so to do. But my counsel to her shall ever be that which most serves to the advancement of her honour, the weal of her subjects, and the felicity that we both crave and look for in the amity of both our Sovereigns and their peoples. No hindrance I think can proceed thereto here, as you shall amply understand by Mr. Randolph presently repairing with his credit to your Court. Stirling. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Sept. 23. **31.** ARTICLES BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

Indenture between Henry lord Scrope, Sirs John Forster and Thomas Gargrave, knights, and Dr. John Rokeby, commissioners for England, and Sirs John Maxwell of Terreglys, and John Bellenden, Justice clerk, knights, commissioners for Scotland.

[*Under 28 heads.*] Narrating their meeting at Carlisle on 11th September, and sitting at Dumfries thereafter till 23rd—providing for redress of Border grievances, &c., incorporating several former treaties, and recommending a commission to divide the debateable grounds lying on the frontiers of the Middle and East Marches of the two realms. [Dumfries.] H. Scrope, John Forster, Thomas Gargrave, John Maxwell, J. Bellenden.

15 *pp. Fair copy. Indorsed:* "The Commissioners Boke of Treatye for lawes and orders of the Marches." *Marginal notes in another hand.* "H. Scrope" *seems a signature, the other names are in the marginal note writer's hand.*

(2) Another copy of same.

19 *pp. Official hand. Marginal notes by another.*

(3) Another copy of same.

16 *pp. In the well known hand of these treaties. The date here is* "xxiiijth" *September.*

See also Laws of Marches Vol. II., fol. 64.

Oct. 2. **32.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting that her French servants now ready to sail for Scotland with the "graith apperteanyng to oure escurye," and only stayed by the war between England and France, may have her safe conduct. Under her signet. Stirling Castle, 21st of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed: " . . . the Q of Scottes for sauf conduct for furniture for her stables. Graunted." *Wafer signet* (Scotland).

Elizabeth.
1563.
Oct. 2.

33. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for her servitor Barthilmeu Villemore of that Ilk, one of her masters of household, and Thomas Maitland, brother to her principal Secretary, with 15 others in company, to go to France and return at pleasure—for a year. Under her signet. Stirling Castle, 21st of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Oct. 6.

34. KNOX TO CECIL.

"The spreit of righteowus judgement assist you in all your godlie business, &c."

If I could be persuaded that the most part of our councillors were not already so void of grace, that secretly they have consented to that which in the end shall be their own destruction, and also hasard the quietness of their neighbours,—my care and fear were both at an end. "But becaus I understand more then I am assured ye do in that secreat, ye please not to be offended, albeit I fear as befor, unto such tym as I fynd my self releaved by my God. Of 12, I know 9 have consented to set fordward whatsoever may please the demander, and yit agane I write that yf better hand be not holden to that mater by tymes, the greatter part will draw the better over the score, and that or it be long." I understand ye shall receive answers pleasing enough now, but what is meant time will show. "Yf the man most inward with you, and dear unto me, for those graces that God hath bestowed upon him, be such as both our hartes wishe him to be,—then will the few nomber that yit remane uncorrupted, strive for a season against the fors of the blinded multitud. But and yf he follow the contrary faction (be it directlie or be it indirectlie) then assure yourself that the rage of that storme shall ones overthrow the fors of the stroungest —and yit I lytill fear for my owen part; for I prase my God I have laid my compt, and fyndis my hole debtis discharged by Jesus Christ, except that which is appointed to all flesch, which I daly thrust for."

The multitude of calamities that I see appearing to fall upon this isle—"all becaus the inordinat affections of hyr that is born to be a plague to this realme, ar followed without contradiction (maid by such who of dewty ar bound to procure the rest and commoditie of thare common wealht)—the forsight I say, of appearing calamiteis, to me more fearfull then ten corporall deahtis—the conveying of the mess throught those quartouris which longest have bein best reformed, hath so dejected the hartis of many, that men appear not to have that coraig thei had befor. Thus have ye the plainnes of my trubled hart: use it as ye will ansuer to God, and as ye tender your commonwealht." The bearer will sufficiently instruct you in all other things. Remember my weak judgment on the "furnissing" of these north borders. Edinburgh. *Signed:* John Knox.

The Inch betwix Leith and Kinghorn is left void. God knows what "straunge foules" shall first light there! Our lusty bloods will to France whether God will or not. Judge what shall follow.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1563.
Oct. 6.

35. KNOX TO DUDLEY.

"The Father of all mercies mack you feall the sueat odour of his grace, which by his holie spreit floweht to mankynd from Jesus Christ. Amen."

Though it has pleased your lordship to allow me thus to confer with you, and I were foolish to neglect the opportunity—I fear my writing shall be "mor faschious nor confortable." God has placed you in favour, credit, and some authority, whereby you may greatly advance the purity of religion, "yf uprightlie ye will apply your wittis and power thairto." I know ye shall have many hinderers, and many "terrible blockis" shall be cast before your feet, if ye once purpose openly to walk in "that straitt way that leadeht to lyef"; but my lord, if this sentence of your God be printed in your heart—'Farr be it from me' (saith the Eternall) 'but that I shall glorifye such as glorifye me'—and oft remembered as it becometh, ye shall easily overcome temptations and dangers that appear most difficult. "This for my protestation."

As the bearer can report all common affairs, I shall trouble you with but two heads, the one on our nobility, "the other the fayhtfull diligence of my dear brethren the trew preacheouris with you."

It is true that zeal joined with knowledge once appeared in great part of our nobility, but alas! to the grief of many hearts, it is now "waxen cold," whether by reason of the late tranquillity, wherein every man seeks to build his own house, and make himself great, having small care to re-edify the house of God—or else that from the beginning they sought not the truth but their own advantage, I know not—God knoweth—but it is certain there is no such fervency in the most (our courtiers are coldest) as I have sometimes seen. I am confounded at this mutation in so short a space, yet my hope is that God for his mercy's sake shall preserve some even to the end. I praise my God through Jesus Christ that it pleases him to make his word effectual in the mouths of many in this isle—"bot allace my lord, when that I heare that grosse superstition is manteand and vane ceremonies ar required in this greatt tyme of Christis Evangill, I stay not but lament, not doutting in whome this falte consisteht." I complain no further, but pray "my God" that for Christ Jesus his son's sake it will please him so to assist all that travail in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that they may leave a testimony "to this present most wicked generation, and unto the posteritie to cum, that the zeall of his hous eateht up in thame all carnall affections." It may be that hereafter I comprehend your lordship, my lord president of Wales, and my lord secretary, in one letter, supposing you all of one mind and secrecy in public affairs—but "heirintill" I will use your own advice. Of Captain Cockburn's large commission, articles and answers, the bearer can sufficiently instruct your lordship. Edinburgh. *Signed:* John Knox.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. The latter very faint. Indorsed:* 6 *8bris* 1563. M^r^ Knox to my Lord Robert. *Much injured and defaced by damp.*

Elizabeth.
1563.
Oct. 9.

36. KNOX TO THE CONGREGATION.

"Where soever two or three are gathered."

You know "deare bretheren" what comfort God gave us in most dangerous times "by our Christian assemblies and godly conferrences, as ofte as any dangier appeared to any member or members of our body"—and how that since we have neglected our assemblies, the adversaries of "Christ Jesus his holy Evangill" have enterprised both publicly and secretly, to do many things "odious in Godis presence and most hurtfull to the libertie of the trewe religion, now of Godis great favoure granted unto us." The Holy Sacraments are abused by profane Papists, Masses have been and yet are openly said—"the blood of some of our dearest ministers hath bene shead without feare of ponishment or correction craved by us." And now two of our dear brethren Patrick Cranstoun and Andrew Armstrang, are summoned "to underlye the lawe in the Tolbooth of Edenburgh the xxiiijth of this instant October, for forethought fellony, pretended murther and invading of the Quenes Majesties pallace of Holyroodhowse with unlawfull convocation." All because they "with two or three mo," went to the Abbey on Sunday 15th August last, to note what persons repaired to the Mass, because on Sunday before * (the Queen being absent) "there resorted to that idoll a rascall multitude, havyng there openly the least divilish cerimony (yea even the conjuryng of their accursed water) that ever they had in the tyme of greatest blyndnes! Bycause I say, our said bretheren past thether in moste quiet maner to note such abuses, this fearfull summondes is directed against them, to make no doubt preparative upon a fewe, that a doore may be opened to execute crueltie upon a greater multitude."

If it come so to pass, God doubtless recompenses our former negligence and ingratitude to him for his benefits, in giving us a most notable victory over "his and our enemies," setting us at freedom and purging this realm of open idolatry. But we alas preferring the pleasures of flesh to the pleasure and command of "our God," have allowed that idol to be publicly erected again, and so God suffers us justly to fall in that danger, "that to looke to an idolater goyng to his idolatry, shalbe reputed a cryme littell inferior to treason! God graunt we yet fall not farther." And now I, whom he hath made one among many to travail in building his "trewe relygion," seeing it in danger, crave of you my brethren of all estates in this realm, "your present conforte and assistance the said day in the towne of Edenburghe" as you tender God's glory, the safety of your brethren and your own assurance in the like danger. Hoping that no persuasion to the contrary, as that it is not necessary, or will offend the "upper powers," shall make you decline from Christ Jesus, or that contrary your public promise and solemn band, ye will leave your brothers' so just cause. And albeit there were no danger, yet our assembly cannot be unprofitable, as many things require consultation, and this cannot be unless the wisest and most godly convene. Edinburgh.

1½ *pp.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by Randolph): "M^{r} Knox to the brytherne of the Congregation."

* 8th August.

Elizabeth.
1563. Nov. 16. **37.** SECOND INSTRUCTIONS TO RANDOLPH.

The Queen expresses satisfaction with the answer of her good sister of Scotland, and disclaims any hostility to her uncles and their honourable house. As she has required Elizabeth's opinion of what marriages are "sortable" for her, and what are not? the latter again recommends some fit nobleman within the island, well affected to concord, and declares that no child of France, Spain or Austria will be acceptable—repeating that her right and title to the English Crown will depend much on her marriage.

6 *pp. Corrected draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "16 *Novembris* 1563. The 2 Instruction for M[r] Randolph being sent to Scotland."

(2) A fair copy—varying in many particulars.

2½ *pp. In another hand.* Dated 17[th] Nov. 1563.

Nov. 17. **38.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for the bearer her servitour William Campbell of Skeldoun, repairing by her command to France, with 6 others in company, to pass and repass for a year. Under her signet. Stirling Castle, 21[st] of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

Nov. 17. **39.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

As my mistress's servants in France have daily occasion to journey to Scotland for her service, which may be dangerous for them as the "caas" stands betwixt France and England, unless their quality be known: her highness by this bearer writes to your sovereign that it may please her to write to her ambassador in France to give his "favourable lettres or testimoniall" to such as her majesty's friends inform him are her servants, that they may have sure passage. Doubting not but her majesty will grant the same, yet I commend it to you—the rather because there is "some stuff off her majesties ready to be transported for her owne use, which her ministers in France have stayed a long tyme for feare off danger by sea, and her hyghnes upon hope off this assuerance, hath presently commanded thame to send it by the first." I trust M[r] Randolph also will at his returning, remember to speak to you for the same—"for so wes he required to do." As I look every day for his coming till I shall hear from you by him, I trouble you with nothing, "bot onely to let yow onderstand that I am as far at your commandement as ever I wes." Stirling. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* "17 Novembris 1563. L. Ledington, by W[m] Cambell."

Dec. 10. **40.** CHATELHERAULT TO RANDOLPH.

As I am advertised that Captain Forbes my servitor, "quhome ye knaw wes in France for my besenes, and now returnyng hame, wes constranyt to land into England, and is stayit be the capitane of

Elizabeth.
1563. Norhame," which if he had been known for my servant, I believe none of your Sovereign's servants would have done—I pray you very heartily to write to the said captain to put my servitor to liberty to come to me and report what he has done. If he is a prisoner, I pray you be caution for his reëntry on 15 days' warning, and I by this writing bind myself to relieve you, as one who has done me pleasure in times past. Give credence to my cousin Mathow Hammyltoun in what he shows you. Hamilton. *Signed:* Yowr luffing frind James.

½ *p. Addressed:* To Randolph as "agent" for the Queen of England in Scotland.

Dec. 13. **41.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On the 5th [day] after departing from Court I reached Berwick, where I rested one day, as well for my own occasions, as to be present by the officers' request, at debating some controversies among themselves, and to know why so little justice had been done since the Commissioners last took order. I found great lack of my Lord Governor's presence to keep order. Among other complaints, the Scottish wardens think themselves dishonoured by meeting inferiors, or men suspected "to be to greate bearers with offenders." This I write for Lord Hume and the Laird of Cesford for the East Marches: Sir John Forster will deal well enough with his.

At Dunbar I heard that Lethington was at Haddington, "takinge possession of the whole Abbasie which the Quene had geven hym; so that he is nowe equale with anye man that hathe his whole landes lienge in Lodian." I "chanced" on him there, and next day accompanied him to Edinburgh. "Ther I understoode that the Quene keapte her bedde, being somewhat dyseased of over myche travaile she tooke a nyghte or two before, dancinge over longe to celebrate the feaste of her nativitie, which was our Ladie Daye."* But I think rather it was a great cold she took (as she says herself), "beinge so longe that daye at her divine service." The next day Saturday† her pleasure was to speak with me at afternoon; "havinge some space attended her graces pleasure, my lorde of Murraye was sente for in unto her grace, texcuse my attendance, fyndinge yt fetter that I sholde retorne the morrowe, for that her medicine had sharplie handeled her that daye, and that she was not well at her ease. My ladie of Argile also was sente owte after hym, with the lyke message, and commandement from her grace to brynge worde unto her howe the Quens majestie my sovereigne dyd." I reported how I left her majesty, with words of goodwill, and required the Lady of Argyle to present my sovereign's token, reserving her majesty's letters till I had access to her grace. I understood that the "juell" was marvellously esteemed, often looked upon and many times kissed. So I was dismissed and willed next day being Sunday, to be there again.

"Sondaye" I dined with my lord of Murray, and immediately after was sent for to the Queen, and found her "lienge in her bedde." After divers purposes of our Sovereign, her Court, nobility etc. I delivered first the "beste wrytten lettre" which after reading, she willed me to read it "for the credyt my sovereigne had put me in." I delivered

* The Conception of the Virgin, 8th December. † 11th December.

Elizabeth.
1563. her grace the "seconde lettre," which she read, and entered "strayte" in purpose of her uncles, and their good will to her majesty; I heard her with good will, not replying much. "I beleved no more (be yt spoken under correction) then before I dyd." The talk was of her majesty's thanks for the Cardinal's friendship towards Sir Nicolas Throkmorton. She showed me then the ring on her finger; "yt lackethe no prayses of her parte, but I commended more the mynde of the sender then the present self." Few in the chamber but spoke their opinions as well of the giver as the gift. 'Well' said she, 'two jouels I have that muste die with me, and willinglie shall never owte of my sighte,' and showed me a ring which was the king her husband's; thus much time was spent. Seeing at last she was not well, I desired not to trouble her: she thanked me, willing me to return after supper, which I did, and after a few words, seeing she was not well, offered to retire without further declaring my instructions. 'You do well,' said she, 'for that you fynde me not well at ease; we shall tawlke of the reste more at lengethe.' So I intend to spare her two or three days unless I be called, and now advertise your honour lest you marvel at my silence.

Communing at good length with Murray, I find his good liking for the Queen's majesty's meaning to his sovereign. "I feare yf yt be refused, she wilbe thoughte to be in the wrange." Lethington wishes her majesty "had dyscendyd into more particularities," for he says these general dealings ever breed suspicion. I charged him with no less on his sovereign's behalf, or rather his own, as the "whole guider" of her affairs. For 2 months she has been divers times in great "melancolies," her grief is marvellous secret, and she often weeps when there is little apparent occasion. I trust she will take comfort of my sovereign's dealing.

The Council assembles here on 16th instant: and on 20th of next month, the Queen will be at Jedburgh herself to do justice on thieves against both countries. It is feared that Arran will return to his old madness. Within these 5 nights he rose out of bed in the night and took a knife to cut the throat of a poor fellow that attends on him. The Duke will be here in 3 days.

If Bothwell receive not favour shortly from this Queen, he purposes to sue the Queen's majesty, I know not for what. His and Sir Andrew Carr's long lying on the border at liberty, and sending so many geldings into Scotland, is little to our advantage. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3½ *pp. Holograph. Address leaf lost.*

Dec. 21. **42.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On the 13th I reported my proceedings. This Queen's disease (whereof proceeding I know not) daily increases; her pain is in the right side, judged to be melancholy. For her divers medicines taken of late she finds herself little the better. On Saturday she was out of bed, but took no great pleasure in company, nor in talk with any, so I have forborne to press her, though divers times at the Court, if her grace had liked. So my message being more to her advantage than any other, as she may judge by what she has already heard, I propose now "to be demaunded before I greatlie offer my self."

Elizabeth.
1563. All the lords are now assembled; whether she will make any or the whole privy to the matter, I know not. So far as safely I may, I have communicated with Murray, Argyle and Lethington, and would I were as well able to find good liking of it in the Queen, as I do in them.

Three causes of the lords' assembly are already patent—

(I.) The Queen is herself grieved with France for three special causes—(1) Want of payment of her "douarie," (2) depriving Chatelherault of his duchy, and (3) bestowing the captain's "office of the Garde" on a Frenchman, who was ever wont to be named by the Prince of this realm. For these causes she is minded to send M^r^ John Hay, master of requests, to France, if her Council find it good.

(II.) The next cause of convention is to judge in a controversy between the Earl of Rothes and the Master of Lindsay, now Lord Lindsay (whose father died within these 4 days)—who shall be sheriff of Fife in inheritance, where neither of them has any right. The parties are great, and if not well ended, it is like to come to strokes.

(III.) The third is, the Queen is grieved with a letter Knox wrote to his brethren the preachers, to assist "two honeste men" of the congregation, whom she would have punished for troubling a priest that (while she was in Argyll) said mass to the rest of her household remaining in the Abbey of Holyrood.

Some think the Queen's sickness is caused by her utterly despairing of the marriage of any of those she looked for, they abroad neither being "verie hastie," nor her subjects here "verie wyllinge" or bent those ways. This "concete" say some, has been in her head five weeks and more. One other misfortune is fallen in Court: "the Quens potticarie gotte one of the Quens maydens a Frenche woman in credyt and nere abowte to her graces self, with chylde. Thynkinge to have covered his fawlte with medicines, the childe was slayne in the mothers bellie." They are both sent to prison and her grace so much offended, it is thought they shall die. Whether these things are so heavily taken that they can make her so sick, as within these 8 days men doubted her life, I know not—but have written thus much lest you wonder at my silence. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I have been moved by message from the Queen to write again, that inquisition be made what is become of Michilet her musician, of whom nothing has been heard here since his taking.

2¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Dec. 22. **43.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since my other letter, Michilet * arrived here convoyed by a servant of Gerningham's very honestly. He brought nothing that belonged either to the Queen or himself, not so much as apparel to his back, but what Mr. Gerningham lent him money to buy.

If possible to recover these things, I am earnestly desired to move your honour to have them gotten. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ p. *Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

* Originally "Chartele."

Elizabeth.
1563. Dec. 29.

44. DELIVERANCE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

"At Edinburgh the xxix[th] day of Decembre 1563 . . . Anent the request and supplication geven in the generall assemblie by John Baroune minister of the kirk of Gawston, bearing in effect how Anne Goodacre being his maried wyfe, had of her owne wickednes and evill counsell, departed frome his house here in Edinburgh in June last bipast, withoute his licence (he being in the Galston short way from this town) towardes the realm of Englonde," notwithstanding his letters to her charging her to remain, and also the requests of "dyvers brethern" in his name, to await his return: not the less she departed to England to his "great greif and heartes sorowe." Wherefore he most humbly requested the most honourable privy council there assembled, with the rest of the nobility, the superintendants, ministers, commissioners of provinces and kirks, to give him their advice and direction, by what means he might be at liberty from "the foresaid wicked woman, according to the precise reull of Gods worde"—as at more length in his supplication. The Assembly ordained letters to be directed to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in their name, subscribed by the Superintendant of Lothian, John Knox, "M. John Craig" ministers of Edinburgh, and the "scribe of the assemblie," requesting them *vicissitudinis causâ*, to cause edicts to be proclaimed in their bounds, or personal citation executed against said Anne, to compear before the Superintendant of Lothian and kirk session of Edinburgh in 60 days thereafter, "by her self, and not by her procurator, to answer to sicke thingis as the said John Baron her husband should lay to her charge, and further to answer as law will; with certification that if she compere not the said day and place, the said superintendant and session will procede and minister justice against her at the said Johns instance according to Gods worde *etc.*" Given in the General Assembly of the kirk of Scotland, "and fourth session thereof." Extracted from their register by me John Gray "scrybe" to the same. *Signed:* J. Gray.

Broadsheet. Holograph. Indorsed: "Request of John Baron to the General Assemblie of the church of Scotland against Anne Goodacre his wife."

Dec. 31.

45. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I doubt not your honour looks to hear how I have proceeded with the Queen's grace. Divers times since my last letter, I have been at Court, twice in her sight, but both times, she lying in her bed conferring with her council, convenient time (as she said to me) served her not to talk with me as she desired—but willed me not to be much absent, as she would shortly talk with me and others whom she had made privy to my sovereign's propositions. On Sunday morning 26[th], I was warned to come to Court after dinner, and on coming, found in her chamber, besides ladies and gentlewomen, many of her council, herself yet keeping her bed and talking with Murray and Lethington. Their purposes ended, her grace began thus with me—'I longe nowe M[r] Randolph, to here what answer you have broughte me from my good syster your mestres; I am sure that yt cane not be but good unto me, seinge yt commethe owte of so good a mynde as my syster bearethe

Elizabeth.
1563. me.' I commended her grace's good opinion of my sovereign, who I assured her, thinking daily more and more on her grace's estate, and weighing what was fittest in her marriage, could in no point alter her former judgment and advice, that it was neither expedient for her country, nor fit for herself, to match in any of those houses where it appeared that dissension may grow and enmity be nourished, as before time has been. And for her Majesty naming any one, or judging who are fit, except such as would maintain amity, "she cane not," and willed me to proceed no further, saving that she "thoughte that none fetter coulde be founde then some noble man of her realme, in whome, bysydes maynie other good vertues that myghte be in hym," he should have special desire to unite the two countries in perpetual concord. To this effect I talked a good while and at length she said—'I assure you the Quene my good syster is no better willinge to contynue amytie then I am, and yf we had so well knowne one another as nowe we do, I thynke the matter had byne owte of dowte. Touchynge her desyer of my mariage, I maye conceave more* then in playne termes your mestres wyll signifie, or you lyste to utter, but howe well the worlde wolde allowe of that, I knowe not.' To that I said—"that he that ruded all his actions by the jugemente of the worlde, dyd not moste commenlye governe hym self beste," for the world judged more of reputation, dignity, and honour, than what concerned amity between princes, peace between subjects, love among neighbours; "as was seen in her Majesties laste mariage, which nowe tyme hathe dyscovered to have byne one of the greateste inconvenientes that myghte be to her estate," both for enmity nourished, and her country like to have fallen into hands that had possessed themselves of her holds and strengths. She scarce heard these words "with patience," and so I tarried no longer on them.

Touching the declaration of her title, and how the Queen's majesty will proceed therein, I declared point by point as in my instructions. Of that she thought "righte well," and it seemed to me better than of the former. She said—'You have, Maister Randolph, some further matter to saye unto me, I am sure then thys! Let me knowe playnlye what your mestres mynde is, that I maye the better devise with my self, and confer with other, and so to gyve you a more resolute answer, then by these generall wordes spoken by you I cane.' I answered I had said as much as I was charged with, but if it pleased her to give me leave, I would say my opinion or simple judgement on any matters her Majesty doubted of; but as this was one of great importance, touching herself in special, I let her know that my Sovereign would be content she should send some of her most trusty servants to confer with her majesty, who would thus learn her highness's mind, and take resolution thereon as most expedient. Then she said 'I have maynie mo thynges to inquire of you then these we have spoken of; and these require tyme to be considered of, whearfore we wyll tawlke more at leasure, my self beinge better at ease and these busynes ended, for which cawse I have assembled my nobles.' So I took my leave "reteringe my self a syde." Incontinent she called for My lord of Argyle, and this was one of their many purposes—'Randolphe' saith she, 'wolde have me marie in England.' He says

* "Of her mynde" interlined here and rubbed ont.

Elizabeth.
1563. merrily, 'Is the Quene of Englande become a man?' 'Whoe is ther in that countrie,' saith she, 'whome you wolde wyshe me to [marie]?' He saith, whom she could like best, and wished there were so noble a man there as she could like. 'That wolde not please the Duke,' saith she. 'Yf yt please God, and good for your majesties countrie' saith he, 'what recke whoe wer dyspleased!' They had more purposes, but he could not perceive by any word she spake, what her mind was. What he thinks and whom he likes best, he has sufficiently declared his mind. If the Queen purpose to send any nobleman to the Queens Majesty, I will do what I can that he may go, as I know he would gladly take that voyage. Since then her grace has kept continually her chamber, not very sick as appears by her face and speech, but as she says, by a pain in her side, "for which cawse she purgethe ofte," and I press seldomer to come to her presence. On Wednesday* I was sent for before the Council; imagining that her grace had broken the matter to them. But it was only for a Dundee ship taken by one of the Queens majesty's, whereof you shall hear further.

Divers have been in hand with me to know whom in England the Queen's majesty will give in marriage to the Queen? To some, I say it is not in her power, to others that I wish this Queen would stand at her appointment. My life is a pastime among this people curious for news. Except a very few (to whom I dare talk more safely and largely) none suspect anything is meant of my lord Robert, but either of his brother or my lord "Darlie." The Queen herself I am assured "conceavethe further, and I beleeve yf yt come unto her choice, ther is not one of those two that she wyll tayke." Since I wrote of the cause of her sorrow, I have learned that it began when "Cammell" last returned with La Crok's answer from the Cardinal, because he would not come with it himself, and as I conjecture, "that matter is not lyke to tayke place." I hope shortly to know further of the Queens grace's determination: "to morrowe beinge Newe Yeres daye, I am wylled to be at the Courte." Edinburgh. *Signed*: Tho. Randolphe.

The Lord Treasurer of Scotland, for getting a woman with child, must on Sunday next, do open penance before the whole congregation, and M^r. Knox "mayke the sermonde." Murray willed me to write this to you, "for a note of our greate severitie" to offenders. The French "potticarie" and the woman he got with child, were both hanged this Friday, causing much sorrow in Court. We have had many evil fortunes by our "Frenche fowlkes," and yet I fear we love them over well.

My lord of Argyle desires by your means a licence to buy 3 geldings for his own use—his first request, but I trust he will deserve much more. His name is "Archibalde Cammell," and I trust it may be sent as soon as may be.

When at Alnwick with Sir John Foster, Bothwell desired to speak with me, and desired to purge himself of any evil mind to me—which I passed over lightly. He then would have me sue this Queen for him, which I said I might not meddle with, and had never done, but if he sued my sovereign, he should not lack noblemen to help him. His purpose is, if he get no favour here, to sue the Queen's majesty

* 29th December.

Elizabeth.
1563. for liberty to leave England. He does little good here, and your honour I trust, hears of the resort to him, and his being secretly at Norham, by others that know better than I do.

5 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Armorial wafer signet* (as before).

1563-64. Jan. 15. **46.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

When I wrote "aboute the laste" of December, the Queen promised to think "upon the matter" and talk with me further: and being willed to Court on New Year's day, I found "yt was onlie to tayke my dynner, or to have yt appere to some ther, that I was no straynger." I talked with the Queen, but not to the effect I looked for, and her grace not being yet well, I would not "moleste her ofte" but await her pleasure. Meantime I often moved the Council for justice against the "Baske," who being manned and victualled here had taken divers Englishmen, sold their goods, and ransomed themselves. I called him and the others pirates, and shewed the dishonour of this country maintaining them, instead of doing sharp execution and restoring the owners' goods. This ship and another are now manned and ready for sea, unless stayed at my suit, which I believe not. Being again moved for the Dundee men, I could not answer them better, than let them "wytte" they should have such justice as they gave. So much for these controversies. Your honour knows the "solennities" in divers countries on the 12th day of Christmas—it was no less here, and as much was done as could be for the honour of the day. "Marie Flemynge was Quene," and I had honour enough "for one daye at bothe the Quens handes;" being most of the day in the Queen's presence, and some times talking with her self, "we never came nerrer unto the former purpose then yf ther never had byne worde betwene us." Towards evening she asked my lord of Murray if he had of late spoken with me on my message? He said he had, "but rather in merthe then any grave purpose." I find he desires nothing more than to have it as you wish, but is loth to be the author or persuader of her to it—it is so full of difficulties. Her purpose with him "tended to thys," that he should demand of me "whye I was so colde in my sute, that of late had made no farther mention therof?" I alleged her infirmity and the other matters in hand before her Council—which being ended, and her grace well, I would more earnestly solicit and trouble her majesty, and meantime her grace would have time to think on what I had propounded.

The Saturday after*, her grace said to me she would send Lethington in a day or two to confer thereon, and on Monday last† he and I talked long together of our sovereigns' amity, "but howe she is mynded to imbrace thys offer, or to accepte thys overteur, ether he knowethe nothynge, or fyndethe yt not tyme to utter yt." So I attend daily what shall be said to me.

It is long since I wrote to you of my lord of Arran—he is now somewhat inclined to his old humour—desires solitariness, dark rooms, little company, little talk, is suspicious of all men he speaks with, and his whole body greatly infected with the "yellowe ganders."‡ The

* 8th January. † 10th January. ‡ *i.e.*, jaundice.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. order of his life is to lie long abed, and eat little, without any sound sleep. Great means have been made for his delivery, but nothing could be obtained, augmenting the suspicion conceived of little good-will "borne unto that howse." The Duke never showed himself more earnest in matters of religion than at this time, which greatly continues his credit among the Protestants, and offends as much "some other." I am not yet assured whereto these "oftayne mutteringes" may grow. "Ther are greate mislykynges, I knowe not from whens yt commethe, nor whether yt procedethe of the nateur of Chrystes worde, as yt ys wrytten, *Non veni pacem mittere mundo, sed gladium*, or of the complection of the soyele that bryngethe fourthe so restles a people that muste ever have somewhat in hande." I persuade what I can, those likely to be stirrers in such causes, not to give over much trust to the benefit they shall find in seeking to root out idolatry so clean as they desire, and subvert their whole commonwealth. By the attempt this Queen made to have had Knox punished for "thys lettre inclosed"* written to his brethren of the congregation, who had made a common band to assist each other, and failure of her intent for all her solicitations, makes her think she shall be worse able to compass other things, either to marry a papist, or bring in a stranger. We are now in peace—most of the nobles gone home—the Queen "metlye" well, and I hear continues her journey to Gedworth on 25th instant "in as myserable tyme and as colde a wynter as hathe byne maynie yeres." The Queen's majesty shall shortly be written to from this Queen, in favour of Bothwell, for licence that he may go to France. I leave you to judge her meaning, but can assure your honour that if it were not that men would wonder why Arran is kept prisoner and he set at liberty, "she wolde not care thoughe the other were as greate as anye in Scotlande"! I am also required to write to your honour, "when tyme is" by one that must be messenger himself, and looks for friendship at my hands. I wish he were out of the country, for neither can he afford it good word, "nor never" will do it good deed! I send a "byll" delivered to me by the Justice clerk at the Queen's command. There is taken in this town a Scot a maker of "falce monie," who 9 or 10 weeks past came from England and has been a good space about Alnwick. He has confessed the men named in the "byll" to be of like "crafte," and his partners of the gain. Though his accusation is nothing against an Englishman, yet if they were suddenly taken, their houses searched, and themselves examined, "ther falced" may be discovered. Some others, greater in those parts, are suspected. The Scot's name taken here, is Thomas Pebles; of the other two, one is a Scot.

I have received your letter of 28th December at the least 10 days after it was written, being delivered here on 9th instant. I pray God the French may receive worthy reward of their double dealing, "which I truste God wyll not suffer unrevenged." The best and most part here favour your action; the others that support them, put as many inventions in this Queen's head against us, as they can. It is commonly reported here that the King of Spain will take open part with France, and our ships are stayed in Flanders. I might doubt the matter if I knew

* No. 36.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. not by your writing "whence that brute rysethe." Since my arrival here, neither messenger nor letter has come from France to this Queen, whereat she is much offended. I reported to herself her uncle the Cardinal's return to Lorraine. She likes now "full evle" the government of France—"the matter yt self not the worce to be lyked." The Duke not long since received good words from them, but no hope either of his lands or pension, "though they wryte him still Duke of Chatelherault," more I believe to comfort him with the style, than that they intend he shall enjoy the profit. I did your commendations to Murray and Lethington as it pleased you to write, and doubt not they will mind your good advice. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

M[r] Colwiche came hither to-day to complain of Cesford's lack of justice.

5 *pp. Holograph, also address. Damaged by damp.*

Jan. 20. **47.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

As certain merchants of Dundee have complained to her that in November last, their ship *The Grace of God*, freighted for Bordeaux, while wind-bound in "Lasco raid" [Lowestoft road], was taken into Harwich by an English man-of-war at the instance of one William Smythe of Wodbridge, alleging the ship was his, whereas she was a lawful prize of war taken in the late Queen Mary's reign—she requests the ship and goods to be restored and the merchants set at liberty. Under her signet. Palace of Holyroodhouse, 22 of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet: (Scotland) Randolph's signet also attached.

Jan. 20. **48.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

In support of the Queen's letter to the Queen's Majesty, on behalf of the merchants of Dundee for restitution of their ship stayed at Harwich in "October" last. Praying that for his sake they may find favour at his hands, and justice with due expedition. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your honouris at commandement, W. Maitland.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (indistinct).*

Jan. 21. **49.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

The good assurance I have that all my reports to M[r] Secretary come to your majesty's knowledge, makes me less fear your majesty's displeasure in not writing to your majesty's self. My desire is so to drive things, that neither your majesty be abused, nor I "begiled" with over light credit. Of this I may assure your majesty, that I never had better words nor more "effectueuselie" spoken, than at all times are given me by this Queen and her councillors. I have written to M[r] Secretary the effect of my many "longe purposees" last Sunday* with her grace's self. For testimony of the truth of the

* 16th.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. French news it pleased her to report to me, she let me have a sight of the Cardinal of Guise's letter to her. "Of those thinges" your majesty shall know by M[r] Secretary. In this letter there was something more "in sypher" which I learned otherwise. The French have got "worde" what your majesty intends towards this Queen, "by advertisment of Mons[i]eur de Fois to the Quene mother, who altogither mislykinge your majesties intente, perswadethe with the Cardinal of Guise to hynder the same. To that ende he hathe written to this Quene to this effect, that she sholde tayke heede unto those dealings that your majestie hathe with her—that you meane nothinge lesse then good faythe, and that it procedethe of finnes* to mayke her beleve that you intende her good, in sekinge to have your majesties advice in her mariage, or that her honour shalbe any way advanced by marienge of anye so basse, as ether my lord Roberte or Erle of Warwicke, of which two your majestie is† determined to tayke thone, and to gyve her thother. Yt is farther written that his assurance therof is good, by the advertisment of Monsieur Fois, by that token, that one was latlie sente (no man named by him) unto her from your majestie, with perles and maynie riche juels, to move her minde that way, which he coulde not see that it mighte stonde with her greatnes to imbasse her selfe so miche as that"! Though the whole of this be not true, "yet your majestie seethe that he hathe a shrewde gesse at it." I believe she will take her whole counsel from thence, now he is returned. I think so for this reason—few here know her mind herein, and immediately after your majesty's first message hither by me, her secretary Raulet was despatched hence into France, "and so shall he also be owte of hande." Meantime your majesty shall neither lack fair words, nor I good entertainment, which I trust shall not make me forget my duty. Her grace also showed me that the Queen mother wrote that she wished herself the third person of the three queens to be at the interview this next summer. I answered, she said it more for pleasure, than that she thought it in her heart, or wished it. The French I see begin to "mayke fayer wether" to this Queen, which makes her think "nothinge lesse of her selfe then ever she did." I judge her heart is in Spain: "and yet are ther divers reasons that mayke me think that in the ende she wilbe content with some partie nearer home." Meantime she intends to see "who will mayke moste of her, and offer fayereste." As I said among other things, that your majesty would "thynke longe" to hear from her, and put blame on me: she offered strait to write, with (I believe) some excuse, and also in favour of Bothwell. In that, I would rather write my judgment to M[r] Secretary, than trouble your majesty's self, but think "the more he is made of, the worce he wilbe founde."

As hitherto your majesty has accepted my good will and desire to serve, I trust this boldness shall pass under the like grace. "The Lorde everlastinge bringe yt so to passe that we may rather rejoyce in the byrthe of your majesties boddie, before anie other (withowte the same) whome God may put in your harte to yelde after your majesties dayes, your righte unto." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

* Finess. † Originally "was."

Elizabeth.
1563-64. 3 *pp. Holograph, also address. In Randolph's best Court hand. Indorsed.*

Jan. 22. **50.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On the 16th there arrived here from France, the young laird of Scheldon, with many letters to the Queen, full of large promises, and fair words enough to move a mind well prepared to believe much more than perchance shall be found. We stand full of hope (whether it be our good opinion of ourselves, or that they see how much our kindness may stead them) that we shall not only get our own, but what else we desire. They require that this nation and they may stand in the old amity, and to nourish it, they offer (1) to the Queen new assurance, for payment of her "douaurie and pencion"—the one to be paid ever "before hande," the other at the "deue termes"—certain artillery long promised (I know not how many pieces), and wine for her household without impost or king's custom—(2) for her subjects, the band of men at arms to be restored, and Lord Robert of this Court, captain—the old "order of the Garde" to be renewed, but no Scottishman yet appointed to that charge — merchants to have their old privileges —pensions renewed to those that had them, and new ones bestowed on whom it pleases the Queen, as Lords Seton and Fleming, who shall appoint commissioners to receive theirs out of hand, as most worthy. Lethington for his good service, to have 500 francs yearly —scarce of our money 100 marks—which the Queen thinks too small for one of his calling "and so nere and farre in credit with her self." I believe no such pension shall move him from consideration of those things more for his sovereign's honour, and the weal of his country, than to return to the servitude that before "throughe gredynes" they were brought to. The knowledge hereof came to me by the Queen herself thus:—Cammell brought me letters from Captain Waddell and Forbois in a packet "some what great," of which her grace heard by himself. On Sunday when at Court, her grace's first word was, 'Monsieur Rand., tell me some parte of your novelles, and you shall know of myne.' I thanked her, and was well content with the condition. After her grace's report as I have written, I said it was in my letters that the Cardinal of Lorraine was come to "Janville," and sought to bring the King to Lorraine, "which the Constable withstode, and was gone from the Courte *etc.* The Admerall and his brother nere abowte the kynge, the Prince of Condie also at home—in what sorte Sharrie was slayne, with maynie dyscources of his intente towardes the admerall"—the King of Spain's doings against Navarre —and the bishop of Glasgow was to solicit all causes between that realm and this—and it is for no good the French have made so liberal offers to Scotland. It is bruited, and my letters confirm it, that this Queen shall marry in Spain, but I neither hear word of it in court nor see likelihood. "Their dealinge is secrete yf so be."

This is written in my letter—"Sharrie was a valiant man estemed, advanced by my lordes of Guyse uncles to our Sovereign, whoe wayted shortlye to have the kynges Order—whether thys advancemente tended to the mariage of thys Quene to hym or not, your honour cane better lerne than I—yt is so taken amongeste us. Yf yt so be, theie have no cawse to meslyke some other, unto whome I am

Elizabeth.
1563-64. sure that Sharrie was myche inferiour." Of all these matters (saving Spain, and "Sharrie") we talked somewhat, rather merrily than to any effect. To confirm her news, she showed me a letter to her grace from the Cardinal of Guise with a long discourse of his travail with the King and his mother for deliverance of Sir Nicolas Throkmorton, which he leaves out of hope so long as the wars indure. This Queen mislikes his detaining, and is in mind to write again by Raulet her secretary, who shortly will be with you towards France. Some things in the same letter I have written of to the Queen's majesty.

Bothwell will shortly be with you, in whose favour this Queen has written to her majesty. Her "mynde" is to have him out of England; and I judge him so little worth that it is no matter where he "becommethe." I have written "fayer" to your honour on his behalf. Edinburgh. *Signed*: Tho. Randolphe.

Except it please you to procure her majesty's or her council's earnest letter to aid my countrymen suing here against the "Baske," they shall never get justice: at least please be mindful, that if no justice can be had, they may know our Sovereign has dealt otherwise in their suits. He is tarrying only for wind, and has 160 men in both ships. They purpose to sail to the west seas.

2½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* (by Cecil).

Feb. 4. **51.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Divers noblemen and others, Bothwell's friends, having at last obtained the Queens majesty's favourable letters to the Queen's highness your sovereign "for his releiff furtht of that realme to pass to the partis beyond sea," have required me to write to you in his favour, which I cannot refuse. Therefore I pray you that he may find your friendly assistance, "and have some experience that he hath a litle the more favour for my cause anent his liberty, quhairin yow will do me singular plesour, and oblis the more him who is ynough oblissed already." *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Feb. 5. **52.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Bothwell's friends, at whose desire we wrote to you lately for his leave to go beyond seas, having made new suit to us to remind you thereof at his now repairing to your Court, we pray you to command that the said earl may have freedom to depart your realm for such countries beyond sea "as sall seame to him maist convenient." Under our signet. Palace of Holyrood house, 22nd of our reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud and affectionat sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Feb. 7. **53.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Your honour's favour towards all noblemen is known to be such, in special to those whose cases are to be lamented, that I doubt the less to write to your honour in favour of this bearer the Earl Bothwell. His case is sufficiently known to you, and he will declare his suit, as others have written. At their request "with the

Elizabeth.
1563-64. goodwyll I have myself that his lordship were well," I trouble you with my desire that by your means he may find favour at the Queens majesty's hands. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Feb. 10. **54.** THE SUPERINTENDENT OF LOTHIAN, ETC., TO THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK.

"Maister John Spottiswodde superintendant of the Lowthean, M. John Knox and John Craig ministers of Edinburgh, to the moste reverend fathers in God the Archebusshops of Canterbury and York, desyre the perpetuall increase of the holie Spirit *etc.*"

Because in the general assembly of the Church of Scotland begun at Edinburgh 25th December last, our brother John Baroune "minister of Christe Jesus his Evangile," complained upon Anne Goodacre "sometymes his wyfe, that she aftre great rebellion shewen unto him," and divers admonitions both by himself and others in his name, "that she should in no wyse departe frome this realme nor frome his house without his licence, haeth not the les stubbornelie and rebelliouslie seperated her self frome his societie, left his house and withdrawen herself frome this realme," as his complaint proports: the whole assembly commanded us humbly to request and pray you, whom God has erected as principals in ecclesiastical jurisdiction in England, that it would please you and either of you by public edict or personal service to summon the foresaid Anne to appear before the said Superintendant, ministers, and session of Edinburgh in their "consistorie" within 60 days after your summonds. "We therefore in the name of the Eternall God, of his sonne Jesus Christe, and as ye desyre synne to be punisshed and us your fellow servantes in Christe Jesus to serve you or any of you in the like case, moste humblie requyre you to caus your edictes to be published in all suche places as you know them to be expedient, chargeing the said Anne to compere before the session of Edinburgh in the accustomed place of their assemblie the xxvth day of May next to cum, to answer by herself and not by her procurator, to suche crymes as shalbe layd to her charge by her said husband and by us for her rebellious departing and other crymes that may be suspected to have ensewed thereupon; with certification to her that if she compere not the said day and place, we will procede and minister justice at the said Johns instance according to Gods worde." Further we most humbly desire you to remit to us at the expense of said John complainer, "this our act of the generall assemblie togither with your edictes or summondes duelie executed and indorsed in auctentike forme; whiche doing, as we doubt not you shall pleas the Eternall God and discharge that part of youre godlie office, so shall you binde us to the like or greater service whensoever it shall pleas you or any pastour within that realme to charge any of us. And thus we desyre the Lorde Jesus that great and onelie pastour of the shepe, so to ruell your heartes and ours, that we with one mynde and one mowthe may unfeynedlie seke the advancement of his name, the comfort of his troubled flocke, the mainteyning of vertue, and suppressing of vice, that it will so please him to blesse our common laubouris in this his last harvest, by the power of his

Elizabeth.
1563-64. holie Spirit, that in the same his glorie may be illustrate, his chosen edified and our consciences discharged, Amen!" Edinburgh. *Signed:* M. Jo. Spottiswod superintendent of Lotheane, John Knox minister of Christ Jesus his holie Evangill, Johne Craig, minister of Cristis Evangil, J. Gray. We understand "the wicked and rebellious woman" after her unlawful departing from her husband, remained for a season at York.

1¼ *pp. Written by Gray the clerk. Addressed* (by him): (To the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate *etc.*,) "or in his absence, to his chancelor, officiall commissarie, or vicegerent in the jurisdiction ecclesiasticall of the province of Cantorbury." *Indorsed:* "xiiij of February 1563. Mr Knox and others to the Archbishop of Caunterbury."

Feb. [11]. **55.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

Signifying that on receipt of the letter from the Queen of Scots of 20th ult. in behalf of certain of her subjects of Dundee, and their complaint as to their ship stayed at Harwich, she commanded the Judge of her Admiralty and his colleagues to instruct themselves in the truth of the case without delay. Which they have done, and the copy of their answer to her Council, now sent, with copies of the Queen of Scots' letter and her own reply, will show him how clear the matter is on the English part, by all law and reason. Instructing him how to proceed further with the Queen, and sending her own proclamation for order.

2 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Feb. 17. **56.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since my last letters, this time has evil served to enter into any "grave" purpose with the Queen; for so soon as she recovered her health, she determined to pass her time in mirth and pastimes most agreeable for that time "approchynge nere unto Shroftyde." Her grace sent for most of her nobility to be here against Sunday last,* and made them so solemn a banquet as in the remembrance of man here, except at the marriage of a prince, "the lyke was not seen," and both days following were little inferior. How my sovereign was honoured, and what words I had of her grace's self in the hearing of divers nobles, your honour must pardon me deferring to write for a day or two, at her request, for perchance she will write herself. I have answered my lords of the Council's letters as truly as I can, I trust to the "veritie"—if otherwise, many more are deceived than myself. Hitherto you have found few of my advertisements false. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Feb. 17. **57.** RANDOLPH TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Yesterday 16th, I received your lordships' letters of the 10th instant, of the advertisements you had of ships arriving here with

* 13th.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. artillery. For answer, more than 12 days past I was warned by M[r] Secretary thereof, and replied that none such were then come—but for more assurance I sent an English merchant along the "coaste syde" under colour to buy herrings, as far as Aberdeen, who assures me no such ship is come nor any artillery between Berwick and Aberdeen. For the West seas, Lords Glencairn and Boyd assure me on their honours, there are none such arrived there. The bruit arose thus: when Lethington was in France he sued the Queen mother for certain elm timber, whereof there is none in this country, to stock this Queen's dismounted artillery, and some shot for great pieces. They were promised but not sent, and are now promised again "unrequired," but not looked for. For any Frenchmen arriving, it is neither the Queen's mind, nor will of her Council, and I believe they should be evil welcome to the people. My chief care being "to knowe the bottom of thys Queens mynde" towards my Sovereign, I never heard better words or saw greater tokens of good will in her. I trust not so much to these, as that I see no act done by her causing suspicion. Some times I complain for lack of justice to my countrymen, which I know to proceed rather of the tediousness of the suits, and "perversenes" of the people, than want of good will in herself. Some have sped well, and somewhat I trust will be done for the rest —not many. For the reports of lack of justice on the borders: I assure your lordships only the East Marches can complain, and that rather for want of a fit man to receive, and an upright man to minister, justice, than lack of good will in her grace and council. Your honours will consider how needful it is that Berwick have a governor, whereon you should hear as few complaints of the East, as now of the Middle and West Marches. "As God helpe me," I fear rather troubles among themselves, than any evil purpose against us.

Though your lordships hear from all places and carefully provide for all events, yet as I lately heard the Queen say, "that yt were wysedome for the Quene Majestie to tayke heede to the Iles of Wighte, Gernesaye or Gornesaye" (*sic*) I thought to notify it, though doubtless provided for.

It is thankfully taken here by some, that your honours do not yet cast off your cares from this nation, to whom by your advice, her majesty has been so good.

The oftener that it pleases you to advise me how to deal with these men, or behave myself in "these suspicius and dayngerus tymes," the better shall I be able to serve her majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Feb. 17. **58.** RANDOLPH TO DUDLEY.

I trust your lordship will pardon me this short letter, as in 4 days you shall assuredly hear again of other matters and at more length. I received yours of the 10th and have replied to my lords as I find the matter—trusting I am not deceived in this Queen or her Council. If both these failed, I should see much ado here before England and it became enemies as in past times. I assure you no further in any thing that I may see with my eyes or "tayke full grype of" with my hands. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. ½ *p. Holograph, also address:* "To . . . the Lorde Roberte Duddelie master of the Quens majestes horsees and one of her hyghenes previe consell." *Indorsed: (by Cecil's clerk).*

Feb. 20. **59.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Asking safe conduct for her "traist consalour" Henry bishop of Ross, whom she has licenced to go to France to seek cure and remedy of his maladies, with 24 companions, and as many horses "mulettes" or geldings, to pass and repass through her realm beyond seas, for a year. Under her signet. Palace of Holyroodhouse, 22d of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

Feb. 21. **60.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I wrote to your honour a word or two on 17th instant, and leave the judgment of my whole doings rather to your wisdom, than assuring what I write "as a thynge owte of all dowte."

My chiefest charge is to maintain these two realmes in amity, and so to travail with this Queen that by way of marriage the same may be continued to our posterity. Your honour knows how I am commanded to work, and after employing my whole wits to the uttermost, so many difficulties occur that at times I despair of any good effect. There is no lack of good will either in her or the wisest about her—but how to assure us "of the reste which we desier, ther is the payne"! The reasons against me are these:—"The Quens noble stomacke cane never imbase ytself so lowe as to marrie in place inferiour to her self": and to move a prince thus, is neither friendly of any, nor attempted without suspicion, but specially most dangerous for a subject to advise in. So it is thought here the surest way for councillors always to take the prince's part. Therefore to persuade the Queen of Scotland to marry any man under the degree of a prince, "and that the greateste (be he of Englande or els whear)," can neither be honourable to her that is born a queen, and has married a king, nor wisdom for any man her subject, to give advice in.

Were I able to answer all this, and if her grace would yield to me therein, yet there is a greater difficulty than that, wherein this Queen can not be satisfied. The chief commodity for England, and my Sovereign's chief desire is, that in England there might be found a fit personage to match with this Queen. She doubts not, if she accord, but whosoever is greatest and worthiest there, should be offered to her; "and our Soveregne havinge over thys princesse, the dignetie and autoritie of a mother, wolde not prefer unto her but the beste. Of all those that are in England, yt ys knowne whoe is moste worthie! but howe evle wyllinge the Quens majestie wolde be her self to departe from hyme, and howe hardelye hys mynde coulde be divorced, or drawne from that worthie rowme whear yt ys placede, let anye man see; whear yt cane not be thoughte, but yt ys so fyxed for ever, that the worlde wolde judge worce of hym then of anye livinge man, yf he sholde not rather yeld his lyf then alter hys thoughte! Whearfore thys theie conclude, as well for her majesties parte, as for hym that ys so happie to be so farre in her graces favour, that yf thys

Elizabeth.
1563-64. Quene wolde whollye put her self into my soveregns will, that ether she sholde not have the beste, or choice of the whole, or at the leaste mache herself with hym that hathe hys mynde placed all reddie els wheare; or yf yt cane be withdrawne from thence, she shall tayke a man unworthie for his disleautie and inconstancie, to marrie with anye, myche lesse with a Quene! Whear upon theie knowinge bothe their affections and judginge them inseperable, thynke rather that no suche thynge is mente of my Soveregns parte, and that all these offers beare a greater shewe and face of good will then anye good meaninge"! Though I have enough to say, and left nothing unspoken, both of my Sovereign's mind to "the partie self," and her good meaning and dealing therein, yet your honour knows how hard it is when such impressions have entered "princes hartes, to weede them owte"!

I have liberty to speak my mind freely to this Queen, but with so many things against me, I doubt how I can persuade her. Good will I have of many, assistance of none, nor dare they adventure to maintain "my quarrell."

Among other things, this has been cast in: "Suppose the Quene wold yelde unto your mestres divotion—she is contente to marrie at her will—her title and righte is proven and publysshed ther upon—the person whome she shall have is hablede and honored with princelie dignitie, and some what els: whear in for all thys, is hir estate advanced? A howse bonde she hathe well qualefied *etc.*, maynie the lyke are in the worlde, possible in her reaulme some one"! It may be said her right this way is more assured, when confirmed by public authority. But no such assurance can be—for things authorised by parliament, have "by lyke power" been dissolved. "And, for hym self, maynie mo thynges maye be taken from hym at the princes wyll, than ever were geven hym"! But the thing "of greateste momente" consists in her majesty's own person, who is as fit, as apt to marry and have succession, as this Queen's self, and likelier than any to match with the greatest; whereby this Queen marrying with a subject, both loses the honour, commodity and profit that might ensue by matching "in hyghe rowme," accepting the great alliance offered, whereby she will be better able "to sticke by her owne, and come by her righte, yf the same were refused." To this I have said more than I perceive takes effect with her.

It has been farther demanded, that seeing the Queen my mistress requires that this Queen shall abstain from the marriage in the house of Austria, "whie her majestie wyll not so francklye deale with her, as in speciall name whome she wolde that she sholde marrie, but rather signefie her mynde by circumstances and discriptions then playnelye to name the person? Yt is thoughte reason that seinge ye tayke awaye the choyce of a cupple, at the leaste you name unto her one." To this I could answer sufficiently under my instructions, though I could not satisfy her. "But yt had byne better so to have done, that she myghte withowte delaye have geven a directe answer." Otherwise I shall hardly come by her mind.

Thus your honour sees how "our wyttes are occcupied, howe we tomble and turmoyle" in debates to no effect, but either to drive time or gain advantage, or (as she says herself) she can find none to advise her in such difficult matters.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. On Thursday last* "I thoughte I wolde attempte her somme what nere"—being now recovered of her sickness, and the banquets ended—to put her in mind of her majesty's desire to hear from her, and how needful it was she took some resolution. We had long reasoning, and she said in 2 or 3 days she would confer with Murray and Lethington, and then say farther to me. I conferred with these lords—they want no good will, but I find them more doubtful than I like. The Queen said to me, and Lethington confirms it, that the last message I brought was to less effect than the former, and no answer to what was chiefly desired, making her more in doubt what to answer. To make things clear, I have signified as much of my sovereign's mind "as my instructions wolde beare me to do," rather desiring they should gather by my words my sovereign's mind, than that I should "adventeur" beyond my warrant. However well they take my meaning, they will acknowledge nothing but difficulties and doubts. They press me to show my private instructions, and how I may farther assure them than I have spoken—but I adhere to what I have said. They gather thus much, that my sovereign desires most that this Queen marry in England, and I acknowledge it, and "styflye stonde" that it is this Queen's most profit. They desire to know the person—but I say her majesty will not take from her "that choyce." They cast in Lord "Darlie" (though they mean nothing, nor find in him any great thing). I disallow no man, but wish to her the fittest. They seek to bring me to name another—I as "warilye" keep from it, as they press it. "For whome the Queen's majestie by her instructions licensythe me not to name, of hym yt shall not all moste become me to have one thoughte." Yet I have gone thus far with Murray and Lethington, that they doubt not the Queen's majesty's mind, nor "cane not perceave by them but ther is good likynge enoughe in thys Quene bothe of the person and his qualities. Women are commenlye willinglie drawne to that, with maynie refusales, which theie lyke beste." Sometimes I seem willing to take some of her words as answer, but "I see them so drawne backe agayne from me as thoughe theie had not byne spoken." Sometimes she likes well to hear of marriage—many times "the weddows lyf is beste, honorable, quiet *etc.*" Sometimes she may marry where she will, sometimes she is sought of nobody. I "pyttie" to her her state and case, the loss of her time, the hurt to her country—commending the felicity of marriage, the joy and pleasure of such children as God may send her, and that at least she will take compassion on her four Maries, "her worthie daughters and mignions, that for her sake have vouede them selves never to marrie yf she be not the fyrste."

I assure your honour there is no such man as she looks for, that looks this way. She, and more besides, are deceived, that thought the greatest scarce an equal party to her. The people greatly desire she were married; and those that favour us wish it were earnestly applied, while she is in doubt, and no other man in view. Divers suspect that overtures have been made by me from my sovereign in behalf of some English man—as Darnley—few think of the other, as I wrote before, "but I am assured wolde be contente with ether, and rather with thys then thother, for the greate combers he shall

* Feb. 17.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. brynge with hym as your honour knowethe, bothe his father and mothers tytles here." If that reasonably offered be refused to bring in a stranger, I believe the authors will find themselves beguiled.

Lethington was of mind she might have the choice of Christendom, and be free to bring in whom she would. "Wyse men sometymes as well as meaner wyttes, wyll alter their myndes—*Tempora mutantur*"! He now avouches to me he finds no man in the world so fit to match with his Sovereign, "as he whome we desier." He has said to me it is only that "which can preserve her estate and mayntayne her grandeur! He hathe wyshed yt with the losse of two of his fyngers, ea [yea] with the losse of his whole hande"! I have pressed him to work stoutly and courageously, but he alleges the danger, burden, and difficulty—as your honour knows how well he can say to save himself "from that which he wolde not be at." Murray is true, honest, plain, and faithful, and his desire at one with Lethington. Argyll finds it good, and wishes it were plainly so said to her. The Duke may suspect more than he can know by anything yet said to him. Your honour knows how dangerous dealing it is with "so unassured man" as he is. I know he doubts the coming of Lord "Darlie." I care not what the rest think, "for these are theie that will rule the rooste, when yt commethe to stirringe of coles." To show her affection to my Sovereign and her people, I know she said of late to one who thought to please her in speaking of England, to the advantage of France—'I am bounde to France, but France and England shall never be marrows in my harte.'

I have written thus at length to show your honour that I can neither assure her majesty of any good to insue of my labours, nor am I willing to put her out of hope. So leaving this to your judgment, I shall now more earnestly press the promised answer, which you shall rather look for (I believe) in writing, than by me. The cause you may partly conjecture by what follows :—

There has been unkindness for a good space between the Queen and Murray, beginning through his "defence of John Knox," augmented by "a lyttle and verie humble requeste, made by the lordes, that she wolde leave the masse,"—confirmed by his refusal to accept the government. He got leave to Fife for 8 days, but tarried 21, and returned "not unsente for." Meanwhile he met Argyll at Castle "Cammell," whereon a mischievous rumour arose that he was gone by sea from Penttinwyme to England, and was over hastily believed of her, without occasion. This of all her faults is greatest—that she conceives oft much evil where none is thought. After his return, her usage of him was "mervilous" good, only the quarrel made that he refused the honour she thought him worthy of, and might take care from her, being weak and sickly. "The banquete insuethe here upon; what divelyshe devises are imagined upon that, yt passethe all moste the wytte of man to thynke! lyttle good some saye is intended to some or other." The banquets made by her mother a little before she went about to suppress "Godes worde," are called to mind, *viz.* the Shrovetide before "the trobles." A bruit that many ships were coming here from France, "had all moste spylte the whole pottage," confirming no good to the "poore Protestantes," nor amity with us. To what end are all our banquets for 12 or 14 days together? every noble man "his daye abowte," and Lethington's excelling all but the

Elizabeth.
1563-64. Queen's; while we "pype and dance" our enemies shall land, and cut our throats! I let this rumour run so far, that no suspicion could be gathered of my moving it; letters from Flanders to her self imported it. Would your honour believe there were any at this Shrove tide feast, that thought they should have kept their Lent in Edinburgh Castle? What they suspected to find among so many "sweete banquettinge dysshes," I say not, or what men remembered of the like, it skills not, for on my conscience, no such thing was thought of. So suspicious are we that we credit no man alive. The banquet continued with joy and mirth, marvellous sights and shows, singular devices; nothing left undone either to fill our bellies, feed our eyes, or content our minds: with no small honour to my Sovereign. The Queen dined privately with the chief lords and ladies, willing me to be so placed "at the lordes table," that she might speak with me, as she did much of the dinner time. The four Maries served her grace, the lords were attended by the rest of her own gentlewomen "maydens," apparelled as herself and the other four "all in whyte and blacke." The solemnities of the "supper" too long to describe, but I remember three divers courses brought in, the "straynge order I lette passe," but the last was served by gentlemen apparelled all in white and black, divers amongst them sang the verses, which herewith I send your honour. My Sovereign was drunk unto openly, not one of 300 persons or more, but heard the words spoken and saw the cups pass between. I gave her Majesty thanks in my Sovereign's name, in as good words as I could. She answered me it was more in heart than outer show, as these verses shall testify, which she gave me in my hand, "(the self same that were songe)" and willed me to do with them as I liked. I trust your honour will present them to the Queen's majesty, with my most humble suit for pardon that I write not, trusting to your report.

I still persist that no French ships with artillery "mean" hitherward. Her grace denies it, and the "whole table" of councillors take on their honours, no such thing is known to them. On a new bruit thereof, on Friday last I desired to speak with their lordships together, but "thaie saye alwayes one." I complain for lack of justice on the Borders only against Cesford, and other injuries done at sea. This people holds so fast whatever they get, "that the Divle cane wrynge nothynge owte of their handes"! The Basque is gone, nothing done against him. A "Londiner," a merchant Harrie Browne, has been a great hinderer to the rest of my countrymen, by bargains with the Basque, and support at his hands. I have had him stayed at Newcastle. He also sold his horse here without licence, for 30*l.* Scots. M^r^ Colwiche has been here with new complaints against Cesford, which I have set forth "(as theie saye as frowardlye as I cane)." Within 8 days this Queen will to S^t^. Johnstons. This day Monday, she took a sudden purpose, with not 20 in her company, to ride to Dunbar, where the "worthie" laird of Cragmillour is captain. Of this men already speak their "fantasies," for Murray was not privy, but followed after with a man or two.

Touching the coiners of money: I now understand that Rowland Foster is of that company. This Scot the accuser, is condemned, but reserved, I know not to what end.

"Suche as have wrytten, and I amonge the reste, in the favour of

Elizabeth.
1563-64. my lord Bothewell (savinge the Quene and Marie Flemenge) repente their haste." It is found out it is purposed thus to bring him home. I may not write to the contrary, but wish him out of the country; where if he remain in beggary, my sovereign for pity must supply his necessity—"for all is solde here to the uttermoste pennie." The Queen shall soon be sued for a passport for the Bishop of Ross to go to France to be "cutte of the stone." My lord of Arbroath has licence to Italy for 2 years. He is great in Court, well favoured of the Queen, much marvelled at of many. The Bishop his uncle gave ashes on Ash Wednesday. May it please you to remember the licence for 3 geldings for my lord of Argyll—they are well deserved—also to advise my lord Robert to send 3 or 4 geldings to this Queen. Her store is so small, she now rides in the "coiche." I have also written to his lordship "as a thynge not in vayne whatsomever insue." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

11½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil), and (in another hand) "Best letter, to wrytt out Knox lettre."

Feb. 26. **61.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Signifying that she has seen her letter of 20th January, and her own special commissioners, after hearing the complaint of her merchants of Dundee, have made due report thereon, which she has amply signified to her servant Thomas Randolph, and commanded him to declare the same to her. Windsor. 6th of her reign.

1¼ *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Feb. 28. **62.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I know not the cause of these delays, nor find any alteration in this Queen's good mind to my Sovereign. I look daily to have her answer, either to bring it myself, or most likely, send it in writing, as I hear this Queen is unwilling I return, till matters grow to "an nerrer poynte then yet theie are at."

Touching her going last Monday to Dunbar only to pass her time: immediately this bruit arose, that 2 ships arrived there that night, either with some noble man from France, or that the Queen taking a despite against this country, would again to France, and Martigues had come to Calais to receive her. To augment this suspicion, it was said that in the night 4 great chests were conveyed out of the abbey, and her grace then on horseback, said to my lord Morton, 'God be with you my lord of Morton, I wyll bringe you other novelles when I come agayne.' Next day comes this news, that one of the two ships laden with artillery for Scotland was arrived at Dunbar, and the other was taken by the English. That night, Wednesday, sudden warning was given to all Murray's servants and friends here to ride out and lodge in towns and houses about Dunbar, for Bothwell was come secretly to speak with the Queen, with many horses, and Murray being without any company, might perchance have fallen into danger. The last news of all was that Murray was commanded to ward there. One was ready to have ridden with these news to my lord of Argyle, of whose stay I think I myself was occasion. If I had been as hasty to

Elizabeth.
1563-64. believe, as I was earnestly required by wise men to write to you, I should have by this time put you in great doubt, and showed myself more hasty than wise. But by diligent inquiry, finding not one of these bruits true, I thought best to seem as though I never had heard of them, and where I thought good, reproved the hasty judgment "(I saye no worce, of the sowers of suche sedicieus rumours)," of those that enlarge their tongues so to speak of their princes.

I fear more dangers among themselves than from any foreign power, and the liberty they have to speak and write as they list, may cause greater mischief that I trust to see. I heard Raulet was stayed at Tynemouth: I answered to the contrary, wishing it had been otherwise.

I send you this Queen's letter for a safe conduct to the Bishop of Ross to go to France. He truly deserves well; better williug I must say to help in our country men's suits, than some that have had better cause to do them good. "Of that sorte of men, he is the beste in Scotlande." I pray you it may be sent with all diligence by the post, for he would depart about 20th or 25th March. It is said the Basque has taken 3 English merchants, since he sailed; and that the French have taken a couple of the Queen's majesty's ships: but I believe neither. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

March 8. **63.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

After long time and many delays, it is now time to let your majesty know what answer I have received, not so much to my contentment as I hoped and looked for. The effect I send to your majesty's self, the circumstances I have written to Mr Secretary. "I am required by her grace to desyer your majestie in her name, that your highenes judge better of her meaninge than her wordes. Princes at all tymes (as she saythe) have not their willes, but her hearte beinge her owne, is immutable, and withowte evle meaninge towardes your majestie." She desires nothing more than continuance of your good will. Thus your majesty stands with this Queen, I trust as earnestly meant as "effectueuslye" spoken. Notwithstanding my hope as before, that her people will never be unmindful of their deliverance, "allwayes I muste and do more truste in the worde of a prince, then the mutable minde of unconstante people." Your majesty shall find my reports, as her grace or her people show themselves in their doings. As they change, so must I (though unwilling) alter my manner of writing. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address* (in Randolph's best Court hand). *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

March 8. **64.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Sunday 27th February, I had "erneste and longe purpose" with this Queen, both of her own estate and my sovereign's (touching marriage), both in one condition, noble and young princesses, spending their years and losing time unprofitable to themselves, and wrongful to their countries, for lack of that issue God might send to them. She wonders at the occasions of my sovereign's stay, as much for her years,

Elizabeth.
1563-64. the wise counsel about her, sought of so many as she has been, and may be when she will, matched with the greatest. For herself, the remembrance of her late husband is yet so fresh, she cannot think of any other. Her years are not so many but she may "abyde," and most of all, she is neither sought nor desired of any. And for herself, or any for her, to procure any such thing as that, though it proceeded of never so good a mind, she could neither think it reasonable, nor well allow it. I was better content to hear her talk thus than to say much again, and seemed also to believe anything that was spoken. She uttered much of her affection to my Sovereign, as nearest in blood, and friendliest in heart: I seemed in no doubt thereof. Let the world say, men suspect, and bruits run, she says she will be most assuredly hers, and nothing that can ever fall out between them, shall alter her mind. In that opinion I confirmed her grace; but was somewhat earnest with her on that point touching my answer. 'In dowtefull matters' she said, 'good advisemente oughte to be taken, and howe cane I resolve upon that, whear upon I coulde yet never fynde in my harte to thynke, or open myne eares to here, and in a matter which is fetter for anye other to speake of then myself'? So it came at length to this—that I should next day confer with Murray, Argyll and Lethington, by whom I should know further of her mind. Next day Monday, and Tuesday also, "I applied these lordes," who had yet received no commandment. Wednesday the Queen herself went to the "Towbothe," to what effect you shall hear. On Thursday, they having knowledge of the Queen's mind, let me understand the same, as in effect I have put it in writing, and then showed it to themselves. Lethington made great protestation of her good meaning, intent and good will to satisfy my Sovereign's demands: "the case was harde and full of dyfficultie, fetter to be tawlked of amonge the Quenes selves, yf that myght be, then to be handelede betwene subjectes, that never wyll so francklye deale in their soveregnes affares as theie myghte do amongest them selves. I sholde not therefore wonder thoughe theie were all thre lothelye broughte to tawlke of that matter"! Yet their Sovereign, considering my mistress's good meaning and the good that might ensue, would leave nothing undone on her part, or that in reason she might accord to, the sooner if my mistress's mind were thoroughly known, which could not be by anything I had propounded, or that she could gather by anything she had heard spoken by me! I rehearsed to them all as before, what my instructions gave me assurance to say: and "lefte nothynge unspoken familierlye unto them of that which I knewe my soveregne wolde be at." They would acknowledge nothing "in particular," and said as my proposition was "onlye generall," their sovereign, for lack of full knowledge of my sovereign's mind, "coulde but gyve as uncertayne an answer, as I came with a dowtefull message." But that all should proceed "rowundlye and playnelye," their sovereign's mind was to content my sovereign, "with her owne honour and weale of her countrie," and gave me the answer I send you herewith.

I said some what on every point thereof, doubted not this Queen's good will, having heard so much much by herself, confirmed by them. Of the "obscuritie" of my mistress's mind, "ther was inoughe sayde to them that had wyll to understande"! I was no way

Elizabeth.
1563-64. discontented with the answer, though it was "founded upon a falce grownde," my doubtful message—and might as well have been given "the fyrste or thyrde daye," as now at the end of three months, that I have waited for it! For allowing or disallowing it, I would not prejudice my sovereign's judgment, but would endeavour to give her a true report of what had been said to me. For my return, which they wished not to be hasty, I alleged my commandment—and they gave good reasons why my sovereign would not "dysallowe" my stay for a space (as you may gather by the answer) but chiefly that my sudden departure might confirm the late bruits.

So having thus ended with them, by their advice, in two days after I communed with the Queen's self; who confirmed all they had said, doubting not my mistress would take her answer in good part. On further conference with Lethington "aparte," he confessed the answer came chiefly of his part, that by often recourse, matters might be better weighed and examined, before they were published, "or all moste thoughte of by anye." Nor is there a fit man to be a "doer" in these matters whom he trusts but himself—and she has no will to have him absent, nor he to be away. As it please her majesty, I am desired to crave answer.

Her coming to the "Towbowthe" proceeded of the rumours as to the French coming, which were so believed by many, that divers letters were written to noblemen and others, to know what part they would take. So by advice of her Council, she let the people understand she had no such meaning, and blamed them for thinking so, seeing how she has used her self since she came to the country. Another occasion was, that divers bills have been given in to her grace by the poor who have actions depending before the lords of the Session, that no end could be got for great men's actions, that were either judges on the Session or had their friends there. Order is taken by her grace's command, that to expedite poor men's causes, the judges sha'l sit 3 days in the week, "as well afternone as fore none," and for that cause have their yearly "stipende" augmented. This being done Wednesday before noon, on Friday afternoon* she came again to the same place to hear some poor men's causes pleaded. She thinks this a good way to win the hearts of the "popular," and get her fame through the country. On Tuesday last,† she took journey to S^t Johnston, to remain till "all moste" Easter, then to Falkland, and so to S^t Andrews. She has great mislike of this town, and it is feared her mass will yet breed cumber in Scotland. The Cardinal of Lorraine has advised her to attempt to bring her people to receive an *Interim:* it is yet secret, her mind is greatly bent thereto. I know not what she means by putting a captain and 24 men into the "Inche" again—though Lethington assures me no evil is meant. May it please you to remember the safe conduct for the Bishop of Ross—I think daily better and better of him for justice's sake. Also the licence for Argyll's 3 geldings. The Queen shall find it well bestowed. My charges here so far exceed my allowance, that 100*l.* will not bring me out of debt since my last arrival. Pray be a mean to her majesty for me. If I could serve her for less, you should not be troubled thus. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

* 3rd. † 7th.

Elizabeth.
1563-64. Yesterday I convoyed Lethington as far as Musselburgh towards his father's house, "hole and well." To-day word is come here that he is extremely sick.

4¼ *pp. Closely written. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

March 12. **65.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Yesterday I received a letter from Lethington and therein one from his sovereign to the Queen's majesty, and have sent them both to her majesty. This perchance may be the occasion of both. Some of her own people that think themselves wise and have good intelligence, have said "that I am but fosterde here with fayer wordes, farre from the harte, which in tyme maye torne my soveregne to skethe, and evle happe to myself, for that there ys nothynge mente as yt is spoken." If I was as hastie of belief or as hidden in my reports, "as theie are unadvised (rashe I maye not saye, for that yt commethe of a good mynde) in their judgementes," I might soon overthrow the well laid foundation of perpetual amity between "two greate countries," and put them in worse terms than ever. For of late suspicion is arisen between this Queen and her people: on her part, that she has not her will or may do as she "lyste"—on theirs, that there is some matter "a bruinge" either against England their friend, or to overthrow religion; and they seeing me daily in court, fed with fair words and courtly talk, fear lest I am forgetful of my duty, or not so vigilant as I ought in such matters of importance, as not to warn those that profess Christ in this country, of any danger like to befall them. Her people are thus moved that they begin to mislike her strange behaviour (as they call it), "her ernestnes in her religion more than yt was accustomede;" and her grace, knowing that such sayings are brought to me, but not what I believe of them, or have reported to your honour, thought it best for herself to write to the Queen's majesty, and for me to confirm the same, as Lethington has done to me. But as I cannot say so much as he knows, I have thought best to send his own letter, that her majesty being thus assured both by this Queen and her Secretary, of no evil intended—if it fall out otherwise hereafter, she may have wherewith to charge them both of other meaning than their writings import. It is now said to me again, that she now entertains England, to have her will of Scotland: I cannot see but it is best they live friendly together. I will not be so "injurius" as to think worse than I see great occasion—but what is meant by putting men again into the Inche? or how she intends to establish her *Interim*, I know not: but whensoever she goes about that, "she maye be put from her masse and all"! I have never talked with Lethington of this *Interim*, for I heard it "by an other meanes then hym; whoe thynkethe that there are not iiij in Scotlande that knoweth her mynde therin."

I was "bolde" in my last, and must continue my suit, that trusting shortly to leave this place, I may be able to discharge my credit before I go. I trust by your good means to her majesty to be "holpen." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Lethington has leave for 8 or 10 days to tarry on this side the water on his own affairs. He has augmented his living by the Queen's

Elizabeth.
1563-64. preferment almost 3000 marks sterling in Lothian only. His disease was only a "collicke," and he is now well.

As my lord of Bedford comes shortly to the border, I have leave while having no great business with her grace's self, to be with him: to whom also she purposes to send the Justice Clerk with me, the day of truce, to signify her mind to her wardens for justice.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

March 12. **66.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

On Tuesday last 7th instant, the Queen departed this town for St. Johnston. By the way to the water side, it pleased her to talk with me of your majesty and of those matters I wrote last to your highness. She found fault with her self she had not written to your majesty, but promised that within 4 days I should receive a letter, which came first to Lethington's hands, who sent it to me from his father's house, with his own to myself, which herewith I send, that your majesty may be as assured of his mistress's mind under his own hand (being so privy of all her doings and meaning as no man like unto him) as I have reported of her own sayings. Thus your majesty having both her grace's letter, and her Secretary's testimony, may the better assure yourself of the truth of what I have written, or have the juster occasion to be offended, if all things in them correspond not. Lethington would have me write much more of his mistress's good will, than I see need, if all be true that he has written him self —"which I beseeke your majestie maye be reserved as a witnes for me agaynste hym selfe, yf it be founde other wise then his lettre importethe at anye tyme here after;" and that this "deade" when remembered to him, may stir him up to work by persuading his sovereign, "that which he wolde your majestie sholde beleve." I never had more earnest talk with him "in my lyfe," than within these four days. "Yt passethe the witte of man" to think there should be such dissimulation in man as in him, except his mind, heart, and will, be to perform that which his mouth speaks: that is, with all his power to labour for the unity of these two realms in perpetual amity. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address* (in Randolph's best Court hand). *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Maitland to Randolph.)

I received yesternight the enclosed letter from the Queen to the Queen your Sovereign, to be delivered to you, and command to say many things on her behalf. Being not present to say them by "toung," this is the sum: She loveth and trusteth none better than her good sister. Dilate and amplify the argument as largely as you can, I propone it nakedly to you: "it shall be your part to play the oratour and set it out with all the cullouris off rhetorique yow can, and yet shall yow say no more then I am charged to say to yow." Lethington, 10th of March 1563. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address* (to Randolph as the Queen's "Agent").

Elizabeth.
1563-64. March 18. **67.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I doubt not long before this, your honour has received this Queen's answer touching my negotiation with her grace, and since that time, a letter from her self to my Sovereign. Meantime Clerneau the Cardinal's servant arrived here, who hearing the Queen was at S^t^. Johnston passed over the water at Leith—coming not here—whereby her majesty's letter of 5^th^ came not to my hands till yesternight, Friday 17^th^. Thus being amply informed of her majesty's mind touching "the specialitie of the personne whome her majestie wysshithe to be accepted of this Quene," therefore, instead of going to Berwick at my lord of Bedford's arrival as I purposed, I find it best to repair to the Court, declare my Sovereign's mind, and see what answer will be given thereto. For though this Queen perchance will think I should be satisfied with her former answer till I hear again from my sovereign, yet shall her grace know the Queens majesty's plain dealing, that the like must be showed of her part, or other meaning in her words suspected. This is all I can write before my departure tomorrow—when after knowing her mind I shall not stay to advertise it and thereafter proceed to the Border to meet my lord.

Of Clerneau's news I have heard nothing that is unknown to your honour. This Queen is loth to have it bruited or thought that the Cardinal of Lorraine was a suitor for her in marriage to the Emperor's son. He has written a letter himself to her, "testifienge the contrarie." More hear of than believe this, as I am assured your honour is one. M^r^ Knox has been twice proclaimed in the Church, to be married on Palm Sunday* to Margaret Steward daughter to Lord Ochiltree [Ocletrie], "whearat the Quene stormethe wonderfullye, for that she is of the bludde and name." If she keep promise, he shall not "byde" in Scotland—but if I am not deceived, there will be much ado before he leave it! "In thys I wyshe that he had donne otherwyse." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Please have in mind the bishop of Ross's safe conduct.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

1564. March 30. **68.** RANDOLPH TO THE QUEEN.

Immediately after receipt of your majesty's letters from Windsor the 5^th^ "Marche" I repaired incontinent to the Court, and finding her grace "at good oportunitie, and willinge to here what newes I had broughte:" I let her understand that where before she had blamed me for ever coming to her with generalities and "obscure termes," now I was come so fully instructed that she should find nothing in me but "simple playnenes and syncer meaninge"—assuring myself of the same in her grace. After saying some what of your majesty's good will, signified in many ways, but never more than in this marriage, offering the choice of your majesty's subjects, "I named in speciall the Lord Roberte, sayinge no lesse of hym, then your majesties lettre imported." Hereon we talked very long; "yt pleased her grace to here me with meetly good patience." Her resolution was, that she

* March 26.

Elizabeth.
1564. would think more of the matter, for I had taken her "upon the suddayne." The circumstances I have written at more length to M[r] Secretary, of whose good rehearsal to your majesty I assure my self better than of my own "schill" in writing it. I did your majesty's commendations to my lord of Murray, who most humbly thanks your majesty for remembrance of him "as your majesties moste affectined serviteur." I left nothing unspoken that your majesty's will was should be said to the lord of Lethington, and took my lord of Murraye witness thereto, "whoe in that poynte affirmyd your majesties judgemente of hym." He* takes all such admonitions in very good part from your majesty, saying you will praise him in the end. "He will nowe tayke an nother stomacke upon hym. He had longe tawlke with her grace the nighte before I cam my waye;" and told me in the morning, he had longer purpose then of her marriage than ever before, and "from that day forwarde" would be bolder than ever. He assures me (and says he never knew it before) that the Emperor is a continual earnest suitor to the Cardinal for his son—offering 2,000,000 "franckes" yearly during his life, and 5,000,000 after his death, "to lyve with her in Scotlande as fewe in number as shall seme good to her and Counsell." He is willing your majesty should know this as a great secret and "unfaynedlye trewe;" adding that the Emperor looks for a resolute answer by the end of May. To believe all were over great "lyghtenes" in me; and yet to doubt my friend's word were too much distrust, when he says it is spoken for friendship's sake. Yet I must assure your majesty it does not agree with a letter "which latlie I sawe of the Cardinall, wheare he protested that he was never suter to the Empereur, which the larde of Ledington saythe is trewe, but the Empereur was ever suter unto hym." Farther than this I cannot yet inform your majesty.

Seeing this Queen willed me to do her commendations to my lord of Bedford, and to declare that her officers should concur with him in justice, I trust your majesty will allow me to be here a few days, to acquaint his lordship with the manners of those with whom he shall have to do. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

At my departure her grace gave me a letter to your majesty saying, "I finde greate courtoysie in the Quene your mestres, my good systar; I maye not fayle to answer her in all good offices of frendeshipe; ther shalbe no lesse performed then is spoken or written of my parte."

4 *pp. Holograph, in Randolph's best Court hand. No address leaf. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "30 Martij 1563, . . "*and so dated by Randolph.*

March 30. **69.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since my last of [ ] instant, I have been at S[t]. Johnstons with the Queen, and there declared at good length what I had received in writing from her majesty, naming after many, my lord Robert. This came so suddenly upon her, and so shortly after her last answer to me—as to some man being appointed to Berwick to treat with her officers there—that she seemed to doubt what to say, meanwhile changing her purpose twice or thrice. She asked me if I had talked

* Lethington.

Elizabeth.
1564. with Murray or Lethington of that matter or not since my coming? I said, as truth was, I had not. She asked again if I had heard from the Queen's majesty since the last answer she gave me? I said no! the time was too short, but as her grace had complained of my treating with her in general terms, I had sued her majesty to enlarge my commission, and seeing her grace could not understand "in that large discription that was made, and so sette forthe that no man that harde yt coulde doute what person was mente"—that I might specially name him whom the Queen's majesty thought fit to match with her grace, so that she without long delay might resolve her mind. Thereon her grace said thus—'Monsieur Randolph, you have taken me at an advantage: I thoughte lyttle of anye suche matter at thys tyme as you nowe propounde, but looked sonner to have harde what good peace is concluded betwene the kynge my good brother, and your mestres, then so shortlye to intreate agayne of suche matters as these'! I said the time was long since my sovereign had made the first overture on her marriage, and I doubted not she had thought of it, and as she lacked not trusted advisers, she could not be so long unresolved, and therefore if it pleased her, "she coulde gyve answere at one instant." 'Thynke you' said she, 'thys to be a matter so easlye to be resolved upon'? I said as the matter was great, so was the time long since it was first moved. 'Naye' said she, 'your mestres hathe byne a longer tyme.' I said I feared my sovereign had "over sone" resolved as I doubted, never to marry, which I lamented, advising her grace not to take example, but in time embrace her majesty's offers, so fair large and honourable, lest on refusal her majesty's mind should turn "otherwheare." 'Well' said she, 'do you remember what your mestres wrote unto me touchynge my mariage, that unto iij poyntes I oughte to have speciall regarde, whearof honour was the speciall, and do you thynke that yt may stonde with my honour to marrie a subjecte'? I said that was one point, but there were others, and to respect honour only could never make a perfect marriage, and greater honour there could not be, than to match herself with one "by meanes of whome she maye perchance inherit suche a kyngedomme as England is"? 'I looke not' said she, 'for the kyngedome, for my syster maye marrie, and is lyke to lyve lenger then my self. My respecte is what maye presentlye be for my commoditie, and for the contentemente of frendes, whoe I beleve wolde hardlye agre that I sholde imbase my state so farre as that'! For "presente commoditie," I doubted not there was enough—for friends, I assured her, there were none greater or more careful of her state than my sovereign; and for the others whom her grace means, I cannot but think when they weigh the case and hear all that can be said, they will find good reason for "your" grace's accord to her majesty's advice. 'I acknowledge' said she, 'my systers good wyll: I knowe by good reporte those vertues to be in the man you commende, but that ys not inoughe.' I asked what more was required? 'I thoughte not' said she, 'to have talked so longe at thys tyme of these matters, but seinge we ar thus farre enterde, I wyll sytte downe and reason homlye with you.'

The Lords were all at Council. "The gentlemen were commaunded to gyve leave, onlye a fewe ladies lefte." 'Nowe M^r R.' said she, 'dothe your mestres in good erneste wyshe me to marrie my lord

Elizabeth.
1564. Roberte'? I assured her it was so. 'Is that' said she, 'conforme to her promes to use me as her syster or dawghter, to marrie her subjecte'? I said it might, "for that ther was not a worthyer man to be founde." 'Yf I were' said she, 'ether of them bothe, and at her dysposition, were yt not better to matche me whear some alliance and frendeshipe myghte insue, then to marrie me whear nether of them coulde be increased'? I said the chief alliance my sovereign desired was to live in amity with Scotland, whereof other princes might receive more annoyance if enemies, "then yf theie sholde severallye allie themselves to other," rehearsed also the good to her realm, and how her people desired it. 'Are you' said she, 'so assured of my subjectes myndes, that you dare assure that'? To that I said, the wiser I esteemed her subjects to be, the farther they would see into their prince's and their own commodities—peace first—to enrich their country next—and to have justice and law observed, not least. Her country (under her grace's correction) "that was wonte to be verie troblesome, full of contention, I wyll not say commotions agaynste the autoritie," shall for ever live in obedience with so friendly a neighbour as England. 'You myghte' said she, 'have saide the same of your owne countrie.' I confessed it partly, and therefore desired union. 'The Quene your mestres beinge assured of me, myghte let me marrie whear yt maye beste lyke me, and I all wayes remayne frende to her as I do.' I doubted no breach for her time, but posterity was not provided for. 'What yf the Quene my syster sholde marrie her self and have children, what have I then gotten? whoe wyll judge thys to be wyselye done of me, or who wyll allowe yt? or yf she wolde gyve me were yt never so mychе, what assurance have I'? I said no doubt my sovereign had thought of these beforehand, and would not so deal neither with her grace, "nor hym whome worthylie she commended, and so well estemed for vertu sake, but he sholde receave honours and prefermentes conforme ther unto." 'These thynges' said she, 'ar uncertayne, and yt is not sauftie for me to gyve anye suche adventeur. Thoughe I have lyttle cawse to mystruste your mestres, or to thynke otherwyse then well of her: yet in matters of suche dyffecultie, good and longe advisemente muste be taken, as I for my parte in thys intende to do. I have' said she, 'conferred with no man here in, and in these matters cane saye lesse then in anye other.' I said nothing concerned her grace more, and desired her to take "shorte advise" with such as Murray, Argyll, and Lethington. She said she would, and talk with me again after supper. This purpose lasted so long, that the lords came in—"some suspected her to be angrie, other merviled to fynde me so longe ther," and Lethington "was sorrie that I had not spoken with hym of the matter before." Her grace went to supper and was "merrie inoughe." Immediately after, I came again with these three lords, having meantime told them of "my afternones tawlke with the Quene." Then she called them to her, and showed them my new commission, and after they had conferred "a whyle," I was called. After divers "merrie purposes" from herself and Murray, as his in speciall thys, "Whye do you not perswade your owne Quene to marrie, but troble our Quene with mariage, that yet never had more thoughte therof, then she hathe of her dynner, when she is hongrie"? At this she rather laughed than gave answer, and left us. Then Lethington

Elizabeth.
1564. said his mistress had told them three, as to my new commission to deal more particularly, which she allowed well, and if I had been plainer before, I might have had a "more perfet" answer—wherefore her grace desired me to content myself with that answer I received last, till I heard again from my mistress. I told him I trusted I should "receave other answer than that, yt was no newe thynge that I proponed—no not unknowne to herself!—but in speciall to their lordships." I desired them to tender her weal and her country's, "and not to put of that with delayes and suche excuses as have other meaninge then apparance." I was no stranger, and dealt as one wishing good to their country. 'Well M^r R.' said Lethington, 'the Quene takethe not evle with your message, nor we assuredlye for our partes. You muste abyde tymes, and so am I assured your mestres wilbe contente. At the fyrste motion, to conclude suche a mariage, I trowe you thynke cane not be: the Quene wyll speake with you agayne tomorrowe, or let you here from her agayne by me, touchynge thys matter.' She had before said to myself that next morning I should know her mind by Lethington, and said many good words of my sovereign, praying me to continue their love by my good reports, and therwith gave me a letter to her majesty.

Lethington was long with her grace that night, and next morning I received this answer from him with great protestation of his mistress's good meaning "withowte fraud or mynde of evle"—that the matter came upon her "unlooked for," and being of great importance could not "strayte" be answered. As she could not with honour in "so shorte advysemente" grant to it, so would she not so little esteem it, as strait reject it: "and therfore desiered to have farther knowledge what the Quens majestie wolde do, what sholde be the conditions, and what thassurance? For the person hym self, she coulde have no myslykynge of hym of whome the reporte was so good, and by her good syster was so recommended." Wherefore, as she requested last, she desires the Queen to send some one—as my lord of Bedford—to Berwick to confer with such one as herself will appoint. This is her grace's answer as near as I can give it. I am advised not to be "dyscouraged," and will leave nothing undone to forward my sovereign's wish, craving your good advice therein. "Maynie terrors I have to deale in so wayghtie a cawse: I see Liddington, so wyse a man, all moste trimble to tawlke in the matter." Your honour I am sure is often in doubt what to do. "Of me yt maye be well sayde, 'whoe is bolder than blynde Bayarde? hys harte served hym well, but hys syghte fayled hym to guyde hym the waye'!" I doubt not your honour will have the matter "to frame well," and must assist me with your advice.

Her grace left S^t Johnston "that daye" for Falkland, and by the way I told her what answer I had from Lethington. 'Well' said she, 'procure as sone as I [you] cane that I maye here agayne from my good syster, and lette her dowte nothynge of my good wyll."

I took my leave to go to Berwick to welcome my lord of Bedford, and by the way met a pacquet from your honour with the Bishop of Ross's safe conduct. I am glad the Queen's majesty so well likes to take her journey to the north, and will do what I can to move this Queen to meet her. I most humbly continue my suit for augmenta-

Elizabeth.
1564. tion of my diets—only extreme need forces me to be "importune." Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I trust you will pardon my haste, and forgive many errors in my writing—"this towne is not for the Muses." In recompense of the Spanish words you wrote to me, I send you a "dosayne" from the Baske. I confess his luck was better than my goodwill was it should. I showed this letter to this Queen, because of late she delights to read Spanish, and said I trusted for the "scorne" I had received, that her grace now knew better "for what kynde of man she dyd, that no man could gette justice upon hym when he was in her realme." I have often sued for Argyll's licence for 3 geldings—it is for good cause, and he well deserves it. Berwick. "Date as before." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

May it please you, as your letters import my sovereign's good will for the interview, that I may know her will to me "in effecte."

8 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . answer made to the messadg of Rand. for the Lord Robert."

April 6. **70.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Immediately on my arrival here after conference with my lord Governor, I sent my man to the Scottish Court to signify his arrival, and to request Lethington as he promised, to send some man of credit and skill from the Queen to meet my lord the first days of truce as well in the East or Middle Marches. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Since my arrival, there came and is gone to Scotland a servant of my lord of Lennox, your honour knows his suit. I believe he will be an "evle wellcome gesse." Pardon me, though somewhat suspicious. I have a favourable letter by him from "my ladyes grace."

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

April 14. **71.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have received answer from Lethington that nothing shall be omitted on his sovereign's part towards amity, as (he says) "shall more appere in deade then in wordes." Cesford is sent for to Court to receive charge from the Queen to concur in all things with Bedford. M^r^ James Magill or Sir Robert "Karnegie" is appointed to be at their first meeting. This Easter the Queen has been at Falkland, saving two days at S^t^ Andrews at the end of a marriage of one of my Lady Murray's maids. Lethington advertises me that some answer is looked for shortly from my Sovereign concerning "the laste matter" that I treated of with this Queen. Nothing discourages me from thinking well, if the matter be well handled. A friend of good knowledge and judgment wrote these words to me—'Whear somever she hover, and howe maynie tymes somever she duble to feche the wynde, I beleve she wyll at lengethe let fawle her ancre betwene Dover and Barwicke.' I like not this clause he adds —'thoughe perchance not in that porte, haven, or roode, that you wyshe she sholde'! May it therefore please your honour that I may have somewhat to prove her farther so that my Sovereign be not held in suspense. I have good will to move her to the interview, but may not without her majesty's command, and would be glad to return to

Elizabeth.
1564. her with some good errand. I refer all to her majesty's judgment, and your direction and advice.

My lady of Murray is near her time, and the Queen purposes to be at her "travaile." Her court is now very small. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Your honour has in mind my "oughte"* suit for Argyll, and also myself—in neither will I trouble you.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

May 5. **72.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

Excusing his boldness, and sending her majesty two letters. Though not given to hasty belief or over sudden reports, he gives more credit to these, knowing from whom the advertisements come, and who are like to be workers of the attempts.

Has no more to write, but that it has been long looked for what answer her majesty will give to the last that was sent to her by the Queen of Scots. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. Holograph, and address* (in Randolph's best Court hand). *Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(1) ([Kirkcaldy?] to Randolph.)

My lord of Murray is presently very "great," and may do what he will, yet has determined to take no charge upon him "without he se mair constancye nor he hes found in tymes past." For myself I receive good words and good countenances—for they have said they would be glad to do me pleasure. "Rolletis newis ar keipet verye clos, quhilk makis us to lyk them the better." The farthest I can learn is, "and it is trew indeid"—he was not very welcome to the Queen mother, "quhomme now our quene begynneth altogyther to myslyk, and we ar lyk to get litell freindscheip frome that part. Also our quene begynnes to complane upon hir oncles unkyndenes, and says, seying that thay have no respect to hir weill, scho will do the best scho can for hir self." This much I learned of "the Frenche man. As to the kynges goyng to Bar-le-duce and Lyons, with the dead of Marshall Briset, I dout not but you have hard thairof." The Earl of Lennox will obtain licence "to cum hame and speak the quene. Hir meanyng thairin is not knawing, bot sum suspectis scho sall at lentht be perswaidit to favour his sonne: and to the effect the Erll may the mair surlye cum in this cuntrey, the quene is myndit to writ to me lord Duc,† and has alredye requested me lord of Murray to speak the Erll of Argyll, quha I assure you will do litell in that mater without he se a gretter mater lyk to tak effect nor his incuming." I cannot write all I think in this matter, "bot the bottome of the stomok sallbe laid abreid unto you at your meityng, and also lat you se quhow he may cum to intent." Among ourselves things are presently quiet, but I fear not for long: "for thyngis begynes to grow to a rypnes and thair is great practesoris, quho ar lyk to set all thyngis a loft." This ye shall know also at meeting: and therefore meantime, I wish, as ye know I have always done, "that the Erll

* Oft. † Chatelherault.

Elizabeth.
1564. Botheill wer keipet still: for our quene thynkis to have hym at all tymes redye to schaik out of hir pushet* agaynst us protestantis. Morower the quene mother hathe writin to our quene that Lidington said to hir, that all that wes spoken of the mariage with Spane wes done to caus England grant to our desyres. Heirfor meit us with the lyk, and that in gentill termes, quhill I speak with you, for I am in gud hope ye sall cum to your purpos usyng the consaill of your brother." As for the commissioners to meet my lord of Bedford: I doubt not "bot ye will caus them be handlit accordynglye." [*Here is pasted on margin before the letter was written—in another hand*—"This is mente for the day of trewe" with Cesford, where there are to be "the Master Maxwell and Justice Clerke".] "The bischope of S^t Andros is desyros to speak with M^r Knox: judge ye quhat is lyk to follow! The quenis dyet is to depart out of S^t Johnston the viij of this present, bot becaus hir dyet hes bene oft alteret, I fear scho keip not this." There are sundry slaughters by gentlemen in our "law cuntreis, and our yles ar altogyther redye to break lous." S^t Johnston, "the last of Apryll."

2 *pp.* *In Kirkcaldy's writing, or a hand closely resembling it. It has been signed, though the formal ending has been carefully obliterated, for the word* "Kirkcaldy" *can be read at the end. Addressed* (by the writer): "To his lovyng brother M^r Randolphe." *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Ultimo Aprilis 1564."

(2.) (Knox to Randolph.)

Both yours are come to my hands "with your bow" for which I heartily thank you. "Rollettis tydingis ar as yit buried in the breastis of tuo within this realme, butt Maddye telleht ws many newes:—the mess shall up, the bischope of Glaskew and abbot of Dunfermling come as ambassadouris from the generall counsall, my lord Bothwell shall follow with power to putt in execution what soever is demanded and our Soverane will have don—and then shall Knox and his preaching be pulled by the earis, *etc.*"! Thus raves "Maddye" with us every day, "but heirupon I greatlie pans† not." Lennox's servant is familiarly in Court—and it is supposed not without knowledge, "yea and laubour of your Court." Some in this country "look for the Lady and the young erle or it be long"—it is "whispered" to me licence is already given to them. "Goddis providence is inscrutable to man befor the ischew of such thingis as are keapt clos for a seasson in his counsall." But to be plain with you: I like not "that jorney." The Queen as I hear, remains yet eight days at S^t Johnston, perchance longer. "As for Edinburgh, it lykis the ladeis nothing"! In these last ships from France and Flanders, I have some news. Some are common. "Certaine of the salt manis lauboraris ar arrived with mattockis, schoolis and certane other instrumentis; mo ar looked for. I fear thare trafique shalbe to mack salt upon salt! Divin what I mean." I hear credibly by those privy in the Court of France, that "the jorney of Lorane goes fordward." I had letters dated "Trois‡ in Champanye, assuring that the king was so far in jorney, yf other impedimentis occurred not." The Papists of France (of Paris especially) threaten destruction to all Protestants. The Germans in

* Pochette=pocket. † *i.e.* 'penser,'=think. ‡ Troyes.

Elizabeth.
1564. almost every city and province, "amass" men of war, and none can tell at whose devotion? If ye know, I am content; if not, "my counsall is ye look to it." Two barges, in fashion like "hoyes," came in "our ferht abone the Inch* and wewed all places Sounday and Monunday last." They sailed from land to land round about the Inch but would let no man enter them, and so departed. "Our solan geis use to vesay the Bass befor the great cumpany tack possession. I say yit agane, tack head"! I hear, but not certainly, that "Suaden" will yet send us an ambassador. I pray you salute my lord of Bedford, whose good mind I never doubted, and say to his lordship, that I think I shall have as great need of comfort or it be long, as I had "when his lordschip and I last parted in London—yf God putt not end to my battell schortle! for heir wanton and wicked will impyres† as it wer abone wisdom and verteu—God send remead." My purpose is "yf God permitt" to be in Langton "the 5, 6 and 7 of May." Appoint the place and I will meet you. Edinburgh. "The 3 of this instant 1564." *Signed:* John Knox.

Salute for me M. Boistock and the Italian—great business suffers me not to write.

3 *pp. Hastily written. Holograph, also address:* (To Randolph at Berwick as the Queen's agent for Scottish affairs). *Indorsed:* "1564."

May 7. **73.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I received your letter by "M^r^ Garter," with certain knowledge of her majesty's mind to what end I shall travail with the Queen of Scots. Intending tomorrow to take journey to the Scottish Court, I shall speedily advertise your honour. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

May 13. **74.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

In my absence from Court I received the enclosed letters from my Lord of Murray and the Comptroller, for the deliverance of a Scotsman taken long since among pirates: desiring your favour therein. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same.

(1) (The Comptroller to Randolph.)

"Sone," this is to let you know that my lord of Murray has written to you in favour of "ane Allexander Hoge, quhilk wes takin be ane Schir John Pyrot and is in Hartforde West." Also I thought good "to put yow charge, as ye wald wyne the blyssing of your father," that you would write to my lord Admiral and to Sir John Perot for his relief—or at least that the said Allexander may have "frie prisoun" till his friends labour farther for his freedom. And deliver the writing ye write to Sir John to this bearer. Perth, "this xxvj of Apprill

* Inchkeith. † *i.e.* rules.

Elizabeth.
1564. 1564." Your father to command. *Signed:* Jhone Wyshart, comptroller.

¾ *p. Addressed:* "To his beluffit sone Maister Randolphe agentt for the Quenes majestie of England, *etc.*"
Indorsed.

(2) (Murray to Randolph.)

It is "havaly menit to me by ane Jhone Hoge ane freind of myn," that his son Alexander Hog when in his trade of merchandise, happened "about July wes ane yeir" to fall in company with some Englishmen in Ireland, and coming with them to a port of Wales, they being men of evil report, was spoiled of his ship and goods by order of Thomas Pyrott vice-admiral there, and lies in prison in the town of "Hartfurde in Waylis," without offence made by him. Ye know I am no friend to pirates, but I must ask this favour that I may have the man let home or at least to Berwick, with the said vice-admiral or other queens officers' information—that he may answer if criminal. Desiring you to write to my lord "Alentoun" [Clintoun?], and if you think fit, to the said vice-admiral. Scarcely could I have written to you "at sic lenth, be resoune I haif resavit na word frome yow this long tyme, ye ar becum so prude"! Perth, "the xxvij of Aprile, 1564." *Signed:* James Stewart.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

May 13. **75.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Recommending the bearer his "hoste," to Cecil's good offices in his affairs in London, as a man to whom himself and all Englishmen coming to these parts are greatly beholden for support, advice, counsel and assistance: whereby he has received much ill will of divers malicious persons. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* ". . . For David Foster his host."

May 22. **76.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Though I have travailed earnestly with this Queen, as also with Murray, Argyll and Lethington therein, I see no likelihood of the interview this year, however willing she be "in speciall," and they, for their parts, that it should take effect. Though they "laye" many causes, I know two whereof they make no mention, that I am sure, however well determined she and her Council were, the least of those two impediments is "hable to staye their deliberations." The Duke is sent for, and those here are daily musing what answer may be given to the Queen's majesty's contentment, "whearof I assure you thys Quene is verie studious, and hathe care therof." So soon as given, I purpose to come with the answer myself, with ample report of her grace's will, as well towards my sovereign's former motion touching her marriage, "as her desyer other wayes."

It is bruited here that some are in the Tower for making a book against this Queen. She herself asked me, and I told her what I knew by your honour's writing—"that a lerned man had made a collection of divers mens argumentes pronunced the laste parlimente."

Elizabeth.
1564. By their imprisonment, though I told her it was not in the Tower, she thinks it much kindness in her majesty, seeing there might be something to touch her. It is here granted that my lord of Lennox shall come home and sue his own right. What is like to insue, and what men say, it will be time enough for me to report by mouth, I trust before her majesty grant him licence to depart.

There arrived here eight days past from Denmark, one that long bore the name of ambassador from the king, "but declarid by hys commission as myche as a pursuvant or a port lettre": whose errand was, that under their old alliance, this Queen would suffer none of her subjects to serve the king of Sweden his enemy: learning that divers had arrived there and more to follow. Her grace's answer is doubtful, though she is indifferently minded to them both: but this king she holds in suspense, because of certain injuries done to her subjects of late, and to demand justice thereof, dispatches immediately the laird of Whyttingham to that king. We look also shortly for another, either from the King of Sweden, or as some say, the Duke of "Houlste." Lethington desires to be excused for not writing of long time to you. I can assure you it proceeds rather of "slewthe" than other evil thought. Argyll thanks her majesty for her licence, as also your honour.

"My dettes so daylie increace upon me, that to thynke of them is more greef then anye care that I have." I trust your honour still sues my relief. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

June 2. **77.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Her subjects William Waus, John Martine and William Gordoun merchants of Wigtoun having complained to her that in January last their ship, William Carmoke master, and William Arnolde skipper, returning from "the Rochell," was driven by storm to Carlingford in Ireland, and after being wind bound for 12 days, when ready to depart, Oneill and Fardarroch Makgneysche with 300 or 400 men, came to said haven under silence of night, spoiled the "wynis, irne" and merchandize and broke the ship in pieces, not leaving the poor mariners so much as their clothes, as the constable and "ballies" of Carlingford will attest. She prays her dearest sister to command her deputy in Ireland to cause speedy redress to be made to the complainers, of their ship and goods. Under her signet. Palace of Holyrood House. 22[d] of her reign. *Signed:* Your rihct gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

June 5. **78.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Yesterday the 4[th], full resolution was taken by this Queen and Council that for divers respects (which she trusts our sovereign will find reasonable, or bear with) the interview this year is not like to take effect. How earnestly she is bent, her travail, and the occasions of stay, your honour shall know by my self: attending only her grace's letters, which will be some what longer, for this day she is gone over the water to visit my lady of Murray, not yet well of her "late and

Elizabeth.
1564. sore travaile," besides her sorrow for the death of her son. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

June 5. **79.** RANDOLPH TO LORD ROBERT DUDLEY.

By my last I promised to be with you in 20 days at furthest—now almost expired, yet I remaining here. Wherefore I pray you add 10 or 12 days to my promise, when I doubt not to be with you. You need be at no charges this year for the interview—for yesterday it was "debated" in council that this Queen cannot leave her country this year. The causes, reasons, etc, "the sorrowe and greef" that it stays on her part, shall be known at my coming. Her grace has gone this day to comfort the Lady of Murray for the loss of her son; and I only attend her return to take leave, within 6 days after, God willing, to be with you. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 6. **80.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

As Mr. Randolph is returning, and can give you all "occurrentes," I purposely forbear to write amply—only these few lines to show my devotion to you "on the old maner," and though intercourse of letters has been long intermitted, my affection is not diminished, but I am as far at your commandment as ever. Neither am I less affected to the "amity betwix the two quenes and nations then yow have alwayes knowne me to be. Treuth it is, I have not these twelff monthes past delt so rashly in those caases as I wes wont to do, not for any change off mynd, but for avoyding off danger, which moche medling doth oftentymes cary with it—specially when maters do not fall out aryght." Thus I have partly suspended my judgment and actions—ready notwithstanding to return to my former manner of proceeding, whensoever it appears to me like to do good, "or as yow will confort me so to do." You know in what terms you left me at our last communication—"in those sam do I yet stand—if a conjunction be ernestly ment, and yow will prosecute the meanes to draw it on which were opened up by the Quene my maistres last ansuer, I dout not but yow shall fynd conformity aneugh on this part; but if tyme be alwayes dryven without further effect then hath yet followed upon any message hath past betuix them these thre yeares, I am off opinion he shall in the end think him selff most happy who hath least medled in the mater. Gentle lettres, good wordes, and pleasant messages, be good meanes to begyn frendship amongst princes, but I tak them to be to slender bandes to hald it long fast. Yow se from tyme I ones enter to discourse with yow, I can not conteane my selff. Mary! as I meane well, so I think yow do, and playne speaking and squayre dealing ought to be betuix fryndes; besydes that the place we occupy in maneging our princes affaires, doth require another kynd off conference betuix ws then the common sort useth. In these greate caases betuixt our sovereygnes, I have ever found that falt with yow, that as in your lettres yow alwayes wrote obscurely, in private communication yow seldome utered your owne judgement; yow myght well *academico more* dispute *in utramque*

Elizabeth.
1564. *partem*, leaving me in suspens to collect what I wold—so I feare in geaving advise, you walke so warely, observing rather to speake nothing may any tyme therafter hurt yourselff, then to speake all thing myght further the mater: and I will confes I have off late enforced my naturall to learne this same lesson off yow, for that reverence I beare yow, that your maner off doing serves me for instruction to direct my procedinges. Mary! I feare the common affaires do not fayre a whit the better for our to greate warenes, and I think assuredly if we conferred our opinions more frankly by lettres, and were not so timide and slow in geaving advise, maters wold perhaps soonar a greate deale growe to a conclusion. As yow will geve me exempill so will I follow." Lochleven. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . L. Ledyngton by M[r] Randolph.

June 23. **81.** MAITLAND TO THE EARL OF PEMBROKE.

This is to remind your lordship of the promise made by the Duke of Norfolk and you to me when last at Court, confirmed by the Queen's "owne mouth," to pay 1200*l.* to some poor Scottish merchants—trusting to which strait assurance, I became myself debtor to them—not believing that those ordered to levy the money would dare to disobey it. Yet I have been "so ongentlie" used by them, that I am forced to complain to her majesty, and trust that by his grace's and your own good means, order shall speedily be taken for performance of promise. Referring particulars to M[r] Randolphe and the bearer my servitor. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "To . . . My Lord of Penbroke."

June 23. **82.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I wrote by M[r] Randolph some part of my mind, why matters "hang so long in suspens." I cannot imagine why an end is "differred" where there is such demonstration of good meaning on both parts. Whether the matters are such as of their own nature must breed delays—or that their majesties' humours are slow in resolving, or that the lack is in those nearest about them and in most credit with them, not earnestly prosecuting the same—"or that which I most feare, that God by the ingratitude off both the nations, being provoked to anger, will not suffer ws to attayne so greate worldly felicity as the succes off that negociation must bring with it, if it wer ons brought to an happy end." If this last be so determined in his secret council, then shall all ours to the contrary be frustrated, however carefully we proceed. Yet as his providence is not always communicated unto us, and possibly the lack is rather in our negligence than "the stay is in Him," I see not how we shall be excused if we omit our labours diligently to further so godly a cause. "Indeede I feare that neyther yow nor I can sufficiently descharge our selff in this behalff, althogh I think well we have both probable considerations which may move ws not to be to hasty. Mary! those that be private must be postponed to the publik, if we will be accompted men carefull off the common

Elizabeth.
1564. wealth. If yow shall frankly admonish me what lack yow do fynd in my behaviour therin as I will gladely do the like onto yow, we shall both be the more able to mend, if anything hath bene amys." I trust you will judge the Queen my mistress's answer to M^r^ Randolph for a secret conference with my lord of Bedford or some other "under soche a cullour," to be no unfit beginning to draw the whole into small compass. If you will write freely what you will have me do, I will meet you with like frankness. "So for the present no more off that."

I send my man Grahame with letters to the Queen's majesty, his grace of Norfolk, and my lord of Penbrok, to complain of "the not accomplishing off her majesties commandement, and theyr promesse, in a mater wherwith I have troubled yow to oft," and remit my usage to the bearer's report, praying you to trust him, and that by my suit herein rather than his, he may by your good means find favour and short dispatch. With commendations to you and my lady, I wish to you both as to myself. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . L. of Ledyngton to W. C. by Greyme."

July 13. **83.** EARL OF MURRAY TO CECIL.

By a letter received "fra" M^r^ Randolphe last night, and another I saw from yourself to Lethingtoun, I perceive your sovereign and her council understand that some of her best friends here mislike the "hamcumyng" of the Earl of Levenax and would have me persuade my mistress to stay him for this year. "Gif ye compt me in that nowmer," I will assure you I never meant anything against his coming, and the report, whoever made it, is untrue, and I would be glad to know the maker's name. If I had been so minded, it would have been declared when his "conduct" was procured of our mistress, "and I knaw als litle of ony uther noble men quhome ye have caus to think your freindis, that thay ar myndit to the contrair." I cannot therefore labour his stay, "nathir think I it can stand with the Quenis majesteis honour to be the occasioun thairof, seing his pasport wes grantit at the request of the Quenis majestie your soverane; quhilk mater proceding and being wrocht amangis thame selffis, it wer greit bauldnes to me to counsell the hynderance thairof! Bot gif the Quenis majestie your soverane wald have it stayit for ony respectis concernyng hirself, I think it wer bettir hir grace suld do it, nor my maistres to be the instrument thairof." As to the factions his coming might make in matters of religion—"thankes to God, oure fundatioun is not sa waik, that we have caus to feare, gif he had the gretast subject of this realme joynit to him, seing we have the favour of oure prince, and libertie of oure conscience, in sic aboundance as oure hartis can wyshe. It wilbe nather he nor I, praisit be God, that can hynder or alter religioun heiraway; and his cumyng or remanyng in that cais wilbe to small purpos." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . Erle of Murray for the Erle Lennox."

July 13. **84.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I received by my lord Bedford's messenger your letter of the 6^th^

Elizabeth.
1564. instant touching the causes of the Earl of Lennox's stay in England —"which in deede I can not well onderstand." You mention two reasons—one, that your friends here did not like his coming. "I can not tell whome yow tak to be your best frendis, but I think yow owght to judge those to be best, who most ernestly go about to maneteyne quietnes betuixt the two realmes and intelligence betuixt the princesses—wherin I am well assured my lord off Murray and my selff have done as good offices as any other." And I am bold to say both of us have rather furthered than hindered his coming, and the author of any contrary report from hence has followed his own "passion," knowing nothing of our "intentis." The other reason in your letter is, that your Sovereign thought it not expedient: "wheroff I do not mervell a lytle, seing how ernestly her majesty did recommend onto me my lord off Lenox cause and my ladyes at my last being in that court, and that sodeynly after I had tayken my leave, yow your selff at her majesties commandement, did send after me by post her lettres to the Quenes majesty my maistres, veary affectionat in theyr favouris, willing me to present the same—which recommendation from the Quene her good sister, renewed also therafter by M^r^ Randolph, wes the principall occasion that her majesty did so liberally grant that they myght repayre to this realme. And for my selff, I never in all my lyfe had acquentance or intelligence with my lord of Lenox or my lady—yea never had seene eyther off them with my eyes, before that tyme it pleased the Quenes majesty your Sovereygne to speak onto me in theyr favouris." And though other causes might have moved my lord of Murray to favour the licence—"as that he is my ladyes nephew and he and my lord both off one name"—yet no private respect did so much move me as your Sovereign's earnest recommendation, which I think was also the "cheefest cause of my Sovereygnes inclination that way." And having once given him liberty under her great seal to come, it will be hard to persuade her to revoke it, and I dare not presume to enter on such with her majesty, knowing how she respects her honour, where promise is once passed, and how unwilling she is to change her deliberations when once resolved—"which as she will not do her selff, so doth she altogether mislyke in all other"!

You write that her majesty is informed that his resort hither shall breed troubles not only in religion but in civil causes. I who know our state as well as your informant, see no such peril, or that my lord of Lennox's coming or not coming shall alter either, and factions are not so easily "suscitat" here as some think. "Whosoever doth appeare to have greatest occasion to grudge at that matter, before he uter any mislyking off it, wilbe fayne to put water in his wyne to swage his collere a litle." Religion here does not depend upon my lord of Lennox coming, nor "do those off the religion hang upon the sleeves off any one or two that may mislyke his commyng." For us whether he come or not, "I tayke it to be no greate mater up or downe." That the stay should grow on the Queen's side here would somewhat touch her Majesty's honour, having once given him licence freely; "oneles she myght shadowe the change off her mynd by the Quene her good sisters request, and so do it for her pleasour—which I perceave is not your Sovereygnes meaning, but wold she shold tayke the mater upon her selff—which she thinketh to hard, and it is no honorable cullour for

Elizabeth.
1564. her to allege that her owne subjectis do mislyke it." If there any such, they make no demonstration, but rather profess the contrary. To be short: the Queen sees no danger in this matter to move her to put her reputation in doubt before the world by breach of promise. You will see my lord of Murray's mind disagrees nothing with this my writing. I have used the best means I could to recover the Queen's letter, that I might have returned it to her highness—but was answered "that the lettre wes brent, at her owne request in the said lettre." I may not omit that though this is the first advertisement the Queen or "we" have of the Earl of Lennox' stay, it was known to some of this realm above 20 days past and from them conveyed to me. "I have according to your desire retorned onto [yow] your owne lettre," and look for answer of my others when it shall please you. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

4 *pp. Holograph. No address leaf.*

July 15. **85.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for George Hopper, merchant burgess of Edinburgh, to trade by sea or land to England and foreign parts, for a year. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland). *Collar of the Thistle.*

July 17. **86.** BOUNDARIES OF THE MARCHES.

Commission by the Queen of England to Francis, earl of Bedford, governor of Berwick and warden of her East Marches, and Sir John Forster, knight banneret, warden of the Middle, to settle their respective limits with Scotland.

1½ *pp. Latin. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed:* " . . . xvij Julij 1564."

July 17. **87.** ELIZABETH TO BEDFORD AND FORSTER.

Instructing them to meet the Scottish commissioners, the Master of Maxwell and Justice Clerk, and settle the limits of the East and Middle Marches, making a "chart" of the "Threap groundes," and setting "notable meare markes" of the new bounds, to be yearly viewed.

2½ *pp. Draft corrected and partly written by Cecill. Indorsed:* "17 July 1564 . . . "

July 27. **88.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Your letter of 26th June came but of late to my hand, so that I could not answer before. You would make me believe we stand in "disparite," which I can no ways admit, but trust our sovereigns believe we love and honour them, and tender their service above all things, and that neither of us "will think, write, or procure any thing prejudiciall to the same." I cannot see what danger can come of our writing freely to each other, considering such was your sovereign's mind, that thus "theyr majesties maters myght be some what digested,"

Elizabeth.
1564. and their meaning better expressed by us their servants, than by their own letters. You write "the best order is for them to begyn that have cause to require. What we do require is not onknowne to yow, neyther yet to the Quenes majesty her selff—and if now yow would seame to misknow it, I think ther hath byne to moch tyme spent about it in vayne, and I would repent my selff to have travayled so moche and proffyted so litle." If your sovereign's affection to mine remain such as I ever found it, "then can yow stand in no danger for wisshing her well, and procuring her greatnes before all other, nixt your maistres—for so shall yow but follow your maistres affection, honouring that person whome she doth preferre to all others. Mary! if tyme or any other occasion hath changed her mynd (which I will never suppose and am certanely perswaded off the contrary)," then both you and I would have good reason to meddle no farther "in a mater which shold but irrite the one and nothing proffit nor please the other." It is I know profitable for both countries, and the best and wisest sort do not mislike it. My comfort is that the "travaill" has not been misspent, and though the "passionat" do what they can to hinder it, it shall "fall out as God his providence hath appoynted." Your own mind I put no doubt "is no wyse to go before your maistres, and in your mynd to favour best whear most ryght is—farthar I neyther will looke for at your handes nor requere off yow." S[t] Johnston. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "27 Julij, L. of Ledyngton to W. Cecill."

Aug. 24. **89.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for her servitor James Murray son of "umquhile" William Murray of Tulybardin, and four in company, to buy goods in England for a year. Gartulie.* *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (as before).

Sept. 18. **90.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By "my man Grahame" I received your letter from Cambridge the 8[th] of August—which pray excuse me not answering—we were then nigh the farthest parts of this realm in Ross, and I purposely delayed writing till our return; for though in your letter to me "nothing did appeare but all calme," yet in the other to my lord of Murray, which you willed him to communicate to me, "there apeared some cloudes and no obscure demonstration off foule weather." Another letter I have received within these 5 days from a house in Bedfordshire the 4[th] of this month. Both being almost to one purpose, I will answer them at once—first rendering you hearty thanks for your plain writing and frank dealing, finding fault where you see cause—but when you have weighed what I am able to say for myself, I doubt not you shall be well satisfied. Now to your letters: in your former, you say the less you meddle in so great matters, the less is your danger. To that I agree—for if we had respect only to our own quietness and security,

* Gartly in Aberdeenshire.

Elizabeth.
1564. we would never adventure to manage public affairs and be "tossed to and fro as a balle." All things are uncertain, and however well directed men's actions, little thanks is often the reward of labour. This, and many times worse, has been the recompense of chief ministers in common wealths, as by the histories of all ages clearly appears, yet is more to be feared in all other kinds of government than in monarchies, "for that the popular estate is a greate deale more ingrate than princes be. Mary! the peple be alwayes lyke onto them selffes to misconstrue mens actions, be theyr dealing never so oupryght." Neither of us lacks this experience in our own person—but serving two such mistresses so different in judgment from the common sort, "I think all this part ought to be contemned," and if we approve our counsels and actions first to God, next to them, and are able to answer all charges by the testimony of an upright conscience, what others think is little to be regarded. I like well your conclusion that for love of your country you will set aside your own peril, and so not forbear to deal with me "so far as yow ar provyded with mater." This has always been my resolution, and I never forbore, but when your silence or "dark wryting" gave me cause. The rest of your former writing tends to this. You marvel that a matter so far to our commodity as that propounded by M^r^ Randolphe, is so lightly weighed and coldly dealt in upon our part! For answer I do no less marvel you should so think, which you would not if you remember in what order those matters have passed—first, no man knows better than yourself how earnest I was when last at your court, both with the Queen herself, and also with you many times, "to have her Majesty to fall specially upon that kynd off communication with me, and to have utered frankly her meaning therin onto me: promissing on the other syde that she shold fynd the lyke franknes on the Quene my maistres part. Wherin I think I cold have done as moche as hath bene utered to any man at any tyme sence. For I know her Majesty hath ever mislyked that betuix two so deare frendis as they be and must be, ther shold be any kynd off obscure dealing; but that every one off them shold be made prevey to the others conceptions. Yow know I cold never obteyn at her majesties handes to comme to any speciall reasoning off those caases, and yet did I ernestly move her majesty, that in her own presens the mater myght be debated with yow or soche others off her counsall as she thought fit for the propos, how the sure knot off perpetuall amity myght be knyt up betuix them and theyr countreyes for ever." I confess I found generally great demonstration of goodwill and many tokens of love—"and yet did I not dissemble what lack I fand off specialityes, and what more I requyred, If her majesty will reduce to memory what passed privately betuixt ws, she will well remember that at the same tyme I toke my leave, I planely declared onto her majesty that eyther her wordis were so obscure, or my wyt so dull, alwayes some lack there wes on some part that I cold not fully conceave her majesties intent, whearby I myght report onto my maistres clearely her conception—and therupon that I wes not able to cary her message, oneles I had some memoriall theroff in wryting for my better instruction." Since that time M^r^ Randolphe has brought two messages from her majesty at "severall" times, which have been answered as directly as the matter permits—so if you conferr the propositions and answers, you

Elizabeth.
1564. will see "it resteth now upon your part." For you know the matters are not so small, that "they can be resolved to or fro upon the sodeyn"; many things require special answer, many doubts must be cleared, and circumstances considered before farther deliberation. "So wayghty maters cannot be rawly passed owyr, nor yet were it convenient in maters which last for tearme off lyfe, and whear the consequence may endure a greate deale longar, at the veary first word, to comme to Yea or No without farther examination what myght ensew"! In answer to his last proposition, an overture was made that for better digestion of all these cases, secret commission might be given to my lord of Bedford, "or some other" to confer at Berwick or elsewhere, with some of this side, fully instructed with both sovereigns' minds, to draw the matter to conclusion. Whether you like this or not, does not yet appear, and so we rest—it is your part to propound a more convenient way.

In your letter of 4th instant, you find fault, first, for intermitting my "familiar wryting." It was for no lack of good will, but first for lack of leisure "during our progress," and that since the coming of my man Grahame we were resolved at our return to direct "this gentleman Mr Mailvyn that way"—occasioned by the postscript of your first letter, "that one halff houris frank communication by mouth were more worth for those proposses than xx whole dayes wryting." In the place I occupy, I cannot be spared for voyages, nor do I like it, (for it lacks not peril) unless to some good end—"and off treuth her majestie fand some fault with me the last voyage I made that way, for my long remayning." I have wished myself with you not half an hour, but a whole day—but as wishing will not obtain this, I have chosen one whom I trust as myself, and will undertake he is honest and discreet, and what you say to him "shall be spocken to my selff." The next fault you find "is for the answer sent to the mocion made by the Quenes majesty in the mater off the erl off Lennox." As the Queen my mistress has commanded the bearer to declare her meaning at large to yours, I forbear to write. What cause my lord of Murray and I had "to wryte roundly," you can judge, for it touched our honour. Seeing what trust our mistress has in our fidelity, our credit with her, and that she took our opinion before according the Earl of Lennox' request, "what spot off infamy" had it been in us to have secretly moved another prince to impede it? Where you write that "the informars which came from hence do stand fast to it, and will as they say avow it to ws: I trust none will say that ever he conferred with me one jote to or fro in that mater—at least I remember not as God is my judge, that ever any entred in question with me thairupon; and if they did, I am sure I dissembled not what I thought in in it." And my lord of Murray has written both to you and Mr Randolph his part therein, as I have also before. Where you write "that my lettres to yow instead off thankis to the Quenes majesty, conteyned sondry spechees both of hyd and apparant reprehensions," as I shall see on reading the copies: in good faith I kept no copy of them, at least cannot find it—and confess my negligence in seldom keeping copies of what "I privately write my selff." The fault is mine, and I intend to amend it—and trust I have not been so "ondiscrete" as to use any such phrases of any prince, "specially her majesty, whome for many respectes I have good cause to honour—and

Elizabeth.
1564. if I have so far overshot myselff, I have bene farthar transported than I am accustomed to be. I will not deny but the first sicht off your lettre did styr me to some cholere—bearing no les in effect than that the stay off therl off Lennox by the Quenes majesty wes for our contemplation and at our request—and if so had bene, our maistres myght have thought ws good and trusty servandis in dede! . . . and in that sam passion wrote I my lettre. Mary! that I wes so far distempred I can not beleave. I pray yow let this bearer peruse my lettre and declare onto him what yow mislyke in it, and I trust he shalbe able to say somwhat in my defence." I am glad you say "that those cloudes shall not darken nor trouble the cleare and sincere amity of our soveraygnes"—there is no cause why it should be otherwise, and no just occasion to the contrary shall ever be given from hence. What you say nigh the end of your letter, of my remiss dealing causing you to suspect me of some other design, I do not understand, for I am sure I have been always earnest to bring these matters betwixt our sovereigns to conclusion, and have many times frankly written my mind both to my lord Robert and yourself. "I know how necessary England is for Scotland, and even so Scotland for England. I preferre in my opinion the Quene off Englandes sure amity to the frendship off any foreyn prince. I trust my maistres will follow as moche off her frendly advys in her mariage and her other wayghty affaires, as off any frend she hath in the world besydes, and so wold I advise her to do—this alwayes provyded (which I have many tymes touched in my lettres) that respect be had to honour and surety." These two points considered, I am sure if we fall roundly to work, a good end shall soon ensue. The general proposition made by M^r^ Randolph was not only well taken, but as gently and directly answered as could be—the special overture was propounded "so nakedly," as I trust you will think her grace had reason to know more before answering it. Where you ask some "ynkling" from me whether to forbear or continue that intention "shall content ws"? I am perplexed what to say. "I lyke not to deale obscurely with yow as yow do oftentymes with me," and I am unable to give you any "lycht" in that matter. I dare not meddle with her majesty for any special person—"to forbeare this person or that person in one countrey or other, I may (craving perdon) speake to her majesty my opinion, and use persuasions as the mater bryngeth forth, in consideration of the circomstances and respectes to honour, commodity, or the contrary; but I must se eyther some shewe off contentacion and lyking in her selff or els an evident and assured grandeur to her selff, and commodity to her and her countrey, to ensew infallibly by the mache, before I enter to the naming off any speciall person to her majesty—for otherwyse I myght perhaps soone speke that I shold not shortly amend, and spill more in one halff hour than I were able to repayre in all my lyfe." So not being privy to her mind, I can say nothing in it. "It were curteously and frendly done—if the Quenes majesty your maistres wold have myne for her pleasour, to forbeare the maching with one two or thre greate howsses whear most apparant grandeur is—to lat her se evidently that she shold be no losar by the bargayne: and to remit the choyse off those few persons that remayne behind, fit for her majesty, to her owne option. In which doing I trust she both wold inquire your

Elizabeth.
1564. soveraygnes jugement, and follow a good part off her advys therin—and in caas she wold recommend any, more than others, to do it in soche ordre and good sort as it myght well apeare she had a speciall care off her honour and advancement as off her suster, and that she wold not wisshe her to abashe her selff under the degre off him she had before, but for her owne greate commodity." Now I have written as largely and plainly as I can—if you do the like, we would soon come to some conclusion—but if you require more than I have touched on here, the bearer can satisfy you, whom credit as myself. In all things I may privately do to your pleasure, "your sone wilbe no readyar to obey yow." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

6 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . the L. of Ledyngton to W. Cecill."

Sept. 18. **91.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for Master John Sinclair, dean of Restalrig, with 8 companions, to return from France to Scotland through her realm—for a year. Palace of Holyrood House. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

Sept. 19. **92.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Till now I have not answered your letter from Cambridge of 8th August brought by Grahame—for it was then devised to send "this gentleman"—and finding him ready, I can reply on all points. The states of our sovereigns, their people and countries, require for their conservation mutual care of us their ministers, wherein I have been always "hiddertillis" glad to travail, and will continue to do so God willing. I, and many more of this country, have good cause to acknowledge your Queen's care of our estate, and acquit (if possible) by all good offices of friendship, your own earnest mind to increase good intelligence among us. "In deid it grevis me mekle that the Quene my maistres lettre send to your soverane, as alsua my awin to your self, ar be you thoght sa strange—for assuritlie na thing wes thairin mentionat or menyt, cheiflie in my awin quhilk I do best knaw, bot simple trewth and uprichtnes—and afoir God, affirme it quha sa lykit, that the erle of Lenox cuming hither wes principallie aganis my will, the reportar thairof followit his awin passioun, for na sic thing wes evir menyt be me," as I wrote to you before, and now repeat. For had I thought that, I could have found a more honest way to stay him, than privily to signify "thair" that it misliked me, and so procure it. Your sovereign's sincere meaning to my mistress and her realm did well appear in her letters, "and grete caus is to rander hir majestie all thankes for notifying of the mater. Bot quhair as hir hienes, as thinkand hir self mystakin, takis greif thairof, and ye in your lettre declaris, that to ansuer sic plane meanyngis ye did not luke for sic strange writingis, it makis me maist sory," knowing nothing was written to displease her majesty, but rather the contrary. I thank you for your plain writing, for even as you, so would I not have things "rwn out of the hie way"—and yet when men mean and write truly, I would wish it taken in good part, and

Elizabeth.
1564. not thought strange. Farther of my mind, the gentleman bearer hereof will declare, whom credit as myself. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

2 *pp.* *Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): . . . "the Erle of Muirray."

Sept. 19. **93.** KIRKCALDY OF GRANGE TO RANDOLPH.

Understanding you are to hold a parliament, we thought it necessary to send this gentleman to let you "understand our gud mynd, in adventure* ye proceid in sum materes that may be to our hurt." First, if ye perform "in deid" what ye have offered, we will marry where ye please, so it stands with our honour. "As to me Lord Robert D[udley] albeit we lyke his vertues and honestye, yit becaus he is not cum, as we understand, of ane gret auld hows, and that his blude hes bene anes spotted, I feare for thir respectis we sall not accept hym." Therefore look on the next, either among you or us; for if you drive time, I fear necessity may compel us to marry where we may. "For I assure yow brother, tho scho wald very fane have a man, and for the samin sum laubouris are maid be France, and lykwys be the moyen of the Duches of Dascot† and your awne Angillo the convoye thairof: yit in my oppinion, gyf ye will earnystlye pres it, ye may caus us tak the Lord Derleye—utherwayis it will not be."

Our nobility are sent for, all except my lord Duke, who is presently in Arran, and minds not to "vesye" the Court, unless sent for, "and sum thynkis scantlye than."

At this convention my lord of Murray gets his commission of "lewtennendrye," who begins to take the burden of the Queen's affairs; for when any comes to present a supplication, she bids them "gang to her brother of Murray." If she continue in this mind, ye and we shall live in friendship. "Farther I suspect scho sall tailye the croune to the Stewartis and for that effect will sett ane parlement efter Paice.‡ Thus ye may se quhat is ment towardes the pure Duk. Albeit this be schaipin, I feare it salbe evill sewit, for me lord of Argyll (quhay purposses to be a contenewar in court) and me lord of Murray, hes concludit that the Duk sall suffre na wrang be ony particullare partye.

"I dout not bot ye understand or now that our secretaree § wyf is dead—and he a suter to M. Flemyng, quha is als meit for hym as I am to be paipe! Sum foleis of me lord of Hallyrudhous and of Cappitaine Stewart I remit to the berrar." Now to end—"Ye sall wit your brother William is commandit be the quenis awne moutht to be a contenewall waitter." I would ye were to be here with us again, for you could do your country good service. As our queen has determined to lean on Murray, things should be handled to your contentment. "Fareweill in the Lord." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your brother ever at power. "I trow Lethington repentis the writin of his crabit lettre."

1½ *pp.* *Holograph of Kirkcaldy, also address:* "A mon frere Monsieur Randolphe." *Indorsed:* ". . . A Scottishmans lettre to M^r Randolphe." *Wafer signet* (Bedford's quartered shield with Garter).

* *i.e.*, in case. † D'Archot. ‡ Easter. § Maitland.

Elizabeth.
1564. Sept. 23. **94.** MURRAY TO FREDERIC ELECTOR PALATINE.

Signifies that Melville has done well in saluting him in his name, for his exalted virtues and zeal for the Christian religion. Expresses regret for not having written before; but being almost beyond the limits of the human race, they are content with the silent witness of conscience, as much out of the way of censure as of fame. They rejoice that some report of their affairs has reached the Elector, desiring only the glory of God, and pleased to know the approval of good men, and that the evangel penetrates the ends of the earth. As to the Elector's writing for a friendly league, he believes there is a secret perpetual bond of nature between all good men: Christians above all; as members of Christ the head. Though this union is immortal, yet lest the weakness of mortality cause it to languish without frequent refreshment, he willingly embraces the offer of closer intercourse, and will be ready to aid if occasion presents itself, trusting it will redound to the glory of Christ. "*Vale. Edinburgi ix. Cal. Octobris anno M.Dlxiiij.*" *Signed:* "Jacobus comes Morawie."

1½ *pp. Latin. Addressed:* "Illustrissimo ac nobilissimo principi Domino Friderico electori palatino etc. amico nostro dilecto." *Indorsed:* "1564 Sept. 22. Thearle of Murray to the Count Palatyne." *Fragment of round signet.*

Sept. 23. **95.** ELIZABETH TO CECIL.

I am in such a labyrinth that I do not know how to answer the Queen of Scotland after so long delay. Therefore find something good that I may put in Randoll's instructions, and indicate your opinion to me.

½ *p. Latin. Holograph. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "23 Sept. 1564, at S[t] James. The Q. wrytyng to me being sick. Scotland."

Sept. 26. **96.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for a year for her servitor Maister Adam Hwme, going between Scotland and France on her affairs and "bissines." Holyrood House. 22[nd] of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland).

Sept. 28. **97.** THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT.

21[st]. Convened at Edinburgh by the Queen's command. Earls:—Argyle, Murray, Morton, Errol, Glencairn, Atholl, Caithness, and Cassillis.

Lords:—Erskine, Seton (Cethen), Fleming, Endermath, Ruthven (Ryvynne).

The Duke and rest of the nobility was neither desired nor charged.

22[nd]. The Council convened, and (1) made discreet chastisement of great disorders between Cassillis and his surname, and the Laird of Lochinvar (Gordon) and his; (2) the Crawfords and Fargosons of great name, for small disorders, the principals of both "sett fast in the

Elizabeth.
1564. Ynche." (3) The Karres for contentions are like to lose Kelso, the Queen "to take the bone they stryve for."

23rd. The Council while treating of things dangerous to the commonwealth—as wine, silk, "ryott of apparrell," and monopoly of merchants—were summoned to her grace's presence to receive Lennox, then "new lighted" at Lord Robert's of Holyroodhouse. Immediately the Earl was "debowted," his servants yet in their boots, he came in presence of our sovereign, and the above named nobility. Her Grace welcomed him, and every one of the nobility embraced him, and he departed to his lodgings that was well arrayed with hangings and costly beds of the Queen's. The people here think it presages some great thing.

"Sonday" the 24th.—Many rumours among the people—the papists bragged the Earl would go to mass with the Queen. The protestants only lamented that the Queen of England should be "so overseyne to send from her suche slaunder." That day the Earl kept his house in quiet, and at night banquetted "our foure Maryes and some other dillicate dames."

Monday 25th. The Queen's grace harangued her Council "veray commely" thus:—'Ye nobles of our realme hes showne your selves so discreete, prudent, and wyse counsellours with love and faithfull obedyence to us and our realme, that we cannot doute to have the lyke at all tymes, and of all, most at commendacion of our good sister the Quene of England, the restitucion of therle of Lennox our nere cosyn; in consideracion wherof we have assembled you of the nobilite our counsell.' His restoration was easily agreed to in the Queen's humour. Argyle musing a little, said it was good to restore him, but those at contention with Lennox should be put in surety to prevent strife hereafter. So it was devised to send a gentle letter to the Duke, putting in his "opcion" to come, or send his wise friends on his behalf, instructed for concord. Our wise here think it "incomponable."

Tuesday 26th. The Council broke up and my lord Secretary was sent to confer with Lennox, I being sent by Murray to desire the former to "feele" if Lennox would go to sermon on the morrow with the Lords. "Yt was easy to swade in respect the Quene was of counsell he shuld goo."

Wednesday 27th. "Afore noone the lordes yede to the sermon" and Lennox with them. The council convened in the afternoon before the Queen. Bedford's letter to the secretary being "resoned" at length, Cesford was called and asked why he refused like conditions to Bedford as he kept to Forster on the Middle march for years? He would have answered somewhat, but the Secretary did it so discreetly that he was soon "dashed," and handled matters so well he deserves the Earl's thanks and to be better handled in the next letter. But the Queen herself burst out saying to the Warden, that of all Englishmen she would have Bedford best handled, knowing his desire for the amity and welfare of both realms. It was determined that the Clerk Register should attend next truce day to see Cesford enter into amity anew with the Earl. They then brake up, and my lord of Murray though sick was not idle but sent 24 of his servants at supper time to seize certain pirates convened at a banquet in a house at Leith ready to embark on their wicked purpose.

Elizabeth.
1564. Thursday 28th. Nothing but banquetting my lord of Lennox and "the dames," and dispatching Mr Colwich—that night after supper I was commanded to go next day to the castle to speak with the Earl of Arran, give him many good words, "but no good dede." I have not yet been there. Sitting at supper alone with my lord of Murray who is sick, he said to me that Lennox had heard from the West that the Duke had his friends "amassed to comme so starke to Courte that he feered the matter sore. Yt was answered the Quene was starke enoughe to be his warrand."

Friday 29th, is to he treated the calling back all the "thirdes" of the spiritual lands the Queen has too liberally granted—extending to 35,600*l.* Scots—too much to be spared, "the tyme is so nedy"—then Murray's commission of lieutenancy to be treated, and this convention breaks up.

3½ *pp. Contemporary hand. No flyleaf or address.*

Sept. 28. **98.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

By your letters "gevin at Northamptoun" the first instant and delivered to "oure handes" by the Earl of Lennox, we perceive how entirely you tender the causes of him, and our right well beloved cousin his wife: and that it may appear, not only to your self, but to all others in both realms, what regard we have to your recommendation, "we have not onlie at the veray first given him sum taist of oure gudewill in the favorable receaving of him, and hearing of his peticionis, bot alsua meane to procede further to the full restitucion of him, quhairby he salbe able to enjoy the privilegis of a subject, the liberteis of his native cuntre, and his auld titles." And we also intend to deal so favourably in all their reasonable suits, that they shall feel bound to you for all the benefits to be received at our hands, chiefly at your recommendation. Palace of Holyrood House. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer Signet (Scotland).

Sept. 30. **99.** LENNOX TO ELIZABETH.

I have delivered your Majesty's letter to the Queen, who not only imparted your goodness to me "(in wordes)" but has showed me such graciousness, that I am more bound to you than ever. Humbly beseeching your Majesty to extend the like favour to my wife "your poore kinswoman," who has no refuge in my absence but you only. The Court at "Hollyroodos." *Signed:* Mathow Levenax.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Sept. 30. **100.** LENNOX TO CECIL.

"Good Mr Secreatory," the Queen here having showed me much goodness for the Queens majesty's sake, upon her gracious letter in my favour, duty binds me to write my most humble thanks, and I could not but also remember you with these few lines, for your pains and friendliness, praying you to continue the same in my absence, to me and mine. The Court at Edinburgh. *Signed:* Mathow Levenax.

Elizabeth.
1564. 1 *p.* *Addressed:* (to Cecil as Chief Secretary and Master of Wards etc.) *Indorsed.*

Oct. 4. **101.** MEMORIAL FOR RANDOLPH.

After greetings, &c., he is to say to Mary that he was in readiness duly instructed to go to her before her servant Melvyn arrived, and though the Queen has imparted some of her reasons for delay to Melvyn, and received satisfaction, yet she thought fit to send him to signify her reasons in full—viz., though she liked well Mary's offer to treat the matter secretly, and had determined who she would send, she had credible intelligence from France that her "motion and particular offers" to Mary for marriage were reported there, and the latter was determined merely "to entertayne" her, and direct herself by the advice of her other friends—which she thought very strange. And was "much perplexed" a few days after, to hear both by speech of the French ministers and their letters to France, that "the very particularetyes of our offer of mariadg made to hir" and meant to to be secretly dealt in, were made open and common, "in that sort."

And "behold, uppon a just occasion," the Queen having before written to Mary for the Earl of Lennox coming thither, not only received "even in that unsesonable tyme," her written answer much different from her "desert and expectation," but also saw some letters of Lethingtons "of a stranger manner than ever" had been to her knowledge before, and using "sharper wordes" in disallowing her request than was reasonable—a reproof she did not look for, as she has showed already to Melvyn. She fears that some new humour, entered not into Mary's breast but the heads of her council, will make her farther writing vain, but would have done so, had not Lord Robert and her Secretary written both to Murray and Lethington, to complain of "this oblique dealyng" with her in the matter of Lennox, but with grief learning they have received no answer, she is "loth to have any repetition made." Unhappily now she hears that her subjects specially of her East and Middle Marches, have credibly learned that the Scottish wardens have secret orders from Court to "hold ther handes somewhat streyghter" in administering justice than hitherto, as shown by their refusal at last meeting. He is to show Mary how much tempted the Queen was to recall her former "syncere intentions"; but how far off she is from this, is shown by her proroguing her parliament which should have began in October, contrary to the desire of her people, advice of her Council and detriment of her own "private lucre," as her people intended to have gratified her with a subsidy—for she meant to have no assembly, wherein the interest of her sister might be brought in question till better considered, and they two had farther established their amity. Also though wisdom and advice would have led her to make stay, her inward friendship and natural affection had taken such deep root, and to say the truth, her judgment was so overcome with her love, that she could no longer forbear to send him to her dear sister with these letters and message. And she had so resolved, and commanded him to be in readiness, as he may show her "the truth was"—when her servant James Melvyn came, by whom and the letters he brought from his mistress and others, she was "made suddenly so gladd" that after being long

Elizabeth.
1564. burdened in mind and tossed hither and thither, she received more good than ever before by any messenger. To conclude, he is to assure her that "this comedy" has been "altogither lyker to a tragedy," but she is now minded to neglect the matters that have troubled her, and being sure there is no change in either of them, is determined "to recontynew" her former motion, and appoints him to attend with the Earl of Bedford to commune with any such persons as the Queen of Scots shall name—or if she prefers to send them to Elizabeth, then he shall return to Berwick, confer with the Earl, and report with all speed for further direction.

7 *pp. Draft by Cecil, with many alterations. Indorsed* (by him): "4 Octob. 1564. A memoryall for a messadg by Tho. Randolph to the Q. of Scottes."

Entered in Book of Instructions.—Note by ["R. L."]

Oct. 6. **102.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for her subject David Allane to pass to and fro between France and Scotland, for a year. Palace of Holyrood House. 22[d] of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusigne Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Oct. 6. **103.** ELIZABETH TO BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH.

Commissioning them to treat on Border affairs with the persons sent by the Queen of Scots—and also on certain matters specially sent by an instrument under her hand. Under her signet.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Oct. 7. **104.** INSTRUCTIONS TO BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH.

The Queen thinking nothing more meet for their two realms, than to have the Queen of Scots married "to some of the noble blood of this our realme:" and amongst them can see none meeter, "nor for that purpooss more apter than one whom for his good and noble giftes and qualliteis" she esteems meet for the company of kings and princes; for if he were not born her subject, but had been as nobly born under another prince, she thinks the world should have as well perceived this her estimation of him in deeds, as she notifies it to them in words. The person is Lord Robert "Dudly" whom "lately we have avanced to be the Erle of Leicester," whose parentage they both know, and whose conditions, qualities, and virtues are able to make a noble man. "You Randolph" can tell how this motion began, and how far it has passed. Her earnest desire is that her sister might content herself therewith.

The reasons are (1) nothing can more conserve amity than her marrying one of this nation. God could not have blessed these two kingdoms with greater felicity, than if one of the two Queens had been a king, and married the other—but seeing this cannot be, the second degree to make them and their realms happy, is that Mary will marry him whom Elizabeth favours and loves as her brother, and would prefer him "to this place afor all persons lyving." The

Elizabeth.
1564. respects thereof are not particularly for his or Elizabeth's commodity (though it would give her unspeakable joy), but therewith are joined such advantages to her sister as she knows not how by any other person she should have the like. First, what account it pleases Mary to make of their amity to continue, by accepting him she assures it—what favour of Elizabeth's subjects to her interest she would look for in marriage, she would find greater in no one person—"as well for the nobilite of his hous, and conjunction in blood with the gretar part of our nobilite, as for the good favor he hath by his owne good merites gotten of a gret multitud." Besides he shall bring no controversy of title with him, which in matches with princes, has been always a matter of great moment. Lastly, whatever pleasure she could show to her sister "with any that wer in degree to us as our brother or coosyn germayn," she means to show it with him.

If they press Bedford and Randolph to know what Elizabeth will do to establish Mary's title as her next cousin and heir: they may reply, they see no better way to further it than this—for first by Elizabeth's dealing against them that further contrary claims, Mary may see how well she means to further the justice of hers, "that first make so speciall a choiss of frendshipp of hir, as we esteme the amyty of no prince lyke to hirs! secondly, we preferr hym to be partaker of all hir fortunes, whom, if it might ly in our power, we wold mak owner or heyre of our own kyngdom." They must also require the Scots to consider the policy of England, assuring them that "as much as any kyng may doo herin by order of justice, for direction of this matter to hir avantage, with our own assurance,* we will doo it." No good will in Elizabeth shall be wanting, but men of wisdom must weigh her power, and how best to act, "for many tymes gret thynges take most hurt by negligence of the manner in procedyng, and being of them selves good and avaylable, have contrary successees by disordryng of them." Lastly, they may say, as of themselves, that if the Scots "shall in the name of ther mastres regard nothyng, but presently suerty of that she desyreth to hir peculiar avantage, it may work in us some scruple to imagyn, that in all this frendshipp, nothyng is more mynded than how to possess that which we have, and that is but a sorowfull song, to pretend more shortnes of our lyff than ther is cause, or as though if God wold chang our determynation in not desyryng to marry, we shuld not by lyklood have children." As she shall see the justice of her sister's title, so will she maintain and preserve it, doubting not she shall enjoy all that is due to her, and is more ready so to do, "because we ar so naturally disposed with gret affection towardes hir, as before God, we wish her right to be next to us before all others.

If the Scots require of what sufficiency she will make Lord Robert's private estate: they shall say that she has already begun to advance him to honour and livelihood, and means by degrees of time to do more—not dealing "sparyngly" with him, to make him more acceptable to her. And this should most content her, that if the Queen her sister pleased to be "conversant with" and live with her "in houshold," she will gladly bear the charges of the "famyly" both of the Earl of Leicester "and hir, as shall be mete for on sister to doo for another."

* The last four words interlined.

Elizabeth.
1564. Thus may they treat with the Scots commissioners, obtaining as many requests as they will make, and by reasoning reduce them to as few as they can, and to "the meanest estates and conditions" that they may, omitting no means to understand if this her offer is like to take place. For if they see the contrary, then she would the less communication to be had, and other ways devised for amity; and "uppon that part" they shall stay themselves, and report their doings from time to time as necessity arises.

7 *pp. Fair draft in Cecil's hand. Indorsed* (by him): "7° Octob. 1564. Instruct. for the Er. of Bedf. and Tho. Randolph."

Oct. 9. **105.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I met the bearer of these enclosed letters by the way. The man for whom they sue was condemned (as I believe) worthily, for a pirate, but being a stranger, execution was deferred, and since then his pardon granted, or at least order sent to Sir John Parot for his deliverance. As her majesty granted him life, it may please her to order his liberty—but as one of the letters requires also his ship and goods, I remember nothing of this, leaving it to your consideration. Huntingeton. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(1) (Murray to Randolph.)

I wrote to you before for a countryman held captive "at Waillis'" with his "guidis and gair," and thank you most heartily for his pardon—but though delivered to his keeper "Pirot," he retains both the man, his ship and goods. I will yet ask you to take the pains to get Master Cecill's order to the said "Thomas Pirott" both to deliver the man and restore his ship and gear. "Frome Dynnottar the ferd of September *anno* 1564." *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Holograph (?). Addressed.*

(2) (Maitland to Randolph.)

Reminding him how "at my lord of Murrayis request," he procured the Queen's remission to "ane Alexander Hog, Scotisman, the sone of Monane Hog, servaunt to my lord Marscheall," who was detained captive in Wales by Sir John "Pirrot" vice admiral there, who withholds the "remit" and keeps the young man prisoner. Praying him that Sir John may be commanded to deliver both without further tract of time. Edinburgh 24th September 1564. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Oct. 10. **106.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for "Williame Lokkert burges of Air" and two in company, to trade with England for a year. Palace of Holyrood House, 22d of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Elizabeth.
1564. Oct. 16.

107. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The Saturday after leaving London I reached Berwick, and found there Archibald Graham waiting answer of the letters he brought from my lords of Council touching his suit—which caused me to tarry to see the end—which will damage many that never offended. Sir John Forster has replied to the Council's letters. This party unsatisfied, I fear it will hinder many Englishmen's suits here, as weighty to them, as this is grievous to these long suitors. Here I met the bearer my lord of Lennox's servant hasting to Court, who knows more of things here than I can yet write. Only this I am sure he will not tell—how many of his master's men went to mass, till such time as friendly advice of those that wish him well, caused him to look better to such disorder that the whole town spake of it. Dunbar. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph; also address.* *Indorsed.*

Oct. 16.

108. NEWS FROM SCOTLAND.

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 216.

This last Monday I was in Edinburgh but three hours, and saw and heard Lennox's restitution proclaimed at the market cross by 5 heralds in coat armour and "tua maisseris," in presence of the lords on horse back; the cross hung with "tapastrye"—and how for the special favour the Queen bore to him, and at the "requeist of hir derrest syster Elizabetht Quene of Ingland" &c., she restored him "in intugrum" to all his possessions, annulling the forfeiture led by my lord Duke against him "the xlv yeir of God": and by blast of trumpet parliament to begin on 4th December. "The Lordis raid up the gait in pairis" Argyll and Lennox together: and "doun the gait" Lennox and the Chancellor. All the lords dined that day with Lennox. Some believed that the Duke should be in Edinburgh "this Furisday* or elles the morne": others that he would not. The Queen will not leave Edinburgh before Yule, and Murray is to be chosen lieutenant general. How soon the weather begins to be "stablit," it is meant that my lady Murray see the water of Tweed—if she comes there, I think "your m. will get hir lord presente."

1 *p.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Addressed* (in same): "To my lord thes be delyverit." *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "16 October 1564, from Scotland newes."

Oct. 24.

109. T. HEDLEY TO RANDOLPH.

Men fear the events of things they would not have come to pass, and dream nightly of their day's thoughts. So do we, that the French are at Dieppe [Depe] and coming here in force. My lord, since coming home, heard how men have "devoured" your deserved thanks for writing trusty intelligence to Court, by staying your letters and sending up their own. He prays you to be open with him and not mistrust him as a "colprophet, nor a cormorant of others desertes." I pray you "applye your better hand" to him and thank him for his friendship. My fellow Capell is come, who may stand you in stead,

* 19th.

Elizabeth.
1564. and Sir Richard Lee would be remembered "from you." I laugh to think how fantastically I "assigne" you as though I were wise. But I lack not friendship, "and therof I assure you all my mocions do surge." Berwick. *Signed:* "Your owne T. Hedley."

1 *p.* *Addressed:* (To. Randolph as the Queen's agent in Scotland).

Oct. 24. **110.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Hitherto in my "legation" I have done very little. I arrived here on Thursday last, but the Queen being at "her pastyme abowte the feeldes," I did nothing. Next day at "the sermonde," I met such lords as I had most to do with—and before dinner had almost 2 hours' talk with Murray and Lethington. They had liberty to say what they would, as well why the answer to their last message by me was deferred, as also of the occasion of the late unkindness and suspicion arisen between our two mistresses. I answered as well as I could, laying no less burden upon their backs than I know they deserved for their negligence in letting slip such an opportunity as they had, to win for their mistress "the greateste felycitie that coulde be," and for their country so much good as they should never again catch hold of. Also we fell in talk of "the booke": two ways they were grieved—one that the authors and supporters received so slight punishment—the other, that by no means the favour of a copy could be had. To the first, I said that in a case not deserving death by law, no "greveuser" punishment could be than prison and loss of the prince's favour. To the second, the book was not asked from the proper hands, for being so much misliked by the prince, I knew no man so bold as to publish or communicate it to foreign princes; and asked them why they so earnestly desired to have it? Murray said, to know and answer the contents. I said I thought my mistress had done better in suppressing it, now almost out of men's memory, instead of being abroad and "moe" confirmed in it than satisfied with any answer. 'No' saith Lethington, 'I assure you my mestres makethe smale accompte of the havinge of yt, and to be playne with you' saith he, 'yt was rather my curieus heade then anye greate desyer of hers; but be as be maye, God gevethe righte to princes and power also to them when he pleasethe, to defende the same.' I replied merrily, that I doubted not God's power, as I knew a great many that doubted her right. 'Not so maynie perchance' saith he, 'as you do thynke.' I willed him not to make over great account of his party with us, without better assurance than Welche's, who said all the Papists in England were this Queen's own. Hereon "we grewe bothe into farther coller then wysedome ledde us"—yet in the end agreed, that no way was better for his mistress or her country than to seek it as they had begun. Wherein they both said they had good will to persist, if they found the like in my sovereign. Of this I said I had brought sufficient testimony, but if they were always so suspicious of her mind to their sovereign, "theie were no people to be dealte with." 'Well' said Murray, 'what have you nowe broughte'? 'Marrie' quoth I, 'maynie greveus complayntes of your mestres injuries done to myne,' wherein I thought neither he, but specially Lethington, could purge themselves.

Elizabeth.
1564. I "reckned" to them the effect of my instructions, remaining longest on the matter of my lord of Lennox, which I thought so far passed all "courtoyse," that between such princes and friends, so little regard could be had of his mistress's sisterly care, (unless a quarrel had been sought) the like answer could not have been given to "so frendlye advise!" But I thought it best first to discharge my special commission to their sovereign, and then talk with them, and notwithstanding what had passed my mouth in way of "reosinge" with them, I had brought enough to content their sovereign—so as they both would freely bend themselves to do their utmost for the amity, as most in trust with her. 'The greater' said Murray, 'that the truste is, the more oughte to be our care and circumspection—and whoe so mever is matchede with suche gallantes as ye are, my good masters of Englande, had neade to looke well unto them selves!' Many such merry words passed, and in the end Lethington said—'M^r Randolph, we two here' (meaning my lord and himself) 'are more bounde unto the Quene your mestres then in anye commen bande of amytie—we acknowledge in particuler a benefite receaved that passethe anye that ever we receaved the lyke—we have our countrie, our libertie, and our lyves, which we acknowledge to inyoye by her, with the losse of maynie of her people, and greate consumption of her treasure, which I beleve her majestie dothe not repente, consyderinge the honour she hathe therby, and so maynie lyvinge createurs in thys realme that fynde them selves dette bounde for the same, which is as freshe in our memories thys daye as when we sawe them daylye marchynge before our yeis and maynie of their dedde carcases lyeinge at our feete. Whearfore never thynke us to be suche that ever wyllinglye we wolde, but these two countrie sholde at the leaste lyve in amytie thone with thother, yf unto that passe yt cane not be broughte that theie maye be made bothe one. Whearfore suspecte not our myndes, but prove our good willes, propunde unto us suche conditions as ether in honour or in reason maye be imbraced, you shall fynde that ther shalbe no staye in us to do the uttermoste of our powers.' And more to like effect, also purging himself of ingratitude or evil thought to any. He said his earnest writing to your honour was but to signify his desire that the matter proponed should be continued, lest the long delays bred suspicion that nothing was intended. After my suitable reply, we broke off well satisfied to have said so much—I thinking it a good "overteur" to the rest of my commission. He said the Queen wished to talk with me after dinner, which I showed myself very desirous to do. Being required by my lord of Lennox that morning, I dined with him, and found, as reported already to your honour, the house well hanged, 2 chambers very well furnished, "one speciall ryche and fayer bede, whear hys lordship lyethe hym self," and a passage made through the wall, the next way to Court, when he will. He is honourably used of all, the Queen liking his behaviour. There dined with him the Earl of Atholl, in whom he has singular trust, and are seldom asunder, save when Lennox "is at the sermonde,"—also his brother the bishop of Caithness, a protestant, who sometimes preaches. The Earl's cheer is great and his household many, though he has despatched divers of his train away. He finds occasion to disburse money very fast, and of the 700*l.* he brought, I am sure little is left. If he tarry long, Lennox perchance may be to him

Elizabeth.
1564. a dear purchase. He gave the Queen a marvellous fair and rich "juell," whereof is made no small account,* a clock and a dial curiously wrought and set with stones, and a looking glass very richly set with stones, "in the iiij mettals." To Lethington a very fair diamond in a ring, to Atholl another, also somewhat to his wife, and to diverse other; but to Murray nothing. He also presented each of the "Maries" with pretty things he thought fittest—thus to win all their hearts. The bruit is that my lady and Lord "Darlie" are coming, and some ask me if she is on the way? I find marvellous good liking of the young lord, and many desire to have him here.

Word was brought after dinner that the Queen tarried my coming, and Lennox went with me to Court. I found with her in her "utter" chamber, most of her nobles in town. The Queens majesty's commendations and letters were thankfully received, and her grace heard me long with good patience, never interrupting me, though I saw well enough some things discontented her. Having said so much, her grace spoke thus—'I understonde,' said she, 'that ther hathe byne somme great greef in the Quene my good systars mynde, sins the tyme of your departeur hens, and I promes you that for my parte I have byne as myche greved as she, to see that we beinge good fryndes, anye occasion sholde chance whye we sholde not so contynue, and therefore I wolde that bothe our myndes were well knowne, and triall myght be taken whear the fayle hath byne. I am not hable,' said she, 'to answer everie worde you have sayde, but I praye you let me aske you somme questions: What occasion hathe my good systar to be angrie with me, yf the secrecie of that matter propounde unto me by you of my mariage be dysclosed by her owne minesters? as yf I wolde name them I coulde, and also have in wrytinge their tawlke in the Frenche Courte at the sweringe of the peace. I wyll not saye' (quoth she) 'whether yt were my lord of Hunsedone or anye of hys compagnie, but thys I assure you, Johnne Baptista came over with the novelles to me, which I founde verie straynge, and was lothe that anye of my private doynges with my good syster sholde come to suche a mans knowledge, whear I have my self keapte yt secrete from maynie of my dere frendes ther. I shewed my self dyscontented inoughe with hys commynge of anye suche message, as he knowethe hym self, and some here cane wytnes that sawe me more offended with hym, and gladder to have hym despeched, then I have byne accustomed to anye of that contre. And for the Frenche embassadeur: I praye you howe long ys yt since I tolde your self, that he had gotte knoweledge owte of France, that thys matter was knowne ther by the Frenche embassadeur advertysemente to the Quene mother, whear of I frendelye shewede you the lettre? And I praye you thynke not but that yn a matter that touchethe me so nere as that, I cane, and have abowte me that cane keape consell as well as other; and therefore you do me wronge to charge me with that, seeing the fawlte proceded from amonge your selves'! Seeing her in this somewhat earnest, I would not at first move her too far, but said, though this matter might cause suspicion, my mistress, being resolved that nothing proceeded from her grace "of evle mynde," commanded

* From this word to "nothing" added on margin.

Elizabeth.
1564. me to speak it as a warning for the secret handling in future of such matters, because of those enemies to their good accord, who would labour to prevent it. 'Well' said she, 'for my lord of Lenox home commynge, whye saye you to me that your mestres for speciall care she had of me and myne estate, gave her advise that yt were better he sholde not come, then come, seinge that she her self was the fyrste suter and motioner for hym to me to be good unto hym, which I coulde not be withowte hys home commynge, to restore hym unto hys owne, and to agre hym with the parties with whome he was owte? And yf that were not, he beinge of my bloode and name, whye sholde I be so unkynde as to refuse hym to be restored to hys countrie, and to stonde unto his triall, whether he had righte or wronge? And yf that she dyd yt in respecte of anye persons here that are greved with hys home commynge, then ys your mestres more to blame, that favorethe them more than me; and what your owne parte hathe byne here in I knowe not, but thys I cane assure you, had not my systers erneste requeste byne, I had not so easlye granted yt; and she shall see I truste that hys beinge here shalbe no occasion of unkyndenes betwene us, for yf ther be so myche intended as we looke for, ther muste be no suche strangenes nether betwene ourselves nor the subjectes of ether reaulme.' I said that my mistress, finding (by report) many in this realm, and many wise of her own, that misliked it, fearing inconveniences, wrote as she did, but now seeing how her grace took it, and matters had fallen out otherwise than was thought likely, was glad, and wished rather she should accept it as a friendly warning "of the worste," than take it ill. 'That' (said she) 'I am willinge to do yf I knowe that yt was done rather in respecte of my self than any other whoe were the soliciters to her so to hynder my purpose, and a thynge that I had granted, which with myne honour I coulde not revoke. But hereof,' said she, 'we have commende inoughe, and I fynde my self well satysfied. For the laird of Cesfordes doynges, you knowe well inoughe howe maynie tymes I have byne offended with hym, and angrye with my counsell, that my lord of Bedforde was not satysfied: and what I have done of late you have herde, and shalbe previe your self what shalbe done from tyme to tyme—and I confesse that my good syster hathe more cawse to be angrie with thys then anye of the reste. You knowe inoughe' said she, 'of thys matter, I neade saye no more. And nowe for that matter which laste of all you have tawlked with me of—touchynge the sendinge of some of myne to confer with my lorde of Bedforde: I muste ther in as you knowe tayke advise and commen with my brother and Liddingeton, as I also I praye you, do yourself, and I dowte not but we shall sone resolve what is to be done.'

Then she was pleased to talk of common matters, as of my mistress's health, exercise, pastime and hunting this last summer "etc.," giving my self many good words, blaming my long absence and evil will to return. She asked me by name for almost every nobleman that haunts court, what ladies there were "etc"; willed me not to be a stranger, and to thank her good sister for "the well usage of Melvin," and Lord Robert for his cheer to him. After thus taking leave of her majesty, I saluted divers of the ladies standing about in my mistress's name, and so retired.

Next day Saturday, hearing in the morning that the lords would be

Elizabeth.
1564. occupied all day on a case of murder by some Eliotts on some of the Scotts, and that the Queen would not come forth, I spoke with neither. The lords kept the "Tawbothe" till 5 p.m.; there were 5 Elliots and Scotts condemned, and 3 beheaded that night after 8 on the Castle hill by torch light.

"The Sondaye" a daughter of the Justice Clerk was married 3 miles from Edinburgh, where most part of the lords were. After dinner, thither went the Queen and her 4 Maries to do honour to the bride. She returned that night and supped with Lennox, where I also was at the same table. In the midst of her supper, she drank to the Queen my sovereign, adding this word '*De bon cuer.*' That night she danced long "and in a maske playinge at dyce, loste unto my lord of Lenox a prettie juell of crystall well sette in golde." The lords from the bridal went to Morton's house where they have tarried these two days.

This is all I can say to your honour on the business wherein I travail: God knows what may be the end and I can only conjecture.

Tomorrow the Duke is to be here well accompanied; next day Argyll will be here again. The Queen is determined to accord Lennox and the Duke, and there is much talk to what end all this favour to Lennox tends. He is well friended of Lethington, who is now thought will bear much with the Stewards, for his love to Mary Flemyng, of whom there is more spoken than I find certain, of her marriage. There is much discord between divers noble men and gentlemen in divers parts. Lord Seton and Lethington, from great friends, are become mortal enemies for the cause of one Francis Duglas of Longenetherie to whom Seton has done wrong, and is like to have the worse of the bargain. The day I came here, I saw 500 horse assembled to have debated this action with "speare, swerde, and jacke," had not the Queen sent a discharge to the parties. She has altered her mind as to my lord of Murray's "lieutenantrie," and much thought thereof by the Protestants. There shall also be a "newe reformation of the thyrdes of the benefyces to be payde unto the preachers." The abbot of Corsrogall is dead, and the Kennedys ready "to fall by the eares" for his goods. M^r^ George Buchanan has given to him by the Queen the whole temporalities of that abbacy—"with spiritualties he wyll not meddle, bycawse he cane not preache." She would have made him abbot. I doubt when I shall end this letter, matter so increases on me.

The "Clangriggar" that in the beginning of last spring went to Ireland, being pursued here by authority, the earls of Argyll and Atholl commissioned to apprehend them,—are returned very poor, and have sued the Queen to be received to mercy. There are great bruits of much harm done in Ireland. James MacConnel being lately here, left a servant to speak with me on his matters there—what I know not yet. I have as commanded, done the Queen's commendations to the Master of Maxwell, and thanks for his good will to justice with Lord Scrope. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

12 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Oct. 25. **111.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Having heretofore by her own letters, and her servant Randolph, recommended to her the lamentable complaint of William Clarke of

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1564. Yarmouth and his associates, concerning their ship and goods taken by a French ship by aid of a number of Scots—yet unsatisfied—again urges speedy redress, as the claim is just under their treaties, and she will do the "semblable" in like case. Manor of S[t] James.

2 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil, &c. Indorsed:* ". . . for Yarmouth men."

Oct. 31. Nov. 3. **112.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since my last I have twice conferred with Murray and Lethington, but hitherto we have resolved on nothing certain. I gather by circumstances, and some of their words (whether spoken of purpose or by chance I know not) that this Queen will not be hard to show herself conformable, if she be assured that what I have spoken in this matter in my sovereign's name, "were as earnestlye mente of her parte, as yt is pretended." Lest it were thought I had said more than commanded, I willed them "to mayke rehersall" of what I had said. The effect was only this—that if this Queen followed my sovereign's advice and counsel in her marriage, she will thereon proceed to inquire into her right "with all favour," and if it falls out in her behalf, then on plain knowledge whom she will marry, she will deal with her as her natural sister or daughter—on these words we agreed all. They thought it too general, and to no effect, seeing her right is sufficiently known: but to have that declared and published "myghte paradventeur (saye theie) move her farther then yet she can fynde in her harte to consente unto." Herein we accorded not, and I said "that I had greater cawse to dowte what she wolde do yf that were done, then theie had caws to dowte of my sovereigne in thys offer of hers." We all agreed in this that the two realms should be joined in some such band as could not easily be dissolved, and "a mettar man to do thys by, ther was not to be founde in the whole realme then he whome the Quene preferrethe, and that ther rested no more but a good will in thys Quene to imbrace the offer." * I looked here that something should have been said touching my lord "Darlie," of whom not a word was spoken, though here it is through all men's mouths, that it is a thing concluded in this Queen's heart, and that I shall find Lethington "is whollye bente that waye." That it "is not so," I have many reasons to the contrary, as well in the Queen as Lethington, both for the great difference between the personages, and also the commodities "in them bothe are not alyke." For all that, I can assure your honour of nothing, men's doings so alter, and their minds so uncertain, that he is wisest who assures least, and happiest who can soonest shift his hands of such a charge as mine. I have talked so many times with the Queen, that men wonder with what matter we occupy time. I make some believe that "woers and lovers never lacke langage." She is much inclined to think well of my Sovereign, and please her in all things reasonable, following in her marriage more of her advice than any other. She says, 'in forsakyng of my frendes consell, and followinge of hers for good wyll and affection, yf I sholde be abused or deceaved, my follye were verie greate and myche dyshonour to my good systar. What makethe my brother and Liddington so lothe to deale in these matters or to

* Cecil notes this.

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1564. gyve me consell, I knowe not, excepte yt be for feare I sholde be deceaved, or that theie thynke yt sholde not be honorable for me so to matche myself.' These things move her to stay, and the longer to take resolution, yet will she not offend my mistress nor suspect her mind towards her, "but honour her as her eldeste syster, and followe her consell as her mother." This has been so often rehearsed to me, to the end I should better carry them away and write them. If truly meant, then the matter may end well. She willingly enough now hears of marriage, and of "the partie self" as much as I can say, knowing it to be true. I showed her yesterday the Queen's commission to my lord of Bedford and me, to confer with any she appoints, but have yet no answer, and unless I see the likelihood of effect, shall not, as the Queen's majesty "advised" me, solicit any man's going thither, but rather advertise from time to time. Though they seem willing enough the matter should take effect, yet they make it "as straynge as cane be, to se (as I beleeve) with what ernestnes I wyll presse them, that theie maye gether therby what is my mestres affection to have yt tayke place." I warn them against being deceived, for the commodity hanging thereon is more theirs than ours.

Your honour knows how my lord of Lennox was received, but how much it will profit him I cannot yet conjecture: "for he that in everie iij monethes spendethe a thousand markes for the space of a whole yere, to recover iij^{c} markes by yere, shal never thryve by the bargayne!" He is restored to his heritage, but must agree with the most of them that possess his land. The Duke and he are thus agreed—the prince commanding both never to quarrel, but live like obedient subjects, and she will herself take part with the one who is provoked by the other—also commanding them to embrace each other, and on their allegiance "not to have to with eache other." Lennox made great demands for the loss by his banishment—the Duke defended himself by the prince's authority, and the other's "juste desertes." It was in debate 3 days together; and so long on Friday last before it ended, that it was looked they should have parted worse friends than they met, and indeed had done, but for the Queen's order. Lennox demanded Paisley abbey from the bishop's hands, and the "baylyage of Glascowe" from the Duke, but got neither—save that the Duke would give over the "bayliage" to the Bishop of whom he held it. Argyll has freely rendered what he had of Lennox's; and the Queen will satisfy Lord John's son of Coldingham, with some other thing as good as he had by his father. The greatest debate now is between the Earl and Captain Steward, who has made great spoil of his woods and houses.

Since the Duke came here, the Earl never came further from his lodging than to Court: they never met but in the Prince's sight. The Duke took leave on Sunday, with the Queen's licence to see my lord of Arran in the castle, where he was on Monday and tarried the whole "after noone" with him. I hear he is well in health, very melancholy, patient in his trouble, but more desirous of liberty than ever since his "in puttinge." The Duke is now in no small doubt of himself, and thinks this "drawghte" to bring home Lennox is chiefly for his overthrow, specially if the Queen marry Lord "Darlye." Though I have had some little talk with him myself on this, yet he let me understand by "another frenlye" person, that nothing but the

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1564. undoing of his house was meant, and that he had no other hope but in God and my sovereign's friendship. I will write again of his meaning to find some other place to live in, if he may not safely here. The bruit is (which I believe not) that the Queen will give Lennox the keeping of Dunbarton, to the Duke's utter undoing. My Lady Margaret and Lord Darlye are looked for. I doubt whether she will be as soon restored to Angus as her husband was to Lennox, for there depends more matter thereon, which if proved true, will disappoint her farther than any thing she looks for here. Lethington has been earnestly in hand with me touching Archibald "Greahmes" suit—assuring me it was the Queen's promise he should be paid, which the Duke's grace and my lord of Penbroke did also in her name—for which cause there was "rebated" 1100*l.* of the total of 2300*l.* in hope of good payment. Herein he will not trouble her majesty again, but willed me to remind her what sums of money his mistress paid to the English wardens for bills which the parties themselves could not redress. Graham is to receive some money at Martinmas, and for the rest, Lethington will not press till the Berwick meeting, that conference may be had thereof. I trust therefore meantime that your honour, seeing the sum is due by sentence of the "Admerall courte," and confirmed by "decrite" of my lord Keeper (as is said), will take such order as this slander may be taken away, and occasion given to these men to do justice to our many countrymen who are suitors here for greater sums. Thus "werrie and sorrie" so long to trouble you, I make an end. Edinburgh, last of October 1564.

Immediately after writing this, I saw your letter to my lord of Bedford, requiring to know what I had learned of Welche's doings while here? The most I know is—he entered at the West Marches, and the Master of Maxwell's servant conveyed him here and thence to the Queen in the north—I know not where. He talked long with herself and then [she] gave him or the man with him, a letter in French to Lethington, then here. The effect of it was that "that Englesheman" had told her many things—whether true or false she knew not—and commanded him to examine him farther. He came here and spake long with Lethington in the Justice clerk's garden—the special purpose I know not, but this in general, "that all the papystes in England were hers"—naming divers of my lady Katherine's faction, more than ever I heard, but your self in special for one—which gave Lethington occasion to write the letter you saw, wondering that so many wise men could be of that opinion and meddle in such matters. After this they spoke once again but few words riding in the high way beside Longniddry 9 miles from Edinburgh, where Lethington had been. Another is said to have been in his company, whom I know not. Thus much is assuredly true.

Intending to end, Lethington sent me word that the Queen desired to see me before I wrote to my mistress. I attended next day but heard nothing. Upon "Alhallowe daye," I was desired to sup with Murray, and after supper spoke a good while with the Queen on divers matters. At length she said—'I have conferred with my brother and Lid. of all those matters you propounde, as also theie saye that theie have done with you. I fynde nothynge that dothe dyscontente me, and in speciall for the metinge of some of myne

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1564. with my lord of Bedforde and your self. Whearfore I have appoynted my brother of Murraye and Lidding. to be ther when my lord of Bedforde thynkethe good; and I praye you commen with them your self, and looke what ye determen I wyll accorde unto, and the sonner the better.' So I thought good to advertise you, and [also] after talk with these lords today or tomorrow, as to the day and order of meeting: beseeching meanwhile if any thing be to be added to my lord's instructions, he may have it with your farther advice in this great matter—so far beyond our powers to treat of with such men—that our lack of skill may not overthrow "a verrie good cawse," the like opportunity if omitted, will never be had. I take my leave "with a great deale more haste then leisure to see what I have wrytten." Edinburgh. 3d November 1564. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Clernaue a servant of this Queen will shortly be at Court with her intended letter tó the Queen's majesty.

Three of my men are sick of smallpox, so I think I must absent my self from Court, but will send this day to know.

10 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "3d Novemb. 1564. Tho. Randolphe to W. C."

Nov. 4. **113.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

These few lines are to excuse my writing more amply—for I doubt not Mr Randolph sendeth "large discourses off all occurrentes" here. In all our conferences yet, he has not uttered so much of his mind that thereon we can lay any great "fundation," though he has not omitted good rehearsal of the Queens majesty's good meaning generally, remitting all particularities to conference with my lord of Bedford. Therefore meanwhile I am perplexed what I may safely write, and so forbear to touch any point of these difficulties. The Queen my mistress has agreed that my lord of Murray and I shall meet my lord of Bedford—"two better meaning subjectes towardes thamyty, I am sure her majesty hath not, nor yet that will les dissemble if we be dealt withall accordingly." I pray you have this opinion of me, "that yow shall ever fynd me as your sonne." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Nov. 5. **114.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I received your letter from Mr Randolphe and rejoiced to understand your bent and ernest mind to travail in the "harwest of this publict cause" for the continuance of the amity betwixt our sovereigns, whereto my labour and industry shall not be spared. I refer the rest to Mr Randolphe. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "5 Novembris 1564. Erle of Murray to my master."

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1564. Nov. 7. **115.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

I wrote so lately to your lordship that I know not what further to write. By M^r^ Secretary you shall know what news the last "courriar" Monsieur Beton brought from France. The Prince of Condie is become a suitor here, supported chiefly by the Cardinal "her" uncle. If John Stewarde come over, as reported, Sir Nicolas Throkemorton is best able to deal with him, and here I doubt not to know my part. I have more boldly than wisely written to the Queen's majesty, and your favourable report must (as ever) support my wants.

I would you were at Berwick on the 18^th^ present, to say something for yourself, for then I assure somewhat will be said, "that for your lordship maye tende to lyttle good. Howe happie is your lyf that betwene these two Quenes are tossed to and fro! Your lordshippes lucke is evle and yf you lyght not in some of their lappes that love so well to playe." It is openly said by this last come man, that you are made knight of the "noble numbre of *quinz vintz* knyghts of S^t^ Michell." It serves my turn here not a little, that foreign princes adopt you into their society. Much more than this hangs over your head, when God will that it take effect. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "7 Novemb. 1564. M^r^ Randolph to my Lord of Lecester."

Nov. 9. **116.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for a year for her subjects Thomas Douglas and Robert Bog with 3 horses, to trade between France and Scotland in horses or other goods. Palace of Holyrood House, 22^d^ of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Nov. 12. **117.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Having concluded with Murray and Lethington on the time of their coming here, I thought best to be with my lord somewhat before, and arrived here yesterday, looking for them assuredly on the 18^th^. To handle matters more covertly, we have concluded on this device. The Queen comes to Dunbar to remain 6 or 7 days; meantime Murray and Lethington have leave to ride into the Merse hawking, and to visit their lands. While there, my lord to send a gentleman to desire them as there are divers matters in controversy on the Borders, which they might decide by conference, it might please them to take one night's lodging in Berwick. This was thought better than to treat of the Debateable ground, for such as Murray and Lethington have not been accustomed to be employed thus. In my last I wrote of Beton's arrival here and the cause, and confirm the same, saving that I wrote *John* for *Robert* Steward. Before Beton left France, Robert Steward had his "despache" of the Cardinal to this Queen, and was gone with the same to the Prince. The Cardinal excuses his inconstancy in recommending to her before by John Baptista, the Duke of "Orliance," as he then thought him best, and this man never thought

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1564. of then. He also adds in his letter, with vehement signification of his sorrow and great danger he stands in from the Protestants, if his desire "in" her take not effect, that he has no other man so fit to use as Robert Steward, though before time this man undertook to kill him.

The Queen having considered her "sweete" uncle's letter, said to "one" these words—'Trewlye I am beholdinge to my uncle: so that yt be well with hym, he carethe not what becommethe of me'! How this matter will frame or fall out, that begins on so good a ground, your honour can conjecture.

Though I wrote that Welche spoke with this Queen, I again doubt it, though it is earnestly affirmed to me that he did: for somewhat moves me to the contrary. All the rest I wrote is true, and it is openly known he is in the Tower, but little regarded what come of him. Such good thanks such men receive for such kind of services. Fowler arrived the day before I left Edinburgh. Many of that faction are greatly disappointed that my lord "Darlye" comes not. I think it to no small purpose that his father so desired him here, but those most his friends are most against it. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 23. **118.** BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

We received yours of the 13th instant, but notwithstanding the diligence you commanded, not till the 20th, long after we needed your advice—though it so happened that we omitted nothing in our conference with the lords, that you therein warned us of. For what passed we refer you to our letter to her majesty, to rehearse. One thing we signify to yourself, that next morning in private talk that I Randolph had, first with Murray, and after with Lethington, severally they told me they found our sovereign's dealing "mervileus straynge" and said nothing was intended but drift of time, which must be laid aside, where perfect amity is intended. For the "matter self," though they know not how their mistress is affected, or how she will allow what they have spoken, they would be loth so to "cutte" off, or leave it that no farther conference could be held. But having reported to her what has passed, will let me know at my return to Edinburgh.

They arrived here Saturday afternoon; on Sunday we conferred with them till "sermonde" time, and spent most of the afternoon in the same. Monday morning was bestowed in ending controversies between "parties" of England and Scotland. Saturday immediately after their arrival, a packet of letters came to them from the Queen out of Flanders, by an Italian that has long practised with the Countess of Egmont [Egemonde]. Whence these men are advertised we know not, but they lack no intelligences as to the "voiage of Allemaygne." Two Frenchmen came on Sunday, and we saw letters delivered both to Murray and Lethington. Finding them "so spare" of their news, we told them of the Prince of Conde's suit to their Queen, and could allege "mo wantes" in him to marry a Queen, than they could well excuse. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford, Tho. Randolphe.

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1564. 2 *pp. Written and addressed by Randolph. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "23 Novemb. 1564. Erle of Bedford, Thomas Randolph to W. Cec."

Dec. 2. **119.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Though I could write better 4 days hence of what has passed: yet I would not have your honour unadvertised of this "in special," viz., that this Queen has taken no great misliking of the late conference at Berwick, thinking things are now more earnestly meant than before. This has encouraged Murray, and put some more life in Lethington, to confer on matters "boldelier then before theie durste;" and they have taken on them to see her grace "well and sone bestowed." They are commanded to commune with me or any other it pleases my sovereign to appoint as oft as they list, and it is resolved that some man shall shortly be sent to her, thoroughly to know her mind, or that they shall write to your honour and others fully their own, what is fittest to continue "perpetuall love" between the countries. They trust well their own sovereign and find daily her more and more appliable to the Queen's majesty's will. I shall shortly be able to write further than yet I can.

I was not privy to Fowler's departure; if it deserve reproof, I doubt not he will get it from your honour. I am reported a "hynderer" of his master's suits, but have showed the contrary, in speaking in his lordship's causes to this Queen by my sovereign's command. Indeed I am evil willing that my lord of "Darlie" should come hither; my special reason is that I find many that favour the Queen's majesty best, are most grieved that by her means any such should be sent hither, of whom there is doubt both "what is hys religion," and what cumbers may arise by receiving such as have formerly greatly disquieted this country. As I know the Queen and the best of her realm well minded to my sovereign, duty forces me to give this warning. As to what was doubted of this Queen liking him, and the practices of some thus to advance themselves, it is now well known that except it be offered from the Queen's majesty with larger conditions than I believe will be accorded to, it is never like to take effect. It is "so commytted to me," that but to few I dare write it, that the earldom of Angus is confirmed by this Queen "within late dayes" to the young earl of Angus "and heyers," from my lady and her heirs for ever. It was thought much better to go this way to work, than "to have her grace proved illegyttimate, as ernestly yt was gonne abowte." I had rather the knowledge hereof came to her grace's ears, any way than by my advertisement. She suspects already much more than I willingly would deserve, if I knew both how to do well my duty here, and content her grace as I desire with all my heart.

Parliament begins on Monday, but no great matter will be done but the restitution of my lord of Lennox. There are like to be some troubles between the Earl of Eglinton and him for land. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 3. **120.** MURRAY AND LETHINGTON TO CECIL.

We think you know sufficiently what passed between Lord Bedford, Randolph, and us at Berwick. Since then we have more

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1564. earnestly weighed the whole matter and consequence, and well consider "as the worlde dothe go," it imports trusty counsellors of both realms and all well affected to both princes, to have special regard thereto—"the rather that as of long tyme we have supposed, so of late we have more clearlie and particularlye discovered that not only at home (wherof we have least doubt) but also abrode in other places, ther ar dyvers practises in hand for the mariage of the quene our soverayne, which we wyshe to fall out most happie for herself and all ws her subjectes." But as all men who meddle therein do so for different ends—some to serve their own turn—some for the good of her and her country—others to please her grace's friends abroad—we cannot know these, but are well assured the matter touches us "als nygh as any." To meddle in the prince's marriage is so full of peril for a subject, that if we respected only our own surety, we should forbear any dealing. There is danger in the matter before the match, but thereafter comes most of all, for if anything fall out amiss, or contrary to the master's expectation, it is a sure overthrow for the servant, have his proceedings been never so upright and sincere "in the making of the complot." You could if you list, "bring furth good examples of late aydge in your owne countrey, how the decay of notable personages hathe growen upon suche occasiouns." But love of our country leads us from private considerations to the public state whereon we must "meditat" as councillors nigh in place to her majesty. So we resolved to write thus frankly to you with some part of our conceptions, that may serve for foundation of a greater work to be built thereon if skilfully followed out on both parts. This might appear more rash than wise in us, if we knew not to whom we write—a councillor in credit with his mistress—a man that fears God and loves his country and the commonwealth! And such is the present state of the world, that a good councillor in either realm must have a special care of the "wealthe and wo" of the one being so linked to the other, that it is hard to devise how to do harm to either and not hurt both! This moves us to like such overtures as may tend both to the contentation of your sovereign as to the honour and surety of ours, rather than all the foreign practises of others—which danger we will, as far in us lies, prevent now, while time serves, if you, ministers in that realm, will for your part hold hand thereto and do such good offices as are fit for the purpose. We will fall roundly to work if we know that your mistress will deal so friendly and sisterly with ours, that this realm may henceforth be free of suspicion of any breach with your "peple" hereafter. If we be not forced to have recourse to foreign friendship, we will do what we can by all means lawful for subjects, to induce our mistress to embrace such marriage, friendship, and alliance as in reason ought to content yours, and do our uttermost to disappoint contrary counsels; employing not only our credit with her majesty, but joining with such of the nobility as will follow our advice—to whose suit framed in such sort, we trust she will graciously incline. And if she will not conform to such request, reason being once offered to her on your part, but will prefer foreign practises to the counsel of her loving subjects (which we cannot suspect of so gracious a princess, of whose gentle disposition we have so long and good proof)—in that case it shall well appear to the whole world that she hath neglected

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1564. the counsel of those she ought "rathest" to trust. You see by this how far we mean to go and how to proceed; and enter thus, for we perceive some foreign practises "be already set abroche" and do come on so quickly that the matter may not suffer delay, but some resolution must be taken one way or other, which makes us thus "to gif the pushe" even at the very first. Yet for all this, we intend not to deal with you herein unless we see you mean to deal frankly and friendly with our mistress, with good respect to her honour and surety—which two points provided for, we shall regard nothing before the common commodity of both countries. This matter is "for ws two" full of hazard, for we must become as it were parties, and oppose ourselves to the devices of men of no small credit, force, and estimation in the world. Wherefore before we enter in it, we must foresee the issue, lest we should in the end repent to have "uttered ourselffis" without doing good to the cause. Wherefore we require this friendship, that you procure from her majesty some letter to us whereby we may understand that she will deal frankly in this cause and we be encouraged to proceed "fordwart;" or if she think it inconvenient to write herself, at least that you will write plainly what we may look for, or how far you think the Queen's majesty will go with us? "we taking upon ws to overthrowe all foreyn practyses sa far as our power or credit may extend!" For better ordering this, it were not amiss that her majesty sent to her borders some men of good credit, privy to her own conceptions and nighest about her, with full authority not only to devise but also to resolve and conclude on all things fit to be considered in so weighty a matter, with whom we may treat—"who also be fullie instructed with her mynde in all behalffis, so as the matter hing no longar in suspens." This we two desire to know before hand, for it is "lyke aneufe" we shall be employed, and would be sorry to leave off *re infectâ*. By this offer you may see how dearly we esteem the amity of England, and not without cause you judge us "not unfit instrumentis" to travail betwixt the two princes. "Marye! if we shalbe encouraged by her majestyes lettre or yowris, to gif this greate aventour to tak upon ws so difficill and dangerous an interprys, and then in the end fynd our selffis frustrated of our expectatioun in defaulte of freyndly dealing on your parte, we do protest* that yow fynd it not strange yf we therafter change our deliberationes as caus shalbe ministred, and seke to salve our selffis the best way we can." We do not mislike that you commit the "some" hereof to the Queen's highness herself, that she may know our whole meaning, that it may draw on such accord as we wish, or at least serve "for our excuse here after," if that cannot take place. Edinburgh. *Signed:* "Your assured frendes," James Stewart, W. Maitland.

4 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "3 Decemb. 1564. Erle of Murray, L. of Liddyngton to W. C." *A few marginal notes by Cecil.*

* Here on the margin "a threatning."

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1564. Dec. 4. **121.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Yesterday when at Court I was desired by Murray and Lethington to send you this inclosed letter. Their wills seem good, and as they receive your answer (with expedition) so will they apply themselves. "Theie seeme to me" that their sovereign is not privy to this—but I bear them in hand that "sildome suche thynges escape their handes whearin her mynde is not knowne." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Enclosing the preceding letter.*

Dec. 8. **122.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The good report of this bearer Monsieur Beton, of the favour found in his despatch hitherward, deserves no less now. The Queen writes by him to the Queen's majesty, to whom your honour will be a mean for his access. He knows all things here, her grace's entry to the Parliament House, and what she pronounced there to the well liking of her subjects. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Dec. 14. **123.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The next day after I sent Murray and Lethington's letter to your honour, I had long talk with both, and their goodwills to my sovereign never appeared more—also towards my lord of Leicester their desire "that he before anye other were matched with their Quene." They protest that your honour and Sir Nicolas Throkmorton are as ready as themselves to travail in uniting these two realms, notwithstanding malicious reports to the contrary, and declare they never thought otherwise. No man in England wishes more than they, that the Queen's majesty's desire between this Queen and my lord Robert take sooner effect. The stay is now either in the Queen's majesty to have all performed, or in his lordship's self, "that hathe the matter so well framed to hys hande, that myche more I beleve ther neade not then his owne consente, with that which maye be for the Quenes majesties honour to do for hym." It abides now no longer deliberation. You have the offer, you have the choice—and yet I am loth to see no time for "farther advisemente." A full and resolute answer is looked for to the letter written to your honour, that it may contain good assurance, for their like frank and plain dealing. These causes move them thus earnestly to seek an end: "age, tyme, necessitie of her state, compell her to marrie; her people, her frendes presse her therunto." The offers made cannot be refused, though some are more convenient than others, and divers practices are in hand. They conclude the English amity is fittest, and no man more acceptable than shall be lord Robert. More was thought of Darnley before his father's coming than at present. The father is now here well known; the mother more feared than beloved of any that know her. If I wrote thus to any but yourself, my wits should greatly fail me. "I am not so forgetfull of my deutie, nor careles what I speake of any suche personage, (occasion touchynge my self ther is none) whye I sholde thys wryte, but onlye that I wolde yt sholde

Elizabeth.
1564. be knowne unto you, and whear otherwyse so mever you please, (assuringe my selfe that nothynge is more secret then that, which in worde or wrytinge is commytted unto you) that to thynke that my lord Darlie sholde marrie this Quene, and his mother to beare that stroke with her that she bore with Quene Marie, which she is lyke to do as you cane conjecteur the cawses whye, wolde alienat as maynie myndes from the Quenes majestie my soveregne by sendinge home as greate a plague unto this countrie, as that which to her majesties greate honour, and perpetuall love of the faythefull and godlye, she drave owte of the same, when the Frenche were forced to retire them selves, that daylye satte in their neckes with reddie knives to cutte their throtes"! Also what should arise to the "poore miserablye afflicted Duke" for his love to my sovereign, whom he never failed, none can better weigh than your honour! Himself unjustly suspected, his eldest son constantly prisoner "more of wyll then juste deserte," the second glad to leave the country, and the rest out of favour and looked down upon by all men—their enemy brought home and "placed at their nose, authoritie and credit in courte, that he neadethe no more! Nothynge left hym but hope in well doynge to conforte hym self with," and good assurance of my sovereign's favour if need be, and protection from further hurt—as if this match goes on, he may be in danger to lose both land and life "to hym and hys for ever." These things, however lamentable, touch me less than the state of this court and country concerns my sovereign, unless she be as privy to the tales, bruits, suspicions, &c., here, as at home. One thing assuredly know, that within these 4 days Lord Darnley's father (Atholl only present) told M^r^ John Lyslaye lord of the Session, that his son should marry this Queen. Yet I know "by that which hathe byne spoken of her owne mouthe, both of hym and his mother, that yt shall never tayke effecte yf other wyse she maye have her desyer."

Here there is looked for some understanding how our last conference at Berwick was liked, and it is complained that so few writings pass to and fro, and not so much as knowledge come to this Queen who has written twice or thrice to her majesty, of their receipt. There is daily expectation of answer to those last written by Murray and Lethington, and I am desired to remind your honour that they mean nothing but what they think you desire. This is all I know, and as farther I find things, I shall write the truth as in my power, and conjecture the rest. Wishing I might sometimes hear from you, not for greedy desire to know much, but either to have my errors corrected, or not to be ignorant of what all saving my self are privy to. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

5 *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed*: (in Randolph's best Court hand). *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "14 Decemb. 1564. M^r^ Tho. Randolph."

Dec. 15. **124.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This parliament being only assembled to restore Lennox, began on the "Mundaye" and ended the "Saterday" after. The first two days were occupied with solemnities, as calling the noble men and other. The third day the Queen came to the house, and had a very short oration, of her affection to her subjects and weal of her country,

Elizabeth.
1564. which moved her to restore my lord of Lennox to his country, the rather also for the request and instant suit of her good sister of England, whose desire to her was of no small moment "(which wordes in her oration was doble rehersed)"; and trusted as to them she had been a good princess, she should always find them good subjects. The rest was committed to be said by Lethington, for my lord Chancellor though present was unable for infirmity to speak more than excuse himself, and request Lethington to speak for him. He also used the same words as the Queen did—"the rather, etc., which unto her was of no smale momente." If that insue of Lennox's return, that he may be mean of continual amity between the countries, and earnestly embrace Christ's word—"whear unto he is vehementlye suspected that his affection is not verie greate"—I shall ever be glad—otherwise I should be sorry she was ever named in such an assembly! The first three days neither the Duke nor Argyll attended, wishing to be absent at the debate whether Lennox were justly banished or not. The rest of the days "he" was present and gave his voice to the restitution. Divers had their lands confirmed by parliament, as Murray his earldom, and other things which the Queen has given him. The like also done to others that before had been forfeited, as Graynge, Ormeston, Melvin and other.

Yesterday 14th the lords all assembled to order matters of religion. It is again concluded that who soever hears mass—"herself and those of her howse excepted"—shall forfeit lands and goods, and the life in the prince's will. The like law is made for "advauterers. Fornicators pay for the first offence, 10*l.*; the next, open punishment at the market cross, and their heads and faces shaven; and for the third time, banishment for ever out of the place or town where they dwell. "Howe carefull our preachers are to have us honest, you may see by the greate severite theie use in purchasinge suche lawes agaynste us!" This is the sum of all that has been concluded in this parliament, "savinge one prettie waye to gette some monie to the Quenes coffers"—viz., that who soever has taken any "fewe lande" or holds any "sette" or granted by the Pope, shall have it confirmed by her, they paying as the Treasurer and they can agree. To this Act the whole house accorded, saving the three bishops present, St Andrews, Murray, and Dunkeld, who dissented, as a thing prejudicial to the "See Apostolicke." The bishop of Dunblane lies at the point of death; his goods he has "bequested" to his 8 daughters.

I remember writing that one Angelo Manelio an Italian, that came to make salt, has long practised with Flanders for intelligence to this Queen from divers parts—specially of late by a brother of Francesco Betza, with the Countess of Egmont, who advertises the Queen, but what I cannot yet learn. Angelo lately arrived here and she gave him a chain worth 200 French crowns. He and his partners were to have received her dowery and pension in France, but that remains still in Pigilion's hands. His salt making prospers not here; I know not how with you. If his friends are not more than I trust, you shall soon hear he is "by the heles" or under bonds of 1500*l.* for his debt to one Springham a London merchant, whose servant lies in wait to get him "by the backe." If Springham had got the Queens majesty's or council's letters to me, I might have done more boldly for him, but he shall not lack all the help I can give.

Elizabeth.
1564. One thing more: when Clernaue the Frenchman departed, he took many of his countrymen's letters. The Queen (suspecting some of them about her, or hearing that they advertised her doings, and "fashones" of the country which they misliked) caused a trusty couple to disguise themselves "and by the waye rydinge," take and bring back all Clernaue's letters save her own. Among them, one was found by one of her own chamber to "Sipeer," containing many privy matters full of doubtful words, that may be "evle constered." It is yet dissembled, and I hear he goes shortly to France there to say what he like, and shall not be so privy to our affairs as in time past. Raulet her old secretary is clean out of favour—some think for being familiar with me, which indeed is not so. "Richio an Italian, occapiethe nowe hys place." One Montenac and his brother will shortly pass by you to France: he brings a letter to the Queen's majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Sincc writing, I remember that Murray earnestly desired Bedford may come to see the Queen; he will think much honour done "them," and courtesy showed, if the other may come here for as little time as he will, seeing himself was at Berwick.

4½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "xv Decemb. 1564. Mr. Tho. Randolph."

Dec. 16. **125.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Each of those two days, Friday and Saturday 15th and 16th instant, I have received your packet of letters. In the first, I found sufficient cause of grief for the lack in my insufficient dealing with the two lords at Berwick: "yet thother ther is suche occasion of extreame sorrowe, that excepte I be with better comfort soner releved, wolde God that my dayes and her majesties myght bothe be one, which I am sure that you cane not but wyshe also, whoe sholde have no lesse cawse of greef then anye other, yf her majestie sholde do otherwyse then well." Your former letter came at such a time that I could not defer long to say to my lord of Murray what I thought best in the matter. On Friday he took part of an evil dinner at my lodging; Argyll and Lord Erskine kept him company. After dinner, I shortly declared the contents of the Queen's letters. He advised me to make Lethington also privy, and to have more commodity for conference, would needs make me a dinner next day in my own lodging, and those bid to it that were at the other.

About 10 o'clock before dinner, I received your other packet, before Murray and the rest came, and as he was to be "merrie," I would not till after dinner give him occasion of sorrow. Then I told him and Lethington "what lettre I had receaved from you that daye not two howers before." It abashed them not a little; "apparant sorrowe was seen in their faces, let by* their wordes." For the "veritie and maner" of the disease, I showed them your letter, which satisfied them, as they trusted the danger was not great, and also saw their letter had reached your hands. They leave the opening of the matter to your discretion, for it may well abide time. They have promised not to speak of the former matter to their sovereign, nor of this, till

* Besides.

Elizabeth.
1564. I speak with her grace's self. Well as your honour has ever thought of Murray, I doubt not you shall increase it; for Lethington, I beseech you not to let her majesty think evil of him. He doubts there is somewhat, for two causes—first, Welche's talk, whom he misliked, but could not refuse to speak with, being directed by his sovereign. The other, that he hears the Queen thinks he seeks nothing but the assurance of the crown to his sovereign, as her majesty "merrilye tolde to Melvin of hym, that he dyd ringe all wayes her knele in her eares, tawlkynge of nothynge but of her succession." These things have grieved him; but to be plain with you, I never thought better of him than at this present. Edinburgh. Saturday, late in the night. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Dec. 16. **126.** CECIL TO MURRAY AND LETHINGTON.

It may please both your lordships to take it in good part that I have not sooner made answer to your letter dated 3[d] instant, considering "the lett therof hath proceded of a late soddayne sicknes happened to the Quenes majesty by means of a cold taken, wherof I did by my lettres as well certify M[r] Randolph, as lykwise when tyme served, of hir majesties recovery, which Almighty God did very spedely restore to hir, to our inestymable comefort." Yet the matters therein being so weighty and to be resolved only by her majesty, you cannot find it "unconsideratly" done of me, to pass over some time before she should consider them. Your letter wisely, gravely, and with much appearance of affection to both our sovereigns and their kingdoms, utters great and weighty matter. Though not able to express my affection thereto so well, yet I offer this challenge, without offence to you both, "that I will never leave to contend with you or any other, for the greatnes of my desyres in that behalf." [*Here he recites the principal parts of their letter.*] You see by my "curiooss long recytall" of these, how I am not negligent to consider well of the same.

First: I am glad to see that you have considered matters better at your return than you seemed to do at Berwick, and have seen by Randolph what resolution her majesty "here" began to conceive, "wherof I was sorry," and she would forbear further dealing without new and urgent consideration—yet nevertheless as amicable as ever—whereof I think Randolph can better inform you, as instructed since his return.

Second: it is true sundry practices are imagined abroad, and yet continue for the marriage of both Queens; and good reason there is, "being for there persons of such syngular and princely estymation, and for ther monarchies, of such puissance and reputation, as in Christendom none hath bene these manny agees comparable to any of them both!" What ought to comfort us ministers on both parts, is to see them so well affected betwixt themselves, that no counsel will move them from amity. Therefore unless you by negligence or cold dealing with us your friends, pass over this opportunity by your sovereign's marriage to make the amity perpetual, you need fear no contrary practices abroad. You require to know how sisterly and

Elizabeth.
1564. friendly my sovereign will deal with yours in this matter? If I should answer truly, "I might saye even as she hath doone, who hath this whole yere or more by hir lettres and messagees spoken very playne oppenly and plentuoosly to you, that (be it sayd without offence) I mervell why you shuld at this tyme desyre any playner speche in this matter! Nevertheles for your satisfaction, I have conferred with hir majesty herin, and I fynd hir allweise of on mynd, willyng to conserve the naturall love betwixt hir and hir sistar inviolable, and in the quene hir sistars mariadg, to advise that which shall be most beneficiall for hir state, for mayntenance or augmentation of hir right, and for the preservation of hir contree and people in peace without cause of sekyng ayde of any stranger." [*After long compliments to Elizabeth's goodness, &c., in neglecting her own marriage for Mary's*] "What was to be thought of late, whan in your conference at Barwyk, this offerr was in a manner extenuated to nothyng: and a devise ther propounded that the Quenes majesty shuld permitt your soverayn to marry wher she wold, saving in some placees prohibitted, and in that consideration to gyve hir some yerly revenue out of this realm of England, and by parlement establish the succession of the Crown to hir, next to the Quenes majesty and hir children; (wherof uppon condition that she had some, as wer to be desyred, I cold with all my hart, accord that your mastres had inviolably established the very second place:) and than you added, that it might be that the Quene my mastres desyre wold take effect. Suerly my lord of Lyddyngton, I see by this (for it was your speche), that you can well tell how to make your bargayne! and I doo not mislyk you that you can so doo—for you ar the metar for the place which you wordely hold." Yet give me leave to find some some lack, that in a friendly conference, when all that can be presently offered is done on this part, and nothing done but by your sundry provocations ye will pass over and ask more than can be accorded for the present, "and lett that which shuld be desyred depend uppon uncertenties." But I will now pass over "this small altercation," praying you to ascribe the same to my "old familiar boldnes of argument with you," and seeing both your lordships mean to return to new consideration of this cause, and, understanding her majesty's intention here, you will fall roundly to work: I will go as roundly to work with you, and proceed plainly. I think the Queen would be loth to deal in your sovereign's marriage, and yet being required, she has given the advice which she thought most profitable for you, and has named whom she thinks best for all respects, "so the same be layd to gither, and not dissevered and considered a part —first, he is a noble gentillman of byrth, yea! noble also in all quallitees requisite, on voyde of all evill conditions that sometyme ar heritable to pryncess: and in goodnes of nature and rychess of good gyftes, comparable to any prynce born, and so it may be sayd with due reverence and without offence to pryncess, much bettar than a gret sort now lyving. He is also an Englishman, and so a mete man to carry with hym a consent of this nation to accord with yours, which amongst all other respectes hath not the lest interes. He is also dearly and singularly estemed* of the Quenes majesty, so as she can thynk no good torn nor fortune gretar than may be well bestowed uppon hym

* Originally "beloved."

Elizabeth.
1564. —and for his degree at this tyme, as he is allreddy worthely an Erle of this realme, which is the first degree in honour of a prince, so I dare affirm, to the furderance of the purpooss hir majesty will gyve hym the highest degree with habilite therto that any noble man may receave of hir hand as hir subject. But yet yow looke for more, and so may yow be sure to have as much more, as shall rest in hir majestes power and honor to doo. . . . But I will omitt wordes, and come to the matter without disguisyng. You wold have with hym the establishment of your soverayns title to be declared by perlement, in the second place to the Quenes majesty. But in desyryng of this, your meanyng is I thynk to have it in order and tyme, not agaynst order nor befor due tyme? One thyng I thynk truely, that the Quenes majesty will never willyngly consent with any creatur (?) to so much of this request, nether in form nor in substance, as with this noble gentleman allredy named. And with hym I thynk, fynding other respectes answerable, she will cause willyngly inquisition to be made of your soveraynes right, and as far as shall stand with justice, and her owne suerty by honorable meanes to be provided, she will abas * such titles as shall be proved unjust and prejudiciall to hir sistars interest, and to leave to hir sistar entyerly hir whole right what so ever it be.† Now have I spoken very playnely, and I trust you will waye my wordes favorably, for hytherto I never did utter the lyke particular speche. But yet yow that be wise and experimented men, and know by your owne pollicy the constitution of ours, must nedes thynk that all that the Quenes majesty myndeth to doo, must be ruled and directed by hir lawes and by consent of hir iij Estates; and therfor she can promiss no more in dede but that which she may joyntly with ther assentes doo. And consideryng this noble man is so in hir favor and grace, ye shall not dout but hir power will be great wher hir good will is greatest. Uppon this my answer protracted by sondry excursions, I dout not but you will, accordyng to your ‡ wisdomees, enter into som depar consideration, and take furder hold, and so consequently shew your selves ether to lyke herof, or els to make some perfect resolution, wherof for my part being by your occasion entred thus depely with yow, it is expedient that I shuld understand your judgmentes—for indede for my owne, because I thynk it of all choissees best for both our contrees, I wold refuse no labor to furder it." Having written thus far, intending to end my long letter, I had a second communication with her majesty hereon, which being long, I cannot recite, but "in breeff report the some therof. I fynd hir majesty bent to procede wholy herein in termes and conditions mete for frendshipp, but not in waye of contractyng §—I meane disposed to doo more of hir frank good wyll than uppon any pressyng or request. Yow both know how tyckle a matter it is for pryncees to be provoked to determyn of their successors—*Durus enim est sermo*—and such as nature scantly sometymes will beare it for hir own children with pacience or without gelosy." Wherefore good my lords, think of this, and let not your negotiation, full of terms of friendship and love, be converted to a matter of bargain or purchase, "so as though in the outward face it appere a devise to conciliat these ij Quenes and contreys by perpetuall amyty, in the

* Originally "publickly disanull."
† The last clause interlined.
‡ "Great" scored out here.
§ Substituted for "byeng and sellyng."

Elizabeth.
1564. unwrappyng therof ther be not found any other intention but to compass at my soverayns hand a kyngdom and crown, which if it be sought for, may be sonar lost than gotten; and not being craved for, may be as soone offred, as reason can require. And herin I may compare it,—though it be amongst all erthly thynges of pryce inestymable for the atteyning of it,—to that to which of all thynges is both lest erthly and of lest pryce, that is a shadow, which the more it is followed the furder flieth! This my supplement to the endyng of my lettre, commeth of some cause not unresonable, such as I cold not, meaning frendly to you, forbear to utter, and so most hartely besech you to tak it. And pardon my length in wrytyng, being ledd therto from lyne to lyne with more plenty of good will than of understandyng, and so if yow interprett you shall rightly judg therof. Almighty God asist yow with his Spirit of wisdom and syncerite, in your deliberation uppon this matter, to mak choiss of that which shall most incress his glory, and fortefy the truth of his Gospell in this Ile, which at this present is of all other landes most happy through the free course of the Gospell. From Westm. xvj Decemb. 1564."

12½ *pp. Draft by Cecil, very carefully corrected. Indorsed* (by him) " . . . Cop. of my lettre to the Erle of Murray and my lord of Ledyngton."

Dec. 24. **127.** MURRAY AND LETHINGTON TO CECIL.

Having this day received from M[r] Randolph's hands your letter bearing date from Westminster the 16[th] instant, we answer you immediately without "dryft of tyme," being more easy for us than for you to answer our former letter, as we have none with whom we either "dar or wyll communicat anything passed betwix ws": and you made your sovereign privy before you might answer. Yet you have more advantage in this point—that you have warrant for what you write and your mistress knows it—while we without warrant write things that if brought to light would overthrow our credit with our sovereign, and put all we have in danger. In princes' affairs, it will not be allowed when they call ministers to account, to say "we ment well." In your letter you have provided there shall be found no lack for shortness—yet to speak "squayrlie," we think you might "in fewar lynes" have said more to the purpose! We say not this in suspicion of your meaning, which we protest as good as our own, but as thinking that without a special command (which you lack) "you dar not utter the conceptions of your owne mynde to any stranger." This "we tak in conscience" not to be far different from our own, and that you see "well aneuf" the mark we shoot at has good reason with it, "althoght bearing with the princes humour you will not seame to allowe of it"! Avoiding prolixity, we leave answering your "preface" or rehearsing its contents, and only touch these points:—First, you say we have used more consideration of this matter since our return, than we did at Berwick, and think this is by M[r] Randolph's communicating the Queen's resolutions "etc." M[r] Randolph did not impart in sufficient time any such matter, and if he had, "be you assured we shold not have gone so far as we have done, for we wold

Elizabeth.
1564. be loth to importune the Quenes hyghnes with the matter longar than she shall lyke to heir of it; and whensoever we may understand that her majesty begynneth to werye of furder dealing, our negotiatioun shall shortlie be at an end." Second: as we spoke of practises for our sovereign's marriage, you answer, there have long been such for the marriage of yours. "Pardoun" us if we misconstrue your answer, but it appears like the device "of a good fellow in Terence, who thus advyseth his maister:—*Cum illa Phedriam nominabit, tu Pamphilam cantatum provocemus denique par pari referto quod illam mordeat*, etc.":* thinking we touched that string to hasten matters, though there is nothing such indeed—"and therfoir you cast in the lyke on your syde"! We do not mislike that your sovereign should marry, and whoso advises her otherwise gives no sound counsel, nor will our mistress find fault if she shall match with the greatest prince in the world; for so shall she (they being so tender and dear to each other) have the better alliance. But for our own mistress's marriage, we wrote truly to you "as we thoght in Goddis presence, and as the matter is indeid," viz., that there are sundry practices in hand for it, which we will with all our heart disappoint so far as we may, finding conformity on your part; "and yet we will contene our selffis and suffer that we most mislyk to go fordwart, rather then we will tak upon ws to gyve her majesty advyse to do the thyng may be dishonorable and onsure for her self." Thirdly: before you would answer our question, how friendly and sisterly your sovereign will deal with ours? you have digressed with a long rehearsal of her friendship in times passed—a point neither of us doubted, for never since "this intelligens betwix them" began, have we found any lack, but what we take to be natural to princes, "a slownes to resolve"—and dare boldly affirm that our mistress has ever taken her advice on her marriage as proceeding from the dearest friend she has in the world! And sure we are she has neglected no occasion to notify to other princes and the whole world abroad, how she values your sovereign's amity, "wherof you knowe some of the greatest have conceaved no les disdayne then gelosye." None of her subjects doubt it, and you may be assured on occasion, of a "reciproque good affectioun."

About the "middest" of your letter, you seem to conceive that at Berwick your sovereign's offer was "extenuated to no thing." On what ground you so write, we cannot judge, knowing with what respect we spoke thereof and interpreted her "devyses to the best." It might be that in the "heat" of long conference, some such words might pass some of our mouths: "that my lord Robert beyng symplie considered as my lord Robert, wes no fit matche for our soverayn, beyng by enheritance Quene of a realme, and once matched before to the greatest king in the worlde": which we think he would not have taken ill, if he had heard "the tale with his owne eares." We wish "yow two" had been in place of Bedford and Randolph, when you would have conceived our meaning better than by writing. What we then stood on was honour and reputation, wherefore rather we demanded that our mistress should have free choice, than any mislike to my lord of Leicester, whom we think not inferior to any of his country men, and in some respects "to overpas them all." We

* See the *Eunuchus*, III. I. l. 50.

Elizabeth.
1564. trust it appeared not by our talk that we preferred any to him—only more honourable before the world that she should not be "astricted" to any one person, how worthy soever—and if thereafter she might chance to make choice of him, it might appear voluntary rather than bargain. And we thought it more honourable for your sovereign to propound whom she would prefer, "not nakedlie," but with such conditions as might satisfy the enquiries of other countries, why the Queen of Scotland so abased her self beneath the degree of her former husband?

By the way they mistook us, when they wrote that we demanded any yearly revenue out of England: for so far as we remember we required no such thing. And where you address your speech "to me Lethingtoun," and say that in so loving a conference between two great princes I would ask more than can be "ascerteyned" for the present, and let that which should be desired depend upon uncertainties—I protest to you that no disdain of the person propounded, better liking of any other, "nor other privat passioun," led me to demand or speak as I then did, but only my desire to further the purpose and my mistress's honour. For I know she will never yield to any marriage, how fit or profitable so ever it be for her, unless she see "probablie" that her reputation in the world shall not diminish thereby; "which reputatioun I knowe is dearer to her than her lyf. I demaunded nothing which I think cannot be ascerteyned for the present, nor yet without the which, my mystres in her owne opinioun or those that best love her, can have reputatioun in other realmes or suerty for her self, yf she yeald to matche her self with ony subject of England." For the other point:—I never meant to let it depend upon uncertainties, but that the demands on both sides should proceed *pari passu*. And on seeing likelihood "of that to fall out which in honour myght satisfie my mystres, with suirtie," I would do my uttermost to induce her to yield to the Queen her sister's request. Therein it pleased my lord of Murray to join with me. When we came to those words of yours as to going roundly to work, and proceeding plainly with us—we looked for this, "but having red over that that followed, you must beare with ws yf we fynd our selffis no thing satisfied." What you have written in commendation of the nobleman propounded is no more than he deserves. For the Queen's good will and what she will do for him, "in generall termes yow wryte so much, as more cannot be demaunded: which is, that we may be suir to haif as muche as shall rest in her majesteis power and honour to do: yf that shold not content ws, you might think ws unreasonable." But when you come to expound it, as you say "without disguising the particular," it is nothing like the general proposition"! You write we would have our sovereign's title to the second place next the Queen's majesty declared by parliament. "Yt is so, we cannot deny it," and you conceive rightly our meaning, that it should be in order and due time. But we do not well understand your conception towards the inquisition to be made of our sovereign's right, and as far as shall stand with your mistress's surety, by honourable means to be provided, that she will abase such titles as shall be proved unjust and prejudicial to her sister's interest, and so leave to her sister entirely her whole right whatsoever it be. "Now" (say yow) "you have spoken verry playnlie, and yet in that same playn

Elizabeth.
1564. speache ther be many obscure wordis and dark sentences, and (pardoun ws that we say so) in a manner so many wordis, as ther be so many ambiguities do result therof"! We wish to have these words "[By honorable meanes to be provyded]" better cleared, and to understand what you mean by "[as shall stand with justice and her owne suyrtie]" for "(God is witnes to ws)" in all our negotiations now and before, we never meant anything against her surety, and nothing "sounding theronto" ever entered our mistress's mind. In our judgment, it is no less for your mistress's surety than for ours to have that point "ordourlie" established: it would satisfy her whole realm, be a comfort and assurance to her ministers and good servants, a discouragement to disordered subjects and a "brydill" to repress the insolence or conspiracies of such as might in her time attempt any "novation." As to that part, to leave her sister her whole right, whatsoever it be—as we cannot deny it is a friendly office, and to be taken in good part; so do we not esteem it sufficient if we shall come to the terms of this conference. For consider what you demand, "and lay it in ballance foranent that resignatioun of tytle, whatsoever it be." For what proportion is there between the two?—Our mistress yielding to your request, must enter in a bond to last for term of life, and having placed herself and all she has, under obedience of another, must become "thrall" in her own time. Your mistress, yielding to our request, can have no "hyndre" in her own time, nor yet of any that shall descend of her, but rather surety over all, and shall only leave "(the caas so falling owt) to the right heyre, that which she cannot carrie to grave with herself" and must leave to some. We are sure her conscience will not permit her to leave it to those far inferior in title to our sovereign, and against all her former honorable acts to leave "as it wer in the myd feyld the Crown, so that *qui potest capere capiat.*"

In your whole letter, before your "second communicacion" with your sovereign, you have not propounded any such advantageous conditions for us that you needed "to repent your self in the end, and so by the latter part of your lettre revoke suche poyntis as you had overshot yourself in"—for we can find none such in any part of it! And if any thing might have been favourably construed, "this second communicacion half overwholmit the whole." You write her majesty is bent to proceed by way of friendship not of contracting: how she understands that we cannot judge, but we know what our mistress minds to perform, she will not stick to promise it, to "oblis" herself for it, and make what surety is convenient. We are novices in such great dealings in princes' affairs, but we thought the order in managing them was to negotiate "by way of contractis, bandis, promissis, and suche lyk." It is a tickle matter we confess, for some princes to determine their successors, and to some *durus sermo* indeed. This made one of us two, long before now, to swear that he should never touch that point in any letter or speech for all the days of his life—which promise he would have performed had not this incident not led him to touch it against his own intent. How hard soever it be, your sovereign we think, is before now resolved what she will do in it—and if she loves our mistress so well as to bestow that benefit on her for inclining to marry her subject an Englishman, it may be prosecuted by farther communication, wherein we offer our-

Elizabeth.
1564. selves to join as you will devise. As for the form, we remit all to her majesty's pleasure. On the other part, if her majesty be determined not to establish the succession of her crown, "then (to speak roundlie) may yow conclude also absolutlie that we will never have the credit to induce our mystres to marye ane Inglisman lacking the chefest argument that may worke any perswasioun: neyther will we have hart to speik ane word more in it." We do not mean by this to make our negotiation a bargain or purchase, nor do we intend "to compas at your soveraynes hand a kingdome and crowne. The declaracion of a tytle to the second place, is neyther kingdome nor crown. Ye! skantlie *in potentia propinqua* to a kingdome." We take it rather a device to conciliate these two queens and countries by perpetual amity, than "so substanciall" as you would make it appear. It is but a "toy," and if we misconstrued your device, might we not suspect that it is not merely for friendship you make this match, but you also hunt for a kingdom, and go about under that pretence to make an Englishman king of Scotland! But let us leave these unfavourable constructions and set to work: and if the chief point to our mistress' contentation will not be obtained, write it plainly to us, and let us break off now with less offence than must be in the end. Yet let us keep the good intelligence between the Queens, for as our mistress may not press yours to determine her succession unless it come of her own accord, so we see no cause why the amity should be dissolved though our mistress marry, where her heart is best inclined, in what country soever it be. We believe this liberty on both parts shall best content "our" mistress—whether it be best for common commodity, we leave to your consideration. However it fall out, we pray you handle it so we receive no hurt thereby, for if it ever come to light that we have thus meddled without her majesty's knowledge, the "opining" thereof will assuredly overthrow us both. "We trust we do not deserve at your handis by these procedingis to be so unfrendlie usit, and so upon your trust we will repose." We pray you haste us the answer of this, and whether we shall look for any further proceeding "in this matter intended?" and if so, write to us your opinion in what order it may best be prosecuted. In our judgment the best way were if you yourself would "tak the payne" to come here and treat of it with our mistress, with whom we will join our counsels and labours. No man will be better welcome, nor yet better trusted of all. If not so, at least you may come to Berwick, where we will meet you. Edinburgh, "the Christmas evin, 1564." *Signed:* James Stewart, W. Maitland.

*"I cannot tell wheather by negligence or off purpos, yow did omit to subscribe the lettre yow did send us—but allwayes your name wes not set to it."

9 *pp. In a hand somewhat resembling but bolder than Maitland's. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "24 Decemb. 1564. Erl Murray, L. Ledyngton."

* Holograph of Maitland.

Elizabeth.
1564.
Dec. 24.

128. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Immediately after receipt of your letter of the Queen's majesty's recovery, I imparted it to Murray and Lethington, who desired me to show the same to the Queen their mistress. That day, "Wenesdaye," she kept her chamber, as she has done ever since—not for sickness, but for the "colde aier" proceeding from the great storm of snow and wind, as the like many years has not been seen. I had only been three days absent from Court, yet she blamed me for being so long, till she heard better news of the Queen than the last. I told of her amendment, and trusted to hear shortly of her grace's full recovery. 'I wysshe,' said she, 'yt might be so, for assuredlye I wolde her no worce then to my self, and she is everie daye more dere to me then other, and I am assured that her lyf, and that compagnie that I truste to have with her, shalbe more worthe to me, then her whole kingedome with her deathe, yf she were dysposed to leave yt me." I commended her, and said my sovereign felt the like. She wished anything she had, might do her good—yea! her own presence. I thanked humbly "her majestie," and said her good will should not be hid. Having ended, I declared to Murray and Lethington the occasion of your stay in answering their letter, which they thought good reason. They reminded me, as they had omitted it in their letter, to testify their good wills to you, as if all common servants to one prince, seeing the two Queens so united, and also to excuse "that strayngenes that hathe byne used"; but as I see no occasion, I promised to satisfy them in the former part, and leave the rest to be spoken or written as they find time. We have met almost every day since and communed of this matter in hand, and I find "a newe nateur and other dysposition in them then the former," even better "dysposed than my self." She has now committed herself to be advised in her marriage by these two: "I will not say that she hathe given unto them under her hande wryte, fre libertie to dyspose of her as theie will answer to God and their countrie, but thys I beleve you shall fynde trewe." They are now wholly bent towards England, and direct their course that way. The Duke begins "to smell whear abowte we goe, and no thynge myslykethe therof." Argyll is made full privy to it, but no man approves it better. "My lord Ersken wysshethe her to marrie with an Englisheman before anye other." Argyll tells me of "Shan Onel" who daily solicits support out of Scotland, and offers great service to this Queen. I saw two of his letters to that effect, as they were "expunded" to me. I am advised the Queen's majesty should be warned hereof. By this time it is thought that Odonel is at court, whose wife Shan possesses, and by him is now with child. "She is all the daye chayned by the arme to a lyttle boye, and at bede and bourde—at meate I myght saye—when he is presente, at her libertie." James Macconnel is also in this town—desiring still to have those lands in Ireland that were granted to him, to be confirmed, as they were signed by my lord Deputy. If any fault can be imputed to his brother, he himself will be answerable—but whether one assurance is better than the other I know not. I find my lord of Argyll and "James" ready to do what they may to overthrow O'Neal, as they have promised. I heard of late from the West Border that certain

Elizabeth.
1564. of the Grahams are suitors to become Scots. Their meaning I know not, but I "muse" what makes the Master of Maxwell so earnest in council here for the Queen's consent, which he cannot get, but holds them in suspense to be in the Queen's choice. Whosoever deals with the Master shall find himself enough to do. In the west seas there is an English pirate that sells wine to Irvine [Urwyn] and Ayr [Are] "better cheape" than you drink London beer in your house. His name I hear is Whyte, "perchaunce he maye be some other man."

After all this was written yesternight at 6 o'clock, I received your honour's letter with that to the two lords. Tomorrow, God willing, it shall be delivered to their hands. Edinburgh, 24 December 1564. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

4 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "24th Decemb. 1564. M^r^ Tho. Randolph to W. C."

Dec. 25. **129.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By the letter written by Murray and me, you will sufficiently conceive our meaning: yet for private friendship I earnestly recommend the matter, and if you will as earnestly travel with your wit, labour, and credit, for the resolution of it, as I will do here, we may bring the whole to a good conclusion. "Indeade the werk is godly and honorable. One poynt I know doth most harme at your soveraynes hand, an opinion that she doth conceave off onkyndnes off my maistres, by reason off our demande, that she doth looke for her death, and that all thys kyndenes is pretended onely to hunt a kyngdome! In gude fayth that is not my maistres meaning: rather doth she seeke, and we also, a probable reason to lay against the objections which shalbe made in foreyn nations contrary this matche; that they may se it is no vayne nor lycht conceyte hathe moved her to yealde to the Quene of Englands requeist in her mariage." I know what her friends in France and elsewhere will say of Murray and me, terming us traitors and unnatural subjects, having no respect to the honour and surety of our mistress. If this point of the title were once resolved, we would care little for their calumnies and boldly answer that this match was more honourable and profitable in all respects than either the King of Spain or the French King's. The matter has not so many difficulties but you may soon "remove" them if you list, or will take it in hand. I cannot think you lack good will, but I require in you more "stoutenes" and courage to speak freely where you have so good ground. Your Queen will trust you, if you take the matter upon you. *Sta et viriliter age, confortetur cor tuum et sustine Dominum.* Edinburgh, "this Christmas Day 1564." *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 25. **130.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I wrote to your honour on Saturday last that I had received your letter, enclosing one to the two lords, which I delivered to them next morning after sermon, but they having no time to read it, nor I to talk, we parted till the afternoon, when I found them at Court "of purpose" to talk thereon. Both their countenances and speech showed

Elizabeth.
1564. themselves miscontented in mind, to which I said I marvelled much, seeing they had got news to their content (as I thought) in so long a letter. They said they were desirous to talk with me, for they were in great perplexity having gone so far in a matter that so much concerns the weal of both countries; 'first travailing with you here, and then privately with M^r^ Secretary, and cannot find what you mean or to what end it is likely to come. We have taken much on our selves whereunto our sovereign is not privy, and disclosed our thoughts for the good of both realms: but see so small account made, or at least such answer, that we are neither encouraged to wade farther, or hope that our travail may profit.' I asked what they misliked? 'With that' say they 'which we dyd fynde fawlte, in those thynges which you propounded. In generall wordes we have heard inoughe; when we come to anye matter in speciall, assure you ther is nothynge saide, that ether of us cane with our dueties to our soveregne accorde unto, or gyve our advise in, that may stonde with her honour. But the chiefest thing is now, we pray you to send away another letter to M^r^ Secretary as soon as you may, wherein we crave more plain dealing and larger signification of his mistress's good will than hitherto.' They would not be satisfied with any thing I could say. I looked not for their letter so soon as it came—this Monday in the evening—to be sent with all diligence—which I would not do till I saw Lethington. This morning I was very soon at his bedside. He willed me to take all in good part, for he would be plain, and that if I ever trusted him, I should do so, in these words—'I love' said he 'your soverayne, and honour her nexte unto myne owne above all princes Chrystene. I have studied to do her service, for so am I bounde, I never founde tyme nor place tyll nowe, by unitinge these two realmes togyther, and to bringe yt unto that passe that my soveregne maye whollye be at the divotion of yours, which beinge nowe brought all moste unto that poynte which I desyer, and myche farther then ever I thoughte yt wolde have byne: I am driven all moste in dyspayre that I shalbe able to do anye good, or to wade anye farther, and for the healpe of thys matter, yf anye be, we have wrytten agayne our myndes to M^r^ Secretarie, trustinge that we shall receave better hope of his nexte wrytinges then we dyd by the laste, after which we cane no farther deale in this matter, but muste be forced owte of hande to seeke the nexte beste.' He made me privy to your letter and the answer there to, but so hastily, that I could not not conceive what was in either; but his words I can best remember uttered with as good will as I ever heard. "I fynde all wayes in the Quene one cheare and one countenance." This is all I have to say with the inclosed. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

1564-5.
Jan. 1. **131.** [JOHN] STUART [OF AUBIGNY] TO GLENCAIRN.

My lord and cousin, though I never "heir fra" you by word nor writing, yet hearing that you are merry and "in gud health I cair the les." And learning credibly that my lord of Lennox my brother is in Scotland and "weill resavit and accepped" with the Queen and all the nobility, I can do no less than rejoice with all my heart. When

Elizabeth.
1564-5. he and you and his other faithful friends are together, I trust ye will not forget me "your alde acquentance": and hope to "vesye" you all or it be long. "Fra my howss of La Veririe," with my wife and my son your "cusinges" most harty commendations, "the first daye of Januarij 1565." * *Signed:* Stuart.

½ *p. Addressed:* "To my lorde and cusing my lorde the Erll of Glancarne." *Wafer signet, quartered: and an escutcheon of pretence, probably Lennox* (indistinct).

Jan. 9. **132.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

We begin now daily to look for your answer of the last letters written by the two lords. I find them "in greate agonies and passions," they doubt so much of the issue of the matter which they have taken in hand. I leave nothing unspoken to their comfort that I may "advouche," wherein how "sparlye" I must deal you know, besides my own lacks to handle such matters "with suche a matche as I am yoked with"! I thought to have written only half a dozen lines to my lord of Leicester, and know not how far "I passed myself," yet without evil will. As I have written to him all I know, and am not in case (though not sick) to write much, I will trouble you the less while. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

My lord of Bedford is marvellously desired to be here at the marriage of Marie Liveston to John Simple, who shall be sent to desire him. Simple was born in England and has an English mother. So it is much spoken of that an Englishman shall marry one of the four Maries.

I am required to remind your honour for some order for Archibald Graham's money, which Lethington continually affirms the Queen promised to pay: there rests still of it 800*l.* sterling.

A great cumber is fallen between Lords Morton and Seton, for hurting a Douglas, with whom Lethington takes part. This day above 500 horse men are upon "the feeldes" against Seton.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 9. **133.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

I wrote yesterday to your lordship what I thought should have served 5 or 6 days—but every day breeds new matter, and I learned since there is a conspiracy against you here—which is this: Lord Simple's son an Englishman born, shall be married between this and "Shrovetyde" to Lord Liveston's sister. The Queen both makes the marriage and endows them with land, also will have the marriage in Court. What is intended against you is—that Simple himself shall come to Berwick within these 14 days to desire you to be at the "brydeall," which it is thought you cannot refuse. Having learned this by "secrete spiall," I thought good to warn you to stand on guard, or consider what is fittest. I see many ways are sought to bring you here, and to leave Berwick and not to have seen Edinburgh, you had been better never to have seen Rome or Italy!

* Dated "*more Gallicano.*"

Elizabeth.
1564-65. I delivered your letters to both the lords, and Cesford shall be sent for out of hand, and order taken to content you: yet you must not spare to write for substantial handling. I send some letters which I pray you send away: matters here stand as they were, awaiting answer from Court. You once wished you had some "prettie boye" to serve you at table and chamber. I have spied out one, a nephew of Grange's, a pretty quick spirited boy, as big as my man Willie, and not far different in qualities. If you accept him, I think he will prove honest, and thank God that ever he came under your hands. His father died of late, as also an other brother of his, "two as stowte men as Graynge self, or lyttle lesse." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

May it please you to put the letters to Sir Nicolas in one of yours for there are in them letters to Lord Robert, that I desire to come safely to his hands. Of this bearer, now become my servant "at wyll" I can learn nothing to purpose touching his old master.

This day there are against Lord Seton all the force that Morton and Lethington are able to make "upon the feeldes."

2½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address* (to Bedford as Governor of Berwick). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 13. **134.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I so much overshot myself in my last letters to my lord of Leicester and your honour, that I repent they escaped my hands. But I trust you will both take "the beste sence" and my good meaning.

To my lord, I meant only to provoke him to that wherein I thought him overslow and careless for his own weal and the profit of his country. To your honour, my desire is but this, that being so well able, you would but take this journey in hand, where you and no man else can do so much good. If they themselves here would but put away a little scrupulosity, "that theie wolde not seeme to seeke a howsbonde for their Quene, theie cane and wolde saye miche more then yet at anye tyme I have wrytten." Thus much I thought good to write (though I have no cause to mistrust your favours). For answer to yours of 6th, I most humbly thank you, that among so many things as you have to do, I should receive so long a letter.

Touching delay of answer to the two lords, it is so reasonable, that they must needs be satisfied, as they seem to be by the answer I received from them, when giving them knowledge what it had pleased you to write. I have not spoken with either since Sunday last—"beinge delivered of a colde, I have "rysinge under my syde a byle [boil] greate and sore," making me evil disposed and unable to write much. Touching Ireland, I will be no less careful than your will is, and as I believe there is cause. My lord of Argyll and James MacConnell are both in this town. My lord assures me "that James wilbe honeste, or shalbe whether he he wyll or not." The Queen within 4 days departs "over the water" with few in company to pass her time from place to place for 20 days.

Desiring my humble service to my good lord, at whose hands and yours most humbly I crave pardon. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. I most humbly thank you for your books, &c., it pleased you to send. To let you know how industrious we begin to be in Scotland, "I have a booke a byndinge printed here," to be sent you by next.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 15. **135.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This bearer so friendly offering to do you what service he can, I thought he should not go "uncharged," though I have little to write. James MacConnell has been in hand with me again to know the Queen's pleasure touching the lease of the land in Ireland. He promises much, and so long as the Queen will, to be enemy in that country to hers. Argyll wishes once to see England, and I encourage him therein. Justice Clerk upon Sunday was married to his third wife. Angelo Manelio for all his good service, is in disgrace, and commanded to remain at his salt making, and not come within 7 miles of Court. Rawlette that was secretary for the F[rench] and he, have fought at the Court gates. Rawlet is ordered out of the country, and while entering the boat to take shipping, his "truncke" was taken away with his apparel and all his money to the value of 500 crowns. To help Angelo "in his adversitie," there is granted this day against him by the Lords of the Session "a prins de corps" in an action sued against him for 1500*l.* sterling by Richard Springham an Englishman, whom your honour knows. His case hitherto has "framed meetlye well, but I feare that yt wilbe harde to have him boddilye apprehended." Things remain as I wrote last—if I could have my wish therein, "yt sholde be as Penelope wrote to her howsbonde, you knowe well inough the verse *Nil m^i rescribas, etc.*"

The snowe begins as great here again after 6 days' frost that went before, as the last that fell, which was the greatest storm that was in Scotland many years. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

The Duke came to town yesternight to renew his suit for my lord of Arran's delivery. I know not his hope of success. The Queen dined on Thursday in the castle, but he made no request to come to her presence. She was in the "Towbothe" this day among the lords of Session and was admitted "Tutrice" to my lord John of Coldingham's son.

1¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 16. **136.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I have not sufficient leisure to write amply, and though I had, I would not use many words—betwixt us, few will suffice—our acquaintance is not now to begin, and each of us can guess what the other means. Our conceptions are not far discrepant, though in following the humours of those we serve, we may differ a little—I trust not much. The matter begins to wax ripe, and so must presently be taken in hand, "eyther must the push on both sydes be gyven at this tyme, or els I feare the lyke occasion shall never hereafter be offred." You were the first with whom "the framing off this intelligence wes conferred," and have always been the chiefest instrument of the continuance, and your good will has not been

Elizabeth.
1564-65. obscure, "and some disdayne I know yow have susteyned both at home and abrode in foreyn countreyes for that caus." Weary not now, or suffer the fruit of your labours to perish for lack of due prosecution. I would be sorry any other should finish that work "that yow off all others hes most travayled in." Do as you will, if this matter fall out right, you only shall have our thanks—if amiss, we will believe you are more careful for the common tranquillity "than that any soche succes can follow by your consent." One point I dare undertake, that your Sovereign shall never repent of any good turn she shall do to my mistress, nor can you do her any pleasure that shall not be well acknowledged; for though she is not the richest princess in the world, yet none has more respect to honour, or more abhors "to be accompted ingrate." If you meddle earnestly, you shall find me ready to join—if you abstain, I will think you do it for good respects, and will stand on my guard. "Awayting for answer off our * formar wryting." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 18. **137.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have received your letter, with that to Murray and Lethington, who dined with me that day the letters came to my hands. To let your honour know as he speaks, "he" finds little in them to his contentment, or whereby he may gather any great likelihood that this is the way to unite these two realms: wherefore he shews many tokens of sorrow and grief of mind—as this was the most assured way, "and that which liked hym beste." Because Murray is beyond the water with the Queen, he cannot without him deliberate what is best to be done, and therefore will shortly go to them; counselling me to remain here till her return, (unless I hear from him)—as it will not be above 10 or 12 days till then. Yesterday Adam Hume and one Liveston, servant to the Bishop of Ross, came from France, passed strait over the water, and "bydde" not here. They spake not with Lethington, which offended him, and therefore he will make more haste over the water.

The Queen on Tuesday dined in the castle; she spake with Arran and kissed him—who I hear used to her very few words, "scarce so myche as remission for his offence," or desire for liberty. His father came to town only on good hope, and returned with less comfort than he came.

Lennox returns this day towards "Glascowe." He must shortly be supported with more money, or shall find lack in what he has to do. His greatest adversary is James Stewarde captain of the Guard, who had this evil fortune on Thursday last, that Murray's servant, who had a quarrel with him, broke his head with a "cudgell" on the High street, that the blood came about his ears. The other party was a Hume. Much ado was like to have ensued, if my lord Chancellor and Lethington had not stayed the fury of the Guard at the dishonour done to their captain. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I write not to my lord of Leicester, for lack of matter, also knowing

* Substituted for "my."

Elizabeth.
1564-65. how unacceptable all my doings here are to him, though I would I could do otherwise.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 28. **138.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for David Waus indweller of Leith and his factors, to trade for a year between Scotland and England. Under her signet and hand. S[t] Andrews, 23[d] of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusines Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (as before).

Jan. 29. **139.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have delivered the Queen's majesty's letters to this Queen, who arrived here but yesternight. I have received no answer yet, and can write nothing of my return, but think my abode here shall not be long. I hear she is minded to send shortly some man of discretion to France: likelier Lethington than any other. There is more in these sudden and hasty "postinges" than I can yet find out. S[t] Andrews. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 1. **140.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I have received your friendly and gentle letter of the 25[th] January, much to my comfort. I lovingly and willingly embrace your earnest affection to do good in the matter now in hand. As ever since our acquaintance began, I have set you before my eyes as "a paterne," wishing to conform myself and my actions to the imitation of yours, so in this I will follow your footsteps as nigh as I can. Though in divers your former letters "I have perceaved many tokens and as it were lineaments, yet (to confess to yow as I think) I did not off a long tyme se in any other lettre the image off your good meaning so lyvely expressed as in this last." Where you write that whosoever has suspected you of the contrary, has done you wrong—I assure you I never knew any man here go about any such matter, nor ever perceived the sincerity of your meaning called in doubt, either by the Queen's majesty herself or those about her. I will not deny but I have myself found some lack in you: either you were too slow or too fearful in setting forward the "werk" which you knew to be so good for both countries; and did not dissemble this "conceyte" in many letters to you. "Yet as off veary purpos I did oftentymes accuse your slowenes onto your selff to encourage yow and spurr yow fordwart, so on the other part did I defend and excuse your proceedingis as well to my selff as others, whenever that heede came in question, imputing the same rather to the nature off the cause then to any lack off good will." Indeed Randolph has very honestly discharged his duty to you in that behalf, in communicating or confirming your "devotion that way." Your many friendly offices in times past are not forgotten: and "I trust yow take me not to be off so onthankfull a nature that I wold suffer any wrong impression to be

Elizabeth.
1564-65. conceaved off my greate frend in any place wheare I haiff credit, moche less that I wold conceave any sinistre opinion my selff." I promise you there is no earthly thing I more rejoice in than the private friendship and familiarity betwixt us two, which for the place of credit we occupy, must be the chief instrument to establish the like betwixt these two princesses whom we serve—the greatest honour we can aspire to—"and soche as if we did resemble the old Romaynes, for attayning theroff we wold not styck to sacrifise our selff and offer our veary lyves to what soever danger myght occur." As no man's heart is void of ambition, I already imagine with myself what glory it shall be for us, not only in life but after our death, "in the mouthes off the posterity, to be named as medlars and chefe doars in so godly and honorable a werk as is the union off these two nations, which so long have continewed ennemyes to the greate decay off both!" Were not this honour sufficient to satisfy the most ambitious heart? "I begyn already to haiff a certane fruition off this glory which (if the mater now in hand may by Gods providence, the princees good disposition, dexterity and good conduyte off ws theyr ministers, be brought to pas) I am assured shall last for ws when otherwayes the memory of both wold be brought to uter oblivion. More honorable shall the report be in the ages to comme when the posterity shall tast the frute off our present lauboris off those whose hap and good fortune shalbe to be employed in this cause, then off any whosoever thay were, did most vailyeantly serve kyng Edward the First in his conquest, or kyng Robert the Bruce in the recovery off his countrey"! Go forward as you have begun, and suffer neither the malice of Fortune nor envy of man to overthrow the work you have already built on so good a foundation: suffer not yourself or your friends to be robbed of so great an honour. I need use no persuasions, knowing how tenderly you love your Queen and country, and for my part I will to this end join with you as you will devise, and refuse to do nothing you think may serve the purpose (my duty to the Queen my mistress and my country reserved). S^{t} Andrews. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

3½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 3. **141.** MEMORIAL ON THE ENEMIES AND FRIENDS OF LENNOX.

For "Syr Nycolace Frogmertyne." 3^{d} Feb. 7 Eliz. Enemies at the departure of Lennox from England: "yf the tyme may serve in Skotlande."

All the protestants of that realm "in generall, and in spetiall, the Duke Chattillaroo" with all the Hamyltons in Clydesdale, Linlithgow, and Edinburgh shires: the bishop of S^{t} Andrews, the abbot of Kilwinning, the bishop of Glasqw, all the Beatones, the lairds of Creicht, Durye, and the "allyantes" of the late Cardinal of S^{t} Andrews—the laird of Boclewch and all the Scotts.

The Earl of Argyll, sister son to the Duke, all the Campbells, "boetht Erishe, of the incuntrye," and their "allyantes."

The Earl of Glencarne, "whoes eldest sone and heyre ys syster sone to the Duke Chatillaroo," and all the Cunygahames, "whoo was wount to be cheif aidouris of Levenax."

Elizabeth.
1564-65. The Earl of Eglinton was never "good Levenax."

The Earl of Cassillis, young and of small conduct.

"The remanentis of Huntleis house will favour the Duke, and soo will James Makconele and otheris of the Yles."

The Lord James and Ledington in their hearts "haitht myslyked Levenax other tymes: onles now in hope to continew there rule in that realme, thei may be chenged."

The Earl of Morton, chancellor, the young earl of Angus, "Cranstye," Drumlanrig, and all the Douglasses with the Justice Clerk, "Makgill and there allyances, yf my Lady Levenax doo not relynquyes hir tytill to therledome of Angus, whiche I suppose in respect of there greater adwansement, shoo haitht already promised."

"The Lordes Maxwell, Erskyn allyant to Argile, Levington, frende to the Duke, and Flemyng, lykewyse Semple favorar to the Duke. Yester and Borthuike will hang witht the Dowglasses."

The Earls Montrose, "Rathoes," Merchell, and the Leslies being protestants.

"Of these may be wyn * partly in hope that Darnelie will inbrase religion, whiche I dowbt will never be—partly by preferrent of spirituall landis, partlye by money, and partlye put in feir by thauctoritie, and in respect of other insolent pretenses."

Friends hoped upon at his departure:—

The Homes and Karres, "albeitht thei will chuse the best syde." The Earl Bothwell "of noo force now." The Earls of Athol and Arrole. The lords Ruthven and Seton. The gentlemen of his country of Levenax, and some of the barony of Renfrew; whereof be "doaris" the lairds of Houston, Mynto, Manes (?), and others "of small conducte." The Laird of Tulybardin, "a young hede."

"The Quene being his cheif countervaile, thinketht for the Dukes overthrow, yf shee can bring yt to pas, to adwanse Levenax as hir heyre apparant, faling of hir ische †: yf Darnelie hyt the merk, then careth my lady, nether for therldomes of Levenax, Angus, nor landes in Englande, having enewgh that waye. And yf the quene can bring yt aboute, division shall follow. The overthrow of religion ys pretensed, the Frenche to be reconciled, there aide agane to be craved. And yf thei can intende and pretende tytill heare, where thei make accompte upoun frendes, when as thei have Levenax, Darnelie, and the mother withtin them, whatsumever florising wordis be used for the schyft either here or in Scotlande by the Lady Levenax, hir sone or housband, there hartes pretendetht ennymite to our soverane, and division to hir realme; onlie bent to please and rewenge the Quene of Scottis querrell and to follow hir wayes, whoo remembretht as I am informed, hir mother, hir unckle Gweis, and hir owne insolent pretence.

"Thys realme had a faction to serve there turne betuix Chattillaroo and Levenax: take hede ye suffar not Chattillaro be overthrowen, and in thende adwance him whoo shal become ennyme to thys realme. It may fall out the quenes majesteis purpose by them of Scotlande may be followed, in whiche caise yt should be well; but I in my symple opynyeon, ys in dispare thereof, for thei luke for hir thare, the Lorde preserve hir! And therefore betymes seik wayes to stop the tyde and fill there handis full at home, whiche may well enewght be done."

* "To the Quenes purpos" scored out here. † Issue.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. 2¼ *pp. In a Scottish hand, probably that of Thomas Bischop, who had now quarrelled with his former master, Lennox. Intended for Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "3d Maij . . . A memoryall concerninge mattres of Scotlande."

Feb. 5. **142.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

Immediately after receipt of your letter to this Queen, I repaired to S[t] Andrews, and when time served I presented the same, which being read and apparently very well liked, she said little to me for that time. Next day she passed wholly in mirth "nor gave anie apparance to anie of the contrarie, nor wolde not, as she saide openlie, but be quiet and merrie." Her grace lodged in a "marchantes howse," her train very few, and small repair from any part. Her will was I should dine and sup with her, and your majesty was oftentimes "druncken unto" by her.

Having thus spent Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, I thought it time to utter to her grace your majesty's last command by M[r] Secretary's letters —viz., to know her resolution touching the matters propounded at Berwick by my lord of Bedford and me, to my lord of Murray and Lethington. I had no sooner spoken these words but she said 'I see nowe well that you are werie of this compagnie and treatmente: I sente for you to be merrie and to see howe like a bourgois wyfe I lyve with my little trouppe, and you will interrupte our passe tymes with your greate and grave matters. I praye you Sir, yf you be werie here, retorne home to Edenbourge, and keape your gravitie and greate embassade untill the Quene come thyther, for I assure you you shall not gette her here, nor I knowe not my selfe whear she is become. You see nether clothe of estate, nor suche apparance that you maye thynke that ther is a Quene here, nor I wolde not that you shode thynke that I am she at S[t] Androws that I was at Edenbourge.' I said I was very sorry, for at Edinburgh she said she loved my sovereign better than any other, and now I marvelled how her mind was altered! Hereat it pleased her to be very merry, "and called me by moe names then were geven me in my christendom! At these merrie conceates myche good sporte was made."

'But well sir' said she, 'that which I then spoke in wordes shalbe confirmed to my good systar your mestres in writinge. Before you go owte of this towne, you shall have a lettre unto her, and for your selfe goe whear you will, I care no more for you!' Next day I was placed at my ordinary table "the nexte person (savinge worthie Beton) to the Quenes selfe, verie merrilie she passethe her tyme." After dinner riding abroad, she talked most of the time with me, of France, and the honour she received there "to be wyfe unto a greate kynge," and friendship to her from many, wherefore she is bound to love the nation and continue the friendship sought of her, for the "nuriteur" of many of her people there, service of the Guard and men at arms, besides privileges to her merchants beyond any nation. 'What privatlie of longe tyme hathe byne soughte, and yet is, for myselfe to yeld unto theirs desyers in my mariage, your mestres can not be ignorante, and you have hearde. To leave suche frendes, and to lees suche offers, with owte assurance of as good, no boddie will gyve me advise that lovethe me. Not to marrie, you

Elizabeth.
1564-65. knowe it canne not be for me: to differ it longe, maynie incommodities insue. How previe to my mynde your mestres hath byne here in, you knowe, howe willinge I am to followe her advise, I have shewed maynie tymes, and yet can I fynde in her no resolution nor determination. For nothinge, I cane not be bounde unto her, and to frame my will agaynste hers, I have of late geven assurance to my brother of Murraye and Liddingeton, that I am loothe, and so do nowe shewe unto your selfe, which I will you to beare in mynde, and to let it be knowne to my systar your mestres. And therfore this I saye, and truste me I meane it, yf your mestres will as she hathe saide, ruse (*sic*) me as her naturall borne systar, or daughter, I will tayke my selfe ether as thone or thother, as she please, and will shewe no lesse reddines to obbeye her and honor her then my mother or eldeste systar; but yf she will repute me alwayes but as her neighbour Quene of Scottes, howe willinge soever I be to live in amitie, and to maynetayne peace, yet muste she not looke for that at my handes, that other wyse I wolde, or she desyerethe. To forsake frendeshipe offered, and present commoditie, for uncertaynetie, no frende will advise me, nor your mestres selfe approve my wysedome. Let her therfore measure my case as her owne, and so will I be hers. For these causes untill my systar and I have farther proceded, I must applie my mynde to thadvise of those that seeme to tender moste my proffit, that shewe their care over me, and wishe me moste good. I have nowe disclosed unto you' (said she) 'all my mynde, and requere you to let it be knowne to your sovereigne. My meaninge unto her is playne, and so shall my dealinge be. I knowe howe well she is worthie, and so do esteme her, and therfore I will thus myche saye more, that as ther is none nerrer of kynne unto her then I am, nor none more worthie to whome I may submitte my selfe, so is ther none, to whome with better will I desyer to be beholdinge unto then unto her, or to do anie thinge that may be with my honour.'

To this long discourse I did not much reply, but as to her affection for France, I was "bolde to say," whatsoever her grace had found herself, "her countrie hathe fealte the smerte." I approved greatly her good words of your majesty, and by many tokens showed your grace's like mind towards her. The matters you stood on were so great, they could not soon be resolved of, and it were much better "to attende a tyme, then over hastelie to presse at them, and rather to let them come of themselves, then to seme to wringe them owte by force." 'When,' said she, 'harde you me speake of these matters before'? "I saide no, of her selfe, but her ministres bore always her mynde, and in their wordes uttered that which she wolde." 'I gave unto them charge' said she, 'to consyder what is fetteste for me, and I fynde them all togyther bente towardes you, and yet not so, but I beleve theie will advise me for the beste. But so your mestres may use me, that I will leave their advises, and all others, and followe hers alone.' I liked these words so well, that I wished it might be so to both their contents. 'Remember' said she, 'what I have saide, this mynde that nowe I am of, commethe not upon the suddayne, it is more then a daye or two that I have had this thoughte, and more than this to, that you shall not knowe.' I desired her not to "cutte of her tawlke ther" it was so good, wise, well framed and comfortable to me, to hear her mind to your majesty. 'I am a foole' said she, 'thus

Elizabeth.
1564-65. longe to tawlke with you, you are to suttle for me to deale with.' I protested that my meaning was but to nourish perpetual amity between you and her, only by honest means. 'Howe miche better were it' said she, 'that we two being Quenes so nere of kynne, neighbours and livinge in one Ile, sholde be frendes and live togyther lyke systars, then by straynge meanes devide our selves to the hurte of us bothe! and to saye that we may for all that live frendes, we maye saye and promes what we will, but it will passe bothe our powers! You repute us poore, but yet you have founde us combersom inoughe! we have had losse, ye have taken schethe*! Whie maye it not be betwen my systar and me, that we livinge in peace and assured frendeshipe maye gyve our myndes that some as notable thinges maye be wraught by us women, as by our predicessers have byne before? Let us seeke this honour agaynste somme other, then fawle at debate amongeste ourselves.' I asked her grace "whether she wolde be content one daye when ever it were, to gyve her assistance for the recoverie of Callace"? At this she laughed, and said 'maynie things muste passe betwen my good systar and me, before I can gyve you answer, but I beleve to see the daye that all our quareles shalbe one, and assure you yf we be not, the fawlte shall not be in me.' Such is the effect of much long talk between this Queen and me, not so well answered by me, as spoken by her. I commended her opinion of your majesty, and so ended with her, that no small matter shall make her think otherwise, or over hasty to enter in league with any, or match herself in marriage, farther than either drift of time should be found in your majesty, or hasty request of her subjects, or necessity to provide for her estate did press her. I requested her humbly in as much as I had moved her by your command, to let her mind be known how she liked the suit for my lord of Leicester, that I might be able to say or write somewhat thereon to your majesty. 'My mynde towards him is suche as it oughte to be of a verie noble man, as I here say by verie maynie; and suche one as the Quene your mestres my good systar dothe so well lyke to be her howsbonde, yf he were not her subjecte, oughte not to mislyke me to be myne. Marrie! what I shall do, it lyethe in your mestres will, whoe shall whollie guide me and rule me.' I made as if I did not well understand her words, that I might "have the better holde of them"—so she repeated the self same words again. And I, showing myself fully contented, desired her grace I might hastily return to your majesty "whyleste theie were fresche in memorie." 'My mynde is not that you shall so hastelie departe: at Edenbourge we maye common farther, ther shalbe nothing forgotten, or called backe, that hathe byne sayde. I have receaved' said she, 'a verie lovinge lettre from my good systar, and this nighte or tomorrowe will wryte another, which you muste sende awaye.' Of the whole conference I made a rehearsal to Murray and Lethington, who were glad I had heard so much spoken of herself, but without that principal point whereon your majesty stays, they neither dare, nor are willing of themselves, earnestly to press her, for they see not otherwise how in honour "she cane accorde to your majesties advise, nor so to bynde her selfe unto you as theie are sure she will"

* Skaith, *i.e.*, hurt.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. —and therein offer their service to you to their uttermost. Lethington doubts your majesty has an evil opinion of him, though I assure him to the contrary, and find his dealing hitherto honest. But in these great matters however ready to obey your majesty's will, I am in continual fear of my lacks, and would humbly crave that some man of ripe experience and judgment out of your many councillors, be sent here to bring them to a successful issue. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

10 *pp. Holograph* (in Randolphe's best Court hand), *also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's Clerk).

Feb. 5. **143.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since I wrote last from S[t] Andrews, I have had good conference with the "Quenes majestie," and also with the two lords. What I have heard of the Queen's self, I have written to the Queen's majesty "verie maynie good wordes, and as farre as I cane perceave, verie well mente." She is wholly advised by these two lords, and they fully bent to do what they can to satisfy both the Queens. They assure me that this Queen is earnestly solicited otherwise, and necessity compels her shortly to resolve. Though they think you and other our sovereign's ministers no less careful in these matters than they are, yet they desire some other resolution to be taken than that last written, which they find hard, and if you remain in those terms, they see not how that may insue here that you desire. They think it were not good to press hastily the answer of the Berwick conference; for when you have again thought of it, you will find it worthy of deeper consideration, and not to be "cutte of" as it may be, if you remain in those terms that hitherto you "stonde in." They advise that you will as carefully think of this matter, as they will travail to persuade their sovereign to apply her mind to the Queen's majesty my sovereign in anything that may be to her honour. They think nothing well of my return, but wish it deferred for a time. All resolution of this Queen's mind is referred till she comes here. She only passes time from place to place, and will not be here for 14 days. For the four days I was at S[t] Andrews, I dined and supped at her grace's own table; and she desired me to tarry with her till she returned here, but knowing it must be to her discommodity, lodging in gentlemen's houses, I asked leave to return here; and having nothing to do, purpose to ride to Berwick for 3 or 4 days to see my lord of Bedford, and chiefly, that for some "unhappie dyseases that I have had," travel does me good. The winter was never extremer, and sicknesses for the time of year never so many. "The Quene, of her whole Courte, hathe onlye escapede, whoe was never merrier nor lustiar!" There is a "fonde" tale told up and down this town, that these 3 nights past there have been about midnight many armed men walking about the streets, fighting one with the other. The strokes they say are heard, the clamours of men great, no blood shed nor "taken" of any person that came there. Of this matter we lack no talk, and prognosticate many foolish things to come. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1564-65. Feb. 7.

144. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

At the supplication of our subjects Walter and Andro Brechin "brethir," merchants of Aberdeen, we wrote from thence to you in August bypast, how inhumanly they were treated by Anthony Curteney and other pirates your subjects, in "December past ane yeir," who spoiled their whole goods as they returned hither from "the Rochell," and set them desolate on land in "Bertangye." To prosecute redress they together remained in your realm "a lang seasoun," Walter continually since our said letters. He obtained some decreets, but no manner of execution, for so soon as they are pronounced, the guilty persons appeal to higher judges, and when the "puir man eftir his langsum and coistlie sute, dois lippin for redy executioun, nathing findis he bot a new pane to entir in, drevin of from terme to terme; quhill finalie, as disparit to get ony recompans, he mon constrenitlie reteir him self hamwart, rather nor to contract further debt for mantenance of the pley." We therefore earnestly pray you to give sharp charge to your "justicers" to make hasty dispatch of the case as justice and equity require. Under our signet. At "the Struther." *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Feb. 9.

145. MAITLAND TO CECIL.

"Schir, this puir man of Abirdene, namyt Walter Brechin, being spoyled inhumanlie of his guidis be Anthony Curteney and his partakers, hes awaittit in persute of the actioun ane haill yeris space and mair, but ony end." The Queen my mistress wrote "afore" on his behalf to your Sovereign, and has "presentlie." The poor men hoping to be the better of this my request, have earnestly required me to write and pray you for your reasonable aid in this their just cause, for my sake. "At Sanct Mynnettis."* *Signed:* W. Maitland.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Feb. 12.

146. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I arrived here upon Thursday last, minding on Monday next to return to Edinburgh, where the Queen will be in few days after. Yesterday I received yours of the 5th, and was glad to see you had no worse than a cold. By your letter I perceive "what erneste meanes hathe byne made bothe by my lord Roberte and your honour for my lord Darlie licence to come into Scotlande. Your honours consyderations here in is inoughe to satysfie me, howe lothe somever I am that anye comforte sholde be taken here by anye as to thynke that throughe hys presens my purpose here sholde be subverted, or that theie that have stande in perfet amytie and good will with my soveregne, sholde be greved or offended that anye suche sholde be licenced to comme into the countrie, of whome ther is so myche conceaved agaynste, as to your honour is not unknowne, bothe by worde and

* St. Monance.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. wrytinge. My mynde was ever to obbeye unto her majesties wylle, but howe to frame or fashone thys, that yt maye be bothe to her majesties honour and throughe contentemente in thende, I muste nowe tayke one care more upon me then before I had, which muste be supported by your honours good advise, for trewlye of my self I knowne (*sic*) not yet what to thynke or howe to behave my self."

The news of the Cardinal's coming to Paris "is here otherwyse reported, but to lyke effecte; for the greate feare of the Cardinall and slayinge of his secretorie, yt is saide that the Conte Dommarten was in the Cardinals compagnie, agaynste whome Monsieur Montmorancie hathe a *prins de corps;* whoe intendinge to have taken hym owte of the Cardinals compagnie, thys cumbre insued." But I have heard no word of the Duke of Guise or Monsieur D'Aumale. These news were reported to "her" before I left S^{t}. Andrews, whereat she was very sorry and doubts his danger from his evil willers, the chief of whom she esteems the whole house of Montmorency. I have only this humble request, that as this Queen now expects the Queen's majesty's "will" towards her, I may have some signification of what is intended, before I am forced at her return to press her for resolution of those matters propounded to the two lords at Berwick, as I know they desire. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Your honour is advertised of my lord Darnley's arrival. He purposes first to go to his father now at Glascowe, and then to the Queen.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 19. **147.** RANDOLPHE TO LEICESTER.

Having to write to M^{r} Secretary of a message lately sent me from my Lord of Murray, I thought it my duty to write somewhat to your lordship: "in speciall touchynge your lordships requeste towardes my lord Darlye, to whome I assure your lordship I have and will do all the honour and service that lyethe in my power." How welcome he was at Berwick and how used by my lord of Bedford, you have heard. He remained two nights on the way, one at Dunbar and one at "Hedingeton," dining by the way with Lord Seton. He tarried 3 nights in this town: there came to him my lords of "Murton" and Glencarne and other gentlemen. He dined one day with my lord Robert of Holyrood House: his courteous dealing with all men deserves great praise and is well spoken of. Twice in the meantime I was with him, and at his going to the Queen, as his own horses were not come, I lent him a "cupple" of mine, the best for himself, and the other "not evle," for a servant. On Friday he passed over the water, on Saturday * he met with the Queen, where I hear he was welcomed and honourably used. He lodged in the same house where she was, and this day as I hear, repairs towards his father. It will be 6 or 7 days yet before the Queen be here; immediately after insues "the greate mariage of thys happie Englesheman that shall marrie lustie Liveston." God hitherto has preserved her majesty's health above the expectation of all men, and yet are we entered into a new winter, as great a storm lately fallen

* 17th February.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. upon us as the last, which wrought us many diseases. My lord Darnley, though I would not have it known to my lady's grace his mother, has taken a little cold—not much. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 19. **148.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Your honour perhaps desires to hear some news of our late arrived "geeste." The night he left Berwick he came to Dunbar; next day he rode no farther than "Hedingeton." In the way to Edinburgh he dined at the Lord Setons, which was ill taken by the Douglases for the discord between that house and them for hurting Francis Douglas. He tarried 3 nights at Edinburgh attending answer from his father, whether he should come to him to Dunkell where he was with my lord Atholl, or go to the Queen then at the "Larde of Wynse howse in Fyfe." On Friday* last having received word from his father to repair to the Queen, he went over the water to the laird of "Wymse" house, where he has been well received of her, and lodged in the same house. I have not yet heard what passed, nor for a time shall seem "to be verie curieus," being sure I shall hear enough, though I trust nothing to breed misliking to the Queen's majesty, or hinderance to that I have in hand. Many resorted to him when here—they like well his personage, for his other qualities time has not served. A great number wish him well—others doubt him, and deeplier consider what is fit for the state of their country, than "(as theie call hym) a fayer yollye yonge man." Some suspect more than I do myself, that his presence may hinder other purposes intended, "as that in speciall whearabowte I goe." Other suspecting his religion, can allow of nothing they see in him. Of all these diversities, with some I have discoursed—and can please them least that are persuaded "that yf he matche here in mariage, yt shalbe the utter overthrowe and subvertion of them and their howses. Whoe these are I neade not ne moe wordes to wryte! But for anye thynge I see, theie feare more then theie have cawse—and yet do no otherwyse then I sholde my self, yf I were in some of their places." I have spoken with Glencairn and Morton—the one for "the Religion," the other to enjoy his own and see his friends void of cumber, wish that some other had come in his place. "I dowte for all that nothynge of her wysedom good governemente and discretion, but that in all her doinges she wyll tayke good advisemente, in speciall be myndefull of that which towardes my soveregne she hathe promised moste cheiflye in her mariage to tayke her advise." His arrival was so sudden that many wagers were laid it could not be he—but another man,† "whome indeade I do hartelye wyshe were in his place"! Yesterday Murray sent M[r] John Wood his secretary to inquire what word I have heard from your honour, and when I think some knowledge shall come from her majesty of her further resolution on this Queen's words lately spoken to me at S[t] Andrews? wherein having fully signified her good will to apply to her majesty's

* 16th February. † Leicester?

Elizabeth.
1564-65. mind, as in honour she may, and as in reason she thinks her majesty should yield to and be content with, she would gladly know how far she may think herself beholding to her majesty and assure herself? lest through long delay new suspicion arise, not so easily wiped away, and her mind once altered will not easily be brought to the stay that now she is at. I doubt not your honour has enough consideration hereof, and your care is as it ought to be. I am glad it stands in such terms between their majesties: many more than I praise God therefor, and are "verie loothe" that ever there should be other days than for 6 years and more have been between these two realms in happy peace. My lord of Murray wishes that before I again move this Queen for resolution of the Berwick conference, or speak of my return, I might hear once again from you, for he thinks by this time you have conferred of new with her majesty and had further occasion to judge of this Queen's mind than before. It will be either Saturday or Monday before she be here. Until Ash Wednesday be past, she will not occupy her mind with any "grave matter." Between the time this reaches your hands, and that day, I trust to receive further advice of the Queen's majesty's pleasure and commands. Of all here, Murray's care in this matter is greatest; this he has chosen for the best to his sovereign, his country, and the amity. If it takes other success than he desires, he thinks neither his own days can be many, nor his country happy.

I purpose not to see the Queen as she willed me, before she leaves Fife. The lodgings promised me in gentlemen's houses I have yielded to my lord Darlie, and as his own horses were not yet come I lent him a couple of mine, and am ready to do him all the honour and service I may. On Saturday I sent him my ladys grace's pacquet, and this morning received these inclosed to her from my lord her son. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 21. **149.** LENNOX TO ELIZABETH.

"Moste excellent princes," Your great goodness heretofore has not only bound me to serve you for my life and daily to pray for your highness: and much more, when I learn your graciousness "in lisensynge my sun and heyre to come to me for suche purpos as or this I informed your majeste of," and by your gracious remembrance in your last letter to the Queen here. Trusting you shall never have cause to repent or withdraw your goodness. Dunkeld. Your majesty's most humble and obedient subject. *Signed:* Mathow Levenax.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Feb. 27. **150.** COMPLAINTS AGAINST ANDREW WHITE, &C.

John Bigges, Griffithe Ponten [and 6 others], merchants of Kaermerthen in S. Wales, complain that in November, 1564, Andrew White a pirate and others his complices seized their ship the *Marie and John* of Carmarthen with her cargo of wines and "other drye wares," value 400*l.* English money, and carried her away. Attested by the Mayor of Carmarthen, the Bishop of St. Davids, Sir James Croftes, &c., 28th November last.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. Also William ap Res, John Voyle [and 4 others] of Haverford West in S. Wales, complain that said Andrew White and others on 27th September last in the Severn between "Wormeshed" and "the Holmes," plundered the barke *Anne of the Severn* of "frizes &c. worth 240*l.*—as attested by the Mayor of Haverford West, the Sheriff of Pembroke, &c. As the said pirates carried the ship and goods to Whitorne in Scotland and sold them there suspiciously without paying custom, as the complainers learned by their special messenger: they pray the Queen's majesty to direct her letters to the Queen of Scots for redress of said losses and sharp punishment of the pirates.

2 *pp. Contemporary hand. Indorsed* (in another): ". . . A lettre therupon is writen to the Quene of Scotland according to the contentes within writen 27 Febr. 1564."

Feb. 27. **151.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Yesterday I received the inclosed letters from my Lord of Lennox, who is yet beyond the water with the Earl of Atholl. His son has been with him, and came again to the Queen at her coming over the Queen's Ferry on Saturday last.* Yesterday both he and I dined with Murray: his behaviour is very well liked, and hitherto so governs himself that there is great praise of him. Yesterday he heard M^r^ Knox preach, and came in the company of Murray. After supper, after he had seen the Queen and divers other ladies dance, he being required by Murray, danced a "galiarde" with the Queen, "whoe after thys travaile of hers for all the greate colde and stormes is come home lustiar then she wente fourthe." On Friday a messenger from the King of Denmark came to her with letters, which I saw presented to her yesterday, but know nothing of the contents. He says thus much himself, that the King desires more men of this nation to serve him, and that the merchants would forbear traffic with Sweden. A ship out of Dansken arrived lately, with word that the King of Denmark has sustained a great overthrow. This messenger acknowledges no such thing, and said when he came thence there was little appearance of any great battle shortly ensuing. Other things stand here as they were, myself attending the Queen's majesty's pleasure on the matters in hand. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 28. **152.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I have of late been perplexed to hear you were sick, the rather as I could not learn whether it was "the caugh, which universal did reygne," or some more dangerous disease, but am glad to hear you have recovered, and hope to be assured under your own hand. I am not *tam cupidus rerum novarum* that I desire any change, and if my fortune be to come to that realm, I wish to make no new acquaintance. I have found in you some lacks and points requiring reform and shall still find, so long as you do not satisfy my affections (such is the nature of man and "phylantye" which makes us fancy too

* 24th.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. much our own conceptions!) and yet I look for no full reformation. Yet when I indifferently behold your proceedings even such as I mislike, I am constrained to think that any other in your place might give me more misliking—and therefore I wish you to do well to yourself and suffer neither the evil weather nor the evil world to kill you. "As ther ar in yow many good partes which I requyre in my selff, so I fynd in me one greate vertew wheroff for your commodity I wishe yow a portion, to wit, the commen affaires do never so moche trouble me but that at least I have one meary hour off the four and twenty, and you lawbour continually without intermission, nothing considering that the body, yea and the mynd also, must some tyme have recreation, or els they cannot long last! Soche physik as I do minister onto my selff I appoynt for yow—Mary! yow may perhaps reply that as now the world doth go with me, my body is better disposed to digest soche then youris is—for those that be in love ar ever set upon a meary pyn! Yet I take this to be a most singular remedy for all diseases in all persones." You see how I abuse my leisure and trouble your occupations, with such light matters, yet not for lack of a more grave subject—but I purposely forbear, not knowing how to touch it and avoid offence.

I will rather look for advertisement of your convalescence than any answer to this foolish letter. Edinburgh. The last of February 1564. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 1-3. **153.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

After writing my last letter, there came hither young Murray of Tilliebarne that passed by you out of France. His chief errand was from Earl Bothwell, to purchase some grace and favour either for his return, or by this Queen's means to enjoy "ther" some such condition of life as he may live with the countenance of a man of his calling and birth. How this is accepted or will be answered, I know not. Of herself, she is not evil affected to him, but there are many causes why he is not so looked on as some other are—and more favour cannot be showed to him, accused of conspiring against her to take her by force and to kill those in chief credit about her, and when committed to prison (as it may be thought finding himself guilty) broke it and left his country—than to him* that detected the same and is yet detained. As I care not what becomes of him, I regard less what I write.

Letters also I hear are come from the Cardinal, whereby the Queen learns with what honour her dearest uncle "the noble prelate" was received in Paris, and what great kindness is like to grow between the houses of Montmorency and Guise. The first report of it which she heard by the advertisement I had from your honour, "brede the greate sorrowe" and I heard say she wept a while. "Thys she passed over with a shrewde worde or two agaynste hym that that daye so encounterd hym, and cawsed her dere uncle and coussen to tayke a howse for their refuge. Thys reverend Cardinall seekethe still by all meanes and practises, to have foote in courte, or at the

* Arran.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. leaste throughe credyt in courte, to save his throte from cuttinge." One great point he thinks won, in having the Prince of Condé his friend, whom he intends to match with the "Dame of Guyse," the next and greatest if he find the means, to marry this Queen again in France, to the King himself (for that cause some say D'Oysel has to do at Rome)—or on the young Duke of Orleans, though but a boy—how little profit pleasure or honour soever it should be to his "neece" to take him, whom above money, yea! his own soul he seems to love! Of this matter there has been for a good time some whispering, now come abroad against this Queen's will, so far that it is muttered amongst us, that she altogether mislikes her sweet and kind uncle's manner of dealing, to bestow her he cares not how or where, so he may make the match. To meet this, she imagines what may be fittest. To follow altogether her own fantasy, is not best to be allowed. To be ordered by her own subjects however faithful they be, is to yield too much, and more than can stand with a princely heart. She is most willing to follow the advice of one in grandeur like herself, in wisdom through experience beyond her, equal in honour, in heart and good will far passing any that has hitherto given counsel. To addict herself to my Sovereign's devotion she thinks most surety, to be advised by her most honourable, "and in doynge therof she hathe whearwith to satysfie all other that thus ernestlye presse her to do that whear unto her hearte ys fortheste of." When it shall be known to all with what judgment she has weighed the suits made to her, how wisely she has thought of her estate and country, in rather reposing herself on a Queen as her mother or sister seeking only her weal, than following the advice of those that seek only to make merchandize and their own profit of her—who cannot but commend her wisdom and discretion?

How to assure that all this by me here written, is her mind and shall take effect, is harder than I can give warrant for, yet I am certainly informed by those worthy of credit that it is so: and as I may be deceived, it is that which has made me so often crave that some wiser than myself may be here to try the verity thereof, and deal further therein than my wits will serve me; for I had rather be out of the world than that the Queen's Majesty should be deceived. I refer all these matters to your consideration as you think good. On Tuesday * Murray caused me to dine with him alone, saving his wife and the laird of Patarrowe the controller. Much of what I have written "passed our mouthes," and divers doubts cast as to the Queen's Majesty's part towards this Queen. They thought no greater honour could be than her majesty to have a queen at her will, and a whole country and people to rule and guide as she listed. I said these things might be bought too dear as is required: they said it is not the kingdom of England that is looked for, as it could not be had of right without the loss of a dearer friend than a kingdom is worth; but only the honour and name of "heire apparante, dawghter adoptive, or syster to a Quene of Englande," moves her most, and will content her subjects best, rather than she should do all for nought and neglect the counsel of her friends. I said again that they required "hym" to be matched with their Queen, "that stoode

* 27th February.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. in hope of a greater at home, one unwillinge ever to marrie but whear he judged of all createurs moste worthynes, a man that shalbe broughte from all quietnes of lyf, from honour inoughe, from lyvinge sufficiente, to dwell in a straynge countrie, with an unknowne people, to lyve in daynger and subjection (as whoe so ever that is not a Kinge and mariethe a Quene, muste and shall submyt hym self to a thousande adventeurs and parels"), which no friend that loved him could advise him to do! 'To saye playnlye to you' said Murray, 'for the partie whome you meane, I trowe we shall fynde more contentemente in hym then anye thynge els that ys lyke to fawle unto us; to whom yf we coulde wyshe greater honour, we thynke hym worthye of yt—yet I do beleve that with owte hym, we shall the worce lyke the reste, for of hym we have some knowledge, and have some assurance of his vertu to all our contentementes; for thother yt is uncertayne, and yf yt fell tomorrowe, I trowe that yt wolde breed us more troble then commoditye, and no lesse sorrowe to our mestres then to anye of yourselves.' I said little to this, but leave it to your honour.

Pitarrow then said, 'I wolde we coulde laye asyde these respectes of honour, pleasure, and commoditie, and go rundelye to worke of ether parte, to see what is Gods honour and the weale of bothe the countries; and yf thys be yt to have our soveregne marrie with a good Chrystian, and for bothe the realmes to lyve in frendeshipe, I wolde that bothe the Quenes wolde laye aparte these worldlye opinions and termes of greatnes and suche lyke, and in thys poynte I wolde that theie lacked some what of their willes; for whear all is in will, reason ys not the guide. And for my lord Robert (he bearethe yet here no nother name, for *Leicester* is not so reddie in our mouthes as that which we were wonte to call hym by) suppose that he yealde so miche unto reason, as he to be the meane to unite these two contries togyther, what hathe he loste of honour, what of proffit, what of pleasure thoughe not so greate as he dothe desyer, yet inoughe for anye man that fearethe God, or cane be contente to lyve under a lawe? The dayngers you speake of, waye them withe judgemente, and you shall fynde them lesse for hym to marrie abroode then with anye that he cane matche with at home. Yf he marrie with your Quene, the nateur of your countrie men will hardlye beare yt; yf he tayke ther anye other, yet will yt not be inoughe to awoide suspicion. I speake yt playnlye, and for his vertu I love hym, and yf you gyve us a papyste, I had rather that you tooke all the reste from us. You saye that we are poore: I confesse that our substance is not equall to youris, yet kynges have contented themselves with that which here theie have founde, and maynie mo thinges maye come to his handes, which yet the Quene takethe scruple to possesse, which upon hym were better bestowed then nowe the are. I wolde not that you sholde measure our tymes nowe as theie have byne, nether for daynger to those that raigne over us, nor yet for our povertie which you laye before us. Let us not therfore be estemed so lyttle worthe, or our good willes so lyttle regarded, nowe that you maye dyspose of us as you will, but as you professe frendeshipe, so lette yt be seen, let yt appere in deade, prolonge no tyme, tayke yt when yt servethe—you are a scholler, you knowe what *venire in tempore* is. Remember as you have hearde spoken here by my lord, howe ernestlye she is soughte otherwyse, you knowe her yeares, you see the lustynes of her

Elizabeth.
1564-65. boddie, you knowe what these thynges requere—yt is all our partes to farther yt—losse of her tyme is our dystruction, and yt is our parte to be moste carefull for that which we knowe to be fetteste and moste assured for her estate. Thys whiche hathe byne moved from your mestres, of all wyse men is beste allowed, and we that are her subjectes contente ourselves with yt, yea! thynke ourselves happie yf yt come to passe. Leave not therfore to do us good, we remember how myche we are beholdinge unto you, and nowe mayke us bounde unto you for ever. Lees us not, for we will hardelye be founde. As some of us have had, (nexte unto our owne soveregne), a trewe hearte unto you for ever, or at the leaste since we begane to knowe Good arighte—I speake yt for my lord as for my self—so shall we never be other, excepte that yt come of your selves. Thys I wolde that the Quenes majestie your mestres knewe, and yf I were present with her, I wolde tayke the boldenes to speake yt, and myche more then I have saide.' I did not contradict him much, rather willing to hear him than to speak.

I could neither put them in hope, nor discourage them. 'Of all thys' said Murray, 'I have the worste parte, yt is knowne through England, France and Scotland, what matters have passed betwene your mestres and myne, and yf theie be not keapte so secrete as you wolde, blame yourselves as well as us. I am knowne to be a travailer to your effecte, which I repente not, for before God, I do thynke yt the beste. Yf yt come well to passe, tayke the honour whoe will, yt is inoughe for me to have dyscharged my deutie to God and my countrie, and to have whearwith to testifie that I am woide of ingratitude towardes your soveregne, seinge other wyse I am not hable to serve her for the benefyte receaved—yf yt go otherwyse then well, the burdayne is whollye myne, for that I am the counceller, the devyser, the perswader—and howe well some all reddie lyke of me, you knowe, and beinge ever had in suspicion for Englande, ether I shall be forced to shewe my self their playne ennemie, or everie worde that I do speake of them (be yt never so trewe or juste) shalbe had in suspicion. Yf she marye anye other, what mynde will he beare me, that knowethe howe myche I do myslyke therwith? Yf he be a papyste, ether we muste obbeye or fawle into newe combers, and I ever to be thoughte the ringeleader. But to speake these thynges what dothe yt awayle? I wolde that theie were hearde in some other eares that myghte do good in them, or I wolde that I had that frendeshipe amongeste you, that anye man wolde tender my case as I do theirs. To wryte these thynges I maye not, nor to speake them to you but that I truste you, I wolde not—to sende them by anye man to be declared by mouthe, I will not. But whye sholde I of thys matter speake anye more? yt is not the fyrste tyme that you have hearde me saye as myche; I se nothynge the better, but dryfte of tyme, delayes from daye to daye, and to do all for nothynge, and to gette nothynge for all'! This talk and the like, I had long with these two lords, the first time I ever talked together of this matter, which now I know they did of purpose, that I might be warned of what might insue, if by our default matters take not good effect. I said what I could to confirm their good minds to my sovereign, and avoid causeless suspicion, for things would end better than they looked for. When we parted, Murray said secretly to me—'Whatsomever ye do

Elizabeth.
1564-65. with us, contende and stryve as myche as you cane to bringe us from our papystrie, for otherwyse yt wilbe worce with us then ever yt was.' I hope now better of her than ever. I see she takes some despite against the Queen Dowager, and her opinion of her uncle the Cardinal your honour may perceive; and what I like best, his spy Luserye her physician, goes shortly away, who is greatly credited with her, and no man so much amongst us for French matters—I would he be well used passing through England. He departs within 14 days, and other Frenchman of credit, wisdom, or honesty she has not about her. An Italian "Piemontois" * a singer that came with M. Moret is her secretary for French affairs. He "croope in" on suspicion gathered against Raulet, whose case and what befell him, your honour has heard.

I hear means are made to this Queen for the Duke Monpencier, who it is said shall be made Duke of "Burbon."

The Dutchman I wrote of has a message also to the Queen's Majesty. His errand here was to warn this Queen against her subjects' traffic with Sweden, and that he will suffer no ship to pass the "Sounde." Edinburgh, 1st March 1564. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

While I was writing, there fell on us so sudden and great a storm of snow, that I could get no man to ride to Berwick, and they have "lyne by me" these 3 days. On Thursday † at a great dinner with Murray, there was Lennox and my lord his son, most of the noblemen in town and the ladies of the court: I was also there. The Queen sent word she wished herself in the company, and was sorry she was not bidden. It was merrily answered, the house was her own, she might come undesired; others said they were merriest when the table was fullest, but princes ever used to dine alone. She then sent word that she summoned us all against Sunday, ‡ to be at her banquet at the marriage of "her Englisheman." After dinner we all came to her grace's presence; amongst them Murray and I had longest talk. Nothing that ever before had been spoken of, but was renewed, and her words were full of good will and readiness to do whatsoever with her honour, might stand most to our sovereign's contentment. She talked long of our sovereign's estate, government, of her mercy and pity towards offenders, and specially had not followed her predecessors' steps in shedding blood. We fell on religion: "I boore her grace in hande that she begane to savare § of the Hugenottes. That she denied. We tawlked of her masse: she defended yt the beste that she coulde. We have concluded that the chance of her religion shalbe so sone as she cane be perswaded to better, which she thynkethe she cane not be by anye that yet she hathe hearde speake. I desyered her to tayke consell of the quenes majestie my mestres. 'Abyde' saythe she, 'untyll I come ther.' I asked her when that sholde be? and she saide 'When your mestres wolde.'" We then fell on her marriage. She said to that she was minded. "I prayde God that her choyce myghte be good. 'He muste be suche one as he wyll gyve me.' I saide that God had made a fayer offer in hym for whome I had byne so oftayne tymes in hande with her grace. 'Of thys matter,' saythe she, 'I have sayde inoughe, excepte that I sawe

* Riccio. † 1st March ‡ 4th March. § Savour.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. greater lykelyhood, nor I maye not applie and sette my mynde but whear I intende to be a wyf in deade. And in good faythe no creatour lyvinge shall mayke me breake more of my will then the Quene my good syster, yf she wyll use me as a syster—yf not, I muste do as I maye, and yet not fayle unto her in anye thynge that ys my parte.'" I wished to enter no further herein, till I learn my sovereign's pleasure, but as far as I can perceive, she bears more good will to my sovereign than to any other—and this by her words to myself, and some things "largelyer" spoken by others.

Murray requests that for his brother-in-law the Master of Marischal who is continually under bands for ransom and presently in England to his great hindrance, it would please you and my lord of Leicester to move the Queen for letters to my lord of Northumberland to set him to reasonable ransom, to be void of the yearly cumber of making his entry to his great expense of living there.

The Italian Angelo has given up salt making, and left the country. Lennox and his son are well and daily at Court, but now less talk of anything intended by the Queen to him than at his first "newe commynge." The Duke is not yet resolved, but uses himself "warylye." I discomfort him in nothing nor assure him of what I cannot perform. Divers noblemen are come to this great marriage, to be solemnized tomorrow. "Olde Captaine Bortewicke is gone to God." Of the Earl of Montethe I wrote a good while since. He is much lamented for one of the most zealous protestants in this country.

Since writing hereof, there came out of England a servant of the Master of Marischal who declares to my lord of Murray that his master is "straytlye handeled, with iiij men at hys charges to attende upon hym," and no liberty or pleasure—that no bands will be taken from him as heretofore—and he is out of my lord of Northumberland's hands, committed to "one M^{r} Slyngesbye at Knavesborrowe." Murray thinks this usage worse than in times past, and more charges than he can bear, and trusts you will find means to remedy it, and have him put to reasonable ransom. Praying your answer at convenience. He conceives more unkindness against Sir Henry Percy, as he thinks him the occasion. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

11 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 10. **154.** LENNOX TO CECIL.

I desire by your friendliness to procure of the Queen's majesty a new licence for me to abide here for three months more—as I cannot proceed so soon as I thought in the assurance of my lands to my son —the laws here requiring 3 or 4 months at the least. This licence I only ask on necessity, for if I despatch not the matter while my son is here, his coming were in vain, and I must be present at the doing thereof. My greatest care is not to offend her majesty, but I trust by my lord of Leicester's good help (to whom I have also written) and yours, she will be satisfied herein.

"Also I shall desyer you to obteyne Harry* a lycens for thre or fower geldynges to geve." The Court at Holyrood House. *Signed:* "Your very assured freind, Mathow Levenax."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* *i.e.*, Darnley.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. March 12. **155.** MURRAY AND MAITLAND TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

As our especial friend the Master Marischal, of late called to enter himself prisoner conform to his band, by my lord of Northumberland, and put by him in the hands of his brother Sir Henry Percy, has been we are informed handled by him in such rigorous manner, as is not fit for this time of peace and amity, or for a noble man in affinity and friendship with some of us: we doubt not you will move the Queen's Majesty to command my lord and his brother to use such humanity as the case craves, and that a reasonable ransom be appointed—failing which that the Master may have leave to "wiset and ordour his awin affayres" and then enter again to Sir Henry. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart, W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's Clerk).

March 13. **156.** MURRAY AND MAITLAND TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

We have heard of the late edict by the Queen's authority, commanding all ministers to wear a certain habit different from their present apparel, "as tippattis, corned cappis," and others—which we doubt not will trouble the consciences of some, and before they wear it, will leave their ministry. "For thay being now the trew precheouris of Godis word, gif thai suld tak on the apparell usit in tyme of papistrie, quhat sall the multitude and mony ma think of it, bot as in outward habit thay wair the papistis apparell, sa in thair hartes thay approve thair doctrine?" What scandal may ensue among yourselves and your neighbours, we leave to your judgment. Therefore we write to you as labourers for the truth of God "thairaway," so to travail with the Queen's Majesty, that this edict be suspended, or at least delayed for a time, that men be not "thrall and bund aganis thair conscience to ony certane apparell," and the rumour shall pass away, whereof to our grief we have heard too much here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart, W. Maitland.

*"Althogh I do not prayse the precisenes off soche as do mak every thing a mater off conscience (off which nombre ther ar to many in both realmes) yet wold I not wisshe that men were to far preassed in maters which do anyways prick them in conscience."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 15. **157.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This Queen is daily in hand with me to know how soon I judge the Queen's Majesty will resolve to conclude in those things so long in communication, and is in some mistrust of these long delays. I know not if Murray in the letter I enclose to you, has mentioned it. Of Bothwell's arrival I doubt not your honour is advertised by my lord of Bedford. The Queen altogether mislikes his home coming without her licence, and has already sent a "sergante of armes" to summon him to underlie the law—which if he refuse to do, he shall be pronounced rebel. As it is thought he will perchance seek refuge in England, I am required to write to you to move her majesty that he

* The P.S. is holograph of Maitland.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. may have no "receate" there, and her officers be warned; as I have already written to Lord Bedford and Sir John Foster. As Bothwell is also charged by "Murraye that came laste owte of France," of speaking dishonourable words against this Queen, and threatening my lord of Murray and Lethington, that he would be the death of both when he returned to Scotland: and Murray calls to witness of these words one Dandie Pringle dwelling beside Newcastle: my lord of Murray has himself written to Pringle, and desired me also to write to him, to come here with all speed to know what he can say. He was then servant to Bothwell and has promised, if called, to verify the same.

I have written before of Lord Seton hurting Francis Douglas who is yet in peril of his life, and of Seton's pursuit therefor by Morton and Lethington. He has now got leave to go to France to avoid the cumber he is fallen into. I shall be required to write in his favour, how little soever he has deserved it.

My lord of Argyll has been continually sick since he came to this town—he plainly says to me he mislikes Darnley's coming home—for he says the affections of women are uncertain. He will abide by that to which he has already given his consent, and if he finds anything intended otherwise, he and his will provide as best they can for themselves.

For myself, I see no great goodwill borne to him.* Of her grace's good usage and often talk with him, her countenance and good visage, I think it proceeds rather of her own courteous nature, than that anything is meant which some here fear may insue. Time at least will show. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

†Before despatching these I received the Queen's Majesty's and your letters, to which I say nothing till I have declared her Majesty's will to this Queen. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 17. **158.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Friday I declared to this Queen the contents of her majesty's commandment to me, with which she was more commoved than for that present she spoke. I neither added or left unspoken anything in the letter, but uttered all as best to show my sovereign's good will. When it came to the point I desired to know what answer I might either send or carry myself to the Queen's Majesty? she desired me to have time to advise thereon till the morrow. To-day attending on her grace, she asked me if Lethington had spoken to me since yesterday? for she had willed him to ask me to write for the Queen's passport for him to go to France, and for more speed would send a servant of her own to depart to-morrow. What her mind is I may conjecture rather than know for certain—but I find her discontented, and hear by some that she has "weapte her fyll" since I declared the Queen's resolution to her. Some great conference I know there is between the Cardinals of Lorraine and Grandevile; a request came lately hither that she would not be over hasty to conclude in any matter with England. To confer of these she will give credit to none but Lethington. With him I have not spoken to-day,

* Darnley. † Added on a detached slip of paper.

Elizabeth.
1564-65. but did yesterday. Of the answer he says he does not mislike, but to counsel his mistress to make longer stay or drive more time, he neither can nor will. Murray is of opinion that it will in time grow to further unkindness, and is the "sorrowefulleste" man that may be. I write in haste, perchance to find things altered to-morrow, but assure you at present this Queen and those who know the resolution, are grieved at their hearts. I have to write of the Duke, Argyll, and many other mischiefs like to grow here—some for religion—some for fear of overthrowing their houses—some for doubt of her marriage with some papist—and never found in my life so discontented a people as here. One thing touching myself, I desire to be resolved in by your next: whether I may without offence to the Queen's majesty, "for all the lothenes" that I find in some, as the Duke, Argyll, Murray and others, purchase myself leave to return? which will sooner be had of this Queen, than content of many others. I despatch this in haste. Beton shall be the next to come, if this resolution hold, which I will overthrow if in my power, or at least give them advice to take better "advisemente." Edinburgh, Saturday 17th March, late in the night. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

1565.
March 27. **159.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This morning I wrote what I thought should have served your honour for a whole day—but this evening calling to mind what purpose I had with Murray this day after dinner, I would not leave it unwritten. Yesterday a post from France brought with him the certainty of the Cardinal of Lorraine's chase in Paris, as your honour has heard, and confirms that before written, viz.: the Constable allows his son's doings, and "comber" is like to insue. These matters grieve not a little the Queen, for in this Cardinal is her whole trust. He desires instantly to have some resolution from her of the marriage propounded to her for the Duke of Orleans, which both by herself and those about her "is so dyspyted as nothynge cane be more." This the Cardinal does to assure his own estate that way, as he has confirmed the same with the Prince of Condé by his sister-in-law the Duchess of Guise. He is earnest to have this Queen send Lethington to France with her mind. What to do or whereon to resolve, she is marvellously in doubt. She desires to do what may be most to our sovereign's contentment, her own people's desire, and the worth of our friendship. To this she is brought I know, only by Murray, who fears that through the long delays in the resolution looked for, either his sovereign will change her mind, or be forced to yield, seeing no better, either to the desire of France, or some other "as evle or worce." If she match with France, we shall not long agree with England, besides the doubt of erecting papistry: "yf she tayke fantacie to thys new come geste,* then shall theie be sure of myscheif, sedition and debate at home." It lies in the Queen's Majesty's hands, he says, to remedy these, and have this Queen at her devotion, besides the hearts of all the godly that fear these miseries hanging over their heads.

* *i.e.*, Darnley.

Elizabeth.
1565. One little history, and I will take leave. While she was in Fife, her household tarried at Holyroodhouse, where a priest was assigned to say them mass daily: to which there was such resort, that the godly were offended, and consulted how to remedy it. Some would have hanged the priest, others proclaim that none should repair there but the Queen's servants and household; the wiser sort found it best to advertise the Queen, and request that her own order be observed. With this message a messenger was despatched over the water—she heard his errand with patience, and promised speedy redress. And that there should be no doubt of performance, lest that on Sunday last the fury of the people might extend as they were minded against "Sir John," she hastened her journey home before that day, and yet at her mass time very many came to the gates, but could not be let in. What shall be done I know not, but what mischief this mass works you see, and what may insue if she match with a popish prince!

At her coming to the Laird of Lundie's house in Fife, who is a "grave anciente man, whyte heade, and whyt bearde," he knelt down to her, and said, 'Madame, thys is your howse, and the lande belongyng to the same, all my good and geere is yours. These vij boyes (which are as tawle men as any man hathe in Scotlande for so maynie sonnes, and the least xxv yeres of age) and myself wyll ware our boddies in your graces service withowte your majestes charge, and we wyll serve you trewlye: but Madame, one humble petition I wolde mayk unto your grace in recompence of thys—that your majestie wyll not have no masse in thys howse so longe as yt pleasethe your grace to tarrye in yt.' The Queen took his words well enough, but asked him 'whye?' He said he knew it to be worse than the "mickill Devle" with many other "spytefull" words. His request was granted, and he thought himself "twyse happie" to have the Queen in his house, and that it should not be polluted with idolatry. Here is another tale quite contrary:—the laird of Bamouto* "elder then the other grave anciente, an inveterat papyste for his lyf, he gave hys howse and lande unto the Quene upon the quyte contrarie condition, savinge his vij sonnes (so maynie he hathe also) 'which' saythe he, 'forsake me all in my religion, which makethe me sorrie at my harte.' Ther she had masse and bothe he and his wyf at yt. Thone is noted a godly, honeste, faythefull man—thother so evle spoken of, that yf all come to hys eares, I beleve he wyll dye for sorrowe!" I have led you to the end of my paper with such stories, and not told you the Queen is somewhat evil disposed, nor that Darnley is ridden this day to meet his father coming to this town. Edinburgh, after 10 at night. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 30. **160.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Praying safe conduct for her cousin George, Lord Seytoun with 12 companions, to pass through her realm to France on his own affairs, and repass at pleasure—to endure for a year. Palace of Holyrood House, "penult" of March, 23d of her reign. *Signed:* Your rict gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. *Addressed.* *Indorsed.* *Small wafer signet* (France impaling Scotland).

* Balmuto.

Elizabeth.
1565.
March 30.

161. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have received your letter of 20th instant, which came to my hands the night before Fowler arrived. In the Master of Marischal's matter, both Murray and Lethington think themselves beholden to my lord of Leicester and you, and are content that according to his substance he pay to the uttermost. The uniform order for preachers they well allow, and think no godly man will disallow it. "Marrie"! to constrain them to that brought in by the Pope, and used by none but papists as the badge and livery of him that has been the common subverter of all good order in Christ's church, this they and all the godly wish reformed, "and that no man be broughte to suche necessitie as is saide here that theie shalbe broughte unto." Once again they desire your honour and my lord to consider this, and as God has given you both singular wisdoms, and to your honour "more exacte knowledge of his worde then to maynie other," that you would so travail together that so great an offence to the godly may be removed, for how so ever "fawltles" you are, the blame shall chiefly rest on you two for your credit with her majesty. They would also be sorry that this Queen being "over farre addicted to that kinde of superstition, sholde by anye example from thens, be confirmed in that whearof she hathe allreddie to myche by reason of her education." I write at their desire, more than of myself, though in my heart I wish as they do.

But it more concerns and grieves me to inform you that there fly almost daily so many posts and pacquets "lyke fowles in the aier," bringing such news here out of your court, that they who willingly believe any evil of England lack no matter to "clatter" at their pleasure, or add what they can invent. The first tale is that the Queen's majesty openly reproved the preacher, and willed him to return to his text or hold his peace: the next that her majesty "for iij dayes togyther, wore a payre of beades with a crucifyx hanginge at them." The third, "that Bonar* in his defence at his arraynement, saide that ther was never a lawfull bysshope in Englande, which so astonyshed a greate number of the beste lerned, that yet theie knowe not what answer to gyve him"! and though it was determined he should suffer, he is remitted to the place whence he came and no more said to him. I have been so often told that England was in an uproar about caps, tippets, "etc." that I reprove those that speak of it. Such things brought to this Queen's ear, will confirm what is too deeply printed in her heart. From thence† this people has had example for rooting out idolatry and the beginning of the true worship of God. If any thing redounding to his dishonour be used there, it diminishes or darkens his glory in having his word truly preached here, encouraging the enemy to rejoice, and enlarge their tongues against Him, his ministers, princes and others. I may boldlier deny these bruits than know how to answer them. It is whispered by one this day arrived, that marriage is intended between France and England. How these men learn or invent these things, I would I knew, and could remedy them.

Beton arrived this day and strait departed to the Court at Stirling. Tomorrow Lethington and I follow to know what news he brought,

* Bishop Bonner. † England.

Elizabeth.
1565. though some of that here written, "he hathe shaken by the waye." There came two days since from Flanders, the new bishop of Dunblane, to whom the Queen gave it since the last died. He may be his son, for he bears his name—"lyke hym in conditions, savinge thys man hathe but ij childrene, whear thother had x or xij, bysydes that which he begotte upon his owne dawghter—but in papystrie all one, or worce yf yt maye be." He reports Flanders and England not like to accord; and has brought from Lovayne a holy man of the Jesuits' order, "the fyrste that ever in Scotlande durste shewe his face." This man remains in town, the prelate hastens towards the Queen. Bothwell has as grievously offended her for words spoken against our Sovereign, as those he spoke of herself, calling her "Cardinals hoore." She has sworn to me upon her honour, that he shall never receive favour at her hands. The gentleman F. Douglas is yet living, but no hope of his recovery. It may please you to let Lord Seton know, if not yet gone from Court. I can write so little in his favour that I care not what becomes of him. [Edinburgh?] *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 31. **162.** RANDOLPH TO THROCKMORTON.

[*Begins thus*] "noblemans mouthe," that lately the duke's grace and my lord of L[eicester] were playing at "tennes, the Quene beholdinge of them, and my lord Rob[ert] beinge verie hotte and swetinge, tooke the quenes napken owte of her hande and wyped hys face, which the Duke seinge, saide that he was to sawcie and swhore that he wolde laye his racket upon his face. Here upon rose a great troble and the Quene offended sore with the Duke." The tale is told by Atholl the same day that Fowler came here with his master's licence. We lack no news, for what is most secret among you, is sooner at this Queen's ears, that some would think it should be out of "the previe chambre doore whear you are!" These things so please me, that I would your doings were better, or your "titlynge tonges shorter." Bothwell said in F[rance], both the Queens could not make one honest woman; and for his own, if she had taken any but a cardinal, it had been better borne with. Of this you shall know what I have written to my lord of Leicester. Edinburgh, "reddie to ryde to Sterlinge." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

P.S.—See that you take heed to my letters: "for yf you were as innocent as our lord Jesus Chryste, yf anye evle comme to me, I wyll mayke you partaker." Alexander Clerke my treasurer is sorry it was not your chance to come to this country: he intended to have met you at Berwick and lodged you at coming to Edinburgh. This "darlinge"* of yours is so "dandeled" among us, I fear we shall show our folly.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Wafer seal* (quartered). *The first part of the letter has been lost.*

* Darnley?

Elizabeth.
1565.
April 7.

163. RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

I have your lordship's letter inclosing Sir John Forster's to you, full of strange news, but as you guess, I think a "verie tale." I will keep it from all save Lethington, as he is touched in that matter, and see how I can stir in him "a lyttle coller" that we may be sooner quit of so evil a neighbour.

It is true that Murray on Tuesday * went out of Stirling towards S[t] Andrews, and I am assured meant nothing less—but I intend to make Lethington privy what false alarm he gave the "good Earle" that drove him to the hills that time of night. Since I wrote to you, I have been at Stirling, and found the "Courte" very quiet by reason of Murray's departure. Lethington attends daily his despatch towards the Queen's Majesty. Tomorrow or Monday he will be in this town—about Friday or Saturday † with your lordship. I have got leave from this Queen for 20 days with the rest of the lords, to go where I please, and by her consent am licensed to see you. "Thys tyme she maye beste spare to all honeste men, for nowe is she most fervent in her devotions." My lord Darnley for 5 or 6 days has been very evil at ease—many took it for "the colde," and intending to "sweete" to drive that away, the "mesels" came out on him marvellous thick. He was past danger at my coming away yesterday, Friday at 4 p.m. He lodges in the castle, and there is served with a mess of meat at his own charge. "Somme tymes a 'reversiton' commethe from the Quenes table to hym." His father lodges in the town and keeps house there. Great expectation what shall come of this great favour to Darnley, which makes such muttering among us, that burst out it must to some men's cost. I will warrant you and your town till this summer be past; by next winter, either we shall make it sure for ever, "or fare well my parte"! You will scarcely believe what a bruit there is of Murray's departure: though I know it is because he will not assist with his presence "to those ungodlye cerimonies used these two weekes to come," yet the bruit is he is gone in displeasure, with her grace's "dysfavour," because he has of late been so plain with her "idolatrye" and small regard for redress of things to be reformed in the country. I know that before she left this town, he was very earnest with her for these matters, but not to her displeasure as reported, though he takes it grievously she is so careless. This night "by promes" I am sure to have some man from him, which made me haste from the Court by a day or two. I remembered Cesford before you wrote, and he shall be written to with strait charge to satisfy you. If Sir John Foster's matter be not in order before Lethington departs, I would he both speak with him and write to the Council—"for good I cane do none, and have to do with the veriest mastie carle that monke of Meurus that ever was"! If order not taken, I desired Lethington to proclaim we may take redress ourselves. Your lordship has no pleasure to hear of the ladies of the Court. One thing "for a wonder" is, that it is the first Lent this Queen having her health, did ever eat flesh. The next I trust shall be to leave her mass for preaching; she comes to very few, but says "the doctour is but a foole." I might thus end with honesty, for since I lighted from my horse, I tasted no bread—but this notable

* 3rd April. † 13th or 14th April.

Elizabeth.
1565. history must not escape me. "For certayne ther is founde a cave bysydes Muskelbourge, stondinge upon a number of pillers made of tyle stones curieuslye wraught, signefienge great antiquitie, and straynge monumentes found in the same." Alexander Clerke assures me of it, having seen it, which I will do myself in 3 or 4 days, and write more certainly to you.

"What, whye and whear" I spoke with the Duke as I left Stirling, requires more time than I have now. None were privy but such as are of trust. I leave to write to M^r^ Secretary, but if you find anything in this "hastie scribled" letter worth reporting, pray inform him, especially of Darnley's sickness.

I had the honour "to playe a partie at a playe theie call the biles, my mestres Beton and I agaynste the Quene and my lord Darlye—the women to have the gayne of the wynninges. Beton and I havinge the better, my lord Darlye payde the losse and gave her a ringe and a bruche with two agathes worthe fyftie crownes." Hereon depends a tale requiring more time to write. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

This bearer shall save you 10*s.* and my horse travel. He is the Master of Marischal's servant, and desires your safe conduct to the place where his master is. Divers letters have been written to my lord of Leicester and M^r^ Secretary, that he be put to reasonable ransom.

4 *pp. Holograph, no address leaf. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "7 Aprilis 1565. Tho. Randolph to the Erle of Bedford."

April 13. **164.** COCKBURN OF ORMISTOUN TO CECIL.

Asking his aid and help in repayment of 120*l.* sterling "and some oddes," for which he had become bound to ransom William Rabye an Englishman taken and kept in irons by the "Frenche Bask," and other Englishmen: through one Edmond Strynghame merchant of London, who with Rabye has unthankfully failed to refund his advance and left the country; and his lands are apprised for their debt. Ormistoun. *Signed:* Ormestoun.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 13. **165.** ORMISTOUN TO THE ENGLISH COUNCIL.

[*In similar terms to the preceding letter.*] *Signed:* Ormestoun.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

April 15. **166.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

As I have not spared from time to time to write how much Lennox's home coming was misliked and what was feared by Darnley's arrival—the matter is now grown to further ripeness. The Queen's familiarity with him breeds no small suspicion that there is more intended than merely giving him honour for his nobility, or for the Queen's majesty's sake, by whom "yt is saide" he was so well recommended. It is now commonly said, and I believe is more than a bruit, that this Queen has already such good liking of him, that she

Elizabeth.
1565. can be content to forsake all other offers, "gyve of all suters," and content herself with her own choice. I know not what Lethington knows or will utter, but am assured that with the best of his country, he partakes their griefs of the inconveniences and dangers like to insue, which he shall as soon find as any. He can more easily find how far they have gone, and I wish he would be plain with your honour, and deal as wisely and carefully in it, as in all things to his Sovereign's advantage. And if he can so much prevail against his own hope, as to persuade the Queen's majesty "to fynde yt good and to yelde as myche with hym as ever she was with anye other," I must needs commend his wit for ever. Always I would that her majesty were void of the suspicion that is here spoken to my face, that the sending him home was done of purpose to match the Queen meanly and poorly, rather than live long in amity. However false it be, I fear if things thus insue, men's hearts well affected to our Sovereign will alter. If they have proceeded farther than I have written, Lethington (if so much your friend as he pretends) will not "in privat sorte" keep it from you. Peradventure this coming of Fowler may better discover the matter with farther commission than I have to talk of it.

I convoyed Lethington hither by his own request; and thought it best to write from here and send by my own servant. Lord Scrope has often requested me to see Carlisle, and I can best be spared this Easter from the Scottish Court—now a small company. Whatever the Queen's majesty's pleasure, I will apply myself, however unpleasant, carefull, dangerous or otherwise my life may be. To speak of what I have most need, I am lothest—but am an humble suitor that in some way my charges may be considered, for considering the times and what I have to do for intelligence, I cannot keep fewer horse and men—and I am far worse in debt than ever I was in my life, and how to come out of it I know not. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 16. **167.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Praying him to assist the bearer William Clerke in his cause, and to move Lethington therein, although at his departure it pleased him to recommend the case to the President and divers lords of Session. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . for Mr. Clerke of Yarmouth."

April 18. **168.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Whatsoever I wrote last to your honour, I can boldlier confirm by the fond tales and foolish reports of his lordship's own servants. My whole care is now to avoid the suspicion that the Queen's majesty was the mean and worker hereof, as may be alleged by some, as it was of his father's return at her majesty's suit. I see likelihood enough of mischief among themselves, besides cutting off the amity. What is thought of himself, his behaviour, wit, and judgment, I would there

Elizabeth.
1565. were less spoken than is, or less occasion for all men to inlarge their tongues as they do. Of this I have a greater number of particulars than I may well put in writing, which shall not be secret to you, though I cannot utter them but with great grief of heart.

Now indeed I repent my time so long bestowed amongst them that through their own unadvised doings have brought their country to confusion. With the Duke I spoke not long since: he takes his house quite overthrown, and with heavy heart beholds the sight of them that he fears shall be his confusion. He trusted much in the Queen's favour, now he sees his undoing and all his adversaries' "fetches" tending to that end. The godly cry out that they are undone—no hope now of the sure establishment of Christ's true religion, but all turning to confusion. When you confer with Lethington, you shall better conceive what shall be best for both realms. Without care he cannot be, and if at any time I have seen him perplexed, it has been since these matters came to light, and the opinions of men he has heard thereon.

I most humbly thank you for your letter of the 11th inst.; and have in nothing been better satisfied of long time. I am sorry for the sickness of my good lords the lord Marques and Earl of Arundel. The Lady Marques is happy after so long and painful a life, to be now taken to God's mercy. There was much expectation of your parliament which should have been at this time. As much will be thought by this Queen of the prorogation which Lethington suspected, and was here well enough known to my lord of Bedford, though not declared to him. Of Darnley's "residuation" you shall hear by others. Of my own state I wrote somewhat last, for help of my need, and whether you think my abode longer shall serve to any good purpose here, I beseech to know by your next. It will be long before the Queen is again at Edinburgh, "but from place to place, which is more chargeable and paynefull for the attendantes." When I am out of Edinburgh I bear the whole charges of the house where I lodge. Company of friends cannot be refused, and something must be requited for this—how it may be borne of my allowance, your honour can well conceive! It would do me most singular pleasure to have somewhat of your advice in these unhappy times, and how to use myself in speech and otherwise. Berwick, yet to remain 5 or 6 days if my "happe" be to hear from you in the meantime. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

"The cave founde besydes Musclebourge semethe to be some monumente of the Romaynes by a stone that was founde with these wordes graven upon hym—APOLLONI GRANNO Q. L. SABINIANUS PROC. AUG. Dyvers short pillers sette upright upon the grounde covered with tyle stones large and thynck, torninge into divers angles, and certayne places lyke unto chymnes to awoide smoke. Thys is all that I can gather therof."

3 *pp. Closely written. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and by himself: "The Antiquite at Mussellburgh."

April 23. **169.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

Though I have nothing to write since my last, yet in duty I am loth to omit this opportunity by the bearer Lord Bedford's servant, In Scotland things remain as they were. Darnley remains doubt-

Elizabeth. 1565.

fully sick, sometimes well, other times taken with sharp "panges," his pains holding him in his stomack and head. His father lately wrote hither of his good hope of amendment—he lacks no attendance or comfort, oft visited by the greatest, and by the fairest, if that may help his malady. The Court is very small—none but Atholl, "the father and the sonne." On Palm Sunday there was a priest taken at mass in Edinburgh: he was brought in his vestments to the Market Cross, tied there with a rope 3 hours for 3 several days. The boys of the town cast so many eggs upon him that he hardly escaped with life. [Berwick.] *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

To-day I look for a servant from the Scottish Court, and to-morrow intend to return thitherwards, by Carlisle, at Lord Scrope's earnest request.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Much damaged by damp in parts.*

April 24. **170.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THROCKMORTON.

After your arrival in Scotland, you shall do all to understand "how farr forward" the intention of marriage is between the Queen "and Lord Darly"—how begun, how liked, how to be stayed, with all necessary circumstances thereto belonging.

Thereafter you shall proceed (1) for stay or dissolution thereof and (2) to procure the Queen's acceptance either of Leicester or some foreign prince "agreable to hir honor, and mete to norrish the amyty betwixt us both, and our twoo contreys." These two things we desire, and to obtain both you shall direct your whole actions.

"If you shall not fynd it a desperat and impossible purpooss to dissolve the intention of the forsayd marriadge," you shall say, that as she lately sent Lethington to give us to understand (in reply to our late message to her by Randolph, that till we were either married or had fully determined never to marry, we could not gratify her desire to have her title considered and published) therefore she thought our offer to her of Leicester was not meet without publication of her title as next heir: but considering we had before declared mislike of her marrying in the houses of the three principal monarchies of Christendom, she found it, both by advice, and of her own disposition, "not unmete to marry with the lord Darly, being borne our subject and yet of hir name, bludd, and of that hir owne nation, so as we shuld be therwith content, which he sayth both in this matter of hir mariadg and all other hir great causees, she doth requyre more than the good will of any of hir other next kynsfolk and frendes"—that though we have given him that answer meetest for amity, and know he will let her perfectly understand it: yet as besides his message, we have found "fond and straung" rumours spread both near us and in places by the ways between Scotland and our Court, probably by means of Darnley's "parentes,"—so touching the honour and princely reputation of our said sister, that we are grieved and sorry, and therefore have addressed you thither, both to impart the same and learn her direct intention on her marriage, that she may thereon know and certainly understand "our determinat purpooss and mynd in the same."

Elizabeth.
1565. When you see it convenient, you may declare how it is reported by Darnley's friends, that she has so far proceeded in love of him, "as he being sick of the mezells, which is an infectuooss dissease, she cold not be perswaded to tarry from hym, but attended uppon hym with as much dilligence and care as any cold! Yea and that she so much desyred to procede in marriadg with hym, as if others had not bene scrupoloss and fearfull to assist the same, she had bene affyed* to him"—and sundry such fond tales to show her earnest affection. And after Lethington's coming, and his assurance that these unseemly tales were false, we saw the same increased, which heartily offended us: and to show they were not true, "we did commande the Lady Lennox, to whom we had of late tyme shewed singular favor, to forbeare from our presence, and cold but for some other respectes, have shewed more tokens of our displesure towardes hir." For this cause though we never thought these tales true, yet finding Lethington earnest to procure our allowance of this marriage, we have sent you to our sister to know her mind truly, and how far she would have us proceed to repress "such unsemely spechees"? You shall let her understand that if she will still persist in her former purpose "to have our contentation in hir mariadg, we will therof have as good regard both for hir honor and hir avancement as any frend she hath; and as for this mariadg with the lord Darly, we wold have you to tell hir directly, that ther be many just causees, why the same semeth not mete in our judgment for hir, nether can we with that impart to hir such fructes of our good will, as we can and will with others." And if she presses to know the causes moving us, you shall say we did not open them to you. But you shall say, we earnestly require her as she thinks that our amity shall further her, to forbear from this intention, and rather return to consider that, now of a good time dealt in for the Earl of Leicester—of whom, for his person, his degree, his qualities, though comparisons are not meet, you may say we doubt not such of her own friends as are acquainted with him, can impartially testify there is none so meet for her—and to add to his "vallew" for her, we will yield "to avance our sistars title, with hym, as farr furth as with on that wer our naturall brother, and yet not inheritable to our crown, as it might be being our brothar on our mothers syde: and without hym we meane not nor can fynd in our hart, to doo the lyk with any other." And if she shall show herself to like hereof, if she has good assurance to have her title established, you shall say we shall omit no good mean to inquire into and establish the same—and though it may be thought by some an unlikely thing, yet "such is our judgment of the dexterite and vertu of the sayd Erle, as we have found it in our hart a thyng of good contentation, to have our sistar to be with hym accompted and truly allowed as our next heyre of this our crown, and shall be as well content duryng our owne lyffe so to thynk and to see the same take place, as though she wer our own naturall born doughter. Which thought and determination, although it may seme to manny very straung, yet so we know it to be, and doo affirm it as a thyng most certen and trew." And we will not do the like with any other but the said Earl.

* Affianced.

Elizabeth.
1565. And yet if she likes this not, as percase otherwise counselled by her friends: as we have heard that her uncle the Cardinal of Lorraine and others, have propounded to her the choice of a noble man of France of the king's blood "(whom you may if ye see convenient, named the Prince of Conde)," then we will she understand that we can better allow of that marriage for her, "and shall inclyne ourselves more to favor hir interest with hym, than with this that hath bene so indirectly sought for the lord Darly, not only without our knoledg, but also contrary to the spechees of his frendes here, wherwith we take ourselve very farr abused."

But if on arriving, or before you speak with the Queen, you secretly learn that the matter is so concluded as none of those speeches can dissolve the intended marriage with Darnley, then you shall "alter the order afor prescribed, and deale in this sort followyng —you shall shew the messadg doone by the Lard Lyddyngton and the" [*Ends thus abruptly with the page.*]

7 *pp. Holograph draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "24 April 1565. The first instructions for Sir Nich. Throkmorton."

April 29. **171.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since I received the Queen's letters with those to my lords of Lennox and Darnley, when ready to depart with them to Court, I received advertisement from my lord of Bedford, that her majesty's mind for the return of Lennox and his son was altered, and her pleasure was if these letters were not delivered I should proceed no farther, but report the state of affairs. I have obeyed, and shall say nothing of the charge committed to me: but in my simple judgment, if she had so found good, her majesty might have been void of the almost universal suspicion of her that the sending Darnley home was a thing done of purpose, to a worse end than I am willing to write. Darnley is not fully recovered, and for that cause the Queen stays her journey to S^{t} Johnstons for a few days. Her care has been marvellous great and tender over him. Such tales and bruits of her doings spread abroad, that it is wonder to hear the discontent of her people: I speak not of the common sort, whom I trust least, but of the wisest in the realm—and in a word to say it, "never anye in her govermente worce lyked." If any thing but amity and peace were wished, "and the Quenes majestie well dysposed to trye what she myghte do, I beleeve the tyme was never lyke, nor mo advantages to be had." Hereon if it please you, I will write more.

Murray I have not seen since before Easter. On Tuesday he will be here with all his friends of the best in Scotland, to keep the day of law against Bothwell, who some say is already embarked for France or Denmark. On Saturday * Murray came to Stirling, and had worse countenance than he looked for. He is suspected not to favour the Queen's intent with Darnley. I must write more of this after seeing him, for the better assurance of his mind: which if not altered since I spoke with him, he has no cause to allow of it. Believe not hastily what may be spoken by some of him. There was never man in greater care or more suspicion than he is at present.

* 28th April.

Elizabeth.
1565. I send you a letter from a friend that is "no foole." I cut off the beginning, because it touches myself: the rest it is needful you should know; under it I have written what insued and what I judge it may come to. You shall see what hope there is that our "newe come gestes" will do any good either to amity or concord.

"Greater triumphe ther was never in anye tyme of moste Poperie, then was thys Easter, at the Resurrection and at her Hye Masse. Orgaynes was wonte to be the commen musycke; she wanted nowe nether trompet, drumme, nor fyffe, bagge pype, nor taber." I am ashamed to write it of her whom I honoured "as in deutie I myght." On Monday she and divers of her women apparelled themselves like "bourgois" wives, went upon their feet up and down the town, of every man they met they took some pledge for a piece of money to the banquet; and in the same lodging where I was accustomed to lodge, there was the dinner prepared and great cheer made, at which she was herself, to the great wonder and "gasinge" of man woman and child! "Thys is myche wondered at of a Quene"! There was a like purpose "upon Sondaye," but Fowler the "flyinge post" arrived there on Saturday at 10 p.m. "I knowe not what aylethe them," but I hear they are all become sad, and this great day unsolemnized with any such folly. Thus much escaped him, that Lethington is not "so welcome as he loked for," and his message is greatly misliked. I trust to be excused to my lord of Leicester, there is no more matter that concerns him. Edinburgh, penult of April late at night. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

You shall hear of these matters more at large in 2 or 3 days.

3½ *pp. Holograph. No address leaf.*

Inclosed in the above:—

(Alexander Clerk to Randolph.)

[*The first 21 lines cancelled—touching on Randolph's "insatiable host" and money lent Randolph to pay him—that he can find no chain with so many links, or the ring of which Randolph has written, etc.*] "And as to your mistres Marie Beton, sche is boith darimpus and sclenbrunit *, and you in lik manere without contrebaxion or kylteperante *, so that you ar boith worth litill money." Lethington's message is very evil liked here by "the hole Protestans," and if evil liked by your mistres, I trust it shall make division or trouble. Our Queen is at Stirling very quiet, as the bearer can show you. Argyll was there this last "Monunday"; arrived afternoon "(send for)" spake her grace that night, and departed early in the morning. Atholl still keeps his house—some say for displeasure at Darnley's sickness, who is somewhat convalesced. The Queen purposed riding to S[t] Johnston "this Tuisday after Pasche day," but will not "steir" without Darnley may travel, which will not be so shortly. She has been greatly offended at the handling of a priest taken for saying "the blasphemus mess," and was so commoved that incontinent she sent M[r] John Spens her grace's advocate to this town to inquire, and with him wrote to my lord comptroller to advertise her

* Probably some slang expressions.

Elizabeth.
1565. in writing with diligence, and then come himself. Who to satisfy her grace, obtained from the common clerk of this town the copy of the process and accusation, which was before the provost, bailies and council, for breaking the Act of Parliament of 1563—the priest found guilty on his own confession, as well as two for hearing mass, one called John Loich the other Kennadye—by an inquest of 13, one half papists, the other half protestants—doom was given by the "dempster" that the priest should stand at the market cross from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and then be sent back to prison. I am assured there was 10,000 eggs spent upon him; and at his down taking, as the common people were not satisfied with that punishment, 300 or 400 men with batons would have killed him, but the provost being at supper, himself came to the cross, brought him down and proclaimed that no man touch him on pain of death, and put him in irons in the Tolbooth. The other two had their goods confiscated, and their bodies in prison in irons, to abide the provost's discretion. All this was reported to her grace by the lord Comptroller, who "this Setterday" parted to Stirling to satisfy her further. She has "this Sounday" commanded the provost, bailies &c. to free the two hearers, restore their goods if taken: which is obeyed to the great offence of the whole people. And I trust when the like occurs, execution will be made in "ane other maner of sort" without seeking justice of magistrates! For even as her grace was enraged against this town, and taking her journey with diligence to make punishment, "ye! and to hang sum wherof sche wos informit"—even so are the most part here greatly offended with the delivery of these two men—and I assure you there is greater rage now amongst "the faithfull" than ever I saw since she came to Scotland. There is at Court my lord Chancellor arrived last Saturday night, Lords Lennox, Atholl, Cassillis, Glencairne, Rothoven, Justice Clerk, Advocate, and now the Comptroller &c., as Corbet can declare at more length. Murray is at S^t Andrews still, and "partith to the Court this Twisday becaus he is send for be hir grace"—where he will remain till the "penult" instant and then comes here to keep his justice court, where I believe there shall be such a company of gentlemen as never was together without commandment of the prince in any time bygone—for I trust most of the "honest" protestants of Scotland will be here. Bothwell takes shipping presently to France, for he has been here at Morem [Morham] and Creichtoun, and the bruit is he is to part—the papists affirm the contrary. It is believed "the Quenes majestie wald him good: bot I trest hir grace will nocht declare the same at this present." The Elliots of Liddisdale has plundered their neighbours the Scotts, slain some men and burnt houses—and the Scotts are presently here suing "the Quenes majestie" for license to take revenge at their own hands. I would wish a "letter ot mark" granted, as long as any of either side were alive! Edinburgh, this Sunday at night. *Signed:* Ye knaw quha.

Mr. Kyncaid has him recommended. "Further ane good bow may mak me ane archer, for I trest gif I do any thing good, it sell be the bow and nocht the man." * The Queen sent for the most of her nobility (except Murray, Argyll, and that faction) to be at Edinburgh on Thursday and Friday "the Easter weeke" to punish the provost

* What follows, added by Randolph.

Elizabeth.
1565. and bailies. Many assembled, and some came here—others prepared for defence; and if she had not changed her mind, there had been great mischief, whereof Lennox and Atholl bear the blame. I excuse Lennox, though 200 of his friends and tenants came to him at Stirling.

3½ *pp. In one hand, and addressed by same*: (to Randolph as "agent in Scotland" for Elizabeth, and presently at Berwick.)

May 1. **172.** DETERMINATION OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

The Queen's Majesty, finding by the Laird of Lethington, the intention of his mistress her good sister the Queen of Scots, to marry Lord Darnley, which she thinks very strange: has communicated the same to her Council, who having advised thereon, with one assent think it would be unmeet, unprofitable and perilous to the sincere amity between the Queens and their realms, and move her Majesty not to accord thereto, but offer her said sister "a free election of any other of the nobility ether in this wholl realme or ile, or in any other place, being sortable for hir estate, and agreable to both the realms." *Primo Maij 1565 anno 7 Elizab. Regine.* Winchester, Norffolk, Penbroke, Edward Derby, E. Clynton, W. Howard, E. Rogers, F. Knollys, W. Cecill, Amb. Cave, Will^m^ Petre, John Masone, Ry. Sakevyle.

* "*Nota.*—This is the copy of the paper delyvered to Sir N. Throkmorton."

4 pp. *Fair copy corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): ". . . . A determination of the Pryve Counsell uppon the mariadg for the Q. of Scottes, ag. the L. Darlys mariadg." *Cecil has also copied the Council's names in facsimile.*

(1) Another copy of the same.

2 pp. *In another clerk's hand. Indorsed. Much mutilated.*

May 2. **173.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THROCKMORTON.

It is superfluous to repeat in writing Lethington's message to us: but you shall let "that Quene" understand that "to this matter moved for the Lord Darnly," we do simply mislike it, as a matter dangerous to the common amity, "and presently a vehement occasion to move us (nor without greif) to withdrawe and alter our inward satled affection from hir our good sistar." You shall say that this our judgment is not grounded on any sudden offence, but on good deliberation, and the advice of our nobility and council: and we would that she consulted her good councillors, and not hazard the fruit of our former amity by so "sodden and unadvised an acte as this appeareth to be, wherof we are sory to heare so much for the soddennes as we doo"!

And that she shall not think we mean to stay her from marriage ("wherunto we do allowe hir inclination how so ever we ourselves have hitherto forboren) we are content to permitt to hir a full liberty"

* Written by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1565. to consider of all the rest of our nobility, "sortable for that purpose," except Lord Darnley, and shall be well content with any; and if her choice be of some speciall person "in our realme" agreeable to our mind, we will employ our whole power to procure "that the same shall prove as honorable as this cold be, if not rather more," and more profitable to her and her realm.

We have motioned this to Lethington not only generally but particularly—but find him so "tyed" to his message for Darnley, that he has no power to treat otherwise. Therefore you shall expressly declare to "that Quene" our wish that she send some persons hither with sufficient authority; and "we will not spend long tyme unproffitably, but will roundly, frendly, and as effectually as we can, devise and conclude for some more meter mariadg within our realme or other place, for hir, than this is."

And if she objects that this our offer is "very generall," you may say it cannot for many respects be "other," yet a short conference of "discret" ministers will soon make it "in effect spetiall," and some issue must needs follow. If she disallows "to have it here with us," we shall send some to our frontier, or to her Court, "rather than she shall find lack in us."

As from Lethington's speech it appears to be doubted if "our whole" Council disapprove this matter, you shall have with you their resolution thereon in writing, whereto they have set their hands: and may say truly that "others of our nobility, having not voyce" in our privy council, are of the same mind—"not one knowne to be of the contrary." You shall "shew" the same as you see cause, "and bring it back to be restored to our said counsellors without deliveryng any coppy thereof to any person, as a thing not used to be delivered in writing out of our realme." You shall use your discretion in diminishing or amplifying these our instructions, and in your whole negotiation make our servant Thomas Randolph privy, as one that has known all that has passed herein, and can well inform you of "the humors of all sortes there." If our cousin of Bedford be at Berwick on your arrival, you shall in our name require him to remain till your return, or our pleasure otherwise.

*If you see the Queen inclined to forbear this marriage and hearken to some other, you shall declare that "as ther is no publick determination made who in right shall succede us and our children, if God shall gyve us any, and she may be well assured without our consent no certenty will be declared therof with authorite, duryng our liff": it follows therefore unless we shall be drawn by some special motive of affection or profit, "we will never be brought to permitt any such declaration to take place; and this we theruppon conclude, that only with the Erle of Lecester we can be content to yeld herunto, and with none els. And why we will accord to none els, she cannot be ignorant what conceptes of mynd doo depend and contynually follow upon the stabilishyng of a second person for a kyngdom! And yet such is the affection we beare to the vertues of the Erle of Lecester, as we can thynk ourselves as well content with hym to match with a second person, as though he wer our naturall born sonne! and to bryng it to pass that both we may be herwith quiet, and she our sister made to us as assured as our doughter, this way yow may say we

* From this point in Cecil's hand.

Elizabeth.
1565. have only found fesible and none els: first hir mynd to be unfaynedly knowen whyther she can forbeare from this match with the Lord Darly? Next hir right to be well considered, and that perceaved by us to be in justice as she supposeth: than can we be content to bestow uppon hir with the Erle of Lecester our full contentation with all our power to have hir allowed as our next heyre, with such resonable and honorable conditions, as may be devised to preserve the estate of ourselves and our children in quiettnes and suerty, and such also as shall be agreable to the commen and mutuall commodity of both our contrees."

And if you see that neither she nor her council "shall tast of this our free offerr:" you shall say (1) with Darnley we cannot grant our good will, (2) with Leicester she may see how to have it, and (3) we can assent to her marriage with any other than Darnley "with more or less mesure" of good will. But only with Leicester, we mean to inquire judge or publish her title: and this is "the bottom of our mynd" herein at present.

13 *pp. Fair copy corrected by Cecil, and the last two pages wholly drafted and very carefully corrected by him. Indorsed* (by him):" 2 May 1565, the first instructions for Sir Nich. Throkmorton sent into Scotland."

May 3. **174.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Tuesday night* Murray and Argyll came to this town to keep this day of law against Bothwell, who appeared not, nor is it known for certain what is become of him, though common report is that he embarked at North Berwick. The company that came in favour of Murray are esteemed 5000 or 6000: more also had come, but were stayed by the Queen, "who hathe shewed her self nowe of late to myslyke of my lord of Murray, that so ernestlye pursuethe hym, and will not gyve his advise to tayke the lyke advantage upon some other whome she bearethe smale affection unto." Herein they have proceeded thus far. On Wednesday he† was called, and for lack of appearance "was condemned in the somme," but farther the Queen would not the Justice Clerk should proceed—which occasions such talk against her for bearing with such men in her own cause, as it passes all measure. Such discontent, large talk, and open speech I never heard in any nation, and for myself see not but it must burst out in great mischief—for she is suspected of many of her nobles, and her people discontented for her religion, this match a making without advice, and other as evil things they suspect, besides her unprincely behaviour in many of her doings, that they will shortly either have it reformed, or openly signify that what she has taken in hand tends to her own destruction and overthrow of tranquillity of her realm—and must be helped by sharper means. They are not one or two, nor are they meanest that speak it, nor the unlikeliest to execute it.

The speech of this marriage to any of them, is so contrary to their minds, that they think their nation dishonoured, the Queen shamed, and country undone. A greater plague to herself and them

* 1st May. † Bothwell.

Elizabeth.
1565. there can not be, "a greater benefite to the Quenes majestie coulde not have chanced," than to see this dishonour fall upon her, and her so matched where she shall be ever assured that she can never attain to what she so earnestly looked for, and without it would accord to nothing. She is now in utter contempt of her people, and so far in doubt of them herself, that without speedy redress, "worce is to be feared." Many grievous and sore words have of late escaped her against the Duke, she mortally hates Argyll, and so far suspects Murray that not many days since, she said, she saw "that he wolde sette the crowne upon his owne heade." How these men need look to themselves, your honour sees. It is come to this point, that Murray and Argyll will at no time be in Court together, that if need be, one may relieve or support the other. The Duke lives at home, and thinks himself happy if he may die in his bed. The preachers look daily to lose their lives, or to be commanded to silence, as already "she" hath done "one M^r^ Thomas Dromonde a godlye and lerned yonge man that preached at Dombleane."

With Argyll, came to town Lord David the Duke's son and most part of the Duke's friends. Bands and promises were made between the Duke and Murray, that nothing shall be attempted against each other, but defended to the uttermost. Glencairn, having been required by Lennox to do the like, has refused and joined the Duke. Morton was absent, and I have heard no man worse spoken of. He is now in hope "my Ladies grace" will give over her right of Angus, and so he will become friend to that side. In this Lethington labours not much to his own "prayse." Ruthven his chief friend, is wholly theirs and chief councillor among them. Suspicions arise on every side, partly against myself, for I was lately at the West Border —thought practising with the Master of Maxwell.

Murray was willed not to have to do with me, and when he said he must speak well of me: 'Well,' sayth she, 'yf you will, lett not Argile have to do with hym.' For all that, I have supped with Murray twice and Argyle remained an hour at my lodging with Lord David; he mislikes all. Maxwell leaves not my company, but wiser than many, laments the state of his country and is ashamed of it. The country is broken—daily slaughter between Scotts and Elliots—stealing on all hands—justice no where. Fowler came as I wrote on Saturday night late—communed long that night with the Queen and his "lordes." He brought her grace a letter of 5 or 6 sheets of paper in cipher from Lethington. Thus much is known that the Queen's majesty utterly mislikes the matter—what else is in it, few I believe shall know—part was shown to Murray, the rest was undeciphered when he left her grace. Fowler has said the Queen's majesty openly said she had no liking of it; if it took effect the Duke should be put down in a month, and all good Protestants driven out of the country, which she would not suffer. These words are in many men's mouths—glad to hear it, and believe it better because he reports it. Through this and somewhat else that I have spoken, many are now well satisfied that the Queen's majesty did not send him hither for any such purpose as shall now undoubtedly take effect. "Whatsoever maye be borne in hande, that yt shall no farther then the Quene majestie wyll is, and dothe assente, I knowe yt all reddie paste that poynte." It may be said that Murray was the doer and contriver hereof, which I know to

Elizabeth.
1565. be otherwise; for if so he would not have refused to be present at the assurance and contract making. I know much more than this, but I trust it may suffice you. What practices are in hand, or how long it has been "a bruinge" I know not, but the father has said he is sure of the greatest part in England, and the King of Spain will be his friend. If this be their "fetche" your honour knows it is time to look about you.

It is feared that her majesty will over soon allow it, and over hastily accord to this Queen's desire: at least some open show of her discontentment is wished. Lethington is suspected to favour Darnley more than he would seem, and yet I assure you he is scarcely trusted amongst them, and of late "dyspytus" words spoken against him, on certain words he wrote to Murray "that he sholde perswade the Quene to mayke no haste in the matter, but keape yt in the staye yt was when he lefte yt." The chief dealers in these matters are "David Riccio the Italian, Mingo vallet de chamber, Atholl and Ruthen, whome I sholde have named firste." Thus your honour sees how things are—such pride, excess in vanities, proud looks and despiteful words, and so poor a purse I never heard of. Lennox is now quite without money: he borrowed 500 crowns of Lethington and has scarcely what will pay for his horse meat! If he gets no more from thence, you shall see him shortly put to his shifts. His men are bolder and saucier with the Queen's self and many noble men, than I ever thought could have been borne; divers resort to the mass, and glory in their doings. So much pride both in the father and the son that there is almost no society or "compagnionrie" amongst them. My young lord being sick in bed, has already "bosted" the Duke "to knocke his pate when he is hole"! These things breed envy and at other times have not been borne at greater men's hands than his! What is like to come hereof I leave to your judgment. I write these things with more sorrow and grief of mind, than in any passion or further affection to any part, than that I am desirous that the work wherein I have been "a laborer all moste vj yeres, with care sorrow and greater burdayne than I have byne hable to beare," viz. to maintain amity between my native country and this, should not now be overthrown and destroyed; nor that the good will the Queen my mistress has through her just deserts gotten among this people, should here take an end when most desired and looked for! Counsel is now more worth than men or money; "a worde habler to feare us, then an hoste of men to conquer us." I need say no more, knowing with whom I have to do, and yet I assure you I have said much less than is looked I should write, according to the trust put in me. Wherefore having discharged my duty, and satisfied the request and most humble suit "of her majesties poore trobled and afflicted frendes here, I tayke my self blameles and leave all matters to be judged of accordinge to her hyghenes wysdom," with your honour's good advice.

This day Thursday, the chief of the Protestants here with the ministers assembled in the church: "consultation was had, what order myght be put unto that confusion that was, that everie man myght do and saye what he wolde withowte reproffe, agaynste Godes glorie and his worde"? Their deliberation contained 3 heads: (1) how to remove idolatry out of the realm, "contayninge in that as well the

Elizabeth.
1565. Quenes cappell, as other," (2) that her own laws might be put in execution without offence: (3) that liberty might be granted to such as are admitted to preach "the trewe worde of God." After long reasoning, it was determined to put these in writing, and certain appointed as messengers for the rest.

My chief desire in going to Carlisle was to return by the Master of Maxwell's, and see the works he has in hand. In Annan town he has builded a fair tower, able to receive above 100 persons "at ease," and 40 or 50 horses. From the sea into the land, he has cast a trench of good breadth a mile long or more, with only three ways to enter, that saves a great part of the country from thieves and sudden "roodes." Within two miles of it he "byldethe" two other forts—the one great—the other a watch tower of great height; in that he has a bell to warn the country at need, and beside the same a "become." In this shall be continual watch; in the other 24 horsemen to follow and ride on all occasions. There is also another trench cast down to a moss side, of great length and breadth, that it is not possible for any horseman to come out of England to his bounds, but must enter at some of these straits, and not pass forth except he be seen and known. Thus in peace he can keep his own—in war no man can commit a sudden attempt on him, and he thinks his cost and travail well bestowed. He is well disposed to peace, and has promised to continue: and for justice I would the other wardens were like him. In war I "dowte" him more than any of the rest. I leave troubling you, only awaiting some advice. All men here repair homeward to-morrow, Murray to Court: in a day after I will follow, and see what countenance will now be made to me.

One from Lethington arrived to-day and passed strait to Court without speaking with Murray, but told a friend that Lethington will be home within eight days, and Sir Nicolas Throckmorton shall shortly be here.

I most humbly desire your remembrance of my former suit. My charges are far above my allowance. Edinburgh. "Late." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

7 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 8. **175.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

As I wrote in my last, Murray departed from this town towards Stirling on Friday last. On Saturday I purposed following him, but by his advice remained here till I heard from him again, to have more liberty to write or talk with any than I could have at Stirling—but specially to confer with Lethington or any other from England "before he came to the Courte." Now to let you understand things: Murray was never more made of "then he was for the fyrste nyghte by the Quene and bothe the lordes—so mychе that he had no lykinge therof hymself." Next day, the Queen being in Darnley's chamber, shews him a writing to this effect:—"that he sholde promes to allowe, graunte and consente unto her mariage with the lord Darlye, and by all meanes that lyethe in hys power, fortifie and set forwarde the same as in anye wyse by her he sholde be commanded and required, as he wolde shewe hym self her moste obbediente subjecte, and awoide her hyghe dyspleasure." This bill suddenly offered to

Elizabeth.
1565. him, he desired to take time to advise. "That was denied hym, and he ernestlye pressed presently to setto hys hande, the sonner, for that maynie had graunted (as she saide) ther unto, which wolde the willinglyer do yt by hys example. He used for his defence the dyshonour that yt sholde be unto her that waye to seeke yt; what the worlde all reddie sayde, and what other princes wolde judge of her hastie doynges—in speciall the Quenes majestie, with whome presentlye her graces embassador was and from whome she dyd attende shortlye somme answer, perchance suche one as maye be to her contentemente. Moste of all, and above all other, he wolde be loothe to consente to the mariage of anye suche one of whome ther was so lyttle hope that he wolde be a favorer or setter forthe of Chrystes trewe religion, which was the thynge most to be desyred—and in hym so fewe tokens that anye good wolde be done, who hytherto had shewed hym self rather an ennemie than a preferrer of the same. Here upon ther rose betwene them greate altercation: she gave hym maynie sore wordes; he answerde with as greate humilitie and humblenes. Nothynge at hys hande coulde be optayned nor hytherto the byll subscribed." He remains in displeasure, and somewhat doubts what may be imagined or intended against him, and is now thought to be led altogether by England—so much that it was said—"yt was knowne from whens he had that lesson." Before Lethington returns he will assent to nothing to further their desires, and therefore I am requested to write to Lethington to hasten hither, for now all matters frame unhappily here, to the discontent of all honest men.

To have like consent of all or most part of the other noblemen, divers of the greatest are sent for to be at Stirling on Monday next*; and this day the Justice Clerk has been with the Duke to persuade him to be there and accord to this marriage. I know not his answer—you shall look for it by next.

The Queen likes not that Lethington should shortly return; "but moste of all she wyll not that anye man sholde come from the Quenes majestie before yt be concluded and accorded unto by her nobilitie, that she maye have their handes to shewe that yt is done by their consente." Therefore Beton is sent to stay Lethington; "and whether thys be done by his consente or not, I wyll not judge, what so ever other thynke, nor yet wyll I beleve that he is a man of that kynde of dealinge." I see I shall "wante no matter frome daye to daye"; but how to govern myself I know not, nor have of long time heard from your honour. If within two days, Lethington come not, and with him Sir Nicolas as he wrote, "I wyll to the Courte whear nowe I knowe my whole credit is loste, as also all theirs that favour my cawse." These times grow so dangerous, that I see it is time, and have good warning, to look to myself. "The greateste wante I have your honour knowethe"; but for no adventure shall her Majesty's service be neglected. Edinburgh, . . . "late in the nyghte." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I must be excused to my Lord of Leicester, my time serves not—and I am sure your honour will make him privy.

The Elliots, 300 in company, on Friday last burned and spoiled 10

* 14th May.

Elizabeth.
1565. miles about the Laird of "Baughclouches" land—slew many men, some women and children.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

May 11. **176.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I understand by your honour's letter received by my servant, that the Queen's pleasure is that Sir Nicolas Throckmorton shall shortly be here, with full commission to treat with this Queen of all matters touching marriage with Lord Darnley. "What hope so ever her majestie maye be put in, or what so ever is saide, that yt shall no farther procede then her majestie will allowe therof," I am assured that there is more secretly passed between "them" than willingly they will be known of: which I leave rather to you to think than that I would put it in writing. It pleases her grace to advance him to the highest degrees she can call him to; as on Monday* to create him Lord of Armenacke, upon Tuesday Earl of Rosse and Duke of Rosaye [Rothsay], which are the three chief honours of her patrimony, and never before given to any but the king's own sons. Rosse and Armenacke lie between Murray and Sutherland in the North, and "Rosaye" the chief town in the isle of Butte in the West seas, not far from Arrayne. To this solemnity are assembled the chief estates of this realm to have their full consents as well to the marriage as to these grants, which never yet were given from the Crown. There are divers judgments and opinions hereupon, but I believe all will go for a while as she would have it. To be against her marriage they can not, to let her give of her own, I know not who will go about to "let" it. If they can obtain some more assured order for the establishment of religion, they will think themselves to have sped well, and this I believe will be the end. The fear this Queen conceived that the calling the father and son to England should hinder her determination, caused the more haste to set these matters forward. Besides Argyll (though written for and his letter not yet delivered) I know not who of the noblemen will be absent. To withstand any thing she desires, I know not who has the heart or courage, "savinge he of whome ther is all reddie over greate suspicion that in hys mynde he is sore agaynste yt." It is spoken that some other shall be called to greater honour—as the Lord Robert, earl of Arcknaye [Orkney], Lord Ersken, earl of Marre which he claims by succession. Some others it is said shall be made lords and knights, whom I name not. Whether Sir Nicolas shall "strayte" to Court, or be desired to tarry here, I rather fear, than can write for certain. If she wills him to tarry, it will be that she wishes all matters determined before he come there.

It may please you to know for certain, that James MacConnel assisting his brother "Carlebo"† against O'Neil, is taken prisoner, and many of his men slain. Some say both his brothers are dead, and that he is a prisoner I know from "his owne wyf" with whom I spoke to-day. I will inquire further, but hereby Argyll shall want a good friend at need. How the Scotts and Elliots speed, I care little which has the better. Hitherto the Scotts have the worst, and the

* 14th. † Sorley Buy.

Elizabeth.
1565. others daily burn and spoil. If her majesty care to be cumbered with such people, I can get her grace as many as she please, with a strong house or two. There was within these four days in this town so joyful tidings, that had they been true, Scotland would be happy for ever. The bruit was that the occasion of this Assembly was the Queen was determined to leave the mass and confirm all the orders for establishing Christ's religion. So many said the "aulter" in her chapel was pulled down, that few in the town did not believe it. Coals were got to make bonfires, whole hogsheads of wine should have been in the streets to drink who would for joy, but nothing in the end was found more false. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

May 11. **177.** MAITLAND TO LEICESTER.

The next day after I left London, a gentleman of the Queen my mistress met me nigh Newark with a new commission and commandment for me to turn back to Court. "Nottheles" finding the instruction not agreeable to my own opinion, I kept my course hitherward, of purpose rather to speak my mind, than commit it to a letter which cannot reply. I doubt whether her majesty will take it amiss or no—but trust she will not think the worse of me when she shall know what good reason moved me. As matters fall out, your lordship is like enough to be advertised either by me or others.

I am sorry not so much for myself as for my lord of Murray, that the Queen's majesty's letter to Sir Henry Percy in the Master of Marischal's matter, at my request, has served to so small purpose, for I understand that no "Scottisman his band" will suffice to set him at liberty. I pray you let her majesty understand so much. I would have been glad he had found more favour for Murray's sake, whose uprightness every way deserves to be well thought of. I meant no hindrance to Sir Henry Percy, but only that Murray might have been gratified in a reasonable matter, "and off cours" upon the frontiers, yet without Sir Henry's prejudice. His motive I cannot judge, for he would not give the answer to my messenger, but said he would certify the Queen's majesty herself. If it be mistrust, I am sure such Scottishmen might have been "pykit out," that for a greater matter than the Master's ransom, would not put their honour in jeopardy. Well, the good gentleman must patiently abide the pleasure of his keeper. I trouble you no longer with this "fascheux discours," but pray I may always remain in your good grace. Berwick. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 11. **178.** THROCKMORTON TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

Lethington and I arrived here "thaleaventhe of this monethe, wher M[r] Marescall receyved us with fyt enterteynment and shoes,"* meet for friends and foes and for the governor of a town of war. Lethington was met by the laird of Langton and other friends to the

* Shows.

Elizabeth.
1565. number of 40 horse. I learn that on Monday the 14th, there shall be a great assembly of the nobility and gentlemen at Stirling, to feel and try their devotions touching this marriage. I understand that the matter is very earnestly minded and prosecuted by this Queen, and with such vehemency as she would be very loth to be dissuaded from it. The earnestness appearing therein doth rather move me "to thynke yt undissoluble than otherwyse": but when I consider the foundation of the matter "(which was dispyte and angre) I can not assure my selfe that suche qualetyes wyll brynge forthe and contynewe suche fructes and effectes, as the love and usage that is bestowed on the Lord Derlynge dothe shewe." I hear that she means to send an express man to her uncles and kinsfolk in France, with such declaration of the forwardness of this matter, as they may well think there is no place left for other advice, neither that she can or will be persuaded to take any other in marriage. John Beaton (who met Lethington betwixt Newark and "Grauntam") brought him commission from his mistress to return and declare to the Queen's majesty, that since she had been "so longe trayned with fayre speche and in thende begyled of her expectacion, she did mynd with thadvyce of thestates of her owne realme, to use her owne choyse in marryage, and to take suche a one as in her opynyon should be fyt for her, and that as thynges fell forthe, she would no longer be fed with Yea and Naye, and to depend apon so uncerteyne dealynge." It appears by this dispatch that she takes very grievously the former "handlynge" of her marriage. "I could wyshe that the Quenes majestie, you, and my lord of Leycestre had sene the pennynge of the mattre of her owne hande, wherof I gat a sight: you would have said ther had neyther wanted eloquence, dispyte, anger, love, nor passyon." Lethington had also commission after his charge done in England, to repair to France and there make the King and State allow her choice, and the rather to move him to these "legacions," she sent him a bill of credit to the receivers of her dowry there, to disburse what sums of money he would ask, and to spare for no cost. And the rather to incite him to make the voyage, "she did wryte hym the moost favorable and gentle lettre with her owne hande that ever Quene did wryte to her servaunte, not leavynge behynde large promysses enowe of hys benefyte and greatnes in tyme to come." Yet notwithstanding this strait charge and great "enchauntment," he would neither return to London nor yet to France, but came hastily after me, overtook me at Alnwick, whence we came hither, and mind to depart on 12th to Edinburgh. "Sir," while in mind to end, I received the enclosed letter from Randolph, whereby you may see the haste made of this "disordrelye" marriage! I made Lethington privy, for he knew nothing thereof. I never saw him in so great perplexity nor passion, and would have little believed "that for anye mattre he could have so ben moved; so as therbye I doe perceyve he is as lytle affected to this marryage as anye other." I am not like to have audience so soon as I wish. Among other commissions to Lethington, he was straitly enjoined by all means to stay me coming to Scotland—"and contrarye to that, he wyll not goe without me!"

The Queen's Majesty's Council in the North think for respects of great consequence, that the Earl of Northumberland be stayed "ther above," and not suffered to repair to the North—and that Sir Richard

Elizabeth.
1565. Cholmeley be "sent downe beyng examyned ther what intellygence he hath of theys matters"? The said Council will write as to the rest of that "factyon." Berwick. *Signed:* Yours to use and command, N. Throkmorton.

P.S.—The papists here begin to rouse themselves, and the unruly people of Liddesdale to live insolently and commit many disorders. I have procured Lethington to write with speed to Murray to stay "this hastye creacion towardes": and done the same to Randolph, and to employ the best means he has. Lethington wishes that "I had commissyon to threatten thys Quene with denuncyacion of warre in case she wyll thus proceede in marryage with the Quenes majesties rebelles, as the last refuge to staye her from this undvysed acte."

2½ *pp.* *Addressed* (to Leicester as K.G., and to Cecil). *Indorsed* (by latter).

Inclosed in the same.

(Randolph to Throckmorton.)

By the inclosed you see what haste we make to that "which we wolde be at." Seeing you cannot be at this "creation," I trust we shall both be at the marriage, though I conjecture we may be both well spared. Send this on to M^r^ Secretary, or whom you please, with diligence. I do what I can to stay this haste, but we are both like to fail. I wrote to Lethington to speed him hither and trust my letter met him by the way. Edinburgh. This Thursday at night 10^th^ May 1565. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Foot of leaf torn off.*

May 11. **179.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Two days before I left the Court, I sent by a special messenger the Queen's majesty's letter written to Sir Henry Percy in favour of the Master of Marischal—who would give no answer, but said he would answer himself to the Queen. Since he flatly refuses to let him go on any Scotsman's band, the letter has been to little purpose.

[*The remainder similar to his letter to Leicester: adding, if men are not temperate in their demands, they should be* "reducit *ad arbitrium boni viri.*"] Berwick. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 12. **180.** THROCKMORTON TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

"Sir," Lethington is much grieved at Sir Henry Percy's refusal to "dismysse" the Master of Marischal notwithstanding the Queen's pleasure to the contrary signified by you—except on Englishmen's bonds, which Lethington takes but for an evasion, and desires me to commend the matter to you both—not so much to pleasure the prisoner and his kin, as for his own "poore credyt," and chiefly to satisfy Murray, whom it is very meet to gratify at this time. For this matter I stayed my packet till the 12^th^ when I left Berwick, and the same morning Lethington by James Menyes

Elizabeth.
1565. Scottishman, received a letter from the Queen his mistress, saying* that she with consent of 12 or 13 nobles, minds to create on Sunday next† the lord "Derleyn" earl of Rosse, "and wyll make a band to obey the Quene and hym in thys theyr mariadge. That symple sowle the Duke dothe yeld to all, with a promysyd wrytyn condycion to enjoy hys owne." Morton and Justice Clerk are the doers. Murray will in no wise be conformable: he will have the Queen leave the mass and quit all popery, or he will never agree. She and Darnley will no wise agree thereto. You may guess what that may mean? Argyll has refused to come to this convention, though sent for by the Queen. He passed by the Court and would not see her. She has given strait order to have "spiall" on me and my doings. I perceive "the poett faylyd not that sayd *Non bene conveniunt nec in una sede morantur, majestas et amor.*" Lethington has prayed me to require favour for James Meynis in his suits. Berwick. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1½ *pp. Partly holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

May 15. **181.** OATHS &C. BY LORD DARNLEY.

Oaths taken (1) as a knight (2) as an earl, to be "leil" and true to his Sovereign lady her realm &c.

Stirling 15th May 1565. Darnley after being created knight, baron, "barnect," lord of Armanoche, lord of Parliament and "beltit" earl of Ross, before the Queen's majesty, created these 14 knights:—

Sir Robert Stewarde of Straighdone: Sir Robert Stewarde of Largis: Sir Alexander Stewarde of Dalswynton: Sir James Stewarde of Doun: Sir William Murray of Tullibarde: Sir William Douglas of Hawick: Sir Patrick Houston of that Ilk: Sir John Maxwell of Nether "Powoke": Sir William Levingston of Kilsyth: Sir John Murre of Caldwell: Sir Robert Drummond of Carnock: Sir James Hume of Synlaws: Sir James Stirling of Keir: Sir William Ruthwen of Baldene.

1½ *pp. Contemporary hand.*

(1) Another copy.

2 *pp. Same hand.*

May 18. **182.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting her safe conduct for 3 months for James Makgill, eldest lawful son of her councillor Mr. James Makgill of Rankeillor Nether, clerk of Council and Register, to the parts of France "or utheris beyond sey, quhair he is bown to the skwlis."‡ Stirling, 23rd of our reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

May 21. **183.** THROCKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Since I wrote on the 11th to my lord of Leicester and Mr. Secretary, accompanied with Lethington, I passed from Berwick to

* From this point holograph. † 13th May. ‡ Schools.

Elizabeth.
1565. Dunbar castle on the 12th instant, and lodged there that night, where I found Lord Gordon, eldest son to the Earl of Huntly, "a condemned man for highe treason." There Lethington made me a very good supper, and the next day the 13th, we arrived together at Edinburgh, where I communicated to Mr. Randolph your majesty's instructions to me. There Lethington received new command to seek some means to stay me for 2 or 3 days, alleging the Queen's "infirmitie," and that no order was as then given for my lodging at Stirling. Nevertheless he departed in great diligence for Stirling, making me privy to his charge and remitting me to my own liking: when I learned by Randolph that this Queen intended to make Darnley knight and baron and create him Earl of Ross the 15th of May, and on the 16th Duke of Albanie, the "collacion" of all which honours her mind was should be passed before my arrival at her Court. Whereupon the 14th, I left Edinburgh for "Lythcroe," lodging there that night, and arrived at Stirling the 15th in the morning, "and descended from my horse at the castle gate, havinge sent before my cosen Myddlemore your majesties servaunte, to demaunde my audyence." Arriving at the castle, the gates were "shote" against me, and I could not be suffered to enter, whether from fear or some other passion I know not. Thus remaining before the gate some time, there came to me the Master of Erskine [Askyn] and Justice Clerk, one of her privy council, and desired me on her behalf to retire to my lodging appointed in the town, and after I had reposed myself the Queen meant to give me an audience. Though I pressed for it forthwith, well knowing the creations were to take effect that day, which I thought meet for your better service to prevent and defer by all good means I could: my request was not admitted, and I departed to my lodging. Thither about 2 p.m. Lords Erskine and Ruthven [Revin] two of her privy council, came and accompanied me to the Queen, whom I found in the castle accompanied by the Duke of "Chattelleroe," the earls of Argyll, Murray, Morton, Atholl, Glencairne and other earls and barons, so it appeared few nobles were absent.

I delivered your majesty's letter, and under your instructions set forth at good length your misliking and disallowance of her hasty proceeding with the lord Darnley, "as well for the matter as for the maner, wherin she erred by unadvysednes and rashenes: and the said Lord Derneleye and his parentes had failed of theire dueties by theire arrogante and presumptuous attemptes to enterpryse suche matter, . . . without makynge your majestie previe therunto, beinge your subjectes." The Queen answered that she had not failed on her behalf to communicate the matter to your majesty in time "(that was to saye)" as soon as she was resolved of the man and the matter—"for other promesse she never made anie, but to communycate unto your majestie the person whom she would lyke to chowse." And as to your misliking it, she marvelled not a little, "because she did but use her choyse accordinge to your majesties prescription, fortefyinge her sayinge and doinges by your majesties minde declared not longe agoe by Mr Randolphe to this effecte unto her, as she alledged: that is to saye, what tyme she did advertyze your majestie of the mocion made unto her of Charles duke of Austryche, (your majestie disswadinge her from that matche, and from anie of the Emperors howse, and lykewyse from the howse of Fraunce and Spaine,) you weere contented

Elizabeth.
1565. (that thosse howses onelye excepted) she might take her choyse of anie person within the realmes of Englaunde and Scotland or in anie other countreye; and because she thought nonne might be more agreable to your majestie and the realme of Englaunde, and likewise to her subjectes and the realme of Scotlande, than the Lord Dernleye (he beinge your majesties kynsman and hers and pertycypatynge of the Englishe and Scottishe bloude), she did with the lesse precysenes proceed so farre forwarde in this matter as she had donne." Thereupon I replied and impugned her sayings by the "verie wordes" of Randolph's commission—containing these 3 articles, 1st for her own contentation—2d the allowance of her people, and 3d that the choice be such as the strait amity "betwixt us not onelie for our owne persons, but also for our nation, maye be contynued, and not dissolved nor diminished." Proving to her by many and probable arguments, that Lord Darnley did in no part satisfy the contents of that "lyberall permission" whereon she chiefly grounded herself to have your allowance. About this we spent long time, and had sundry disputes, which I omit to declare till my access to your majesty; as also my other negotiations with this Queen and her council, severally and together four sundry times.

Meantime that your Majestie may consider of the matter "in good howre," and so direct your counsels and proceedings—it may please you to understand that this Queen is so far passed in this matter with Darnley, "as yt is irrevocable and no place leefte to dissolve the same by perswacion or reasonable meanes, otherwise than by vyolence, albehit the mattre is not yet consummate, neyther shalbe (as she hathe willed me to asserteyne your majestie) theis three monethes," in which time she will use all means to procure your acceptance, and leave nothing undone to win your favour. She means shortly to send one (not Lethington, who is not presently in best terms with her) to treat with your majesty therein. Darnley received the honours before specified after my audience the 15th instant "(the creacion of Duke of Albanie onelie excepte)"—the conferring of which honour, the Queen at my leavetaking on the 19th, promised to defer till she heard how you accepted her proceedings and answer to my legation. Yet I find her "so captyved eyther by love or connyng (or rather to saye truelie by bostinge or follie) that she is not hable to keape promesse with her self, and therfore not moost hable to keape promesse with your majestie in theis matters." The day before my departing (which was the 18th) she made me dine at her own table "onelie": Randolph, with the Duke and other nobility in an other chamber. And after I had taken leave, she sent Lethington to my lodging with my despatch, who brought me "in present" from her a chain of gold weighing 50 ounces.

I do well perceive it is in your majesty's power either to dissolve this matter betwixt her and Darnley (if you like to use your power) as I shall declare at my coming: or it rests at your pleasure to end it more "amyablie" with such conditions as may be to your honour, surety and felicity. To bring one or other of these to pass, it may please you to put in execution the "memorials" I now address to my lord of Leicester and Mr. Secretary.

I mean (God willing) to be at Berwick the 24th instant and there to spend a day or two viewing the fortifications and to confer with

Elizabeth.
1565. Sir John Foster warden of your East and Middle Marches in my lord Bedford's absence—whose speedy return is very necessary. As I learn there is a dangerous practice intended in Yorkshire, I mean to return by York and warn the Lord President.

Herewith your majesty shall receive a memorial of the honours bestowed on Darnley the 15th instant, containing the very form of oath to the Queen of Scots, "for somme respect not convenyent for anie your subjectes to make to anie forreyne prynce."

She intends to summon the Estates of her parliament the 20th July next—and likewise the ministers of her clergy about 10th or 12th June, to put in readiness for parliament some matters concerning religion and ecclesiastical policy. To obtain whereof to their contentations, it is looked for they shall show conformity to this marriage, and tolerate her retaining her private mass: about this I see there will be much ado. Since my leavetaking, she has travailed earnestly to compound difference betwixt Argyll and Lennox. She means to leave Stirling for S^{t} Johnstown, when Darnley is able to travel—which is thought will be in 4 or 5 days.

The Duke, Argyll, Murray, and Glencairn all go to their houses forthwith for a time.

I understand this Queen means to send in legation to your majesty, her Master of Requests, and one of her privy council, named M^{r} John Haies who is here reported a wise and honest man. I take him to be most affected to Murray, and to run his course, which may stay him from this charge. She sends forthwith an express messenger to the Bishop of Glascoe her ambassador in France, by all means to make the match agreeable there. I understand of all the matches motioned to her, her uncles most desired that with the Prince of Spain, which was in greater towardness than was looked for in England; and as I learn was chiefly overthrown by Murray and Lethington. For the Duke Charles, I cannot find that ever she was bent, nor earnestly any of her council. True it is that the Cardinal of Lorraine carried Spain in his right hand, and Austryche in his left, and of all in England and Scotland he preferred the choice of him that now she has. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

5½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil). *Stained by damp. The inclosure is probably* No. 181.

May 21. **184.** THROCKMORTON TO CECIL.

[*Refers him to his letter to the Queen, and her power to dissolve the Darnley marriage either violently, or to win a reasonable composition, such as Cecil's letter of the 14th indicates—provided they proceed as in his memorial inclosed.*]

I would be very sorry if "de Movyser" (who means to come hither) is able to tell this Queen that her proceedings with Darnley are not so ill taken by her majesty and council, "as I have made shewe of in all my negocyacion": for that will much hinder "the purposse that I thynk her majestie would be at." What I say of Mauvisier, I mean also of Graham [Gryme], Lethington's servant, and another Scotsman named Menez, that departed to England at my being at Berwick, and generally of all others that may give intelligence here.

Elizabeth.
1565. You shall receive also a letter from Murray sent me since I left the Court. I suppose it concerns the Master of Marshal's liberty, and for your good favour therein, as the only mean to "qualefye" Sir Henry Percy, and I am greatly pressed by the Earl and his friends to recommend it to you. It may like you to put her majesty in mind of Thomas Randolphe who serves her chargeably and diligently here. I find by "the man" that fair promises heretofore have drawn him to spend largely and execute his charge carefully. "Marye! nowe perceyvynge that his payment is nothynge but wordes (save his ordenarye dyot which dothe hardlye suffyce hym) and that he hathe nothynge to gratefye suche as geve hym intellygence, he shewethe to me a great desyre to be delyvered of his charge and could be contented to put his heade in a hoole, synce the fructes of his servyce worke hym so smalle advauntage"! Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Inclosed in the same:—

185. MEMORIAL FOR LEICESTER AND CECIL.

First: that her Majesty and all of her council make it "appeare evydentlye to all folkes" that the proceedings of the Queen of Scotland are so grievously taken and misliked, that her majesty must needs "chasten tharrogancye of her subjectes" and avenge this indignity: to publish sending down Bedford to his charge in force, and admonish all the wardens to stand on their guard, and be ready to serve, showing no more favour "to this nacion," than forbearing breach of peace will suffer.

(2) To stay Northumberland at London and send down Sir Richard Cholmeleye to the council at York to receive ordinary process for his disorders there "dependynge," which (as I hear say) will procure him imprisonment: and that the Lord President and Council there have good eye to the doings of Northumberland and the "Ladye Lenoux factyon"; by no means suffering the Papists through the realm, either in or out of Court, to think themselves in credit or estimation.

(3) To put greater restraint upon Lady Lennox, and harder "sequestracion" than now, that she may have no conference but with those appointed to her, nor any means left for intelligence with the French ambassador, but chiefly none with the Spanish—which imports most.

(4) That my ladye of Somerset find more gracious entertainment in Court than heretofore.

(5) That the Queen's majesty "lye in good wayet" that Lady Lennox directly or indirectly have no intelligence of her doings or speech "other than that severytye is entended."

(6) It shall be to very good purpose, that both from her Majesty and them "conynglye," Lady Lennox shall know they all marvel that Lethington—a man of judgment—can be so blinded as to further this marriage so earnestly, which they did so well "espye" by his last legation.

(7) To use all means to stand well with France and Spain, to bring matters better to pass in the end, as he trusts—and some other

Elizabeth.
1565. thing which he will communicate to them at his coming. These to be done without delay, and either a breach will follow, or a good composition.

1 *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "21 Maij 1565. A memoryall from Sir Nich. Throkm. to the Erl of Lece. and W. C."

May 21. **186.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

I know not how to utter what I conceive of the pitiful and lamentable estate of this "poor Queene, whome ever before I estemed so worthye, so wyse, so honorable in all her doynges: and at thys present do fynde so altered with affection towardes the lord Darlye, that she hathe broughte her honour in question, her estate in hazarde, her countrie to be torne in peeces"! I see also the amity between the countries like to be dissolved and great mischiefs like to insue. "To whome thys maye cheiflye be imputede, what craftie subtyltie or dyvelyshe devise hathe broughte thys to passe, I knowe not, but woe worth the tyme! (and so shall bothe Englande and Scotlande saye) that ever the lord Darlye dyd sette his foote in thys countrye." This Queen in her love is so transported, and he grown so proud that to all honest men he is intolerable, and almost forgetful of his duty to her already, that has adventured so much for his sake. "What shalbe comme of her, or what lyf with hym she shall leade, that all reddie taketh so myche upon hym as to controwle and commande her, I leave yt to other to thynke!" What shall be judged of him that for bringing a message from the Queen, that was to his discontentment, would with his dagger have slain the messenger: so little he yielded to her desire, so bold he was at the first with one of her councillors; yea, with him that most favoured his cause, and was the chief worker of that which passed between them! "These thynges my lorde do move me myche to lament her case, thys is yt that maye move anye man to pyttie that ever sawe her, that ever loved her;" but most of all I am sorry to see so good opportunity to unite these realms lost, to the great hurt and hindrance of Christ's true religion, and undoing of a great number of honest and godly men here that know not what to do either for themselves or their country. "What to judge of his commynge home, maynie mene knowe not, but the moste parte are perswaded that in the sendinge of hym ther is other meaninge then ther was in utter showe: yt is also beleved that ye maye be easlye intreated to fynde yt good, what shewe or face so ever you mayke to the contrarie; and thys amonge some of them hathe byne openlye saide, that you do rather boste us with wordes then myslyke yt in your heartes! Of thys also I maye assure your lordship, that yf this cource of theirs be not stayed that theie intend to tayke, I beleeve that within shorte tyme theie wyll have mo frendes to tayke their parte, then we cane imagen in these dowtefull tymes to withstonde them. Theie saye we boste them with wordes, but theie have in thys quarell to charge us with Spayne, not fyndinge them selves so destitute but that theie have frendes also in France, but maynie moe in Englande then ye thynke of, and ther upon so bolden them selves,

Elizabeth.
1565. that what ye saye or do, I see smale accompte that theie mayke therof. She gatherethe also so myche advantage of the Quene my mestres maner of dealinge with her, that playnelye she hathe sayde that nowe she fyndethe that ther was an'other mynde then her wordes purportethe, for otherwyse she wolde have dealte in other sorte then she hathe done. I am also charged not to have sincierlye dealte in these matters—ether that I have not made faythefull reporte of her wordes and doynges, or intended not my self that ever anye suche matter as was in communication sholde tayke effecte! What shall I saye, but that she seekethe all the corners of her wytte to shyfte of the tyme untyll that be accomplyshed that she desyerethe, and for that purpose ther commethe shortlye one unto you, to use all the cunninge he cane to perswade good lykinge of her doynge, and that ye wyll approve therof: and yet as farre as I cane perceave, we care not myche howe ye tayke yt, for that we are at a full poynte, and resolved upon that which we intende to do." How I stand now with her your lordship may see, "in that I had nether worde nor countenance of her all the tyme of my lord embassaders beinge ther: and yet dyd she not spare to confesse unto his lordship that she never bore better good wyll to anye man then she dyd unto your lordship, before that she dyspayred throughe the slowenes of the Quenes majesties resolution, that anye good was intended."

Things stand thus—She is entered so far that she may sooner repent than call back what she has done. "In these two poyntes she restethe, ether to wyne so myche at the Quenes majesties handes that she wilbe contente to allowe her doynge, and do as with your lordship she intended, or wyll dryve tyme untyll she be hable to mayke her parte so good that yt wilbe harde for you to saye her naye. Thys is the plate forme, and fondation; what she shalbe hable to buylde herupon, and howe her forces shall serve her, yt behovethe you to tayke heede." All men here stand in suspense, unable to withstand her, though they see the mischief like to ensue. "To hope myche at your handes whome theie have good cawse to suspecte for sendinge of hym home whome nowe ye wolde seeme so myche to myslyke, theie dare not, and are sore afrayde. Excepte therfore that some playne demonstration farther then wordes be made by you, whear nowe ther are some, that for Godes cawse myslyke yt and wolde gladlye breake yt, theie shalbe fayne to their great dyspleasure [to] consent to yt, thoughe theie wolde never so wyllingelye breake yt." You have heard more of this in better sort by the ambassador, and I only wait commands, though her majesty's service here requires now a better wit than mine and more ability to do than I have had wherewith. But that I presume on the Queen's favour towards me, there is matter enough for my enemies to take advantage: "that that which was commytted unto my charge to travaile in, came to so evle a passe. Princes moste commonlye waye mens services by the evente: I confesse yt hathe not succided, but I cane never yelde to anye but the fawlte was in other more then myself, and yet I am assured that theie have not the leaste parte of that care that greavethe me. Let other be satysfied as theie cane, perswade what theie lyke, travale to ther contentemente, my opinion shalbe ever, that yt cane never be ether to the honour of God, weale of bothe reaulmes and my soverenges suertie, that the Lord Darlye sholde be approved

Elizabeth.
1565. howsbonde to the Quene of Scotlande. Your lordship nowe seethe our harde case, her poore estate, blynded, transported, caried I knowe not whyther or which waye to her owne confusion and destruction of her contrye, for the love of hym that ever I judged the moste unworthye to be matched with suche one as I have knowne her and seen her to be." If ought can remedy this, ye procure safety to yourselves, honour to God, quiet to your country, and immortal fame to yourselves. So now must your lordship make it known to the world.

As the ambassador will shortly be with you, he can report all better than I can write, yet neither his wit nor his pen can set forth what case this Queen is in, her subjects' fear and despair of any relief. "Nothynge wolde have done more good then to have charged them * to retorne: that purpose, thoughe the lettres were in my handes, was sonne stayed: nowe ye looke what offers we wyll make to appeace thys quarell." I must say ye take an evil way, and will either drive her till she knows not where to turn, or so deal that for what she looks, she may be least assured of. More I have written to M[r] Secretary, and your lordship shall daily hear from me. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

4 *pp. Closely written. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

May 21. **187.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Your honour will have heard in part by the ambassador's letters, and I doubt not more hereafter at his return, of all that has passed here—wherein no man could have done more to stay matters, and yet with great difficulty and much ado he has only "wronge owte some lyttle thynge," which it appears to me they have only yielded for a time, rather than she herself greatly cares whether it be thankfully received or not. She contends that all things have been done with good advice, foresight, and deliberation, and that she was induced thereto by the likelihood she found of the Queen's majesty's approbation thereof. The present state stands thus—"The Quene her self seased with love in ferventer passions then is comlye for anye meane personage, all care of common wealthe set aparte, usethe nether the counsell of suche as cane beste advise her, nor gevethe eare to anye then suche as followe her fantasie, or feedethe that humeur, all moste I maye saye to the utter contempte of her beste subjectes." Darnley keeps his chamber, and never since his sickness came forth of it, saving the night of his creation. In words I hear he is stout, by some deeds also he has shown what his will is if his power were equal to his "furieus" passions. With his dagger he would have struck the Justice Clerk that brought him word that the creation of his being Duke was deferred for a time. You shall soon learn more of him. His father's will is more to see his son thus advanced than he knows how to work it. He may well torment himself to see these things take so slow effect, and not have wherewithal to relieve his need, now most necessary, or speak of the favour of princes and friends I know not where—but assuredly his "smale conducte" in so great a matter well appears. The Duke has been present, whose

* Lennox and Darnley.

Elizabeth.
1565. good nature, plain and simple meaning, I must rather commend, than approve his manner of dealing, where his danger is so great. Argyll deserves more praise for his stoutness in defence of religion and safety of his house, than any man I have heard speak in this action: Glencairn, Boyd, Ochiltree, and all the west country, concur with Argyll. My lord of Murray, true, faithful, honourable, earnest and stout both for defence of God's glory, and safety of his Sovereign's honour that now lies in balance: fearful her doings may break the amity. Lethington is sufficiently known to you, yet I must say he shows more stoutness and good conduct at this time than many looked for. Maxwell weighs more his mistress's will than her danger; though he wishes her weal, he is loth to attempt against her mind. Ruthven stirs coals as hot as fire to have these matters take effect, to his utter shame and contempt of all godly or honest. Atholl says still, that whatsoever he hears spoken from the Queen's majesty, or has been pronounced by the ambassador, "is onlye but wordes and bostinge to no effecte." He makes account of a greater party, than any the Queen's majesty can make "to lette yt." Morton "saythe francklye to yt: I knowe not yet what he wyll do." I can write of no men's minds in particular, but generally I may say that "the moste parte are cleane agaynste yt," and yet so void of hope, comfort or support, that they know not where to turn themselves, and so for these wants, shall be forced to yield to that which is against God's glory, the weal of their country, and their Sovereign's honour.

When I understood the haste made to have all matters ended before the ambassador came to Court, and was advised by his letter to make all the stay I could, I wrote to her grace the letter whereof I enclose a copy, and sent it by my man to Murray for "deliverance" and request by his lordship's means for answer. But my man was delayed till the ambassador himself came—of whose negotiation, however well set forth in writing, I must testify that nothing was left undone that might hinder their intent, or advance the Queen's majesty's service. Here is now to be done whatever her majesty's self likes, though no small number amongst you bear themselves bold, and many abroad as are papists in Europe. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil and his clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Randolph to the Queen of Scots.)

Signifying that he has just learned that Sir Nicolas Throckmorton has reached Berwick and to-morrow intends to be in Edinburgh and will repair to her grace with all speed. By his Sovereign's command prays that she will stay her determination to confer honours and dignities on Lord Darnley and for marriage till the mind of his Sovereign be further known. [Edinburgh, May 12?]

1 *p. Holograph copy. No date.*

May 24. **188.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I trouble your honour with but a word or two on my own estate, which I think worst of any man's that ever served so long in such a

Elizabeth.
1565. country and people. Besides my great grief that the matter committed to my charge succeeded "so evle, yet am I here bordayned to be thoccasion of the dyspleasure rysen betwene the Quenes majestie and thys Quene." I see now that till she may be brought to acknowledge her error, my peril cannot be small, yet how little soever I esteem my life, yet I mean to keep it to the Queen's majesty's better service, "then to leave yt here." How my charges increase, and how many ways money goes out of my hands, I would it could be as well seen to those that may remedy it, as it is grievous to me to be forced thus to crave! How needful it is that her majesty were charged somewhat towards support of some here that have well deserved, Sir Nicolas Throckmorton well knows. She has had trial of their good wills, and they are suspected for the same. I have told him, that 1000*l.* might be bestowed, "not for a yerlye pencion," but to try their minds and see how it can be deserved. Since the army came from Leith, her majesty has been "smallye" charged, save what I have spent her. Her intelligence has come through my friends and "acquayntance" here. The time now grows more dangerous, and I will be as sorry to put them in hazard as they themselves. I have often recommended to you Argyll, and daily find more cause than ever. He may be used as her majesty will, and for little—"but yf ye mysse hym and ever stonde in neade of hym, yf he be not to be made your frende, you wyll fynde hym a shrewed ennemie." I meant only to have touched my own case, but am fallen into another of the same "nateur," whereby if duly considered, her majesty shall be better served than without it. In these 8 months' service, I make account of above 58*l.* sterling of my entertainment given in rewards, besides many other extraordinary charges—not the least of which was "when I sente my servant laste in poste, he spente me in resonable charges xiij*li.* and receaved as he saythe but xx nobles." I am forced to lay these things before your honour's "yees" to show my case—grieved in mind at the ill success of my commission—in debt more than all I have can pay—and in no great assurance of what malice may work. While sorry to trouble your honour, I am forced to think how much the Queen's service will be hindered if her friends are not retained, and her servants so enabled to serve, that nothing escape them worthy to be known. I wish but contentment, and not always to live in that extreme care I have long been in. My lord of Arran is fallen again into his "phrenesye," he grows now cumbersome to be kept, "and ledde so with fantasies, that he wolde have sawes to cutte of his ledges and handes, cordes and knives to ende hys owne lyf."

I convoyed my lord ambassador here, and return to-morrow to Court. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 27. **189.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting her passport for the bearer Master James Thorntoun secretary to the Archbishop of Glasgow her ambassador in France, directed thither on her affairs. Stirling Castle, 23rd of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Elizabeth.
1565.
May 30.

190. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting her passport for her servitor James Murray and two companions to pass through her realm to France or elsewhere, and return, to endure for a year. Stirling, 23rd of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

June 3. **191.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

By this time your lordship has heard how Sir Nicolas Throckmorton left all matters: and where there was some hope that time would have wrought another mind in this Queen, there is no alteration to be seen, "but as greate tokens of love daylye to passe betwene them as ever dyd before; which in her hathe wroughte so straynge an effecte, that shame is layde asyde, and all regarde of that which cheiflye pertaynethe to princlye honour removed owte of syghte." Her councillors now are those she liked worst: "the narreste of her kynne the fardethe from her harte: my lord of Murraye lyvethe whear he lyste." Lethington has now both leave and time enough to make court to his mistress: such favour he has won through his long travail and late favour he found amongst you! "David" is he that now works all—chief secretary to the Queen, "and onlye governer to her good man." The bruits here are wonderful, men's talk very strange, "the hatrede towardes hym* and his howse mervileus greate, his pryde intollerable, his wordes not to be borne, but wheare no mane dare speake agayne." He spares not also in token of his manhood, to let some blows fly where he knows they will be taken. The passions and furies I hear say he will sometimes be in are strange to believe. What cause this people have to rejoice of this their "worthye prince," I leave the world to thinke. When they have said and thought all they can, they find nothing but that "God muste sende hym a shorte ende," or themselves a miserable life under such a government as this is like to be. What comfort can they look for at the Queen's majesty's hand, "seinge the moste parte are perswaded that to thys ende and purpose he was sente into this countrye? I spare here to speake so mvche as I have hearde, and knowinge so lyttle of the Quenes mynde as I do, I knowe not what consell or advise to gyve. I travaile so longe with wordes, that what soever I speake is counted but wynde." To see so many in hazard of life, lands and goods, it is pity to think. To remedy this mischief, "ether he muste be taken awaye," or those he hates so supported that what he intends for others "maye lyghte upon hym self! A lyttle nowe spente in the begynninge yeldethe duble fructe." What were it for her majesty, if she list not to do it by force, with the expense of 3000*l.* or 4000*l.* to do with this country as she would! It is worth the money, "to cutte of the suspicion that men tayke of her majestie, that she never lyked thynge in her lyf better, then to see thys Quene so meanlye matchede," and her country at this miserable point. She is determined to make a divorce with England, yet you shall not lack fair words, till she can make a better party. She will speak France fair: what she may come

* Darnley.

Elizabeth.
1565. by there, I leave others to judge, but if it so come to pass, as they say here, that you ally yourselves with Austria, I trow France will not refuse the old league with Scotland, poor as it is. Need forces them to fall into some man's hands or other, and when you might have had them, you drave so long time with them, that now ye are like to go without them and repent it too late! I am sorry that I have lost my good hope, "but moste of all that your lordship hathe forslowede so good a fortune, whear I am assured your lyf had byne happie, and sholde have here founde whearwith to have contented you, yf yt had byne taken in tyme." She is now so much altered from what she lately was, that who now beholds her does not think her the same. Her majesty is laid aside—her wits not what they were—her beauty another than it was; her cheer and countenance changed into I wot not what. A woman more to be pitied than any that ever I saw—such a one now as neither her own regard, nor she takes count of any that is virtuous or good. How loth I am thus to write, or what grief I have thus to think, "your lordship maye well conceave, of whome so maynie tymes and ofte my cheif delighte hathe byne allwayes to sette forthe her worthye prayse equall to anye that ever I sawe—she onlye excepted to whom I am moste bounde in deutie to honour and serve." I doubt not I shall easily avoid "the note of inconstancie" when I have so many witnesses to testify my words to be true, "and I proteste before God I never wrote thynge with worce wyll in my lyf, then presentlye I do thys, and but to your lordshipes self alone, I wyshe that yt were not knowne to createur alyve, and wolde God that what imperfections soever be in her, had before byne knowne, then nowe to burste owte to so greate a greef of maynie mens hartes as nowe yt dothe. From whens thys procedethe I knowe not what to judge, and to beleve the commen reporte and constante rumour that commethe abroode, paradventeur I sholde do her grace injurie and deceave your lordship in wrytinge of an unveritie." The saying is that surely she is bewitched, the parties, the persons, are named to be the doers—the tokens, the rings, the "bracilettes" are found and daily worn that contain "the sacred misteries." Of these and other matters, I could say more, but even now arrived this bearer M. Malvasier, whom I could not delay. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 3. **192.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Of the convention appointed at S^{t} Johnston the 10th instant, your honour has heard—the end of it is to persuade those present to allow her marriage with Lord Darnley: and to make them more willing, rumours are spread that she will next parliament establish a law for religion,—thinking there is no other cause why they should mislike what husband soever she take, so that they may have their consciences free. To give over her own mass she would be loth, for fear of the loss of all her papist friends: of whom there is such account made, yea of those among yourselves, that Darnley has said, if there were war to-morrow between England and Scotland, this Queen should find more friends there than the Queen's self. Ruthven has undertaken that if she will follow his advice and such as he will

Elizabeth.
1565. take to him, he will both quiet this country and make England be content with reason. Atholl continues in that opinion that he uttered in council, that for all the Queen's majesty seems to mislike this Queen's doings, she is well enough pleased therewith, and the sending hither Sir N. Throckmorton was but to "boste" her. "Marrie! the viser sorte thynke yt no smale matter that so maynie of the Quenes majesties counsell gave testimonie under their handes of their dysallowinge of yt, whear unto theie cane no wayes gyve contrarie advise." I see not yet that any great care is taken by her, or those of that faction, what inconvenience may ensue through England, so that she may win the French king's good liking: which is one great part of Thornton's commission to the ambassador "ther," as also to her uncles and friends, of whose mislike Malvasier has said very much, which I hear say, greatly troubles her. I have given out to some, that the French king has already declared his discontentment, for he hoped to have been a mean to another match more to both their advantages: which Malvasier also affirms to be true, and that the Queen's majesty has declared to the king her mislike, which shall now be better heard than before.

They now begin to count their friends, Atholl, Caithness, Erroll, Montrose, Fleming, Cassillis, Montgomerie, Home, Lindsay, "who shamfullye hathe lefte the Earle of Murraye," Ruthven and the Lord Robert. These they are assured of, and with their greatest force intend to be at S^t Johnston,—where of the contrary party, two only of every shire are named and required by the Queen to be—yet they intend to come as strong as the other, or not at all.

Though M^r John Hay master of Requests was appointed, I know by his letter to a friend, that the Queen being yet in doubt, has with great haste dispatched M^r James Thornton to France, with him to recover credit. I know not who her means are, but am sure she has intelligence from the Spanish ambassador, perchance by the French ambassador's "convoyance." She knows that to all these practises ye have remedy in your own hands, which makes her more willing the Queen's majesty "do marrie the Empereurs brother then the Frenche kynge." Of Spain she stands in no doubt, whatever alliance you make with the Emperor, and if ye match with France she knows herself "cleane undone." That all these matters have been discoursed of and devises taken, I can better assure you than show how I know it. The adversaries to their designs find themselves no way assured. "In dysobeyinge to their princes wyll, theie see to themselves manifeste and present daynger: to yelde unto her desyer, whoe seethe not the destruction of their countrye and overthrowe of religion?" They also know assuredly that if the Queen's majesty but continue her displeasure to this country (without France again take their part), they are utterly undone. And seeing the principal cause of their debate is religion: "yf that be graunted and establyshed, what cawse have theie to contende for? or whye sholde theie not obbeye to her will?" She seeks now by all means to draw men to her by gentle letters and fair words: and spares not to give where she thinks any service may be done or any stay will be made, "or hynderance to hys*

* Darnley's.

Elizabeth.
1565. wyll." We shall shortly have as many earls here as there are knights "of the Order" in France! My Lord Robert "the elder" shall be (he says himself) earl of "Orcknaye," Lord Erskine, earl of Marre, Lord Hume, earl of March, Lord Flemynge, earl of "Wigeton." These "yollye" earls, if they have the whole livings, will leave her but little to maintain her estate. To Darnley she has also given the bishopric of Rosse, and his father has resigned to him the earldom of Lennox, so now his living is counted worth 2000 marks "sterling" yearly. Lord Ruthen sues to be treasurer: the Controller is as weary of his place, as the Queen is willing to take it from him. She seeks by all means to reconcile the Duke and Lennox, and would have out of the bishop of St. Andrews' hands the abbey of Paisley [Percelaye] for Lennox, and intends to give again into his keeping the castle of "Dombriton," belonging to him by inheritance. To confer on all these matters between the Duke and the Earl, she has sent for Sir Robert Kernegie, presently there, "a man verie wyse, frende to the Duke, and made up by hyr (?) to greate welthe." While writing, this bearer Monsieur Malvasier arrived, and as he has honestly dealt in declaring to this Queen the King and her friends' dislike of the match, he will tell you more. I enclose a "ticket" given to me this day. The cause of stay is their fear of the assembly of the Protestants, who have "protested" that such as were named should not come without more company. The bearer's haste causes me thus to take leave with fewer words than I would—when such matters are "a bruinge" that without mischief I know not how to have them "appeced." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

* On Wednesday I purpose to be at St. Andrews with "his lordship," on Saturday at S^{t} Johnston with the Queen. A servant of Bothwell arrived by sea in Fife with many letters containing practises against Murray—was taken and brought to him with them all.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 3. **193.** RANDOLPH TO THROCKMORTON.

I meant to have written at good length, but hastily arrived this bearer M. Malvasier, by whom you shall know enough of this Court, where I have not been since your departure—partly as I had nothing to say, partly as Murray has been much here since then. On Wednesday† I must be with him at S^{t} Andrews, and from thence I will to S^{t} Johnston, though the convention holds not; where the Protestants intended to be so many, that the Papists mistrusted them. What will insue I know not; mischief enough if I be not "begyled." More you shall hear by next, which now I cannot for want of time, "nor do in thynges as I wolde, by cawse I have not whearwith." I thank you for my letter at "Dancaster," and also the other you sent me. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

MacConell is not returned, but "sorelye dealte with by Shane Onel."

If we hear not shortly from you, we shall despair of ourselves.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.*

* Written lengthwise on margin. † 6th.

Elizabeth.
1565.
June 4.

194. CONFERENCE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Summary of the consultation and advice given by the Lords and others of the Privy Council collected out of the sundry and several speeches of the said Councillors.

4 June 1565. Present, Lord Keeper, Lord Treasurer; Earls of Derby, Bedford, Leicester: Lords, Admiral and Chamberlain: the Controller, Vice-chamberlain, Secretary, Cave, Petre, Mason.

(1) The perils to the Queen of England and her realm by this intended marriage of the Queen of Scots and Lord Darnley and (2) What were meet to be done against the same?

The former having been considered in its effect as strengthening the Scottish Queen's title to England, and its encouragement to the "Romish" religion and its adherents there: it was first of all resolved that the Queen's majesty should defer no longer from marriage and thus confirm the hearts of her subjects: and [*inter alia*] Lady Lennox be secluded from intelligence—her husband and son recalled from Scotland, failing which, his English estates to be forfeited—that M^r^ Charles his younger son be placed where he may be forthcoming—that some remission of her majesty's displeasure be showed to the Lady Catherine Grey (accounted by the Queen of Scots her competitor), and to the Earl of Hertford—that broad and uncomely speeches in the household be restrained &c., &c.

8 *pp. Draft by Cecil very carefully corrected. Indorsed* (by him): ". . . A consultation."

(2) A fair copy.

8 *pp. Written by his clerk. Indorsed.*

June 8. **195.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

The Queen understanding by his letters the doubts of many that by this marriage with Darnley the cause of religion should be oppressed and the amity decay: commands him to assure all such as are well minded against alteration of religion or the friendship of England, that she will concur and assist them therein, and in the end they shall find the fruits of their labour and constancy to the honour of God, the comfort of their sovereign and the felicity of their whole country.

1½ *pp. Fair copy in contemporary hand. Indorsed:* "8 Junij and x° Julij 1565. M. of the Q. majesties lettres to M^r^ Tho. Randolph."

June 12. **196.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This Queen has now sent to her majesty her Master of Requests, M^r^ John Haye, a man godly, learned and wise, who better sees the inconvenience like to insue to his country, than knows means to remedy it. To alter his mistress's affection to "thys man," he knows it impossible, and therefore his whole commission tends to persuade her majesty to have a liking of it. He knows how unlike he is to prevail, when Lethington could bring nothing to pass—even to his discredit, and vehement suspicion "taken by them" that his own

Elizabeth.
1565. advice was to hinder it. So your honour may easily conjecture with what mind this man takes journey: and seeing that she remains in the self same mind never to alter her determination towards Darnley, what can be wished but that he receive the like answer that Lethington did, and something be done in time to let them know what the Queen's majesty's friendship had been worth? There are two good means, whereon I rather write my opinion than take on me to give advice. The one is, by some power sent to the Borders, to take the advantage now to be had, when I am assured that no great force can be made here to withstand it. I must know how you are minded on the matter, before "I do to farre dyscover myself, and (as by a wise man yt was saide to me) open my packe." But this much I will say, there were never more hearts well bent to England, than now—I leave you to conjecture their names, rather than I will put them "in paper." The other is easier, and to be done with less cost, though some what of necessity must be "bestowede": viz. let this Queen take her will, "brydle ye your papistes at home," cut off all intelligences, and leave her to be guided by such advice as now she has: either shall ye see her put to the hardest shift that ever prince was at, "or suche a sturre betwene them selves that what parte so ever is strongeste shalbe the longer lyver"! That thus it may come to pass I have enough to lead me to think it; yet till I know what course ye will take, I love not to stir or meddle in these things, being always better content to be directed, than to "prescribe rules to other." How much soever I wish this Queen may find how greatly in friendship and promise she has failed to the Queen's majesty, yet for the honesty of this man her ambassador, the favour he bears to Christ's true religion, and good will to the Lord of Murraye, I trust that however sharp his answer be, he shall find welcome according to that good will he bears to our nation, which makes me "the hardier" thus to write. I "have oftyne tymes wyshede that an other then he* had taken this viage in hande, to whome I coulde have wysshede suche courtoysie to be showede,† as by his good counsell which nowe to his shame he myche repentethe, he well hathe deserved."

I must remind your honour of my "lacke": I am at that extremity, "and willynger to quyte my lyf, then to serve her majestie with shame." Archibald Graham returns with Mr. Hay, chiefly to aid him, being a stranger—and in hope to end his own suit, which I would were to his content, or I fear my countrymen here shall fare the worse. Seeing he obtained a sentence against Claveringe, I marvel execution followed not on his goods or person. A like decreet is obtained here by a man of York against a servant of Lord Marischal for a spoil at sea. He can only get "the partie offender," who has been these 5 months in the castle of Edinburgh. I am earnestly moved by divers to urge consideration of his long suit and the "exclamation" of many poor men in it. S^{t} Johnston. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

My lord of Argyll desires answer of what he moved to Sir N. Throckmorton, and is as much the Queen's majesty's as may be.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by Cecil): "Force–with M^{r} Jhon Haye."

* Maitland?

† These five words substituted for "as well to be used."

Elizabeth.
1565.
June 12.

197. MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I received by this bearer your writing; and trust, howsoever the princes' matters fall out, our private friendship shall not be "violated." I will always remain of "one" mind to the conservation of the intelligence between the princes—not doubting you will do the like. "It is the soundest way, and will prove best in the end, althogh in the myd cours sometymes the doinges off ministers may be misconstrued, and thay have small thank for theyr travell. Hald hand I pray yow, that nothing breake out on your part, as yow may conveniently: I will do the like on this part. The best off every thing must be made." I have not been well used in this bearer's private suit, which you know has justice in it. I am not out of hope the Queen's majesty will cause it to be more favourably "looked on." Your countrymen shall not by God's grace have like cause to complain of their usage here, as far as I may; which I remit to their report and M^r^ Randolph. I pray you move the matter yet once to her majesty on my behalf, "and I trust she will nocht be onmyndfull off her promis." S^t^ Johnston. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 14.

198. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Desiring audience and "firme credett" for her trusty and well beloved councillor "Maister John Hay commendatare of Balmerynoch" her principal master of requests, sent to her for certain matters of importance tending to the maintenance and conservation of the good intelligence and amity betwixt them. Under her signet. S^t^ Johnston. 23^rd^ of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. *Addressed.* *Indorsed.* *Wafer signet* (Scotland). *Collar of the Thistle.* Imperial crown above: motto "In Defens."

Royal MSS. 18 B, vj., fol. 249.

Copy of same, with Instructions to Hay.

13 *pp.* *Contemporary hand.*

June 14.

199. MAITLAND TO CECIL.

My mistress having directed this bearer the Commendator of Balmerinocht to your Sovereign for such affairs as he will report: as he is an honest gentleman and my old friend and companion, I recommend him most earnestly to your favour, that he may have early audience and "speady depesche." S^t^ Johnston. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 15.

200. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

"Madame ma bonne sœur": Desiring to omit nothing to testify my wish to remain in your good graces, or remove your suspicion of my actions, I send you this bearer master of my requests, to signify my good will to embrace all reasonable means to satisfy you. I kiss

Elizabeth.
1565. your hands, praying God to keep you in health and long life. S^{t} Johnston. *Signed:* Votre tres affectionnee et fidelle bonne sœur e cousine Marie R.*

1 *p.* *French.* *Holograph, also address:* "A la Royne dangleterre Madame ma bonne sœur e cousine." *Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

June 18. **201.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

For divers good causes we have expressly commanded the Earl of Lennox and his eldest son Henry lord Darnley, as our subjects, to return hither without delay: and we require you to give them your safe conduct for their speedier coming. Give firm credit to our trusty servant Thomas Randolph in this or any other matter. Palace of Westminster. 7th of reign.

½ *p.* *Fair contemporary copy.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 27. **202.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

We received your letters dated 14th instant at S^{t} Johnston, by M^{r} John Hay, and heard the message committed to him, wherein we are sorry to find so small satisfaction, after such cause offered to us of offence and mislike: as we have plainly and friendly given him to understand. Yet setting apart the slenderness of his message, we can find no default in his discreet manner and usage. Under our signet. Manor of Greenwich. 7th of reign.

½ *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed:* "27 Junij 1565. . ."

[June, end of.] **203.** SUPPLICATION TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

By her subjects professing the evangel of Christ Jesus within her realm,

Reciting the progress of the reformation there—abolition of the mass and tyranny of the Roman Antichrist—their grief at the re-erection of "that idoll the masse" at her grace's arrival in her realm, and their fear of the Roman Antichrist also returning, to whom they will never be subject—praying her answer to these articles—

(1.) That the mass, papistry, etc., be abolished not only in her subjects but also in her own person, with due punishment, and the "sincere worde" be received instead.—That the people be compelled on Sundays to resort to prayers and preaching, as formerly to the mass.

(2.) That due provision be made for sustenance of the ministers present and future, duly admitted by the superintendents.

(3.) That none be permitted to have charge of schools, colleges or universities but those so admitted, or tried by the visitor of the church sound in doctrine.

(4.) To sustain the poor, that all hospital lands be restored, and emoluments of all friars and priests of whatever order be so applied for the poor.

(5.) That horrible crimes now abounding here—as idolatry, blasphemy of God's name, Sabbath breaking, witchcraft, sorcery and

* Followed by an elegant capital M, inclosed in a circle (ℳ)

Elizabeth.
1565. inchantments, adultery, incest, manifest whoredom, maintenance of "burdelles," murder, slaughter, "reife and spoile," *etc.*, may be severely punished by act of parliament.

Last:—That some order be devised for ease of the poor labourers of the ground, concerning reasonable payment of their "teindes," and setting their steadings to others over their heads without their consent.

4 *pp. In a contemporary hand. Marginal notes by Randolph. See for answers, 29th July following* [No. 217].

July 6. **204.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since I wrote last, I hear that the Earl of Argyll has gathered his whole forces against the Earl of Atholl, and intends to invade and lay waste his country. The other makes for defence, but it is thought here will have the worse. I hear Justice Clerk shall be sent to both to desist from arms. As this succeeds with Argyll, we shall soon hear of some attempt by him and others against the Earl of Lennox. Lord Hume was sent for by the Queen, but came not: his excuse I know not, but he sent young "Coudingknows" with 40 or 50 of his servants with jack and spear. Murray is at S^{t} Andrews. On the 15th instant the Protestants assemble again at Glascowe, where will be the Duke, the earls, and other of that faction.

Of this bearer I know no more than he says he has to do for the Queen his sovereign with the French ambassador, and some affairs of his own. By her desire I wrote in his favour for post horses. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

July 7. **205.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I received the Queen's majesty's and your letters, by M^{r} John Hay who arrived here yesterday afternoon, "verie evle at ease and melancholye for the evle succes of hys longe yornaye." His answer is as ill taken here by the Queen and those about her, as it was "sorrowefull" for him to report it. I hear say they begin now to find themselves in very hard case: her country broken round about, and herself so left of all her nobility (at least the best) that she knows not which way to turn herself. They mislike in her nothing, but what may be hurtful to my Sovereign, viz. the overthrow of religion, and breach of amity. In Darnley, his usage has been such, his behaviour so strange, his words so full of "bostinges," that they find nothing to content them, but as far as I can perceive, are become his mortal enemies—the issue I know not. It is true, as I wrote by "Meynez" the Scotsman, that Argyll and Atholl have gathered their forces: and it is said that the Queen has warned the gentlemen of Angus and "the Merns" to assist Atholl. Then must the Duke concur with Argyll; so we are like to have cumber enough. To persuade them not to meet, and leave gathering their forces, Lord Ruthen and Lethington are sent to Atholl, and the Justice Clerk and lord S^{t} Come to Argyll; so that of her whole council there is none left near her but Lord Erskine. I will not trouble you with other trifles and rumours,

Elizabeth.
1565. but only since this Queen's arrival, I have not come to Court, nor purpose for a few days to desire speech with her, except it chance to come of herself—my reason is "that theie maye thynke the worste the cane imagen, shalbe the leaste that the Quenes majestie wyll do agaynste them." Besides, there are none here that I can communicate with as I would. I trust her majesty with the expense of 4000*l.* or 5000*l.* shall have this Queen once again at her own will. I scribble this in haste, that you look not for answer of her majesty's letter for a few days, but as time and commodity serve to work what is agreeable to her as far as in my power—trusting that if things succeed not as I expect, I shall not be "chalenged" of any promise, but only as far as I see good likelihood. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Some advise me that the Master Maxwell should be friendly dealt with; he sees with the rest much mischief that he mislikes—others travail with him to persevere in the religion and amity, to both which he consented. To concur with our wardens to ride on the thieves, is more for Scotland's advantage than ours. I wrote a word hereof in my last. Pray excuse my silence to my lord of Leicester.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 9. **206.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I trust there are but few days since my last arrival but your honour has heard somewhat—yet to write all were impossible. I only commend to your favour my two friends Monsieur Mongommerie and William Gutthrye, to pass to France, where one dwells, and the other has affairs of his own and his friends'—specially Robert Stewarde, whom we have here good experience is an honest man, and how he deserved in times past your honour knows, and I can testify is like to do. He is not come for naught, and I am a suitor to your honour to move her majesty, that this gentleman "for hym" may have licence to buy and export 3 or 4 geldings for his friends, considering his great service past and future. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Th[o. Randolphe.]

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . by Montgomery."

July 10. **207.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

We have seen your letters of the 4th and 6th instant to our Secretary and perceive to our no small grief, appearance of troubles to arise in that realm, if God do not direct the same to better end, "as we hope he will, the rather considering we cannot judge that the lordes there with whom the Quene is moved to be offended, have any intention but to the weale surety and honour of the Quene their soverayne; for otherwise we could not endure to allowe them." If you speak with her, you may say that we hearing by report, and specially by those that came hither in her name to the French ambassador, how troublesome the estate of that realm began to be, did pity it, and would have let her understand our compassion and advice but for two causes—the one, her late proceedings in her marriage without our knowledge and consent—the other, lest she should think us willing to intermeddle in her affairs—and but for

Elizabeth.
1565. these you may assure her we would have demonstrated our sisterly good will. Yet you shall say we wish her to be well advised how to suffer her council and nobility to nourish suspicion one of the other, for thereby no good can come to her realm nor comfort to herself. And if she attempts any innovation whereby her nobles that have truly served her, shall see trouble growing to her state, and peril to themselves, "we lett hir to understand that she is evill counselled and advised therein; whereof notwithstanding the cawses of the offence given us, we can not but give her warning." In like manner when you speak with those nobility with whom she is offended, you shall let them know how we have willed you to advise their Sovereign—and that so long as they intend nothing but to maintain the truth in religion to the honour of God, uphold their Sovereign's estate with good advice, and maintain the amity, we shall allow and esteem them, "as in all just and honorable cawses they shall find us to have regard to their estate and continuance." And as such great matters are meetest remedied in the beginning, before they take root, we wish they cause the Queen to know plainly their sincere intentions, and to be warned against counsel of such as only regard their private estates; also to offer her their best service with one accord; and if they so proceed dutifully and plainly, it is to be hoped God will open her eyes to their sincerity and honour. Yet meanwhile "we wish that the nobility shuld so forbeare to resort in companyes together, that they shuld not be subject to be trapped in any one place by their adversaries." Finally ye shall assure them that if they, doing their duty as becomes loyal and honourable men, by malice and practise are forced to inconvenience, "they shall not find lack in us to regard them in their truthe."

As it seems by your letters that they are determined to keep great forces for private defence, we are of opinion that thereby the Queen most suspects their intentions, and they also are at greater charges than expedient—wherein you may, as you see cause, advise a mean between too great and too little.

3 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Corrected and dated by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him).

(2) Fair official copy.

2½ *pp. By another clerk. Indorsed.*

July 16. **208.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

In a matter whereof I had no great certainty, I wrote to Sir Nicolas Throckmorton, as then informed, to let your majesty know the same. Though then false, I now write it with better assurance. On Monday last the 9th this Queen was secretly married in her own palace to the Lord Darnley, not above 7 persons present; "and wente that daye to their bedde to the Lord Setons howse." This is known by one of the priests present at the mass. If true, your majesty sees how her promise is kept, and may measure the rest of her doings; and I believe unfeignedly your majesty shall find more fair words than good meaning. I will not trouble your majesty with answer

Elizabeth.
1565. of your highness' last letter, but have written to M[r] Secretary, and what is desired by those here most at your majesty's devotion. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. In Randolph's Court hand. Address* (in same). *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

July 16. **209.** MARY TO SOME OF HER SUBJECTS.

Signifying her sincere meaning to all her good subjects in the exercise of their religion and conscience, notwithstanding evil bruits spread by seditious persons to the contrary—and desiring [*the person addressed*] to have no dealings with such. If it happens her to have to do with "our owld enymyes," desiring his answer in writing by the bearer what she may hope for at his hands. Edinburgh, with our hand, Marie R. *P.S.*—After this written, and she hoped not to summon him so suddenly, now prays him with his kin, friends, etc., to come in "fere of warre," provided for 15 days.

1¼ *pp. Copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil and Randolph).

July 18. **210.** CHATELHERAULT, ETC., TO CECIL.

"I" trust the present estate your honour left us in be not forgot with you; as yet we are in no better case, but rather worse and worse; wherefore "we" have directed this present gentleman the bearer towards the Queen's majesty fully instructed, who will let your honour understand the heads of his commission. Give this gentleman credit as to ourselves. Stirling. *Signed*: James Hammylton, Ar[d] Ergyll, James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "18 Julij 1565. Dwk of Chastelherault, Erles Argile, Murray, by Levinston."

July 18. **211.** CHATELHERAULT, ETC., TO THROCKMORTON.

Signifying they are compelled to crave his sovereign's accustomed good help in their present case, no less dangerous than was their former, wherein they found his friendship, never to be forgotten. Doubt not but he will further the honourable suits of his "auld affectionett freyndis," not for their merits, but the good deeds "thai haif resavit and na ways gevyn." And that he will further also the suit which they have committed to this gentleman the bearer, whom he will credit as themselves. Stirling. *Signed:* James Hammylton, Ar[d] Ergyll, James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Throckmorton's clerk). *Wafer signet: (Murray's). A shield: 1st and 4th quarters, Scotland with a baton sinister; 2nd and 3rd, Moray, 3 cushions within the tressure.*

July 23. **212.** RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

This bearer is sent to signify to your majesty (or to whom it please you to appoint the hearing) the present state of this country, which is both pitiful and lamentable to hear of, that a queen of such a realm and people, "as here ar maynie notable, good, vertueus and

Elizabeth.
1565. in all thinges pertayninge to their dueties obbedient, sholde fall into suche daynger as theie are lyke to be broughte into."

Their most humble request to your majesty is, that as your highness has ever had chief care to set forth the honour of God and maintain his holy word, that you would have pity on them and others in no small danger of their lives, and support and assist them as the cause requires. Praying it may please you to have intelligence by this bearer, a man worthy of the credit committed to him. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. In Randolph's Court hand. No flyleaf or address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 23. **213.** LADY LENNOX TO THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN AND CECIL.

"With mech adow and parswasyone" the Lieutenant has given me leave to write. I beseech you both to be means to the Queen not to continue "my hevy lady, havying not deservyd yt: in dyd my gretest inpresenmont ys her hyghnes dyplesuer . . . You both ar fathers, conseder thene for Gods cawse what I suffer, besyed as not hyryng from my lord my husbond and sone ther, nor yet from my chyeld beying in Yorkshyer . . . lakyng wharwith to by my neseserys and to pay sum part of the gret dett that I am in by many ocasynes thys yere past, as seldome beyng suferd to be at home, wharby I spent, and got letyll." I pray "God inspyere her hart" I may have the Queen's favour again, beseeching you to be "petycheners" therefor. From the Tower. *Signed:* Margaret Lennox and Angus.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Memoranda by Cecil.*

July 24. **214.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

We are in marvellous fear that "yf you stonde not good unto us," that this message sent by Beton, if he intreat (as it is thought his "arrante" is) the Queen's majesty not to take part with the Duke and the rest, may turn them to great displeasure. And this I am required to assure her, that "come what fortune so ever God will sende them" they will never accord to other end than her Majesty shall make between this Queen and them. Three hundred men are levied this day and yesterday under Robert Lawder "of the Garde, that strocke the mynester," a great occasion long since of displeasure between the Queen and Murray; not "Hue Lawder that latly slewe the man at Dombarre for hys pleasure." Companies repair daily, and to-morrow I hear Darnley takes the musters. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 24. **215.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

"Our myscheves increace dayly more and more." We know neither our friends nor enemies. "Here we intende the utter overthrowe of the poore Earle of Murraye; God I perceave sufferethe hys owne to be afflictede"! He stands in hard case, as you may see by

Elizabeth.
1565. the inclosed, which being delivered to me and directed to no man, "I burste yt up" and found it chiefly concerned your lordship. If any good can be done for this man by you, "God dothe requere yt at your handes, and deutie byndethe you to do yt. He wolde that the borderers had occasion to keape them selves at home, for then sholde she lacke one of her cheif poore healpes." I know this might do much good, chiefly to "werie" all others continually to attend on her, and put her in that case shortly not to know where to turn. So soon as those about her are "scaled," I doubt not the others will give her a new "laramme," and then if you keep the marches occupied, she shall have but a small number with her. I know it behoves you to deal on good assurance, and will not attempt much without knowledge from above. I trust you spoke with the man that went from hence, and know his "arrante." Beton that followed him this day, I fear hath letters to "perswade" against him: but I see not that his departure is yet known. If nothing can be done by you "in deade," yet I would there were some show made of your "owne good wyll." This letter of my lord* sent to court, "myghte perchance move some what ther, to procure your lordship a commission to do farther then yet you maye." I am sorry I cannot speak with you, but the next best is, if it please you to send one well instructed of your mind—easily done, so long as Beton is in England—and that he were one of some appearance, to give the better show there was something in it. I would it were rather Captain Reade than any other—but if any of your own, either M^r^ Page or M^r^ Lilgrave.

I know they are in great fear of our mistress, and she must remedy the whole, or all will come to naught. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

"I praye your lordship to sende awaye thys lettre to my l[ordes] g[race] by the fyrste post, as also the same to M^r^ Secretarie."

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . with a lettre from the Erle of Murrey."

July 28. **216.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

This night very near 9 o'clock, my lord Darnley was proclaimed king of Scotland by common consent of all the lords present in this town: I know not what this haste means. I have your letter by Corbet this night, for my advice touching the Laird of Ricarton, "whome" I am glad is fallen into your hands. Keep him and his company till you advertise her majesty. He is Bothwell's chief friend and has the Queen's letter to fetch him home. She intended to beguile you, for she knew well enough I knew the man. To-morrow I will return Corbet with more news: this bearer is my own boy, and if he make not good speed, "no pennye for his rewarde." I send him because he may better escape than a horseman through the watch of the town. Captain Brickewell was here this day by 10 o'clock. [Edinburgh.] As you see in haste, at 10 o'clock. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Murray.

Elizabeth.
1565. July 29. **217.** MARY TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Answer to the Articles presented to her highnesss by certain in the name of the whole last Assembly of the Church.

(1.) That she cannot leave the religion wherein she has been nourished and brought up, against her own conscience, but leaves them to worship God as they please, leaving her to do the same. That religion cannot be established by her consent alone, but by the three Estates in parliament—which done, she will confirm it.

(2.) That it is not reasonable her majesty defraud herself of so great a part of the patrimony of her crown as to put benefices out of her own hands, yet is pleased that for the reasonable sustentation of the ministers, a special assignment be made to them.

(3.) To this she will do as the Estates in parliament agree.

(4.) Her majesty's liberality to the poor shall always be extended as far as reasonable.

(5.) Her majesty refers this article as well as (6.) to Parliament.

3 *pp. Fair copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "29 Julij 1565. Answer to the Protestantes in Scotland by the Quene of Scottes."

July 30. **218.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

We have received your letter by your servant Beton, wherein we cannot deny there are many good and friendly offers: but considering certain your late actions towards us not allowable in the way of friendship, we cannot, till we see some proofs of this your last writing, answer otherwise than we have commanded a servant of ours to declare, who was ready to have departed, at Beton's arrival.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed:* ". . . by M^r^ Thomworth."

July 30. **219.** ELIZABETH TO BEDFORD.

Accrediting to him John Tomworth of her privy chamber, sent in message to the Queen of Scots, who will show his Instructions and take his advice.

(2) Similar to Randolph.

1 *p. Both drafts by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

July 30. **220.** ELIZABETH TO THOMWORTH.

"Instruction for Jhon Thomworth on of hir Majestes prive chambre sent to the Quene of Scottes in messadg."

First: you shall obtain access with Randolph, deliver our letters to the Queen of Scots, and shall use these words "or such lyke"—That we have sent you to impart things of importance which we require her well to consider and weigh, coming from one that has more regard for her well doing than some would have her think. After these words, permitting her to read our letters, you shall say, we have found her proceedings of late very strange, not only towards us but also her own subjects, in these points—first, "wher we take God to witness that our offer made to hir of a mariadg in our

Elizabeth.
1565. realme, being therto required by hir, was by us syncerly, serioossly, and lovingly ment and intended for hir weale, and to avance hir desyre in hir very gretest matter, we here saye she is induced by sinister advise, and as we thynk contrary to hir own naturall disposition, to report that we did therin meane nothyng but to abuse hir: wherwith, our conscience gyving us witness to the contrary, we can not content ourselves, but doo directly affirm that all such as advise hir so to report of us, doo gyve hir fals counsell, and therin doo untruly for their owne privat respect, devise and contryve such fayned and forged matters."

Next, when she sent her secretary Lethington, for our opinion and good will in her marriage, "makyng mention of hir disposition of favor towardes the Lord Darly, if we wold so therof allow:" we finding cause to advise her to forbear, and sending Sir Nicolas Throckmorton to impart our mind, found that before his coming, or "any answer receaved from us," she had entered so far with Darnley, that she was not in case to receive any advice, and so we were "playnely abused." Yet she promised to forbear from marriage for 3 months, the end whereof should be about 15th August next: whereon we accounted and so "by our occasion," did some princes our neighbours, who we know "uppon the first brute of hir love that wey," thought it as strange as ourselves. And now contrary to her promise, we hearing that "she shuld cause the bannes of matrymony to be asked the xxijth of this month of July, to be celebrated on the xxixth of the same, without any cause to us notefyed," cannot but note the manner somewhat strange. As for detaining our subjects the Earl of Lennox "and the Lord Darnly, (for so shall you name hym and not otherwise)" we have by Randolph signified what we think, and now send you to renew it, and to make us answer, as it is contrary to treaty. There is also some innovation on our East Marches by her subjects, lately destroying certain "loghes" of fishing in Tweed belonging to our subjects by ancient right, whereon some good answer must be made to us.

Secondly: for her strange proceedings in her own realm, we cannot forbear friendly and neighbourly to admonish her, that she is much abused if so counselled: and if she do it of herself, she forgets herself marvellously to raise up such factions as is understood among her nobility, and we earnestly require her not to be too hasty to imagine evil against those that have showed themselves ready to spend their lives and all they have for her and her estate.

And if advised otherwise, as there is great appearance she is, that by prosecuting those with whom she is offended, "she shall suppress and extirp out of hir realme the manner of the religion alredy receaved by hir subjectes with order of law in hir realm, and consequently, to imagyn som what els to content hir phansy in this our realme, as vayne men will some tyme devise": you shall earnestly charge our sister to take good heed to such counsels or vain imaginations, "for what shall insew in that realme by intendyng to alter the Relligion by force, we will not speke," but wish her not to believe fair speeches therein. For any devices she may be fed with, that concern us and our realm, "we can by God's grace well assure hir, she shall fynd all deseynes, consultations, intelligencees, and advisees, from whence so ever they come to hir, farr or neare, vayne and deceptful:

Elizabeth.
1565. yea! we dout not but to convert them to the perill and dammage of them which shall creditt them." This you shall say is the sum of what we think very necessary to say, and how so ever she takes it we shall think ourselves discharged in honour and friendship.

After uttering these things, and hearing what she will say, you shall say as a message divided from the other, that because we hear that she has conceived great displeasure against her brother the Earl of Murray, on what cause we know not, we wish her not to show her nature so subject to change, as to think evil of him who has so well served her. And as by the malice of some about her, it is commonly said to have been determined to slay him when sent for to Court, we would she gave indifferent ear to both parties, and not call him before his mortal enemies—for there are many cases, you may say, where for lack of indifferency, noblemen have been constrained to save their lives, by means they would not otherwise have sought.

Ye shall so use yourself in these matters as to procure her to reconcile to her favour the Earl of Murray and his party, and so establish, or at least permit, the use of religion to her subjects as of late they had: and the principal scope of your service shall be to procure continuance of peace and amity, that she be not provoked to renew the old league with France.

If Lennox or his son desire to speak with you, you shall as the time moves you, make it somewhat strange, but in the end not refuse to hear them, saying nothing as from us—but as of yourself, advise them to use themselves otherwise than as reported they do, to our great offence as their sovereign; and to move them more, "you may remember to them the hard case of the Lady Margarett now in the Tower, whose well doing must depend uppon ther behavior ther."* If the Queen moves you to speak to the Earl or his son, or requires you to speak to Darnley "as to hir husband," you shall refuse so to do.

In the end you shall say, that after we had sent you, a gentleman of hers named Beton, came with a private letter of her own hand, wherewith we were much moved in our old affection, "to dout whyther we shuld discharge our stomak as we intended." But considering all matters, we could not change our former intention, but affirm that if the contents of her last are expressed in deeds, she shall find us as ready "to answer dedes for dedes." Ye shall also say that on perusing her letter brought by Beton "we fynd a sentence somewhat obscure which we require hir to interprett unto us in what sence she meaneth the same? The sentence is this—*Je nestymeray jamays que cela viene de vous—et sans en fayre autre vangence, aures recours a tous les princes mes allies pour avecques moi vous remonstre ce que je vous suis par parantage.*"

8 *pp. Draft in Cecil's hand, carefully corrected by him. Indorsed:* (by him): "30 July 1565. Instructions . . . for M[r] Thomworth sent into Scotland."

* A charge to him, written on margin, to ask Mary's permission to speak to Darnley in her presence, and rebuke him, is cancelled.

Elizabeth.
1565. Aug. 1.

221. ELIZABETH TO THOMWORTH.

Giving him more special reasons for her offence at the marriage of the Queen of Scots—one of them the indirect dealing and "craft" of Lennox her subject—first going to Scotland on pretence of suits for his lands, and then getting his son there to practise this marriage: another, that by suppression of religion, their amity may be dissolved. Richmond.

6½ *pp. Fair draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "*Primo Augusti* 1565. The Quenes majesties lettre to M^r^ Thomworth—sent to hym after his departur from Richmond," also ". . . . . a second instruction for M^r^ Thomworth—but not sent." *Cancelled.*

Aug. 2. **222.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Tuesday* morning I despatched my man to your honour, with all I could then write. On Wednesday they sat long in council about the choice of a lieutenant general. Lennox was chiefly allowed, but not yet resolved on. It is determined that Lord Gordon shall be set at liberty, and that process used against Murray that was used against his father,† that is, to be warned within 6 days to compear, or be pronounced rebel, and pursued under order of law. So it appears that their "hastie coler" to ride on him out of hand, is somewhat delayed. More of their "fume" I trust will be past before long; for I find many weary of their part and begin to draw their necks out of the "collers." This day the warning is gone to Murray, Rothes and the Laird of Graynge. Of her grace's departure from this town, I am not yet assured. This day I received your letters of the 25^th^ and 28^th^. The coming hither of any man from her majesty will serve to good purpose, both to show this Queen how she has been abused by the assurances of the Papists of England: and those here pursued, that her majesty will not suffer them in their just action to be overthrown. What the causes of offence are, your honour has heard, if the gentleman late with you has done his part, but shall appear more plainly in writing under creditable testimony. Of the manner and circumstances of Lennox and Darnley's refusal to return, your honour shall know, when I have leisure to write. How these 300 men levied, and the 100 horse now taking up, shall be employed I know not: but wonder not a little whence "these olde angels" are got that pay their wages. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 2. **223.** MURRAY TO BEDFORD.

Your lordship is aware that a servant of mine "Maistre Nychol Elphistoun" is "oup" at Court: and I having despatched a boat with some ordnance to await him at Holy Island, pray you to advertise him, and assure his passage betwixt Newcastle and Berwick, the most dangerous part of the way; likewise that the said boat and my servants therein may be taken under your protection: for I assure myself of your favours now "in the daye of my croce and persecution." Lochleven. *Signed:* James Stewart.

* 31st July. † Huntly.

Elizabeth.
1565. *P.S.*—Though I have not the opportunity always to write, I doubt not on M^r^ Randolph's information you will "mean" our cause and procure us favours at your sovereign's hand.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 7. **224.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

Yesterday Murray was put to the horn, and proclamation made that all "Lodian" men should attend on the Queen with 14 days' provision. The purpose I know not, but believe it will be stayed. This day "my lord embassadeur" shall have audience, yesterday he spoke with Lethington at good length. To let the Queen run this course, unless the Queen's majesty take earnest part with the noblemen, will be their utter undoing—to accord their debates is impossible—such variety and often change of mind in "our directors" that it puts us beside ourselves. I can look for little good, where if matters were well handled, there was never better occasion showed both for honour and profit to her majesty and her country, and safety to those who wholly trust in her. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I received your letter by the "jacke maker," and trust he will be an honest man.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 7. **225.** TAMWORTH'S SPEECH TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

[*Precisely in the terms laid down in his Instructions* No. 220. *The sentence of which Elizabeth requires explanation is here given, thus*]:—"Je nestemeray jamuis que cella vienne de vous. Et sans en faire aultre vengeance, auray recours a tous les princes mes allyes, pour avecques moy vous remonstrer ce que je vous suis par parentage. Vous scavez assez ce que vous avez resolu sur cela."

6 *pp.* *Contemporary fair copy.* *Indorsed*: ". . . Tomworths speech, etc."

Aug. 10. **226.** TAMWORTH AND RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Sunday last* at night I arrived here very weary, by reason of the evil horses on the way. Next day I reposed myself, as well to consider the matters in my charge, as by Randolph's advice, to talk with Lethington—who durst not have to do with us till he knew his mistress's pleasure. Obtaining leave, he came to us, with whom we could not have so much talk as we desired, but understood thus much, that there was very little hope of a reconcilation between the Queen and Murray. By him also we find that such mislike proceeds from her, Lennox, and Darnley towards the noblemen of this country, and such hatred and mistrust in their hearts, that no credit can be had of word or writing passing between them. She remains in mind to pursue them to the uttermost. On Monday, Murray was declared rebel and put to the horn; on Tuesday letters were directed to the Duke and Argyll on their allegiance not to assist or comfort him or his party. On Wednesday new charge was given to the gentlemen of Lothian to attend her grace to Fife with 15 days' provision, as you will see by

* 5th.

Elizabeth.
1565. the inclosed. Divers gentlemen whom she suspects to favour Murray, are commanded to ward in the North of Scotland, but I hear of very few that obey it.

On Tuesday the Queen gave us audience and I declared what I had to say from her majesty. I omit our long conference, trusting soon to report by word of mouth. That night Lethington came from the Queen to our lodging, desiring in her name, as the matters propounded were very long, that I would recite them to him, which I did, desiring answer as soon as might be. I have given this Queen occasion to make some offers to her majesty, as I suppose she will, whereon I shall use my last instructions. What the offers may be I cannot conjecture.

We have, besides this, talked privately with some men of knowledge and credit: who confirm that there is no likelihood of any accord between the Queen and these noble men. Divers other there are, whose names I omit for good respects, (but if you remember, such as the Queen's majesty and you doubted of) that will now take open part, and thereof I most certainly assure you. I have had by the way, "some sharpe wordes that bytethe the quicke," in the answer given to the sentence in the letter. I find her marvellous "stowte" and such one as I could not have believed; which I think grows rather of the good advertisements out of England, than of any good will or surety she has at home.

The Duke, and earls Argyll, Murray and Rothes, are presently together in Argyll, waiting only to see what she will do, and which way she will "bende her force." Without the Queen's majesty's support, they will be clean overthrown, where now a small thing will help them, and such a bargain made to herself. "With her stowtenes she wantethe no feare, and notwitstondinge the greate kyndenes, suche jarres, that in tyme betwene them yt maye growe to a scabbe."

I see their necessity so great and am so earnestly pressed by Murray and the rest "upon her majesties promes for their releef," that I must send to Berwick for the money I left there, and deliver it to those here appointed by Murray to receive it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* John Tamworth, Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Written and addressed by Randolph.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 10. **227.** TAMWORTH AND RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

Though we have written at good length to M^r^ Secretary, we can do no less than advertise you, that the present state here is so troublesome, it passes our wits how to bring it to good end. Unless these noblemen have some support of her majesty, they in the end will be overthrown. Their action shortly shall be such that many shall take their parts, that have as just cause of offence. She stands now in great fear of her majesty, and yet at Beton's return, gave it forth, that her majesty has promised not to meddle in the quarrel with her subjects, which held many in suspense till the effect of my commission was known. They now take courage, in hope that her majesty having so many just occasions of offence, will so proceed that she may taste what it is to have provoked her displeasure.

Elizabeth.
1565. So good an occasion should not be let slip by your lordship and the rest. Edinburgh. *Signed:* John Tamworth, Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. Written and addressed by Randolph. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 10. **228.** TAMWORTH TO LEICESTER.

The lords here are in great perplexity, so mortally hated by the Queen and that faction, that it is not possible to reconcile them. Some greater matter is in it than is fit to be written, which I perceived by the talk I had with her. The more I travail in the Queen's behalf for them, "the worce theie speede"; as it appeared the day after my arrival Murray was put to the horn, and the others as in M^r^ Secretary's letter. She has refused utterly that her majesty shall meddle to compound the controversies between her subjects and her; and so far as I can perceive, "as mortallye hatethe the Quenes majestie as she dothe them." Therefore to be short: if ye intend to save or do good to these noble men, look well about you, and stay not hereafter to consent to that, which before my coming forth, you were the stay of: for that must be the end or none. The advice you willed me to give, serves to no purpose, nor any account made thereof—"but rather lees the stake, then not to be revenged of hym, who for hir* sake sustaynethe that which nowe is lyke to be hys wracke"! Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your lordships most bounden, John Tamworth.

1 *p. Written and addressed by Randolph. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 12. **229.** THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' ANSWER TO TAMWORTH.

"Answeris for the part of the Quenis majestie to the proposition maid be M^r^ Thomwith upon the behalf of the Quene of England."

(1.) Whosoever reported her opinion that her good sister meant otherwise than sincerity to her marriage, "the same hes na fundament."

(2.) She answered her good sister by Sir Nicolas Throkmorton, and "sensyne" by M^r^ John Hay her own ambassador, of her full resolution to join in marriage with the "kingis grace hir husband than being Earle of Ros"; and offered "to forbeare" the consummation for a convenient time, while her good sister's doubts might be removed by commissioners on both sides. But this offer being "in plane wordis refusit" she saw no reason to defer, or drive time to no purpose. She has also perfect knowledge of "the allowance of the principall and gretast princes of Christendome" of her marriage.

(3.) She cannot but marvel why it is found strange that she detains her husband within her realm, or that an Earl of Scotland should remain within it: seeing they were both recommended by the Queen her good sister at their first coming hither.

(4.) [*Refers again to Hay's mission and its effect.*]

(5.) She means nothing but amity, and to be dealt with as her good sister's "nixt cousin."

* Substituted for "your."

Elizabeth.
1565.

(6.) She is ignorant of any practices in her good sister's realm—though the latter need not judge of her so "disdaynefully" or think she will "meddle with simple devyses": for she is not "sa laich borne of hir self, nor yit hes sa small moyens in other partes, that quhen she may be drevin to enter in practises, she sall not be able to mak it appeare to the warld by theffect, that hir devyses aucht not to be sett at sa small a price"! As for her proceedings within her own realm, as she has never been "curious" as to her good sister's in hers, thinking it not customary among princes that one should "put fute" in the "regiment" of their neighbours, who are subject immediately to God and "aw compt or reknyng of thair doyngis to na uther bot to Him": she looks for the same at her good sister's hands "that she will na wys middle with ony maters within the realme of Scotland, bot trust hir discretioun with the handilling thairof, to quhom it onlie appertenis."

(7.) She has not made, and intends not to make any innovation in religion, but that most convenient for the estate of herself and realm, by the advice of her good subjects. As for vain imaginations "with other like" terms; by God's grace it shall appear that her consultations, designs, &c., "sall prove als substanciall and na mair vane and deceptfull then sic as hir nychtbouris thame selffis hes at ony tyme takin in hand"!

(8.) As for the Earl of Murray: "hir majestie desiris maist hertlie hir gud suster to middle na further with thay privat caissis concernyng him or ony uthers subjectis of Scotland, than hir majestie hes heirtofore middillit with ony caissis concernyng the subjectis of Ingland: quhilk doyng, she sall do the verie office of a prince and of a gud nychtbour." Meantime she prays her good sister to consider how moderately she has used herself in a case wherein she had good occasion to have meddled "mair earnestlie: that is, in the caus of hir moder in law the Lady Margaret countes of Lennox, being alsua sa tender of blude to hir majestie—quhom being inducit be hir exemple, she dois maist earnestlie and effectuously request hir gude suster to releve furth of captivitie," and restore her to her lands, &c., and former favour, "quhairin as she sall nowthir offend aganis justice nor hir awin honour, sa she sall do hir majestie maist acceptable pleasour."

4 *pp.* *In a Scottish official hand.* *Indorsed* (by Randolph), and (by Cecil): "12 Aug. 1565."

(2) Another copy.

6 *pp.* *Contemporary English hand.* Darnley is in both called "that parson with whom shee hathe joyned herselfe in marriage."

Aug. 13. **230.** OFFERS BY HENRY AND MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Though it is very hard to their majesties to make any offers to repair the Queen of England's "greves," which they never knew: yet to show good will,

(1.) They assure her that during her own life and of the lawful issue of her body, they will do nothing to the prejudice of the title of either, directly nor indirectly.

(2.) They shall not meddle with her subjects nor reset offenders.

Elizabeth.
1565. (3.) Nor enter into any league with a foreign prince against her,
(4.) But enter into one with herself.
(5.) They, if called to the succession, will make no innovation of the religion, laws or liberties of England.

These offers are made on condition :—

(1.) That their good sister shall by Act of Parliament, &c., as found expedient by their majesties' learned counsel, establish the succession to her crown, failing herself and the lawful issue of her body, (1) in the Queen's person and the lawful issue of her body: failing which, in that of Lady Margaret countess of Lennox, mother to the king her majesty's husband, and lawful issue of her body, "as the persons by the lawe of God and nateur nexte inheritable to the crowne of Englande and appartinences therof," and that she shall not procure anything prejudicial to her majesty or Lady Margaret and their heirs aforesaid.

(2.) Nor meddle with any practises in Scotland, or reset offenders against their majesties.

(3.) Nor league with any foreign prince against them.

5 *pp. Written by Randolph. Indorsed* (by him, and by Cecil): "13 August 1565, brought by Mr. Tomworth."

(2) Another copy.

3 *pp. In an English hand. Indorsed.*

(3) Another copy.

3 *pp. In another hand. Indorsed* (by Randolph).

Aug. 14. **231.** COCKBURN OF ORMISTOUN TO CECIL.

Reminds him of his former letters to the Council and himself, on the ingratitude and dishonesty of William Raby and Edmond Stryngar, who make delays and excuses for not repaying him the ransom of the former from the Basque, with interest "a crowne of the son" daily. Prays his help. Edinburgh. *Signed:* "Your lordschipis with scervice, Ormystoun."

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 18. **232.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I received your letter and understand by my servant your care and diligence to further our suit: whereof for my part, I render most hearty thanks. Of our estate, both dangerous and troublesome, you will hear by others. "We haif assayt gif ony meanis mycht assuage the consavit hatreit, but ground or cause, but perceavis na thing but grytter extremyte." We doubt not you shall continue our affectionate friend, but consider how dangerous is delay to us.

"Frome Dunnowyn in Argyill in haist upon my departeur towardes Ayre." *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By M[r] Tamworth."

Elizabeth.
1565. Aug. 20.

233. RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

Your majesty shall so well understand things here that I need not trouble you with my writings. No man could have more laboured than M[r] Tamworthe has done. How little it has moved, and how answered, your majesty shall hear by him. "I daylie fynde suche mervileus alteration in her, that I wonder from whens it procedethe." How the injuries done to your Majesty may be recompensed, your highness best knows: "for will in her to repayre them I fynde but lyttle." I boldly affirm there were never more addicted to your devotion here than at present. "At Barwicke" *(an error)*. *Signed*: Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp.* *In Randolph's Court hand, also address.* *Indorsed.*

Aug. 20. **234.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Though I need not doubt the bearer M[r] Tamworth's report, and must testify his care and diligence in all his doings, yet there were some things chiefly directed to me, the answer whereof you shall find here in effect. After the first day of his audience, it was the Queen's pleasure he should confer with her council, and Tuesday* being the day, before noon M[r] Tamworth and I being both in Lethington's chamber, every man having taken his place, Lethington said that the Queen's will was they should talk only with the ambassador, "and therfore desyered me to gyve them leave for a space and leave them togyther alone." To that Tamworthe said, that as he was a stranger to many matters that had passed between the Queen's majesty and their sovereign, her majesty's will was I should be privy to his doings, and he could not discharge his duty except I were present. Atholl also spoke somewhat against it, "that I sholde be ther," and seeing them earnestly persist, I let them understand I thought it very strange I should be "secluded" from any such matters, being he that had travailed most between the Queens: and not only opposed what was said, but advised M[r] Tamworthe to proceed no further, unless I was privy. After consultation among themselves, they went to know the Queen's pleasure, and at their return I was admitted. After full resolution of the matters in M[r] Tamworth's commission, I offered their lordships a supplication by certain countrymen of Chester and [ ] in Wales, who had been spoiled by English pirates who sold their goods in Scotland—who being duly punished, the parties agreed with for 400*l.* and the money ready to he paid them, the Queen commanded that it should be stayed in the Master of Maxwell's hands, till it might be seen what justice her subjects "(meaning therby Archibalde Grehame and hys parteners)" should receive in England—and though we said as much as we could, yet we could get no other answer. Also some pirates taken by Captain Reede at Holy island, escaped from prison at Berwick to Scotland convoyed by an Englishman, and "spared not" to show themselves before our lodging: whom we caused to be apprehended and imprisoned, desiring they might be sent to England. We were answered, if we could prove anything against them, they should be punished "ther" but not restored; and we could get no further hearing. After the conference ended, Leth-

* 7th August.

Elizabeth.
1565. ington by the Queen's command, said that for her suspicion "that I have previe conferens with her evle subjectes and rebelles, (even so he termed them)" whereby they were encouraged in their contempt, she required me to "promes upon my honour (those were his wordes)" that I would no wise have to do with them; and if I would not promise, then to prevent such practises, she would appoint those to be with me "that sholde see unto my doynges, and so narrowlye looke unto me that I sholde have no meanes to worke her grace anye dyspleasure that waye." To the first part, I answered "flatlye" that I would promise nothing "nether upon honour, honestie, worde, nor wrytinge: for gardes to attende upon me, I gave them to wytte that theie sholde fare full evle, or be mo in number then I keape abowte me of myne owne, or els theie sholde sometymes seeke their lodging." I said the injury to my mistress was too great in time of peace to have that offered: but if she would proclaim open war, she might do as she "lyste"—but I would not be restrained in liberty, nor obey any command but that of my own sovereign. After we had "stormed a whyle," and they had consulted among themselves, Lethington said "wyll you then be contente to lye at Barwic and come hyther as you have occasion"? I denied that also, and said that wheresoever their Queen is, "ther or not farre of is my place: yf I were put from that, I knewe what mynde was borne to my mestres *etc.*" So I heard no more of the matter, and remain as before, till I hear farther of her majesty's pleasure, and beseech the same by your honour, also to know what I may say to Englishmen daily resorting hither, as well soldiers that steal away from Berwick, as spies and tale tellers *etc.*, in more number than ever before?

For your desire that I send the manner of Lennox and Darnley's refusal to return, so as it may be laid before a jury impanneled thereon: as I am unskilful as to the form, and all I have written in "two severall letters therof is trewe," if it please you to have it drawn as law requires, I will gladly set any hand to it, or add more if "requiset."

I have written more than I thought needful, knowing the sufficiency of this bearer* and credit with your honour's self. He has many more matters to speak of than I am willing to put in writing, and am so assured you shall hear them, that "in what pickell soever he leade me, I wyshe that he maye departe in peace and saulflye retorne into your honours presence, that he repente not hys commynge into Scotlande all the dayes of his lyf." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

4 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 21. **235.** TAMWORTH TO CECIL.

The only cause of my "scylence all this whyle" has been the daily expectation of my return; and being despatched by the Queen on Thursday† last, in all things saving the letter to the Queen's majesty, I sent to Court on Saturday last to know her further commands. I received answer that next day I should receive the

* Tamworth. † 16th August.

Elizabeth.
1565. letter to her majesty, and "at the same instante" her highness sent me a passport signed with her own hand and the king's likewise, by one of the clerks of Council called "Sandie Haye"; which being considered by M^r^ Randall and myself, we thought it not expedient to accept it "in that ordre," but returned it. That if it pleased her majesty either to grant me one in her own name, or else cause one of her gentlemen to accompany me to the "Bordre syde," I should be most bounden. It was denied me, but I kept my day of departure—Monday* last—and passing quietly till I came on this side Dunbar (where I lodged all night) 3 miles, some horsemen "dogged" me out of the town, and "other some" to the number of 30 "well furnisshed warlyke," lay in wait by the King and Queen's warrant to Lord Hume (copy enclosed) and notwithstanding my refusal as her majesty's ambassador to be stopped, they carried me hither—where I await her majesty's pleasure whether I should accept such passport or no? Praying speedy advertisement from your honour. "Written at Hewme Castle the xxj^t^ daye of Awguste at iiij^or^ of the clocke in thafter noone." *Signed:* John Tamworth.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 23. **236.** THE QUEEN AND KING TO MAXWELL.

It has been oftimes reported since your departing, that you have "melled" with our rebels, which we cannot credit: and pray you to meet us at Stirling this next Monday night the 27^th^ instant, where we may freely confer, take your advice on things in hand, and speak our own mind to you—and as we make no tarry there, we wish you to keep that day. Subscribed with our hand. Edinburgh. Marye R. Henry R.

We have heard by one of your own surname that you speak with our rebels. We would you delay till you first come to us.

1 *p.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "23 Aug. 1565. Copy of the Scottish Quenes lettres to the Master Maxwell."

Aug. 27. **237.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Immediately after I had knowledge of M^r^ Tamworth's stay by Lord Hume, I desired to speak with the Queen, who being somewhat evil at ease, I was referred to the Council, who being together, I complained to them, and was anwered they would speak with her grace. After dinner I return again, and by Lethington, Atholl only present, this was said to me: it is the custom of princes that when an ambassador comes from another, at his departure he receives a safe-conduct. M^r^ Tamworth refused this, and therefore, if the warden stayed him, the prince is not to blame, but himself. I answered there was nothing omitted of his part towards the prince, and thereof could he well enough judge: but to acknowledge Darnley king, or pass under his safe-conduct, he thought it neither his office nor duty; and having the Queen's own letter to my Sovereign, I thought sufficient for any man to pass out of her country. Other answer I

* 20th August.

Elizabeth.
1565. got none, but either he must take that passport, or remain where he was. Being not satisfied, I desired to speak with the Queen herself, and next day was appointed. Her husband was gone to see the Inche where I hear say he took order for keeping it. At my audience, she accused Tamworth of not knowing his duty, being in a strange country, to accommodate himself to the laws and orders. I said he had broken none to my knowledge—if her grace meant by that, his refusing Darnley's safe-conduct—for that would have been acknowledging him a king, whereas he, as ambassador of the Queen my mistress looked that both his father and he should have done their duties to him. 'Yt had byne to myche,' said she, 'for ether of them.' 'Myche greater fawlte' quoth I, 'for Mr Tamworthe otherwyse to tayke them then theie have shewed them selves.' 'Well' says she, 'he is nowe a kynge.' 'To her,' I confessed, "and to as maynie as so wyll tayke hym, but to us he was not, nor to anye that were trewe subjectes to my soveregne.' 'He maye be paradventeur' says she, 'I knowe what righte he hathe, and nexte unto my self, I am assured the beste; I meane' says she 'after my good systar.' I said I had never greatly travailed to know their rights, but I was well assured if they had any, "theie tooke the reddieste waye to be put besyde them." 'Yea' says she 'I knowe that ye are abowte to establyshe the crowne to another.' I said her grace's knowledge was more than mine, "but so yt myghte be." 'I truste' says she, 'to fynde otherwyse in my good systar then so, or yf she do, I truste I shall not wante some frendes that wyll be loothe to see me lees my ryghte, and I assure you I have receaved lettres which came thorowe your handes from the kynge my good brother of France, that he wyll tayke my parte in anye wronge that shalbe offered me; and some other frendes I truste to fynde that wyll healpe me yf I stonde in neade.' I said I well allowed her grace had many friends, and asked her if any could stand her more in stead than my mistress? 'I have soughte her frendeshipe so myche as I cane,' says she, 'and have offerde so myche as reason requirethe.' I said I allowed well of the offers, "but that the conditions added unto them were to harde to be allowed of, and more conteyned in them then ever she desyered with the Lord of Leicester." 'So have I reason' says she, 'for thys man my howsbande hathe a righte, and so hathe not my lord of Leicester—and to provide for hym his mother and brother, yt is my parte, and withowte that wyll never accorde to anye agremente.' I said I thought she should never be greatly pressed, but how my mistress would take these offers "whear her grace is so myche bounde by promes, I knewe not." Thus we "reason" long, and would have done more, but I thought it time for me to give over, and desire her answer touching Tamworth. 'Nowe' says she 'that he knowethe howe he maye use hym self here after, I am contente he shalbe at his own pleasure free, and wyll directe my lettres to that effecte. And for yourself, I have to saye unto you, that I knowe you have intelligens with my rebelles, and inspeciall with the Lord of Murraye. You do not your parte therin, and I advise you to leave yt.' I asked her grace wherein? She spake much but to no great effect. She is content I live at liberty; and seems offended that a garrison man coming to me was stayed by Lord Hume. "I never hearde more owtragieus wordes then she spake agaynste my lord of Murraye, and sayde that

Elizabeth.
1565. she wyll rather leese her crowne then not to be revenged upon hym. I maye conjecteur that ther is some heavier matter at her harte agaynste hym then she wyll utter to anye. I tolde Mr Tamworth, my opinion of them (?) I thynke to be her greef." She is now determined to pursue them, and certain shires are commanded to attend upon her. This day Sunday * they departed out of this town at 4 o'clock after dinner towards Lythcow: from thence either to Stirling or Glascowe. What their power will be is uncertain, for they knowe not who will be their friends, no not of those that are their nearest. They went very few out of town. The harquebusiers, now 600 in all, with 200 spears, follow to-morrow, with the artillery,—6 field pieces.

Such as she pursues are now at Ayr, and think themselves strong enough for this pursuit, and are determined rather to come here or to Fife than show themselves in the field against their Sovereign. Proclamation was made on Friday † that any with them and will leave them, shall be pardoned. Lord Gordon is restored to honours by proclamation. Divers more gentlemen of Fife put to the horn, divers commanded to ward, in one place or another, that yet remain in their houses. "Libertie for all men to do what the[ie] lyste." The provost of this town put out of office, and Cragmillour in his place; the "controwler" Pattarrow removed, and the Laird of Tillibarne in his place, who within these 4 days had 4 villages spoiled and 11 men slain by the "Hylande" men. Stealing and killing on every part. This town has now given 200*l.* sterling, and none of them goes with her, for she knows how well they favour the other part. She has borrowed money of divers, and yet has not wherewith to pay so many soldiers as are levied for 2 months. God knows what will be the issue; "but so evle willinge a compagnie to suche a deade I never hearde of"!

Yesterday there arrived out of Flanders 2 ships—in one it is said the Earl of Sutherland—and "for certayne" Francis Yaxlye in the other. His errand I yet know not: and would I knew what might be said to such "gestes" who come for little good. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

5 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 28. **238.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

"Ayant eu nouvelles du roy Monsieur mon beaufrere," I have dispatched this gentleman of mine "expres" to report my affairs here, which I would not do without begging your favour for him and expedition on his journey. Having no time, as the king my husband and I are setting out against our rebels, I will write no more but to wish you health and long life. Stirling. *Signed:* "Votre tres affectionne sœur e cousine e fidelle amye si a vous ne tien (?) Marie R."

1 *p. French. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By Mr. Beton."

Aug. 31. **239.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

There arrived here "thys nyghte at iiij of the clocke" the Duke, Murray, Glencairn, Rothes and Lord Boyd, to the number of 1000

* 26th August. † 24th August.

Elizabeth.
1565. persons. To let you better understand their purpose at good length, there shall be a gentleman from them with diligence, whom you may credit as themselves. Thus much I advertise by the bearer "owte of hande." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

[Aug.] **240.** PETITION TO ELIZABETH.

By James Nicolson and John Johnston, Scotsmen, who for receiving from Mr. Tomworth the first aid of money sent by her majesty to the Lord of Murray, when none others could be got: "for that caus onelie" have been put to great extremity by their own sovereign, who has confiscated their rents *etc.* worth 150*l.* sterling to each of them, also their houses and goods, put out their wives and families to the number of 30 persons, to beg among their friends: praying some support for these "to pas owir a pece of this trublus tyme" according to her accustomed mercy. Beseeching her gracious answer.

1 *p. In a Scottish hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "1565 James Nicolson, Jhon Jhonston, Scottishmen."

Sept. 1. **241.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I advertise with all speed, that there arrived here yesterday the Duke, Murray, Glencairn, and Rothes, lords Boyd and Ochiltree, with 1200 horse. This place they think strongest for them, and nearest to their friends. Argyll is looked for on Monday "at the fardeste" with his forces, judged to be as many as those already here. The occasion of their coming hither is that they will not be the "onsetters," but defend themselves while they may: and also is thought the fittest place "to justifie their cawse," against whom there has yet nothing proceeded "orderlye," nor cause of offence showed. Others their friends, "as theie of whome your honour hathe hearde" that have not declared themselves, like well their coming, and some "not farre from the Quenes self," have advertised that there is no "meanes" to be had for them, but either to have their bodies or force them to leave the country.

I do not see how they can withstand her force, for they are fewer, have no harquebusiers, nor can so soon levy any they need: for this night they are surely advertised she has already left Glascowe and intends to drive them out of the town or lose the whole. So that to-morrow or Monday she is certainly looked for. She puts no small affiance in the Castle, and thinks so with shot to annoy her adversaries, that they cannot help themselves. So these men have taken purpose, if strong enough, they will meet her 2 miles out of town, and there fight or compound to advantage; if not strong enough, they will leave for Leith, out of danger of the castle, and have an open port for any repairing to them from Fife, Angus, or other parts. In hope of the Queen's majesty's help, and most needing harquebusiers, they have sent a gentleman to my lord of Bedford, asking only 400 to be landed at Leith or elsewhere, which they think they can hold till help come. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Elizabeth.
1565. Your honour will consider what is fittest for the "behove" of her majesty, if this Queen accord to any of these men's requests, as she may perchance if not strong enough. Always I can assure you that Murray will accord to nothing that her majesty is not party in: and if it seem good to her to give me credit to say or do further herein, her mind must be known with all diligence.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Sept. 1. **242.** THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

Signifying that the King her good brother and the Queen mother have sent M. de Mauvissiere to her majesty with their opinions on suitable remedies for the troubles in her realm. On his audience as they commanded with the Queen of England, though she was displeased at the neglect of her late "remonstrances" by "Monsieur Tamour" [Tamworth] and his detention in prison, she has agreed to send some one with him, and a courier to Randolph in the mean time, to learn her intentions. Has always found in the Queen of England much amity and affection towards her—also that Cecil is well disposed to arrange affairs for her profit and commodity, and ready to go "pardela" for the purpose; but though he asked her majesty to send him, she replied he was of her privy council and held the first place in her realm—but if the King sent one of great authority, as the writer himself, she would willingly send Cecil or another of her council. M. Mauvissiere also asked for the deliverance of the Countess of Lennox, but the Queen refused, though she is well treated, which is all he can say. London.

2 *pp. French. Copy in foreign hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Premire jour Septemb. Copy of the French Ambassad. lettre to the Q. of Scottes, by Stafferton."

Sept. 1. **243.** THE LORDS OF SCOTLAND TO THEIR QUEEN.

Complain that they are rigorously pursued from place to place, not for any capital crime, but only for seeking the maintenance of true religion which they and most part of the realm profess. Being now inclosed in this town, they can flee no further. They know this rigour proceeds not of herself, who of nature is given to mercy and clemency, but of some wicked counsel about her grace. Beg that she will leave off pursuit and suffer their case to be tried by her council. But if she will not, they protest their blood is unjustly and wickedly sought, and if compelled to sell it, it shall be as dear "coft"* blood as ever was shed in the realm. But they humbly seek answer.

1 *p. In a Scottish hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "P° Septembr. 1565," (and by Randolph), "Coppie of a lettre from the Lordes to the Q. their soverengne sent from Edinburgh to Glascowe the fyrst of September."

Sept. 1. **244.** DECLARATION BY THE LORDS OF SCOTLAND.

Being now inclosed in this town, and unable to fly further, we are compelled to give for our last Declaration that we never sought

* Bought.

Elizabeth.
1565. any thing but maintenance of the true religion professed here, and therefore desire all that profess the Lord Jesus or love their commonwealth, with all diligence to assist us with their presence and counsel in our great danger, as they will avoid God's heavy displeasure, and not be reputed betrayers of their brethren. Notifying this one thing to them, that if (as God forbid) they suffer us to perish in so just cause, they shall shortly feel their own destruction, besides the wrath of God.

½ *p.* *In the same hand.* *Indorsed* (by Randolph): "A lettre publischede by the lordes, for declaration of their innocencie. Published in Edenburgh the fyrst of September. To M^r^ Secret. Cecill."

Sept. 2. **245.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I know not what to write with certainty. This day I was in good hope all should be well, and these lords able to make their party good against their pursuers. In this town they find neither help nor comfort of any persons. The Queen follows them so near (her forces the stronger with her harquebusiers) that she gives them no time to rest in any place till their friends may join them. The town has been so beaten this whole day and night with cannon and other shot from the Castle, that the townsmen "self" in whom they most trusted, are now likeliest to turn their arms against them. Wherefore know for certain that at this present hour, 3 a.m. they are retiring themselves yet for a time, to give place to her displeasure against them. And if no better come of it, if they find likelihood to make their party good, they will adventure their lives, and commit the success to God. I find in some others of whom I had never great good opinion, such feebleness and lack of courage, that I judge them unworthy of any such "rowme" as they aspire to. It is thought by the wisest that little good can be done now without greater support from the Queen's majesty than can be in readiness in any short time: wherefore it is determined that these men shall "schale" themselves, break their forces, and each retire where he believes himself in the most surety. Of some of the best you shall hear very shortly either at the East or West Marches: whereof I give you first warning, and also advertise those in charge that their arrival be not found strange. Whom I chiefly mean, your honour knows, and I doubt not will procure direction to them if any such person come. At 3 o'clock this Sunday morning. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

"James Macconell withoute fayle is deade of the hurte he tooke in hys head when he was taken."

1½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Sept. 4. **246.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The Queen minded to have taken the lords here, and but that the Saturday was so foul a day, she had gone near them; yet she spared not to ride 20 miles that day. Hearing they were gone, she returns to Stirling, and from thence to Glascowe, where she is "thys Twesedaye nighte." The Duke as I hear with the rest of the lords,

Elizabeth.
1565. yesterday at Hamilton, this night at the Laird of Drumlanrig's house, who now takes open part with them, as also the Master of Maxwell that is come to them, promising assistance with all the power he can make. He purposes to convoy them to Dumfries, either there to defend them against all her power, or put them in safety in their friends' hands at Carlisle: and shift for himself as he can. Many of her forces fall daily from her, that "tyer" and are weary of the matter. "She is enterde also into suspicion with all men, savinge fewe that are abowte her, as myche with my lord of Morton as anye other, and yet hathe he not the wytte to leave her, how oftayne and maynie tymes so ever that he hathe spoken and promised yt." Argyll some say is very near her, and if so, your honour may hear that she leave Glascowe before she takes her rest. All her ladies and gentlewomen are clean left behind her, save one some what "stronger" than the others. I take it for a tale, though constantly reported, that herself sometimes bears a "pystolet," and had one in her hand when near Hamilton she looked to have fought. Her husband only of the company wears "a gylte corselet," all others after their country fashion armed in "jackes." For Murray's repair to England, as I wrote, "yt shalbe the laste refuge"; if meanwhile they can do any good, they will leave nothing "attempted" that lies in their power. "A c gentlemen are determined to sette upon hym in* the battayle self whear soever the Quenes howsbande be, and ether to slaye hym,† or tarrie behynde lyveles‡ amongeste them." Other devices there are for this, as hard to be executed as the other. If this continue, they trust not a little in the Queen's majesty's support. If they had only 300 good harquebusiers and 150 "pyques," doubtless this matter had been ended "or nowe." If they go with their whole force to Dumfries, without doubt they look for a support of men from Berwick to Carlisle, which may be easily convoyed without danger. Your honour knows how needful money is for their provision—what has been received—and how much was promised for 3 or 4 months. These things provided "in deu tyme," will greatly advantage when the time comes. It were requisite also her majesty's mind were known, what should be said in her behalf "to thone parte or thother" if they come to communication? Some stick for religion alone—others will not yield but that the amity be confirmed, and good assurance taken for it.

Of this and other matters I have written for advice, "but thys whole monethe receaved not from your honor one lettre"! You heard that the Earl of Sutherland was found in a ship coming to Scotland. He is no fit man for this time, nor any in his company. "God sende hym that tooke thys man to lyghte as well" on Bothwell and Seton—two worse friends to England or greater enemies to this action "ther is not in Scotlande." My lord of Bedford is "so strayte laced within his commission," that if it be not in this point inlarged, that he may have power "to spare upon a greate necessitie" 400 or 500, her majesty's other help will be out of time to do that which now with little might be ended. "And yf I maye beleeve suche as speake well, yt maye be easlye broughte to passe that one countrye maye receave bothe the Quenes before yt be longe." If this be

* These two words interlined after "upon." † Darnley. ‡ Lifeless.

Elizabeth.
1565. possible or likely—your honor's wisdom is greater than mine—you may judge thereof and work thereafter at your own will. "Marrie," it admits no delay, nor will be done with a pound or two, though I am assured 8000 or 10,000 would bring it to pass. "And in the whole worlde, yf ther be a more malicious harte towardes the Quene my soveregne then is she that here nowe raignethe, let me be hanged at my home commynge, or counted a villayne for ever"! I must be pardoned for my plain speech—as I mean uprightly in her majesty's service, so I do not mistrust any "evle takinge" of what I speak or write tending to advance the same.

It is very true that James Macconel is dead, and his wife is returned with her whole force that went to rescue him. He was wounded in the forehead and died thereof. "Olde Adonel maye gette hym a newe wyf whear he cane, for his is mariede to Shane Onel, and her father presentlye ther at the brydeale." Argyll has of late received letters from Ireland, as from the Deputy, requiring to know if he will take part against Shane or not, if set upon by the Queen of England's authority? My lord suspects they come from no man of authority, for they bear not the form nor manner of "indictinge" (though in English) in like cases used, and that it is a "fetche" of Onel's to know his mind. Wherefore he has given so doubtful an answer that neither of them shall be the wiser, to whose hands it comes. This my lord tells me, and your honour will consider it. The Council commanded me to travail with this Queen on behalf of one Thomas Stevenson of Knockfergus, whose ship was stayed here by the "Larde of Bargaynie *etc.*" That matter was ended 2 months since to the parties' contentment. Yesterday this town made their musters in as terrible fear as ever man went to an assault; it was whispered among them that "incontinente" they should be charged to repair to the Queen to remain 12 days—and with worse will I am sure could never have gone! The whole town made but 150 harquebusiers. They were in the whole 800, and I judge 500 able men among them. Their provost is Cragmillour, "wayne inoughe" and like to breed cumber here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Sept. 7. **247.** THE QUEEN OF SCOTS TO RANDOLPH.

Signifying receipt of his letter of 6th instant, announcing the Sire de Mavessier's arrival at the English Court, sent to her by the king of France—who will be accompanied by one from her good sister of England—to treat on all causes of mislike between them, &c. Both shall be welcome, but she will not consent that her good sister or her minister shall meddle in any wise betwixt herself and her subjects. Under her hand. Stirling Castle. *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Wafer signet: France impaling Scotland.*

(2) Copy of the same.

1¼ *pp.* *An English hand.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . uppon notefyeng the comming of Malvesyer."

Elizabeth.
1565. Sept. 8.

248. THE QUEEN OF SCOTS TO BEDFORD.

Having been informed that the Earl of Sutherland "a borne" subject of her realm, coming from beyond sea to his native country, is lately taken and detained as a prisoner at Berwick—a thing she marvels at in time of peace—she prays he may be put to liberty with expedition, or if he will not do so, that he will signify "in write" by the bearer the occasion of his stay. Subscribed with her hand. Glasgow. *Signed:* Marie R.

½ *p. In clerk Hay's writing. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet as in last.*

Sept. 8. **249.** CHATELHERAULT, ETC., TO RANDOLPH.

We received your writing the 6th of this instant, and copy of another letter sent to you, and give you hearty thanks for your great care and solicitude for us. We would you warn my lord Bedford, to whom we have also written, that we suspect the man that should come means not truly, and should be "circumspectlie" dealt with. The heads we seek are known to you, and "few and shorte"; the one, establishing the religion we profess, abolishing "of the contrair," and surety of our lives and heritages—the other that this country be governed by advice and counsel of the nobility of the same, according to its ancient custom and laws, and not by strangers. This is the whole that we sought as our "Declaratioun" (whereof please receive a copy) testifies. Signify to my L[ord] B[edford] that we cannot be content till we be again on the fields, and that the h. and p.* in readiness may be sent to Car[lisle] as soon as may be; and that we have notice from him of "their tyme and diett," that we may find ourselves in the field, whereby we think matters shall treat better. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Hammylton, James Stewart, Glencarn.

Postscript: We desire to be "mair hastilie" advertised, that we may give intelligence to our friends through this realm.

1 *p. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . the lords to Th. Randolph for answer to hym of the advertisement gyven to them of Betons comming."

Sept. 8. **250.** MURRAY TO RANDOLPH.

"Traist freynd,"—I have seen the copy of that letter and long discourse sent to you concerning the arrival of Monsieur Mouwasier. "As to the apparent conclusion of that letter, ye knaw my mynd thairanentis already: and as I will nocht in ony ways for my perticuleir be ane hynder and stay to the welefair of ane commoun cause, sa quhen the matter sall teynd to that conclusion, I mwst desyir you to haif in rememberance that to me and sum deyrrest of myn, licence may be granted for certeyn yeiris to play ws, utherwyis I can persaif na securite for me and thayme. And forthir I think the conditionis to be gevin ws be our adversaryes hawyng the full upperhand, salbe found werray hard, in for securite of the keipping thairof, it salbe weray sklender. Yff be the contrar we hayd anis putt thayme to the

* Harquebusiers and pikes.

Elizabeth.
1565. poynct to craife peace, all thingis suld haif bene to our behuif, moyr gently and moir suirly handillyit, as it seameyth me the experience sall teach. And yit because it is incertayn quhyther yff the meaning of the letter sall tak ony effect, this salbe to desyir you to wrytt to my lord Bedforde in this mean tym to cause the soldiouris we wraytt for, haist thayme to Carleill to supporte our necessyteis; and the rest of the forces quhairof we wraytt to you of befoyr, to be in all redynes to joyn with ws as evir our neyd sall requyir." Concerning the furniture of "this moneyth," I pray you be vigilant and careful thereon, for we are like to have need—and if it come in due time, "it is hable to redeme twyis als much cost. Concerning my passage in England, I abyid your answeir and opinion with the first, quhilk I pray you haist to me, with your negotiation with the Quene, quhat end it hayth takin and quhat appearis to you to succeyd"? Dumfries. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1¼ *pp. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . Dumfrees, lordes of Scotland to Th. Rand."

Sept. 9. **251.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Immediately after I had received the Queen's majesty's letters, I despatched this bearer towards "thys Courte." I had much ado before I got him out of this town, "so curieus" this provost is to do good service, that no man should come where the Queen is, but she should be first warned. At length he sent a servant of his own with him, and after long travel from place to place, he could not speak with her till she came to Stirling, where he delivered the letters to her grace's self. One whole day he tarried for his answer, and next day came hither, whence I dispatch him to-morrow morning. How she is minded towards the lords, you can perceive by her own writing, herewith sent to your honour, either to be kept, or returned to me as you please. They think themselves there can be no worse end to them, than that made by an accord. "Suche love dayes" they like not as in such cases are made between the prince and the subjects. As I was commanded, so did I advise them, but have yet got no answer, unless perchance they mean to make it by mouth, or some one sent from them to the Queen's majesty, as I hear Rothes shall be sent to her to show their own "greves."

Morton has now also left her, and promised to take open part with the others. All men mislike this strange kind of government, but know not which way to remedy it. If any other (than such as shall prepare the way) be sent hither to appease these troubles "(yf that waye theie maye be ended) then yourself," I know not what end they are like to take, or so to the contentment of those now in danger, "as is neadefull that theie were provided for." All men are given to mischief—steal who list, kill who can, speak who will—there is neither justice nor punishment of vice. Argyll sent into the Lennox about 1000 "persons" who have harried and spoiled most of the country: others of his have been in Atholl, and spoil as fast there. The thieves of Liddesdale ride within 8 miles of this town.

The Queen this day left Stirling for S^{t} Andrews, and by the way will take if she can Castle "Cammell" and Lowghleven. From S^{t} Andrews she "wyll" to Dundee, and so to S^{t} Johnston, with which

Elizabeth.
1565. towns she is greatly offended for the support they had in readiness to send to the lords. Word is come here to furnish this castle with victuals and munition, and keep strait guard that none transport their goods out of town: by which means she thinks to keep them in awe. What he shall be whom she sendeth, I know not as yet. "I beleve for all the wordes wrytten in the lettre unto me, that she is better wyllinge to accorde then she wolde seeme." I have sent the copy of her letter to the lords to advise on. Edinburgh. *Signed:* . . .

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by Cecil): "By Stafferton." *Signature cut off by the bookbinder March 1838. R. Lemon.*

Sept. 9. **252.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

I send you a couple of letters received this morning since my servant's departure towards you, which please to read, and if he be not gone, send by him to M^r^ Secretary—if gone, by such dispatch as they may be at Court as soon. Your lordship sees their opinions for accord and support, and Murray's desire if they end by accord. Edinburgh, at 12 o'clock. *Signed:* Tho. Randolph.

Your lordship knows this bearer—so I pray you be good to him only for his horsehire.

½ *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Sept. 10. **253.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

I declared of late to your majesty's servitor Thomas Randolphe my deliberate mind "to haif reteyrit me" to your majesty to give most hearty thanks for your highness's "bonteous guidnes" to me in particular, and favours to my friends—yet matters have so fallen out that the weal of the cause in hand compels me to make residence with the rest of the noble men joined in action with me. Herefore on occasion of Monsieur Mauvasier's arrival here, I have desired this gentleman the bearer to communicate my mind to your highness, whom it may please you to credit as myself. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 10. **254.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

[*In similar terms to those of his letter to the Queen.*] "I have send this gentilman of your ald acquentance," to communicate my mind to your honour and declare our whole estate and proceedings here, desiring as in times past he may have your good counsel and advice in such things as he will propone as to what we would be at. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 10. **255.** THE LORDS OF SCOTLAND TO CECIL.

Craving his favour as heretofore in their suits to her majesty. Such occasions are presented as neither the common cause itself, nor their "perticulare" that sustain it, had ever more need of his favour,

Elizabeth.
1565. as the bearer can declare, who has full credit. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Hammylton, James Stewart, Glencarn, Rothes, Ucheltre, Jhonne Maxwell, Drumlangrik.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . by M^r^ Melvyn."

Sept. 10. **256.** THE SAME LORDS TO ELIZABETH.

Notwithstanding the earnest travail taken by your highness's ambassador M^r^ Thomworth in our cause, which we hoped, joined with our humble suits, should have at least "amwsed" our sovereign for a time—she has so suddenly and with such fury pursued us, that the "sobir" forces we had prepared for defence of our lives were "cutt aff" from us, and cannot as yet join us. Thus we have been forced to retire to this town near to your majesty's borders, trusting God shall move your highness's heart to aid us in this just cause of defence of our religion, lives and heritages—and doubt not if it so please you, but God shall prosper his cause in our hands. To declare our present state we have directed this gentleman fully instructed, to whom it may please your majesty give credit as to ourselves. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Hammylton, James Stewart, Glencarn, Rothes, Ucheltre, Jhonne Maxwell, Drumlangrik.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk), and (by Cecil): "By Menvile." *Wafer signet: the Duke's quartered shield: collar of St. Michael.*

Sept. 10. **257.** INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROBERT MELVILLE.

To require of the Queen of England for the weal of this cause, 3000 men: thereof 1000 harquebusiers, 1000 pikes, 500 bowmen, and 500 horse.

Money to be sent for their pay to Lord Scrope with all haste.

Item:—Some "fielding" pieces, to be carried with the foot.

Item:—In case the adversary take a strength, that a reasonable battery, with powder, bullet, &c., be provided to siege it.

Item:—Certain ships be sent to the Firth and East coast, that intelligence may pass to Court at London, and that from France be stopped. Also a few ships in the Firth of Clyde. Thus shall intelligence be intercepted, the sea coast towns shall "seeke" to the lords, and join the cause—which will be a great number, and also "vitteling" to the army.

Item:—In case the Queen's majesty please to enter in "commoning," it is thought good that the Lords with her forces, be first in the field: for that shall draw the "commoning" better on, if it like her majesty to have it. Otherwise it may be suspected that under this "commoning" they* intend to gather their forces both here and in France, and "wiek"† the noblemen and their friends sustaining this cause, that thereafter they shall be unable to sustain the establishment of religion, nor the amity between the realms.

Dilating of the heads, with the circumstances and "dependances," committed to the credit of the bearer.

1 *p.* *Contemporary copy.* *Indorsed:* "10 Septembre 1565. Instructions for Robert Malvile."

* The Queen's party. † Weaken.

Elizabeth.
1565. Sept. 14.

258. THE QUEEN AND KING TO THE LAIRD OF [. . .].

"Traist freind,—As our rebels are riding in armour "to and fra in the cuntre," and mind to draw in strangers to the realm, "quhilk to ws is unsufferabill," and we trust none of our faithful subjects, "of quhilk nowmer we specialie esteme yow," will countenance them: we pray you that "with the haill force ye may mak with xx dayis victualis efter your cuming, and palyeonis to ly on the feildis," ye fail not to meet us at Stirling the last day of September instant to pass forward with us as our service requires, and justify the good opinion we have ever had of you. Subscribed with our hands. Dundee. *Signed:* Marie R., Henry R.

½ *p. In Hay's writing. Addressed:* "To our traist freind the laird of* ." *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "14 Septemb. 1565. The Q. of Scotts to [ ] to serve with hir against the last of September."

Wafer signet: France impaling Scotland.

Sept. 15.

259. THE LORDS TO ROBERT MELVILLE.

"Traist freynd,"—We understand from my lord Bedford that neither has he commission to send us aid, nor is there money come down; whereat we marvel, as ye know we heard otherwise from her majesty's servants here! Now our Sovereign is preparing all her forces against the 1st of next month, and also "battrye for Hammyltoun and Draffen"; and if we have not some aid to meet her forces or rather to "prevene" them, our friends will forsake us to our undoing and wreck of our cause. Wherefore ye shall "insyst with utter diligence to craif" of her majesty and our friends there, that her aid be hasted to Scotland by the 4th of next month, or sooner if possible, "for the verray wynnyng and tynsall of ws and our cause standeyth in haist and expedition of sic thingis as ye ar to requyir, for ye sall assuyr thayme thair iijm men in dew tyme, that is befoir the v or sext of this nixt moneythe, shalbe moyr steaddable to our cause nor vjm salbe within viij days thairafter, our freyndis being dryven be force to compone with the adversarye and becum our enymye, and we putt from our rowmis and possessionis." And as ye get answer, haste us word with diligence, for if they will not, we must provide some other means for ourselves, and likewise get our horse and foot together, "and ma yf we hayd to interteynye thayme upon." Therefore haste the money towards us, "for that salbe grytt wele to the cause." Dumfries. *Signed:* James Hammylton, James Stewart, Glencarn, Rothes.

1½ *pp. Addressed:* "To our traist freynd Robert Melwill at present resydent in the Court," &c. *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by himself): "From Dunfrees."

* The name very carefully obliterated.

Elizabeth.
1565. Sept. 15.

260. INTELLIGENCE FROM SCOTLAND.

Reporting Francis Yaxley's arrival on Tuesday last* in a Flemish ship—the young King's rejoicing and imparting all his affairs to him —his large talk about England, France, etc., imposing on the King and his "yong company" as a fit man to send abroad—as he so knew the Courts of Spain and England, besides his acquaintance in Flanders and at "Bruxells," that he doubted not to accomplish any commission. So he is to pass secretly to Flanders to the Duchess of Arscott, who shall procure him audience of the Regent, to whom he shall declare that this Queen doubting her uncles' credit in the French Court, will commit herself, her husband and country to his protection: and seeing the Queen of England disposed "to marry with the French King, the rather to mainteyne hir estate," she and her husband will remit all her titles to England to the King of Spain's judgment. And if the Duchess of Parma thought meet, he is to pass with these offers to Spain.

At leaving Scotland, he had a roll of the names and titles of Englishmen living abroad: and told his secret friends the names of many noblemen and gentlemen of good power in England, ready to follow the King of Spain's direction for "alteration of relligion."

He pretends great acquaintance with the Conte de Feria "by reason of his wife"—and heard "certenly" in Flanders that the Conte should come there next spring, and if so, the Queen of Scots shall have a special friend. At his departure, for lack of money, "he had some plate and two juells given hym."

2 *pp. Official copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "xv Septemb. 1565. Franc. Yax. sent into Flanders."

Sept. 19-20.

261. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Where the lords are, their state and case, your honor knows by the report of him that came to you last. I see little hope of accord: the Queen has been sought divers ways, but rejects all, and with a full resolute mind is determined to deal with them "in all extremitie"; so that if God send them not speedy support, they are like to abide marvellous adventures, for of themselves they are not able to withstand her force; and many willing to take their part, doubt the issue so much, that till they know what succour they shall receive of her majesty, they "lye backe." I fear they shall see "these men peryshe before their yes"† and then fall in like danger. It is therefore "craved" by all that favour God's word and love their country, and would have this plague taken away that hangs over their heads, that it would please God to move her majesty's heart to have consideration of them. "In what sorte or howe, her majestie understondethe by their requeste," and they look daily for some "comfortable" answer.

Yesterday it was proclaimed that all men should be ready the last of this instant at Stirling with 20 days' provision. It is thought she will besiege Hamilton Castle and other places thereabout. She has been in S[t] Andrews, Dundee, and S[t] Johnston, and taken a "benevo-

* 11th September. † Eyes.

Elizabeth.
1565. lence" of each town, "with as evle a wyll of the geversas ever monye was payde." Shortly she is looked for here, and has commanded divers Fife gentlemen to ward. Lady Murray has been sought and not found, some say to have been imprisoned to relieve my lady Lennox, whose husband, now lieutenant of the West Country, leaves no man unspoiled of whom he likes to take. Argyll spares as few of his as he can meet with. In such good rule is this country, that no honest man is sure of his life or goods! To amend this, it is told me Bothwell is arrived, "whose power is to do more myscheif, than ever he was mynded to do good in all his lyf, a feete man to be made a minister to anye shamfull acte, be yt ether agaynste God or man." The state of the borders your honor has heard. It is thought a small power will remedy all these matters, or if her Majesty will adventure her force, she may shortly do with this Queen and country as she will. "Yf the lyke oportunitie served her*, with the lyke power and frendeshipe, I knowe that she wolde leave nothynge unattemptede." I refer these things to her majesty's wisdom, for the likelihood of what I have written, I am content to stand to the judgment of any wise man that knows this country. I grieves me to have remained so long here, "and nowe to retorne with so unhappie an ende of my labor," most of all to consider how many dear and good friends her majesty has, are in such extremity.

Some matters of my countrymen after long and tedious suits here, that were at good issue before these troubles, are now either "cleane caste backe," or irrecoverable. Some men of Chester and Wales, whose goods were spoiled by pirates, and sold here, after agreeing with the Scots for one quarter of the value, are stayed by Archibald Graham's suit, and of 400*l.*, get only 100*l.*

John Keeth in prison in the castle here for piracy, at the suit of M^r^ Raphe Hawle of York, is let out and not "one groote of the moneye answered." A Hull man whose ship lying at anchor at Leith "was ronne under the water" by a Frenchman, and asked arrest of the ship and her sails to be taken from her: she went away, and her quartermaster, apprehended and imprisoned till the party was satisfied, is now set at liberty by express command of the Queen and her husband.

Two pirates escaped from Berwick and "refused" to M^r^ Tamworth, word is brought to me to pay their charges, or they shall be freed. How Clerke sped, your honor has heard by him self. Those that drew their swords on M^r^ Tamworth and me, were both set free the day after he left this town. Edinburgh 19^th^ September. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

"Faylinge" my messenger, I laid this letter "by me," and meantime had these certain news.—Francis Yaxlye has abandoned his own country, and sworn him self Scottish. This Queen and her husband sent him ambassador to Spain: he imbarked 3 days past. It passes my power to know his commission, but it is for little good. He passes by Flanders and in the name of the poor scholars and others at Lovayne, has promised their service to this Queen. He also assures her that "one Pole" is coming with a ship and 100 gentlemen to serve her grace by sea or land at their own charges for

* Mary.

Elizabeth.
1565. a year—this Pole was or is a pirate. By the hasty sending hence of the man that was promised would amply declare to the Queen s majesty this Queen's mind to the accord with her subjects—your honor may see her mind, for he is not yet ready, though I believed he should have been 3 days after my servant Stafferton's despatch. You shall shortly have with you "one M[r] David Chamber, of whome to speake good for vertu, knowledge, trothe or honestie, sholde be as greate a slawnder unto hym, as reproffe to my self to speake agaynste my knowledge, and the opinion of all honeste men that ever had to do with hym." Though he is now a Lord of Session, he was within this year servant to Bothwell, preferred by him, and now "his chief guyder," and in no small credit. Besides him, there are two others "no smale doers" with this Queen—M[r] James Balfore, bruited to be secretary, and M[r] John Lysleye, "lyke inoughe in conditions all iij, in religion divers, the fyrste two of none, the iij[de] a rancke papyst." Edinburgh 20[th] September. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

On margin. M[r] David Chamber departs this day towards you.

4 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil and his clerk).

Sept. 21. **262.** MURRAY TO BEDFORD.

I received your "maist gentle" letter whereby I understand your taking in good part my late desires. "As concerning the commoun cause" and the aid your lordship addresses to us, my lords here answer your letter "habundatlye." And for my own part I must be plain with you, "for samekle as I am in my hart persuadyt your lordschip favouris our cause we haif in hand, no utherwyis nor I do my self." When the aid of 300 "schott" and 200 "armed pykis" were craved, our sovereign had neither such forces of "soldytt" * men, nor entered on sharp handling of our friends, and we had a reasonable power in the field. But now she has doubled her force, our friends are taken and "wardyt," their houses &c. seized in many parts, this has so discouraged the multitude of our favourers "(quhilkis all as your lordschip wele knaweyth, ar voluntyeris)" that they cannot join us unless they see us able to match the adverse party in the field. This is the very cause why we were compelled to crave greater force now than before: and unless it be hastened before the 4[th] or 5[th] of next month, it shall be hard to recover the loss. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Stewart.

"*Postscriptum*: It fearis me nocht a lytill that thir secrete and couweryt proceydingis of the Quenes majestie thair (as matteris nou stand) sall nevir putt this cause to such end as we boyth wische; but oppin declaration culd apperandly bring with it no dowbt."

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 22. **263.** THE LORDS AT DUMFRIES TO BEDFORD.

We have received your letter dated Berwick 18[th] instant, and spoken with the gentleman bearer, whereby we understand the Queen's good mind, and your pains therein. Our sovereign has

* Paid.

Elizabeth.
1565. summoned all her lieges from 60 to 16 to meet her at Stirling the last of this instant, and on 2d October purposes to besiege the castle of Hamilton, which must be taken if not relieved within 48 hours. Wherefore it may please you if possible to send hither 3000 "men of weir" with expedition, better than 10,000 in a month hereafter, and advertise us with diligence—that if it come not presently, we may cause the men in the house to "rander" it to save their lives. "Your honour knawis gif the schot of the cannone be biddin, na saulftie remanis to the keparis." Dumfries. *Signed:* James Hammylton, James Stewart, Glencarn, Rothes.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 22. **264.** INFORMATION TO ELIZABETH AND HER COUNCIL.

"Informationis to be gevin to the Quenis majestie of England and unto her majesties most honorable Counsall, be the ambassidoure now present within this realme in favouris of the church of Christ Jesus within Scotland, now begun to be persecuted in the cheaf membaris of the same":—

[*Under two principal heads, the first subdivided under 4.*]

First:—To declare that their Sovereign and him joined with her, mean "the utter subversioun" of the religion and the re-erection of papistry—shown by—

1. Maintaining her idolatrous mass.

2. Promoting to ecclesiastical function most corrupt men "yea! idiottis" and persons unable to preach.

3. Procuring from Rome dispensations to sell the church lands, &c.

4. Her crafty convention at Stirling on 20 May last, to gain the nobles' consent to this "unhappy mariage"—suborning Lord Erskine now earl of Mar, the Master of Maxwell and the secretary, to promise establishment of true religion, abolishment of the mass and "all papisticall vanitie"—pretended delay of her marriage till the Queen was satisfied on Throckmorton's arrival—all broken: protesting that the marriage is not lawful nor that the man "named hir husband" has any authority over them as king. The result of her craft being that "so shall volves the pestilent papistes assembled together, gif law to the lambes"! Has she not said 'I know no impietie in the mess and belevis my religioun to be weall grounded: and thairfor I neyther will nor may leif that religioun whairin I have bene nwressed and upbrought.' Adding that she will not displease the King of France and her other friends. And he now called "king," has openly bragged, that there shall be no religion but one—the papistical. And he will not forego the English papists' friendship for that of the Protestants of both realms.

She has so dilapidated the church patrimony assigned for their "sustentatioun," that no minister in Scotland has this day "on penny to spend," but those that have it "by the provision of Antichrist: and few of theis ar trew precheouris of Christ Jesus."

Secondly:—She and her council design to "cut away" some of the principal men raised up by God to profess Christ and his true preaching: and have given away the escheats of some on "fals and

Elizabeth.
1565. conterfaite lettres by the shireff of Air," which the Queen has caused to be "signed with ane antidate," whereby 42 innocent men are denounced rebels and put to the horn.

The petitioners' destruction is sought for their zeal to true religion and redress of enormities lately "croppin" in to government of this miserable common wealth, and therefore honest men are hunted for a prey. "Crafty and wyle strangearis, cheaflye tua Italians Dawy and Francisco, together [with] Maister Foular Englishman" and other unworthy persons, occupy the place of native councillors and manage all weighty affairs. They brought about this marriage before the time appointed, and abuse all law and justice. The hatred conceived against Murray was because he would "not allow nor authoreis Dawy in his abuseis." A stranger, subject of another realm, has intruded himself into the name and authority of a king without the petitioners' consent—a thing never heard of before—and as they seek redress they are persecuted as traitors. They most humbly beg the Queen and her Council not to let them perish for lack of assistance.

4¼ *pp. Scottish writing. Indorsed* (by Cecil, Randolph, &c.): "22 Septembris 1565. To M^r^ Secretarie. Informations given to the Queens Majesty of England and the Counsell in the favor of the relligion in Scotland."

Sept. 22. **265.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have received your honor's of the 12^th^ instant—the first part shows why I have not so often heard as I have desired for my advice.

The "extremities" here are great both to the Queen and her subjects. How she, with this kind of government, her suspicion of her people, and debate with the chief of her nobility, can stand and prosper, passes my wit. To be ruled by advice of 2 or 3 strangers, neglecting that of her chief councillors, I know not how it can stand. Seeing her continued evil mind to the Duke, and suspicion that Murray sought but his own advancement when he did her best service, what can be their lives hereafter, with whom she is now so offended than she cannot abide any man that wishes accord between her and them? To endure and bear at her hands, they think a duty and no burden, "but to lyve under hym that in all these thynges that in her are greveus, but in hym outragieus, theie thynke yt intollerable," and are resolved rather to try any fortune! One of her not least causes of offence is their addiction to the amity. If any wit can remedy these things, and bring about repose between the prince and subjects, I think him happy, "and that worthye blessinge that God spake of them that are (pacifeid) shall lyghte upon hym." If it cannot be, then it is to be prayed for, "that what so ever God intendethe, that yt maye tayke a shorte ende." Your honor may perceive by the writing herewith sent (which I thought had been in your hands long since) what they are grieved with. What she mislikes in them is only that she cannot in all things do as she likes. I will not take upon me to judge of either of their causes—but how much better this country was governed when she gave ear to worthy counsel: then was her estate happy, her praise ran through all nations, then had I occasion to write and speak of her as esteeming

Elizabeth.
1565. the Queen my mistress her chief friend, and was happy to be employed in this service of mutual concord—while now I find myself unfortunate that ever I set foot in this country, and so little success insues of so many years spent! This is my desire, that as this Queen has been divers ways injurious to my Sovereign, she may be brought to "knowe her fayle": and as these noblemen now pursued are the best and wisest, the greatest friends and well willers my Sovereign has, so I desire this Queen may never have her whole will over them. "As thys man whome she hathe chosen her howsbonde and made a kinge, shewethe hym self all togyther unworthie of that which she hathe called hym unto, so do I wyshe that he never attayne unto that which he so ernestlye lookethe for, and in a maner makethe his moste assured accompte of." The remedy of this lies now in the Queen's majesty's hands: what she has already done I have heard, and doubt not by this time she has heard some causes why she may adventure further. Wherein your honor's substantial advice I am sure shall not lack, and I wish you no worse success than you had the last journey you had hither in like cause.

My lord Bedford sent Mr. Colwiche to inform me of many matters in hand touching these controversies: and I spoke with this Queen. She promises well for the Border disorders, but I doubt performance, for now is their time to work mischief. I put her in mind of the letter I wrote to her grace for Malvoysier's coming with some one from her majesty. She gave me the very same answer as before she wrote in the letter I sent you, though I desired her to take better advice: but added this, "that Malvoisier was stayed ther to the intente these myghte have the more leasure to worke what mischeif theie wolde here agaynste her." She saide, "but I am assured gettethe no assured knowledge, that the Quenes majestie had geven them monie. Ther was inoughe saide to the contrarie." I see she is determined to deal with all extremity, both by herself and her doings. I spoke of such as come from England to her and her husband—as Yaxlie, Stonden etc. She said herself that Yaxlye was out of the country. I told her I knew that, and heard say he was "bounde a farther yornaye," and not a man to trust much: and left her in doubt whether he was taken in England or not. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 24. **266.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for her cousin George Lord Seytoun and 12 companions to return to Scotland from France through her realm. Under her signet. Palace of Holyrood house. 23 of her reign. *Signed:* Your richt gnd sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Small wafer signet: Scotland, close crown above shield, "M.R." at sides.

Sept. 28. **267.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

My servant Robert Hammiltoun in the Court of France, is suing for my "revennewis of Chasteaularault," and as I hear has obtained part of the "byrun" profits. Being advertised that the

Elizabeth.
1565. Queen's grace here has sent to have him apprehended, I am bold to ask you to cause this my other writing to be conveyed to your mistress's ambassador to be delivered to my servant as secretly as may be. He will be found either in the Court, "or els in Pareis in the rew of S^{t} Jaques at the sygnne of the *Wyild Man*." The matter requires expedition. Dumfries. *Signed:* Your assuret louffing frend James Hammylton.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sep. 24-29. **268.** CONSULTATION OF THE COUNCIL.

Charges of injuries done by the Queen of Scots, Matters to be required of her, and offered to her. Randolph to be written to. An army to be prepared for the frontier, ships, &c.

2 *pp.* *Holograph of Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him): "24-29 Sept. A consultation of the whole Counsel at Westminster for matters of Scotland."

Sept. 30. **269.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

The bearers John Bowmer and William Mortimer, gentlemen, one of Yorkshire, the other of Kent, learning by me the Queen's majesty's displeasure to such as remain here, have asked leave of their master Lord Darnley to return to England as good subjects: wherefore I commend them to your lordship for license to pass to their friends or elsewhere. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Sept. 30. **270.** ELIZABETH TO THE LORDS.

She is very much grieved that the estate of the lords in Scotland should be in so hard terms as is reported: and has attempted all good means to the Queen of Scots to reduce her to accord with them in all their reasonable causes—and though no good has hitherto followed, because that Queen has refused to give any hearing thereto, yet as she has offered to treat with her majesty on things that are in difference between them, her majesty is determined with speed to enter into treaty with her by persons of good authority and credit, and therewith also jointly to have upon her frontiers a convenient force to be used and employed in such sort as upon that treaty shall be seen necessary.

½ *p.* *Holograph of Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him): "30 Septemb. 1565. The copy of an answer for Robert Melvyn to show to the Duke and others; but it is not the very answer gyven to hym from the Quenes majesty."

Sept. **271.** INSTRUCTIONS TO RANDOLPH.

Notwithstanding the Queen's last message was so lightly accepted, her messenger so evil entreated, and the Queen there so given to the counsel of her husband, that her majesty cannot send any express person thither till satisfaction be made: yet seeing the French King

Elizabeth.
1565. has sent M. de Mauvissier thither to deal with the Queen of Scots as shall be seen meet for the Queen's majesty and for reconciliation with her nobility, she is content that her servant Thomas Randolph shall consult with the said "de Malvesyre" how to effect the same.

The best means seem a general pardon, whereto the Queen, her husband and all their councillors shall be solemnly sworn, and it be expressed as given by advice of the French King and the Queen of England her dearest friends and allies. All persons to be restored to their places as before the marriage. No innovation to be made in religion otherwise than might have been done before the marriage. That nothing be done directly or indirectly to "the depraving or empayring" of the title of the Duke, established to him and his family by the laws of that realm.

That no extraordinary force of men of war be kept—and no nobleman be compelled to appear in any place, before the Parliament, where he shall affirm on his oath that he is in danger of his life, if he does so. That the naming of her husband "kyng, is not, nor shall gyve hym any authorite to doo any thyng, but only to be so entitled joyntly with the Quene in all wrytynges, and to enjoy the same only duryng the tyme of the mariadg, whylest he and the sayd quene shall lyve togither; and not after, otherwise than shall be accorded by the iij estates of the realm." That proclamation of all these articles shall be duly warranted by the Queen and her husband and subscribed by all her Council.

4 *pp. Draft by Cecil very carefully adjusted. Indorsed* (by him): "September 1565."

Oct. 1. **272.** ELIZABETH TO THE LORDS.

The Queen would have them assure themselves, that nothing has happened to her, since coming to her crown, more grievous than to learn their dangerous estate. Though no fruit has yet followed her messages in their favour to the Queen of Scots, her majesty will still persist. As for the aid by force they require: "hir majesty must nedes deale justly and playnly with them," and if with her honor and conscience she might give it, the love she bears them "wold redely induce hir majesty to the same." But this she thinks "unanswerable: that she can not in that manner" give them the aid they require, without open war, which she means not to do without "a just ground and cause gyven to hir by that Quene." And as she is informed that "sondry good men" labour to compound their differences, she advises them not to forbear accepting conditions, in hope of her so aiding them. Yet if their Queen's indignation be such that they can obtain no end and preserve their lives, her majesty for her private love and clemency, "will not omytt to receave them into hir protection and save ther persons and lyves from ruyne; and whatsoever shall be requisite therto, hir majesty will gyve them ayde and succorr, intending therby, with the contentation of hir conscience, to shew hir self as a mercyfull and christian princee, to defend innocent noble subjectes from tyranny and crueltye."

Having other matters to treat of with their sovereign, she is determined forthwith to send an embassade to the frontier, and therewith an army to be used as she shall see occasion.

Elizabeth.
1565. 2 *pp. Holograph of Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "An answer for Rob. Melvyn, *primo Octobris*, 1565."

Oct. 2. **273.** CAPTAIN COCKBURN TO CECIL.

I came to Berwick and tarried a night with my lord of Bedford. Next morning 22nd September I reached Edinburgh and presented my letter to her grace. After she had long purpose with me, and I showed my opinion of her danger, I desired to speak my mind freely, and said first: "Remember whan your fader banisshed the Erle of Angus and his broder, whan thir was nother protestant nor yet papist, they taried in Scotteland 4 or 5 yeres biinge but onne house. Moreover there was but a sober nomber of them togyther and yet the incresed so gret in nomber that France and strangers asisted to them," and caused such troubles in France, that it cost both sides 100,000 men and ruin of the chief towns; and in the end more liberty to one party than they first desired. And the King and his subjects are not yet so well pacified that he dare move war with foreign princes. I did as you bade me, when giving me my passport, and showed my commission at large. She wept wondrous sore, and said 'I kno you love the contrari part.' I said 'I do love them and the religion bothe': not less was I minded to do her grace service, shown by my travail and great expense to come to see her. Then she retired to her chamber, and came not out for 2 days, till M. de Mauvasier came, "and if I said moche, he said moche more, and maid her to wep agane." She and her council allege that he and I are "retenit" by England, all because we show her the truth. The King and she have been at strife for choosing a lieutenant—he would have his father, and she Bothwell, by reason he bears ill will against Murray, and has promised "to have him die, or a laine;"* therefore she makes him lieutenant. On 25th September the Council sat devising whether it was best to "sige" Hamilton Castle or "sike" the protestants: and it was concluded "to go sike the protestans wythe the sonnest the mygthet." On the 27th the principal merchants of Edinburgh were sent for to the abbey before the Council; when they came, 30 were taken by her guard to ward till they pay 20,000*l.*, and they have paid her "alredy wythein" 16 days, 14,000 marks. There is never a lord or man that governs, has spoke or communicated with me. "Lydington hes laisure to speke with his frendes at this present, but so hes not Dave nor Mr Jemes Balfour." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Cokbourn.

2½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . Capten Cokburne . . . "

Oct. 4. **274.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

I have written to Mr Secretary as much as I know of the present state, yet nothing "of certayne." Of this I can best assure you, that whatever can be invented to overthrow these noblemen pursued, shall be done if it lie in the Queen's power. What Mr David Chamber has said against them, you have heard: I doubt not they are charged far enough, but I think those to whose ears his reports come, will

* Alien?

Elizabeth.
1565. think it can be no small matter that moves so many noble men and others to do as they do, except they were "starke madde." If M^r^ Melvin has been present, I doubt not he gave reasonable answer to what the other said. But farther to satisfy doubtful minds, the lords have put their intents in the writing which herewith I send you, whereby it appears it is "onlye Chrystes cawse," and the maintenance of amity, that has moved them to do as you have heard. "Yf these cawses be of so smale momente, that theie move the Quenes majestie lyttle to gyve them suche supporte as maye be for their defence, and the performance of their intente, which is, rather to die then to yelde one iote from their deutie to Godd and countrie, and promes made unto the Quenes majestie never to have with their good willes the amytie broken": yet I doubt not her highness bears in mind what injuries are done to herself by this Queen, and what contempt by her subjects —I mean Darnley and his father and others—besides other practises against her.

Yaxley is towards Spain, with commission to put this Queen and her husband into the King's protection. With the Regent of Flanders she has daily to do: I wot not what, but am assured of a very despiteful letter written not long since to her by this Queen—and perchance may get some of the contents. What consultations with witches, what invocations, conjurations and prophecies have been of late made in some parts of the world "to knowe tymes and yeres of some folkes lyves," I hear enough, and have cause to believe part: and have good testimony of what I have here written. If then her majesty have good cause of just offence, or desire that this Queen be brought to know her failure in duty, was there ever a better time, or will there ever be, as now in her poverty, her country divided, and she for her misguiding herself and evil government, misliked by her best subjects, guided by strangers with neither wits nor counsel, and other "madde kynde of fellowes" like one ye have amongst you, M^r^ David Chamber, "M^r^ James Bafoure that ons dyd rowe in a gallye, and nowe excepte David no man so greate with her, the whole governer of this estate?" Only Atholl of her council now present—when all the best wits in Scotland are too few to put things amiss in order, if they had nothing else to think on. My lord Chancellor has forsaken her and joins the others, ready with his forces when so ever called. Lethington leaves her "at the fyerste call." God is so offended with this nation, that I know not what may do it good. I have my own griefs, "not for feare of my self, for the boddie shalbe at her commande that gevethe it meate, the soule shall to God when he callethe yt, which at no tyme I wylbe so willinge to render as in this service to have those injuries requited that I see daylye done to the Quenes majestie and her countrie." I am daily "bosted" to be put up, or guards placed on me. All they can charge me with, are suspicions of love to Murray. If this "evle favoured hastie scribled letter" come safe to your hands, then I am assured they have neither word nor writing of mine to charge me with. I thought to have sent home Fowler and Standen by water, but the wind was contrary; my luck so much the worse. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1565.

Inclosed in the above.

(The griefs of the Lords.)

The nobility and congregation professing the right religion of Jesus Christ, in Scotland, presently pursued for their lives by the Queen their sovereign, to all princes and nations, and also to their "native brethren as yett not joned with them in the cause, wishe grace and peace from God the father, mercye and favour from the Lorde Jesus, with the spiright of trewe knowledge and ryghteous judgemente."

Complain that they are styled seditious rebels and traitors—of their sovereign's rigorous proceedings, giving away the thirds of benefices, inhibiting Knox and others from either preaching or hearing the word—&c. &c. "Protestinge in the presence of Almightie God that we crave not this reformacion for any ambicion, nether desire we nor sekes the landes, lives, rowmes, honors nor dignytyes of any Scotes man, but the maintenance of Godes truthe and the good successe, godlie libertye and the renowme of this our native countrye. Declaringe and assuringe all Scotis men that yf they refuse to concurre with us for the causes aforesaide, we can nether judge them faithfull to God, trewe to there soveraigne, loving to this our native contry, nor kepers of there promise made to us in the cause of God *etc.*: and that most parte of there handwrytinges dothe testyfye." Given at Dumfries 19th September 1565.

9 *pp.* *In an official hand.* *Indorsed* (by Randolph): "... The greves of the lordes touchinge the governement. My Lord of Leice[ster]. This is all reddie come to this Quenes handes." *Dated by Cecil.* *Stained and faded in parts.*

Oct. 4. **275.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have deferred these 6 or 8 days to write, thinking to have some thing worth report—but all things are uncertain. Sometimes this Queen will pursue the noblemen—some times will besiege their houses and take all they have—and some times appears so content to hear their griefs, that we are in hope of accord. But I find her only stay is for the money this town is to lend her—only 1000*l.* sterling—as I hear to be paid in 6 days, when she will herself again to the field and pursue them. She takes journey on Sunday next.* A great force comes from the north with my lord Gordon, who imputes the overthrow of his father "only" to my lord of Murray, "which is approved by the Quenes self." Bothwell takes great things on him, and promises much; "a feete capitayne for so loose a compagnie as nowe hange upon hym"! To be short: whatsoever she can do by authority, by suit, by request, favour or benefit, "all is in one," so it serve to overthrow them that she is offended with. In what state they are, you have heard by themselves, and without speedy help they cannot defend themselves against her power. Divers that favour them be far off; many of their friends are in ward; other wellwishers only wait to see what support shall come from her majesty.

* 7th October.

Elizabeth.
1565. Argyll lies in wait to find them ready when he joins them. Morton has promised as much. Their force is not small, but so divided that it stands them in little stead.

I spoke with her grace this day, and cannot but perceive that now she would with good will have granted the Queen's majesty's desire to have sent with M. Malvasier, who is little able to do any good. I hear he has been very earnest with her, puts her in little hope of support of her doings by any foreign prince, and finds great lack of good counsel in her government. He awaits his despatch and requested me that these his letters to M. de Foyes may come to your hands. He acknowledges the benefits at our sovereign's hands and wishes continuance of her amity with his master. The Queen's ship *The Aide* arrived in the Firth 4 or 5 days past, and a great bruit rose that many more followed, as many wished it had been so. The Queen and her husband sent a trumpeter aboard, who only brought word she came to seek pirates. Next day Fowler and Standen went aboard, but my advertisement came too late and the wind was contrary, or else I think they had been blown into England. They brought with them to the Queen a bow and arrows with a box of "concerve." She sent to the captain next day a gold chain "waide 1^{e} ounces and a cuppe of sylver dubble gylte." The lords wish a ship may be employed between Berwick and Fife to transport men, ordnance etc. as occasion serves. Hereof my lord Bedford is advertised. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

It has been twice or thrice discussed whether I be put in some sure place for fear of escape, or guards set on me. I care not for their worst.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 6. **276.** ANTHONY JENKYNSON TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

On 25th of last, passing this coast to the Frith, as ordered, I certified my lord Bedford, and learned from him that Bothwell was past and landed in Scotland 2 days before I was ready to depart from "Quynborough water," which was the 17th of last. On the 28th while at anchor under the Maye not far from the Basse, the wind came "to" the E. and N. so vehemently, we were forced to go to Inchkeith [Inskyff], anchoring under the castle "who shott at us." Next day a trumpeter came from the King and Queen, to know the cause of my coming, who had heard of 8 more ships of her majesty's on the coast, and required me to land. I said I was sent to apprehend rovers, and chasing a pirate was put in by force of weather, and no other cause, and knew of no more Queen's ships on the coast, nor had I any affairs on shore. Then said the messenger, the King and Queen will send to you again, if those sent may safely return, which I granted. Then he came again with 2 or 3 Scottish gentlemen, and Standen with his brother, "whom I thought not good to staye," being so far in danger and the wind contrary, lest I should put the ship in peril, having no such commission. One of the Scottish men brought me a present, and said if I needed victuals or any other thing, I should be furnished, and they departed. I, doubting the worst that might happen, brought the ship "lowse and turned owt and cam thwart" Berwick the 4th, where on reporting my proceedings, my lord governor gave

Elizabeth.
1565. order for my victualling one month more till 12th November. Lord Seton and munition being not yet passed, I mean to follow your commission to apprehend him. Your honours consider the marvellous danger of this coast, the winter weather, and for east and northerly winds we have no refuge but the Frith, and being but one ship, the Scots not our friends, we shall be from time to time in danger. On board H.M. ship *The Ayde*, "thwart" Berwick. *Signed:* Anthony Jenkynson.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Wafer signet.*

Oct. 8. **277.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

"Madame ma sœur": I understand you are offended without just cause against the king my husband and myself; and what is worse, your servants on the Borders threaten to burn and plunder our subjects who wish to aid us against our rebels. If it pleases you to make your cause that of our traitors, which I cannot believe, we shall be compelled not to conceal it from all our princely allies. Praying you to credit the Sieur de Mavissieres in what he says on my part. De Lislebourg. *Signed:* Votre affectionnee bonne sœur e cousine Marie R.

2 *pp.* *French.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 8. **278.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This day the Queen sets forward to Dumfries with all her force, and "as I cane conjecter," with many that will do her little service when there. She now knows not whom to trust, so much misliked in her doings that never was there worse bruit of any princess. The whole force of the north is come to her, of whom the chief is Lord Gordon restored to the earldom of Huntly on Saturday last.* In him, Atholl and Bothwell, is her chief trust. The other part has many friends, but too far off to help them. On Thursday or Friday, the issue will be known, if it be God's will they meet. Malvoisier this day receives his dispatch, also Captain Colborne. There comes also one of the Queen's masters of household D'Egvillye, to move what mischief he can in France "etc." Yaxley I hear embarked at Dunbarton, and it is true what I wrote, that his journey is to Spain to seek support and put the Queen and country under the king's protection. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 12. **279.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have heard of Robert Melvin's return to the lords, who have written to their friends of the comfortable answer which they have received by him from the Queen's majesty—for which they praise God greatly, "and honorable mention made this day of the Quenes majestie in a goodly prayer for peace" &c. I received this day from the Abbot of Kilwinning a letter excusing himself of a bruit, that he should persuade the Duke to leave the lords: he has promised enough to the contrary, if he perform it.

* 6th October.

Elizabeth.
1565. One thing doubt not, but I know for certain, that some "wyse men" are enemies to this government, "as the greate and noble men." Lethington is as far in in this matter as any other. Of the same league are Morton and Ruthven; they only "espye their tymes and mayke fayer wether untyll yt come to the pinche." I hear some good words of Lord Ersken, but trust not much till further trial. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I pray your honor excuse my writing not to my lord of Leicester.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 13. **280.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The last I wrote to you was by M. Mavaisier, and I know to be true. Whatsoever is said by any from this Queen, or written by herself, "I knowe yt to be farre from her harte." To assure you thereof, I send you copy of instructions sent by a servant of her own, whose name I know, to the Duchess of Parma, immediately after Sir Nicolas Throckmorton departed hence, whereby you shall find not only she had not that trust in her majesty that she pretended, nor so well accepted her doings as they were worthy. When such words burst out in writing, it may be easily conjectured what mind she bears, whensoever force answers to her will! Another argument of her good will to the Queen my mistress is, that she knowing and being told by myself long since, what spiteful words Bothwell had spoken "as well of herself as the Quenes majestie, and havinge them verified unto her by those that hearde them spoken, (which in thone thoughe theie maye be trewe, yet in thother are moste abbominable falce)" yet is now content to make of him, to credit him, and place him in honour above any subject she hath! If I could as well verify one other thing that I have heard, as I am certain of these two matters I have written, "I have a thynge more straynge then ether of these, whearof I will not mayke mention untill I have some better assurance then yet I have." I write these things with no other mind than (if it may be possible) I wish some perfect amity were concluded between the Queens: "for to have them all wayes lyve in thys sorte and dowte thone of th'other, is unproffitable to them bothe": and for her majesty to consume great substance without hope of gain, I can never be of that opinion. I think it my duty to let this Queen in all her doings to be well known to my sovereign, that the more she is found to have done her injury, with the better conscience and greater reason she may seek to have it repaired. "Whear unto thys Queene latlye, when I spake with her in wordes, in the heringe of xl. persons, shewed her self willinge to accorde, but seeinge so lyttle of effecte procede from her, I suspecte all that is spoken, and cane not perswade my self but by some force at the fyrste she muste be broughte unto that, which reason cane not perswade her unto." One matter I think good to disclose to you, *viz.* "the hatred conceaved agaynste my lord of Murraye is nether for his religion, nor yet for that that she nowe speakethe, that he wolde tayke the crowne from her—as she saide latlye to my self that that was his intente—but that she knoweth that he understondethe somme suche secrete

Elizabeth.
1565. parte (not to be named for reverence sake) that stondethe not with her honour, which he so myche detestethe beinge her brother, that nether cane he shewe hym self as he hathe done, nor she thynke of hym but as of one whome she mortallye hatethe. Here is the myscheif, this is the greef, and howe this may be salved and repayred, yt passethe, I trowe, mans wytte to consyder. This reverence, for all that, he hathe to his soveraygne, that I am sure ther are verie fewe that knowe thys greef, and to have this obloquie and reproche of her removed that is nowe commen, I beleve he wolde quyte his contrye for all the dayes of his lyf."

"Jarres" are already risen between her and her husband—he to have his father lieutenant-general, and she Bothwell—"he to have this man preferred, and she another." You may conjecture the wealth among them, "when parte of her jouels sholde have byne layde to jage for ij^{m} markes sterlinge, ther was no monie in Edenburgh to be gotten"! What honour, when she rode this time out of town she had with her but one woman! What safety and assurance she thinks herself in, (if it be true that I heard) that she has a "secret or previe" defence on her body, a "knapescalle" for her head, and a "dagge" at her saddle. Suppose it not true, it argues the love of those that speak it, and their mind to her! I write these things more with grief of heart, than that I take pleasure to set forth any person's shame, especially such as we ought to reverence under God, if to him they know their duties! I should trouble you too long if I wrote everything I hear of his* words and doings, boasting of his friends "here and ther," and assurance of them, who would if they knew, be the first to seek revenge of his false reports.

For answer to her majesty's letter of 3^{d} instant licensing me to repair for a time to Berwick: there is now more danger in departing than waiting a passport. Knowing how much better her majesty may be served thus, I have chosen to remain, and knowing that she† can no way justly "burdayne" me, I believe she will not deal with me against the custom of princes. It has often been consulted what she might do, but always concluded it were against her honour if I were molested. Always I shall do her majesty's commands with better heart, remembering her highness's care lest I fall into the hands of the evil disposed. It is true that 2 harquebuses "shotte into my lodginge one nyghte at the doore" where M^{r} Colwiche lodged. They were worse meant than any hurt done. "I seeme to dowte les then in deade I knowe I have cawse": but trust that by good advice such order may be taken between this Queen and her subjects, and injuries to our sovereign repaired, that my services shall be never hereafter needed here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

‡"Shane Onel practysethe with my lord of Argile to lende hym men at this tyme, to have hereafter the lyke support when he hathe neade. Maclane is arrived (?) and the mariage ended."

4 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Oct. 14. **281.** MURRAY TO LEICESTER.

I understand by Robert Mailvile how friendly your "honour" has been to further our common action, "and the rather for my caus."

*Darnley's? †Mary. ‡Sideways on margin.

Elizabeth.
1565. As he directed, I have comforted the rest of the nobility here, "albeit as your honour knawis, thair is litill gude occasioun gevin me: for be the Quenis majesteis cald dealing heirin, ane great part of my freyndis ar rewynat, and I and the rest of the nobilite heir put to this extremitie . . . " which we are brought to by following her majesty and her Council's advice. Where the Queen's grace "meaneth" that her conscience is not resolved to make open war without further occasion given to her be our sovereign: I doubt not when she has more deeply weighed the same, it will bring about peace and quietness, and save much innocent blood, if more hasty remedy is provided. Wherefore I pray your honour to persuade your Sovereign to hasten it and make an end of these troubles. Where we are desired to appoint with our Sovereign, you shall understand we never minded to take any such without the Queen's majesty had been the "dressar thairof," and if we would now require "ony sik thing quhilk we will not by* hir grace, oure soverane seing hir majestie sa cald as scho is at this tyme, will na wis grant thairto." I cannot cease further to trouble you in this great necessity and danger that the nobility and godly and virtuous persons of our country are like to fall into without some speedy remedy. The lords mind to direct some gentleman to her majesty "for expeding" of the support, whom it will please you to further. And we would desire of her majesty and Council that thanks be rendered to the lord lieutenant and both the wardens for our intertainment. Carlisle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (seemingly by Cecil's clerk): " . . . Erle of Murray to my master, from Carlile."

Oct. 14. **282.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

[*In stronger terms than last—with this additional sentence*]: "Quhair youre honour hes willit me to tak sum ressonable dres for me and the remanent heir, I dout not bot ye undirstand sufficientlie that neyther thai nor I interprisit this actioun (without forsicht of oure Soveranis indignatioun) bot being movit thairto be the Quene your soverane and hir counsalis hand writ, direct to ws thairupoun." Carlisle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 17. **283.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

My lord of Murray repairing to the Queen's majesty, can instruct you of our state, so I need not "vex" you by writing thereof. I have directed my cousin and servant of Kilwinning in his company, and as he has not frequented that Court before, I pray your honour to counsel him how to use himself in what he shows in my behalf, and give him credit. Newcastle. *Signed:* Yowr assuret lowffing frend, James Hammyltoun.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By thabbot of Kyllwinning."

* Unknown to.

Elizabeth.
1565.
Oct. 18.

284. RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

So long as I knew your lordship had credit in this Court, I took no small pleasure from time to time to report the state thereof: sometimes of the Queen's self—sometimes of the "ladies and maydens"—and never lacked matter. Then I thought myself happy, and in my own conceit rejoiced to think what a life I should have led if through my service and travail, these two countries had been united in one, and your lordship here to have enjoyed both the queen and country—whereto I found not only herself, but as many as ever heard your name, no less willing than I, that so it should have been. Since then what change there has been! "I maye well saye that a wylfuller woman, and one more wedded unto her owne opinion, withowte order, reason, or dyscretion, I never dyd knowe or hearde of. Her howsbonde in all these conditions, and maynie worce, farre passethe herself." Her council, men never esteemed for wisdom or honesty. Herself and all about her so ill spoken of, that worse cannot be thought than is common in men's mouths. You will find these things strange, specially confirmed by me that so often times in word and writing set forth her praises wherever I came, that I was hardly believed. But had it been only myself that so thought of her, and not confirmed by many others, I should have confessed myself unadvised in judgment. But "she is so myche chaynged in her nateur, that she bearethe onlye the shape of that woman she was before. Whearfore your lordship maye not thynke that you sholde in anye case have byne beguiled, but that onlye for lacke of so good a howsbonde as she sholde have had of you, and for onlye dyspyte that she wantethe you, and in the gettinge of you coulde not have her wyll, gave suche libertie unto the naturall dysposition that is in the whole kinde, that she cared nether what became of her self or countrie, so that she myghte do anye thynge that myghte greeve them with whome she was and yet is offended! What other occasions moved her thus hastelye to enter into thys newe kynde or trade of lyf and goverment, I leave yt rather to be conjectured at, then that I have wyll to put yt here in wrytinge. Yf their be an *Œdipus* amongeste you, or yf your lordshipe call well to mynde some purposes that before tyme have byne wrytten unto your lordship, you wyll sone knowe what I do mean." [*Here follows a page and half of complaints of Mary, the state of her country—her people's dislike* "that a stranger, a varlet, shall have the whole guydinge of Quene and countrie"—*and an earnest request that Leicester influence Elizabeth to succour the lords.*]

Lady Murraye should have been at Berwick by this time if Wilson had not been taken. She scarcely knows where to put her head. This Queen bears her as much good will as she does to her husband, and would willingly have her "in parte of paymente." The three Maries are yet unmarried and "wyshe ryght hartelye longe since that theie had byne wyves." They are all good, but the one most constant stout and wise, and thinks her fortune so much the worse that mine is so evil. She is most bound to you and ready to do you that humble service she may. So was I lately desired to signify to you. Edinburgh.

Elizabeth.
1565. It pleased you "to bestowe upon* as fayer and good a geldinge as the King of Scotland hathe anye in his stable: the beste yet that the Quene hath wer ons your lordships owne, and then wer you judged worthye of a better rewarde then anye that nowe cane be afforded." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I wrote on Friday last to M[r] Secretary of certain strange practises, with copy of a writing somewhat concerning your lordship, "but all to good." If you have not seen it, I will send you another copy—but take no knowledge of it, unless you have been made privy by him. I will write more largely if I hap to go to Berwick.

6 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet quartered* (as before).

Oct. 19. **285.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

By this time your honor knows so much, that my intelligence can serve you for nothing. "Suche as your honor hathe with you, I truste in all matters will deale so playnelye and sincierlye, that yt shalbe knowne with what affection theie have studied hytherto to mayntayne the amytie betwene the two countries, and contynuance of Chrystes trewe religion here, les throughe the overthrowe of yt in thone sholde be the wracke of yt in bothe." I hear not yet how the Queen takes their departure, but the godly so lament it, that they think they have no other safety than that which their return will procure them. They stand in no small hope of her majesty's goodness, whereof they have had good experience, and trust this shall be the last occasion ever offered in like case to crave her aid; without which they who have already lost this country, "and are all reddie in her majesties presence," are undone for ever, and a great number of others shall be forced to follow them. I will not take on me to give advice, but this I wish, "that her majestie sholde not be at coste for nought." Hereof your honor can better consider. Even now the Queen came to this town, no more women with her than she had, and not above 140 horse. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

This other letter comes from a friend.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct 21. **286.** MURRAY TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

On my journey very near this town of "Wayre," I received your honours' letters from M[r] Randolph's servant passing to Scotland, and thereby understand her majesty's "playne resolution to be, that it wes nocht mete for me to cum at this tyme, but to forbear such open dealing with hir majestie" till further consideration be had. I am sorry at this late advertisement when so far on my way, but have stayed here as you desire, waiting to know her Majesty's further pleasure that I may obey it; as I have willed the bearer to declare, to whom it may please you to give credit. "Warre, . . . in haist." *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed:* "To my lord duik his grace of Northfolk, and

* Word omitted.

Elizabeth.
1565. the rycht honorable therle of Penbroycht, with the rycht honorable my veray good . . Chammerlayne, and the honorable Schir Williame Cecyll knycht my lordis of the Quenes majesties moist honorable prywey counsale." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . From Ware."

Oct. 23. **287.** THE PRIVY COUNCIL TO [SIR THOMAS SMITH].

As the bruits of the troubles lately begun in Scotland and the Queen's highness's dealings therein, will be diversely reported in the Court of France, we have thought good to signify that the Scottish lords in their Queen's displeasure fled to Carlisle, meaning to remain (if her highness licensed them) till their mistress should by some good mean be pacified—which was the cause why the Queen's majesty the less misliked their coming. Finding their hope not so soon answered, they devised to draw to Court to move her majesty "to take the mediators hande": which her highness out of hand forbade, her letters to her officer finding the most part of them at Newcastle: the Earl of Murray who had made more haste, having reached Royston by post, where he was stayed. The Queen though much offended, yet by her Council's advice, thought it should not be "dishonorable" nor "ill taken" to hear the cause of his coming. "To which ende he was brought the next day, which was the 23 day of this present, to the Court, where in the presence of the Frenche ambassador and Sieur Mauvysier, whoo therefore werre required too be there, and in the presence of hir hole counsell, he declared kneling before her majeste, that being with dyverse others, entred in too the quenes displeasure by the meanes of such as wer ther ennemyes, and thereby dryven too forsake for a tyme theyre natif countrey for ther none offense by any of them ment to the quene theyre mastresse (which he uttred with greate and ernest asseveration) he presumed upon the confidence conceyved of her majestes goodde and redy mynde and nature too helppe the oppressed, to repayre to her Courte and most humbly too beseche her too be a meane untoo the sayde Quene theyre mastresse, too receyve them agayne in too her grace. Her highnes having this farre hardde him, tolde him first that she thowght itt very strange that a man being in his cace, wolde presume too coom so nere untoo her and in effect to her presence befor she hardd any wordde thereof. Nevertheles being as itt is, she thought nott amysse to hyre him, namely what he cowlde say too such brutes as didde roon of him and others towching his and theyre ill meanyng and disobedyence to theyre souverayne lady: whiche was that they hadde refused too resorte too her att her calling—that they hadde confederated themselfes agaynst her—and finally, that they hadde levied a force. 'If this werre trew' quoth she 'itt were no princes parte too think well of your doinges'; and for her owne parte if itt mowght so appere, she wolde nott onely by all kyndes of wayes declare her myslyking thereof, butt putt allso her helping hande too make them too understand the dutye which the subject owght too bear towarddes the prynce." In which speech she was so earnest, that it well appeared her opinion that no subject should be maintained in forgetting his duty: and that she might understand the true and just cause of their mistress's displeasure, she required him "on the fayth

Elizabeth.
1565. of a gentleman, and upon that allegeance which he owght too the Quene, too declare the hole and parfyght treuth of the quarrel." Whereunto he declared how truly and duly he had served her ever since her return from France, his desire that she should marry in such sort as best stood with her own honour and safety, quiet of her realm and maintaining the peace with England—his objections to her intended match with Darnley, as without her majesty's knowledge and contentment—his humble advice against it—and that he did not refuse to come to Court when sent for a little before. "The trewth was that being in his way thitherwardde within iij or iiij myles, he receyved intelligens that if he kept on his journey his liffe shuld be in danger: whereupon going backe agayne, he advertised her of the cawse of his retiring"—and when she demanded to hear incontinently who told him? he replied his life should rather be in danger, than by his means so good friends should come to trouble; but if it pleased her to grant him 6 months, he would rather come "untoo her and uttre such as hadde putt this fraie in him, or ells committ his landes, herytage and lyving to be ordered as best sholde lyke her." Shortly after, he and others were put to the horn; whereon he went to Argyll, meeting there the Duke, Argyll and Glencairn, and then passing from place to place to Dumfries with not much above 80 horse, choosing so "to flee" than to be a party against his sovereign, they were finally driven for safety of their lives into Carlisle to seek her majesty's mediation as before declared. "*Wheruppon her majesty asked hym before the French ambassador and Malvesyre, whyther he wer ever privee to any intention to have doone any thyng to the apprehension of the Quene ther soverayn, or to the danger of hir parson? For so hir majesty had report made to hir." To which he affirmed "with great constancy," that if so it might be proved, "he besought hir majesty to cause his hedde to be stryken of, and sent into Scotland." He testified before God, that in all his actions he had no meaning "but principally the honor of Almighty God, by conserving the estate of his relligion in Scotland, and next the dignyte and estate of his soverayn to govern hir realme and people in peace and quietness, and so to lyve with the Quene of England and hir realme." And, so these were regarded, he set least by himself. And he often expressed by words that he knew it was not his sovereign's natural disposition to be thus offended with him and others, and finally besought her majesty's mediation therein. "And to conclude: hir majesty spake very roundly to hym befor thambassador, that whatsoever the world sayd or reported of hir, she wold by hir actions lett it appeare, she wold not, to be a prince of a world, mayntean any subject in any disobedience agaynst the prince; for beside the offence of hir conscience which shuld condemn hir, she knew that Almighty God might justly recompense hir with the lyke trooble in hir owne realm: and so brake of hir speche any furder with hym."

7¼ *pp. Draft in the handwriting of Mason and Cecil, corrected by the latter. Indorsed:* "23 Octob. 1565. Copy of the Quenes speche to therle of Murray, before the Fr. Emb., Sieur de Mavisier, and the Quenes hole consel."

* From this point in Cecil's hand.

Elizabeth.
1565. Oct. 24. **288.** INSTRUCTIONS FOR AMBASSADORS TO SCOTLAND.

They are to endeavour to restore the amity—to complain of the strange conduct of the Queen of Scots regarding her marriage—her reception of English fugitives even in her household—treatment of Tomworth and Randolph—to deny that Elizabeth ever "did or ment any thing" to comfort the lords now in England or any other rebels—"and as for any ayde of men, ye may precisely bynd us by your wordes, that to our knoledg ther never entred on man of warr into any ground of Scotland, to ayde them; and if it shall be objected that they had ayde of mony from us, you maye saye that yow ar well assured, that ther was never any mony by our order gyven to any person, wherwith any act shuld be mayntened ageynst her * . . ." They are to obtain her confirmation of the Treaty of 3 July 1560—to do what they can to procure the restitution of the lords, particularly the Earl of Murray, which she would rather was obtained by her means, than by the French, as she doubts it will be, if not thus prevented—to promise inquisition into Mary's title and establishment thereof—and as it is certain, that she will require Lady Lennox to be released, the Earl restored to his lands in England, and the Earl of Sutherland and "one Gordon" now at Berwick, restored to their country, Elizabeth will agree, if in other things Mary accords with her.

26 *pp. Draft, with many corrections and additions in Cecil's writing. Indorsed:* "1565. Instruction . . . L. Lumley . . ." *Great part obliterated by damp. Doubtful if ever carried into effect.* (Note by Mr. Lemon).

Oct. 25. **289.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Seeing by your own letters to us, also messages by the Sieur de Mauvissiere and your own ministers, your earnest desire for amity, we shall shortly send to you an ambassade of persons of good estimation and honour, to conclude a firm and perfect league between us: for which purpose we have willed our servant Thomas Randolph to require your special safe conduct for them, and to impart certain other things—to whom give full credit. Requiring your speedy answer.

2 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed:* "25 Octobris 1565. M. to the Queene of Scots." *Probably not sent.*

Oct. 29. **290.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

[*Somewhat to like effect.*] And that they cannot bring their differences to a good end without appointing commissioners. That she has charged "Randall" to make her certain offers, if she will accept them with like good will, also to declare at length "le discours" between herself and one of Mary's subjects, which she hopes will give her content, and wishes she had heard, to show she will never support bad subjects against her.

1 *p. French. Copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "29 Octob. 1565. The Q. majesty to the Q. of Scottes."

* The next line cut off by the binder.

Elizabeth.
1565.
Oct. 29.

291. ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

You must understand in what sort we have proceeded since the Duke and Murray &c. came into our realm. Our cousin of Bedford having sent us word that Murray "wold nedes" come hither, we would not allow this, but sent with speed to stay him, as our messenger did at Ware. On his earnest letter, we gave him leave to come, and Mauvissier being ready to return to France, we thought fit that the ambassador and he should hear and see what we would do with the said Earl. He on the second day, before us and them, declared himself and the rest nothing culpable—"usyng most reverent wordes of the Quene" and praying us to be a mean for their reception into her grace. "In which matter, we delt as streightly with hym as we cold, and charged hym with as many thynges as we had hard by rumors for the behalf of that Quene ageynst hym, in such sort as thambassador and Malvesyre did playnly perceave our syncerite in dealing for that Quene, that none of hirs cold have more ernestly charged hym than we did"! Showing manifestly how void we were of suspicion of maintaining them in their disobedience. As the "passadg" of the matter was long, we have willed our Secretary to write it at more length. Then we fell to consider with our Council, and it was first thought fit to send some of good degree thither to treat [*of matters detailed in the Instructions No. 288*]. But this was abandoned, as touching us in honor, as though we had more regard of her than were meet—and "it might rayse hir stomack to be worss disposed to allow of that which shuld be mete for us both." So we concluded to send our letter to her as written and refer the rest to be said by you—thus, when delivering it:—That whereas she declares generally she had no meaning to offend us in her marriage &c., we would this should be declared in some plainer sort either by her writing or by "sufficient messadg."

You may also say we are sorry to see her country troubled, "and specially wher, for any thyng we can perceave, ther is no such occasion for hir to be so much offended with such of her nobilite as ar come into our realm only to save ther lyves, and to avoyd hir indignation." This appears to us by their humble declaration of the duty they owe her, and sorrow she is so offended with them. You may say if we find any "spott of untruth" or "stubburnes" in them, we certainly would let them feel our displeasure, and they should repent their coming here. Here you may end, as if we mean to deal no further with her for them: unless their "sure and wise" friends there counsel you to make any request for them in our name, which we cannot "prescribe yow simply," without such advice, doubting she will be worse to them, if it appear they depend on us in their suit: and therefore do therein as you shall see cause to help them. We are not ignorant of the means offered to the Duke and others with him, to be restored: for the "Commendador" of Kilwynning has imparted them to us, and we allow them well, warning them nevertheless how necessary it is the amity be preserved. Under our signet. Palace of Westminster.

6½ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed:* ". . . M. of the Q. lettre to M^r Tho. Randolph upon the comming hither of thErle of Murrey."

Elizabeth. 1565. Oct. 30.

292. MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

"Having receaved your majesties last answer, and deiplie weying the same with my self, I have entered in sic consideratioun of my present estate and uthers quha throw my occasioun ar drawen in the lyik distres, that lytill repois have I had in harte sen my duparture from your hienes." It were easier to bear, if I knew wherein I had deserved "sa hard handilling" of your majesty, whom I have studied to my uttermost to serve and gratify. "The mair I pans"* hereon, "it is ever the langare the mair grevous" to me, that many nobles and others of "meane" qualities, without their "desert towardes this cuntree" have ever found favour both from your majesty and your noble progenitors when "their caussis wer not to be compared to this"! And I, who whenever occasion was presented "(as I dowt not bot your majestie weill consideris)" endeavoured to serve you with thankful heart, can no way see in your highness' last answer "any sic affectioun towardes my present state" as to disappoint my "unfreyndis." Your majesty's declaration has been more grievous to me than all the troubles I suffer: and seeing my repose is like to be small till I know more of your majesty's pleasure, I leave M^r^ Malvile to learn the same, to whom it will please you to give credit. "Fra Westmonasteir this penult of October." *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet, quartered shield: 1 and 4 Hamilton, 2 and 3 Arran. Collar of St. Michael round shield and ducal coronet above* (Chatelherault).

Oct. 31.

293. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

There is so little occasion, I am loth to trouble you with letters. This Queen hath "lyen" still since her return from Dumfries, till yesterday that she rode to "Dakethe," where she remains for a day or two, "to inriche my lord of Morton, whoe is as well pleased with her beinge ther, as I am of my abood in Edenburgh"! It is given out by some of her own that she is with child: "yt is argued upon tokens I knowe not what, annexed to the kynde of them that are in that case." She is now in doubt what help her majesty will make to the noblemen. Whether it is doubt of them, or fear of those at home, or *mens sibi conscia*, of bad government, I hear she has some "remorce," and wished she had followed other counsel. She suspects some force may be landed in Fife among the chief protestants and their friends; and has sent M^r^ John Lyslaye a lord of the Session, called the "person Oune†" a very papist, to assemble the chief of that country at Cupar [Copper], to know what their part will be if the "old ennemis" arrive, and cause them subscribe a bill to withstand them, and such as are now in England at the horn. Lord Lindsay is now lieutenant of Fife. "Three men of notable fame ther ar amongeste us"—the Earl of Morton, Lord Lindsay, and Master of Maxwell. The last labours "tothe and nayle" to have a reconciliation, to which I see her not unwilling: and therefore warn you in time lest in "the bargayne makinge" my mistress be forgotten. "She wilbe the willinger taccorde, to have the greater force when she shall con-

* Think. † Oyne.

Elizabeth.
1565. tende for her righte, whearunto she thynkethe she hathe no longe tyme." Most part of her soldiers are "cassed"; 300 foot and 100 horse retained. Atholl is gone home to withstand Argyll, who is coming to his country with his whole power: some friends of his took many cattle out of these bounds of late—Lennox lies at Glascowe, to keep that country in obedience, but takes I hear what he likes from all men. Bothwell for his "greate vertu," doth now all next to Atholl. "The parson of Flyske flyngethe at all men as he were wood.* I speake not of David, for he that may attayne to yt is worthie to weare yt. My olde frende Liddington hathe leasure to mayke love and in thende I beleeve as wyse as he is, wyll shewe hym a verie foole or starke staringe madde!" The Duke is offered if he gives over his right to the crown, to be restored to his possessions. He answered "that God wyll defende his right and innocencie: the lyf and that shall goe togyther." I have your letter by Stafferton, for whom and your letter of advice I most humbly thank you—also for one written the day before not a little to my contentment. It is here openly known, and I must write it with grief of heart, how much "my Ladie Marie" has forgotten herself "in her hastie concludinge of marriage as yt is saide, with the sergeant porter." I would it were as false as I wish it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I pray excuse me to my lord of Leicester—there is no other matter than your honor knows, "savinge that the rest of the Maries are lyke to breake their hartes to see their whole credit loste in courte." A gentlewoman of this Queen, that has long served her in chief trust, has leave to return to her country, and shortly will sue you for a passport. "She is the beste papyste amongeste them."

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as formerly).

Oct. 31. **294.** W. KYRKCALDY TO [LEICESTER?].

[*Begins abruptly*]: "I resavit thir uther tua lettres in syphre [fra M^r^] Randolphe the xxviij of this present—the quhilkis I [haif] disyphret and schawin the samin to me lord of . . .*" This day coming towards Newcastle in my lord of Bedford's company, he made me privy to a letter "your lordschip send unto hym, quhairof we may have small confort. And yet I dout not bot be the same meanes, your lordschipis action sould tak gud effect: for I dare assure your lordschip, send as mony ambassadouris to our Quene as ye pleis, thay sall resave ane proude answer." For she thinks to have a force ready as soon as ye do, besides her hope of friendship in England, whereof she brags not a little; so driving time is to her advantage. If force of men and ships come not with the ambassadors, their travail shall be spent in vain—for 4000 shall do more now in winter, than 15,000 in summer. If possible, "get command that the Bordouris may break, and that sum schippis may cum to thir partes." I refer the news of Scotland to this bearer Captain Cokburne. From Sir John Foster's house beside Alnwick. *Signed:* "Your lordschipis servittour," W. Kyrkcaldy.

1 *p. Holograph. No address or flyleaf. Beginning perhaps lost.*

* Mad. † Torn off.

Elizabeth.
1565. Oct. .

295. STATEMENT BY THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

"Contre la legerete du mariasge."

First: The marriage negotiated by Cardinal de "Grandvielle," the Duchess "Dascot" and many other notables, with the Prince of Spain, was found not to the advantage of her title, and disliked by her subjects—wherefore at the solicitation of "Madame de Lenox" for her son, who is of the blood of England and Scotland next after her in succession, "Steuart de nom," a surname pleasing to the Scots, and of the same religion as herself, she chose him as her husband. In this the Earl of Atholl, the lord Lindsay and all the Stewarts and Catholics insisted. On the other hand the Protestants brought forward "Lesester, qui dautre part mescrivoit e faysoit solisiter par Randell, a quoy Moray feignoit dantendre, saschant que bien que sa royne men ont ecrit en sa fauveur, ce nestoit que pour mabuser e retarder les aultres. Ce que Lesester luy mesmes me mandoit par soubs mayn par le moyen de Randel, me montrant les voies comment dautre part lenduir e par creinte de consentir mes . . . sur de e ove les Dirlande ou je pamers (?) pour lors le guerre creignoit beaucoup. Moray dautre part cherschoit de ce fayre legitimer soubs mayn e vers moy feignant maymer, ne me layssoit dunpas e vouloit prouvoir tout les ofices places fortes et a touts le gouvernement du royaulme e comme mon lieutenant general cestoit si bien fortefie quil me tenoit en tutelle en lui me proposa tailler ma couronne a luy et au conte Darguil, e me desfayre des Hamilto[n]s comme jauvois fayt de Hontlay, ce qui me mit en oppinion dantendre a me marier et en ce si non complayre a tous aumoyngn aux gens de biens aux Catoliques e ceulx de mon surnom; de quoy jadverti Athol e ceulx qui feroyent instance de ce quilz secussent la voulonte des autres qui les y asit . . . ent et ma belle mere e son mari [*remainder of page much defaced*].

4 *pp. French. Holograph, but not signed or addressed by the Queen. Much stained and defaced. Incomplete (?).*

Nov. 7. **296.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I received the Queen's majesty's letters on Sunday last, and have travailed with this Queen, as commanded, finding her conformable in anything required touching the matters in question between her majesty and herself, as she may with her honour. The safe conduct is granted, and any it pleases her majesty to send shall be welcome. To-morrow, Thursday, I must be at Court to receive her grace's letters to the Queen's majesty. As this bearer the "courriar" came before her majesty's letters, and gives me not sufficient time to write at length, I "scribble" these few lines. Edinburgh, "this Wenseday." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

M[r] Killigrew writes to me that no man is to be paid. I beseech you he may have liberty to pay what is due me till the end of this month.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by the French currour."

Elizabeth.
1565.
Nov. 8.

297. RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

The next day after receipt of your Highness' letters on Sunday the 4th instant, I required audience of this Queen, and being "incontinente" sent for, delivered your majesty's letters, which she read herself, and I finding she wished rather to hear somewhat from me, than to speak herself, declared the sorrow of her friends to see the state of her country, then uttered my special charge "as nere as I coulde in the selfe same wordes I receaved from your majestie," and required her answer. She began in this sort—'I thoughte' says she, 'to have complayned to you of my good systars unkyndenes, that havinge writtin and made suche offers as I have done to have her good will, coulde gette no answere, but nowe you have taken awaye that occasion, and geven me some esperance that we shall enter agayne into our accustomed familiaritie, from which we are fawlen I knowe not by what misfortune, full sore agaynste my will, and looke what hathe proceded from me that maye justlie move her my good systar to displeasure, I will do no les then I have said to satisfie her that we maye lyve good frendes as before tyme we have done.' I said I trusted to return with good assurance thereof. 'What thynges' says she, 'are theie that my good systar is greved with?' I said I knew not all, but they must be great so to move your majesty. "What is it,' says she, 'that wolde content her?' I said I knew not your mind. 'Howe maye it be knowne' says she? I said I thought it would be best treated of by their commissioners. She said that would please her best, and so Monsieur de Foiz had advertised her, and desired me to procure what I could. I besought her, in case my words were called in question, to give me some testimony under her own hand. She said she would be advised and speak with me to-morrow: and to be more assured, desired me to let her hear again what I had said from your majesty, which I did. She found nothing strange, except naming her husband "the Lord Darnlie," whom above all things she desires to be called King. Next day at my return, she said she was minded to write to your majesty, and whoever came from you should be welcome—and the safe conduct should be made as I would have it. Hereon we stood long. She would have it subscribed by her husband as by herself, whereto I would not accord, seeing your majesty only acknowledged him as a subject and offender. It was concluded that it shall pass under her seal subscribed only by herself. I let her understand how your majesty had dealt with the lords, specially Murray, of whom also the ambassador had written. This she liked well and in many "sore and greveus" words uttered her impatient mind to hear him spoken of, or that anything could be in him why he should be beloved or favoured. She will rather lose half her realm than have him in the state he was in this country. Of the others she hears with more patience, and as I believe, by your majesty's means, or to gratify some in France, they may in time receive favour. The whole burden is laid on Murray: "butt wolde to God the reste that were participant of this action, had had the selfe same regarde to the honour of God and amitie of bothe the countries that he had." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

4 *pp.* *In Randolph's Court hand and address.* *Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1565. [Nov. 8.]

298. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Of the state of the noblemen out of this realm, I may say that I cannot see how it can be brought to good, "where nether God is sought nor trothe mente. What so ever passethe in wordes, the harte repinethe, and to be playne, I cane not fynde one yote of good meaninge." I fear that so much shall be yielded to this Queen, that if she can be won, the Queen my mistress shall have double loss of the hearts of those that loved and honoured her above prince living, for no other cause than that her majesty favoured God's word and had well deserved of them. This mischievous bruit is also cast amongst us "that the Quenes majestie is so afferde of her owne estate, that she dare gyve no suporte—that ther are no mo that favour this action but my lord of Leicester, bycawse he enviethe the felicitie of this Kynge: M^r^ Cicill for another respecte, 'you knowe what I meane'—the Earle of Bedforde to have some what a do: M^r^ Throkmorton that cane be content with no estate." It is also said that a great controversy is lately risen between the Duke's grace and my lord of Leicester, "growne to verie sharpe wordes." Such things as these "feede well our fantasies, and of these prettie intentions I knowe that the late courriar brought a budget full, and here are nowe so thycke, that my men here them tolde in the streete"! It is said that my lord of Sussex and lord Lumlye should be the commissioners, and great inquiry made what they are? but nothing but that tends to her advantage, if she forbear innovation for her majesty's time. If "your care be suche as you wryte of, in what happie case stonde I, that have daylie those thynges in my eares, and maynie thynges worce spoken more dyspytefullye than shame wyll suffer me to wryte, and had rather end my lyf, then indure yf yt laye in my power to revenge yt?" These two are the personages she desires, the godly would have others, in special yourself; but I know what will move you to the contrary, the same that makes me many times wish I had dwelt still in "Douche lande" when first I came here: yet if you can come, you shall do more good than man else I know. If it could be Lord Sussex and yourself, I should have hope. I will give you what is said to me: that some here who may do most, will be "playne" with you, but with no others. Lethington will seek all means to enter again in credit, "and is right sorrie that anye man amonge you knowethe that he hathe byne a medler in this mater." Thus much I have written, not to be laid up "in store for any monniment," but fitter for the fire. "Wrytten as my other lettre." *Not signed.*

2½ *pp. Holograph, also indorsed:* "To M^r^ Secretaries owne handes onlie to himselfe."

Nov. 8.

299. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have written to her majesty the whole effect of my negotiation. As it has pleased her to take that way, God turn it to a good end to

Elizabeth.
1565. her content, "at the leaste that God maye be whollye pleased." It is here known to all, that her majesty is determined to give no support to the noble men, which was published by this Queen immediately after receipt of the French ambassador's letter by his courier, and is now written to all parts of Scotland, "for comforte to their frendes"! Her husband being that day "a hawking" and not intending to return for 5 or 6 days, was sent for that night "in poste." He came at 11 o'clock at night, and hearing these joyful news, went back next morning Sunday, by 7 o'clock to his pastime, and will not return till to-morrow, Friday. All the contrary faction are utterly discouraged, think religion overthrown, and whatever amity be made between the princes, the subjects' hearts will be sore against it. Please you to know whosoever shall deal in these matters must bring something "plausible" to the Protestants and favourable to Murray, or you shall find as much ado to make a good end, as yourself had at the last peace at the departure of the French. For Murray, some think he should rather live in "Allemayn" for a time, and not be beholden to England: others that he seek with the rest to come home, and will be received. Lethington is of this mind, and already making his way, and meetly well looked upon; he said to myself, "that seinge ther was no better, he wolde rather do so then undo hym self." Oaths and bands are taken of all that are suspected, to take part against the old enemies, and acknowledge Darnley king, and liberty to live as they list in religion. I had much ado in the safe conduct for the commissioners, and very sharp words from the Queen to myself, and Lord Bedford for refusing to keep the truce days in Darnley's name; and stood so long in it that I nearly lost my former travail, but at last it was concluded in Council that I should have my "obstinate wyll" notwithstanding all former promises to the King, that his hand should be at all public instruments. I send the form agreed on, which I only received conditionally on my Sovereign's approval, and the principal signed and sealed shall be sent to Berwick. The letter which I delivered from the Queen's majesty to this Queen, was shown to the whole Council "for the plausiblenes ther of." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

The names of the new chosen councillors:—

"The Earle of Huntlie: the E. Bothewell restorede: M^r James Baufoure person of Flyske: M^r John Lyslaye person of Oune: The La. of Cragmillar."

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 8. **300.** RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER.

Lamenting that the noble men now in England receive so little comfort, and the common bruit that they shall be chaced back or forced to seek another land. Suspends his judgment, but thinks some day it will be found that greater account might have been made of their good will. For if there lives a more mortal enemy to the Queen his mistress "then this woman is," he desires to be reputed "the vileste villayne" that lives. Murray has warned him not to incur further suspicion for his sake. It is bruited that Leicester alone in the Council favours the lords, but his commendations sent in

Elizabeth.
1565. the French ambassador and Mauvisier's late letters, make this Queen think otherwise, as she has published, and makes advantage thereof. The Duke,* it is vaunted, is her great friend, and all men speak of new discord between him and Leicester, whereon "one worde" shall suffice. Other matters he will write of "boldlyer" at Berwick. Prays him to charge Harrie Killegrewe, who is harder unto him than ever was Browne the treasurer. His life is so miserable that no complaint can help it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address:* "To my singuler good lord the Earle of Leicester, etc., his owne handes." *Indorsed.*

Nov. 9. **301.** RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

To write in commendation of this bearer Mr. Goodman I need not, he is as well known to your lordship by "the longe good brute" of him as if he had lived all his life in your company. I find this no convenient place for him, and counselled him to repair to England, "whear I dowte not but God wyll provide; but I am assured myche the better throughe your lordshipes favour and good advise." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

This Queen has been written to from England, that there has been a great controversy between the Duke of Norfolk and my lord of Leicester. I believe no word of it, but pray to hear if you have heard it. It is thought my lords of Sussex and Lumlie shall come hither: though I love both well, they are not fittest for the purpose, for the good account this Queen makes of them. Your visitation of Ayemouth makes you spoken of through all Scotland: "whearof I am well apayde." I have licensed my man to visit his wife, not to remain above 2 days.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed.* *Wafer signet* (as before).

Nov. 12. **302.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since I wrote last, it is known that Murray is come to Newcastle and how he sped at Court. His enemies lack no matter for triumph; his friends think him unhappy to have put so great trust where so little hope was of any good. They are now resolved to provide as best they can for themselves, "and had as leave receave yt *gratis* at thys Quene and Kynges handes, as to come by hym by anye other meanes or sute of other." James Ormeston is come from the Duke with his submission, and I think it shall not be hard to have his pardon granted. I know many other do the like: Murray and Graynge stand in worse terms—yet I believe they shall have liberty to live out of the country and enjoy their livings, and about this Lethington earnestly travels. Argyll may make his peace when he will with better conditions than any of the rest: it has been long sought of him, but nothing could move him to "dyscente" from them. From him I received these letters inclosed by a trusty friend, whose credit was, what earnest means had been made to him to offer service to the Queen and King, with free remission without reparation of any thing done by him or his in these troubles. That his answer was—in

* Norfolk.

Elizabeth.
1565. all things he acknowledged his duty to her majesty his sovereign, and "the other beinge lawfully chosen and admitted kynge," he would obey them both next to God, to maintain whose word received in Scotland, he and his brethren were determined to adventure land, life, and goods. He had no other quarrel or end, wherefore whatever his brethren did, he would do the like, and without them, consent to nothing. Wherefore he desired me to advertise their state in England, and advise what I found best for him. Though I was perplexed what to say, I did not "dyscomfort" him by saying all support was refused them, but left him in suspense till further knowledge of Murray's return to Newcastle: said I feared little good could be done this winter, and meantime ambassadors were to treat of these controversies, either to the lords' contentment, or give my mistress better occasion for war than yet she has, seeing their Queen's large offers for her good will. Letters have since passed to Murray at Newcastle—I conjecture with advice to provide for himself. This is the miserable state of all the partakers in this cause. Now are their goods more greedily taken up than ever, and sold for ready money for half the value. On Saturday last a charge was sent to the Laird of Lochleven to deliver his house, hitherto spared as it was thought, as he had given the Queen sureties it should be at her command. The bruit is now common she is with child, and the "norice" already chosen. There can be no doubt, and she herself thinks so. Men judge my lord of Arran not like to live long. Lethington has charge to collect as many things as he thinks his mistress shall be charged with by the ambassadors, and provide answers thereto: so I think they that come need be well instructed, or they may find more to do than they look for. This is "rounded" unto me by a friend. I would pray you to be a suitor for me to her majesty that this may be the end of my travail in this country, and with her good will to be quit of this "rowme, whear I have spent vj of my yeares and more, gotten graye heares, not so hable a boddie for travaile as I brought with me, nor farther inriched in substance—that your honour knowethe, of whome I have byne a contynuall begger and shameless craver." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. *c* 19. **303.** PASSPORT FOR AMBASSADORS.

"Marie be the grace of God Quene of Scottis": on the Queen of England's letters and declaration of M^r^ Thomas Randolph her agent, grants safe conduct to such persons of good quality and estate as the said Queen shall send to confer and treat on all matters between them. Given under her Great Seal, &c. 1565.

Broadsheet. Copy by Hay. Indorsed (by Randolph): "The coppie of the Quene of Scottes sauf conducte."

Nov. 19. **304.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Whereas I wrote of the common bruit in this country that the Queen was with child, the contrary thereof is known: but she is of late fallen sick of her old disease that commonly takes

Elizabeth.
1565. her this time of year in her side, but has somewhat more grieved her than any time before; wherefore these five days she has kept her chamber, but most her bed. On Friday * Mr George Chamber came home: I heard no more of his news, but that the French king is greatly grieved to see the controversy between her and her subjects, and sees nothing more convenient for her than to receive them into her good grace; and that his good will may appear, he is content to send hither M. de Sansacke to labour to accord her and her subjects: to which end the Queen's majesty will also send ambassadors. I am assured the French king is as loath to give her any support, as the Queen's majesty is to help the poor noblemen now out of this country. She is "stroken" with great sadness I hear: whether it be the nature of her disease or the news from France, I cannot yet learn. I know she is ill contented that the French king should be a suitor for the lords, and their handling by the Queen my mistress pleases her much better; which here is so far blown abroad, that the Papists have no other talk in their mouths, nor the Protestants so great cause of sorrow as to receive so little favour, where they looked for so much. They are now void of all hope, and what grieves me not a little, is that her Majesty has lost her whole credit in this country. Divers honest and godly men complain of these noblemen's case and to see so much yielded to this Queen's will, "(whoe is all togyther ennemie to my sovereigne)" —not that they would that she should not have full power to do what she likes "in all godlynes, but that her inordinate appetites agaynste God, agaynste faythe and promes, sholde be brydeled by suche agaynste whome she hathe fayled." [*Here he repeats Mary's offences to Elizabeth in her marriage—treatment of these lords, &c., and trusts God will move Elizabeth's heart to act decidedly.*] There is no small expectation as to the noblemen to be sent by the Queen: Mr David Chamber said my lords of Sussex and Lumlaye, all "interprited" to this Queen's advantage; but I doubt not they will show themselves more earnest Protestants than here reported. Their safe conduct I have sent to my lord Bedford, subscribed only by the Queen under her broad seal "worde for worde" to the copy I sent you. I have heard again from Argyll, who now knows what her majesty minds to do in this action, also the usage of Murray. He finds all very strange, and laments sore their fortune with his own, but is determined to run the same course they take. I am required to write to her majesty on his behalf, that if on farther advisement since she spoke with Murray, she is determined (if no good issue come from her commissioners' conference with his sovereign) to give them aid or support, he promises (notwithstanding the large offers made to him if he acknowledge his duty "and this man to be kynge") never to make any other accord with this Queen than that he will receive through the Queen my sovereign; and by no persuasion will be induced to alter his mind. He therefore respites his answer for 10 or 12 days till he learns her majesty's advice, whether he shall accept conditions alone, or wait the issue of the ambassadors' conference? Know for certain that Atholl seeks accord with him, whose servants

* 16th November.

Elizabeth.
1565. and tenants are in such fear of Argyll that they refuse to serve against him. The hurt he has done this year is very great to the town of Glascowe on one side and Stirling on the other. He only is not yet put to the horn of all those judged enemies. He looks for some answer as soon as may be. "I speake yt to this effecte"—I know that Shan Oneill seeks earnestly a league with him, and believe an overture is made to this Queen to acknowledge him her subject "etc." Argyll may do much either to keep him from his purpose here, or anything he intends elsewhere. He sent me word of a "shrewde ruffle" lately given by a son of "Adonel" to "Onel," I know not the number slain. Edinburgh, *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

This day the Queen's husband passes to Fife for pastime for 8 or 10 days.

5 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 23. **305.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting a passport for her born subject James Stewart, archer of the French king's Guard, to return through England to France—to endure for a year. Palace of Holyrood House, 23rd of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer seal (Scotland).

Nov. 24. **306.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Desiring her to give immediate orders that the Earl of Sutherland, detained prisoner at Berwick on his return to his native country, be set free. Palace of Holyrood House, 23rd year. *Signed:* Your rihct gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Nov. 24. **307.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I received your letter by Mr Melvill, and thank you heartily for your good counsel, which I intend to follow, being assured that my suits not having taken effect, is no less grievous to you than myself. When I first arrived here (as you advised) a suit was directed to our sovereign for us all in general, "but place of audience only granted to the Duikis grace in particuleyr"—who has directed my lord Kylwinning, and is in good hope shortly to find "dres." To myself and the rest here, I find as yet little good appearance—but have employed my friends there to see if I may send "ane of myn" to my sovereign; as I have also written to her majesty here, trusting you will remind her "how the occasion of this my greate trowble, and utheris that suffer with me, hayth proceadit only upon the action of the religion of God, and her majesties service": and therefore trust as heretofore you will most earnestly move her majesty to travail with our sovereign that I and the rest of these noble men may be restored to "rowmis and natyive cuntreyth," which I hope in God shall be obtained, if men fearing God and "wele willing to our action," be employed in that negotiation. Touching present relief of the noble men's necessity here, I understand by "Maister Melwill" your honor's great good will to myself in particular; "quhairof schir I

Elizabeth.
1565. thank you frome my verray hart, and as I sall haif neyd, sall imploy you as evir I haif doyn sence our first acquentance, to this hour maist haymlye." But truly before God, my grief is greater for these others than for myself, and especially for the Earl of Rothes, "quhais present stres dois perse my verray hart," and recommend him with the rest to your good remembrance. It may please you to let me know "sa far as apparteynis, of the Quenes majesties resolution towardes our dres," with your good advice, which I shall not fail to follow. My hearty commendation to your lady, and thanks for her good treatment to "ane banyst man"—with my commendations also to "Nane,"* beseeching God to have both you and "thayme" in his protection. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

Post script:—After I had directed this, a licence arrived for Melville to enter Scotland and speak with the Secretary. He departs 26th instant; as I hear, I shall advertise.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 26. **308.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

Signifying that on "good consideration," she thinks it not meet to send commissioners to the Queen of Scots as the case at present stands between them, but would rather have it compassed that Mary sends to her, or that commissioners from both meet at "some indifferent place." He is commanded to say that he mistook the Queen's message, and take this "defalt" on himself.

3 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed:* "M. xxvj Novembris 1565. To Mr Tho. Randolph from her Majestie."

Dec. 1. **309.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct through her realm to parts beyond sea, for James Duke of Chatelherault and 40 persons in his company—to endure for 6 months. Palace of Holyrood House, 23rd year. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. *Addressed.* *Indorsed.* *Wafer signet* (Scotland).

Dec. 1. **310.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

This Queen's disease continues still in her side, though not vehement, and she keeps no more her bed. She takes as much exercise as her body can endure, and divers still persuade her she is with child; which is hardly believed, but that it is something worse, whereto remedies are so ill to be gotten, that it is thought she may rather live long, than have long health. This is the first day that she came on horseback since her husband went to Fife, who is not yet returned, but I hear on Tuesday next† meets her at Lythecowe. I have little else to write of. The Duke is like to speed well enough in his suit to be restored. She continues in one mind to Murray, never to do him good. Robert Melvin arrived on Wednesday last‡ but has not yet had presence: and access to her grace is by such

* Cecil's daughter Anne. † 4th December. ‡ 28th November.

Elizabeth.
1565. as are most his enemies. I doubt not for all that, but he shall get so much favour as to enjoy his own, and live where he will out of England; and shall come by it the sooner of her voluntary will, by his friends here, than by the suit of any other. Argyll is in the same mind as when I wrote, and looks daily for some advice what to do. Lennox is complained of to the Council for many extortions in the country where he is lieutenant. Atholl finds the nearer he lives to court, he is in more surety. He is now in court and at friendship with Argyll; and would now that Murray were in Scotland with his friends: many even in court lament his absence. It may be well said of him, *Virtutem presentem odimus infesti, ablatam quærimus invidi.* I doubt not she will soon find it herself, and what she conceived in her heart when she said not long since, in rehearsal of many matters passed since Lennox's arrival: "that she wysshed that he had never come into Scotlande." Morton and Lethington can by no means purge themselves of suspicion "but that their counsels and devises have byne with the other, howe connynglie soever theie have convoide their matters, and withdrawne them selves to leave other in the bryars"! Lethington has leave "to playe his own soller* with the Quene and David," but I hear of no other credit except to intertain his mistress, whereto he has more leisure than many a wise man would take to so idle an office! Your honor may think me idle enough to trouble you with such trifles. We hear not a word of long time of your ambassade. This day I received a packet from the French ambassador to this Queen: he can do more with her than any other. Wilson that last came from hence to you, departed without my knowledge. It is he that has the whole practise with the "Lovanians." Whither now bound I know not. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 8. **311.** CHATELHERAULT TO ELIZABETH.

Though our general suit to the Queen our sovereign received "ane plane refusale," yet "place" being offered to me for myself, finding no better, I accepted it, and by my friends treated upon the heads it pleased the Queen to propone. "And albeit thai be verray sair and hard in divers pointis, as in five yeris exile furth of my native cuntre, the deliverye up of my hale fensabill haldis† furth of my handis, the confiscatioun of my hale movabillis" &c., as your majesty may consider by the copy: yet am I forced to accept them or see the wreck of myself and my house. It may therefore please your majesty to grant me the letters of safe conduct conform to my sovereign's letters: for unless your majesty grants the same, I shall be disappointed of any "dres at the Quene my soveranis hand": for this head of exile is so required, that without it the rest will not be granted. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Hammylton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Solicitor?

† *i.e.*, fortresses.

Elizabeth.
1565. Dec. 3.

312. CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

[*Briefly to same effect as the preceding.*] Incloses the latter, and the copy of his Sovereign's "capitulationis" and begs dispatch, as the bearer will declare. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Hammylton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the above:—

(Memorial of the Duke's offers.)

"Ane memoriall of the offeris to be maid be my lord Duke to the King and Quenes Majesteis for the offences committit to thair hienesses—with thair majesteis maist bountefull declaratioun to him and his, of thair majesteis clemencie and gudnes towardis thame. Off Edinburcht the last day of November anno &c. lxv yeiris."

That the Duke or some having power in his name, shall confess before their majesties and council, his offences, and humbly ask pardon. The fortalice of Hamilton being already delivered, that of Draffane shall be rendered to their highnesses to be kept at the Duke's expense "for the space off [ ] wolkis."* He shall depart beyond seas for 5 years, and himself, his bairns, the commendator of Kilwinning, his surname, friends and all dependents of his house "of auld" are of their majesties clemency, remitted of all offences, crimes, &c., since the troubles began.

1 *p. Copy in Hay's writing. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 3.

313. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I received "this daye the seconde of this instante," her majesty's letter showing her present will as to the conference, and so soon as time serves, "I will do the beste I cane to that effecte I knowe nowe the Quenes majesties mynde." This day the Queen is ridden to Lythecowe "to tayke the aier" and meet her husband, purposing to remain till Thursday next.† She is gone to be very quiet, and will have "no repayre." A "fewe" number convoyed her out of town, and most have returned. She has taken only the woman of her chamber, and was carried in her "horse lytter," being with child, as the rumour is again common amongst us. I thought best not to trouble her in this matter, nor proceed hastily, but let as much come of herself as I may get—always with convenient speed for answer to her Majesty. It is fully determined the Duke shall enjoy his own and licence for 5 years to live where he will. This Queen writes to the Queen's majesty for his licence beyond seas: so willing is she to be quit of him and that faction—yet I see no great likelihood of long accord between her and her father in law Lennox; of whom she has already wished he had not set foot in Scotland "for her dayes."

The papists among us grow marvellous proud—the Bishop of S[t] Andrews well made of—and none so far in credit as men of that sort. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

*1 Weeks. † 6th.

Elizabeth.
1565. Dec. 4. **314.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

The Duke has had answer and obtained "appoynctment" on such heads as you shall understand from him. As it is requisite he have a safe conduct of the Queen's majesty, he has desired me to write to you that it may be "exsped," and as I am "detbound" to set forward his grace's "wele and honour," I pray your honour that his servant may be answered and hastily dispatched: though after my sovereign's supplication and his letter, my request is "superfluus." I look every hour for your answer to my late letter "anentis the state of the resideu." Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 7. **315.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

In reply to her letter of 24th ultimo, desiring that the Earl of Sutherland be set at liberty, wherein the French ambassador also dealt, and received answer: while Border offences are unredressed, and the leagues of amity violated by Mary, trusts she will not disallow her forbearing her desire, till some conference take place; the proceeding wherein stays for answer to her message by Randolph. Palace of Westminster, 8th of reign.

Broadsheet. Addressed. The sign manual stops short, "ELIZ" so this letter was not sent.

(2) Draft of the same in Cecil's hand.

1 *p.* *Indorsed.*

Dec. 7. **316.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

"As my greyt freynd Maister Goodman (who hayth nou continewyt wyth me in the kyrk of Sanctandros in ministration of the Word, nerebye the space of sax yeiris by gon) is presently in this toun wyth me: and knawyng the excellent gift of lerning joyned with ane most innocent and godly conversation of that personage, and heirwith his ernist affection to prouffeitt this his natywe cuntrye": at his desire, I earnestly crave your favour to recommend him to my lord of York and move him "to grant the said Maister Goodman licence throuchout his jurisdiction to occupy the publict chear,* quhairby nocht ws heir in exyll only, but the Quenes majesties subjectis in thir partis, may haif sum comfort by hyme—and the rather that the preacheouris of the Word be so rare in this town and about." Besides the equity of my suit, such is the affection of this godly learned personage to his sovereign and the quiet of her realm, that I shall never be ashamed of it, nor you for your pains therein. From Melville I have yet neither word nor answer, but "is awaytting thairon every hour." I also long "verrye mekle" to hear with your advice and counsel in these "my maist wechtye affayres." Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Chair.

Elizabeth.
1565. Dec. 15.

317. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

After this Queen had determined not to come to this town, I went to her grace at Lythecowe, and declared my commandment touching the Commissioners' meeting. I had much ado to persuade her to accord to send any man; she said she saw no cause nor reason why. "Offence she hathe made none, and the reparation shalbe as smale." She said she was well pleased that I had so far "overshotte" my self as to mistake the Queen my mistress' letters, "and of that as other matters, had to complayne of, whearin I had done maynie evle offices contrarie to commandemente." She was content in the end that I should propound to her Council what I had said to herself, which I did here on Thursday.* They took time to advise till next day: what they have concluded I know not by themselves, but they refer the answer till the Queen's return on Monday, with assurance of their omitting nothing to continue peace. By other means I hear she will agree to a meeting of Commissioners, "but when whear or whoe theie shalbe," I know not. I look for resolute answer by Tuesday or Wednesday. M^r^ Colwiche has been here with many complaints against Cesford; more good words given than hope of redress. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 23.

318. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Next day after the Queen's arrival here, I required her answer touching the sending Commissioners. The matter was long debated by the whole Council, both she and her husband present. Much was said why she needed not send any, for offence she had made none—she desired but to live in peace, and if my sovereign were grieved, it were advisedly done of her to send to complain and seek redress—which was looked for, and her Majesty's ambassadors prepared for. Where I alleged mistaking my sovereign's letter to that effect, they asked "What credit the Quene thair mestres sholde gyve unto that which then I spake, seinge yt was as uncertayne to her what her Majesties mynde is at this present, as yt was then? and therefore requered a syghte of her majesties lettres that theie myghte stonde the more assured of her wyll, and that yt myghte no more here after be called in dowte, whye the Quene my mestres had cawse to be greved." I said their lordships knew enough and I would not say so much as their sovereign had confessed and promised by her letters to repair to the Queen's majesty's content. I was sorry they doubted my credit, which had never before been called in question by "their lordships or Quenes self." To require a sight of my letters, I thought strange, "and that her grace and their lordships sholde holde me excused." They required testimony in writing that I had moved such a matter in my mistress's name; I willed their clerk to write if they liked, the words I had spoken. This pleased them not, and so I was like to have left as I came. At last this question was demanded—"Whether I dyd sue and require in my mestres name that commissioners myghte meete upon the Borders? To

* 13th.

Elizabeth.
1565. that I saide that I dyd not," but only showed that if their mistress wished to repair the injuries and offences to mine, then she would send some of hers to meet with their mistress's: otherwise not, nor did she desire it, but was content it should be. "And that that was her majesties mynde I wolde not refuse to gyve yt in wrytinge." They took this otherwise than they looked for, intending I should have confessed, that it was the Queen my mistress's suit and desire to have commissioners. In the end they prayed me to give them my words in writing against next day: otherwise they saw little cause to advise sending any man unless required. Next day I delivered them these words wherof I send your honour the copy. They find fault that the word "desyer" or "requere" was not in the writing. I told them I neither thought it my mistress's mind nor for her honour to be suitor—and then received resolute answer their sovereign intended to send none. I desired this answer in writing, which they refused, and so having ended with them, asked a word with her grace's self. I put her in mind of her promise to me at Lythecowe, and her letter to the Queen's majesty on these matters: in which I desired her to have such regard as might be to her majesty's honour. After many rehearsals of unkindnesses, &c., from the Queen's majesty, she said she would further confer with her Council, and willed me to attend her next day: which I did, and received this answer, that the Queen their sovereign was content to send Commissioners to the Borders, which were ever the accustomed places of meeting, and do anything else to maintain amity. So now it rests with her majesty to appoint them and assign the time—desired the sooner on account of the approaching Parliament. So now your honor sees how little this Queen doth think she has offended. As I have written before, there is great enquiry how to burden the Queen's majesty, and said to me, "that she shalbe payde in her owne hande." I know not whom this Queen will appoint, nor find any willing to take the charge. The old courtiers she likes not, and the new are as unfit for it, as for their places. The bearer, for whose speedy return I beg, will report to your honor what he has of late heard and seen. The Lords in England are summoned to parliament to hear their forfeiture against 12th February. Little good will be done for them here, I pray God send them good fortune abroad. Fowler is put out of service, whether for desert or "of practyse" I know not; and embarks to-day for London in a ship of "Pettnewyme." He has cut his beard and disguised himself the most he can. Your honor can consider if he is worth searching for. I trouble you no further than to pray you to be a mean to her majesty that when her commissioners have made an end with this Queen, I may also have "an ende" of my painful and careful travail in this country, which has brought me "unto suche unhabilitie of boddie, that my lyf is all togyyther unpleasant." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).: " . . . with the copy of the writing he delivered to the Counsell of Scotland for the meeting of the commissioners."

Elizabeth.
1565. Inclosed in the same:—

(Copy referred to.)

As by his mistaking his mistress's writing on the appointment of commissioners, the Scottish Council now doubt his credit for his present message, he assures them that if their Queen send ambassadors either to the Queen his mistress's presence, or commissioners to any indifferent place within her realm, she will willingly accord to send hers to treat of their differences. Subscribed at Edinburgh etc.

1 *p. Holograph.*

Dec. 25. **319.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Last Sunday* I dispatched my servant to you with this Queen's answer touching commissioners, but cannot yet learn who she will appoint. She will do much as she finds the Queen's majesty resolves. This day I received these letters to the French ambassador, by whose means she lacks no intelligence or advice to her advantage. It is said she has of late received some comfort from Spain—what I know not. "Of our owne" at present, we have little store, saving 1500 francs lately from France, and 3 "greate" horses bought there by Lord Seton, and given to the Queen's "howsbonde, whoe never gave greter token of his religion then that thys laste nyghte, he was at mattynes and masse in the morninge before daye, and hearde the Hye Masse devotlye upon his knees: thoughe she her self the moste parte of the nyghte sat up at cardes and wente to bedde when yt was all moste daye." However some like these things, it breeds suspicion that they are both enemies to God's word, and seek but their time how it may be clean thrust out of this country. The next way thereto is already taken, for there is not a minister in Scotland sure of his living. It is said liberty of conscience shall be granted at this parliament: so will it be seen "howe maynie fawtors ther wilbe of Chrystes Evangill." Touching policy, it is already grown to that liberty that every man does what he likes if he has either credit or friend in Court, or be of more power than his neighbour. These things should little grieve me, but I fear inconvenience in time to my country, if things succeed according to their "bostes and braggynges," and their hope, that "thynke our whole countrie as good as their owne." I may be thought to speak "more of passion, then of reason, judgement, or cawse whye": but I had rather "be founde falce and a lyar," than that you should experience what is daily brought to my ears. "We are nowe at this poynte, we knowe your worste, favour at your handes we looke for no greate, hurte we ar sure you dare do us none! To suche as moste trusted in you, we see what favour you have shewed them, and nowe are theie reddie to put them selves in our willes—for other refuge theie have none! What frendeshipe you wyll looke for at their handes here after, I reporte me to yourself, yf at anye time ye stonde in neade of them"! If you think this Queen's own friendship enough—I ask you how you can be assured of it, further than makes for her own profit, and how much it will stand you in stead seeing that she is not able to govern her own?

*23rd December.

Elizabeth.
1565. Robert Melvin has been a long suitor for Murray: he finds yet no favour, which proceeds more of her husband than herself. If the commissioners do no good for him he is like to be at a hard point. Some think "that yf her graces favour be ernestlye soughte by the Quenes majestie, and that upon that poynte her majestie do ernestlye stonde, some grace maye be founde for hym and his frendes." Some advise him to come home quietly, 2 or 3 in company, and put himself in her will. Though these are his good friends, I think otherwise, and have so written to him. There is neither honour nor safety in it, yet necessity forces him to somewhat, how full of peril soever it be, rather than live in misery without all support. I know that he has not at this hour 200 crowns in the world—lamentable in a man of his estate and such a friend to our country.

I never knew so many alterations as are "newe" in this government. A while there was nothing but "Kynge and Quene, his majestie and hers"; now, the "Quenes howsbonde" is most common. He was wont to be first named in all writings, but now is placed second. Certain pieces of money lately coined "with bothe their faces *Hen. et Maria*," are called in, and others "framed" as here I send you one, "wayinge v testons of ours and currant for vj." There are also private disorders among themselves, but may be but *Amantium iræ etc.* "Chrysemas daye at nyghte." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 25. **320.** MURRAY TO LEICESTER.

The occasion of my long delay in writing to you, was that daily I looked for "Maister Mailvile or ane fra him with answer," but have none yet. The "soum" of my knowledge is, the Duke has obtained "appointment" at the Queen's grace's hand, but "the King" has not yet subscribed it. As to the rest of us: "alswele" we resident here, as my lords of Argile and Boyd, with divers barons to the number of 40 or thereby, were summoned on the 18th instant to hear "thame selffis" forfeited at this next parliament to be the 12th March next following. "And in sa fer as I can lern, thair is na thing ment towartis ws bot all extremite." When I hear further from Melville, as I trust in a few days, you shall be advertised. I will not trouble you with many words, as I know the justice of our cause and our upright dealing, is as well known to your lordship, as your good mind to our cause is certain to me. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p.* *Addressed:* "To . . . therle of Lychester." *Indorsed.*

Dec. 26. **321.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

[*To like effect to his letter of 25th to Leicester. The date of parliament is stated as 6th March.*] "Sa now quhen gretast danger apperis and approchis, I man desire yow to travell with the Quenis majeste that the commissioneris may be schortlie depeschit, and that thai be sik men as favorabillie and ernistlie will treit in our caus." If your greater affairs permitted you to be of their number, I doubt

Elizabeth.
1565. not you would prevent the danger. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

The number of persons summoned are 60 gentlemen "and ma."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 31. **322.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Though I have long travailed for my sovereign's favour, yet I have profited so little, that (except the Duke and his friends) I and the rest are under summons of forfeiture, and am now informed by my friends, that favour is not to be looked for to me, unless by your majesty's means. It may please you therefore to have regard to my extreme necessity "(the caus quhairof wes maist faithfullie declarit be me to your hienes the last tyme it plesit your majestie to grant me your maist gracious presence)," and of your gracious favour to travail with our Sovereign to remit the offence conceived against us. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 31. **323.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Having understood this day from "Maister Mailvile" that there is little "or rather na favouris to be lukit for be me and sik as hes dippit with me in this actioun, except the dres thairof proceid from the Quenes majeste your soverane": it rests only for me to crave of your accustomed goodness and friendship "now in my gretast and maist grevous neid," to be the means to the Queen's majesty with earnestness "to travell with our soveranis for oure releif." Your friendly behaviour in all my actions warrants me to let you "understand the extremite of my present cais." Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

It will please you deliver this other letter to her majesty.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 31. **324.** THOMAS JENYE TO RANDOLPH.

Sends him an "Epistle dedicatorie" dated from his chamber in Edinburgh—enclosing what he calls "Maister Randolphe phantasey, a breiffe calgulacion of the procedinge in Scotlande from the first of Julie to the last of Decembre."

[*This consists of doggerel verse in the form of a soliloquy or dream by Randolph, in which he introduces* "The Quenes majestie complante of a mysordered commonweale": *putting into Mary's mouth 59 stanzas of 7 lines each, of verses of the same quality, at the end of which Randolph is represented as starting from sleep, and winding up his discourse with some moral reflections.*]

27 *pp.* *Written by Jenye, whose hand resembles that of the address on some of Randolph's letters—so possibly his clerk.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Jan. 8.

325. CAPTAIN COCKBURN TO CECIL.

There is "nay novacionis" since M^r^ Dowdlie departed on 25^th^ *ultimo*. The Estates assembled on 1^st^ instant; the Constable and Admiral and the "Carddenall of Schattelyeoun to Court," who was well received. The cardinals of Lorraine and Guise and M. de Guise, are expected shortly—others say they fear to come. The Court is to tarry here long. A very great packet came from M. de Foyis dated London 21^st^ *ultimo*. The Scottish packet with it, was dated Edinburgh 27^th^ November. It is written here that our Queen is with child, and mention made that she is well served—specially with her secretaries "Davye" and "Master James Bafowuer." Moullines in Bourbonais. *Signed*: . . .* Cokbourn.

Please send "thir uddar letteris" to my lord of Bedford.

† On the 11^th^ instant the Cardinal of Lorraine came here to Court—the Prince of Condé and Duke of Montpensier and "mone odares" met him, the Marshal of Bourdillon before him, who desired him to leave his arms and guards behind, as he did, and brought but 30 men. When he came to the King's chamber, the King embraced him. He spoke some words to the King, and then passed to the Queen who embraced him, then to Monsieur and Madame, and to the Constable: "and he brasit him vithout one wordes." The Admiral was "by." It is said that the Marshal Montmorency and M. de Guise "bees her" and shall all be agreed.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 9.

326. MURRAY TO CECIL.

Albeit I lately wrote the state of my cause by "Mayster Draykkes" to you, I cannot omit to remind you thereof again—having of late understood by my friends there, that nothing can be obtained for my relief or the other noble men here, but only "dryiffing of tyme, abyiding the day affixyt. Quhairupon, as evir of befoir, sa nou abuif all, I mwst ernistly craif your favouris and help in this my gryttest extremyte," to move the Queen's majesty, of her great clemency to travail with our Sovereign for our relief: "uther wyis, for ony thing I can juge, we ar wraykkyt for evir." Newcastle. *Signed*: James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 9.

327. ELIZABETH TO MARY.

In reply to her letter of complaint of the last of December, brought by her herald, of the entry of 800 men to the towns of Edington and Chyrnside, making slaughter and prisoners, for which the Earl of Bedford refuses all redress: she thinks it must be the same matter whereof she heard in the beginning of December, and that the complaint should have been made, not by Mary's subjects, but by her own, who were the sufferers. Will command Bedford to advertise her of the truth, and act accordingly.

4 *pp.* *Fair copy.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "9 Januar, 1565 M. of the Q. lettre to the Q. of Scottes: caried by W^m^ Steward *alias* Ros harald of armes to the Q. of Scottes."

* Illegible. † Remainder holograph.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Jan. 10. **328.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

Signifying that as the chief intention of this meeting "shall be covertly though not manifestly, to procure" the restoration of Murray and the others to their country, she has appointed Bedford and Sir John Forster as her commissioners on the Borders. In case Mary agrees to name hers, he is to use the best means he can by good industry and device, that they be of like degree, and also of such "tractablenes and good disposicion," that some good may follow of their meeting.

1½ *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Jan. 27. **329.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Knowing that Murray by all means must seek his return, and that my lord of Sutherland here has no small credit with my lord of Huntly—is himself reconciled with Murray, and promises if the Queen licenses him to his country, to use all means for Murray's restoration: at the request of both, I pray you to move her majesty accordingly. Berwick. *Signed:** . . .

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed* (by Jenye ?) . . . *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 29. **330.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

The Earl of Sutherland long detained "heir at Barwyck," has earnestly travailed with me to sue for him, and I know his friends burden me as the occasion of his detaining: wherefore though his behaviour to me heretofore does not "merit" my good will, I pray your honour to move her majesty for his release. For our own state: I have now for 20 days past awaited M^r^ Melvill's arrival, when you shall be advised of the negotiation. Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 30. **331.** [. . .] CLAPHAM TO CECIL.

My first acquaintance with Foular was in one John Cant's house, where he was kept secret and called himself Forster. We took ship, 2^nd^ of Christmas, arrived at Yarmouth 6^th^ of Christmas, came to Harwich "the nynt" day, remaining 5 days openly there and "Ipiswiche." Hearing of an evil market for herrings at London, I stayed the ship till I had seen it, and took horse for London to the *Blaik bell*,† remained a night, and went to my business in the morning. He remained in his chamber all day writing, and said he did so as he owed a great sum of money; wished me to find him a quiet chamber, remained there two or three nights, then went, unknown to me, to the "nurssis in Lymhous," and afterwards to the country for a "gret quhile," and one night late came to my lodging in "Fychstret," and put his gear in a coffer to be sent to Scotland. A woman came that same night and took him "furthe" and I never spoke with him till I came to John Hoigis "houss in Sant Katrens to paye our cumpanys

* Signature cut off. † Black Bull ?

Elizabeth.
1565-66. waigis" and have not seen him since. His coffer was put in the ship and has but "won loike." One of the "marynals" called "the cupper" has the keys of all my lord Lethington's coffers, "and it to." This is all he told me of his secret. Beseeching your honor to let me go, for it is great expense for me to keep so many men in this town as I do. *No signature.*

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Clapham," and (by Cecil) "merchant of Scotland."

Jan. . **332.** ANSWERS BY FOWLLER.

He knows of no intelligence the King and Queen of Scotland have, but by their servants sent to this Court, who bring such uncertain news as pass abroad in the city or country.

And as to any particular person in this Court in whom they trust: to his knowledge by any thing he has heard, they have most trust in the Earl of Leicester for his good will to the amity between her majesty and them. And rather believes it from the great friendship the King found at his hands, which he has heard him say sundry times, he would never forget. Knows no more. *Signed*: T. Fowller.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Fowlars answers 1565."

Feb. 5. **333.** CHARGES AGAINST THOMAS BISCHOP.

"Certen instrucciones tochinge Thomas Bysshope"—

Cott. Calig. B. viii. fol. 184. 1. For betraying the Captain of Dunbarton, and running away like a coward, leaving his master to be slain—then, while serving the Laird of Keir, "dyd dyshoneste" his wife, who gave up her inheritance to Keir, to follow Bischop.

2. For supposed service to Lennox, Henry VIII. gave him his present living, but repented it, hearing that he set up dissension between the earl and "his ladie."

3. While in great misery in Edward VI. time, by his unthriftyness and "hooredome," the Earl and Countess leased him a farm worth 500*l.*—provided he lived thereon: but he drew another lease to defraud them, counterfeiting their hands and seals.

4. He tried to get the Earl to slay his own brother the Bishop of Caithness in Stepney—cheated Henry VIII. of 400*l.* sent to the Captain of Dunbarton, and persuaded the Earl to open his secrets to Bothwell then in England.

5. In the beginning of the Queen's majesty's reign, he and his wife were in extreme poverty in the Sanctuary Westminster. She died there, and unable to bury her, he asked charity of the Earl—who took him to his house sick—when cured, he returned to his "dogged nature"—sowed dissensions in the household, slandered the gentlewomen &c., till the Earl discharged him his house.

6. Though the Earl lately thought he had become a new man, yet his lewd behaviour is as bad as ever, "grace" is past him and no recovery of any goodness in him.

7. For his presently going about to disinherit his own son and keeping harlots—stealing 200 French crowns of the Earl's, at Carlisle &c. &c.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. 2½ *pp.* In an official hand. *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "v Februarij 1565. Contra Tho. Bishopp."

c. Feb. 5. **334.** THOMAS BISCHOP'S DEFENCE.

Cott. Calig. B. viii. fol. 165.

Albeit the Earl of Lennox and my lady for my truth to my Sovereign and her commonwealth, seek my life: they are not to be credited, and I answer him as follows:—

1. Being a bareheaded boy of 16 or 17, the Captain of Dunbarton* was slain by a band of men laid in wait for him. I so behaved myself being a child, gave and received strokes, that the Captain on his deathbed, declared it before his wife, and left me in his will "as he dyd his chyldren," trusting me with all his evidents, money and keys. This was 31 years since, as I can prove—my age not yet 48.

2. Though Keir and his wife were never married—she got a divorce openly in Edinburgh—the Prince [James V.] privy thereto, and my good lord—and I married her in "that churche" with the love of Keir, his and her friends. I came to England with the Earl, and he that gave his father the last stroke and cut his throat, now enjoys my lands. Keir, a man of 2000 marks, has ever loved and used me as a spy here, sent me a charter of 300 marks' land, with 200 gold crowns, 2 daggers, the *Scottish Chronicles*, a book of Scottish arms—2 "plattes" of Edinburgh and Stirling Castles, etc. I managed Lennox's marriage, swore him subject to Henry VIII., and agreed with the Duke of Somerset for the marriage of Dernlie his son on the refusal of Lord Dacres and the Duke of Northumberland.

3. I deny stealing money sent to the Captain of Dunbarton. When tried at "Gilfourde," the Earl and Countess withdrew the charge, my enemy David Murray was sent to the Tower, and his brother Tullibardine to the "Flete" for half a year. The Bishop of Caithness "cowardly" surrendered Dunbarton. I hold the manor of Pocklington, and besides in September† before the King's death, he gave me the 20 markland of Fangfosse. I induced Glencairn to England, who confessed his treason at Dunbarton, left his 2 "oyes"‡ pledges with me, and still owes me 100 marks. Lord Paget will witness this, written 17 years since.

4. I deny the charge of getting a false lease, but had 500*l.* from the Lennox tenants for my charges fortifying the town of Ayr. [*Describes here Lady Lennox's fickleness—the vain talk between Bothwell and Lennox at Settryngton as to the Duke "Schattellaro," &c.*]

5. As for the Earl's cruel "cherite" at London: when my wife died after coming with her to Court, I asked Lady Lennox to let her gentlewomen attend the burial: she would not let a boy come! For the burial (and charges of 200*l.* "in that jorney") my lord Pagett like a father, took order by his steward and receiver, M[r] Johnes clerk of privy seal sent me some double ducats, old angels and a sovereign of 30s., which I paid at her burial; and within these 10 days have received from the priest of S[t] Margaret's his bill in testimony.

6. As for disinheriting my son: I know not his meaning. I bring him up in the fear of God at Cambridge, and he has by my lord Pagett all by law, I being but a pensioner to my living.

* William Stirling of Glorat. † 1546. ‡ Grand-children.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Finally, for rule of my body: I live under two discreet magistrates, my lord President and my lord Archbishop of York. Two noblemen have kept with me one trust and one love these 18 years—my lords Paget and Wharton, by whom I will be judged. *Signed:* Thomas Bischop.

6 *pp. Holograph. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil): "Byshopps answer in his owne defence."

Feb. 7. **335.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Within these 15 days there was some hope of this Queen's favour to the lords, and that Robert Melvin should have gone to them with conditions. But since Clernau "by lande," and Thorneton "by sea," have come from France, one from the Cardinal, the other from the Bishop of Glasgow, there is no appearance of any good intended them, unless they can persuade the Queen's majesty to make her "heier apparant" to her crown. This I know she has spoken. There is a band devised, in which the * Pope, the Emperor, the King of Spain, the Duke of Savoy, divers princes of Italy, and the Queen mother "suspected" to be of it, to maintain papistry, brought by Thorneton and subscribed by this Queen, as I hear by M^r^ Steven Wylson a fit minister for these devilish devices. If I can get a copy it shall be sent. Monsieur Rambouillet came here on Monday†, spake with the Queen and her husband that night, but not long. Next day he had long conference with both, but nothing known of what they treated. None hope he will do any good for the lords, though it is said he wishes it to the uttermost of his power. He lodges near Court, and lives on the Queen's charges. On Sunday order is given and great means made to many to be present at mass. "Upon Candlemas daye ther caried ther candels with the Quene, her howsbonde, the Earle of Lenox, and Earle Atholl." Divers other lords have been required to be at mass that day—some promised, as Cassillis, Montgomery, Seton, Caithness—others refused, as Fleming, Livingston, Lindsay, Huntly and Bothwell—of all, Bothwell "stowteste, but worste thoughte of." It was moved in Council, that mass should have been in S^t^ Giles church—I believe rather "to tempte mens myndes then intended in deade." She was of late again minded to send Robert Melvin to negotiate with those she trusts among the Queen's subjects—but her majesty is too wise not to provide herein. "David yet retaynethe still his place, not withowte harte greef to maynie that see their soverayne gwyded cheiflye by suche a fellowe." She has utterly refused to do any good to my lord of Argyll and it is said that shall be the first "viage that she wyll mayke after she is delivered." The bruit is common that she is with child, yet hardly believed of many, "and of this I cane assure you, that ther have of late appered some tokens to the contrarie." Two of the best "Hawles" that lately "loppe" out of England, are suitors here for support. Argyll and Shane

* "Late" written above. † 4th February.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Oneill have met and agreed to take each other's part. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 9. **336.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I was glad to learn by your letter sent to me with our "harehault," your continued disposition to nourish amity betwixt the two Queens and realms. "I am sory that any occasion hath bene thought fallen out to the contrary: yet praysed be God, nothing is on eyther part so far past but all may be reduced to the former estate, if the ryght way be taken. Mary! I se no certayne way oneles we chop at the veary roote—yow know wheare it lyeth, and so far as my jugement can reache, the soonar all thinges be packed up the les danger ther is off any inconvenientis." The bearer can declare my opinions, whom I pray you credit. This letter is only to serve for a "gage off my correspondence" to your disposition in all things may tend to quiet the realms, and unite the Queens—and as occasion serve, I will make you overtures to that end, desiring the like from you and to renew our old intelligence—remitting the success "to Him who hath theyr hartes in his hands, and shall move them as pleaseth Him." I hear Fowlar is in prison. Have pity on "the poore fellow and so far as you may, suffer no extremity to be used against him. Considder his caas, which trewly is to be pityed. I recommend his lyfe to your protection, praying yow for any thing that ever I may do to your pleasure, that he may at this tyme tast of your favour. Many considerations do move me to write thus ernestly, which I am assured yow yourselff will approve." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 11. **337.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Recommending the bearer M^r^ Melvin, who has commission from the Queen his Sovereign to treat with the Queen's majesty on many things tending to their amity and concord. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Jenye?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 11. **338.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

It has pleased the Queen's majesty to direct this bearer "M^r^ Mailvill towardes that Court" for such causes as he will show you. He is not unknown to you, and is privy to "most off my conceptions." Pray credit him in all his affairs, that he may profitably perform his charge. My sovereign has ever understood from me how good an instrument you have ever been towards the amity, and I know her opinion not only of your wit, credit and ability, but also of your will and affection. I pray you maintain it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Feb. 11. **339.** MARY TO BEDFORD.

Desiring that the goods and money in a ship lately wrecked near the Borders, when bound for Scotland, may be delivered with speed to her servant the bearer, accredited to him. Under her hand at Edinburgh. "Your gud frind, Marie R."

Prays also his certificate for post horses to the bearer and company passing to Court.

1 *p. Copy by Bedford's clerk. Addressed.*

Feb. 12. **340.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Seeing so many false advertisements in both countries, she sends the bearer to assure her of the truth. Begs her to retard the death sentence on "Foulart" her husband's servant, whose only offence has been pressing his master's interest. Has also charged the bearer to move her for her "belle mere" who suffers much from her strait imprisonment, which she surely did not merit for merely wishing well to her son. Edinburgh. *Signed:* "Votre tres affectionnee e fidelle bonne sœur e cousine Marie R. * Je vous suplie excuser ma mauvayse ecriture, car lestast où je suis ne me permet aysement ce labeur."

3 *pp. French. Holograph, also address. Indorsed:* " . . . by M^r^ Melvil."

Feb. 12. **341.** MARY TO CECIL.

The bearer Robert Malvile, "being of ws at the earnest sute of divers noble men and uthers oure trusty servandis his freindis, pardonit of his former offence," we have despatched him to the Queen your mistress, for the business in our letter sent with him to her: and pray that by your means the said Robert may have access to our said dearest sister from time to time. At our Palace of Holyrood house. *Signed:* Your richt gud frind, Marie R.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed:* " . . . by M^r^ Malvile."

Feb. 17. **342.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Requesting the Queen's passport to France for the bearer M^r^ Douglas who has well deserved at his hands, and his servant. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . for Tho. Douglas."

Feb. 19. **343.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I am forced to be brief in this matter, which requires a long discourse, having been ill at ease these 10 days past. Last Friday † I was at Court to receive this Queen's answer touching the commissioners, but deferred till Saturday: when I got for answer, that she would not alter any of those she had named unless the Queen alters

* Written lengthwise on margin. † 15th.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. hers. Thereafter in open Council, Lethington by her command, after long rehearsal of her desire to live in amity, and my Sovereign's like mind, imputed their misliking to proceed "of the ministers, and of my parte in speciall, for that I had lent withowte knowledge of my mestres, to my lord of Murraye iij^{m} crownes, and had delivered the same to one John Jonstone, who was present to verifie the same: and in so doynge havinge greatlye fayled and done contrarie to my deutie and office, occupienge the place that I do, the Quene his mestres willed me that I sholde within iij dayes retire my self owte of her countrie, and receave a full dyscharge to have anye farther to do in her reaulme." Her grace being present, I directed my whole speech to her: I was glad she thought so well of my Sovereign, and had testified it before her Council, "trustinge that I sholde fynde no les in effecte"! I denied lending money, and she could witness herself I was not a man to have such sums—making it also manifest I never in my life had a quarter of the sum belonging to my sovereign "or persone livinge." I desired time to advertise and receive my Sovereign's answer, but I hear she will not that I tarry. Therefore I intend to repair to Berwick, and if she change not her mind, my next will be from thence. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolph.

I send a book set forth by common consent of "the Assemblye at Edenburgh—disadvowed by the Quene and miche ado abowte it." Lord Livingston, to whom I am much beholden, desires a safe conduct for himself and the Laird of Kilsyth his kinsman, and 8 servants, to pass to France, to be sent if it please you, to wait their arrival at Berwick in 14 or 16 days.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil), and (another hand): "Accused to lend the Erle of Murray 4^{m} crownes."

Feb. [20.] **344.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Informing her of the "mauvais deportementz" of her minister Randel, newly come to her knowledge, in lending her rebels 3000 crowns to levy men against her. Having at once "(sans plus garder l'espine en mon pied)" called him before her and her Council, she could get no answer from him but that he was Elizabeth's subject, and has sent him out of the country. Will send his full accusation in 5 or 6 days, and has commanded Melville to make a true report. Edinburgh. Marie R.

1 *p. French. Contemporary copy. Indorsed.*

Feb. 24. **345.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Giving three reasons why she should show favour to the Earl of Murray and other banished lords who have never intended any thing against her person or estate or their native country: and at least postpone any proceedings in parliament against them, till opportunity be offered to move her in their behalf. Greenwich. 8th of reign. *Signed:* Your verey good sistar and cousin, Elizabeth R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

(2) Draft of the same.

3 *pp. By Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Evidently not delivered. See Randolph and Bedford's letter of 6th March (No. 350).

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Feb. 25.

346. RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since my last, though some have attempted to persuade this Queen against sending me away, yet she is fully determined. On Wednesday last* the parson of Flyske's servant brought me a safe conduct, and a sealed letter to the Queen's majesty. I refused the one, because it was subscribed also by Lord Darnley, and the other, as I thought it contained the charges against me, should go by another messenger than myself. I required to speak either with her grace's self or the parson of Flyske: and next day had answer I should speak with the Queen—but till "this present Twesdaye"† I have attended without hearing her pleasure. I mind not to depart without express charge and declaration of her reasons, against all law and custom between princes.

How much she knows out of England, your honor can conjecture by her means, *viz.* the French ambassador, M^r^ Melvin, and my Lady Lennox's friends. I can assure you the chief cause of Melvin's being there is to entertain that faction the most he can. She wills this parliament to hold, and that the lords be forfeited. Some contend to the contrary to stay it either by fair or foul means. I am told secretly and believe it, that Lennox and Argyll shall within 3 days talk together, and it shall be offered to Argyll that if he and Murray will concur with this King to give him the crown matrimonial, that then he will take their parts, bring them home, place them in their own rooms, and establish religion as it was at this Queen's home coming. And to perform this, the King has subscribed a band to them "within these xxvj howers." I have taken order with my lord of Bedford "howe the certayne knowledge her of and greater matters maye come to your honors knowledge with les daynger then I maye put that in wrytinge which I knowe. With howe great perill I wryte of these matters your honor maye conceave. This you shall fynde trewe and myche more yf all tayke effecte that is intended." Your honor being thus warned will give ear, and as behoves provide that nothing hurtful touch that estate. "The suspicion of this Kynge towardes David is so greate that it muste shortlye growe to a scabbe amonge them." Yesterday Bothwell was married in Court to Huntly's sister. The bishop of Athens preached, which of long time has been "rare" among us. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Please to have mind of Lord Livingston's safe conduct to be sent to my lord Bedford.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 26. **347.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for her servant David Anstruther going to France on her particular affairs, with two servants, to pass and repass through England for a twelvemonth. Palace of Holyroodhouse, 24^th^ of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

* 20th. † 26th.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Feb. 27. **348.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Requesting his favour for expedition to M^r^ Anstruther the bearer, passing now to the Court and so to France. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 3. **349.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Complaining of her strange and uncourteous usage of Randolph, in ordering him to quit her kingdom without proof of his offence: and will in like manner return Mary's envoy. Seeing she is not inclined to take Murray into favour, she must do so herself: and if the Scottish wardens still refuse justice on the borders, she must order her own to act in like measure.

4½ *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

(2) Another copy of same. Greenwich, 8^th^ of reign.

2¼ *pp. Indorsed* (by Randolph's clerk).

March 6. **350.** BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH TO ELIZABETH.

Both I and M^r^ Randolph have been "severallie" informed of a matter of no small consequence intended in Scotland.* "What it maye tende to, we knowe not, nor howe to lyke of it, but we truste not evle to your majesties countrie, usinge suche circomspection as we do knowe your majestie dothe." We have written the whole matter and sent copies of some writings to M^r^ Secretary who can better inform your Majesty than either of us can write. We hope by this means the Earl of Murray shall be brought home without your Majesty's farther suit to the Queen, and therefore have stayed sending your letters in his behalf. We look now daily to hear when this matter shall be put in execution: "Twesdaye nexte† is the laste daye." Almighty God preserve your Majesty's estate, . . . "and gyve us the grace to see the day of some worthie byrthe of your Majesties boddie." Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford, Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp. In Randolph's Court hand, and address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

(2) Copy of same.

1 *p. In Randolph's ordinary hand. Indorsed* (in his other).

March 6. **351.** BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Knowing how needful it is that her majesty should not be ignorant of anything coming to our knowledge, "whearby ether inconvenientes may be avoided, or good occasions maye be embraced when theie are offered, . . . I have hearde of late of a greate attempte to be made by suche advise as the Lord Darlie hathe gotten of some noble men in Scotlande, whearby he thynkethe to advance hym self unto that, which by other meanes he cane not attayne unto, whearby his credit maye be the more in his countrie, and be hable to

* Murder of Riccio (?) † 12th.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. do more then to beare the bare name of a kinge, not havinge the due honor pertayninge to suche a dignitie"; by which means also the noblemen now out of their country may be restored. "And nowe at this present I beinge fullye informed by M^r^ Randolphe of his and their whole intente, the same being nowe at the poynte to be put in execution, I thought good to use M^r^ Randolphes hande in the wrytinge of this lettre, by cawse I wolde not that anye of myne owne sholde be previe to anye parte of that, which we fynde verie neadefull to be keapte verie secrete, havinge bothe of us promised upon our honors that no other shalbe previe here unto but the Quenes majestie, my lorde of Leicester, and you M^r^ Secretarie." The matter is this—you have heard of the "dyscordes and jarrers" between this Queen and her husband, partly as she has refused him the crown matrimonial, "partlye for that he hathe assured knowledge of suche usage of herself as all togyther is intollerable to be borne—which yf yt were not overwell knowne, we wolde bothe be verie loothe to thynke that yt coulde be trewe. To tayke awaye this occasion of slaunder, he is hym self determined to be at the apprehension and execution of hym, whome he is is hable manifestlye to charge with the crime, and to have done hym the moste dishonour that cane be to anye man—myche more beinge as he is. We neade not more playnlye to discribe the person—you have hearde of the man whome we meane of." As to the other "thynge" he desires, the crown matrimonial: what is agreed on between him and the noble men, you shall see by the copies of the conditions—"of which M^r^ Randolphe assurethe me to have seen the principals and taken the coppies wrytten with his owne hande. The tyme of execution and performance of these matters is before the parlement, as neare as yt is." To this are privy in Scotland, "these—Argile, Morton, Boide, Ruthen and Liddingeton—in England, these, Murraye, Rothes, Graynge, myself and the wryter hereof. Yf perswations to cawse the Quene to yelde to these matters do no good, theie purpose to procede we knowe not in what sorte." If she make any power at home, she shall be withstood, and kept from all other counsel than her own nobility: if she seek foreign aid, our sovereign shall be sued to accept "his and their" defence on reasonable offers to her contentment. Knowing the certainty of these things, we thought it our duty to utter the same to you M^r^ Secretary "to mayke declaration ther of as shall seeme beste to your wysedome." Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford, Tho. Randolphe.

2½ *pp.* *Written and addressed by Randolph.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same.

(1) (Bond by the lords to Darnley.)

"Certayne articles to be fulfilled by Archbalde earle of Argile, James earle of Murray, Alexander earle of Glancarne, Androwe earle of Rothous, Robert lord Boide, Androwe lord Ocletrie and their complices, to ane noble and myghtie prince Henrie kinge of Scotlande howsebonde to our Sovereigne ladie: which articles the saide persones offerethe with moste humilitie, lowlynes, and service to the said noble prince, for whom to God theie praye with longe lyf and good succession of his boddie."

Elizabeth.
1565-66. (1) They bind themselves as true subjects to support him in all his *lawfull and juste* actions, to be friends to his friends, and enemies to his enemies etc. (2) At the next parliament after their return, they shall consent to his getting the crown matrimonial for life, and take his part against all opposers. (3) They shall maintain his just title to the crown failing the succession of their sovereign lady, and slay or "extirpe" all such as usurp the same. (4) To maintain the religion established by the Queen after her arrival, and assist and maintain the same by help of the said noble prince against all gainsayers. (5) As they are become his true subjects, they shall spare neither life nor death in setting forward his honour *accordinge to the worde of God;* (6) labour with the Queen of England for relief of his mother and brother; and (7) procure her support for himself against all foreign princes. *Subscribed, James, Archibalde etc.*

Whatsoever you finde written in Romane hande is added to thes Articles by the lordes.*

4 *pp. In Randolph's hand. Indorsed* (by him): "Conditions for the Earles to performe to their kynge, etc."

(2) Articles by Darnley.

"Certayne articles to be fulfilled by ane noble and myghtie prince Henrie kinge of Scotlande, howsbonde to our sovereigne ladie, of his majesties meyre mercie and clemencie, to" [*the six lords in No. (1)*] and their friends in England.

Promising (1) to obtain their remission, (2) stop their forfeiture, (3) restore their lands etc., (4) support them in the exercise of the reformed religion, and (5) maintain them as a good master should.

Subscribed †

Henry R.

3 *pp. In Randolph's writing. Indorsed* (by him): "Conditions to be parformed by the Kynge of Scottes to the Earles etc." (and by Cecil): "Primo Martij 1565."

March 6. **352.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

On Thursday last,‡ the Queen being at Seton, and her Council (viz. Earls Atholl, Huntly, and Bothwell, Lethington, the Treasurer, the Queen's Advocate, and Provost of Edinburgh) in Edinburgh, about 6 p.m. there came to me one Robert Lyslye—of whom you have often heard, but I had rather you had M^r^ Melvin's opinion of him, than that I should write of his conditions etc.—specially how he has behaved against my lord of Murray, and his own brother the Earl of Rothes. He said the Council sent him to know why I had not left the country after the Queen's and their charge? Knowing the man does not always "byde by that he speakethe," I asked if he had their charge in writing? but he had none. I said, though I credited his message, I could give no answer but to the Queen's self or to her Council, and he departed. In an hour he came back, and said from

* So Randolph styles his Court hand, indicated here by italics.
† In Randolph's "Roman" hand. ‡ 28th February.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. the lords, that as I gave no reason for my abode, or disobedience to the Queen's command, he charged me in her grace's name to depart next day at my peril. In as good words as I could, I sent him back to the lords with message that I did nothing in contempt of their Sovereign or themselves, and prayed leave to speak with her grace. He shortly returned to me saying the Queen had determined I should "awaye," and neither she nor they would speak with me. When I saw my reasonable request refused, I said I would receive no charge by him "beinge nether counsellor, officer of armes, nor of so greate credit towardes me, that I wolde hazarde onlye upon his worde to leave the place whear I was commanded to serve by my Sovereigne; and albeit his message were trewe, I protested ther, and called to wytnes suche gentlemen as were present, as Mr Alexander Dombarre a lord of the Session, Mr George Londie and other:" that their Sovereign had done my mistress injury (1) in an unjust accusation against me supported only by a traitor to herself (pardoned but an hour before for that purpose), (2) without respite till I could hear from my Sovereign, and (3) of all most unjust, to refuse to hear me, —and therefore I would speak only with her grace, her council, or with one of them, or I would not depart for any peril. With this he left me at 8 p.m., and the news suddenly spread through the town. Some secretly advise me to go, others to abide, for there was nothing intended against me. The next whole day Friday,* "savinge the tyme I was at the sermond," I kept my lodging, and at 4 p.m. the Provost came to me from the Council to demand why I did not depart? I said I was glad to do with an honorable personage of the Queen's Council, rather than one of mean credit, and would deal with him plainly—telling him the cause of my stay was for the Queen's answer to my request for respite till I heard from my Sovereign, as she had promised to give me. He said she had sent me a safe conduct and her letter to the Queen, and wondered why I refused them! I gave my reason—the safe conduct being signed by her husband, an offender to my mistress, and the letter containing matter against myself. 'Well' said he 'I am nowe commanded to will you to departe, and to that effecte my lordes of Counsell have receaved a lettre from the Quenes grace of her expresse will, and therfore let me knowe your will, and what those thynges are which you require?' I said if it pleased her to give me the charges in writing, and a safe conduct from herself, I would (though unwillingly) go my way. He was very courteous, and showed his own mislike of my usage. The murmur in town was great, people looking out of windows to see what became of me *etc.* The Provost shortly returned again from the Council, with word that neither the Queen nor they would speak with me, and I should have no other safe conduct than that presented to me—and therefore he being of her grace's Council and chief officer in the town, charged me to depart by 10 o'clock next day, or remain at my peril: and if I would not receive the safe conduct, I should have sure convoy out of the country ready at that hour. We reasoned long, and he left me not knowing what I would do, though I had resolved not to tarry, having heard "that a charge sholde be geven to my hoste to let me have no meate in his house, nor logginge after

* 1st March.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. that hower"; and some thought if I did not depart, "I sholde by force have byne put owte of my lodginge and my baggage hurlde into the streates." So to avoid these inconvenients or cause extreme enmity between the sovereigns, I chose to depart. Shortly before 10 o'clock,* the Laird of Ormeston of Teviotdale—not him you know, but a kinsman of Bothwell—and another named Morraye the earl's servant, came to say they were ready to convoy me by the Queen's command. I asked how many? He said himself, "that gentleman and ij or iij moe." I thought the number small, and hazardous to myself, the country broken, and I in the Queen's disfavour. He said I should be in no peril, and we departed in an hour. A quarter of a mile out of town, he said Bothwell had commanded him to learn why the Queen's majesty objected to his being commissioner to meet Bedford? I said I had no will to talk—the things were verified by his own countrymen, and if true, they were unhonourable, if false, he might revenge it on the speakers. He asked if I would hear my lord? and I said I would speak with any who spoke with me. Whereon he sent a gentleman to Seton to my lord, and somewhat beyond Seton we met. He took God to witness as a gentleman born of a noble house, he had never spoken but honourably of the Queen's majesty and would oppose his body to any man that said the contrary—desiring her majesty to be satisfied with this his purgation. I told him I would report his speech, but said the sooner he justified himself and had the matter tried, the more it would be to his honour. I spoke somewhat with him of my departure and strange handling. He said little, but that it was the Queen's will, procured rather by others than by herself—"which I saide I knewe to be trewe (meaninge therby hym self with one other, whome I knowe to be the cheif cawse and advisers therof)." His hope is that occasion may be taken on this and other matters, for the Queen's majesty to move wars, and then he thinks "to wynne his spurres." When we came to Dunbar that night, I had sent me out of the castle wine and meat by the laird of Craigmiller's brother. Ormeston left me there, committing me to the Laird of Whytlawe a "Heborne," an honest and friendly gentleman who convoyed me to the "Bounde Roode" where I met my lord of Bedford "abroode to tayke the aier etc." and so on Sunday† afternoon came to this town. I have not been careless, but left the best means I can to have intelligence of anything that may be in any of their hearts to the Queen's majesty's disadvantage. The special thing I fear out of hand, is the breaking of the Borders, which is already in hand: Bothwell bearing therewith as much as he can, and Cesford unable to make restitution to that for which he has already to answer. Since I came, it pleased my lord to shew me your letter of 27th *ultimo*, and the Queen of Scots' declaration in the matter I was charged with, "leavinge owte that speciall poynte which was my answer and cheif defence—which was, that I dyd not denie the lendinge of the monie, but sayde that I ought not to mayke anye accompt but to my Sovereigne. But that your honor dothe consyder howe unlyke this is to be trewe, I wolde willinglye saye more then nowe I wyll wryte, but yf yt shall please the Quenes majestie to gyve me leave, I wyll wryte unto the Quenes

* 2nd March. † 3rd.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. self the wordes which then I spake, and call her whole counsell to recorde—who I thinke will not denie a thynge so often spoken, and a defiance geven unto hym that was the reporter,* or anye other yf he were a gentleman, that wolde verifie yt and mayntayne yt—and yet I truste your honor shall knowe that yt was with suche reverence to her grace as becommethe all men to honour those that are in lyke place called by God. I called her self to wytnes, who maynie tymes had inquired of my estate in Englande, and knewe what I spent in her countrie, wheather yt coulde be possible that I sholde have iij^{m} crownes to lende unto anye man?" As M^{r} Melvin is there, I am content if the Queen's majesty pleases, that he may be privy to the most of what I have here written, and report it to his Sovereign—and if she find one of credit that can "reprove" any part of it, let me "be defamed for ever and compted a villayne." I am sorry to trouble you thus long, but know how needful it is her majesty know all things at good length. When I left, it was in doubt if parliament should hold, not only for lack of proof against the lords, after great inquisition—"the cheif is by suche as have leafte thother, and soughte redres for themselves:" Glencairn perseveres "honeste hytherto," so well assisted by by his friends, that he thinks not to be forfeited, nor yield to any dishonour. Displeasure is grown towards my lord of Morton —"the seale is taken from hym, and as some saye, shalbe geven to keape to David† as Rubie had yt." The ground of displeasure is that Morton will not give over a piece of ground to Lord Fleming, that thus "David maye com by a peece of lande with a fayer howse called Melvin within iij myles of Edenburg." On this matter Lord Simple is grown to displeasure, and John Simple was committed to ward for speaking against it. Some suspect M. Ramboylet advised the Queen to send me away—which I think not, for he dealt very frankly with me, and after his departure, speaking with the Queen, I found no token of discontentment to me, and herself excused me as now more strange to her than formerly, Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I am forced to send things in haste, being without time and not "verrie well," and trust to be borne with. It was my lord Bedford's will that in these matters of the "other lettres" we should write jointly. I can add nothing, and let it take what success it will, it is all true.

13 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 8. **353.** BEDFORD AND RANDOLPH TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

Touching the attempts and enterprises to be done in Scotland of which we wrote in our last, "we see them nowe growe nere unto that poynte that theie that are the enterprisers intende to bringe them unto. The Earle of Argile and Morton have accorded unto all, and subscribed with thother: Morton is presentlye at Edenbourge and Argile wilbe ther tomorrowe. My lord of Murraye is wrytten for, and his whole compagnie: saulfe conducte sent unto them and commandement to the Lord Hume and his frendes to receave them and convoye them to the kynge, which he hathe accepted. Tomorrowe my lord of Murraye and his wilbe in this towne; upon Sondaye at nyght at

* Substituted for "that spake yt." † Name interlined.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Edenbourge : but that which is intended shalbe executed before his commynge ther—we meane upon hym whome you knowe—and so will theie proceede to the reste, as tyme and opportunitie wyll serve." We advertise "your honours" thereof to communicate to her majesty as seems most expedient "to your wysdoms," and more hereafter. Also we have sent her majesty's last letters to that Queen, of her mislike to the sending away "M[r] Randolphe," by some fit man as Captain Carew, with whom Drax is also gone to understand better things there—on whose return or "sooner yf occasion serve," you shall have knowledge. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford, Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph of Randolph. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 8. **354.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have received her majesty's letter, accepting of my answers to the Queen of Scotland, and her farther pleasure if I had departed—all which shall be done to her will as near as I can. "I see yet some sparkes of good wyll revived in mens hartes towardes her majestie"—they shall be nourished and kindled daily if I see the flame tend to amity—or "suppressed" as I see the contrary. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 8. **355.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have received your "ernist" letter, and also understand by Maister Wod the bearer, your care and travail in all my causes. Your friendship has ever been and shall be "ane speciall leyning stok to me" whenever occasions press me. "Thair is ewin nou upon suddantye, requeistis and in ane maneir charges, to me and the rest of my cumpany heir, to fynd ourselfes at home shortly, and that for the weale of the religion and awoyding of great inconvenientis, quhairupon I am departed ewen nou towardis Barwyck," and have directed M[r] Wood to you to declare the circumstances, which I doubt not you will declare to her majesty, and therewith render in my name, my most humble and hearty thanks for the great benefits I have received of her from time to time, and assure her that she has not "within Europe ane mair affectionnett serviteur." Newcastle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 11. **356.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

Yesterday morning Murray and the other lords "and the rest" entered Scotland and went that night to Edinburgh. They were met not far from hence by Lord Hume and so convoyed thither. Murray at his departing, acknowledged her majesty's great goodness, which he will never forget, but requite as best he may. They count to find great aid, and so things will fall out in more open sort than as yet. So if you there handle things well, "nowe therfore is the tyme to steppe in foote" if it please her majesty.

As John a Wood Murray's man goes up to declare his master's

Elizabeth.
1565-66. going to Scotland etc., you may use your wisdom "in the taking knowelege therof as from me, but raither to suffer him to make reporte therof himselfe, which he can well do. Since the writing hetherto, certeine advertisement is comme that David is dispatched and dead. That it should so be, you have herde before." The manner and circumstances I hope to report in my next. In the meantime, "sythe so great an ennemie to religion and the amitie of thes two realmes, is now taken awaye," I have greater hope of peace on these borders, and heartily pray that you will be a mean that I be spared from this charge against S^t^ George's day to come up and do my duty to her majesty. I sent her majesty's letter to Edinburgh, 2 or 3 days since by a captain here, but these broils I think have "letted" the answer. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 12. **357.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Before I left Edinburgh, my lord of Bedford advertised me he had stayed one Sheres a Scotsman, and found certain notes about him. I have enquired and learned this about him, that the first cause of his leaving Scotland "was that he stoole awaye the Sheryf of Lythecows wyf, called Hamilton, she beinge the lord Simple dawghter." This was about 7 years past, and about 3 years "agonne," he went to "Allemaignie," and under colour of a man banished for religion, was well received by the Palsgrave, till being espied, he went to the Emperor's Court, recommended to Charles of Austria by the Palsgrave. There offering service by his credit in Scotland, he was sent to the Cardinal of Lorraine, and so returned to Scotland. But not finding himself at ease there, he and some others stole or dishonestly came by, a bark or ship, and purchased their living (as the Queen of England's servants, licensed against the French) till they were taken in Brittany and all condemned to the "gallaies" where they remain, save this man, who by help of his countrymen of the French king's Guard, was delivered (the king being at Marseilles) to be mean for his companions, but made no farther suit for them. Since then he was with the Queen at Glasgow, then in England, at Christmas last in Scotland, and now by my lord's diligence stayed. He says he was once with me in Edinburgh, which I do not remember. He left a book with his wife's sister there, to be delivered to me, which I lately received—"the Answer to the perte of Portugall," but I cannot recall the man's name. As my name is among his notes, belike he has some great thing to say of me, and I wish him straitly examined. He says that I wrote to her majesty's Council in these words—"Sho the fallinge sicknes, he lepre." My lords can remember if any such came to their hands or any others. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 13. **358.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

"David as I wrote to you in my last lettres, is slayne; and at the same tyme was also slayne by like order, one Frier Blacke a ranke papiste, and a man of evill lief, whos deathe was attempted by

Elizabeth.
1565-66. another before, and he stricken and sore hurte." Murray was well accompanied to Edinburgh, and well received by "that king"—particulars I know not. Of parliament there is no more talk. Other things I hear likely to be true, but I await the return of my messenger sent with the Queen's majesty's letter, of whom I yet hear nothing. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 13. **359.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

"Since the laste acte commytted upon David, which nowe I am hable to verifie to be certayne," there is nothing more but that same night one Friar Black was slain in his bed. This is he that was taken in the Castle chapel "with his woman"—your honor knows the time—and since then for two "severall advouteries" in Edinburgh, was banished Scotland. "In which meane tyme by his own confession made to my lord of Bedforde and to me, in this towne, he begotte a ladies woman with chylde, whear he served, not farre from Newecastle." Of late he was admitted for one of the Queen's chief preachers, and gave in a supplication for himself and his brethren to have a place erected for them. About 2 months past he was met late at night "suspicieuslye," and got 2 or 3 blows with a cudgel, and one with a dagger like to have cost him his life. Much trouble insued, and many imprisoned hereon: perchance some of them "the autors" of his end? Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 15. **360.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

In consequence of her strange usage of Randolph in expelling him, finds it necessary to return Robert Melvyn to her: being sorry thereat, as she finds reasonable disposition in him to make the best of all things.

1 *p.* *Draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed.*

March 15. **361.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Did we not know the power of the evil and "wrangous" reports made to you of us by our rebels, "we could nocht think nor almaist bear with the strange divisit lettre quhilk we laitlie have ressavit of yow, be this bearrar your servand; merveling gritlie how ye can be so inclynit rather to belewe and credit the fals speikingis of sic wnvorthy to be callit subjectis, than us, quha ar of your awin bluid, and quha alsua never thocht nor maid yow occasioun to use sic rigour and menassing of us as ye do, throw the persuasioun of thame quhilkis eftirwart ye will knaw assuritlie never to have deservit your favour nor assistance to thair wikkit and mischeifuous interprisis: quha inlikmaner hes offrit me oftentymis to dissave your self gif I wald have acceptit sic conditioun of thame, bot I wald never do it. And mairattour* ye willing us to remitt thair offencis that na prince of the world sould do, bot rather offer help to thair punischement!

* *i.e.*, moreover.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. Quhair as ye wrait to us that we in our formar lettres blamit thame that keipis nocht promissis bot thinkis ane thing, and dois ane uther: we wald ye sould remember the sam—for ye will find us to be handillit sua be thame, quhom to we have alwayis done as we have spokin, and thai to us the contrary, as daillie we have experience"! Last of all, some of our subjects and Council have manifestly shown what men they are—"as first hes takin our houss, slane our maist speciall servand in our awin presence, and thair eftir haldin our propper personis captif tressonneblie, quhair by we war constranit to escaipe straitlie about midnycht out of our palice of Halliruidhouss, to the place quhair we are for the present, in the grittest danger, feir of our lywis, and ewill estate that evir princes on earth stuid in, as your servand can schaw and report yow the haill at lenth." Which handling no Christian prince will allow, nor yourself we believe—desiring you earnestly to let us understand if ye mind to help them against us "as ye boist to do: for we ar assurit, and nocht sua disprovidit, bot utheris princes that will heir of our estate, considdering the samin, will favour us sa meikle as to help and support us (gif neid beis) to defend us and our realme" against our said rebels and their maintainers—were it only for example to their own subjects. Praying you therefore to remember your honour and our nearness of blood, and "the Word of God quhilk commandis that all princes sould favour and defend the just actiouns of uther princes als wele as thair awin." We thought to have written this to you with our own hand, for the better understanding of our meaning—" Bot of trewtht we ar so tyrit and ewill at eass, quhat throw rydding of twenty millis in v houris of the nycht as with the frequent seiknessis and ewill dispositioun, be th'occasioun of our chyld, that we could nocht . . . Off oure castell of Dunbar." *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

2 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed:* " . . . by Capten Carew." *Small wafer signet: Scotland only: close crown above.*

March . **362.** CIRCULAR ON THE MURDER OF RIZZIO.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 35.

"A writting pennit be the Secretar efter the slauhter of Segneour Davie, to have bene send to the nobilitie the yer 1565."

"My lord" . . . we doubt not but ye have "espyit in what caas" this common weal has stood "this lang tyme bygane"—so many nobles in danger and affairs all passing through the hands of "a strangear." We know you misliked and would have been glad to have it redressed, "and ye had sene the moyen." By our proceeding it "may appear gif we intendit ony thing aganis the parsonis of the Quenes majestie or the kyng her husband." We foresaw how necessary it was not to be far from their majesties, "quhill the maters had bene brocht to some good poynt." But seeing the Queen's desire to be otherwise, "we choysed" rather to be in danger than live in suspicion of such a crime. Our intention is clear to you all, as God is witness, neither to "substrak" obedience from our princes, nor harm any in the realm, but quietly to possess our lives in the fear of God. We wish their majesties would suffer the matter

Elizabeth.
1565-66.

to be put in communication among the nobility, and if we be found unreasonable "then let us and our* . . . odious to the haill," but if otherwise* . . . As the matter concerns the quiet of the realm, "substrak nowther your presens nor counsale [from] it." We desire no man to take arms against them or refuse their duty, but only to speak freely to them not to "follow ouer mekle thair humour." There was never more need, and we trust for your help.

1 *p. Copy in a contemporary hand. Title and indorsation in another. Very much damaged. The spelling of the word* "caas" *indicates that Maitland drew up the original.*

March 21. **363.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since M^r^ Carew's departure this has happened. The Queen to be revenged on the Lords who slew David, is content to remit to the "former" lords with whom she was so grievously offended, all they had done. Who seeing this offer, were all content to leave the other lords that were occasion of their return, and took "severall" appointment as they could get it—the first being Glencairne, next Rothes and Argyll—and so every one after other, saving Murray, with Pattarowe and Graynge, who standing on their honours and promise, will not leave the others. So the lords of this last attempt viz., Morton, Ruthven, Lindsay and Lethington, seeing these men fall away in whom they had trusted so much, and ventured themselves so far, found it best to save themselves in time, and on Sunday last† all four went their ways: Morton to the west Border, Ruthven through Teviotdale to Warke and to this town yesterday—Lindsay to Fife, Lethington to Atholl to be saved by my lord there, or purchase his pardon of the Queen—which is thought will be as hard as may be, so he is looked for shortly here, if he can escape. Besides these principal "takers in hande," there are also the Laird of Ormiston, Hawton his son in law, Cawder his "neveue," Brimston, Whyttinghame, Andrew Carre of Fawlsyde, Justice Clerk's brother, George Douglas, and others. Divers of Edinburgh, so I judge as many like to take hurt as were in the former action. Andrew Carre has come here with Ruthven and his son. On Monday last‡ the Queen returned to Edinburgh—in her company were Bothwell, Huntly, Marschall, Hume and Seton with all the men they could bring. Where she was wont to be carried in a "chayer" by 4 of her guard, she is yet able to ride on a horse, though by her own account, within 6 weeks of her time. She lodges not in the abbey, but a house in the High Street. Her husband has disclosed all he knew of any man, "and yet hathe geven his hande and subscribed divers bandes and wrytinges testifiinge that to be his owne deade, and done by his commandement." It is said he gave him one blow himself, and to signify the deed was his, his dagger was left standing in the body. Their mind was to have hanged him, but because "busynes rose in the courte betwene the Earle Bothwell and suche as were appoynted to keape the howse, theie went the nexte waye to worke with hym." How Murray stands we know not yet: he went to meet Argyll at Lythecowe, and both we hear are come to the Queen. The Lords of this last "attemptate"

* Damaged here; words lost. † 17th. ‡ 18th.

Elizabeth.
1565-66. have written to him no longer to forbear for their cause to agree with the Queen, "and seinge that the other have lefte bothe them and hym, that he do not further indaynger hymself for their cawse." Lennox remains "sycke" at Dunbar much offended with his son, Tantalon is rendered to the Queen, and all that belonged to Lethington given to Bothwell. The parson of Flyske is sent to Argyll to advise Murray "to stonde no longer in defence of those that committed the laste attemptate, seinge the kynges self dothe repent yt and confessethe that he was abused." Articles are sent to him*—what I know not. If he accept them, I trust there is no further danger—if not, I fear his case will be as hard as ever. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

I write it not "for certayne," but word is even now come that Murray and the Queen are accorded, and he came to Edinburgh yesterday.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Attached to the foregoing:—

(List of the persons implicated.)

"Therle Murton; the Lord Ryven: the Lord Lynnesey; the Secreatory; the Master of Ryven.

"Lerdes:—Ormeston; Brymston; Hawghton; Lowghlynne; Elvingston; Patric Murrey: Patrick Ballentyne; George Duglas; Androe Kar of Fawdonsyde." [*On margin opposite the foregoing names*]: "All these were at the death of Davy and pryvey therunto, and are nowe in displeasure with the Quene, and their houses taken and spoyled."

[*A line lower*]: "John Knox, John Crag, preachers."

½ *p. In a contemporary official hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's usual clerk): "Martij 1565. Names of such as were consenting to the death of David."

1566.
March 27. **364.** MORTON AND RUTHVEN TO CECIL.

"Schir . . . albeit the lang delay of meeting of ws together, be ressoun of our dyvers interes in this realme, hes stayit ws from writting to this hour to your honour, yit . . . haif thocht it our dewaty to oppin in few wourdis to your honour the occasions of this last interpryis, for the quhilk presently we suffre banischment and ar lyk to abyd (yf God sall no better provid) all kynd of other extremite at the handis of the Quenes majesty our soveran." Assuring ourselves when you understand the justice of our cause, and urgent occasion moving us to follow "the king our soveranis husband his command and adwyis"; your honour considering the sincerity of our intention, will move your Sovereign to take in good part "the reteyring of our selves under the winges and protection of hir clemency," ever a refuge to noble men "injustly prosecuted, as we ar presently." This is the very truth—the King having conceived a deadly hatred against "ane David Riccio Italian,"

* Murray.

Elizabeth.
1566. did a long time ago move his "allya" Lord Ruthven that he could no way endure the misbehaviour and offences of David, and that he might be "fortefeit" by him and other nobles to see him executed according to his demerits. After due deliberation, Lord Ruthven communicated this the King's mind to Earl Mortoun chancellor, and they deeply considering the justice of his desire, "in respect of the manifauld misbehavors and misdedes of the said David Riccio, tending so manifestly to the great prejudice of the King and Quenes majestyes. and the haill estait of that realme and commoun weall, he not ceassing to abuse dayly his great credit, to the subversioun of the religioun, the justice of the realme, and anceant lawes and governamentes therof, as is notoriusly knawin to all Scotland, and mair particulerly to ws, be ressoun of our continewall versing in Court amanges the estates: upon the considerations forsaidis fand guid to fallow the kingis determination anentis the forsaid executioun, and for dyvers considerations wes movit to hast the same—especially considering the approching of the parliament, quhairin determination wes takin to have ruinated the haill nobilitie that then wer banissit in this realme, and lykwyis a great number that then wer resident within the realme": whereon we saw would follow the subversion of religion, and the mutual intelligence and amity. To which enterprise "the mast honest and maist worthy wer easaly inducit to approve and fortefy the kinges deliberacion in the premissis: howbeit in actioun and maner of executioun, mair wes fallowit of the kinges adwyis kendled be an extreme colere, then we diliberated to haif done. And now albeit throw facilitee of youthead he be inducit to dissimul, yit we haif ineuch for ws to verefy quhatsumevir heir we haif mast trewly writtin, and passit in verey dede." We do not fear rigour of law, if justice be uprightly ministered and not "after affectioun." Our consciences bear us record, that in obeying the king's command "(as his hand wreat will verefy)" we have acted for the weal of him and our sovereign, and preservation of the state, safety of religion, "and many noble mannis and innocentis lyves joynit therwith," and doubt not but your honour will not, so far as in you lies, "suffre ws quaill," but on the contrary as beseems a godly minister move her majesty to extend her clemency to us as accustomed. We "myndis be Goddis grace, schortly to derect to your honour, evin be the nixt post," the whole proceedings and manner of execution, and what has ensued since, that we may have your judgement therein. Berwick. *Signed:* Mortoun, Ruthven.

We pray your honour to give no credit to any that "misreport" of us, as we have written the very truth.

3 *pp.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

c.March 27. **365.** MORTON AND RUTHVEN TO BEDFORD.

Harl. MSS. 289, fol. 96.

Informations to be declared to the Queen of England and others, as his lordship pleases.

(1.) The truth as to the slaughter of "Davye Risuo."

(2.) To credit no unfriendly reports.

(3.) To show that Thorneton is directed to the house of Guise to labour with the King of France and other Papist princes for support to the Queen of Scots.

Elizabeth.
1566. (4.) To pray for Elizabeth's protection for themselves.

(5.) And her licence that they make their good "cause and action" patent.

(6.) To assure Leicester and Cecil that their meaning was but to establish religion, and amity, and relief of Murray and other friends in trouble.

(7.) Also to let Leicester and Cecil know "that it is come to our knowledge that some Papistes have bruted that theis our procedinges have bene at the instigacion of the mynysters of Scotlande, we assure your lordship, upon our honnour, that there was none of them arte nor part of that deede, nor was participate thereof."

Lastly: to communicate their cause etc. to such of the Council etc. as he thinks expedient.

2 *pp.* *Written by Jenye* (?). *Indorsed* (in Randolph's Court hand): Coppie of instructions to my L. of Bed. from the Lordes of Morton and Ruthen. 1566. 8 Eliz."

March 28. **366.** ELIZABETH TO NORTHUMBERLAND.

Directing him, in reply to a demand by the Queen of Scots for delivery of a sum of crowns and ducats found in a ship late wrecked —claimed to be the property of Francis Yaxley "an evill subject of ours": to reply, that he has nothing but what was found on a drowned Englishman, and being unclaimed by any person, belongs to the Earl as "just wrack"; advising him to take counsel's opinion if she still demands them. Exonerates him from attending the next Feast of S[t] George, as he is so far off, and has never been absent before.

1¼ *pp.* *Draft by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

April 1. **367.** ROBERT MELVILL TO ELIZABETH.

At my first coming "in thire partis" I found the Queen at Edinburgh, "and thos parsouns committers of this odius fact are fled; the principall deid doars is the Erll of Mortun, the lords Riwene and Lyndsay, and theire is fled lykwis and in suspitione to be of cunsell, Ledingtoune, the Clark of the register, and Justice Clark, with sum jentilmene of Lowdyane theire frendis." Murray, Argyll, Glencairn and Rothes and the other barons and gentlemen banished before, have obtained favour and pardon. I declared to my sovereign your highness' great love and kindness offered in these troubles, and aid in all things to her weal, and disposition to amity, which she accepts in good part, as your highness will perceive in time. "I haif lykwis opnit to the Kyng your gud adwys to ples my soverane in all things: and falyeand of his grace gud behayvour, quhow evill your hynes will tak it. I hoip in God no other occasione betuene theire majesties sall occurre." I assured her these offenders will receive nothing but "rigour" at your hands. I have not met with Murray to advertise him of your highness' advice "in being faithfull" to my sovereign, and how ill you will take his action otherwise. I doubt not his trusty service to her. "I haif understand her majestes mynd concerning Mestre Randolphe—the troughe is he hes behawit himself suay [so] onto her hyenes in the tyme of thire last trublis, is [as] I had in commandment to schaw your hyenes that rather her grace is offendit

Elizabeth.
1566. with his parsoune be dyvers evill reports maid of him, thane at ony other mynister could be send heir, and quhan it sall ples your majeste to send ony to remane heir, he will not onlie be welcum to her grace, bot will find all the humanite may be schawin." She is great with child and minds to depart to Stirling after Easter. Your highness will learn her contentment by her own letter. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by J. Thornton."

April 2. **368.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

About 6 days past the Queen and her husband went to Edinburgh Castle, and remain there; few come in except "he be" of her Council, with but one attendant. She will shortly go to Stirling to remain till "brought abedde." Bothwell and Atholl have had controversy for Lethington—one being his great friend, the other always against him. It is quieted, but Atholl still travails for him. The Queen wrote for Argyll and Murray, who will come, if the harquebusiers are removed, who breed suspicion. I hear say she seeks now all means to quiet her country and will "imbrace" such as are fitted for her council. It is thought she will not deal so hardly "with these noblemen" as she was minded, but as many as dwell in Lothian were put to the horn last Saturday.* No more are come hither than you know. Where the rest are I know not, save that Lethington is in Atholl's house in Dunkell, unless removed since the horning. Murray's servant has been with "my lord" here to acknowledge his benefits at her majesty's hands, and humbly request her that these 2 noblemen who for his sake have hazarded all they had, may be allowed to remain in her country, till he and his friends find means to restore them. They now write again to your honour that the truth of the matter may be known. This is what grieves them: "their kinge hathe refused them, goethe from his worde, promes, and that which he commanded, whearof theie have sufficient testimonie under his owne hande: he cawsethe daylye suche as he knowethe, or rather suspected, to have beyne previe to this late acte, to be apprehended and imprisoned; as latlye iij gentlemen that were in Edenbourge, whome onlye he and no man els knewe to be previe, thoughe not present at the doynge." Word came this day to Morton, sent, as the messenger says, from one that heard the Queen his sovereign read a letter from France within these 7 days, that the King there is dead and the Prince of Condé has government of the new king. I see no men more careful than these two noble men,† and Murray and Argyll, that their country may be at amity with ours: and have better hope, now that such an enemy as David is taken away. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 2. **369.** MORTON AND RUTHVEN TO CECIL.

Sending him, as promised, a copy of "the haill discurs of the maner and procedingis of the slauchter of Davye," whereby he may

* 30th March. † Morton and Ruthven.

Elizabeth.
1566. clearly understand the King's part, the Queen's, theirs, and the barons and gentlemen in their company. And if there is any thing "hardlie wryttin, that micht have bene cuchit* in gentillar termes," humbly requesting him to amend any such, as on his returning this copy, they intend to send copies to France, Scotland and elsewhere needful. Take God to witness they had no particular quarrel against David, but seeing his extreme dealing against their brethren, his counsel to suppress religion, break amity etc., and finding the King "to have so heich ane querrell aganis him," made them content to take part in the deed, wherewith no prince or good subject can be offended. Request him to show the discourse to Leicester. Berwick. *Signed:* Mortoun, Ruthwen.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . with the discowrse towching the killing of David."

April 3. **370.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Before I departed, your honour understood some part of my Sovereign's troubles and the slaughter of one of her familiar servitors. "I traist ye haif hard sensine quhow be her gud coweyn† scho eschapit bye nyght oute of their handis and went to Dunbar," where after remaining a few days, her faithful subjects resorted to her, and brought her here; whereon all the lords fled, some one way and some another. [*Remainder as in his letter to Elizabeth (No. 367) adding, three of the conspirators were found guilty—but one only suffered, a servant of Ruthven's, his sheriff depute: asks credit for the bearer as a discreet and honest person.*] Edinburgh. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By James Thornton."

April 4. **371.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

The Queen minds not to depart to Stirling till nearer Easter, and would gladly have lord Erskine deliver Edinburgh castle to her hands; whose whole land is bound by Act of Parliament never to give it over but by consent of the three Estates. Unless Murray gets credit again, the enterprisers of the late matter need look for no good. Divers gentlemen and merchants are in prison at Edinburgh—3 were arraigned on Monday last.‡ One the chiefest, a gentleman under-sheriff to Lord Ruthven, was hanged on Tuesday—the other two pardoned at the place of execution. Yesterday 3 more were arraigned—one a laird of good living called Scotte of Abboteshawle, of kin to him that suffered on Tuesday—another a brother of the Laird of Bavarde called David Murray, a proper gentleman, attended my lord of Murray to France, and before that was with Lethington in England, whereby perchance you know him. He confessed he was in the place when David was slain, and was well known to bear him no good will. I hear of no good for Lethington, but think he will shortly be here. The Clerk of Register is in as hard case as any, and I believe will not long be from hence; the Justice Clerk also, more for his brother's cause than any desert. The King of all others is in worst case, for the Queen has no good opinion of his attempting anything

* Couched. † *i.e.*, management. ‡ 1st April.

Elizabeth.
1566. against her will, "nor the people, that he hathe denied so manifeste a matter beinge proved to be done by hys commandemente, and nowe hymself to be the accuser and pursuer of them that dyd as he willed them"! Scott that was executed, and Murray that was arraigned yesterday, were both accused by him; and it is written to me for certain by one that spoke with the Queen last Monday, that she is determined the house of Lennox shall be as poor as ever it was. The Earl continues sick, sore troubled in mind, and lies in the Abbey. His son has been once with him, and he once with the Queen in the Castle. She has now seen all the covenants and bands that passed between the King and the lords, and finds that his declaration before her and the Council of his innocency of the death of David was false, and is grievously offended that by their means he should seek the crown matrimonial. My lord here is certainly informed that one M[r] James Thorneton shall shortly be directed by her to the Queen's majesty. He has long been a trafficker at Rome. Immediately after his return, there was a new bishop by the Pope's authority "stawled," and within these ten days an abbess appointed to Hadington, "with all the vile cerimonies that in the moste blyndnes was used." My only hope to have all things well, is to have my lord of Murray again in Court, whose mind I know, and assure myself more upon his word than any man's born in Scotland. I now begin to think verily (by somewhat I heard) that the Queen is with child, not for that the "gossops" are appointed, but by other likelihoods that seldom fail. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3½ *pp. Holograph. Address leaf lost. Indorsed.*

April 4. **372.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

When Melvin arrived he found her newly escaped from the hands of her traitors, as the bearer will fully inform her, and of their secret conspiracy. Begs her not to receive them, and to arrest Morton or at least drive him back to Scotland. Asks her to be "commere" to her child. "Excuses moy, si jecris si mal, car je suis si grosse, estant en mon septiesme moys bien auvant." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Votre tres fidelle e affectionnee bonne sœur e cousine Marie R.

4 *pp. French. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 10. **373.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Praying her to take in good part that the action pursued by her subject William Clerk of Yarmouth and others, owners of the ship and goods intromitted with by a Frenchman captain of *the Basque*, in dependence before the lords of Session at Edinburgh, is deferred to the meeting of the commissioners, to be treated and decided by them. Under her signet, Edinburgh 24[th] of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

April 24. **374.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL

Praying him to extend his favour to this man,* whose long

* Clerk.

Elizabeth.
1566. tedious and costly suit is now referred to commissioners, the Council of Scotland being unable to determine it. Edinburgh.* *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p.* *Written and addressed by Jenye.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 25. **375.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Murray, Argyll and Glencairn are come to Court. I hear "his" credit shall be good. The Queen wills that all controversies shall be taken up: in special that between Murray and Bothwell. Argyll and Atholl are almost agreed; Lethington has leave for a time to live in Flanders and enjoy his whole living. Many "muse" why he was forbidden "nether to live in France nor England." He looks to depart shortly, and was lately at "the Calander" a house of Lord Livingston, where he received divers messages from his Sovereign. For all this some think if Murray have credit, that Lethington shall not depart. There is continual speech of the discord between the Queen and her husband—so far, and it is commonly said "and beleved of hym self" that M^r James Thorneton is gone to Rome to sue for a divorce between them. It is very certain that Malvasier had not spoken with him within these three days. He is neither accompanied nor "looked upon" of any noble men, attended by certain of his own servants and 6 or 8 of the Guard, "at libertie to do and goo whear and what he wyll." There is yet no great hope of quietness among them: the Queen was never out of the Castle till "Mondaye laste:† whoe then walked upon her feete a myle owte of the towne." Her soldiers remain "uncaste," notwithstanding great intercession to have them discharged, and put away mistrust of her subjects. The lords came but "smallye" attended, fewer than their ordinary train, and all lodge in the town. David's brother Joseph who came this way with Malvasier, unknown to any here, is become secretary in his brother's place. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 26. **376.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Expressing sorrow at what might be thought of his "doinge touchynge M^r Killegrewe," or that he should be thought by Cecil "ingrate," to whom he is so indebted. Wishes that his brother who delivered his letter, had known more of his mind than he did. Begs continuance of his favour. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Sends him the end of a letter from a "verie frende" whose hand perchance he knows. If he think "oughte shalbe done with Maccalayne, the commoditie nowe servethe well." The Lords are fully agreed, and have feasted each other.

2 *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . towching Onele, M^r Killig."

April . **377.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Demanding redress for her subjects William Gittons and William Hopkyns merchants of Bristol, whose "barke" the *Samuel* of 50 tons,

* An error for Berwick. † 22nd.

Elizabeth.
1566. Edward Stone master and part owner, put to sea for Workington near Carlisle on 20th September last—was driven by tempest to a place called "Keyles" in Scotland, and while at anchor, was boarded by Scottish pirates feigning themselves to be merchants, who murdered the master and crew—except two that hid themselves—and plundered the ship and cargo—also condign punishment for the offenders.

2½ *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

May 2. **378.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I hear an assembly of the lords, by the Queen's command will be at Edinburgh on the 6th. Arran is set at liberty on 12,000*l.* Scots to enter when called. He is gone to Hamilton weak and sickly, and has lost his speech for 4 months, putting all he would say in writing. I hear Malvasier is ready to depart, and shortly after Robert Melvin comes again to the Queen's majesty. Murray and Argyll have been earnest with the Queen for all such gentlemen as waited upon their masters and were not present at "the slawghter." It is thought they shall have remission, "onlye suche reserved as were present when David was taken owte of the Cabinet." Lethington's friends make all means to stay his departure: "whear unto the Quene is not unwillinge." She is much offended with Cesford for receiving the Clerk Register, and it is thought another shall have his place. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet.*

May 4. **379.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I am certainly informed and know it to be true, that Shane Onell had one of his countrymen with the Queen of Scotland of late—what answer he got I know not. I send copy of advertisements from Scotland that came to my hands yesterday. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p. Holograph. Addressed* (by Jenye?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 6. **380.** LORD DARNLEY TO CHARLES IX.

Egerton MSS. 2805 C. "Monsieur mon bon frere: Jay receu par le Sieur de Mauvissiere, les lettres que par luy vous a pleu m'escrire; et entendu le credit dicelles qui ne ma donne peu de facherie, pour appercevoir par iceluy combien a tort le bruit m'a rendu coulpable dun faict lequel j'aborre tant! Mais dautre part esperant que mon innocence entendue par le susdit Sieur de Mauvissiere, auquel jay declairé la verite de tout, ne permettra que imprimer autre que bonne opinion de moy, je suys hors de ceste peyne, me confiant en sa suffisance, pour ne faire tort a laquelle, je finiray la presente. Priant le Createur vous donner Monsieur mon bon frere en bonne sante tres heureuse et tres longue vie. De Lislebourg ce vj^{e} jour de May 1566." *Signed:* Vostre affectione bon frere Henry.

½ *p. Addressed:* "A Monsieur mon bon frere le Roy de France.

Elizabeth.
1566. *Indorsed:* "Le Roy descosse du vj^{e} de May 1566." *Small wafer signet: shield of Scotland with tressure, close crown above,* H. R. *at sides.*

May 13. **381.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Shan Onel's messenger had his answer on the 8th instant with good words to his master: and with him is sent to Ireland a servant of Argyll's, to understand his state and likelihood to prevail in anything he is minded to attempt—which is all the mischief he can, even to the "Engleshe Pale" if his friends keep promise. Notwithstanding this, if the Queen's majesty will not be "rigorous" to the banished noblemen, and be a means that religion be not altered in that realm, Argyll and Murray will promise on their honours not only to stay Oneill getting support, but also on "resonable conditions" will take open part against him. This I have by a man of credit from them, and am willed so to inform your honour "as from them." Their care that the two noblemen and their friends should do well, is so great, that Murray "wyshethe hym self banisshede, for them to have them as theie were. Theie have suche myslykinge of their kinge as never was more of man"! There is, if he be not departed within these two days, one M^{r} Rokesbie of the north that married Lassal's sister. His practises are so evil, that Murray wishes you to be advertised of his being there. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 16. **382.** MORTON TO CECIL.

Yesterday at the desire of the Warden of the Middle Marches "I raid to his place at Annik," where he showed me and the other gentlemen in my company that it was the Queen's pleasure we should depart out of her country with all expedition. Which command we are most willing to obey, but having of late "depursit" great sums to the Lord Treasurer of Scotland for the escheats of our "rowmes" and goods, we are unable to depart to any strange country till new "furnysing" be made to us, which cannot be done without convenient time. I request your honour to move her majesty to give us license to remain till this be done. The friendship that the noble men of whom I am descended, found at her father's hand, who entertained them in his country for 16 years, and never left their cause till he saw them restored to their inheritance, made me the bolder to draw myself in this my trouble under her majesty's protection. If your honour could "mitigat" this her charge, we would feel ourselves greatly addebted. "My lord Ruthven is departit, quhilk is no small greif unto ws—and yit the same was sa godlie that all men that saw it did rejos." Alnwick. *Signed:* Mortoun.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 16. **383.** MURRAY TO LEICESTER.

Thanking him for all the benefits conferred on him, though he can never render sufficient thanks for the least part: also for his

Elizabeth.
1566. earnest recommendation of himself and his service to the Queen of Scots, and his good and friendly counsel sent by M[r] Melvill and his own servant, touching his behaviour in her highness's service; which he minds to follow. Beseeching him to continue his good will to the Queen of Scots, and credit the bearer Maister Melvill as himself. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 16. **384.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

[*In similar terms to the preceding.*] Desires him to continue a faithful minister to the weal of both their sovereigns and their realms. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by M[r] Melvill."

May 23. **385.** ELIZABETH TO RANDOLPH.

As she understands by his late advertisements from Scotland that in a communication between Argyle and another, certain words passed from the Earl, "pretending" some diminution of his former good will to her service, specially in the matters of Ireland, in respect of her lack of favour in his time of need: she directs him to find out the Earl's true disposition towards her, and to assure him she was not only right sorry for the trouble of himself and his friends, but did as much as she could (short of open hostility) to preserve him and the rest, as the Earl of Murray can truly report. Further, to do all he can to withdraw him from giving aid or favour to that audacious rebel Shan O'neill, and rather than he should receive any help from Scotland, she would be content to bestow some money secretly there. Yet this money matter is only mentioned for him to think upon till he hears further, after her vice-chamberlain sent to confer with the Lord Deputy of Ireland, has reported to her.

2½ *pp.* *Draft by Cecil's clerk Maynard, corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed*, ". . . Touching Shan Onele."

May 23. **386.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Since last report, I have heard nothing of your recovery: which occasions me to write less. I hear from Scotland there is another English gentleman besides "Rukesbie" come, who names himself "Corbye," and besides them a couple that went lately to Flanders, were kept secret, and divers times spoke with the Queen. I hear it goes yet very hardly between the noble men and her grace, specially between her and her husband, who as I am told, but find no appearance of it, goes to Flanders to move his cause to any prince that will pity him. If Melvin knows anything hereof, doubtless you shall be privy. She lately received a letter from Lady Lennox, wherewith she is greatly offended. Robert Melvin, doing Argyll's commendations to me, assures me the Earl may be won to any reasonable point against Shan Oneill, if the Queen's majesty be a mean to bring this country to quiet. I am still for my own particular, a suitor for your favour, and send this bearer Stafferton to attend my

Elizabeth.
1566. suit, hoping my time shall not be long in these parts. I also sue your honour to continue your favour to M[r] Erington. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 23. **387.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Being sent from the Queen my mistress to your Sovereign, to communicate (I doubt not) acceptable news, I have been stayed here by "Mester Merschall" because I brought him no letter from her majesty—though I required that he should send with me to Court, if he suspect my charge. Wherefore I have written the enclosed to the Queen's majesty, trusting she will not allow them herein, who go about to extinguish friendship by using such means. I trust you will take such order as you think meet. I have not written to my lord Bedford who would have been more circumspect, as the bearer is ready to start. Berwick. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

It will please you to give this other letter to the Queen.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . stayed at Barwick by M[r] Drury."

May 23. **388.** MELVILL TO ELIZABETH.

[*In similar terms to the preceding.*] That in presence of Randolph he had protested against being stopped, and offered to show the Marshal the packet directed to her majesty. Berwick. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Inclosed in the preceding.*

May 24. **389.** MORTON TO BEDFORD.

Hearing of Robert Melvyn's despatch from the Queen our mistress to the Queen's majesty, specially for some noble man to be sent from her majesty to be "gossop" to our mistress: our friends in Scotland would be glad that some man of wisdom and judgment were sent, that might with "small procuirment" obtain our pardons. None is thought so meet for this office as my lord earl of Leicester, if the Queen is pleased to direct him. And if commission were given to him that goes, to labour with the Queen of Scotland for us, I trust it should do good. I would rather have my "dres" to come by her majesty's labour, than any other. I would that the length of time to prepare our "furnytour," for which I wrote in my last, were procured "till the Quene our maistres war lichter,*" and the ambassador had returned from Scotland, "in aventouris that sic thingis in the meyntyme may be to our releif, as we will not neid to seik ony farder countreis." Wherein if it be your pleasure, I heartily desire your lordship to labour with my lord of Leicester, M[r] Secretary and others as you think meet. "For newis: we have nane" but what M[r] Randell has written already. Murray and Argyll have left Court for 15 days. The Laird of Lochleven has leave to remain in

* *i.e.*, delivered.

Elizabeth.
1566. his own house, and not come within ten miles of Court. The Justice Clerk remains in his own house in Edinburgh: the Clerk of Register has leave to remain at Newbottle with the Abbot. The Secretary is to depart to Flanders or "sum ellis quhair." There have been Englishmen in Scotland with the Queen, of whom I "traist" M[r] Randell has written at length. It is said my lady "Levennax" has written to our Sovereign in "sic termes as scho is heichlie offendit at." The King is "myndit to depart to Flanderis and sic uthir places as he thinkis will best serve for his purpos to complene upoun the Quene our maistres, for the evill handling and intreitment that the Quene makis him, he beand hir husband; quhat will follow farder heiron God knowis." We have directed a "supplicatioun" to our Sovereign—you shall hear the answer. If you are not shortly to come down to Berwick, I will pray you haste me your mind, with answer of this and my other writing. Newcastle. *Signed:* Mortoun.

My lord Ruthven "that now is" and the rest of the gentlemen here, make their most humble recommendations of service.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 26. **390.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Your honour remembers the false accusation against me to this Queen—by a rebel who had deceived his chief friend and master, Murray, and had no means to save his own life but put himself to her will and mercy—that I had lent Murray 3000 crowns. I know that she has repented so dealing with me, and charging me out of her country. There is now a new matter found out (as she thinks) of greater consequence. It is reported she says from this town, that I am author of a book called "M[r] Randolphes Fantasie," written against her life and government, which "she fearethe les[t] that yt sholde breede daynger to her byrthe or hurte to her self"; and takes it so grievously that if it be not suppressed, and myself condignly punished, she will think I am maintained not only to move her subjects against her, but to defame and make her odious to the world. This was a chief point of M[r] Melvin's despatch 3 or 4 days sooner than he looked for, who told me himself all I have here written. I can hardly believe that her grace should again on such slender information, take offence against me; "I therfore in the presence of God and by my allegens to my sovereigne, affirme trewlye and advisedlye that I never wrote booke agaynste her, or gave my consent or advise to anye that ever was wrytten, nor at this hower do knowe of anye that ever was set forthe to her defamation or dyshonour, or yet ever lyked of anye suche that ever dyd the lyke." And the truth of this shall be maintained as becomes one who ought to have greater regard to truth and honesty, than to his life.

I confess I have often written to your honour things strange to be heard of in a princess long time famed for honour and virtue; and misliking her doings to my mistress, wrote with greater vehemency than in matters of less importance. Yet I never reported anything untruly, or revealed what I heard, to any man, but to suche as I am bound either for duty's sake or by commandment. "Of that which I have wrytten to your honour, I am sure ther is nothynge come to her

Elizabeth.
1566. eares": and so far from putting it in a book, I have been often sorry to write it to you, from whom I know I ought to keep nothing that concerns my Sovereign's interest. I would be satisfied and much honoured, if her majesty granted a trial of this matter, chiefly to know how and by whom such report came from any in this town, and the danger to it from such persons living in it. Another matter M^r^ Melvin has to complain of—that her grace's letters were lately opened either here or at Alnwick. I know Melvin has now taken trial that the messenger opened them himself, and suspecting he might make false report to her, I wrote myself to M^r^ Melvin to assure him; which letter the Queen saw as M^r^ Melvin can testify. "What a quarell is made here for a popingaye"! I write nothing of a letter from that Queen to M^r^ Marshal, though it is well known who is meant by "wicked and seditious persons." She cannot abide my remaining here, and I have written at more length to your honour, as I know M^r^ Melvin's charge is to discredit me with her Majesty by all means he can seek. I have certain knowledge that Argyll is commanded to support O'Neil, and for that cause is gone to the country. He will not hearken to become his enemy, except the Queen's majesty promise, by what ever means she can, that religion be not altered in Scotland, and show favour to the noblemen "that are owte of the countrie." Rookesbye is lately returned to Scotland, by Sir Andrew Car, an the Protestants fear much of this resort of such as he. Letters late come from Lady Lennox have bred great sorrow to this Queen. It is said her husband goes to Flanders after she "is delivered": to what end I see not. On the 24^th^ instant Shane O'Nel meets with a gentleman of Argyll's. Of these matters, as Robert Melvin may give more sufficient answer than I believe good is intended, I remind your honour of what I hear from such as perchance know as much as himself. I am again required to beg that the sending away the noble men may be stayed for a time. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

6 *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 31. **391.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I am loth this bearer should repair to the Court, and speak with your honour, without bringing at least my testimony of receipt of her majesty's and your letters, and that I shall do as directed, in the best sort I can. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

½ *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By M^r^ Betun." *Wafer signet.*

June 2. **392.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Of late I hear little from Scotland, "but attende daylye answer of that which I laste wrote concerninge Shan Onel." I enclose my lord Morton's letter to me, and another to the Lord Warden of the Middle Marches. They request the Queen's safe conduct, for more surety, and to make it known that "theie will awaye." He was minded to have sent one to sue for it at Court, but I stayed it, not finding good to have any of his there at present—as also a letter he

Elizabeth.
1566. would have written to her majesty to intercede for his and his friends' restitution. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

1 *p.* *Addressed* (by Jenye ?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Morton to Randolph.)

Acknowledging receipt by Sir John Forster, of the Queen's answer for their departure furth of England, which they will obey: but have asked the said Lord Warden to procure her safe conduct, in which he hopes Randolph who has always been their friend will aid, and also in moving her majesty to procure relief at their own Sovereign's hands. Has summoned the gentlemen in Berwick to join him before they depart. Newcastle, the last of May 1566. *Signed:* Mortoun.

1 *p.* *Addressed:* "to . . . Master Randolphe in Bervik." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 7. **393.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

Though I cannot yet fully "resolve" your honour what Argyll will do for Shan O'Neill, yet Murray assures me "that he will do what he cane" to stay any comfort "from thens," if it be not too far past to be called back: but in any case "that I sholde beleve that yt commethe not of Argile self." He is an earnest suitor for Morton and his company, but prevails not. It is harder with Lethington than it was —his licence to Flanders is recalled, and he is commanded to ward in Caithness. The Clerk Register charged to remain beyond the water of Taye; others that had leave to live out of the country—as Lord Livingston, Argyll's brother, and others—are stayed as I hear, till it be known what becomes of the Queen in time "of her travaile." She has assembled against Sunday next,* her whole nobility; it is thought 3 regents shall be appointed. She has also made her will "thryse wrytten"—one part sent to France, the other she keeps herself, the third she will leave to those in charge. On Monday last,† she took her chamber, but sometimes takes air in the castle. Her husband is recovered, and "as I heare theie two reconsiled, but what is contayned in the Testament he is ignorante." Argyll and Murray lodge in the castle "and keape howse togyther whear I lodged in the towne." Huntly and Bothwell would also have lodged there but were refused. Bothwell has the whole inheritance of Dunbar given him, the castle reserved to the Queen. The parson of Oune,‡ now bishop of Ross, has chief management of affairs, and the parson of Flyske not so far in credit as he was. This is what I received yesterday from one that understands enough and wishes things much better and quieter than he finds likely.

Yesterday I received your letter of the 3rd and most humbly thank you—especially "for the wrytinge of that *Fantasie* or *Dreame* called by my name, that I am thought fawltles, as in deade I am." If Mr Melvin thinks me clear, I trust he will perform what he promised, that the reporter being in this town shall be known, if not to me, and your honour warned of such.

* 9th. † 3rd. ‡ John Lesly.

Elizabeth.
1566. I most humbly thank her majesty that I shall shortly be called home, and the good hope by your honour that she will be good to me in my suit. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2¼ *pp. Holograph. Addressed* (by Jenye). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 13. **394.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Having read the letters brought by Melvin, has received good content in part. But on reading her "fascherye" caused by the "Songe de Randolph," if she finds it brought home to him, even if but a dream and not written, she will not think him worthy of living in her realm—for she will not have her subjects speak, much less think, evil of princes—especially of Mary: and his punishment shall be worthy of the crime. Has banished under her hand the evil subjects of whom Mary writes. It displeases her to learn that her public rebel is so well received in Scotland. Begs her to remove bushes, lest a thorn prick her heel. Such occasions touch the quick, and this is not the road whereby to arrive at her designs: these are paths for wanderers from the highway. "Car la pierre souvent tombe sur la teste du jetteur." If her subjects see Mary's words so honeyed, while her acts are envenomed, what can they think? She can but touch the stay of Melvin which seemed very strange, and has well admonished the Marshal at length. Prays God to send her "aussy courte paine et aussy heureuse heur que vous mesmes en pouvez soubhaiter." Is herself "grosse du desir" for the good news. Greenwich.

2¼ *pp. French. Contemporary official copy. Indorsed.*

June 13. **395.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I trust shortly to send you a "resulute" answer what shall be done in Scotland for O'Neill; of whose force I hear more by report, than I trust of verity, that he is himself above 5000 and has 600 or 700 Scots to assist him. "Carlebois"* is at liberty, and serves him with his friends. James MacConnel's wife is very desirous of revenge for her husband's death, and will accept no conditions. Her son† 18 years of age, not unlike his father, desires the same. He is with Argyll, which I think will be a great stay that his lordship take not open part with O'Neill; yet I am informed the assistance he gets comes by other than Argyll, who yet has power to stay the whole. Murray is unwilling he be supported, yet not so sound in credit that he dare oppose it. I have received your honour's of the 6th with Morton's safe conduct, who without fail if the wind serve, embarks to-morrow or Friday‡ for Flanders—the rest of the gentlemen are also departed. I have written your commendations to Sir John Forster, somewhat recovered, but not like long to endure, whereof is great pity for good service sake. Rokeby's being "younder" is much misliked and more feared than I trust his power is. I send his man's confession before Sir John Forster. Of all borderers hostile to England,

* Sorleboy Mac Connel. † Angus MacConnel. ‡ Friday was 14th June.

Elizabeth.
1566. Sir Andrew Car has most to do. Some think if he were called to his country, conveyance of men, letters and intelligences would be stopped.

"For the secrete handelinge of the convoiance of my lorde of Morton: hytherto yt is well, and I truste not to heare of worce—theie have had waringe [cursing?] inoughe." Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

2 *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Jenye?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the above.

(Anderson's examination)

Touching the conveyance of Christofer Rokeby into Scotland—taken before the Lord Warden of the Middle March 4th June 1566.

The said Humfraye Anderson says that on the Sunday after "Sancte Tillinge day" Christofer Rokeby came to his house at Actoune, and remained a certain space, as he was absent—leaving word he should follow him to Alnwick: which he did, but found Rokeby departed from Agnes Clark's house there: with whom he left word commanding said Humfraye to follow him to Belford; where he left a servant with his gere to be brought to him to Kelso at one Riche Palmer's house: where they remained one night. On the morrow the said Christofer Rokeby departed for Edinburgh, and Anderson returned to his own house bringing a horse of Rokeby's home with him. *Signed:* John Forster.

1 *p.* *Written by his clerk.*

June 14. **396.** RANDOLPH TO CECIL.

I have now full answer of Argyll's determination touching O'Nel, "by suche a frende (unto whome he hathe communicated his whole mynde) as is willinge to do the best he cane, that rather my lorde of Argile myghte be broughte to be his ennemie, thene in this case to shewe hym the frendshipe that he maye." First:—he assures me that Argyll has liberty of the Queen to let as many of his country as will, pass to Oneill—wherein he stood somewhat at first, for the private quarrel between MacConnel's friends and Oneill. Since then the offers made to him have been great, both in present commodity of cattle and other, "as here after to injoye anye portion of lande that maye be commodieus or proffitable unto hym in the same Ile." Wherefore he finds it better, "by mariage or other wayes" to reconcile MacConnel's friends and Oneill, than to let slip this opportunity to do himself good, whereto also he has certainly the leave of his Sovereign. He has conferred hereon with Murray and Gray[nge] whose advice I am sure he will follow, rather than any others. They find his determination "not all togyther so godlye, nor so myche to his honour," as they wish, and have been earnest with him rather to be his open enemy, than to take such an "ungodlye" part—reminding him of the benefits their country received not many years since against the French. These and other reasons moved him much, "but the mynde of his present commoditie" prevented him yielding to what duty, conscience and friendship should have led him. "He is nowe brought unto this passe," and

Elizabeth.
1566. consents to Murray and Graynge, that as it pleases her majesty our Sovereign to deal for the banished lords' restoration, and the religion, he will not only become Shan Oneill's open enemy with all his force at no cost to her (except of good will and liberality) and hinder all the practises now in hand between his Sovereign and the English papists to his uttermost. Hereto Murray gives consent, and I am willed to advertise their resolution, written by M[r] John Wood his secretary, and return to them her majesty's answer within 14 days; which requires it, in my opinion. I have done all I can to learn the "bottom" of Rokeby's practises, but he deals so circumspectly and closely with Sir Andrew Carre and the parson of Oune, that it is hard to come by anything. There is great talk of Frenchmen to arrive in Scotland under Monsieur "Denamours,"* to embark at "Newehavin." A merchant there sues to this Queen for license for 8 ships to take herring in "Loughebrone": they are preparing and this causes the bruit.

I trusted to have given the first news of the Queen's delivery, but am informed that strait order is taken it "shall not owte" of the Castle till James Melvin is past Berwick to her majesty with the same. "He maye be beguyled, yf my frendes do well serve my torne," and then your honour shall have it in writing before any haste he can make, ride he never so fast. I leave troubling you, who must be as weary reading my letters, as I am writing them. Berwick. *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

3½ *pp. Holograph. addressed* (by Jenye?), *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 13-15. **397.** INSTRUCTIONS TO HENRY KILLIGREW.

"A memoryall for Henry Killigrew being sent from the Quenes majesty in messadg to the Quene of Scottes, for the thynges following:—

[*Under three principal heads.*] After conferring on the way with Randolph, he is to present the Queen's letters to the Queen of Scots. Thereafter (1) complain of the secret aid given to a "disordred subject" of hers in Ireland "naming hym self Oneyle," who is "of naturall education, savage and ignorant both of Gods law and mans law, as by his fowle lyf is manifest": with whom her majesty's ministers could easily deal by ordinary justice if such support was withheld; (2) that one Christofer Rokesby her subject, has by his follies and rash devices entered into some favour with that Queen. Whereat her majesty wonders that a queen so trained and acquainted with affairs of State, should give ear to "such kynd of persons as Rooksbye or his mates ar"—which must in the end breed evil effects. He shall also complain that Robert Melvyn (though otherwise in her majesty's opinion well chosen to nourish concord) seems to make it part of his service to solicit her subjects to determine the Queen of Scots' title, "without orderly disquisition," and if his mistress means him to spend his time in England thus, her majesty cannot allow it. But Killigrew shall affirm that if Mary commands Melvyn to deal with her majesty, "she shall most proffitt hirself therby." He is (3) to

* De Nemours.

Elizabeth.
1566. complain of the negligence, "and as it semeth a wilfull conteloossnes" of the Wardens of the East Marches, as the Earl of Bedford is prepared to specify, and do justice when he sees it offered—also of the lamentable private complaints of 2 merchants, one named Clerk of Norfolk, the other Bigges of Radnor in Wales, robbed by pirates: but is not to molest her with particulars but move her Council to take order therein, as well also of other merchants' grievances. Requiring however from the Queen direct answers to these "first three greeves," that her majesty may be satisfied of their truth, or if they are mere reports.

Where the Queen of Scots has complained (1) of a book lately made here against her title, (2) another against her honour named "Randolphes Dreame," and (3) of the opening of letters at Berwick brought to her from France by a Frenchman, and taking away a "parrott" from the same man, and lastly the staying of Robert Melvyn there on his mission from her: all which she has heard by and answered to Melvyn—Killigrew shall reiterate the same, and that her majesty will do all in reason to satisfy her good sister. (1) The only book on her title she knows of was written secretly 3 years past "by on of the Parlement house" who was, without Mary's solicitation, "punished, and therby hath so dearly payd by long imprisonment not without evident danger of his liff, for his audacity used therin, as it is hard to thynk that any other dare presume the lyke." (2) Randolph so earnestly denies his knowledge, (as Melvyn knows) that he makes earnest suit that the Queen of Scots may be entreated to cause trial to be made to the uttermost, and if culpable submits himself to all extremity. (3) For the letters: the Marshal denies opening them, but the Frenchman "wold nedes of himself" open the packet, when at Alnwick with Sir John Forster, who denies any blame therein, as Killigrew will do well to take in Sir John's handwriting. For the parrott: it was bought of the carrier offering it for sale, as the Marshal shall declare by his writing, as also make report therein to that Queen of his staying Melvyn, wherein there was no intention to offend her, but only to keep order in a frontier town, in the Governor's absence. As for the motion renewed by Melvyn for a meeting of the Queens this summer: he is to say if the Queen renews it, that he lately heard some talk in Court, when the officers of the household alleged it was impossible on such short warning to make provision meet for the honour of both Queens—that her majesty desired to have gone in progress as far as Nottingham—midway to the north—but it was found so difficult to conduct such train as usually follows her, that she herself cut off a good part of that journey—the rather as she could not return to London in time for the Michaelmas Parliament—and he had heard say she was very sorry the interview was stayed.

Besides his dealing with the Queen, he shall take care to understand truly, what Shan Oneyle has done with the Earl of Argyll or MacClayne, or any other of the Irish Scots for his support: and this knowledge gathered, shall devise with the Earl of Murray how such aid intended for Shan may be stayed. Among the persuasions which he sees meet to use, "none ought more to move the sayd Erle, or any other being indede relligios, than the sayd Shan Oneyle is an oppen rebell, having no pretence, but only to mayntean hym self lyke a barbar

Elizabeth.
1566. and tyrann, and aydeth hym self principally by such as uphold the Popes authorite in that realm, for which purpoose he letteth not to kepe frears and pardonnars, which by stelth have recourss to Rome, and therby fortefyeth hym self to trouble the common quiett of the realm." Murray is also to think how unkindly her majesty might take it, "to see such a barbaross rebel fearyng nother God nor man" aided in rebellion by "such faythfull persons in Scotland" as have been by her means and no small cost, preserved in liberty of their country and also of their "consciencees": and herein Killigrew shall do all his endeavour to stay aid, yet not to make Shane's power appear so great, but that her majesty, if she please to deal with him, has any cause to intreat any in Scotland to forbear aiding him.

As soon as he can finish his message, and procure the Queen's answer, he shall return with speed.

13 *pp. Draft in Cecil's hand. Indorsed* (by him): "13 Junij 1566. Instructions for Henry Killigrew."

June 15. **398.** REMEMBRANCES FOR KILLIGREW.

Touching the East and Middle Marches of England to the Queen and Secret Council of Scotland:—

That there has been no meeting since S[t] Andrew's day last past: and that Thomas Kar lies yet in Berwick for performance of an indent at Rydingburne on 7[th] August 1565, not released as he ought to have been. The 102 bills for which he lies are yet unanswered to the Earl of Bedford (besides other grievances). To conclude: he shall declare, when the nights "encrease of their length" unless the Queen and Council take speedy order: things will be worse. *Signed:* John Forster.

4½ *pp. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "June 1566. Remembrances geven to M[r] Killigrew" &c.

June [19]. **399.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

"Seing it hayth pleased the Quene my souverayne upon thoccasion of this happy succession (quhairwith it hayth pleased God to blis hir) to direct this gentleman M[r] Melwill my verray freind, towardis the Quenes majeste your souverayne," I thought good to send these few words with him to remind your honour of the weighty matters between our sovereigns, and the great need that you will look with care on the choice of the person whom it pleases your Sovereign to direct here. Referring you to the bearer whom credit as myself. Edinburgh [ ] of Junii 1566. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 24. [rectè 23.] **400.** H. KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

As the Queen commanded, I made all haste and arrived at Berwick three days after leaving London. I remained a whole day to receive M[r] Randall's and the Marshal's instructions, as I had done at Alnwick from the Lord warden of the Middle Marches. As it was certainly known of the Queen's delivery, I made less haste to this

Elizabeth.
1566. town, where I arrived yesterday* afternoon and found means to let her highness know, after the best means I could—which she took in good part, and sent me word by one of the Melvyns, that I was welcome from my Sovereign, and should have audience "as sone as she might have any ease of the payne in her brestes; which I am borne in hand wylbe about Twysday or Wensday next."† Meantime her grace commanded a bed of her own of "crymsin vellett" to be set up in my chamber, and, as I guess, willed my lord of Morray to call me to dine with him this day "being Sonday,"‡ for I had determined to keep my chamber till I had audience of her. He sent me word to come to "the sermon," where I found the Earls of Huntly, Argyll, Moray, Mar and Crawford, and dined with Argyll and Moray, "which kepe howse together." After dinner I delivered my lord of Leicester's and your letters to his lordship, which he received thankfully, and returned to the castle, saying he would let me know when her majesty was in state to give me audience.

Abiding which, I write as follows. The birth has bred much joy here—the Queen is in good state for a woman in her case, and the prynce "a veary goodlye chyld." For ought I can see, Oneill is not like to have great aid from Argyll or MacLane, or that Rokesby has yet spoken with the Queen—though in secret in this town, as also others, one Thwattes a Norfolk man, another called Roggers somtyme servant to Mr. Aschley, besides Guyn, Yaxley's man, and arrived of late with letters and tokens out of Flanders. James Melvin now in England, can best declare of any other (if he would) the devices both of Rooksby, Onell and others.

I find here an uncertain and disquiet sort of men—especially the nobility divided in factions whereof I will write more again. Argyll, Morray, Mar and Athole presently in Court, "be lynked" together, and Huntly and Bothwell with their friends on the other side. Bothwell and the Master of Maxwell are both on the Borders, bearing the Queen in hand that there is a practise to bring in Morton during her "chyld bed": but the truth is that Bothwell would not "gladly" be in the danger of the 4 above named that lie in the castle. Yet it is thought and said, that his credit with the Queen is more than all the rest together. The Queen's husband lies also in the castle, but his father in the town. "Methinkes for all the yong prince, ther is small account made of them." Lennox sent me "even now" a man of his with offers of courtesy for my sovereign's sake, and benefits received. I said I would make report, and wished "my lord wold indevour hem selfe in dead to deserve her majestie favour agayne. This messenger pressed me so importunatly as I cold not shift me of hem." Standen also offered to speak with me, but I excused myself till I had spoken with her grace—and this I did "for a good cause." Grange is gone home to his house, and Lethington being ready for Flanders, and warned that Bothwell laid wait for him at sea, has gone into Argyll, with little hope to return to Court. "Bafoore" credit decays and the bishop of Ross called M[r] John Leslye, manages all her affairs of state. Edinburgh. *Signed:* H. Kyllygrew.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* "Yesterday" was Saturday 22nd. † 25th or 26th. ‡ 23rd.

Elizabeth.
1566. June 24. **401.** KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon, Murray sent a gentleman and took me from his "logging" to the castle, where the Earl of Mar, captain, met us, and by both without "pause" I was brought to the Queen's "bedsyde," where her highness received thankfully her Majesty's letters and commendations, desiring me to excuse her proceeding farther, and as soon as she could get strength, I should have access again. I took leave and was brought to the young prince, "sucking of his nouryce," afterwards saw him "as good as naked, I meane his headd, feett and handes, all to my jugment well proporsioned, and lyke to prove a goodly prince." Her Majesty was "so bolde" immediately after delivery, as she has not yet recovered. The few words she spoke were "fayntly with a hollow cough." The 2 earls brought me to the castle gate, and on taking leave, I told Murray that part of my instructions were to be weighed by some of her "godly" council before communicating to her grace, as I prayed him to do at a convenient time. He said his credit was yet but small, and his state not much better than when he looked for nought but banishment. I am told that Henry Guyn brought from Flanders 2 great chests and 8 or 10 letters to the Queen and her husband. Rooksby has taken a chamber here for 3 months and keeps secret. Thus I take leave as one that if he were home again, would make no suit to return hither. Edinburgh. *Signed:* H. Kyllygrew.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "23 Junij" &c.

June 28. **402.** KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

This day Murray sent for me to dine with the Council, appointed by her Majesty to hear me on the border matters and merchants' causes. These were the Earls of Huntly chancellor, Argyll, Atholl, Murray and Mar, the bishops of Ross and Galloway, Lord Seton and M[r] James Bafoore clerk of register; by whom I was answered with these words or nigh like—'The demandes you have made we dowbt not the Quene our souverayne shall aunswer to your mestres contentation.' I now depend on her grace's health, daily increasing but not yet able for audience, which she has promised when "in case for hyt." The Earl of Argyll and "Maconelles heire" have sent to Ireland 1000 or 1200 of their men, to a "parley" with O'Neill about MacConnel's lands, but though he grant their requests have no commission to join with him till Argyll is advertised of their proceedings. They are already there, as it was told me the Earl took order, before he left his country. I learn he minds himself to ask leave beyond sea "not into Irland," the cause whereof I shall better instruct myself of before my return, which I think "over long." There has been some "adoe" about the government of the prince and country, in case the Queen had "myscaried": whose husband and his friends made claim to it according to the custom of marriage in like cases here—"howbeyt by ought I can gesse, his part shold not have bin the greatest."

At present the whole clergy of the country are assembled "(according to ther custum of twyse in the yere)" who "pretend" to exhibit a supplication to her majesty, as well to confirm their

Elizabeth.
1566. religion, as for the relief of the ministers; meaning to remind her of her solemn promises made at Stirling for their consent to her marriage—the sequel I think to see before my return. Many here are troubled about baptizing the young prince, not knowing how it shall be done, and wish earnestly that our Sovereign would use her credit therein; to whose desire they think thair Sovereign would more incline than to any other. Edinburgh. *Signed:* H. Kyllygrew.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June **403.** PETITION TO THE KING AND QUEEN.

"The nobilite gentillmen barons with superintendantes, ministers and others professinge the Evangell of Jesus Christ within this realme, to the Kinge and Quenes majestes and the thre estatis of this realme presentlie convenit into parliament, wishethe the fear of God with the sprit of rightuous judgment."

The preamble recites the dispatch by the Convention of the Kirk, held at Edinburgh on 25th June last, of certain gentlemen to her majesty, with articles touching religion, which her grace partly answered: remitting further answer to this present parliament. This they now crave, and they also refer her to the parliament of 10 July 1560, abolishing papistry, and various proclamations by her, specially on 15th September last at Dundee, by the King and herself with advice of their privy council, promising to establish the religion as she found it. Desiring them to consider the premisses, with the articles, the Queen's answers, and the Kirk's reply as follows:—

[*Here follow the articles, 6 in number as in N° 203, with the Queen's answer as in N° 217.*]

The Kirk's reply to her majesty's answers:—First: where her majesty finds no impiety in the mass, but that the same is well grounded "etc.": this is no small grief to the Christian hearts of her "godlye subjectis, considering that the trompet of Chrystis evangell hes ben sa lange blawin in this countre, and His mercy sa playnely offerit in the same, that hir majeste yet remaynes unperswadit of the trewthe of this our religion; for our religion is not ells but the same religion quhilke Christ in the last daies revelit fra the bossome of his Father: quhairof he made his apostles messengers, and quhilke tha preachit and establysht amongst his faithfull, to contynew till the gayne cuminge of the Lord Jesus: quhilk differs from the impiete of the Turkes, the blasphemye of the Jews, and vayne superstition of the Papystes, in this—that onlie his holy spryt speking in his prophetes and apostles for authors therof, and thair doctrine and practyse for ground of the same—the quhilk assurance no uther religion upon the face of the earth can justlie alleadge or playnelye prove—yea quhatsoever assurance the papystes hes for thair religion, the same hes the Turkes for maynetenance of thair *Alcarone*, and the Jewis fer gretter for the defence of thiere ceremonies, quhidder it be antiquyte of tyme, consent of people, authoryte of prynces, great nomber or

Elizabeth.
1566. multitude consenting togyther, or any uther sike like clokes that thai can pretend." And as they are "dolorous" that her highness is not persuaded, they humbly offer the means, which is chiefly preaching God's word to her, or public disputation against the adversaries, whenever her grace finds it convenient. In the meantime they are bold to affirm that the mass is "nathinge ells but a mess of impiete fra the beginning to the ending," as they offered to prove. For the second answer:—They mean to defraud neither her majesty nor any other, of their lawful patronage, but that the presentees be collated by the Kirk after trial of their qualifications: also that the "teyndis" are the patrimony of the Kirk, and her majesty's offer of assignations for the ministers' sustentation, is too general to be put in practice without more special "condiscendinge" on particulars—and they still pray performance of these reasonable articles.

5½ *pp. Contemporary hand. Indorsation* (very faint). *The word* "Scottishe" *seems in Randolph's hand,* "10 July 1560" *in another.*

July 2. **404.** CHRISTOFER ROKEBY TO KILLIGREW.

I am a poor gentleman of England in some adversity. Though but little acquainted with your worship, I would have done my duty to you, but stayed, to avoid suspicion. I send you a letter received this day, which after perusing, return to me. I send also my answer which you may peruse, "scelle," and send it at your pleasure. Please use me with secrecy as to these, and if you talk with the Queen here, say nothing of me. *Signed:* Christofer Rokeby.

Inclose M[r] Secretary's letter in yours and if you think good, I would gladly speak with you before going.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

July 4. **405.** KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

Yesterday I had audience, and yet cannot see my discharge hence for 3 or 4 days: for "this prynces lakyth, me thinkes, apte mynesters"; therefore I wrote somewhat before my coming. I cannot find that Shane Oneill is or shall be aided from hence, or that Rokeby being here is dangerous to us. The wardens are sent for to receive strait charge for justice, and councillors appointed to oversee the affairs of Clerk and Bigges. Melvin arrived here after my audience, and put this Queen in great joy that his news was so grateful to her majesty. After my audience, I was carried again to see the prince, who is in good health. This Queen is advertised that since the "shipping" of Morton, he is back in England: and will complain earnestly. Thus matters are too openly handled, as their letters to their friends come daily. I see no end yet of their troubles, though many are like to venture all for their relief. Argyll holds his purpose to depart the realm: his men and Shane's have not agreed. Edinburgh, in hast. *Signed;* H. Kyllygrew.

M. de Croc is looked for this day. Thornton arrived late yesternight late.

Murray and his friends instantly desire that if possible my lord of Leicester and you might be sent hither—which would do much good to religion and our Sovereign's wellwillers.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1566. July 4. **406.** KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

Since this packet was made up, I hear that Rooksby is taken with all his papers, among them I fear your letter—and since, two arrived from England to him. I saw by the Queen, when I spoke of him, that she misliked him before, rather I think for the letter my lord of Northumberland opened, from whose brother she said Rooksby came to her, and had letters from her. Edinburgh. *Signed:* H. Kyllygrew.

¾ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 5. **407.** WILLIAM ROGERES TO CECIL.

As I have travelled for four years from country to country, by occasion of my "yle desarvynge" in offending her majesty's laws, "wyche I hame moste sourye for": it happened me of late to be in Scotland, and learned that on 16th June, Harry, that was Yaxley's [Huacslys] man that was drowned, brought from Flanders to the Queen of Scotland "a barrynge clothe fore the prynces, wythe othere bancketynge dysshyse of sugare and marmelade," also letters from the "kynges mother" in the Tower, and one from "Mester Poule" also there, which Poule has given all his right to the crown of England to the King and Queen of Scotland—which is thought there "very mouche"—and if he can get out of the Tower, he is looked for in Scotland before Christmas next. Also he brought letters from "one Mester Poule" that has been at sea before, which Poule and divers gentlemen in his company are looked for shortly in Scotland, offering to serve the King at their own charges. The King said this before 20 gentlemen, that he was not so ill beloved in England, but that 40 gentlemen there would so serve him, and more soon after conveyance of my lady's letters, brought every fortnight to him by a gentlewoman "wyche coumes oute of Loundone to here." One Marten Dare "wyche hathe byne a captayne at Sylly," keeps Poule company. Harry also brought 2000 crowns that a "nynlys* marchante" sent the King, and that when he wanted more he should not "lake." There are in the north, that practise with him to take Scarborough, and have all the north at his command. Gentlemen of the west country have sent him "the plote forme of Syly† wyche ys an ylande in the see," and the King looking at it saw some ordnance in it, and said he took possession of his own: and naming a place of his father's, said he would have them thither. One Moune comes from the west country gentlemen every month to the King by Carlisle, "lyke a northerene mane, wythe gacke and skoule and spere." Certain barks also bring salt from Scotland to London, and take letters back, and have taken upon them to convey the King's brother to Scotland. I have learned all this at the Standens' hands, who knowing I am an offender of the laws, professed great friendship: and I rode always with the King hawking or hunting in their company, and was taken to be his man. If it pleased her majesty to allow me a merchant ship, I would get the 2 Standens and also one "Mester Rouxbe [Rokesby] wyche ys so devoute that he wyll here ij masses evere daye." A messenger of Shan O'Neill [Shananeles] came to the King for aid: the King made much

* English? † Scilly?

Elizabeth.
1566. of him, gave him a reward, and sent 200 crowns to Shan to buy aquavitæ [acavyte]. If your honor desires any service, I beseech you send to my mother who knows where I am; and if I must confess that my deserts deserve no credit, I may have leave to go to some country till the Queen has pity on me. Oxford. *Signed:* Wyllyam Rogeres.

2½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil and his clerk).

July 6. **408.** QUESTIONS TO BISHOPP AND OTHERS.

Let Bishopp write the cause why he was in the place where taken—his conference with the others—what letters he has written or received from Scotland—from whom—their contents?

Lassells:—To do the like—also how often he has spoken with the Queen of Scots' servants or messengers?

The "person":—Let the "prest" write the like.

1 *p. In Cecil's hand. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

July. **409.** WILLIAM SERES TO CECIL.

I pray it may please your honour to take pity on me "for that I am utterlye consumed with inward maladies." God is my witness I never offended the Queen's majesty "in thowght word nor deed": and whosoever informed you and the Council to cast me in prison "have nocht doone wyslye;" for if my credit increase with my sovereign lady, it could not have been hurtful to the Queen's majesty. If it pleased your honour to give me liberty, and speak with you, I will pleasure her majesty all I can, and satisfy you what I may do more largely in words than "in paper." Also being deprived of all Christian comfort, I beseech you my wife may be with me in the day time, to help me in sickness, and that I may take order with her for necessaries, having "nother hoose, dubled nor shertt to save me from cold." *Signed:* Your lordships daylie oratour, William Seres.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "July 1566. Wm. Sheres, Scott."

July 11. **410.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I received your "gude" letter from James Melville and your contentation of my reconcilation to the Queen my sovereign's favour, "quhilk now (I thank God) standis in gude cace." Howsoever I be, my study shall ever be to preserve the amity betwixt her majesty and the Queen your mistress, to whom, next my own Sovereign, I am "cheiflie devinct." I have on your motion, communicated with Argyll as to aiding Oneill, and find no cause of any evil opinion of him: "sen (as he affirmis) his intelligence with Oneill (quhilk is not mekle to be estemit) is now na gretar nor the use hes bene betuix there houssis of auld, beinge neir nychtbowris": and in the late troubles my lord had to entertain friendship as he best might, but without meaning to assist your sovereign's rebels. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

If Leicester would repair hither, it would greatly further amity, whereto pray set your "guidwill."

1 *p. In Hay's writing. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1566.
July 11.

411. MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

By the return of the bearer M^r^ Kyllegrewe, I could not omit to render to your majesty most humble thanks for your "greit benevolence and large favour bestowed on me": which (my allegiance reserved) I shall ever acknowledge "as the worthynes of thame weill deservis."

I have long sued both within and without your realm, for the liberty of Lord Keyth, my brother-in-law—as my Sovereign has also lately craved of your majesty: and as the matter has been delayed "far beyond the accustomat usage," I am compelled anew to importune your majesty therein. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *In Hay's writing, and address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 11. **412.** LEICESTER TO CECIL.

I have showed the letters your servant Allington delivered me, that came from Sir John Foster, to her majesty, who thinks good that Sir John forthwith stay George Douglas from going into Scotland, and put him under guard: as she cannot longer forbear satisfying the Queen of Scots' earnest request for one who has so grievously offended her. Also to warn Morton of his dealing "so undyscretly," and either convey him self to some secret place or else absent him self "in dede some other whear." This is as near as I remember her majesty's pleasure, and you are to signify the same to Sir John with all speed. *Signature lost.*

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . From the Erle of Leycestre."

July 13. **413.** THOMAS WRIGHT TO CECIL.

Please your honour to learn that one M^r^ Rookebye was taken prisoner (with myself) suddenly after the return of James Mylvyne, with all his writings and a letter from you. Next day I was carried to the castle, straitly examined about him, having been night and day with him since "Pentychost last"; and offered by our examiners (the Bishops of Ross and Galloway, Lord Fleming and Justice clerk) fair promises of living: but they got no knowledge by me. As for him, though already committed to the Bishop of Murray in the North, he thinks the Queen will put him at liberty in two or three months. I am commanded on pain of death, to depart Scotland, but am suing to serve the King, and thus serve my own prince and native country. I was clerk to one M^r^ Sayer deputy steward of Richmondshire liberties under my lord of Northumberland, steward to her majesty, and by a little affray between me and a gentleman M^r^ Sayer's cousin, and some misusage, I left, minding to sue for service with my Lord Bedford at Berwick: but he being in London, I came to Scotland, hoping for service with the King, and meantime have been daily with Rokeby to the danger of my life. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Thomas Wright.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1566.
July 21.
Royal MSS., 18 B. vi. fol. 242.

414. THE KING AND QUEEN OF SCOTS TO PIUS V.

Recommending earnestly to his Holiness Alexander Campbell, clerk of S[t] Andrews Diocese, for his purity of blood and singular learning, joined to his integrity of life, as bishop of Brechin, vacant by the death of John Sinclair. Edinburgh. "Sanctitatis vestre divotissime filius et filia."

⅓ *p. Latin. Contemporary copy.*

July

415. MORTON TO SIR JOHN FORSTER.

Being advertised by our friends in Scotland that the King and Bothwell were like to obtain a remission to George Douglas at our Sovereign's hand, and the King had said that George had promised "at his hamecuming, to declair that the Erle of Murray, the Secretar, and sum utheris quhome the quenis grace knew not of, war the devysaris and purpos makaris of the slauchter of Davye": and Bothwell sending his servant to you for licence to send to Newcastle to pay "silver" where none was owing, made me suspect it true, I wrote to you my opinion to stay George for a while. I now find that the King and Bothwell are not likely "to speid" as was written, for the Queen likes nothing their desire. And though the King promised in George Douglas's name, as before written, it is thought to be his own invention, either from hatred of Murray and the Secretary, "or ellis to draw the suspicioun of himself that he was not the devysar of that mater: quhilk he will nevir be able to do, for George Douglas will plainly testifie in his presence that the king was the devysar of the slauchter, the place quhair it suld be done, and the maner of the doing thairof; and causit him parswaid my lord Ruthven that deid is, to assist and tak part with the king in that actioun." I have travelled with George myself, who utterly denies all that the King has said of him. I trust you will make my lord Secretary understand this, and that George be not troubled. My lord of Argyll has license out of Scotland for 3 years, but sent me word he will not depart till he sees how matters proceed both with the religion and us, though the Queen gives him many fair words. It were well your sovereign directed a special commission to him, with the first she sends to Scotland, specially touching Ireland. [*No place.*] *Signed:* Mortoun.

I forgot to say that the King of France has written to the Queen our mistress so effectually, that it seems to her we had been at the "dyting" of it. We know not why this is, and had rather our relief came some other way than the King of France.

2½ *pp. Addressed* (to Forster as lord Warden). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 24.

416. CHATELHERAULT TO ELIZABETH.

Being in purpose to send my second son John commendator of Arbroath and my cousin Gawan commendator of Kilwinning, by post to Scotland: I humbly beseech your highness's passport for them and

Elizabeth.
1566. 8 companions. Dieppe. *Signed:* Your majestes mayst hwmyll and obediant serwitor James Hammylton.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed:* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 24. **417.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

I enclose this other letter to the Queen's majesty desiring her licence for my second son John and the commendator of Kilwinning to Scotland. As I cannot obtain my Sovereign's supplication to her majesty, I pray you heartily to further the same and expeid this bearer. "For and it had pleisit God her hienes imbassaldour in thir partis had remanit on lyf (quhais deyth I forthink werray sair) I wald nocht haif soucht ony sik thing quhill thair awin cummyng to the Court." And I pray you "appardoun" me thus troubling you.—Dieppe. *Signed:* Your assuret louffing frend, James Hammyltoun.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 26. **418.** EXAMINATION OF THOMAS WRIGHT.

"Thexamynacion of Thomas Wrighte made and delivered under his hande to the righte honorable Therle of Bedforde, Lord Governor of Barwicke, the xxvjth daye of July, 1566 —as followeth"—

[*Under 12 heads not numbered.*] Relates how he and John Turnour dealt by means of one of the Kings' pages named Stevenson, to get into the Kings' service—the latter's "vayne promyse"—also with Rokeby, Turnour's former master—the arrest of all three on Wednesday night, 3rd July, their imprisonment, successive examinations in the castle, abbey, &c.—Rokeby's committal to the Bishop of Murray's lodging in the Cowgate, and thence to Spyny castle in Murray—and lastly, that Turnour and himself had 20*l.* Scots given them by command of the Bishop of Ross with orders to depart the realm at once, in case of worse. Praying humbly her majesty's pardon. *Signed:* Thomas Wright.

4 *pp.* *Official hand, closely written.* *Indorsed:* "Wrightes confession . . . at Barwick."

July 28. **419.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Urging him earnestly for favour towards the bearer his man M^{r} Grahame, who after many long suits before the Admiralty &c., and weary delays and voyages—"the charges wheroff and expenses off the pley have far surmounted the principall somme": for though he remitted a good part in hope of payment at a "short day," yet most part rests "to be performed"—and to move her majesty for him. The Ballocht.* *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . For Arch. Greham."

* Now Taymouth Castle.

Elizabeth.
1566. July 31. **420.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Not having fullie "conceavit" her majesty's answer touching "Cyres," I will request your honour to move her for his "present delyverie," seeing I mind to declare to my Sovereign that all "suspect" persons have been freed on my suit in her name. The truth is, he is unworthy your Sovereign should think "ather gud or evill" of him. I bear him small goodwill for the many evil reports I have heard of him. Stamford. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . For the liberty of Seres the Scott."

Aug. 10. **421.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

By the occasion of my son John and my cousin of Kilwinning coming towards the Queen's majesty, I accompany them with "this letill lettre," to thank you for all the good will and kindness ever shown to me and mine. Having "tane" leave of the Court of France, I am presently "besydis Deip," and they shall declare all my news. Dieppe. *Signed:* Yowris assuretly, James Hammyltoun.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 13. **422.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Recommending to her "a mater that is na new thing": the case of Archibald Grahame, burgess of Edinburgh, before the English courts since "the fiftie nyne yeir of God": who though he agreed to take 1200*l.* for his claim of 2400*l.*, has only received 400*l.*: and requiring her to order payment of the balance. Castle of Edinburgh, 24th year. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer seal (Scotland).

Aug. 13. **423.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

By "Maister Malvilis" declaration on his return, I see your good mind continues. My Sovereign "this quhyle bigane," thought you not so friendly as you were, and she expected. "Bot the pruif of your guidwill (I doubt not) sall evacuat the effect of the report, and gar it appeare as it wes without grund." I would wish that my lord earl of Leicester might be sent to our prince's baptism, or failing him, my lord of Bedford, and Sir Nicholas Throkmorton with him. I must renew my suit for my brother in law Lord Keith, and as her majesty is willing he were let to liberty on "band" till his ransom be agreed on, I have written to my lords of Bedford and Leicester to become sureties, and hope they shall "undertake." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Written by Hay. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 13. **424.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Knowing her goodwill by Robert Melvill "laitlie returnit," takes the boldness to render his most humble thanks. Wishes that Leicester, of whom his Sovereign has very good opinion, as also himself and others, for his labours towards amity and God's religion

Elizabeth.
1566. "heir," might be sent to the prince's baptism; failing him, Bedford with Sir Nicolas Throkmorton, if she so pleases. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Written by Hay. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. 14. **425.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

I have declared to my Sovereign what your honour said to me, that you had never shown yourself but friendly to her, in all affairs not prejudicial to your Sovereign's service: which she trusts better than the other reports. For my own part, I believe assuredly her inclination is to do all things to please your Sovereign. She does not trust the French reports of your meaning, and for any bruits of her dealings with the "Poip" or others against your mistress, or the religion here, "I traist it sall prove nought." She has written to the Queen that Leicester may be sent to the "christening of the prince" and if your honor might be spared, "ye wilbe welcum" to Murray and others; but unless he comes I will not press you. Next him, my lord of Bedford, with whom Murray wishes Sir Nicolas "Phrogmartyng" may come. Murray and Bothwell have been at evil words for Lethington "in the Quenes presens," and since have not met, but she is earnest to agree them, and purposes to be at Stirling the 24th instant and cause Lethington meet her "to end the mater." She is hunting in Megetland, and with her Bothwell, Murray and Mar. "The rayd of Jeduard is contynewit." Argyll is at S^{t} Johnston, coming to her. She will be in Edinburgh within 8 days. The prince is in good health "and ane werraye lustie child—God blis him." Edinburgh. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

The Queen has written to your Sovereign for Grahame's affairs. I pray your honour devise to satisfy him, for the like is meant to your subjects and the merchant "Water Bryghham."

2¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By Archb. Grehame."

Aug. 25. **426.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Replying to her letter of 13th on behalf of Archibald "Grahaym," has referred the same to such of her Council as are with her now in progress, to confer with him, and do as much as if he were her own subject. Takes the opportunity to complain of certain Crosyars and Nyxons of Liddesdale, who on the 15th instant, committed robberies and hostilities within Bewcastle dale.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Sept. 20. **427.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting passport for Alexander Clerk, burgess of Edinburgh, to pass through England to France and back—for a year. Edinburgh, 24th year. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer seal (Scotland).

Elizabeth.
1566. Sept. 20.

428. MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By your letter from Woodstock sent by my man Grahame, I find myself confirmed "in the gude esperance I ever had, that th'envy off ambitious men (which is a commen sicknes in all courtes) sould not at lenth prevaill against me, althogh it myght have place to exerce my pacience for a tyme." The constant amity of such as you, is my chiefest treasure.

It pleased the Queen to come secretly to a friend's house of mine, nigh this town, with only Argyll, Murray and Bothwell, to agree Bothwell and me; where in the hearing of all, we were made friends. Whereon her majesty was pleased to receive me to favour and my former place. I find though some have sinisterly reported of you, yet she has no misconceit of your devotion to her; wherein as M^r^ Mailvyn has done good offices, so have I taken upon me to know more of your mind, than these evil reporters. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 20.

429. MURRAY TO CECIL.

By opportunity of this bearer M^r^ Clerk, I thank you for the good advice so lovingly bestowed on me. Lethington is restored to favour, wherein I trust he shall increase. How special matters proceed, the bearer can declare: whom it may please you to license to furnish me with some bows for my friends in "the Helandes." I must remind you of my long travail for my lord Keith my brother in law, and that I may at least find that favour with Sir Harry my friend, (that if ransom can not be agreed on) he may be let home on English bands to visit his bedfellow and children, whose comfort he has lacked so long. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 3.

430. MURRAY TO CECIL.

Earnestly desiring his interest for the relief of his brother in law Lord Keith who has now been 7 years and 8 months "in so lamentable state of servitude"; and whose nearest friends are importunate for his release.

Refers him to M^r^ Melvill for the state of things in Scotland. Begs hearty commendations to his good lady, and his daughter "Annas." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 4.

431. MAITLAND TO CECIL.

The sufficiency of this bearer sent by the Queen my mistress, must excuse the shortness of my letter. Such a one as yourself of known knowledge and experience, will not lightly suffer himself to be led out of the way by the "misreportes" of malicious or ignorant men, but will continue your good offices as you were wont hitherto. Argyll's purposed journey to Ireland was for the recovery of Sorle Boy, brother to the late James MacConnel, out of O'Neill's hands; and

Elizabeth.
1566. for his own safety, dealing with "an onsure man," to have taken a good force of his own men. But since I came to Court, means have been found to make "remonstrance" to her majesty, that though neither she nor Argyll mean to favour O'Neill, yet his "voyage" might be misconstrued, so she has countermanded it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

I recommend my man Grahame—who you know has sustained great injury besides the loss of the principal; having consumed the rest of his goods in prosecuting it. His case deserves favour, both for justice sake, "and some what for myne."

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 5. **432.** MARY TO CECIL.

Since our first arrival in our realm, we ever had a good opinion of you as a faithful minister to nourish peace and amity: till "be the strange dealinges of ane Inglishman namyt Rewkisby, and utheris occasionis than occurring, with sum reportis that wer brocht to our eris," we suspended our judgment till further trial: and commanded our servant Robert Mailvile in his last journey, to speak freely with you; by whose report we rejoice to understand that you are nothing altered; and therefore write this "with the said Robert," to assure you of our good will. Praying you, if you may, to obtain your mistress's licence "to cum in Scotland to assist to the baptisme of our sone." And as we shall make you welcome, so shall you understand more of our mind. We remit the rest to our said servant. Edinburgh. *Signed:* "Your gud frind Mare R."

2 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Small wafer signet* (Scotland, close crown above).

Oct. 9. **433.** FRANCIS VAN DER SPURT TO CECIL.

In the last 3 or 4 days, a gentleman from the Queen of Scots called Jorge Rustice arrived here, "soliciteur" of Francisque Berti "pour le fait du sel," also her servant. I pray you cause him to enquire of Symon Sterck for the gold and silver sent to Scotland, for the said Jorge was in my "logis" there, and knows well what Symon did, as the bearer will relate. "Escrit au Conter en la Woud strete. *Signed:* Franchoys van der Spurt.

½ *p. French. Holograph, also address*: "[A] Monsieur monsiengneur le Secretaire [a] sa majeste Secretaire Cicil." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 24. **434.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Since coming to these parts, my mistress has been "veary sick" and at such extremity that her life appeared in great danger. It has pleased God so to restore her highness, that we hope that she may journey homeward in 3 or 4 days. M. du Croc (as he informs me) advertised his master and the Queen mother "somewhat desperately towardes her recovery": and now seeing her convalescence, would be sorry if they remained in that opinion, and has written to the French ambassador, of the contrary. I pray you to see the said packet safely delivered,

Elizabeth.
1566. and "two wordes of your hand" of its receipt. Jedburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 26. **435.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

On the 24th I wrote to you, as by the same already enclosed, it may appear. "Upon a new accident that fell to the Quenes majesty yesterday in the morning airly, it wes retarded. The same was so vehement, that for the space off half an hour, we wer all desperate off her lyfe." Since then, "Nature hath wrought myghtily," and now we see evident signs of convalescence. M. du Croc instead of sending his despatch by M. de la Forest, has delivered it to this bearer, in hope that it shall pass safely on my recommendation, with speed, as he has some private business at the French Court and hopes for favour with this good news. He is also my friend, and in time of my disgrace did me service, "which I mon recognos," and so pray you to further him. Jedburgh, "at nycht." *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 31. **436.** ELIZABETH TO THE COUNTESS OF ARGYLL.

Signifying as she cannot herself be present "as our hart wishes," at the christening of the prince, that she has made special choice of her before all others, to hold her place and do all that belongs to the part of godmother. The Earl of Bedford whom she has purposely sent, will do her at the time of the ceremony all service and honor.

1½ *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk): ". . . The lyke to the Countesse of Murrey, if th'other happen to be sick."

Nov. 1. **437.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting a passport for her servant Mr Stephen Wilsoun going on her affairs to France, to go and return through her realm—for a year. Jedburgh. 24th of reign. *Signed:* Your rihct gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.*

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.* *Small wafer signet* (Scotland as before).

Nov. 11. **438.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I heartily thank you for writing to me: whereby it appears "yow have had a busy mater in hand, which I looke not to se in my tyme at any perfection." I think it is not the pleasure of God to have "the subjectes of this Ile throughly settled in theyr jugementes"; wherefore he keeps most necessary things undetermined, so as they shall always have somewhat to exercise them. My own experience of late makes me marvel less, when I hear your doings are misconstrued by "backbytors." Public men must bear such burdens. The bearer can report how it has pleased God to restore the Queen to perfect health. Home. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Faintly written.

Elizabeth.
1566.
Nov. 13. **439.** ELIZABETH TO BEDFORD.

Since your departure, we have heard of "a small tryfflinge* boke in Latin verse, imprinted at Paris, made by a Scotishman named Patryck Adamson," intitling it to be praise of the birth of "the Prince of Scotlande, Englande, and Irlande." You shall let the Queen understand of this "audacious rashe attempt" of her subject, that she may give order to have him apprehended and punished and his book prohibited and defaced. Our Secretary sends you herewith a copy "of the first face of the said booke."

2 *pp.* *Draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2) Another copy of same.

1 *p.* *Indorsed.*

Nov. 17. **440.** SIR HENRY PERCY TO CECIL.

I send you copy of a letter I received yesterday from my lord of Murray, with a letter of yours then received. And where Murray has nominated Leicester and Bedford, to stand bound for my prisoner's re-entry, I am very loth being so mean a man, to deal with so great personages, and have named you as one with the rest, praying you not to take it in evil part, for I look to have no gain at your hands, if forfeiture of the bond chance, but that you would cause the others do me no wrong. When I hear from Murray, I will send you a bond to sign and seal, and keep till I speak with you. I trust you will allow his diet before departure, seeing the charges I am at since his coming in England—almost two years, when "he never disburst penny," and the most part of this last year he lay in Yorkshire, and I have paid ready money for it. But what you will have me do, I will do for your cause. Otherwise I make account of the amity of Scotland as my ancestors heretofore have done. The Queen's castle of Tynemouth. *Signed:* H. Percy.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the above:—

(1) (Murray to Percy).

My lords of Leicester and Bedford and M^r^ Cecil are content to give their bond for the re-entry of my brother in law, the Master of Marshall. Let me know by the bearer the form of the bonds you desire. Langton, 13^th^ November 1566. James Stewart.

(2) (Percy to Murray).

Agreeing to let the Master of Marshall home on the bonds of Leicester, Bedford, and Cecil, for 4000*l.* sterling for six months, also defraying the charges of his diet. Tynemouth Castle, 16^th^ November 1566. H.P.

1 *p.* *Both copies on same page, written by Percy's clerk.*

Nov. 17. **441.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I have received the Queen's two letters, and shall accomplish the effect touching the "newe booke" as appertains. I am sorry to see

* This word scored out.

Elizabeth.
1566. in your own letter, that things are renewed "not plausible," and you have such cause to complain. I stay here I think these 4 or 5 days, as I have not heard from you of the ambassador of Savoy's coming —but hope to be where I should be in convenient time, making all haste "that the fowle wayes and the chargeable caryage I have will gyve me leave." You shall hear of Lord Rutland's matters from my wife. Garendon. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: shield of 8 quarters and Garter.*

Nov. 18. **442.** MARY TO CECIL.

Learning from her familiar servitor Robert Mailvile, his diligence in having the offence done against her at Lincoln's Inn repaired, accepts it in very good part. She never trusted the bruits against him as a hinderer of her advancement, thinking them vain and untrue, as Robert Malvile assured her from time time: for whose courteous usage she warmly thanks him. Dunbar. *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . dd. by Melvyn."

Nov. 18. **443.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Thanking him for his continued favour to Maister Melvill at his Court, and the reparation of that which seemed prejudicially spoken against the Queen my sovereign "in the late discourse haid at Lyncollis Innis." She is fully confirmed in the good opinion she has ever had of his "antient frend." Prays him to continue his good offices to the end. Dunbar. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 18. **444.** HUNTLY, BOTHWELL, ETC., TO THE ENGLISH PRIVY COUNCIL.

Praying they will move the Queen to grant some "casualitie or licence" to Archibald Grahame to recompense some part of his great "skaithis" and expenses incurred in his 5 years "and mair" suit, whereby he and his wife and family are "uterlie heriit and put to irrecuperable povirtie." Dunbar. *Signed:* Hwntlye, Boithwell, James Stewart, W. Maitland.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 19. **445.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Hearing by Robert Melville's letters and his brother's reports your courteous usage of him in his own and the Queen my mistress,' affairs, it is my duty to give you hearty thanks. Her majesty takes as a special mark of your good will, your diligence and advice in repairing the offence against her in the "dispute at Lyncolnes Yn." I remit all things I can write to M[r] Melvill's sufficiency, and pray your continued favour for my man Grahame, who is altogether ruined if her majesty do not pity him. It had been better if he had lost the principal, and never made suit for it. Whittinghame. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1566. Nov. 25. **446.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

By letters that met me here, I learn the christening shall not be before the 12th proximo, so shall not go post speed, "but faire and easyly as I maye." I pray you despatch Sowche my man who need not now tarry for the ambassador of Savoy. I would be glad to hear from you, having heard but once since I left London. Doncaster. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

Some that heard of the "founte" and my "caryage," laid wait in a place or two, and missing it, did not trouble themselves with "basser" things of less value, so did no harm—this was not far from Doncaster.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Signet* (as before).

Nov. 27. **447.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I have received and heartily thank you for your letter of 21st. As it appears not in my instructions (I know not if it does in her majesty's letter to my lady of Argyll) what I should say touching the name to be given to "this childe," if the French ambassador "would of courtesie" offer it, or the Queen herself desire her majesty to name it: I much desire you to move it for her pleasure if you think meet, as the time will shortly be "at hande." I shall see to the victualling matter at Berwick at my return. As matters are likely to remain quiet with our neighbours, I pray you move for my discharge of the lieutenantcy of the frontiers. Heleaye, Lord Wharton's house. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 30. **448.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I hear from Scotland that the Queen likes so well her majesty's pleasure thus to send, that she makes provision at the place, and also best preparation by the way thither.

I mean to send a gentleman to her from Berwick to know her pleasure for my coming, and frame my journey accordingly. "This lewde and evill writing of Adamson the Scot" I shall set forth to such as it may be best to declare it unto. Newcastle. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 3. **449.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

This bearer Alexander Bogge is recommended to me by Monsieur de Crocq's letter, and dispatched from him and M. le Conte de Brienne to France. As Captain Reade whom I sent to the Queen of Scots, is not yet returned, I know not when the ceremony shall be—but hear from friends there it is to be the 12th of this present, whether the ambassador of Savoy come or not. I trust the Queen's majesty's pleasure for the naming of the child, be on the way to me, as I am looking to be called to come to "that Queene." Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1566. Dec. 5.

450. BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I pray your lawful favour for these two gentlemen, Alexander Mure and George Wysharte, Scotsmen, archers of the French King's Guard, commended to me by Lethington, as they have showed great favour to our countrymen in places where they have been. Their tarrying will be so long on the way, I need not write now, for my later letters will be with you before them. This letter was written before my other to you of this date. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 5. **451.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

Captain Reade is returned with the enclosed letter from the Queen of Scots, that she would have me enter Scots ground on Sunday next the 8th—which I do not like, the christening not being till the 15th: and if I can deal with my neighbour Lord Hume, to meet me at the Bound road on Monday, I should be very glad—otherwise I shall do as the Queen wills, who has sent her safe conduct for me and my train, though she said I needed it not.

I trust her majesty's pleasure on the naming of the child, is well on the way, with any further instructions.

Coming hither with wearied horses, I desired my lord warden to hold a truce day with Cesford last Tuesday,* where it chanced that a Scot delivered by the Warden of Scotland to Rychard Ryveley a gentleman of my lord of Northumberland, bailiff of his town of Chatton, refused to go with him, and in struggling they fell, the Scot above, who drew his dagger and struck Ryveley under the short ribs, who lies in great danger. The offender was conveyed away by his friends. The Borders were never so far out of order, since the Queen was lately near them. The Warden is gone home, not well at ease, and I must leave Mr Treasurer in charge here. I had hoped for Mr Marshall before now, and pray you hasten him. The Queen is not altogether recovered, but takes "purgacions" etc. to fit her for the christening, which is looked to be very sumptuously done. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 9. **452.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

This day "with Godes grace" I enter Scotland with all the gentlemen that came here. I look to be met by Lord Hume and great company at the Bound road, and hear that at Dunbar the Earl of Sutherland and Justice Clerk meet me, and at Edinburgh the Earl of Murray and another. I trust I shall do all matters committed to me as appertains. Since leaving Garadon, I have only heard once from you at Lord Wharton's, by Zowche, whence I wrote (and

* December 3.

Elizabeth.
1566. "sythens") and hope that the Queen's pleasure on the child's name will be with me before I require it. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.
I hear from Scotland the Queen there understood of M^r^ Randolphe's death 4 days at least before it came hither.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 9. **453.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

After writing my other letter, I received yours as to the "nominacion" of the young prince, and am fully satisfied. It was six days coming—the posts use no diligence. I am sorry for your lack of health, and that your leg is the cause. I am now going towards Scotland, and bid you as myself, farewell. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 10. **454.** ARCHIBALD GRAHAME TO [CECIL].

Begs excuse for his "baldnes" in writing to him, but prays him to sue the Queen to make an end of his "lang swyt," either by granting him the licence he asked before, or giving him 150*l.* "in present money"; after which his honour shall hear no more of his case. Begs his answer. *Signed:* Archebald Grahame.

½ *p. Holograph. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. [10?] **455.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

I received letters yesterday from you—one from my Sovereign with her mislike of the "buk prynted in France," another from my brother, written at her command "moire amplie," which I here enclose to your Sovereign to certify her highness of my mistress's own mind. Please to read both first, and then convey them to her majesty. I enclose this other letter from myself to her highness; and pray you I may have the others again after her "grace hes perwsit" them. Please be a mean that "Mester Grhame" have some order taken with him, and as "I ame so nere my dispatche," that the Council give answer therein. Excuse my troubling you with the other letter from my Sovereign to their "honors." [London.] *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 11. **456.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Seeing Melvill's great desire to return, I think good to say these few words. (1) My sorrow at seeing a book "si scandaleux pour vous, si injurieux a moy, si fol en soy" published, and (2) as you wish reparation for some words touching yourself, that you will announce to the

Elizabeth.
1566. world your detestation. You know Madame, nothing can touch my honour more, than there should be another Queen of England than myself. For as Alexander said, Carthage cannot endure two kings. As to the "probacion du Testament," I will do what I can, and having seen the same book in print, which you sent in writing, I will cause enquiry for the authors and printers, and punish them. Westminster "ce 11 jour de Decembre."

1 *p. French. Official copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). . . . By R. Melvill."

Dec. 20. **457.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By this bearer M^r^ Wynkfyeld you will understand the order of the prince's baptism—wherein, though all such ceremonies have not been used "anent the forniture off the chapell and chalmers for my lady Argyle, being the Quenes majestys deputye," as he required: yet I must testify his diligence that no "inlaik wes theroff in his defalt"; for he earnestly craved the like order observed for the deputy, as her majesty is accustomed to use at home. Partly by the narrowness of the lodging in this place, and that no offence should be taken by the Conte of Brienne as representing the King of France "his person," all equality was observed between him and her majesty's deputy. I am most sorry to hear you are sick, wishing you as much prosperity as for myself. Stirling. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 30. **458.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I understand by your letter of 20^th^ your disease of "the gowte," for which I am sorry. I have been 6 or 8 days at S^t^. Andrews and other places in Fife, where Murray and his friends have used me with much honour: so now I "drawe" homeward as fast as I can. The Queen has granted to Morton, Ruthven and Lindsay their "relaxacion and dresse," wherein Murray has done very friendly for them to the Queen, as I have, by your advice. Bothwell, Atholl etc. helped therein, or it would not so soon have been got. George Douglas and Andrew Carre are specially excepted. The Queen promises me good answer. Robert Melvyn at his return has made very good report of his usage by the Queen our mistress. I understand from my wife there is new matter attempted by my lord Rutland and his counsel for the "fynding" of his office after his father's death. I pray it may be respited till I and my counsel "and my wyves" be present and answer. The Halleyardes in Fife. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

1566-67.
Jan. 3. **459.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Acknowledging her letter received from the Earl of Bedford, and his messages, whom she trusts she has answered to his satisfaction, and refers to his report thereof. Her own proceeding in the matter of succession is best known to her "dearest suster," and she is

Elizabeth.
1566-67. assured of her friendship therein, both by her ambassador's declaration and that of Robert Malvile her own servant. Thanks her for the opinion she has of the equity of her cause, and for examining the will "supposed maid be the king your fader, quhilk some wald lay as a bar in our way," as she has promised to do in her letter sent by Robert Malvile, and "maid to him in direct termis"—as he reported: also that she would proceed therein, before her nobility (now assembled) left for their own houses. Will send some of her Council to treat and confer with Elizabeth and her Council in these matters. Under her signet. Stirling. 25th of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by R. Melvill."

Jan. 5. **460.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I thank you most heartily for your letter to Sir Henry Percy in favour of the "lord of Keyth" my brother in law, and your offer by Mr Melville to "cum souuertye" for him: which is an "eik"* to all your benefits to me. And having seen and considered your late letter to Mr Melville, desiring me not to forget, as you will not leave, the fruit of our mutual friendship, but continue the same to the glory of God and amity of our Sovereigns and their realms: I heartily desire you to assure yourself thereof, and never doubt me to be "sic ane chayngleing." My Sovereign has also seen and considered the foresaid letter, "in sic sort as I hoip in God thair sall fruict proceid thairof to boyth our contentementis." To return to my friend Sir Henry Percy, and his usage of my brother in law now his prisoner 7 or 8 years "long": I trust the like has never been heard of by any living man in either realm! For he not only enhances the ransom beyond all reason or custom, but besides doth so "aggrege† ane few moneythes charges, as the sowme thairof may justly be callit ane uther ranson—as it is in werray deid! Who ewir hard of such dealing?" I cannot but marvel how any man should be so used after so many complaints to her majesty and her honorable Council, of that "unreasonable and hard dealing of Schir Hary"! I heartily desire you will look on it—the rather as it touches me so near. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Sent by my L. of Bedf."

Jan. 9. **461.** BEDFORD TO CECIL.

I am now returned, having been well used in "the Fyeff" by divers: and then took leave of the Queen, whose letters to her majesty I bring myself, "and also her hande" to that agreed on for the matters I proponed to her. She says she will send some express messenger of honour and credit. I have long letters to you from the Secretary, and shall set out within these few days, as fast as I can on my own horses. The agreement between the Queen and her husband "nothing amended . . . The King is nowe at Glasco with his

* *i.e.*, addition. † *i.e.*, heap up.

Elizabeth.
1566-67. father, and there lyeth full of the small pockes, to whome the Queene hathe sent her phisicion." The "jurisdiction in dyvers cases according to the canon lawes," lately obtained from the Queen by the bishop of S[t] Andrews, who meant to erect his court in Edinburgh, being found contrary to religion and not liked of the townsmen: has been revoked by her at the suit of Murray. M[r] Marshall who has been away half a year, though he promised me to return in 6 weeks, must come down to take charge here. This Queen gave me "a verie proper chayne sett with perles and some diamantes and rubyes," and used me with all honour. Morton having obtained his "dresse," is much beholden to you. Though some "lett" it all they could, his friends "stoocke" to it and prevailed: wherein Bothwell "like a very frende," joined Murray, as did Atholl and others. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Bedford.

2¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 10. **462.** MORTON TO CECIL.

As he "suted" his friendship when entering England and found it, he cannot depart without giving him hearty thanks therefor; as also (by him) to the lord warden of the Middle Marches, who he knows by Cecil's desire showed him friendship. Prays that he will employ him if he has anything to do hereafter in Scotland or elsewhere. Berwick. *Signed:* Your honour's good frend, Mortoun.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

c. Jan. **463.** REMEMBRANCES FOR BEDFORD.

By the Queen of Scots:—

(1.) That the will of Henry VIII. be examined, and a record made *ad perpetuam rei memoriam.*

(2.) Dalton to be punished for his words in parliament.

(3.) Her approval that Archduke Charles marry the Queen's majesty.

(4.) Lord Keith to be put to reasonable ransom.

(5.) The merchants of Dundee to have their ship etc. restored, taken at Harwich by one William Smith of Woodbridge in 1563.

(6.) For Andrew Brechin's suit against one Anthony Courtney.

(7.) For Archibald Grahame.

¾ *p.* *Copy by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

Jan. 16. **464.** EXAMINATION OF WILLIAM ROGERS.

[*Much to the same effect as his letter to Cecil 5 July previous, No. 407.* The elder Standen is styled Darnley's "Master of the Horse." Moon is said to be "*alias* Cleyton." Sir Richard Cholmeley and his son Francis are named among Darnley's friends in the North, who offered to deliver Scarborough castle to him, and Lady Lennox's letters were conveyed viâ Flanders to Scotland by one Mompesson who got them from her ancient gentlewoman.]

2⅛ *pp.* *Official hand.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). ". . . Thexamination of William Rogers who was lately in Scotland etc."

Elizabeth.
1566-67. Jan. 17. **465.** MARY TO [THE MARSHAL OF BERWICK].

Praying him to send advertisement by post, and apprehend an Italian named Joseph, her domestic servant, who has lately left his charge and fraudulently taken the goods and money of divers friends and companions, and keep him in safe custody, Edinburgh. Marie R.

On same page is a certificate in French by the Queen of Scots that as Joseph Lutyni a gentleman of her house goes to France on her affairs, she prays the officers of the King of France and Queen of England to aid his journey. Stirling. 6th January 1567 (*sic*). Marie.

1 *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . Copy of the Q. of Scottes lettre for the staye of Joseph an Italian."

Jan. [19]. **466.** JOSEPH RICCIO TO JOSEPH [LUTYNI].

Has told the Queen and "Thimoteo" that he had taken away the writer's money, and that he said so when others accused him, to avoid suspicion. The Queen had suddenly asked him for her "braccialetti," and he said they were in Lutyni's "borsa": whereon she commanded "Ledinton" to write for his arrest on the road. M. de Moretta arrived, and said the writer caused Lutyni's voyage, by the latter's account, who will bring about Riccio's ruin if he says otherwise. Begs him to say he took the money as he might need it for the journey and intended to restore it. As the Queen is very angry, begs him earnestly to adhere to this story, if he would not be the cause of his death. "De Lilemburgh, questa Domenica." *Signed:* Vestro come buon fratello, Joseph Riccio. Prays him to burn [brugiar] the letter after reading it.

3 *pp.* *Italian.* *Holograph.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Joseph Riccio the Q. of Scottes Servant."

Jan. 23. **467.** CAPTAIN COCKBURN TO CECIL.

Where as you write "to hald hand to your inbassitor [ambassador]: that I pray you to excuse me, for I can nocht tell as yet qhat ralegion he is of: and quhan I try [?] the varete at he troues the Papes . . . * will be bot on bost, and the Pap hes no persons in porgatore, I vill asege him moir fredes [?], bot as to me to mell with him it can nocht nodar profit him nor me." I have this day desired "Barnabe" and his "inbassitor to cum on Seterday" in the morning, and I shall let him see one thing he will not believe. Paris.

†It will please your honor to close my letter to the Queen's grace of Scotland and send it "trou." I believe ye have "tint" my stamp to close it, but I shall send another. *Signed:* Cokburn.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk)

* Illegible. † Written lengthwise on margin.

Elizabeth.
1566-67. Feb. 8. **468.** MARY TO CECIL.

Your earnest good will to the amity between us and our dearest sister is so well known to us, we cannot omit "at leist" our thanks. And though some bruit passed of your "affectioun to tend otherwys," yet we never believed it, and ever esteemed you as a good servant to your mistress and no hinderer of amity, as we understood more clearly at the return of our servant Robert Melville. Remitting further declaration of our mind to the bearer our servant. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your gud frind Marie R.

1 *p.* *Written by Hay.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Small wafer signet* (Scotland).

Feb. 8. **469.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

I wrote to you at "greate lenth" at my lord of Bedford's return, and since then have heard nothing from you. I was "preassed" by the Queen to make a voyage thither, but being so lately married, it was "not reasonable to mak a divorsement from my wyfe so soone," or I would have gone were it only to have conferred with you on all affairs. I will not trouble you, for the sufficiency of the messenger shall excuse my shortness. He is honest, and I dare undertake, prefers you to all others. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By M[r] R. Melvill."

Feb. 9. **470.** PLAN OF THE KIRK OF FIELD.

Coloured drawing or plan of the Kirk of Field and surrounding neighbourhood, showing the position of the bodies of Darnley and his servant nearly naked etc.

Sheet 20 inches by 15. Very curious—showing the explosion, hurry of the people, details etc., in compartments.

Feb. 11. **471.** DEPOSITIONS ON THE KING'S MURDER.

Add. MSS. 33, 531, fol. 37.

In presence of the Earls of Huntly, Cassillis, Caithness, Sutherland, Bishops of Galloway, Ros, Comptroller, Justice clerk etc.

BARBARA MERTINE, sworn etc., depones that before the "crak rais," she passed to the window of her house in the "Freir wynd, fornentis" the Master of Maxwell's lodging, and heard 13 men come forth at the "Freir [yett]" and pass to the Cowgait and up the Freir wynd. Then the "crak rais" and 11 men came forth, 2 of whom had "cleir thingis" on them, and passed down the passage that "cummis fra the Freirs" and so to the town. She cried on them as they passed, called them traitors, and said they had been at some "evill turn."

MAY CROKAT, spouse of John Stirling, servant to the bishop of Sa[ntandros], dwelling under the Master of Maxwell's lodging, depones she was lying in her house betwixt "hir twa twynnis" when

Elizabeth.
1566-67. the "crak [rais]" . . *thought it was the house above, "and come rynnand to [the door in her]* sark allane," and even as she come furth . . . *there came out at the "Freir yett" 11 men, and she "clekit" one by his . . . * which was of silk, and asked where the crak was? But they made no answer, and 4 went up the wynd, and other 7 down to the Cowgate port etc.

JOHN PETCARNE, "chirurgeane," dwelling in said wynd . . .* "archiers of the gard," depones: that he neither heard nor knew anything till about "four houris" . . [till a servant?].* "of Senyeour Frances quha is a little lene fallow," came and cried on the deponent to come to his maister, which he did and remained with him till about "sex houris."

1 *p. In the handwriting of Alexander Hay. Damaged at right side.*

Feb. 13. **472.** ROYAL WARRANT BY ELIZABETH.

Harl. MSS. 289, fol. 95. Granting licence to Alexander Clerke servant to the Earl of Murray, to convey 6 dozen "bowes of ewe," 8 "sheefes" of arrows, 12 grosse of bowstrings, and "tynne vessell of dyverse sortes, to the weight of fyve hundredth in thole," from the port of London or elsewhere to Scotland for the earl's use. Under her signet. Westminster 9th of reign. *Sign manual at head.*

Broadsheet. Indorsed: Passed in the *Unicorn* of Leith, 4½ doz. "ewen" bows—12 gross of strings, 4 quivers with 8 "sheffe arrows" 17 Feb. 1566: in the *Lion* of Leith, 18 "ewen" bows for the Earl of Murrey 26 Feb. 1567. *Wafer signet*: (England).

Feb. 16. **473.** REPORT OF M. DE CLARNAULT.

The Seigneur de Clarnault says:—That on Sunday the 9th about 7 p.m. the Queen with the principal nobles at Court visited the King —stayed 2 or 3 hours, and then attended the marriage of one of her gentlemen, as she had promised; or it is thought she would have staid till midnight or 1 a.m., seeing their good agreement for 3 weeks past. She retired soon from the "nopce," to go to bed. And about 2 a.m. a tremendous noise was heard, as if a volley of 25 or 30 cannon, arousing the whole town; and on her sending to know whence it came, they found the king's "logis" totally destroyed [raze], and himself 60 or 80 "pas" from the house in a garden, dead, also his valet de chambre and a young page. One may imagine the distress and agony of this poor princess, such a misfortune chancing when her majesty and the King were on such good terms. It is well seen this unhappy affair proceeded from an underground mine: as yet the author is unknown.

1 *p. French. Fair copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "16 Feb. 1566. Monsieur Clernaultes report of the K. of Scottes death."

Feb. . **474.** THOMAS CRAWFORD'S DECLARATION.

"The wordes betwixt the Quene and me Thomas Crawforde, bye the waye as she came to Glasco to fetche the kinge, when my lorde mye master sent me to shewe her the cause whye he came not to mete her him selfe."

* Torn off.

Elizabeth.
1566-67. First: I made my lord's humble commendations, and excuse, not to think he staid for "prowdnesse" or not knowing his duty, but for want of health, and he presumed not to come in her presence till he knew her mind, for the sharp words she spoke of him to his servant Robert Cuningham at Stirling. She said, there was no "recept" against fear, and he would not be afraid, if not culpable. I answered, his lordship would the secrets of every creature's heart were written in their face. She asked if I had farther commission? I said no—and she commanded me to hold my peace.

The words that I remember betwixt the King and Queen in Glasco when she took him away to Edinburgh:—

His father being absent and sick, the King called me and gave me these words that had passed betwixt him and the Queen, to report to his father.

When they met, she asked him of his letters complaining of the cruelty of "som." He said not without cause—as she would grant when well advised. He said in reply to her, she was the cause of his sickness, and 'Ye asked me what I ment by the crueltye specified in my lettres? yt procedethe of you onelye that wille not accepte mye offres and repentance. I confesse that I have failed in som thinges, and yet greater faultes have bin made to you sundrye times, which ye have forgiven. I am but yonge, and ye will saye ye have forgiven me diverse tymes. Maye not a man of mye aege for lacke of counselle, of which I am verye destitute, falle twise or thrise, and yet repent and be chastised by experience? Yf I have made anye faile, that ye but thinke a faile, howe so ever it be, I crave your perdone and proteste that I shall never faile againe. I desire no other thinge but that we maye be togeather as husband and wife. And if ye will not consent hereto, I desire never to rise forth of thys bed. Therefore I praye you give me an aunswer hereunto. God knowethe howe I ame punished for makinge my God of you, and for having no other thowght but on you. And if at anie tyme I offend you, ye are the cause, for that when anie offendethe me, if for mye refuge I might open mye minde to you, I woulde speake to no other, but when anie thinge ys spoken to me, and ye and I not beinge as husband and wife owght to be, necessite compellethe me to kepe it in my breste and bringethe me in suche melancolye as ye see me in.' She answered, "that it semed him," she was sorye for hys sickness and would find remedy as soon as she might: and asked him why he would have gone in the English ship? He said he did not mean it—but if he had, there was cause, seeing his usage—he had nothing to sustain himself or his servants, as she knew as well as he.

She asked "of the purpose of Hegate?" He answered that it was told him.

She required how and by whom? He answered that the Laird of Minto told him that a letter was presented to her in Craigmiller "made by her owne divise, and subscribed by certeine others, who desired her to subscribe the same, which she refused to doe." He said he would never think that she "who was hys owne propre fleshe," would do him hurt, and if any other would, "theye shuld bye it dere, unlesse they tooke him slepinge," though he suspected none. So he desired her to bear him company, "for she ever fownde som

Elizabeth.
1566-67. adoe, to drawe her sellfe from him to her owne lodginge, and woulde never abyde with him paste two houres at once."

She was very "pensiffe," and he found fault; and said he heard she had brought a litter with her. She said it was brought to carry him more softly than on horseback. He said a sick man should not so travel, "in so colde weather." She answered she would take him to Craigmiller to be with him "and not farre from her sonne."

He said he would go, if they might be at bed and board as husband and wife, and she to leave him no more: and if she promised this on her word, he would go where she pleased—without this, he would not go. She said if she had not been so minded, she would not have come so far, and gave him her hand and faith of her body, that she would love and use him as her husband. But before they could come together, "he must be purged and clensed of hys sicknesse . . . for she minded to give him the bathe at Craigmiller." In answer to her question, he said he hated no man and loved all alike. She asked how he liked Lady Reresse, and if he was angry with her? He said he had little mind of such as she, and wished of God she might serve her to her honour.

Then she desired him to keep to himself the promise betwixt him and her: lest the lords thought not well of their sudden agreement, considering "he and theye were at some wordes before." He said he knew no cause why they should mislike it, and desired her not to move any against him, as he would "stirre" none against her, and that they would work in one mind, or it would turn to inconvenience to both. She answered—"She never sowght anye waie bye* him, he was in faulte him sellfe." He said his faults were published: but there were that made greater faults than ever he made, that he believed were unknown.

He then asked me what I thought of his voyage? I said I liked it not, for if she had desired his company, instead of to Craigmiller, she would have taken him to his own house in Edinburgh, rather than a gentleman's house 2 miles out of town—therefore my opinion was she took him more like a prisoner than her husband. He answered he thought little less himself: save the confidence he had in her promise only. Yet he would put himself in her hands, "thowghe she showlde cutte hys throate: and besowghte God to be judge unto them bothe."

6 *pp. Official fair copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Thomas Crawfordes deposition."

Feb. 23. **475.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

The bearer my servant having to pass "thyther" for the occasions you will hear of himself, I would not forget to remember me in your good grace, and I would write more were he making his journey with diligence. But as he will be long on the way, I will only desire you to make account of me as of one who as long as I live, will honour you as my father: and pray your favour to the bearer in his suits, for my cause. Seton. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By Arch. Greham."

* Past.

Elizabeth.
1566-67. Feb. 23.

476. ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Understanding from the French ambassador that he has desired his master to send a gentleman to Scotland to comfort my Sovereign, I would you moved the Queen's majesty to do the like, which would be well taken of my mistress; and also to write when she has convenient "layser." And I pray you to be "kayrfull" that the mouths of evil disposed persons may be stopped. If it please you, I would know what time "the morne I maye speak her Hynes." *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 24.

477. ELIZABETH TO MARY.

"Madame." My ears have been so astounded [etourdies] and my heart so frightened to hear of the horrible and abominable murder of your "feu mary et mon tue (?) cousin," that I have scarcely spirit to write: yet I cannot conceal that I grieve more for you than him. I should not do the office of a faithful cousin and friend, if I did not urge you to preserve your honour, rather than look through your fingers at revenge on those who have done you "tel plaisir," as most people say. I counsel you so to take this matter to heart, that you may show the world what a noble princess and loyal woman you are. I write thus vehemently not that I doubt, but for affection. As for the three matters communicated by Melvin, I understand your wish to please me, and that you will grant the request by Lord Bedford in my name to ratify the treaty made 6 or 7 years past. On other things I will not trouble you at length, referring you to the report of this gentleman. Westminster.

1 *p. French. Contemporary copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) "24 Februarij 1566. Copia literarum Regiæ Majestatis ad Reginam Scotiæ."

Feb. 26.

478. ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

The Queen's treasurer is come, and Bastiane one of the valets of her chamber with him, who has a letter to your Sovereign. The treasurer desires to kiss her Majesty's hand, and I request your honour he may have that favour. Bastiane will deliver the letter to you this day "efter dyner." I have no letter from my Sovereign: my brother has written to me that her grace went to Setoun "to repois here, and tak sum purgations." Murray is sent for, and "is lukit to be at kourt presentlie." Atholl, and the controller with him, "is partit," but sent for to come again under pain of rebellion. Lennox "wes at Lythquow and went abak till Glaskow, quhaire he is presentlie." All the lords are sent for. "The parsouns that committit this last fact not revelit." A parliament is proclaimed for 14th April. The prince is in the abbey of Holyrood house. "This Vodnisday." *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

You will please make a passport for the Treasurer and train of 8 horse, and that he may understand your "kurtesie" is for my "caus." For the Controller: let it not be known to come by me.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . For a pasport for Monsr Dolu the Quene of Scottes tresorar in France."

Elizabeth.
1566-67. March 8. **479.** HENRY KYLLYGREW TO CECIL.

Though I trust shortly to be with you, I write somewhat meanwhile. I had no audience till this day, which was after I had dined with my lord of "Morray," who was "accompened" with the lord Chancellor, Argyll, Bothwell, and Lethington. I found the Queen in a dark chamber, and could not see her face; "but by her wordes she seamed veary dolfull," and accepted my Sovereign's letters and message in very thankful manner. I hope for her answer in two days, which I think will gratify the Queen's majesty as much as the time permits, for the Borders, Ireland, and also the treaty of Leith. "I fynd great suspitions and no proffe nor appearance of apprehension yet: altho I am made belyve I shall or I depart hence. My lord of Leonoys hathe sent to require the Qweyne that suche persons as were named in the byll you had before my departure, might be taken. Answer is made hem that yf he or any wyll stand to thaccusation of any of them, yt shalbe don, but not by vertu of the byll or his request." I look to hear his answer on that point. He is among his friends "besides Glasco," where he thinks himself safe, as a man of his told me. I see no present trouble or appearance, but a general misliking among the commons and others "which abhorre the detestable morther of ther king, a shame as they suppose to the hole nation. The preachers say, and pray openly to God, that yt wyll plese hem both to reveale and reveng; exhorting all men to prayer and repentance." Edinburgh. *Signed:* H. Kyllygrew.

Ochonor seems happy to have license to come without danger to England. Standen, Welson and Guyn that served the late King, intend to repair home when they can get passport.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

arch 8. **480.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

The bearer George Hoppar burgess of Edinburgh going thither for "trafficque," I have burdened him to bring home some bows and "graith" for summer pastime for myself and friends: and pray you let him have licence for 4 or 5 dozen of "sporting bowis, sum arrowis, a barrell of stringis and sum buikis." Edinburgh. *Signed*: Youris at commandement, W. Maitland.

½ *p. Written and addressed by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 8. **481.** LENNOX TO CECIL.

Having humbly petitioned the Queen's majesty, as the bearer, my very friend M[r] Kyllygrew, can declare to you, touching "this layte onnaturall and most crwell morther of the kyng my sonne, whois sowll God perdonne": and considering he was "so nere of her majesties blude, borne and brocht upe as her subject," and the good will and "aquytans" between you and him, I beseech you be a "meane and a remenbrer" to her majesty to revenge "the sheding of her highnes owne innocent blude." Also that ye will be my "advocat" in my cause towards her majesty for restoring me to her favour again. Howston. *Signed:* Your very assured freind to my powar, Mathow Levenax.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By M[r] Killigrew."

Elizabeth.
1566-67. March 10. **482.** MORTON TO CECIL.

Though I am not able to "acquite" your good will in the time of my exile, and furthering my "releif": yet I send these few lines by the bearer, to shew my thankful heart, and if there is any thing in my power to gratify you, desiring you to command it. Abirdour. *Signed:* Your assurit freind, Mortoun.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 11. **483.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting passport for Thomas Douglas and William Kincaid to pass and repass through England to France and back for a year. Palace of Holyrood House, 25th of reign. *Signed:* Your rihct gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Similar for a year for John Borthwick, Thomas Douglas, Henry Balfour, Thomas Grahame, William Kincaid and 6 in company. Edinburgh. *Signed ut supra.*

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

March 13. **484.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Howsoever "thir" last accidents have altered many men's judgments, yet being assured that "constant men will mean constantly," I would not "pretermitt" this occasion to signify the constancy of one thankful heart for the many and large benefits I have from time to time received by your means. "And as I am twychit my self; so do I judge of yow and all men that feareyth God and embraced the luif of Christen and honour, as concerning this latte accident so odwus and so detestable: yit am I persuadit discrete personaige will nocht rashely judge in so horrible crymis, but of honest personaiges mean honestly quhill treuht declair and convince the contrair—nayther for particular menis interpryisis sa ungodly, withdraw thair guid will frome sa greytt ane multitude as I am assured detestis this wyild attemptat ewin frome thair hartis." I am assured ye will credit this gentleman Maister Kyllygrew the bearer, on my behalf. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

Postscript: I am constrained to crave a safe conduct to be sent me in convenient haste, and commission for horses as I have noted by my friend the bearer.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 13. **485.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By Mr Killigrew and Mr Mailvill, I received your letters of 25th and 26th February, and thank you heartily for your frank speech. For my own part I like your "intention," so I know it does not offend such here "as have most interest to wisshe the mater to be earnestly recommended to soche as yow be: ffor they meane to demande nothing but rycht, and that in due tyme and ordrely." For the third mark you wish I should shoot at: "to wit that her majesty

Elizabeth.
1566-67. wold allow off your estate in relligion—it is one off the things in earth I most desyre: I dare be bold anough to uter my fansy in it to her majesty, trusting that she will not lyke me the wors for utering my opinion and knowlege in that is proffitable for her every way. And I do not dispayre but althogh she will not yealde at the first, yet with progres off tyme that poynt shalbe obtayned." The bearer will give the state of things here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By Mr Killigrew."

March 21. **486.** PASSPORT FOR WILLIAM HENRISSON.

By Sir Thomas Smyth English ambassador at the Court of France, for the bearer William Henrisson servant to the Scottish ambassador there, to pass freely to "her majesties Courte." Burbon Archembault beside Molyns. *Signed:* T. Smith.

At foot in another hand:—This is the form Sir Thomas Smyth used—which I recovered among my papers this day: and fail not to send it to your "M.," praying you to specify 4 horses in my brother's passport. *Signed:* Betoun.

Broadsheet. Indorsed.

1567.
March 29. **487.** M. DE BOSSETEL TO THE QUEEN MOTHER OF FRANCE.

Egerton MSS. No. 2805 C. [*Adding a few words to the king's letter, to tell her majesty of the answer which the English fear*] "sur ceste demande de Callays."

Having heard nothing of Scotland since my last despatch, I have said nothing to her majesty. "Killegray" told me yesterday that he thought the Earl of Moray was embarked for France, and had failed to take leave of the Queen: but there are so many contrary reports, I know not what to credit, and leave it to your majesty's judgment. The Sieur du Crocq left yesterday morning "pour achever son . . *. . ." As for Restrille, since I wrote, this Queen had said nothing. London. *Signed:* Vostre tres humble et tres obeissant serveteur e suget Bossetel.

1 *p. French. Addressed:* "A la Royne." *Indorsed:* "B. de la Forest" etc.

April 12. **488.** TRIAL OF THE EARL OF BOTHWELL.

In the Justiciary court of our sovereign Lady the Queen held in the "pretorium" of Edinburgh by Archibald earl of Argyll &c. her Justice general.

The Queen's advocates, Masters John Spens of Condye and Robert Creychtoun of Eliok, produced her letters dated 28th March and executions of service *etc.* [The "dittay" against Bothwell follows.] Bothwell's procurators chosen by him in court:—Maister David Borthuick of Lochthill and Maister Edmond Hay. After a protest by Maister Henry Kinros as procurator for Andrew Master of Errol, Constable of Scotland, that his rights should not be prejudiced, Mathew Earl of Levenax being often times called, appeared by his

* Word lost.

Elizabeth.
1567. servant Robert Cwninghame, protesting against the shortness of time —that his absence was through fear of his life, and that any judgment by the assize would be in error—producing copies of Lennox's letters to the Queen on 26th February and 17th March—in which last he names Bothwell, Master James Balfour, Gilbert Balfour his brother, Master David Chalmer, "blak" Master John Spens, "Senyeour" Francis Basteane, John de Burdeaulx, and "Joseph Davidis bruther," as suspected murderers of the late King. The assise, Andrew Earl of Rothes, George earl of Caithness, Gilbert earl of Cassillis, Lord John Hamilton commendator of Arbroath "sone to the lord Duke," James lord Ros, Robert lord Sempill, John Maxwell lord Hereis, Laurence lord Oliphant, John master of Forbes, John Gordoun of Lochinvar, Robert lord Boyd, James Cokburne of Langtoun, John Somervile of Cambusnethan, [ ] Mowbray of Bernebowgall, [ ] Ogilwye of Boyne, removed out of Court, "and efter lang resoning had be thame upoun the said dittay and pointis thairof," they voted and acquitted the said James earl of Bothwell of "arte and parte of the said slauchter of the king and poyntis of the said dittay," and by their chancellor George earl of Caithness protested that no evidence in its support had been brought by the pursuer. Extracted from the books of Adjournal. *Signed: Joannes Bellenden, clericus justiciariæ.*

9 *pp. Much damaged. Indorsed*: ". . . Copy of the processe of the Erle Boithwellis clengeing, subscrivit be the Justice clerk."

(2) Another copy of the same.

6 *pp. Contemporary hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "Thearle Bodwells proces whereof he was acquytte." *Printed in Anderson's History, Vol. II., 97, from Buchanan's Detection.*

April 13. **489.** ANSWER TO BOTHWELL'S CARTEL.

Whereas James earl Bothwell has set up a writing subscribed with his hand, that he was "clengit" of the king's murder, and if any gentleman "undefamit" will deny it, he gives him the lie in his throat, and will fight him according the law of arms: the writer offers to prove by the same law "that he was the cheif and autour of that foul and horable murthair, albeit ane inqueist for feir of thair lives, hes slychtlie quite him." And humbly desires that the King of France and Queen of England will appoint a day and place for the trial within their dominions. Also warns the rest of the murderers to prepare themselves for a like offer; and that their names shall be known to all.

Seven lines follow:—

"It is nocht aneuch the pure king is deid
Bot the mischand murthararis occupand his steid
And doubell addulltrie hes all this land schamit" *etc. etc.*

1 *p. In Scottish writing.*

April . **490.** ANSWERS TO BOTHWELL'S CARTEL.

1. Copy of preceding answer.
2. For further answer to Bothwell's writing affixed to the cross:

Elizabeth.
1567. as he dare not answer the writer, nor fight him in France or England, the latter will fight him in Scotland, if the Queen gives assurance to him and his company, and the King of France and Queen of England fix the day, place, and judges, and give him and his company their princely word, whereon he "shall" declare their names. Devisers of the murder:—M^r James Balfour, Gilbert and Henry Balfour, "black" M^r John Spence, and Arch. Barton, James Borthwick, and "yong Sandy Durrame." The murderers with the hands:—The "black" laird of Ormyston of Tevydale, the laird of Branston, John Heburne of Bowton, the yong laird of Tallye, William and Edmund Blacater, James and William Edmonston, Herre Lawder, James Cullen, Patrike Wolson, "wanton" Sym Armstrong, and others whose names shall be made known.

Another ticket set on the cross:—

There is none that professes Christ and his Evangel, that can with upright conscience part Bothwell and his wife, albeit she prove him "an abhominable adulterer and worse": as he has murdered the husband of her he intends to marry, whose promise he had long before the murder.

2 *pp.* *Copy by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

(2) Another copy.

2 *pp.* *In same hand.* *Indorsed.*

April 14. **491.** LORDS OF THE ARTICLES.

"Theis be the lordes of the Articles for the Parliament":—

Bishops:—S^t Andrews, Dunblayne, Ross, Athens. Abbots:—Arbroath, S^t Rinion, Balmerinoch. "For the Spiritualtie."

Earls:—Morton, Argyll, Marishal, (Rothes in his place if he had not come); Huntly (in all affairs saving his own); Bothwell. Lord Herries; with the commissioners of Ayr, S^t Johnston, and Aberdeen.

1 *p.* *Contemporary English hand.*

April 19. **492.** BAND OF THE NOBILITY TO BOTHWELL.

The "undirsubscryvand," considering that though the Earl of Bothwell has been tried by his peers and acquitted of the murder of the Queen's late husband the king, and has offered to maintain his innocence by the law of arms, yet he is calumneated by various persons: declare that they and all their kin etc. shall maintain his quarrel with their bodies, goods and gear. And as her majesty is now destitute of husband, in which solitary sort the common weal cannot permit her highness to continue, if it should please her so far to humble herself by taking one of her own born subjects, and marry the said Earl, they will maintain and fortify him against all that would hinder or disturb the said marriage, as common enemies, and therein bestow their lives and goods, as they should answer to God and on their honour and fidelity. Under their hands and seals at Edinburgh 19^th April 1567.

To this the Queen gave consent the night before the marriage, 14^th May year foresaid.

Elizabeth.
1567. The Queen having seen and considered the above band, promises on the word of a prince that she or her successors shall never impute as crime or offence to any of the subscribers, their consent to the matter therein, or to their heirs, or any "spot" to their honour. Subscribed by her majesty with her own hand.

* The names of the noblemen that subscribed this band "so far as John Read might remember, of whome I had this copie being his owne hand. Beinge commonly termid in Scotlande 'Aynesleyes Supper.'"

Earls:—Murray, Argyll, Huntly, Cassillis, Morton, Sutherland, Rothes, Glencairn, Caithness—"Eglinton subscribed not, but slippid away."

Lords:—Boyd, Seton, Sinclair, Semple, Oliphant, Oglevy, "Rosse Haccat,"† Carlelle, Herris, Gray, Hume, Ennermeth.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. In two Scottish hands. Indorsed* (by Randolph?): "Upon this was grounded thacusation of therle Morton."

(2) Another copy, without the Queen's approval or the names.

3¼ *pp. In an English hand. The writer has been unable to read some of the words in the other copy and left blanks.*

April 20. **493.** KIRKCALDY OF GRANGE TO BEDFORD.

It may please you to let me understand what will be your Sovereign's part concerning the late murder among us? Albeit her majesty was "slawe" in our last troubles, and lost the favour we bore to her, yet if she will pursue revenge for the murder, she will win the hearts of all honest Scotsmen again. And if we understood she would favour us, we shall not be long in revenging it. You shall receive the articles presented by the Kirk, and a protestation made by parliament. The Queen has granted to abolish all laws made by her predecessors "for religion," that may hurt us in lives, lands or goods. The Act of Oblivion shall be ratified. Parliament dissolved this day. There is none other but Huntly and Sutherland's restitution, an Act of Council for the ministers' stipends, and a part of things assured to them "in sik rowmes as they sall not get payment thereof." I pray your lordship cause copy all their other writings and send them to Robert Stewart. The last articles concerning the King's death were refused and the Queen very angry that we desired them. Edinburgh. "G."

Farther the Queen caused ratify in parliament the "clensing" of Bothwell. Cesford is put in Edinburgh Castle, but Farnyhurst, Buckcleugh and Bederowle "has disobeyed and ryden hame." She intends to take the prince out of Mar's hands, and put him in Bothwell's keeping, who murdered his father. The night Parliament was dissolved, Bothwell called most of the noblemen to supper, to desire their promise in writing and consent to the Queen's marriage, which he will obtain—for she has said she cares not to lose France, England and her own country for him, "and sall go with him to the warldes ende in ane white peticote or sho leve him. Yea! sho is so far past all shame" that she has caused make an act of Parliament against

* The remainder in another hand. † *i.e.*, Ross of Halkhead.

Elizabeth.
1567. all that set up any writing that speaks anything of him. Whatever is "unhonest" reigns presently in our Court.

Albeit Bothwell set a writing offering to fight any gentleman that charged him with the murder, now when an answer is made, an act of Parliament is set out under pain of treason that none shall answer or set up any writing: yea! he that takes them down or reads them, shall "dye the dethe." Therefore please your lordship to print these two answers and write to Robert Stewart to do the like, and send them some.

2 *pp.* *Indorsed:* "The copy of the L. of G. his lettre to my lord." *Marginal note by Cecil.* *Enclosing,*

April. **494.** PETITION TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

"The professors of the Evangile of Jesus Crist, even sa mony as hes refusit that Romane Antecrist, unto their soverane the Quenes majestie, wisseth grace, all good thinges, and an maist prosperous reigne":—

Addressing her as "Madam"—Since the ancient custom of this realm has ever been in all parliaments, that before all things "religion wes ever first intretit," they pray for the establishment of Christ's religion, "with the abolishment of the contrare religioun (or rather supersticion) quhilk is papistrie" [*with the arguments against the Turks, Jews etc., and reference to the parliaments of Edinburgh 10 July 1560, and Dundee 15 September 1565, as in No. 403*], and a new ratification of the "Lawe of Oblivion."

Item—That benefices when they "vaike," may be disponed to the welfare of the "kirk reformed."

Item—To take order for maintaining schools, colleges, universities, for sustentation of the poor, "for punishing of sik horrible crymes as lawis ar not yet established upon—sik as idolatrie, blasphemie of Godis name, manifest breking of the Sabbothe day, adulterie, incest, oppin hordome, maintaining of bordelles" etc.

Item—That plain declaration be made of the Acts of Parliament for upholding kirks, manses and glebes, as the "same actes ar sumthing obscure."

Item—That the consistorial jurisdiction of the papist bishops "and udderis that feris not God," may be "simpliciter dischargit and disannullit."

Last—That the cruel murder of the late king "be so dilligently triet and circumspectlie handlit, as the lawe of God in Deuteronome requiris," and also the law of man, so that the wicked committers thereof may be punished as they deserve.

3 *pp.* *Copy in same hand as Kirkaldy's letter to Bedford of 20th.* *Indorsed:* "The Peticion of the protestantes to the Q. in the parliament."

April 23. **495.** LENNOX TO DRURY.

"Good M[r] Marshall"—With hearty thanks for your diligence sending my last message to the Queen's majesty, I shall desire you again to dispatch this inclosed letter to my wife by the "through

Elizabeth.
1567. post." It is "onclossed" that you may see the contents. "From my shippe at the Garloche." *Signed:* Your rycht assured frend Mathow Levenax.

¼ *p. Addressed:* "To my very loving frend, M^r^ Dreury marshall of Berwyke." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 24. **496.** [KIRKCALDY] TO [BEDFORD?].

This is to advertise you that Bothwell's wife is going to "pairt wiht hyr huisband," and great part of "our" lords have subscribed the marriage betwixt the Queen and him. The queen rode to Stirling this last "Munonday,"* and returns this "Thurysday." I doubt not but ye have heard Bothwell has gathered many of his friends, some say to ride in Liddesdale—"bot I beleif it not, for he is myndit to meit the quein this day, callit Thurisday and to taik hyr be the way, and bryng hyr to Dunbar. Judge ye geif it be with hyr will or no! bot you will heir at mair lenth on Fryday and Setterday, yf you will fynd it gud that I contenew in wryteing as occasion serveis. I wald ye rife† this, efter the redeing." The bearer knows nothing of the matter. "Be hym that is youris that twik you be the hand. At mydnycht."

1 *p. In Kirkcaldy's writing. Neither signature, address, nor indorsement.*

April [25]. **497.** MEMORANDA BY CECIL.

First.—That her majesty's mind appear still to desire that the murderers of the "King of Scottes" be apprehended and "justefyed."

Secondly.—That the Queen of Scots may understand what bruits and rumours are spread through all countries on "sayd fact"—partly as men's dispositions move them—"not much to be wayed"—but gathered partly by "indifferent" men, seeing the proceedings in Scotland since the king's death.

Thirdly.—If it is found the Queen is "disposed" to marry the Earl of B.—that all means be used to interrupt it.

Fourthly.—To interrupt any league with France or alteration of religion.

Fifthly.—That redress be had for the great disorders on the frontiers.

1 *p. In Cecil's hand. Titled:* "The matters to be considered."

April 25. **498.** INSTRUCTIONS FOR LORD GREY.

"Being sent in post to the Quene of Scottes."

He is to declare that notwithstanding the Queen's letters, and message by Henry Killigrew, she finds daily from Scotland and all other parts, a general misliking that as yet no discovery is made of the late king's murderers, but also those most "touched" by common fame with the crime, are favoured and benefitted, whilst the father and the friends who should seek revenge, are forced by fear to leave

* 21st. † *i.e.*, tear.

Elizabeth.
1567. Court, and some deprived of their offices. Wherefore her majesty is greatly perplexed, and has sent Lord Grey specially to utter to that Queen such things as are dispersed through the world to the danger of her fame, so as to know what part has truth, and what not.

It is commonly said that Bothwell was the principal author of the king's death, and his malice to him was so "notorious deadly" before it, that the king sought to escape from the realm for fear. That Bothwell's servitors, broken men such as Blakater, Spence, Collyns etc., were the doers, and Bothwell has "laboured" divers to make bands with him, by giving them lands, offices and other "gratuitees." That Edinburgh castle, long honourably kept by Mar, was taken from him because he desired justice for the crime, and given to such mean persons as Bothwell commanded; who also got the superiority of Leith to strengthen him.

On the other side such contempt or neglect in the burial of the king's body, as has increased great indignation; his father, kin and friends forced to absent themselves, and as reported, his father commanded not to come to the Court with above 6 men, while the accused were atteuded in Court by soldiers.

The Queen has a further cause of mislike: that on sending her letters thither by her provost marshal of Berwick, who arrived on Saturday 12th instant, he was refused access to Court, "violently used, deluded," and his letters only delivered after delays—and requires amends for this open insolence.

4 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "Aprill 1567. Memoryall, Scotland."

April 26. **499.** KIRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

This Queen will never cease till she has wrecked all the honest men of this realm. "Scho wes mynded to cause Bothwell ravishe hyr, to the ende that scho may the soner ende the mariage, quhilk scho promesit before scho causit murder her husbande." Many would revenge it, but they fear your mistress. I am so "sutit to for to entirprise the revenge," that I must either take it in hand, or leave the country, which I am determined to do, if I get license; but Bothwell minds to cut me off ere I obtain it, and has returned from Stirling to Edinburgh. She minds hereafter to take the prince out of Mar's hands, aud put him in his that murdered his father, as I wrote in my last. I pray you let me know what your mistress will do, for if we seek France, we may find favour: but I would rather persuade to lean to England. In haste. From my house. G.

1 *p. Copy by Bedford's clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "26th April 1567. Copy of the l. Grange lettre to therle of Bedford."

April. **500.** ANONYMOUS TO CECIL.

The principal of the College of Jesuits in France that was in Scotland with M. Morat, returned with him "this waie" to France. There, it is bruited by the Scottish ambassador that the Lord James was the author of the king's death, and Lord Lennox is deluded and mocked by him, as the Hamiltons in time past were. The bruit

Elizabeth.
1567. that the citadel of Lyons was undermined by the "Hugonytes" is found utterly false by commissioners sent from Court, whereon by "arrest" of the privy council, those that pulled down the church and house are condemned to re-edify the same and restore to the poor man the value of his goods taken from him. Monsieur Crock is now sent to Scotland to know the truth etc. of this murder.

These are news of 20th March last.

½ *p. Contemporary hand. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "April 1567. Frises sent to Mr Jo. Hales."

May 7. **501.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

I have been in the country ever since Master Killegrew's departing, and nothing occurred worth writing. But understanding what is like to fall forth among us, "and in lykmaner cane geve yow sure intelligens, I think me of dewtye bound till impart it with you, and meit ye sould knaw of it." Since the Earl Bothwell carried the Queen violently to Dunbar, "quhaire scho is judgit to be detenit withoute her awyne lybertie," divers noblemen and the most part of the subjects of the realm are miscontent and will not bear with it. There have convened at Stirling, Argyll, Atholl, Morton, and Marr, with the young Earl of Montrose, the laird of Tillibarne controller, having the minds of most part of the nobility: and after first agreeing Argyll and Atholl, and Argyll and Tillibarne, made a band amongst them to pursue the Queen's liberty, preserve the prince from his enemies, in Marr's keeping, and purge the realm of the detestable murder of "our kyng"; whereof, from his presumptuous detaining the Queen against her will, pressing her to marriage, suit to have the prince in keeping, and the principal strengths of the country, makes all men judge him the principal author. As I have learned, these lords will nowise think her at liberty "so long is scho beis in the said erls cumpane, albeit he maye persuad her majeste to saye wtherwis." When she was first carried to Dunbar, the Earl of Huntly and Lethington were taken as prisoners; and my brother James with other domestic servants. Her Majesty commanded some of her company to pass to Edinburgh, "and charge the towne to be in armour fore her reskew, quhilk theye incontinent obeyit, and past withoute their portis apone fut, bot culd not helpe—quhilk schame done be a subject to our soverane offendis the haill realme." I understand the nobility mind to suit assistance of your mistress, considering that the King who is with God, as also the Queen and the prince her son, are so near of blood to her highness. "This farre I will mak your honour pryvei of: that France hes offerit to enter in band with the nobilite of the realme, and till lyst the cumpane of mene of arms, and to geve dyvers pensions till" the nobles and gentlemen. "Quhilk sum did lyk weill of, bot the honest sort" have brought the rest to the effect they will do nothing to offend your sovereign, "withoute the falt be in her majeste." Both papist and protestant join earnestly for the weal of their country. The lords have gone to their "cuntreis" to assemble their friends. Bothwell has brought the Queen to Edinburgh and "requirit Mester Jhone Krage to proclame there bannis to be mariit"; which he has refused, answering he might not be her lawful husband. It is judged he will

Elizabeth.
1567. "end" the marriage and go to Stirling to have the prince by force, but Mar is "witteling" the castle, and will not deliver him. I understand your Sovereign wrote to mine with good advice which was "ower scharplie" answered. Your honour will excuse it and esteem it rather the counsel of those about her than of herself: "for ye haif experiens that her majeste behavit herselfe moire moderatlie" when with her own wise council. I trust "ye will ryve" my letter, for being in the country, I do not know if my sovereign would "allow of it." From my heart I wish her honour and prosperity, and to your honour a long and happy life. With my humble commendation to my lady. Kernye in Fife. *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

I am minded presently to go to Court.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 8. **502.** KIRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

I wrote at length to your lordship of "sic thingis as were done before the parlement," but marvel at no answer. Whereas the most part of the nobility for fear of their lives, granted sundry things against their honours and consciences, they have since convened at Stirling and made a band to defend "other" in all things concerning the glory of God and the common weal. The heads are (1) to seek the Queen's liberty who is "ravissed and deteyned" by Bothwell, and has all the strengths, munitions and men of war at his command: (2) the preservation of the prince: and (3) to pursue the king's murderers. To that effect they desired me to write that they may have your Sovereign's aid to suppress the "cruell murtherer Bothwell," who when the Queen was last at Stirling, suborned some to poison the prince; "that barborous tirant" wishing to cut him off for fear of after punishment. The lords at Stirling were Argyll, Morton, Atholl, and Marr; and by me request a direct answer, and that with haste. For they are presently suited to by Monsieur de Croc, who offers his master's aid to suppress Bothwell and his faction; and also declares to the Queen that he has learned by the French ambassador at London, that the ships the Queen is preparing (as the bruit is) for Ireland, are to come here to punish the King's murderers. He also admonishes her to desist from Bothwell and not to marry him: for if she do she shall have neither friendship nor favour from France. But he says "she will give no eare," so he offers to go to Stirling and stay with them in the prince's company in the King of France's name. But I have persuaded the lords to give him "a differring" answer till I hear from you. He offered me also largely if I would travail with them for his master. There is to be joined with these four lords, the earls of Glencairn, Cassillis, Eglinton, Montrose, and Caithness, the lords Boyd, Ochiltree, Ruthven, Drummond, Gray, Glammis, "Hennermayth," Lindsay, Hume, and Heris, with all the west, Merse and Tivedaill, the most part of Fife, Angus, and the Mearns. For this, Argyll is ridden to the west, Atholl to the north, Morton to Fyfe, Angus, and Mearns, and Mar remains with the prince. Their chief reason for your support is to get Bothwell out of Dunbar or Edinburgh, not for fear of him in the field—but besides these two strengths, he has all the munition. The Queen and he are in Edin-

Elizabeth.
1567. burgh Castle, and she minds to levy 500 foot and 200 horse. For this she has 5000 crowns coined from the font your lordship brought to the baptism—the rest is to be "reft and borowed" of Edinburgh and the men of Lothian. In my last packet, I sent your lordship two answers to Bothwell's cartel. I enclose the third, with the gentleman's name who offers the combat. It will please you to haste these other letters to my lord of Murray, and write to him to come back into Normandy to be in readiness when my lords write. Take good heed to the incoming of Englishmen, for there was one in Edinburgh the time of parliament, that brought the Queen news from your court. Postscript:—The Kirk of Edinburgh plainly refused the Queen's desire to proclaim the banns between her and Bothwell.

The third answer to Bothwell's cartel "not yet sett up."

James Murray brother german to the Laird of Tullibarne, seeing that Bothwell has passed over two former answers to his cartel, offers to prove the king's murder on him as the chief. And if the earl dares not fight, Murray and 5 other gentlemen offer to prove on "the black lard of Ormyston, the lard of Beynston, John Haiburn of Bowton, the yong lard of Tallay, James Cullen, and James Edmonstoun," that they were in his company at the murder.

2½ *pp. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed:* " . . . Copy of the L. of Granges lettres to therle of Bedford."

May 10 (?) **503.** ROBERT MELVILL TO THROCKMORTON.

[*To same effect as his letter of 7th to Cecil.*] Declares that Bothwell overawed his trial—having 200 men besides his friends—that the assize were taken on the sudden, and forced to decide his guilt or innocence before they left the house. Relates his seizure of the Queen returning from Stirling with but 30 horse, between Lithquow and Edinburgh. Desires commendations to Leicester, to his bedfellow, Randolph and Killegrew, not forgetting Thomworthe. Kernye in Fife the 10* of May. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

I pray you send this letter of my lord of Murray to him. "Ye knaw better quhare he is thane I do. He will haiste haym efter he hes seyne it."

3 *pp. Holograph, also address.* "To . . . Schir Nicolas Phrogmartyn knycht." *Indorsed:* "May. Rob^{t} Melvyn to my M^{r}" etc. *Greatly injured by damp.*

May 17. **504.** R. MELVILL TO CECIL.

"Thire two jentilmene the lards of Bacomme and Remurnye," having obtained the Queen's license to bestow some years forth of this realm: I have only written these few lines to show my good will. For the estate of this country: it may please you to give them credit —"quho ar tuo honest jentilmene and of gud religione, frendis and servandis to my lord of Murraye." Edinburgh. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Though dated 10th in *Foreign Series*, this figure is Melvill's form for "V."

Elizabeth.
1567.
May 18. **505.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for George Leirmonth of Balcomy, and 5 in company, to pass and repass between England and Scotland, for a year. Edinburgh, 25th year of reign. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed.

May 30. **506.** HUNTLY TO DRURY.

I have received your letter, reminding me of the money recovered here by John Bigges in Carmerthen, and that it might be delivered to the bearer. I wrote to you "of Dunbar," how the matter stood, and I believe, "gif sic occasiones as lately hes intervenit in this cuntrie had not gevin the debteris bauldnes to retene the money," it should have been ready. But I hope it will soon be ready, and you shall be advertised, that the merchant may come to receive it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Hwntlye.

½ *p. Addressed:* "To . . . Mr Williame Drury marishall of Berwik." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May. **507.** BALLAD ON THE DEATH OF DARNLEY.

"Heir followis ane ballat declaring the nobill and gude inclinatioun of our king."

[*In great commendation of Darnley's accomplishments. Mary is styled Dalila, Jesabel and Clytemnestra, and accused of waiting to hear the shot announcing his murder.*]

Broadsheet. Blackletter. Three columns of doggerel. "Imprentit at Edinburgh be Robert Lekprevik 1567." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May. **508.** THE COMPLAINT OF SCOTLAND.

[*Twenty-four stanzas of 5 lines each, lamenting Darnley's death.*]

Broadside. Blackletter.

June 5. **509.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

My brother has reported to me your great courtesy to him passing through England, and I also understand otherwise your great care of my estate and well doing: for which assured tokens of your continued favour, I wish you as much good as I can to my dearest friend. Other particulars of my state, and occurrents here, my old friend Mr Mailvill the bearer, will amply report to you. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 5. **510.** THE DUKE OF ORKNEY TO CECIL.

The Queen having directed the bearer Robert Malvile to your Sovereign, I thought I had good reason (remembering your good will when I happened to be furth of my country) to visit you with this

Elizabeth.
1567. short letter of hearty thanks. "Bot seing God hes callit me to this place," I heartily desire you to persevere in all good offices touching amity betwixt their majesties. The bearer is instructed as well by the Queen "as be me," whom I pray you credit. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your richt essurit frind lifullie James D.

¾ *p. In Hay's writing, and address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Erle Bothwell to my M^r" etc.

June 5. **511.** THE DUKE OF ORKNEY TO ELIZABETH.

"Your majestie will pleas apardone me, that at this present have taken the bauldnes to wrait unto your hienes, knawing your majestie, throu misreportis of my unfreindis and evill willars, at sum tymes to have bene offendit with me: quhilk as I never justlie deservit, sa now being callit to this place, I think evir to bestow my study and credite to the intertenyment and continewance of the gude amytie and intelligence, quhilk heir to fore hes stand betuix your hienessis." The Queen having directed her servant Robert Malvile, instructed with her mind to your majesty, I "hes alsua oppynnit my mynd to him, and willit him to mak trew report thairof to your majestie, quhome I beseke in that behalf to credit him." In conclusion "I will thus far bauldly affirme, that albeit men of gretar birth and estimation mycht weill have bene preferrit to this rowme, yit nane mair cairfull to see your tua majesties amytie and intelligence continewit be all gude offices, nor mair affectionat do your hienes honour and service, culd have enterit thairin." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your majestis richt humill vitht service to command lifullie, James D.

1 *p. Written and addressed by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "5 Junij 1567. The D. of Orkney to the Q. Majesty, by M^r Melvill."

June 5. **512.** MARY TO CECIL.

Signifying she has sent her servant Robert Malvile to her good sister his sovereign, instructed with her mind. Desiring him, as he has ever done, to show himself a good minister in his sovereign's service, and credit the bearer, who will declare her mind "at gretar lenth." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your gud frind Marie R.

½ *p. Written and addressed by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Small wafer signet* (Scotland).

June 7. **513.** LENNOX TO ELIZABETH.

Though before leaving Scotland, I had not received assurance of your majesty's favour, or answer to my humble petitions, yet with the hope that my wife's letter sent by M^r Kyllygrew, put me in, and remembering your graciously sending to the Queen of Scots to stay that "most parciall and onressonable daye of lawe apoyntyt for the clengyng of hyme who was the cheif percecwtar and mortherar of the layt kyng of Scotland my sonne—I meane therlle Bothwell": and having a great desire to speak with you, I took my voyage towards Portsmouth, but was by great storm of weather and contrary wind, drivin on the coast of Brittany. I have been all this while stayed

Elizabeth.
1567. there "after a sort," till of late released by the governor of that country, and am now come to Southampton, minding not only "to submyt me hooly" to your merciful hands next to God, but also to serve you, trusting that your highness will remember the murder of your poor kinsman, till upright justice may be had. I await your gracious answer before presuming to depart hence. Southampton. *Signed:* Mathow Levenax.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet quartered. Lennox in pretence—indistinct.* "M.S." *at sides.*

June 11. **514.** PROCLAMATION BY THE LORDS OF SCOTLAND.

"Heir followis the proclamatioun that the nobilitie and lordis maid at the Croce of Edinburgh the xi day of Junij 1567, declaring the effect of thair assemblie in armour."

Charging all subjects, specially the burgesses of Edinburgh, to assist them in delivering the Queen, revenging the late king's murder, and preserving the prince's person. Commanding the lords of session etc., to sit for justice, notwithstanding any tumult or bruit of this enterprise. Subscribed with their hands. At the Cannagait.

1 *p.* *Blackletter.* "Imprentit at Edinburgh be Robert Lekprevik." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

(2) Another copy of same.

Indorsed (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . at Edenburgh Castle."

June 12. **515.** MORTON, ETC., TO LORD GRAY.

Add. MSS. 32,091, fol. 210. The greatest part of the nobility awaiting the rest coming, have assembled to "put remeid" to the dangerous and miserable estate of our commonwealth: viz., that the Queen majesty may be delivered from thraldom, the prince preserved, and the cruel murder of the king his father "tryit," whereby our native country may be relieved of the shameful slander it has incurred among all nations. This action concerns your lordship and all that tender the commonweal and establishment of the religion: wherefore we pray you to repair to this town, substantiously accompanied with your honest friends and servants, to advise with us on the premises. Awaiting your coming. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Mortoun, Mar, Sympyll, Patrik l. Lyndsay, Sanquhar.

1 *p.* *Addressed:* "To our assurit freind my lord Gray."

June 12. **516.** ACT OF THE SECRET COUNCIL OF SCOTLAND.

Declaring that James earl Bothwell on 24th April last, put violent hands on the Queen, compelled her to an "unhonest" marriage, and was the principal deviser and instrument of the late king's murder—commanding a macer and officer of arms to pass to the market crosses of Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, S^{t} Andrews, Stirling, Glasgow etc., and charge all the lieges on 3 hours warning to pass forward with the said lords of Secret Council and nobility to deliver the Queen from captivity, and bring the said Bothwell and his complices to underly

Elizabeth.
1567. the laws of the realm for the king's cruel murder, and "ravissing and detening" the Queen's person. Commanding all that will not assist, or are complices of Bothwell, within 4 hours after publication of the present act, to void and "red" themselves furth of Edinburgh, or they will be held as enemies, and punished in body and goods. Tolbooth of Edinburgh.

1 *p. Blackletter.* "Imprentit at Edinburgh be Robert Lekprevik 1567." *Indorsed*: "Coppie of the last proclamation maid by the lordis in the town of Edenbourgh. To Mester Melville."

(2) Another copy of same.

Indorsed (by Cecil's clerk).

June 15. **517.** SURRENDER OF QUEEN MARY AT CARBERRY HILL.

[*A coloured drawing showing the position of the two forces—to the right (or east side) the Queen and Bothwell, with the banner of Scotland and 4 pieces of cannon; to the left (west side) three bodies of spearmen headed by the laird of Grange, the Lord Hume, and Earl of Morton. Between the two armies the Queen is represented led on horseback to the lord Hume's division. Grange on horseback raises his hat to her. The names of adjacent places are given, and there is much life in the drawing. The Forth in the distance.*]

On paper, about 2 feet × 16 inches. Indorsed: "The meting of the Lordis with the Quene of Scotts in the feild."

[June.] **518.** ALLEGORICAL SKETCH.

[*In colour, representing the Queen crowned, naked to the waist, as a mermaid; in her right hand waving a curved stem with two wings at the end; in her left holding an article of oblong shape; at side* "M.R." *The face is very pleasing. Below within a circle surrounded by 17 swords or daggers points outwards, a hare or rabbit,* "I.H." *above.*]

Indorsed (by Drury): "The peoples applyyng of thys "I.H." is for thearle Bodevell Jhon Heyborne."

(2) A rude copy of same, with mottoes—*Spe illecto inani, Timor undique clades, etc.*

June 15. **519.** BANNER OF THE CONFEDERATE LORDS.

[*Coloured drawing representing Darnley's dead body (nearly naked) lying under a tree.* "I.H.S." *in a circle above, and the infant prince kneeling at one side, a scroll above*—"Judge and revenge my caus O Lord."]

Paper, 18 in. × 12 in. Indorsed: "June. The manner of the lordes banner."

June. **520.** EXHORTATION TO THE LORDS.

[*A poem of 19 stanzas of 8 lines each. The first line* "My lordis now gif ye be wyse" *etc. Evidently after the Queen had sur-*

Elizabeth.
1567. *rendered, urging that they keep her safe—put Bothwell to death—make provision for the ministers, and bring up the prince in a godly manner.*]

Broadsheet. Blackletter. Printed by Lekprevik. Indorsed (by Cecil's clerk): "June 1567. An exhortation to the lordis of Scotland in metre."

June 15. **521.** BOND OF THE CONFEDERATE LORDS AND OTHERS.

Recapitulating all the proceedings of Bothwell since the king's murder, sufficient to prove his guilt "althocht thair wer na uther pruif"—his procuring a divorce from his lawful wife grounded on his own "turpitude," using the order both by the ordinary commissary, as in form and manner of the Roman kirk, showing that he was of no religion—and binding themselves, earls, lords, barons, "commissaris" of burghs and others, to take true part together till the author of the said murder and "revesing" be condignly punished, the said unlawful marriage dissolved and annulled, the Queen relieved from the thraldom, bondage, and ignominy which she has sustained, the person of the innocent prince reposed in surety, and justice restored to all the subjects of the realm. Subscribed with their hands at Edinburgh.

Broadsheet. Scottish hand. Indorsed: "Copie of the bond."

(2) Another copy of same.

Broadsheet. Another hand.

Said to be printed, Anderson, vol. I., page 134, from Privy Council Records; also by Keith, vol. II., p. 648, from same.

June 17. **522.** [HARYSON] TO [DRURY.]

I came to Edinburgh "this Monday* by ix houres" where the lords were, viz., Morton, Atholl, Glencarn, "Merche,"† Ruthven, Lindsay, Howme, Semple and a number of barons. This Monday night the Queen is conveyed to Lochleven, in a loch 1½ mile from land. The manner of the field was this—when the armies were near, Bothwell, seeing his party not sufficient, offered to fight with Morton, "Merch," or Lyndsay, to prevent more bloodshed. Lyndsay offered the lords to do him that honour, it was granted, and he made ready; meanwhile Bothwell, not intending to fight, made ready to his "convay" to Dunbar. Blacketer and Wedderburne hearing this, came to the Queen, and showed their opinion thus—'Pleaseth it your grace that instauntly as my lord Bothwell is desierus to fight in the matter upon his own desier, yt appeareth his cause is not just: therfor we refuese his parte, and woll not mydle therwith,' and so "lape" on their horses. The Queen seeing this, "drave tyme" till she got Bothwell well forward to Dunbar, "and then came to theme‡ with as great a stomack as ever she had." I have resolved your honour's matter with "Grandg and others: of the answeares of your letters you knowe of, I persave somthing I woll not wryte, but this bearer wyll declare my partes. Alwaies John Red is to come to you incon-

* 16th. † Marischal? ‡ The lords.

Elizabeth.
1567. tenent frome my lord* and others to pase up soune. As for to discuse all thinges at lenthe I cano: but hathe somthing showene the bearer, whome yt pleas you to credet." I hear not of the "castelles surrendering, albeit thay be in mynde to seage Downbarr." I know M^r^ Colwiche will be "participat" of these letters, so spare writing to him. I told them you would have sent 200 hagbutters on my lord of Bedford's "came to Howme and forder" if they pleased—to encourage them. My hearty commendations to my lady, M^r^ Colwich, M^r^ Pycken and M^r^ Nycholas.

Captain Blaketer and Basten are taken. Haryson.†

2¼ *pp.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "June 1567. Copy of a letter to [ ] of the newes of Scotland."

June 17. **523.** HUNTLY AND OTHERS TO THE [ARCH] BISHOP OF GLASGOW.

The Earls Atholl, Morton, Glencairn and Marr, Lords Home, Ruthven, Lindsay, Semple and Creychtoun, joining with others, purposed to invade Borthwick, but the Queen "evadit" to Dunbar. Meanwhile coming to Edinburgh, though we resisted, they found such favour with the town that we retired to the castle, whence after "strang" watching for 5 days we escaped, the Queen being in the field "on Sondaye last the xv^th^ of this instant June," and came to Lythqwo, where a good company of the Duke of Chatelherault's friends with my lord of Arbroath, were assembled to relieve the Queen. But on coming by Edinburgh they were surely advertised that her majesty was taken and is now captive at Lochleven. Though attempted by "a few number," yet the enterprise has been so secretly "convoyed" that it could not have been "prevenit." As this taking of our sovereign is against all law and order, we will with the rest of her true and faithful subjects, assemble for her relief. And desire you to advertise the king of France hereof, for the same is not only our sovereign's cause, but concerns as well his highness and all other princes, and if any "other forain nation wold sett forward their attemptates," that he would fortify and maintain our realm princes and commonweal as he and his predecessors have done before. ‡"Your lordships assuret gud frendes at power, Huntlye, Sanctandr, Arbrothe, Flemyng, Jo. E. Rossen, Ross, R. Boyd, Kilwynning."

2 *pp.* *Written by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed* (by him): "17 Junij 1567. Copye of therle Huntleys and other lordis lettres to the B. of Glasco emb. in France."

(2) Another copy of same.

2 *pp.* *Another handwriting.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Greatly damaged and torn.*

June 19. **524.** MORTON TO DRURY.

I have commanded the bearer my servant sent to Sir John Forster, to come by you and take your licence for post horses. And as he is "wele ineuch" known to you, I thought it more meet to let

* Morton? † Scored out. ‡ From this point in Cecil's hand.

Elizabeth.
1567. you understand the state of this country by him, than write it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Mortoun.

½ *p.* *Addressed:* To the worschipfull and my verey guid frend Maister William Drury marschall of Barwik."

June 20. **525.** MORTON, ATHOLL, ETC., TO BEDFORD.

Being assembled here for certain purposes (as we doubt not you shall hear before this come to your hands) the bearer will expone the matter to you at greater length than we need write, who is commanded to speak you, being we understand "in the way." Give him firm credit. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Mortoun, Atholl, Glencarn, Mar, Alexr. l. Home, Sympyll, Sanquhar, Wchiltre, W. Maitland, S[r] J. Balfour.

1 *p.* *Written and addressed by Hay.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . . The Erle Morton, and other lordes of Scotland to therle of Bedford, by G. Douglas."

June 20. **526.** KYRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

"I dout not or this ticat sall cum to your lordschipis handis, but that your honour sall have resavit sum wrytingis of myn" partly answering your letters, and letting you understand things "chanset" here. What I have not written I desired Robert Melvin to show you. Concerning the prince, I have travailed with some of my acquaintance, but they say they dare not meddle therewith presently, for fear it shall open up a "gretter and wechtyer" matter to our enemies: for the Hamiltons begin to suspect we will crown the prince, "quhilk I assure your lordschip wes nevir spoken amangis us; and therfor it is thocht best to suspend all answer in that point till tyme serve better." As I am burdened with the affairs "that belangis to the feildis," I have left the handling of the other to the [lords ?]* and Robert Melvin, and remit present doings to the bearer. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Kyrkcaldy.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 21. **527.** M. DU CROC TO CHARLES IX.

"Syre,"—I sent you a courier "Mardi" 17[th] instant, with the displeasing news of this realm. Those who have preferred themselves are the Earl of Mar governor of the prince, the earls of Atholl, Morton, and Glencairn, the lords Hume and Lindsay, and hold the Queen in Lochleven, surrounded, as I reported, by a lake of 3 or 4 leagues circuit, and impregnable. They have the prince at Stirling, and hold this town and castle, the captain of which has sat at council these two days, "qui est ung vray traistre nomme Bauffour." They have all the artillery, save a little at Dunbar. The Duke the Queen's husband, embarked within these three days, whither is unknown. I think he will not leave the coast. I have a letter from the Hamiltons with 8 or 10 signatures, and hope for another to-morrow from Argyll and Huntly, who will die they say to rescue the Queen from captivity.

* A sign like the Greek "ph."

Elizabeth.
1567. They see those risen against her, would wreck the house of the "Stuartz." I see well by her majesty, your mother's letter of 26th March (which she desired me to burn after showing to the Queen her "belle fille") was much to the point. "N." comes almost daily, and makes me the greatest oath that there is no intelligence "en. ch." I think he lies to me, "et ceulx cy dessus nommez" are strongest in the field, but the others hold the Queen, prince, horse, and artillery. They ask aid from you, wherefore "Sire" I hold it lost. For those "cy apres" though strong in the field, will be obliged to retreat. M. de Villeroy arrives to-night at Berwick and dare not pass without my news. I send him to-morrow a good escort, and he will be here this Monday evening. I will demand audience of the lords, that we may see the Queen; if they refuse I will speak "bien" to them and will go to see the Hamiltons, who are 12 leagues from hence. Lislebourg.

1½ *pp. French. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "Dated xxj Junij 1567. Copy of Du Crocz lettre to the French king out of Scotland —deciphred xxix° Junij 1567."

June 21. **528.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

The reverence and affection I have ever borne to the Queen my mistress occasioned me to stay so long in company with Bothwell in the Court, as my life has every day been in danger "sence he began to aspire to any grandeur," besides the hasard of my reputation in the sight of men of honour, who thought it no small spot that by my countenance or company with him I should favour such a man as he is. So finding the best of the nobility resolved to look narrowly to his doings, and being required by them, I could not refuse to join in so just and honourable a cause, "the grownd wheroff" the bearer Mr Mailvill can report to you at length. I pray by your means we may find the Queen's majesty's favourable allowance of our proceedings, and in case of need, her support of the execution of justice on those found guilty of the abominable murder of one who had the honour to be of her majesty's blood. If it pleased her to aid these noblemen with a small sum of money to levy harquebusiers, it would make a short and sudden end of that enterprise, in my opinion. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 23. **529.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

"Madame,"—It has been always held in friendship "that prosperite provideth, but adversite proveth frendes," wherefore we comfort you with these few words. We understand by your trusty servant Robert Melvill of your estate, and as much as could be said for your marriage. To be plain with you, our grief has not been small thereat: for how could a worse choice be made for your honor than in such haste to marry such a subject who, besides other notorious lacks, public fame has charged with the murder of your late husband, besides touching yourself in some part, though we trust in that behalf falsely! And with what peril have you married him, that hath another lawful

Elizabeth.
1567. wife alive, whereby neither by God's law nor man's, yourself can be his lawful wife nor any children betwixt you legitimate?

Thus you see our opinion plainly, and we are heartily sorry we can conceive no better, what colourable reasons soever we have heard of your servant to induce us otherwise. We are earnestly bent to do every thing in our power to procure the punishment of that murder against any subject you have "how deare soever you shuld hold hym," and next thereto, to be careful how your son the prince may be preserved to the comfort of you and your realm.

For your comfort in such your present adversity, as we hear you are in, we are determined to do all in our power for your honour and safety, and to send with all speed one of our trusty servants not only to understand your state, but thereon so to deal with your nobility and people, as they shall find you not to lack our friendship and power. Our Manor of Rychmond, the 23 June 1567.

3 *pp. Draft by Cecil, corrected. Indorsed* (by his clerk). ". . . By M^r Melvill."

June [24]. **530.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Please to remember when your ambassador is despatched, to send my instructions with him, and I pray you move her majesty to appoint some commissioners "to mak sum end of the Mester Merschall ransowne." I have spoken with "Mester Bisschope" to know if he will go with my lord of Lennox to Scotland? Who answered he would be directed by your honor. He may serve to good purpose both for experience of the country, and for religion, as well as to keep friendship between Lennox and his friends there. I know Murray has a good opinion of him, and he will employ his service to withdraw us from France. "Quhow he is in my lord and ladye Lennox favour, I am not certane," but it will please you to "adwys" hereon. "This Tysdaye, at Loundoun." *Signed:* R. Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 14-24. **531.** OCCURRENCES IN SCOTLAND.

Account of the Queen's surrender to the lords in the fields near Musselburgh, the flight of Bothwell to Dunbar, and her detention in Lochleven till justice be done on the king's murderers. She will agree to nothing whereby Bothwell shall be in danger; report of his joining the Hamiltons, who make a party "to the end to move cyvill troble, wishyng nether to the Quene nor the prince well, in respect of ther own interest to the Crown." On 24^th^ Captain "Blacketer" was hanged, "hedded, and his armes and legges broken, for the murder." His man a "Flemming" is also taken. A servant of Bothwell's is taken, and confessed that the Earl was in person at the murder, and carried in 2 trunks, made for apparel only, with gunpowder. Others taken confess the same, "with some other very strange thynges." Some noblemen now joined with the Hamiltons, were privy that the king "shuld be rydd out of his liff," but not "of the manner."

1 *p. Written by Cecil's clerk, with many additions etc., by Cecil. Indorsed:* ". . . a note . . . sence the xvij^th^ of June."

Elizabeth.
1567. June 26. **532.** DAVID ROBERTSON TO R. MELVILL.

I have made request for silver to you. They answer, if ye get any there to help them with, to take your part of it, and beware that none come into my lord of Lennox's hands and "disponyng." You have done ill to declare yourself so soon and so openly in the lords' affairs, for something is come to the knowledge of the French ambassador here. "Mestre Jeny" has asked me again this night to write and pray you to bring him "an hacqueney that is gud, stark, sure and easie, whatsoever he cost, for his hors is dead, and no lyf beleved to his wyf." Mestre David Robertson.

½ *p. Partly in cipher. Copy by Robert Melvill. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

(2) Decipher of part of same.

June 26. **533.** MORTON, ATHOLL, ETC. TO ELIZABETH.

The heavy burden, slander, and ignominy, sustained by this realm and chiefly the nobility, among all nations, for the odious murder of the late king, yet unpunished, constrained us at last to take arms to bring the murderers to justice. Though at the departure of our trusty friend Robert Malvile to your majestie, "our interprys wes then latent," we willed him to declare the same, and understand that your highness has accepted our proceedings favourably, offering to support us in this godly quarrel; for which we offer our most humble thanks. We have willed Melville to declare farther of the estate here, and beseech your highness to give him audience and firm credit. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Morton, Atholl, Alex[r] Glencarn, Mar, Alex[r] l. Home, Sympyll, Sanquhar, Wchiltre.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 28. **534.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Understanding by his friend M[r] Melvill's letters, his good acceptance of these noblemen's "querrell" for punishment of the King's murder and preservation of the prince, and her majesty's gentle answer by his furtherance—is no less bound thereby than if he were alone in the action; for on its success depend the lives and lands of all the partakers. Refers him to Melvill who is amply instructed of the merits of their action, and their desires of her Majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 28. **535.** ROBERT MELVILL TO CECIL.

Understanding from M[r] Marshal that a packet of letters sent me from the lords is directed to you, I pray it may return "with the first." Your ambassador must be "haistit," also Lennox, for I hear the Hamiltons "seamis to do sumquhat." Berwick. *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1567. June 29. **536.** BOND BY THE LORDS OF MARY'S PARTY.

Forasmuch as the Queen our sovereign is detained captive in Lochleven, we the subscribers promise to make our exact diligence to put her to liberty, on such conditions as may stand with her honour, the commonweal of the realm and nobility, and the security of those who have her majesty in keeping. And if they refuse these reasonable conditions, we engage ourselves, our kin, friends, bodies and lives for her liberty, and to concur in punishing the king's murder, and for the prince's liberty. At Dunbarton. S^t^ Androwes, Argiel, Huntleye, Arbrothe, Galloway, Ros, Fleming, Boyde, Herris, "Scarlinge, comptroller," Kyllwynninge, W^m^ Hamiltoun of Sancher, knight.

1 *p. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed:* " . . . the copye of the bande which the lordes that seeke the Q. delyveraunce have subscryvet with theyre names."

June 30. **537.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

"Madame,"—Our perplexity is such for your trouble, and the occasions, "that we can not fynd the old waye which we wer accustomed to walk in, by wrytyng to you with our own hand"; yet we mean no lack of friendship. We therefore send this bearer our very trusty servant Sir Nicholas Throkmorton, both to understand your state and impart our meaning at more length than we could to your own faithful servant Robert Melvyn, though he used much earnest speech on your behalf: yet such is the general report of you to the contrary, and the evidence of your own acts since your husband's death, that we could not be satisfied by him. Wherefore credit the bearer as ourselves. From our house of Richmond. 9^th^ of our reign.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed:* " . . . Copia" etc.

June 30. **538.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THROKMORTON.

He is to declare the Queen's grief at the evil accidents that of late happened from time to time to the Queen of Scots, impairing her fame and honour, specially on the death of her husband horribly murdered so near to her, and so few hours after her being with him, and nothing done to punish the murderers: next favouring Bothwell and his associates, men of notorious evil name, whom the world charged with the murder; thirdly, with maintaining him in procuring such "a strange divorse from his wife a good lady—as never was hard that a man gilty shuld for his offences putt away his innocent wife, and that to be coloured by forme of lawe!" finally, to take such a defamed person to her husband. Which things almost made her Majesty think to deal no more with her by way of advice, but look on her as a "person desperat to recover her honor," as other princes her friends and near kinsfolk also judge. But now finding from intestine troubles, she is restrained by her nobility and subjects from liberty, the Queen has changed her intention of silence and forbearing to deal in her sister's causes, to commiseration for her and determination to aid and relieve her by all possible means to recover

Elizabeth.
1567. her liberty: "and not suffer hir, being by Goddes ordonnance the prince and soverayne, to be in subjection to them that by nature and lawe are subjected to hir."

He is to require of the Queen of Scots what she wishes Elizabeth to do for her liberty, and to assure her as much shall be done for her as if her natural sister or daughter (the case duly considered). To declare to her what her nobility and subjects charge her with, and with discretion point out matters wherein her fault cannot be covered, yet may by policy be so used that her honour may be saved from ruin. He shall assure the nobility that her majesty neither can nor will endure for any respect, to have her their sovereign imprisoned or deprived of her estate, or put in peril of her person. Generally to do his best to bring about accord between their Queen and them. And if any demand is made on her by them, which she dislikes, her majesty will frankly deal therein if asked to judge of it. The Queen has determined to rest on these heads—(1) to restore Mary to liberty by persuasion and treaty or by force, (2) to procure due punishment of her husband's murder, and (3) to preserve the young prince from all danger.

If he were kept in England many good things may ensue to him of no small moment hereafter, as she may well allow. He might be placed in custody of his grandmother, with all security of hostages *etc.*, that can be devised, and herein the ambassador is to do his utmost.

6 *pp. Draft much altered by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk). *Printed in Keith, Vol. II., p. 667.*

June 30. **539.** ELIZABETH TO THE LORDS OF SCOTLAND.

Hearing of the late inward troubles much to her grief and displeasure, she has sent the bearer Sir Nicolas Throkmorton chamberlain of her Exchequer and gentleman of her privy chamber, addressed both to her good sister their Sovereign and to themselves, to declare her mind: praying them to suffer him to resort to the Queen, and credit him as from herself.

1 *p. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2) Another copy. Dated Richmond *ultimo Junij.*

1 *p. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed.*

June 30. **540.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THROKMORTON.

Things to be imparted to the lords:—

They are required to allow him access to their Sovereign. The Queen's objects are only the weal of their realm, to prosecute the king's murderers, and preserve the child their prince. In both cases she will further their reasonable demands. He is to urge concord between their Sovereign and them—also to declare that as a sister Sovereign their Queen cannot be detained prisoner or deprived of her princely state. To show them how incredibly her majesty took it at first, that persons of such honour as they be, (the principal nobility of that realm,) could offer such violence to their Sovereign as to commit her to any manner

Elizabeth.
1567. of prison. For, though not denying she may be charged with faults or oversights, it does not appertain to subjects so to reform their prince, but to deal by advice and counsel, and failing thereof, "to recommend the rest to Almyghty God." And he may say, her majesty does not think this, because her self by God's order a prince; but it is "so ordeynid by God, and receyvid for a truth in doctryne in all good Christien governmentes." And while she thus thinks of their proceedings, he is to assure them she means not to allow the faults imputed by report to their Sovereign, but has given him strait charge to reprove her for the same, as is not "unlefull" for her to do, being also a Queen and her next cousin and neighbour: and she should conform herself to good accord with her nobles and people to bring her realm to quietness. After thus dealing generally, he is to deal with some of them he chooses for the purpose, thus:—As they have disclosed the means used to them by France, he shall remind them of the evil results of putting their realm under the government of France, as themselves have experienced. As for aid: that her majesty found it strange, that till they met their Sovereign in the field, she never heard from them in any credible sort, nor indeed hitherto by any authorised person, till [*] who could show no letter or writing, nor had even spoken with the lords himself, but had only a message—therefore she has sent Throkmorton to know their full intentions. And till better knowledge is had by him, she can give no assistance.

4¼ *pp. Official draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): ". . . Copy of thinstructions for N. Throkmorton for matters to be imparted to the lordes of Scotland."

June 30. **541.** SUMMONS AGAINST THE DUKE OF ORKNEY, ETC.

Signet letters—"Marie be the grace of God quene of Scottis, to our lovittis Adam M^c^Cullocht Marchemont herald, Thomas Donaldsoun, Alexander M^c^Cullocht . . . messingeris." On the complaint of her dearest son, "the native prince and stewart" of her realm, and the remaining kin and friends of the late king, Maisters John Spens of Condy and Robert Creichtoun of Elliok, her advocates for her interest —narrates the treasonable murder of the king "liand in his bed takand the nychtis rest"—the complicity of "James now Duke of Orknay, then Erle Boithvile" and his servants therein—slaying William Tailyeour the king's servant and Andro M^c^Caig there—his blowing up the house—his sham trial, maintaining "umquhill William Blacater" (and others)—with 1000 horse on 25th April last besetting the highway between Lithquow and Edinburgh "beside the Foul briggis," and taking the Queen's most noble person by force to her castle of Dunbar, detaining her, and for fear of her life making her promise to marry him—on same day taking prisoners Huntly and William Maitland of Lethington "knycht" her secretary, asked to speak with him under trust, *etc. etc.* Charging them in her name to warn the said earl Bothwell and his complices to appear before her justice or his deputies within the Tolbooth of Edinburgh on the 22nd day of August next to come, to underly the law, with certification if

* So in draft.

Elizabeth.
1567. they fail, that they shall be declared rebels and put to the horn *etc.* Given under our signet at Edinburgh the last day of June 25th year of our reign. *Ex deliberatione Dominorum Consilii.*

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Scottish official hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "Thexcepcyons taken to the Erle Bodwells proces wherof he was acquyte, and declaracyon of matters to charge hym on newe." *Damaged.*

July [1]. **542.** MEMORANDA FOR THROKMORTON.

The Queen to be at liberty with these provisions:—
(1.) The truth of Bothwell's "fact" to be proved before her, and herself induced to believe it by all means.
(2.) Thereon a divorce to be made, and she to commission certain nobles to proceed against him and complices.
(3.) Parliament to assemble with speed and general peace proclaimed.
(4.) Dunbar and Dunbarton to be kept out of Bothwell's hands.
(5.) The principal offices lay and ecclesiastical, to be given by the Queen with advice of her council.
(6.) The succession to the Crown to be renovated and confirmed.
(7.) The Religion to be established, "exceptyng none but the Quenes person," and competent attendance not exceeding [ ].
(8.) That all Bothwell's lands be annexed to the Crown for the prince's education.
(9.) That 4 or 6 councillors at least, attend the Queen monthly.
The Queen of England may be moved to maintain this parliament. [*Among memoranda at close is*] "Athalia 4 Regum, interempta per Joas Regem."

2¼ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "At Sir N. Throkmortons goyng into Scotland Julij 1567."

Printed by Keith, Vol. II., 674, from copy in the B.Museum.

July 1. **543.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Being with my lord Keeper this day, I find his opinion concurs with yours for the "necessary havying off the prynce off Scott," grounded me thinks on great reason, and therefore though his health may not suffer him amongst you, let not his opinion be absent. While with him Randoll sent me a packet from the north, which I broke up, and read the letters you see unsealed. In all, I note that the pursuit of the murderers will not stand with the Queen's liberty—for she has "impugned" it so earnestly, she will not be enlarged methinks till the principals and accessories are convicted. I mislike the Hamiltons having Dunbarton at their devotion, and Argyll being among his "Redshanks." Let her majesty take heed that she cause not the divided factions to accord one way or other, and every way to her disadvantage. Either she has forgotten what she said to Melvyn, or he mistook her, "or the lordes be more confortyd then I se cause." I have been with my lord and lady of Lennox, and declared "brefely" her majesty's intent as to the Queen, the prince, the lords, and justice on the murderers. They are much troubled with want of money.

Elizabeth.
1567. "My lady wepte bytterly, my lord syghed depeley." Surely her majesty must needs consider them for her own service! You shall see by Grange's letter he is desired in Scotland. This afternoon my lord Treasurer gave me order for my money, and tomorrow I set forward, taking the French ambassador in my way, to see his countenance and hear what he says. I mean to tell him my special errand is for the Queen's liberty, and touch nothing else. At my house at London. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 1. **544.** R. MELVILL TO CECIL.

I came here on 29th ulto., and imparted to the lords the Queen's good will to assist them to prosecute the king's murderers and preserve the prince in Mar's custody. The most of them are gone to their houses to repose, except Morton, Atholl, Hume, Lethington, Sir James Balfour captain of the castle (daily in council with them), Master James Makgill and the Justice Clerk. Their going is caused by some bragging of the Hamiltons with Huntly, to convene their forces, under colour to deliver the Queen, although credibly reported that they fear the king's murder will be laid to the bishop of S^{t} Andrews' charge. Before my coming the lords wrote divers instructions to me and a letter to her majesty of their good will to serve her before all others. They have been so discreet with France, it need not be offended, and your sovereign will be well pleased. They only need money, for they have already enlisted men, and take up more. The Hamiltons are maintained by the Queen's substance and countenanced by France. It is most needful some money be sent with Sir Nicolas Throgmorton, for their necessity will be within 8 or 10 days. The order to be taken for my going to the Queen is not agreed on, for most of the lords are away, and Lethington is greatly "empeschit" with affairs, and might not have leisure to concur at length. The rest I will refer to his letters. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Youre honors at pouar and service, R. Melvill.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 1. **545.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Having conferred with M Mailvill since his return, I perceive as well your constant friendship to me, as your allowance of this common quarrel, enterprised to recover the honour of our country almost lost for that shameful murder, yet unpunished—as also your sovereign's inclination to allow the justice of our cause and to advance the same: which I am sure her majesty shall never have occasion to repent, or that these noblemen shall be unmindful of whatsoever they shall receive at her hand. The ministers of some foreign princes, for whose favour we least looked, and who have no such interest in the case as the Queen your mistress, have in conference made very great and honest offers, which none could have refused, if some looking more narrowly, had not feared that under outward show, there were hid something prejudicial to the good intelligence between these two nations ever since "the mater off Leyth," not yet forgotten. I will not deny that some here, "and I amongst others," think we should keep France

Elizabeth.
1567. in hand, and do nothing to offend them or let them think we have cast them off—thus breeding unnecessary enmity. Yet I dare undertake (unless we find more coldness with you than I will suspect) you shall always find this nobility like best the amity of England, and for your sake neglect offers seeming advantageous to many. I shall never weary till you utterly reject us—not I trust to happen in my time. I have for myself no cause to mislike France, for they have honoured me more than some of my country of greater degree—some will say more than any yet! But I shall never put you and them in equal balance, and this whole fellowship is conformable to the same. If any come here from your sovereign he will understand more hereon of themselves and all their purposes, to her contentation.

Our cause I take by God's help is in good surety. We fear no party here unless set out by the Queen's substance or foreign help. To meet that danger, we have levied some companies of harquebusiers by common contribution. I pray you we may have some comfort of money at her majesty's hands; and whatsoever it please her, quickly sent, shall do more than a greater sum "long a commyng." I should be sorry we had aid from any other, which we must needs do if you refuse us. I pray answer hereof with speed. Edinburgh. At night. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 2. **546.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Accrediting the bearer his servitor, whom he sends to England for such causes as he will declare to Cecil at length. Believes he will put to his helping hand when occasion offers, as he has done before. Paris. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by M^r^ Elvingston."

July 2. **547.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

As I wrote to you "yesterdaye," I passed by the French ambassador "this daye," whom I found "at cardes" with M. de Villeroye. He moved me that it might please her majesty that her minister concur with any sent by the French king to Scotland, to procure the Queen's liberty—the only mark I see they shoot at; and the more they desire that matter first without any other condition, the more methinks her majesty should "qualefie" her affection to bring it to effect, till justice be done on the offenders, and surety for the lords. They take it ill that De Villeroye was denied audience; and by some words the ambassador "let slyppe," either M. de Croke will be stayed in Scotland on my going, or is like to be returned thither when he reaches London. I showed them her majesty sent me to comfort the Queen in her "calamitye," and procure her liberty, as too great an indignity to be shown by subjects, and I looked, like Villeroye, to be denied access. They seemed to "make no dowbte" I should have leave to speak with her. If they refused me access, I said I would address myself to the Hamiltons and the party wishing her at liberty, as what my mistress chiefly sought, though she also desired justice on the murderers. I advertise thus much, that her majesty and you may

Elizabeth.
1567. "use the lyke speche unto them tomorowe at theire audyence," if it please her, for I thought not good to appear that her majesty had any other "desygnemente." A packet passed this afternoon which I saw not, and by your next please let me know what is "chaunsed" in Scotland since the 27th of last. Ware. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 3. **548.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I met this packet here; you shall see by Mr Marshal's letter the occurrents amongst them, "some contrarietye" concerning Lord "Ceyton," but I pray God the last advertisement of him and other lords named, be true. I marvel that Boyd and Fleming "have chaingyd theyr tackle, but I perceave they canne do lyke conninge maryners, sayle with all poyntes of the wynde!" I am like to meet "La Crocq" by the way. It should serve to good purpose for your "desseigmentes," that Bedford, Scrope and Forster make general musters horse and foot, in their wardenries on a day's warning—naming no enterprise or taking any side. Hereby the Hamiltons would be afraid, and become calm—the lords would yield to better conditions—Bothwell's favourers will fall from him—and the Queen of Scots become "more conformable;" and it is no charge. Stylton. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 4. **549.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Sending him a packet delivered this day between Stamford and Grantham, from M. de la Forrest to M. du Crocq. As the latter missed him at Grantham, he desires it may be returned to M. de la Forrest, to whom he has written a few words of explanation. Grantham. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 6. **550.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I met this packet here, and "note that Bodwell is in better case than I am glad of"; now being assured that the Hamiltons, Huntly, Argyll, Fleming, Seton, Boyd, and the Castle of Dunbarton, "is at hys devocion." Herries will seem to be a compounder of matters betwixt them. I received your packet of 3d at Doncaster on the 5th. I sent the letters for Scotland to Mr Marshal, and have written to Lethington for a conference before I reach Edinburgh, and also to take order for my safe passage from Berwick. In your next let me hear how my lord Steward doth, for whose sickness "I am full sorye as I have good cause." Ferry Bridge. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

¾ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

July 6. **551.** MORTON TO FORSTER.

I lately wrote to your lordship with my servant David Turnebull, of our proceedings, willing you to write to "my lord Scrupe to stope

Elizabeth.
1567. the Maister of Maxwell unjoyned with our adversaris"; easily to be done, for he is not earnest "in our contrar," nor the country willing to serve against us. So if Lord Scrope writes at your desire, he will do us pleasure, and honour to himself. But we are provided for the worst, "and cairs not al those that wil be our unfreindes, God being our freind." I have some "merlyeons to send yow, but be ressoun of the waiknes of ther fedders, wes not able to be careit at this present." Let me know your mind at more length than you have done, and I shall do the like. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Mortoun.

Let me know if Lord Scrope writes and the Master's answer.

¾ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 7. **552.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I met this packet here, and "perceyve matters frame better with the lordes than yt dyd appeare by the last." I gather that "Kyllwynnye" would win time, in hope of something out of France to his content: therefore let what her majesty purposes be done speedily, and keep not matters in suspense. Newcastle. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

It comes ill to pass for my purpose that Lethington is not at Edinburgh, and it will be longer ere I leave Berwick, as I think it not good to confer with the lords in his absence.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 8. **553.** T. HENEAGE TO CECIL.

One came this afternoon from the Earl of Murray in France, with whom after the Queen had talked an hour, she commanded me to go and tell you he had the Earl's letters to the Queen of Scotland, who straitly charged him to deliver them only to her own hands, and by no means that the lords should see them; telling him that he did not a little mislike that they kept their mistress "in durans," and that he would be her true servant in all fortunes. And the Queen bade me say her pleasure was you write with all haste to the Queen her sister, which she would set her hand to, not meaning to write with her own hand, as she had not used her well "in these broken matters that be past." The effect was to tell the truth "now in her sisters misery," *viz.* that (1) the Earl never spoke dishonourable word of her for her husband's death, (2) nor sought to convey the prince hither, and (3) so far from confederacy against her, she had not so true a servant in Scotland. After this great haste, her majesty bade me look who you had waiting, and to call Hampton or Somers—and when I called Somers, she dealt with him a good while, and then told me I should not be required to go. So I write thus much hereof. From the Court, hastily. *Signed:* T. Heneage.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's other clerk).

July 8. **554.** R. MELVILL TO CECIL.

The bearer "Jhone a Forret" is directed by Murray's friends to him and to take your advice to him, who is earnestly wished to make speedy return, by all the lords here, who greatly lack his presence.

Elizabeth.
1567. Most part of the realm agree that he bear greatest charge under our sovereign and the prince. Though the Hamiltons make some brag, with the help of the Queen's substance and the French; if your mistress aid him, all factions will be suppressed. Credit the bearer, who knows all occurrents. I went to Lochleven and delivered your Sovereign's letter to the Queen; "and all that I spak at that present wes before the lord Lyndsaye, Rywen, and the lerd of Loughlewyne; quhilk her majestie did tak in werraye evill* part." I am presently sent for by the lords "to speak pryvelie with her hyenes," and according to your honour's advice, which Lethington likes well, and so many of the noblemen as are privy, you shall be advertised what shall "fall fourthe" thereon. Kernye in Fife. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "Jhon of Forrest" noted by Cecil.

July 8. **555.** JAMES MELVILLE TO DRURY.

As my brother is not presently here, I advertise you that the Lords who were at Hamilton have gone, every man to his own house. Argyll immediately desired to meet Lethington at the Castle of Doune 4 miles beyond Stirling—where they have been "this" 4 days, and agreed well, coming to Stirling, where Argyll declared more of his mind to Mar, and they are well content with him. The confederacy of the lords in the West is as you call it, "a Welschemans hoise," with 3 heads, viz. punishment of the murder, security of the prince, and delivery of the Queen from custody. These have subscribed it—Huntly, Boyd, Argyll, Fleming, Herries, the Bishops of S^t^ Andrews, Rosse, Galloway, and a knight called Sir William Hamilton. None durst make a contrary one in words to the lords in this town; what is in their minds God knows! their power appears yet very small. On Thursday a meeting is appointed at Stirling betwixt some deputed from the lords that were at Hamilton and others from the lords here: for good order in things on hand. The Queen is in good health. [*Here follows his brother's report of her*]. Salute Sir Nicholas Throughmorton from me when he comes, and send this packet to M^r^ Secretary, for France—to haste my lord of Murray homewards. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Melville.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address:* "To . . . M^r^ Wyllyam Drury deputy of Berwick." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . M^r^ Ja. Melvill to M^r^ Drury."

July 9. **556.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

At length "with muche adoo" I am arrived here, and send you Lethington's letter in answer to mine. How things stand in Scotland, I refer you to M Marshal's letters of this date, which I met 4 miles out, but did not stay them, on account of Murray's packet requiring speed. Berwick. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

I find by Sir John Forster the state of the borders "very tickle." I have written to Lord Scrope how to deal with Lord Herries for our sovereign's purpose.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Originally "guid."

Elizabeth.
1567. Inclosed in the same.

(Maitland to Throkmorton.)

By your letter this bearer has delivered, I am glad you are so "fordward" on your journey, and no minister could have been employed "so affectionat" to us as you. As desired, I will meet you nigh Coldingham on Friday and lead you that night to Fast Castle "my lord Hwme his hous"; where though you can have no good cheer, you shall be welcome, and next day you may be easily conveyed hither. Edinburgh, 8th July. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

Pray direct this other packet to France with letters for Murray with the greatest diligence that may be.

¾ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 11. **557.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Your letter of 6th I received here on 10th. I am sorry to see the Queens majesty's disposition alters not towards the lords, "for when all is donne, yt is they which must stande her in more steede than the Quene her cousen . . . which is voyde of god fame." This day I journey towards "Faux castle," attended by Mr Marshal and 200 horse to the Bound road, where Lord Hume's deputy wardens receive and convey me to meet him and Lethington by their own appointment. Pray thank Mr Marshal for his good and friendly usage. He deserves "confyrmacion" from the Council for his diligence in this office. I thank you for the good news of my lord Steward's amendment. The Borders grow far out of order—even now thefts and spoils committed by the Scots. The best way to remedy it is to procure the lords of Edinburgh (at whose devotion these "pryckers" be) to retain the headmen and their followers in good order. Berwick. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 12. **558.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

As you might see by my letter of 11th, I lodged here that night with Lord Hume, Lethington, and James Melvin, "wher I was intretyed very well, accordinge to the state of the place, which is fitter to lodge prisoners then folkes at lybertye! As yt is very lyttle, so yt is very stronge." I find by Lethington that his associate lords and he have left nothing unthought of which may either be to their danger, or work them surety—not forgetting what good and harm France and you may do them. As far as I can see, "to be playne with yow," they find more peril to grow through the Queens majesty's dealing, than by the French, or any contrary faction amongst themselves; "for they assuer them selffes the Quene wyll leave them in the bryers, yf they runne hyr fortune." Though they acknowledge great benefit both to them and England by her majesty's doings at Leith (whereof she and both realms have received great fruit), yet on other accidents "chawncyd sithens," they have observed such things in her doings as have tended to the danger of such as she has dealt with, to the overthrow of your own "desseigmentes," and surety of no party. Thus I find that they either mind to make their bargain

Elizabeth.
1567. with France, or else deal with neither of you, but do the best for their own surety, "meaninge neyther to irritate Frawnce nor Englande," till they make a sure bargain with one of you: proceeding with both for a time *pari passu*, Lethington's "terme." They take it very "unkyndlye" that no better answer is made to their letter to her majesty, or nothing satisfactory from you. I answered as well as I can, alledging their own obscure proceedings with the Queen, and their own uncertainty: wherefore her majesty has sent me to inform her thoroughly, and on their declarations in reply to my propositions for her, they shall have resolute answer. At this Lethington "smylyd and shoke hys head, and sayd, 'Yt were better for us yow wolde lett us alone, then neither to do us nor your selffes good, as I feare in the ende yt wyll prove.' Sir, yf there be any trothe in Ledington, La Crocq ys gonne to procuer Ramboillet hys comminge hether or a man of lyke qualitie, and to delyver them of theyr Quene for ever, who shall leade hyr lyef in Frawnce in an abbey reclusyd, the prince at the Frenche devotion, the realme governyt by a cowncil of theyr election of the Scottishe nation, the fortes commyttyd to the custodye of suche as shalbe chosen emongst them selffes.'" As yet I find no great likelihood of my access to the Queen: it is objected they may not so displease the French king, unless they were sure of our sovereign's friendship. Having once by my access offended the French, they say you will make your profit to their undoing. As for the Queen's liberty—the first head I proposed—they said the Queen meant their undoing, and it was folly to talk of the other matters, "the lybertye goinge before: 'But,' said they, 'yf you wyll doo us no good, do us no harme, and we wyll provyde for ourselffes.' "In the ende they sayd we shulde reafuse our owne commoditie before they concludyd with any other, which I shulde her of at my comminge to Edenburghe." By my next I hope to send you the "bande" concluded by the Hamiltons, Argyll, Huntly and that faction, not so much to the prejudice of the lords of Edinburgh as that which was sent to France. Having no more leisure, but compelled "to leape on horsebacke" to go to Edinburgh. Fast Castle. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 14. **559.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

Though the "causes" may often change there, yet she thinks it good, that besides dealing with the lords in charge of the young prince to commit him into her realm, he also assure the Queen, looking to the troubles there, her own danger, and the child's peril, that such is her best course, for he will be treated as if Elizabeth's own child, and become acquainted with her country. So dealing, it will stay her from inclining to the French practise which is notoriously to convey him to France.

1 *p.* *Draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him).

July 14. **560.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Accompanied by Lord Hume and Lethington with 400 horse, I came here on the 12th. Next day Sunday, being a solemn com-

Elizabeth.
1567. munion here, and a solemn fast published, I could have no conference with the lords here viz.—Atholl, Morton, Hume, Lethington, Sir James "Bawfor" captain of the castle, Mr James Magyll and the "Presydent of the Sessyon." Yet making means against "protracte of tyme," with Lethington, also Morton, "whom I met by chaunce": they answered, "that albeyt the daye weere destyned to sacred exercyces," they would consult, and in the afternoon they would come to me or I should hear from them. About 4 p.m. Lethington came, requesting me to have patience at the delay—grounded chiefly on the absence of Mar, Glencairn, Symple, Kreyghton and others of the Council. He also said there was great difficulty in my pressing for access to the Queen, as they had refused the French ambassador the like. I answered that Villeroye was sent before these accidents, and his special commission was to impeach the Queen's marriage with Bothwell and offer her another. As for De Crocq, he could have no order from France since these things happened—therefore these two might be suspected of treating matters without instructions, and thus rather do harm than good. Whereas your Majesty knowing all that had chanced, had sent me to treat for the weal of their realm and surety, and I might boldly say, had better deserved to the most of them assembled and their realm, than the French. He said he was much bound himself to her majesty. 'But to be playne with you sir,' sayd he, 'there is not manye of thys assemblye that have founde so great oblygacyon at the Quene your soveraignes handes as at the Frenche kynges.' For Morton and Glencairn were the only persons that benefitted by her Majesty's aid at Leith—the other noblemen were not in that action. 'And not to talke with you as an ambassador, but with Sir Nycholas Throkemorton; my lord Moreton and suche as were in payne for the deathe of Davye, founde but coolde favour at the Quenes Majesties handes when they weere banysshed forthe of theyre owne countreye.' But I wish all were as willing to accomplish your sovereign's desires as I am, but am only one of the meanest, while they are many and have great interest; but will do my utmost. Your self has many friends in this assembly, "with manye other good wordes." The state of things since my coming I have learned is as follows:—

The queen remains in good health in the castle of Lochleven, guarded by Lords Lindsay and Lochleven the owner. Ruthven is employed in another commission, as he began to show great favour to her and give her intelligence. She is waited on by 5 or 6 ladies, 4 or 5 gentlewomen, and 2 "chamberers," one a French woman. The earl of Boughan, Moray's brother, has liberty to come to her at his pleasure. The lords guarding her keep her very straitly, and their "rygowre" proceeds by order of "theys men," because she will by no means lend her authority to prosecute the murder, nor consent by any persuasion to abandon Bothwell for her husband, "but avowethe constantlye that she wyll lyve and die with hym; and sayethe yf yt weere put to her choyse to relynquishe her crowne and kyngdome, or the lord Bodwell, she would leave her kyngdome and dygnytye to lyve as a symple damosell with hym; and that she wyll never consent that he shall fare worse or have more harme than herselfe." The principal cause of her detention is, these lords seeing her "fervente" affection to him, fear if put at liberty, she would so maintain him,

Elizabeth.
1567. that they should be compelled to be in continual arms against him. They also mean a divorce between them, which cannot take place if she were at liberty and had power in her hands. But they do not intend to touch her in surety or honour; for they speak of her with respect and reverence, and affirm that the conditions aforesaid accomplished, they will restore her to her estate. To guard this town the lords have 450 harquebusiers, for whose pay they sued your majesty by Lethington for 10,000 or 12,000 "crownes of the sonne." They lately heard that the French king minded sending hither M. de la Chapelle dez Ursines, a knight of the French order, well affected to the house of Guise—and howsoever La Forrest, Villeroye and du Crocq have spoken in her favour against these lords to your majesty, La Crocq carries with him matter little to the Queen's advantage, and the king may therefore rather satisfy the lords than pleasure her: for their party is so well made that the French will rather profit by them than otherways.

Herewith I send your Majesty the "last bounde" signed by the Hamiltons, Argyll, Huntly and others at Dunbarton. Yet the Hamiltons have sent to me here, a gentleman, Robert Hamilton, with a letter from the bishop of S^{t} Andrews and the abbot of Arbroath: the copy whereof and my answer, I send, referring to the bearer some things they declared by him—as also of a letter and credit sent by Argyll to me. Herries sent, but did not write, and so I have answered him. Against the 20th instant, there is a general assembly of all the churches, shires and borough towns as are content to repair to these lords, where the whole state of the matter will be handled, and I fear much to the Queen's disadvantage and danger, unless Lethington and others best affected provide remedy. For the great number, "and in maner all, but chyeflye the common people whych have assysted in theys doinges, doe greatlye dysfavour the Quene, and mynde seryouslye eyther her depryvacyon or her destructyon." I have done the best I can (considering "the furye of the worlde heere") to prorogue this assembly, as the best remedy. I may not speak of dissolution of it—not to be "abyden"—and should thereby incur great hatred and peril. The chiefest lords here present dare not show the Queen so much lenity as they would, "for feare of the rage of the people. The women be moost furyous and impudent against the Quene, and yet the men be mad enoughe; so as a straunger overbusye maye soune be made a sacrafyce amongest them." A bruit of the Hamiltons taking the field on the 24th has come to nothing. Argyll is in the "Hyelande" about some trouble of his countrymen. These lords desire Lennox much, and her Majesty may promote her purpose by him. Argyll, the Hamiltons and he are incompatible. There are two strange humours among them. The Hamiltons make show of the Queen's liberty and prosecute it with great earnestness, for they would have these lords destroy her, rather than she should be recovered from them by violence. Another while, they seem to desire her liberty and Bothwell's destruction, to compass a match between her and the Lord of Arbroath. Argyll affects her liberty, to marry her to his brother. Yet neither of them (notwithstanding their "bande") discover their minds to each other, or mind one end!

Knox is not here, but in the west parts. He and the other "mynysters" will be at the great assembly, "whoose austerytie

Elizabeth.
1567. agaynste the Quene I feare as muche as anye mans." By some conference with some of this Council, methinks they have intelligence that the Queen desires to retire either to England or France—"moost wyllinglye into Englaunde, for suche traverees and myslykinges" as she knows have been and are meant to her in France: leaving the "regymente" here either to a number of persons "deleagued" by her, or to "one or moe." I would remind your Majesty if she comes to England without the French king's consent, she loses her dowry there: if she go to France, she may (as time will cancel her disgrace) make a new match, or otherwise work new unquietness to her own realm and yours. Therefore it may please you to let me know your pleasure herein, if it be propounded, as some of the best affected of this Council think there is no other way to save her. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

6½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the above:—

(1.) (Bishop of S[t] Andrews etc. to Throkmorton.)

Hearing of your coming from the Queen's Majesty for "releve" of our sovereign, we thought good to certify you of the good mind of the most of her nobility to employ themselves therein: and that our long delay is from no lack of good will, but that we are very "laith" to enter into blood amongst ourselves, if her liberty can be otherwise procured without hurt of the noblemen her "detenars." We pray the favour of your Sovereign's mind therein, and to credit the bearer. Hamilton, 12[th] July 1567. J. S[t] Andr. Arbrothe.

1 *p. Copy. Addressed* (to Throkmorton). *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2.) (Throkmorton's reply.)

I received yesterday, by M[r] Robert Hamilton, your letter of 12[th] and perceive your honourable resolutions for the enlargement of your sovereign, whereof I will advertise mine without fail: who concurs with you, as M[r] Hamilton will perceive at his coming to her Majesty's Court, whither I have recommended him favourable passage. I have summarily declared to the bearer what I know of things here. Edinburgh, 14[th] July 1567.

⅓ *p. Copy. Indorsed* (by Throkmorton's clerk): ". . . . Copy of my lettre to the Archebusshop of S[t] Andrews and the Lord of Arbrothe."

(3.) (Argyll to Throkmorton.)

Sending his special servant with his mind, and to know the state as he thinks most expedient to communicate with him. Offering any pleasure he can do him. Castle Campbell, 11[th] July 1567. Argille.

½ *p. Copy in a new hand. Indorsed* (by Throkmorton's clerk): ". . . The copy of therle of Argyelles lettre to me."

(4.) (Throkmorton's reply.)

Giving Argyll humble thanks for his "gentle vysytacion" both by his letter and his servant this bearer, to whom he has declared briefly

Elizabeth.
1567. the heads of his instructions given him by his sovereign, for treating with the noblemen here. Edinburgh, 14th July 1567. N. Throk.
½ *p. Copy. Indorsed* (by his clerk): " . . . The copye . . . to the Erle of Argyell."

July 14. **561.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I write with more brevity, having written "at large" to her Majesty, whereto I refer you. Consider things "as they be," and let me know "what certayne poynte hyr Majestie wyll grow to: for these men be to well accquayntyd with ower humors." I find by Lethington (who is wisest and best affected to her Majesty and her realm, "and ys the only meyne to worke any good thyng, so as yt be probable), that yt ys no tyme to speake off the delyvery off theyr prynce"; and yet he wishes her Majesty had not made such difficulty in employing among them 10,000 or 12,000 crowns "in respecte publykely" that she would pursue such a murder of her subject and kinsman, and to separate such an "advowterer" from the Queen her cousin, as Bothwell. He says "at long rekonyng" it would benefit her and the realms as much as any money bestowed since she came to the crown, and win her more sure friends to compass her desires than four times as much given by any other prince, or at any other time. I pray you note the points in the Queen's letter requiring her pleasure, and let me hear it without delay. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 16. **562.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

I advertised your Majesty on the 14th, of the deferring of my audience. But finding the absent lords made no speedy repair, I pressed those here again for audience. Whereon upon the 15th, Atholl, Morton, Hume, Lethington, Balfour, captain of this castle and clerk of Register, Tillyberne and Cragmiller provost of this town, came to my lodging, and though they desired me to forbear opening my instructions, till all were assembled, they yielded to my importunity, and I delivered your Majesty's letter, and declared your instructions, reserving the article concerning the French. After hearing me very attentively without interruption, they answered by Lethington ("who sat hyest" but the two earls and Hume) that they humbly thanked your Majesty, but prayed you would allow the suspension of their answer till their associates were joined with them. I replied, desiring them to abstain from "ceremonyous delayes," and answer what I had declared on your Majesty's behalf, and no longer defer my repair to their Sovereign. Thereon Morton said they could not make answer on so many weighty matters without the advice and consent of their fellows; and all the rest with one voice confirmed what the Earl and Lethington had said. Which I was compelled to take for answer.

I complained of a great spoil on the Borders by 200 Scots etc., advertised that day by Sir John Forster; whereon Morton for the others expressed their sorrow—that it was due to Bothwell and his faction, who had no other means to help himself: but they would

Elizabeth.
1567. write to all the wardens and head men, and would entreat the laird of Grange, who had good credit with his son in law Farnehirst, to put things in good stay, and then advise with Lord Bedford at Berwick.

I now understand the Queen is in great fear of her life; and has said to some of the lords about her, "that she can be verye well contented eyther to lyve in a closse nunrye in Fraunce, or with thoulde Dowgier of Guyse her grauntemother." Bothwell has been of late with Huntly at "Strawboggye," attempting to levy a force. But Huntly though "suspected to theys men," will not adventure much for him, and I hear would be content he should "myscarye, to ryd the Quene and hys suster of so wycked a husbande." He hastily stole away at night from Huntly's house to Spynaye the bishop of Murray's, but will likely retire to the isles of Orkney "32" in number, whereof the Queen created him Duke. But the lords have ordered Sir James Balfour's brother, captain of "the strongest peece" there, to hinder his entry, and the bishop is also at their devotion. The Hamiltons and Argyll begin to traffic with them: and I hear say the former can be pleased with the Queen's detention "or a worse fare," and concur with the lords in all things, "so as the crowninge of the prynce, nor non other acte, may defeacte them of theyre possybylytie to thys crowne, which they feare by the settynge up of the howse of the Stuardes."

These lords have sent Robert Melvyn to Lochleven to talk with the Queen and the lords her guards; on his return I will not fail to advertise your majesty. Lord Robert of Holyrood house Murray's half brother, came here yesternight well accompanied, and repaired to the lords in council at Atholl's lodging. Till now he has had no intelligence with them, but concurred with the Hamiltons.

As yet these lords will not suffer M^r^ Nycolas Elveston sent by Murray to have access to the Queen, nor send the Earl's letter to her. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 16. **562.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Methinks these lords be on the way to make an end of their matters with their sovereign amongst themselves, albeit they keep both the French and us in hand. They cannot tell how to be rid of her (which I mistrust they intend) without the consent of the French, taking them better inclined to serve their humour than we. So finding them thus willed, I must take heed we lose them not wholly, and drive them to be more French than they would he, through her majesty's "sharpe impungnyng theyr deseygnes," unless she will use arms against them. I see no happy end for us in these matters, and to be plain with you, I fear it for God's displeasure, and our "unaptnes" to enter and prosecute war. I refer you to her majesty's letter, for what has passed since the 14^th^. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

They will not suffer Elveston access to the Queen nor send her Murray's letter.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1567.
July 18.

563. THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Though I have spoken "particularly" since my last of 16th, with Morton, Lethington and Sir James Balfour, I cannot as yet see that access to the Queen will be granted me: "stayinge" them selves still by the absence of the lords their associates, "which (they saye) they lowke for within twoe dayes."

Robert Melvyn returned here from Lochleven on the 17th with a letter written of the Queen's own hand to these lords containing (I understand) as follows:—A request to them to consider her health, and if they will not release her, to remove her to Stirling for the comfort and company of her son. If not removed, she required some other gentlewoman about her—naming none; to have her "pothecarye" and some "modest mynister;" also an "imbroderer" to draw out such work as she would be occupied on, and a varlet of her chamber. For government, she makes two offers—the particulars referred to Melvyn's credit—one wholly to the Earl of Murray; the other, to these lords, and others whom they shall call viz., Chatelherault, Huntly, Argyll, Atholl, Lennox "with muche adoe," Morton, Murray, Mar and Glencairn.

She asks that I may have access to her: and further if they will not regard her as their Queen, to use her as the king their sovereign's daughter (whom many of them knew) and their prince's mother. She will by no means abandon Bothwell for her husband, which will do her most harm of all, and harden these lords' hearts to great severity against her.

She yields "in wordes" to the prosecution of the murder. I have found means to let her know your majesty has sent me for her relief: and also urged her to renounce Bothwell and suffer a divorce to pass. She sent me word she will nowise consent to it, but rather die, giving this reason, "that takynge her selfe to be seven weekes gon with chylde," by renouncing him, she should acknowledge herself to be with child of a bastard, and forfeit her honour. To save her own life and the child, I persuaded her to choose the least hard condition.

Knox arrived here the 17th, with whom, and Mr Cragge the other minister of the town, I have conferred, and "perswaded with them to preache and perswade lenytie. I fynde them bothe verye austere in thys conference . . . they are furnysshed with manye argumentes, some forthe of the Scrypture, some forthe of hystoryes: some grounded (as they saye) apon the lawes of thys realme: some apon practyzes used in thys realme, and some apon the condycyons and othe made by theyre prynce at her coronatyon." The Bishop of Galloway, Huntly's uncle, has sent to these lords for a meeting between his nephew and others of that side, with some from this side, at Lythcow or Stirling: assuring them the others are well disposed to concur with them, and will not dissent for trifles: further they will agree to the Queen's restraint till the murder be punished; thus implying her separation from Bothwell. Captain Clerke "which" long served in Denmark and Newhaven, did on 16th (with a "souldyer") kill one Wylson, a seaman, much esteemed by these lords, and has "retyred" himself. They quarrelled about the ship which took Blacketer, and was ordered to the north against Bothwell—which enterprise is thus "dasshed." The Bishop of Galloway is at

Elizabeth.
1567. Lythcow, desiring to speak with Lethington, and the abbot of Kilwinning has asked Sir James "Bawfor" to confer. As I wrote before to your majesty, the Hamiltons would now concur with these lords ("yea in anye extremytie agaynst the Quene") if assured, on the prince, if crowned king, dying without issue, Lennox's son "lyvynge" should not inherit as next heir.

Though these lords and councillors speak reverently, mildly and charitably of their Queen, so that I cannot gather from their speech any intention to cruelty or violence, yet she is in very great peril of her life, for the people at this convention mind vehemently her destruction. It is public speech of all estates (saving the councillors) that she has no more privilege to commit murder nor adultery "than anye other pryvat person." Bothwell and his adherents are put to the horn by the Lords of the Session, and order given to all officers to seize them. His porter and another servant have confessed such circumstances that show he was a principal executor of the murder in his own person, with two of the Ormestons of Tividale, and "one Hayborne" of Bolton, with others unknown to me. He is still in the north, but Seton and Fleming have abandoned him and come hitherward.

The lords have sent 150 harquebusiers to Stirling and in like manner to S[t] Johnston, to keep these two passages from the north and west to this town. The captain of Dunbar fortifies it, and I marvel is not "impeached" therein. A letter from the Queen to him is "surprysed" containing matter little to her advantage. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

4 *pp.* *No address or fly leaf.* *Perhaps inclosed in next letter.*

July 18. **564.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Your letter of 10[th] July written at "Collyarrewe," I received the 18[th]. By my letter to her majesty, you shall see the state here since my last of 16[th]. I never saw greater confusion amongst men, for they often change their opinions. "Marye! always they be reasolute to use all severitye to the Quene," yet cannot agree about the form of it. "The preachers (with a greate nomber which depende upon them) be of on mynde," but the lords are divided. The wisest avoid speaking, for the fury of the people. I find she is in very great danger. They will not suffer Elveston to have access: I pray you direct me how to act. I see these men "be not afrayde of anye boastinge, and they be to farre over the shewes to leave them selffes unprovydyd for. The people be greatlye anymatyd agaynst the Quene. They lett not to shewe yt." Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

July 19. **565.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

By my letter to her Majesty you may see the state of the world here. Advise "substancially" what is best: "so as (the Quene beyng deadd ether yn body or estate) thys prynce and contre runne not the Frenche devotion, to ower comber." If her majesty win not these lords in time, and recover her "crasyd credytt" with them, before

Elizabeth.
1567. they have settled their purposes without her: I see they will take a course little to our advantage, peradventure as little to their own! I send a tragical dialogue which I omitted in my last. "And verely thowghe yt seme to procede from a poettes shoppe (the hole nomber here I feare me) and the lordes also, do thynke as ys conteynyd theyryn and do meyne to performe the effecte." What you would have pass must be wrought by Murray and that in time. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

You shall do well with my lord of Leicester, to decipher how the French have proceeded with my lord of Murray, and advertise me.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 20. **566.** THROKMORTON TO BEDFORD.

My advice is you procure with all speed from above, remedy against these border disorders, for I see they mean to do you all the displeasure they can, so soon as they find our mistress "shall" not favour them in their present actions. The late offence on your border was not from these lords but by Fernehirst at the solicitation of Bothwell. Touching myself: I must confess to you I was never in so busy and dangerous a legation in my life, not knowing almost which way to turn. These lords have given me no audience yet, excusing it by the absence of Mar, Glencairn, Semple and others of their "bande," but I take it to be for delay and unwillingness I speak with their Queen; though I have pressed it earnestly, and won one of the wisest of them* to my desire, but he dare not let it be known to the rest. I am in the greatest doubt of any good to be done. I am written to by the other side, as the Hamiltons, Argyll, Master of Maxwell and others, and bear them all fair in hand, the better to discover their meanings and designs: none of which I like. The Queen is in great danger by the rage and fury of the people. The assembly continues the 20th instant, where little will be done to her advantage. These men have 450 harquebusiers in pay. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

July 20. **567.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

Having received his letter of 14th, perceives and approves his proceedings with the lords and Lethington. Thinks the most of them regard their own surety in these actions, howsoever pretence is made for prosecution of the murder and preservation of the prince: which two things she means as earnestly—and perchance more earnestly than the most of them! Would not refuse them assistance for these purposes, for any mislike she has of any person zealous in the matter; but can in no respect allow the Queen's captivity, and till some device can be found for restoring her to liberty and her state, she forbears to consent to their demands, however beneficial to herself. Approves also of his dealing with Argyll and the Hamiltons: but as for the Queen's desire to come to England, cannot resolve on any certain answer. He is to move the lords to forbear any hasty proceedings

* Lethington?

Elizabeth.
1567. till Murray's return, and also to require redress for the late forays on the Borders.

3 *pp.* *Official draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

July 21. **568.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Since my last of 19th I pressed these lords both to give me access to their sovereign without longer delay, and likewise to satisfy your Majesty in the enlargement of her. Earl Morton answered that shortly I should hear from them, "but the daye beinge destyned (as I dyd see) to the Communyon, contynuall preachynge and common prayer, they could not be absent nor attende matters of the worlde: for firste they must seeke the matters of God, and take counsell of Hym who could best dyrecte them"; but there should be no delay. So that night about 11 o'clock Lethington came to my lodging and delivered me on the lords' behalf, this writing which I send your Majesty, saying: "Because the matter was longe and contayned manye partes, theye thought good (for the helpe of my memorye) to put the same in wrytinge"—for which I thanked him. "Marye!" I could have been better content, if they had subscribed their names to it. He said that was needless—it was only "to ease me of payne, to cowche that in wrytinge": as your majesty could have believed what I wrote of myself without their writing. In answer to my pressing for access to the Queen, he said I must needs tarry for that and other things proposed by your majesty, till their associates joined. On this "parentarye" answer, wherewith I showed myself nothing content, he said to me—'Sir, I wyll talk more frankelye with you than with anye man of your natyon, weere yt not with my lord of Leycester and Mr Secretorye. You see our humors heere, and how wee be bent. Let the Quene your soveraygne and her counsell be well advysed, for surelye you rune a cowrse which wyll breede us greate peryll and trowble, and your selves moost of all. Doe you not see that yt dothe not lye in my power to doe that I faynest woulde doe? which is to save the Quene my maistris in estate, in person, and in honor? I know well enoughe yt is not hydden from you, thextremytie that the chyfest of our assemblye be in concerninge thendynge of thys matter. You harde yesterdaye and somewhat this daye, how bothe you and I weere publykelye taxed in the preachynges, though wee weere not named! Wee must be fayne to make a vertue of necessytie, and forbeare neyther to doe our selves good, the Quene nor our countreye. And the Quene your maistris had neede to take heede that she make not Scotlande by her dealynge better Frenche, than eyther they woulde be or should be. You see in whoose handes restethe the power; you know the Frenche men have a sayinge *Il pert le jeu qui laisse la partie.* To my great gryeffe I speake yt, the Quene my soveraygne maye not be abyden amongest us, and thys ys not tyme to do hir good, yf she be ordeyned to have anye. Therefore take heede that the Quene your soveraigne doe not loose altogyther the good wyll of thys companye irrecuperablye. For thoughe there be some amongest us which woulde reteyne our Prynce, people, and amytye, to Englandes devocyon, yet I can assure you yf the Quenes majestie deale not otherwyse than she dothe, you wyll lowse all, and yt shall not lye in the power of your well wyllers to helpe yt, no more than yt dothe in our powers now to helpe the

Elizabeth.
1567. Quene our soveraigne.' Your majesty might perceive by my letter of the 19th, that the issue of this great matter was like to be determined by one "of the 4 degrees and endes" there mentioned—chiefly I conjectured "upon the twoe laste and extremest." But now I have assured intelligence (notwithstanding "thys smowthe speache" in this writing sent to your majesty) that the lords are resolved forthwith to put in execution the coronation of the young prince with the Queen's consent (if they can obtain it) promising her if so, that they mean neither to touch her in honour nor life, neither to proceed against her judicially "by waye of proces": otherwise they are determined to proceed against her publicly by such evidence as they can charge her with. They make account to end this matter before "the latter ende of thys monethe."

They mean in the prince's name "so crowned" to govern the realm by nine noblemen and others as I named before. Nor will they suffer the Queen to depart out of their own "garde," or to leave the realm, though the French king and your majesty wish it, and he detain her dowry. It is to be feared when they have gone so far, these lords will think themselves unsafe while she lives, and take her life.

When I had perused this writing delivered me by Lethington, I asked him how far these words "Necessytie of theyre cause," in the end of the same, "dyd extende, and howe far they might be led? He made me non other aunswer, but shakynge hys heade, sayd *Vouz estes uny renard.*" Bothwell has equipped 4 or 5 small ships, and means to allure pirates of all countries to him. It were well your majesty's "Iselande" fleet take good heed not to fall "into hys lappe."

Knox daily prays for continuance of the amity, and admonishes his auditory "to exchewe theyre oulde allyaunce with Fraunce, as they woulde flye from the pottes of Egypte, which brought them nothynge but sugred poyson." He continues his severe exhortations against the Queen and Bothwell—threatening "the greate plage of God to thys wholle countrey and natyon, yf she be spared from her condigne ponyshement."

Mar, Glencairn, and Cassillis, with the rest, will be here I am informed the 24th or 25th, not before. "The convencyon of all the churches" I mentioned in my last, holds for all my persuasions to the contrary—and this day (21st) they are assembled in the Tolbooth to propound matters they intend to treat of.

Lethington has travailed with some of the wisest to make them desist from any matter concerning the Queen "or thys cryme": but it will be very hard to win this, "for they be verye audacyous, and yt appearethe theyre hartes be mervelowslye hardened agaynst theyre soveraygne—which God mollefye." As I hear "an inkelynge" that these lords mean to ask me to assist at the prince's coronation at Stirling, it may please your Majesty to direct me therein in case I am so required. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

4¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

Inclosed in the same:—

(The lords' answer to the Ambassador.)

They cannot answer the first part of his message in the absence of

Elizabeth.
1567. the "remanent" lords, to whom they have written to join with all speed. But as his mistress finds their behaviour strange in imprisoning their sovereign, they declare the disinterested motives with which they took action against the sovereign whom they were bound to honour. Relate the horrible murder of the king—her captivity by Bothwell, and how by fear and other unlawful means she was forced "to become bedfallow to another wyves husband"—his preventing access to her by his guard—design to put away the prince, and having "another wyfe in store, to mak the Quene alsua drinke of the same cupe," and invest himself with the Crown, *etc.* That the ambassador's advice to recommend their case to God, though "good for the saule," is not safe for the body, and hard to follow, for they would have had to recommend also the souls of their prince, most part of themselves, and they firmly believe that of their Queen, who could not have lived with Bothwell half a year "to ane end," judging by the short time they were together, and keeping his other wife in his house. All which things compelled them to take arms against him, who cared little or nothing for her, as shown by his deserting her in the field. Yet on her coming with them to Edinburgh, when they pressed her to separate herself from that "wickit man": she "plat contrarie" to their expectation, would not hear with patience any speech against him, or question of his doings, but offered to give up realm and all, so she might enjoy him; threatening revenge on every man that had dealt in the matter. Wherefore they had just occasion to sequestrate her person for a season from his company or any intelligence with him, for, knowing the great wisdom wherewith God has endowed her, that within a short time, her mind being a little settled, and the eyes of her understanding opened, they hoped she would better consider herself and the state; not doubting that after Bothwell had received due recompense for his abominable fact, she would allow their doings as tending more to her own honour than any private interest any of them had in the matter. He may assure the Queen his mistress of one point, viz., that they have always kept such moderation as they have not gone nor shall anyways proceed further than justice "and the necessitie of the cause" shall lead them.

5½ *pp. Written by Hay—one word corrected by Maitland. Indorsed:* "21 July 1567. Answer by the lordes" etc.

(2) Another copy.

5½ *pp. Another hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Printed in Keith, vol. II., p. 677.

July **569.** THE LORDS TO THROKMORTON.

They understand the two points of the Queen his mistress's commandment to him—(1) Mislike of their queen's marriage and (2) commiseration of her trouble. But being about to give their sovereign good advice and some are already in hand with it, they fear if admitted to her presence, she might construe the least of his words to her advantage, which might impede her resolution to allow their own advice, which otherwise they have good hope she will follow, thus hindering the object of his embassy, and injuring them. Therefore praying him to take patience, and to desire his mistress to give them

Elizabeth.
1567. a short delay, to see if they may bring their sovereign to some conformity.

1½ *pp. Written by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . The Lordes second answer to Sir Nich. Throkmorton."

Printed in Keith, vol. II., p. 699.

July 21. **570.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

When her majesty and you have received this despatch and seen these lords' determination, I pray you let me know what to do. For I see no more to be done here, unless her majesty treat to have their prince (or if their designs take place, their king) brought here, on such conditions as you think they will accept "for suche a jewell": and handle this in good time, lest the French get the bargain. If he come, it will not be liked that either his grandfather or grandmother have his education.

I humbly and earnestly pray her majesty's pleasure, for if she like not to treat for their prince, I need not stay here any longer. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 24. **571.** THROKMORTON TO LEICESTER.

By my despatches to her majesty and M[r] Secretary since 12[th] July, your lordships may have seen the state of matters here. The Queen is like very shortly to be deprived of her royal estate, her son to be crowned, and herself kept prisoner. If the Queen's majesty still persist in her former opinion to the Queen (to whom she can do no good) then I see these lords and their complices will become as good French as that King could wish. And the Hamiltons, Argyll, Huntly and their faction need little devise to draw them that way. What an instrument the young prince will prove to "unquyet" England! I report me to your lordships' wisdoms: and trust you will bethink you in time ("for yt is hye tyme") how to advise her majesty to leave nothing undone to get the prince in possession or at least at her devotion. Some talk has passed betwixt Lethington and me hereon, and I find by him when she has gained these men, the principal point to make them conformable to deliver him, "wyll rest apon the Quene and the realmes inhablynge hym to the successyon of the crowne of Englaunde, for faulte of issue of the Quenes majesties bodye." Some other things also, as the charge of him and his train to be borne by England. I see well they will never deliver him without the former condition. "For," says Lethington, "that takynge place, the prynce shalbe as deare to the people of Englaunde as to the people of Scotlande, and thone wylbe as carefull for hys preservacyon as the other. Otherwyse (he sayethe) all thynges consydred, yt wyll be reported, that the Scottyshemen have put theyre prynce to be kepte in salfetye as thoose which commyt the sheepe to be kept by the wolves"! So for conclusion, your lordships may perceive the scope of this matter. As to his delivery upon hostages, he says, let no man think that ("the condycyon of the successyon not beinge accomplyshed") the nobility and gentlemen will ever consent to this on any hostages, "neyther apon anye promysses nor lykelyehoodes of good to insue in tyme to come." 'It weere not good for your selves' (said he) 'that the matter weere so handled, for than you shoulde

Elizabeth.
1567. adventure all your goods in one shype, which might have a daungerous effecte, consydrynge the unwyllyngnes of the Quene your soveraygne to consent to establyshe anye successor to the crowne. And than howe unmeete weere yt that her majestie havynge yn her possessyon alreadye all suche persons as do pretend tytle, or be inherytable to the crowne, to have our prynce also in her custodye. For so there might followe (without good capytulacyons) a straunge and daungerous issue, thoughe the Quene your mestris doe thynke that suche imagynacyons coulde not proceede but from busye heades, as you have uttred unto us on her behalfe.' For other things passed, I refer your lordships to my letters now sent to her majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

*It may please you to make my lord Steward "partner" of this letter.

2 *pp.* *Addressed* (to Leicester as K. G. etc.). *Indorsed* (by Leicester).

(2) Copy of most part of preceding.

4 *pp.* *In a later hand.* *Indorsed.*

July 24. **572.** HENRY MYDDELMORE TO CECIL.

Excuses his not taking leave, as he found on seeking Cecil at his chamber, that he had gone to Sir Thomas Gresham's. Prays him to further his suit to the Queen "for the prebende," to which she is well disposed, as the Lord Steward and Lord Leicester have both assured him. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Henry Myddelmore.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 25. **573.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Notwithstanding these men's "fayre langage" to her majesty by their answer sent in my last, you shall see they mean to go to work "more rigorusly then gently." And by the time you have considered the progress of their doings, I think you will be of mind that no party is so to be sought and "allueryd" than these lords, "wyche have the power and theyr partie so well made." I pray you for her Majesty's resolution to direct me. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 26. **574.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Your majesty's letter dated Richmond the 20th July, I received the night of 24th here. Next morning I required conference with Morton, Mar, Lethington and others they thought meet, and "to suspende theyre hastye proceedinges" with their Sovereign ("whereof I had some intellygence") till I had spoken with them. They said they would advise and send me word: but this "forenon" they could not, for other matters to be treated. And I hearing that Lindsay was returned this morning the 25th from Lochleven, doubted that they would proceed as I said in my letter to your Majesty of "sayde 25th." I understand he has obtained from the Queen her consent and con-

* Holograph.

Elizabeth.
1567. formity to all the matters proponed on the lords' behalf by him, and also "her signe with her owne hande" to the instrument for the coronation of her son, and the 2 commissions of regency during his minority, as I mentioned to your Majesty. About 11 a.m. the said 25th day, Lethington came to my lodging and said, 'Sir, the lordes have sent me unto you to requyere you to houlde them excused that you can not have conference with them thys daye, beinge necessarylye otherwyse occupyed: and therefore they have sent me unto you to knowe what you have to declare unto them'? Then under your last instructions, I treated with him, to know if they could devise how to restore the Queen to her liberty and state: and that done, your Majesty would aid if needful to prosecute the murder or preserve the prince: otherwise you could not consent to their demands nor show them any benefit. I said also it would be demed a "verye temerarious acte" to proceed with rigour against their Sovereign: and persuaded them to suspend the matter till Murray's return: declaring also your pleasure as to the Borders.

He said he would report to the lords and require them to give me answer. Then he said—'Sir, nowe I speake as of myselfe, and as one that dothe concurre in opynyon and desyre with the Quenes majestie your mestris and you, towchynge the Quene my soveraigne: but beinge in place to knowe more than you can knowe, I saye unto you as one that woulde of all ills chewse the leste, in case you doe on the Quenes majesties behalfe your mestris, presse this companye to enlarge the Quene my soveraigne, and to suffer you to goe unto her, or doe use anye thretnynge speache in thoose matters, the rather to compasse them, I assure you, you wyll put the Quene my soveraygne in greate jeoperdye of her lyffe: and therefore there is non other waye for the presente to do her good, but to geve place and to use myldnes. I wyll declare unto them theys matters which you have spoken, in suche sorte as you maye have the beste aunswer, and doe the Quene my mestris mooste good.' It may please your majesty that with convenient speed, I may know your pleasure if I shall repair to the Queen and speak with her—if they accord me access (as I think they will not)? Also as to my abode here, if the prince be crowned and his mother deprived (as I think will be in 3 or 4 days) the nobility etc., being ready to depart this day for Stirling. Herewith I send copies of the bishop of St Andrews' and abbot of Arbroath's letter to me, and my answer. The Countess of Murray (of whom I wrote to your majesty in my last) to be at Lochleven, has left for St Andrews. There was great sorrow between the Queen and her at meeting, and much greater at parting. The Queen has had "twoe fyttes of an ague," and keeps her bed.

This day about twelve o'clock noon, these lords came to my lodging booted and spurred, when I propounded the same matters as to Lethington the day before, whereunto they answered by his mouth that they had given order as to the borders—none could complain of of Lord Hume, nor of East Tyvydale, under Cesford, but for West Tyvydale, they confessed that Ormiston and other murderers of the king, Bothwell's faction, were the chief doers of mischief, but being outlawed they hoped within two days the English wardens would be satisfied. 'As to the suspendinge of our procedinges with the Quene our Soveraigne untill the commynge of thearle of Murreye, wee doe meane to satisfye the Quene your

Elizabeth.
1567. mestris desyre in that behalfe; nevertheles my lordes have wylled me to declare unto you what yt hathe plesed the Quene my soveraigne to conclude on, for the state of thys realme, apon her owne voluntarye advyse: that is to saye—fyndinge her selfe bothe in helthe unmeete to take the care and governaunce of this realme, and also infortunate in thadmynistracyon thereof, beinge verye desyrous to see her sonne the yonge prynce setled in her seate in her lyffe tyme: hathe commaunded them under her hande wrytinge to proceede to the coronation of her sonne, as a thynge that she shall take mooste pleasure to see: which they weere now redye to accomplyshe and therefore entended presentlye to goe forthe of thys towne to Sterlynge to the inauguracyon of the sayd prynce.' At which solemnity they desired me as your ambassador to assist, which they hoped your majesty would allow, seeing he was your nearest kinsman of the blood royal of both realms, and also take him under your protection, likewise they his good subjects might find refuge under your hands. I answered that there was "a contraryetye" in what had been said about their Sovereign: for first, they said they intended nothing till Murray returned: and now it seemed they were about to deprive her of her estate, and crown her son. As for my going to Stirling with them: as these things were concluded against my Sovereign's expectation and advice, I could not assist at any such doings: and while your majesty wished the prince as much honour and safety as any of them, you could not allow the son to depose the mother from her estate, nor did you so prefer the prince to his mother "as that she shoulde be kepte in captyvytye spoyled of all honor, and he a yonge babe take thadmynistratyon of the realme apon hym"! It was answered that no prince, however aged or wise, governed without a council: and their Sovereign had taken the same order, meaning the wisest and fittest of her nobility should take charge in her son's minority. "Therewithall, with a greate lowde charme, they that stoode behynde, sayde 'The realme coulde never be worse governed than yt was, for eyther the Quene was advysed by the worste counsell, or by no counsell': and then they said, 'My lord wee wyll trowble you no longer, the daye passethe awaye and wee have far to ryde,' and so took leave.

They have showed me that Tuesday the 29th is the day of the inauguration. The assembly of the churches is dissolved, till reassembled by the king's authority. The earls, lords, barons etc. have all subscribed to maintain their young king's "regalytie" against all adversaries. It may please your majesty on receipt hereof to give order for my revocation.

I intend to send my cousin Henry Myddlemore to see their proceedings at Stirling, that your majesty may be truly informed. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

6 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(1.) (Archbishop of St Andrews etc. to Throkmorton.)

They have received and thank him for his writing, and have stayed this bearer "unpast" to the Duke of Chatelherault, till they hear from

Elizabeth.
1567. him what agreement has been made with the lords for their sovereign's liberty, so far as it pleases him to do. Hamilton, 24th July 1567. Sanctandr. Arbrothe.

½ *p.* *Copy.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk.)

(2.) (Throkmorton's reply to the bishop and abbot.)

Acknowledging their letter and "bande" by Mr Robert Hamilton, and will report to the Queen their good devotion to their sovereign's enlargement. As for the lords at Edinburgh, he can grow to no resolution with them, who only draw out time. Edinburgh, 26th July. N. T.

½ *p.* *Copy.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

July 26. **575.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I pray you procure with speed my revocation, for as the case stands with "thys myserable Quene, it shall be to lytyll porpose for me to have accesse unto hyr": and I see no likelihood to win anything at these men's hands. They know more "from thens" that I would they did, and are not ignorant of the "lyberall speche off them there." I remain here doing nothing but spend the Queen's money. It is to be feared that this "tragedy woll end yn the Quens person after thys coronation, as yt dyd begyn yn the persons off Davyd the Italien and the Quens husbond." If I could go safely (as I much doubt it) I would retire myself to Berwick till I hear from you, this town being destitute of all save Sir James Bawfor in the castle, and Cragmyller provost of the town—with 200 harquebusiers to guard it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (to Cecil). This packet was delivered to be conveyed to the Earl of Lennox. *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 26. **576.** THROKMORTON TO LEICESTER.

These men draw matters to an end—for they have obtained the Queen's resignation of her royal estate, and her consent, by her hand, for the coronation of her son, for which all the nobility and gentlemen here, with sundry of the burgesses, repair to Stirling this day. I think the solemnity shall be on Tuesday,* and they have required me to assist, which I have refused. They have also obtained under her hand two commissions of Regency, in the king's minority: one to Murray alone—and if he refuse, the other to certain nobles. This is not the least of the imperfections in these proceedings—that the Queen of Scotland has accorded and signed these instruments and conditions (she being in captivity), and therefore it is to be feared lest the tragedy will end in the person of the Queen violently, as it began in "Davyes" and her husband's. I am perplexed what to do, as my commission was to the Queen (now deprived of her estate). To tarry without one is inconvenient, and to return to her majesty unrevoked is dangerous. As I can do no good here, I pray your lordship procure my revocation by the next dispatch—"for yt is in vayne to

* 29th.

Elizabeth.
1567. treate anye more with theys lordes about thenlargemente of the Quene, or to obteyne anye favorable condyceyons for her. And as for theyre yonge and new kynge, I doe not thynke that you wyll take the waye there to brynge hym into England." Herewith I send you this little "tycket" sent me out of an old book of the "prophesyes" of this country. You may believe it as you please, but here there is "myckle" credit given to it. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1½ *pp. Addressed* (to Leicester). *Indorsed* (by him).

July 27. **577.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

By your letter of 21st we perceive what answer you have at length received in writing by Lethington's hands from the lords in Edinburgh, and are very sorry to see matters at extremity, which we cannot bear without reprehension. Our pleasure is, you shall continue prosecution of your first charge to procure the Queen's liberty, and licence to speak with her that she may understand how much we mislike her* doings, and induce her to accord to that most for her honour and the safety of her realm: for (as you know) we have ever desired to proceed evenly betwixt her and her people. And seeing this answer so long delayed, contains nothing but colourable defences of their own doings, and they have not licensed you to deal with the Queen, we will have you declare as follows:—First: howsoever good words they give us, we think ourselves not well used by their said delay, you being our ambassador sent as mediator betwixt the Queen their Sovereign and them, for their weal as well as hers, and to procure punishment of the murder, and preservation of their prince. And it is no reasonable excuse that the absence of some, who for smaller cause might resort, and usually do resort, thither, has so long deferred answer, and yet delays your resort to the queen—which (you may say in our name) breeds in us suspicion of their actions. Wherefore you shall require them to be better advised how they proceed further: and plainly "denonce" to them that if they determine the deprivation of the Queen their sovereign lady of her royal estate, we are determined, and have probable cause to think the like of other princes of Christendom, that we will take plain part against them, to revenge their sovereign, for example to all posterity. Doubting not but God will assist us and confound them and their devices, for they have no warrant by God's or man's law to be as superiors, judges, or vindicators over their prince, whatever disorders they gather against her. What warrant have they in Scripture, as subjects, to depose their prince? "but contrary, and that with expres wordes in S[t] Paule, who to the Romayns, commanded them to obey *potestatibus supereminentioribus gladium gestantibus*, although it is well known, the rulers in Roome wer infidells."† Or what law find they written in any Christian monarchy, that subjects may arrest the person of their princes, detain them captive and proceed to judge them? None such we are assured is in the whole Civil Law. And if they have no warrant as above, and yet can find for their purpose some examples "as we here by seditioos ballettes in print they wold pretend,"† we justly account these examples unlawful and acts of rebellion. And so the "successes" will prove.

* Substituted for "their" by Cecil. † The words in quotations interlined by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1567. Thus much you shall say, for those that pretend to be guided by religion or justice. As to them that look only to their own surety: let them consider well how to stay where they be, and rather be sure of their past doings, than increase their peril by more dangerous doings to follow! Yet generally, we mean that for things past and cannot be recalled, we will appease all controversies, and if they allow you access, to "induce her" to accord thereto. You may assure them we detest the murder of our cousin their king, and mislike the marriage of the Queen with Bothwell as much as any of them. But think it not tolerable for them, being by God's ordinance subjects, to call her, who also by God's ordinance is their superior and prince, to answer to their accusations by way of force: "for we doo not thynk it consonant in nature, that the head shuld be subject to the foote." * And as we find by your letters that some of them, as Morton, do note us as cold towards them in distress, and others pretend we showed them favour for private respects of our own: ye may tell Morton he had refuge when we might have delivered him to death, as his father and uncle were favoured by our father—and he was pardoned at our instance, when Bedford was with the Queen. For the others, ye may say that they, as much as any who solicited us, are concerned in the benefits of our delivering their realm from the French. And as we see by their general course in debating with you, that our dealing may link them after the old manner with France: ye shall say they may have as good cause to mislike it as we. But we shall not consent for private profit, to what our conscience will not allow, but trust as hitherto in the good will and favour of Almighty God, at whose hands we have found no lack.

Lastly our pleasure is, if you be required to be present at the coronation of the prince—knowing our mind as you do, you will not by any such act affirm their doings—and for your better satisfaction, we do prohibit you to assent thereto by any means.

6 *pp.* *Official draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Printed in Keith, vol. II., p. 702, *from a copy in the British Museum.*

July 29. **578.** ROBERT MELVILL TO ELIZABETH.

Since my "cuming in this cuntre," I could not certify your highness of the proceedings between the Queen and the lords, till the latter convened themselves here on 22nd July, both to debate matters of religion and others. To be plain with your Majesty, the greater number "wes so bent in rigour against my mystres, that extremite had beyne wsit, geve youre hyness imbassadour had not beyne present, quho did wtter boithe his wisdome and effectione to her majestie, that he onlye did put asyd the present inconvenient; and did so procure the mater, is baithe lyff and honour hes beyne preservit." And though he did not get license to speak with her, he found means to let her know your majesty's earnest desire to help her to liberty. For myself, I declared my charge from your Majesty, no small comfort in her grief. She would rather herself and the prince were in your realm, than elsewhere in Christendom. He is crowned by the Queen my sovereign's own consent on 29th July.

* The words in quotations interlined by Cecil,

Elizabeth.
1567. She was advised "so to do with her awyne benevolens rather thane to suffer the rigour tak place quhilk wes ment be the gretest number, not onlye to mak her unkapable to governe, bot als weill to parsew her boithe of lyfe and honour." I feared this when last with your highness, but could give no better advice for her weal than by gentle dealing "with thir lordis, in quhos hands it dois lye boithe to sawe and to spill." Seeing how the prince may be in hasard, or by practises pass to some other country, I wish to God your Majesty would prevent the same by good means. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Robert Melvill.

1¾ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 29. **579.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

This is only to remind you of the matter my servant Walter Melvill communicated with you last at "Vindschoir," for my brother in law, that I may have him with me in Scotland under "cawsioun," that his ransom may be more easily settled. I desire this favour the more of the Queen's majesty, that I may put an end to the troubles of the gentleman so kept prisoner, and of your honour always troubled for him. What you said to Melvill is most true, that seeing his father is so "slak" what could the Queen do more? Please credit the bearer. London. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). " . . . For the Master Marshall." *Wafer signet: quartered shield, 1 and 4 Scotland, with baton sinister: 2 and 3 Moray, 3 cushions within the tressure; a coronet over; J.S. at sides.*

July 31. **580.** THROKMORTON TO LEICESTER.

I have received your letters of 20th and 27th instant: one with her Majesty's instructions, the other your advice to me. I am sorry her Majesty "dothe stey" her opinion on so dangerous and discommodious a foundation, whereby she can hardly apply anything to her honour, surety or profit of her realm. Though I simply say to your lordship what I think of the matter in respect of her Majesty, yet I assure you I have left nothing undone by the best means I can devise to have brought the issue of this composition to such end as her Majesty prescribed me. Whether it were fear, fury or zeal, which carried these men to the end they are come to, I know not: but I dare boldly affirm to you that though I could neither get access to the Queen, nor procure her liberty, yet I have at this time preserved her life—to what continuance I am uncertain. Sure I am, nothing shall so soon hasten her death, as the doubt that these men may conceive of her redemption to liberty and authority by the Queen's majesty's aid, or any other foreign succour. Where you advise me to retire myself hence before these men's intents be put in "uer" to their sovereign's prejudice, if I had any intelligence thereof before hand: I cannot deny but by vehement presumptions and intelligence, I had foreknowledge of their designs, though not so assured "as to have sene the excecution, yet (with your lordshipes reformation be yt spokyn) I durste not take that waye as moste savyste or expedyent.

Elizabeth.
1567. For yff her majestie be pleasyd to dyffeste me my doyngs here, off propensyd intent (wyche God forbyd) I am les able to answer my departyng hence unrevokyd, then my taryeng here to se all eventes, unles I had commandment to the contrary." This also is worthy consideration—I am in a town guarded by men of war—I have no horses. but must depend on these lords' order to furnish me, and their pleasure to leave the town. When forth of it, I cannot safely return to Berwick without their conduct, "specially yn thys brokyn world." Thus much for answer to yours of 20th. On the 29th I received yours of 23rd, with her Majesty's gracious acceptance of my proceedings and your advice for my direction. It were very unfit I should now speak with this Queen, seeing I cannot say so much to her comfort as to her discomfort, my instructions being too hard, considering her calamity and temptation—"and on the other syde, words withowte dedes be no conforte." I have sufficiently made known to her that her Majesty sent me hither purposely to relieve her by all possible means, "wyche I am suer the poore lady dothe beleve": therefore I humbly pray you procure my revocation by next despatch. My cousin Myddelmore wholly trusts in your goodness: it may please you to make him able to serve her majesty and your lordship. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3 *pp. Holograph. Addressed* (by Myddelmore). I pray you peruse my dispatch now sent to the Queen. *Indorsed* (by Leicester).

July 31. **581.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

On the 30th July Anthony Rokesby younger brother to Cristofer Rokesbye, so long detained prisoner in Spynie Castle (where Bothwell is and has long been), declared to me: that his brother being earnestly pressed by Archibald "Lynseye" captain of the castle under the bishop of Murray, also by one Heyborne laird of Rycarton, kinsman to Bothwell, and by one James Lynseye servant to the bishop, and 3 Heybornes sons to the bishop: for the safe guard of his life could not but consent to the killing or apprehension of Bothwell when convenient, whereof Christofer thought meet to advertise me, that your Majesty might choose whether you would have him "so kylled," or taken prisoner into your realm? As I saw no great likelihood of taking and delivering the Earl alive into England—he being attended by 12 or 14 desperate persons principal doers of the murder of the king (whose names I enclose)—and as I well knew "yt coulde not be agreable to your pryncelye nature, neyther to your godlye mynde," to consent to any murder ("albeyt your majestie coulde have bene contented that the sayde Earle eyther by justyce weere executed, or otherwyse the worlde ryd of hym by Gods hande")—I refused to encourage the conspiracy. But I advised Rokesbye to repair to Lethington at Stirling and declare the matter, as he and the lords his associates had more interest in it than your Majesty. Rokesbye also said the conspirators intended to kill the old bishop with the earl, being of his surname and 80 years old—surely a very abominable act that the old man should die so miserably, having committed no crime—which moved me to rid my hands of the whole matter. He tells me also, Huntly is a principal doer in the conspiracy: yet bears Bothwell very fair

Elizabeth.
1567. countenance. His sister is not with her husband, as I wrote before. By Myddelmore who is returned while I write, I learn that things passed at Stirling thus:—On the 29th of July the young prince was crowned in the great church by the bishop of Orkney, the laird of Dun, and superintendent of Lothian. Mr Knox preached, and took a place of Scripture forth of the books of the Kings, where Joas was crowned very young, to treat on. Some accustomed ceremonies were omitted, "manye reteyned." The oath usually ministered to the king at his coronation was taken by Morton and Dun on the prince's behalf. Lindsay and Ruthven "dyd by theyre othe testefye publicklye that the Quene theyre soveraigne dyd resigne wyllingelye without compulcyon, her estate and dignytye to her sonne, and the governemente of the realme to suche personnes as by her severall commissyons she had named, which weere there publykelye red, together with her resignatyon to her sonne." Thereafter great feasts were made in the castle to the nobility and gentlemen. Atholl, Morton, Glencairn and Mar be proclaimed as regents till Murray's coming, who refusing regency alone, that then "Chastelleroe," Lennox, Argyll, Murray, Atholl, Morton, Glencairn and Mar shall have the regency, Huntly being excluded as an unfit man, "beinge not verye wyse, inconstant, factious and insolent." To honour the coronation and testify their joy, this town of Edinburgh made that night very near 1000 "bonefyers," and the castle "shot of 20 peeces of artyllerye": the people making great "joye, dauncynges and acclamacyons." So as it appears they rejoiced more at the "thinauguracyon" of the new prince than sorrow for their Queen! Before the coronation these lords sent James Melvyn to Hamilton, requiring the Bishop of St Andrews and the abbot of Arbroath to assist; who answered thanking them for the gentle advertisement, which they liked as agreeable to the Queen their Sovereign's will, but for their part had nothing to say, but to protest that the coronation should not prejudice the title of the Duke and his heirs, if the King died without issue. They were no enemies, but thought meet to stand on their guard, not being privy to the enterprise. Nor would they pursue any of these noblemen, whom they loved as themselves. For all these good words none of them came, but they sent one Arthur Hamilton to protest for the Duke's title: which he did before the lords in the council chamber (copy of whose protestation I send your Majesty) and then departed in peace. The lords mean (I hear) to go from Stirling to Paisley [Patesloe] an abbey of the said bishop's, to make some reformation in religion and from thence to Glascowe. I send your majesty the Queen's resignation to her son, and also the 2 commissions of regency, with a proclamation made on the king's behalf after the coronation. And notwithstanding Anthony Rokesbye's advertisement above written, I hear from Stirling that Bothwell has killed one of the bishop's sons, and put all his servants out of Spynie, committing the guard to his own associates. This day a well equipped ship of Bothwell's is discovered on this coast whereof John Heyborne of Bolton is captain. Some think the Earl is on board, meaning to put himself in Dunbar castle, fortified and victualled by the laird of Whytelaughe the governor, who will render it to none but the Queen. The captain of this castle, and the provost of this town, have put one captain Heyborne to ward, who was about to levy men to join Bothwell.

Elizabeth.
1567. Though Huntly pretends ignorance of the coronation *etc.*, he desires that he and the Hamiltons may meet with some of the lords to compound matters—saying for his own part, if the retention of the Queen is meet for the weal and quiet of the realm, he will not sue for her liberty. Robert Melvyn, not wishing to assist at the coronation, kept me company here. I send his letter to your Majesty. The Queen (I hear) keeps her bed, and is as straitly guarded as ever. Lindsay returned to Lochleven immediately after the ceremony ended.

Now that your Majesty sees how these men intend neither to grant me access to the Queen or negociate with me—if it stand with your pleasure, methinks I were better away than here—so I humbly desire my revocation by your next despatch. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

6 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 2. **582.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I hear amongst " theys folkes " that they daily look for " Lyne-roll " out of France, and also " for a gretter personage " after him. They are about to send Nycholas Elveston there, who has no great desire to take the voyage, the rather because he " covetethe " to have my lord of Murray his master's opinion. His journey tends to advertise what is done here for the French king's allowance of them, and prepare the way for a greater embassy thither. It is long since I heard from her Majesty and you—the last were of 20th July—so I am ignorant of your news from France, what you have won at Murray's hands, and lastly, how I shall carry myself here? Morton, Glencairn and Mar remain with the young king at Stirling. Atholl and Lethington be gone to Atholl's house to their wives for 3 or 4 days. I hear they mean to be here about Wednesday next.* Their journey to Paisley and Glascowe is altered, the bishop of S[t] Andrews showing himself now a conformable man both in apparel and outward orders of religion. All things stand at a stay till Murray's coming. I hear they mean shortly to call a parliament to ratify their doings and proceed in others: meaning no good to the Queen their sovereign. She is kept " strayctlyer " than ever, being now shut up in a tower, and none admitted to speak with her, but such as are shut up. The Hamiltons sent to Stirling some of their surname to confer, offering that if some of them in presence of these lords, may hear the Queen avow her voluntary resignation of the crown to her son, and likewise the commissions of regency as her own act, then they will obey the prince as king and the commissions according to their " tenoures." Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 2. **583.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

[*In the same terms as his letter to Cecil of same date*]. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* 6th.

Elizabeth.
1567. Aug. 5. **584.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

Your majesty's letter of 27th ulto. I received 3rd instant, and on same day sent to Stirling for audience. Next day Morton, Glencairn and Mar sent me answer, that as Atholl, Lethington and others were for 3 or 4 days retired to their wives, to forbear to trouble them or myself, as they could not negociate, but in 2 or 3 days would be here. Seeing that your majesty's instructions tended to the Queen's enlargement, and to conserve her from deprivation of estate or life—(and the one is now irrevocable)—I must seek the best means, under your correction, to preserve her life—lest these men in desperation or "coller" bereave her of that also. And therefore shall not proceed so "precyselye" with them for her enlargement and estate, under your instructions (seeing what is past and what I have done while there was time), meaning (as a matter most necessary) to direct my whole travail to put off the danger of taking away her life. I perceive, however they defer my audience for the others' absence, their special matter is to have Murray with them before dealing with me. I told your Majesty the Queen was straiter kept—which is not yet "put in ure": but she looks for it daily. The occasions I hear be these: by one means or other she has won the favour and goodwill of most part of the house, "as well men as women," whereby she had means of great intelligence, and was in some towardness (it was feared) to have escaped. Another cause was that the lords' wish her to relinquish Bothwell for husband, whereof I do not now despair so much as I did heretofore. I am not sorry to see the lords so earnestly mind this matter of divorce, wherein I concur with them, trusting that if brought to pass, they shall be more open to reason in the matter of the Queen's destruction. Murray is not yet looked for here these 3 or 4 days. Bothwell (I learn) is still in Murray. Huntly has sent one "Duncome Forbeeshe" to Stirling to procure a conference with these lords, the Hamiltons and himself. The lords seem not very desirous, and care not methinks what they could do, weighing them and their ill will none otherwise. Lynerolles is not yet come, and it is very like will come in Murray's company, as I think best for him. For if these men get news that his errand is not "plawsyble" to them, he may peradventure find "Scottyshe enterteynemente!"

The lords take the doings of my lord of Bedford somewhat strange, for that some under his charge (though I think not altogether by his order) have run two forays in the Merse, Lord Hume's wardenry, who is a principal man among them. And as nothing can more hasten this Queen's death than their suspicion of your Majesty's intent to put them in a strait, it may please you to order my lord not to exasperate them till I may see further into their doings. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Leicester).

Aug. 5. **585.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

You well see by my letter to her majesty how these lords deal with me for audience. By yours of last of July I see my revocation is in good towardness, and pray God nothing "chawnce" to alter it.

Elizabeth.
1567. These men defer all till Murray's coming. He makes no haste whatever it means. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 6. **586.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

Directing him to send her servant Myddelmore to the lords and estates of Scotland, and declare her dissatisfaction at their so far forgetting themselves as to pay such slight regard to her good meaning: not only deferring access to their sovereign, delaying to hear him, and strangest of all, not vouchsafing any answer to her. That as their usage and proceedings towards their Sovereign lady and Queen, overpasses all, she will consume no longer time, but revokes him, and commands him to require his passport and leave with all speed.

1½ *pp.* *Draft by Hampton.* *Indorsed* (by him).

Aug. 7. **587.** B. HAMPTON TO CECIL.

On the coming of M[r] Throgmorton's last letters, her majesty resolved to recall him, and commanded me yester night to draw a letter to him: but being very late before her highness signed it, and my lord of Leicester said he had also to write, I was driven to forbear sending the pacquet till this morning. The minute sent herewith will show the message to be done by M[r] Myddelmore to the lords. The Queen's majesty intends to remove to Otelands on Tuesday next,* and so to Guildford and Farneham, continuing abroad 16 or 18 days, leaving the household behind her—but it is uncertain. Wyndesor. *Signed:* B. Hampton.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* Has left the letters unpacketed, in case the Secretary adds a further despatch. *Small wafer signet.*

Aug. 9. **588.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

On 6[th] August Morton, Glencairn, and Mar, with Hume and Semple, arrived here, and next day Athol, Ruthven and Secretary Lethington. Though under your Majesty's pleasure, signified by M[r] Secretary from Windsor on 31[st] July, I abstained from conference with them, yet on the morning of said 7[th] day the laird of Tullibardine, brother to the Countess of Mar, came to visit me, who is of these lords' privy council and prevails very much with his brother in law Mar. By him I understood that the Queen was in great danger of her life, for the people of the realm (viz., such as had assisted in this action) found no surety otherwise. Another cause he alleges to hasten her death, viz., that the Hamiltons, Argyll, Huntly, and their faction, forbore to join these lords, "reasoninge thus for themselves: that the Quene lyvynge, yt coulde not be but she shoulde come to lybertye one tyme or other, and then [if] they which had all thys whylle stande for her lybertye, shoulde nowe revolte and conjogne with her adversaryes, they shoulde bothe loose the thanke of theyre well doinge for theyre former proceedinges, and incurre as muche daunger as they which had

* 12th.

Elizabeth.
1567. ben fyrste and depeste in thys action agaynste her, and consequentlye neyther have honor, suretye, nor truste on no syde." For though other men's forfeitures should be grievous, none should be so "indomaged," as they which were "the grettest possessyoners, and had the honor to be the nereste to the crowne of Scotlande. They sayde yf theys lordes woulde so proceede, and provyde for them selves and suche as woulde joigne with them, that they shoulde come to no daungerous reckoninge (meaninge therby the dyspatche of the Quene, for they sayde they coulde not honor twoe sonnes) yt shoulde not be longe er they woulde accorde and rune all one cowrse." I answered that it was very unlike that the Hamiltons and their party, hitherto so dutiful and honourable, should now "deface all with so shamefull an entente, as to seeke the destruction of theyre soveraigne, whom they had pretended chyeflye to preserve, and had manyfested thys theyre good meaninge to all the worlde, and namelye to your majestie and to the French kynge, unto whom they had sent theyre bande subscrybed with theyre handes for this purpoose! I coulde not thynke, I sayde, that noblemen coulde have suche dubble faces, and suche trayterous myndes! I sayd also theye might make a better proffet of the Quenes lyffe, than they coulde of her deathe; she beinge dyvorced from Bodwell, or the maryage dyssolved by Bodwells deathe, which was lyke to insue yf justyce proceded: that then eyther some sonne of the Dukes of Chastelleroe (as he had dyvers maryable) and lykewyse the Earle of Argyell havynge a brother to be maryed also, might make a better bargayne by maryinge of the Quene, than to seeke her destructyon." Tyllyberne said:—'My lord ambassador, theys matters which you speake of have ben in questyon amongest them, but now they see not so good an outgate by anye of thoose devyces, as by the Quenes deathe. For she beinge taken awaye, theye accompt but the lytle kinge betwixte them and home, which maye dye. They love not the Quene, and they know she hathe no great fancye to anye of them, and by thus muche they feare her the more, because she is yonge and maye have manye chyldren, which ys the thynge they woulde be ryd of.' I said—'My lord, you are a gentleman of honor, and worthy of credyt, but you must give me leave to dowbt of that you saye, because I have some reason to thynke other wyse of thoose lordes.' He answered—'My lord ambassador, I have no greate acquayntaunce with you, but never take me for true gentleman, yf thys be not true that I tell you, and that the Busshop of S^{t} Andrewes and the Abbot of Kylwynnye have proponed thys unto us within theys 48 howres.' I used the best persuasions I could, and at good length—some of the law of God—some of the law of man—some for the honour of their country and that of himself and his friends: lastly ("knowynge the mans affectyon, and of what factyon he is") I used argumentes to keape the Hammyltons from the successyon of the crowne by the contynuacyon of the lyne of the Stuardes, which coulde not be by anye meanes, the yonge prynce dyinge, yf the Quene weere taken awaye; in thende (if I be not muche deceyved) I have brought hym the sayde larde Tyllyberne to abhorre the Quenes destruction."

The same afternoon Lethington visited me on behalf of the lords: asking when I heard from your Majesty? and why I had sent to Stirling for audience? I said, to let them all know what you thought of their "rashe" proceedings, in this "hastye sorte" to proceed with

Elizabeth.
1567. "a quene theyre soveraigne beinge a prynce anoynted," not imparting their intent to your Majesty, "muche lease not havynge had the consent of anye other prynce"! I also declared some part of your majesty's instructions of 27th July. For answer he said—'My lord ambassador, theys lordes dyd thynke thys cause could suffer no delayes: and as for impartinge theyre purposses to the Quenes majestie your soveraigne, they dowbted that neyther she woulde allow that which was meete for them to doe, neyther coulde take anye of theyre doinges in good parte; and where you have charged us with depryvacyon of the Quene from her royall estate, it dothe appeare by suche instrumentes as I sente you from Sterlynge, that wee have not denuded the Quene of her regalytye, but she hathe voluntarylye relynquisshed the same to her sonne.' I asked him—'What free wyll there might be or uncompulsorye consent, for a prysoner and suche a one as everye daye lowked for to loose her lyffe"? 'Yea,' saith he, 'yt is you that seeke to brynge yt to pass, what shewe so ever the Quene your mestris or you doe make to save her lyffe or set her at lybertye. For the Hammyltons and you concurre together, for you have nothynge in your mouthes but lybertye, and nothynge lesse in your hartes. My lord ambassador,' said he, 'I have harde what you have sayd unto me: I assure you yf you shoulde use thys speache unto them which you doe unto me, all the worlde coulde not save the Quenes lyffe three dayes to an ende: and as the case now standethe, yt wylbe muche adoe to save her lyffe.'

I said—'My lord of Lyddington, if you remember, I toulde you at my firste commynge hether (when I understoode you mynded the coronatyon of her sonne), that when you had towched her dignytye you would towche her lyffe shortelye after; for suche inconsyderate doinges doe make men desperate and forget all modestye'!

'Well my lord,' said he, 'I trust you doe not take me to be one that dothe thyrste my soveraignes blowde, or that woulde stayne my conscyence with the shedinge of the same. You know how I have proceded with you since your cominge hether, I have geven you the best advyse I coulde to prevent extremytye: and eyther the Quene your soveraigne wyll not be advysed, or you doe forbeare to advyse her. I saye unto you, as I am a Chrystyan man, yf wee which have delte in thys actyon woulde consent to take the Quenes lyffe from her, all the lordes which houlde out and lye aloufe from us, woulde come and conjoygne with us within theys twoe dayes! Thys morninge the Busshop of S' Andrewes and thabbot of Kyllwynnye have sent a gentleman unto us for that purpoose: and lykewyse thearle of Hunteleye hathe sent Duncombe Forbeashe within thys hower, to conclude with us apon the same grounde. And to be playne with you: there be verye fewe amongest our selves, which be of anye other opynyon.' When I began to persuade him against that extremity, he said 'you shall not neede to take payne to perswade my selfe: I am contented nevertheles to heare your reasons, to be the more hable to fight agaynst others.' Then I used the same arguments as with Tullibardine: and he said—'How can you satisfyce men that the Quene shall not become a daungerous partye agaynste them in case she lyve and come to lybertye'? I said—'Dyvorce her from Bodwell.' He said—'We cannot bringe yt to passe, she wyll in no wyse heare of the matter.' 'Than geve me leave

Elizabeth.
1567. said I, 'to have acces unto her, and peradventure I shall in the Quene my soveraignes name, prevayle more with her in thys matter than you all can doe.' He answered—'I wyll move the lordes in the matter, and yet Lyneroll wyll lowke to doe the lyke when he commethe.' I said 'You have not harde what he hathe to saye, and I have ben here vj weekes, and yet you have accorded nothynge unto me that the Quene my mistris desyrethe: and now in thys matter, I am to trayvayle for your commodyties, and for no intrest the Quene my soveraigne hathe.' With this, Sir James Balfour came and said the lords tarried for Lethington, and he took leave of me.

Bothwell has left Spynie for the sea, where he has been these 5 or 6 days with 3 ships. The lords think he is bound for Orkney or Sweden. I hear he still keeps Spynie. These lords have accorded a conference by "enterchaungeable" commissioners, with the Hamiltons, Argyll and Huntly, at a "vyllage named Kyrstorphen"* within 2 miles of Edinburgh. For the lords—the bishop of Orkney, Lord Semple, Lethington, and M^r James Magyll; for the Hamiltons *etc.*, be the bishop of Galloway, Lords Fleming and Boyd, and the abbot of Kilwinning. I reckon they well agree, and pray God their accord be not such as betwixt "Herode and Pylat to put Christe to deathe"! I doubt if it will bring better fortune to the Queen, but I am doing the best I may to dissuade "the pryncypallest" from such cruel conclusion.

Since writing, these lords hear that Bothwell is in Orkney with 5 ships and 300 men; where the country begins to lean to him, and he intends to assail the castle, kept by Gilbert Bawfor Sir James's brother, who was his principal "maistre d'hostell" when made Duke. To defeat him, the lords are sending Tilliberne and Grange with 400 soldiers and 4 ships, who will embark within 5 or 6 days. On 9^th^ instant Murray leaves Berwick for this, lodging that night at the laird of Whytehyngham's house, being a Douglas, brother in law to Lethington. The Queen has her health better than at my last despatch, and is lodged in the tower of Lochleven, as a place more sure to guard her at night, than her late lodging.

The lords have utterly refused me access to her, so as methinks I might do you better service at home than here.

There is a little ship of Bothwell's taken at Haymouthe, where it is said one Hayborne of Bolton (a principal murderer of the king) arrived and passed into Lodyan. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

8 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 9. **589.** THROKMORTON TO LEICESTER.

The Hamiltons and their faction have changed their former intent to procure the Queen's liberty, "and do purchesse as moche as they may an accord with these lords: tendying grettly to the Quens danger." They have also forborne intelligence with me, and I seek it by indirect means through some of their faction here, but desist from treating otherwise. I have sounded Marr myself, and by his brother in law Tilliberne, and find him nothing "rigorus" towards

* Corstorphine.

Elizabeth.
1567. the Queen, and so no way "tractable" to revolt from his associates, nor inclined to do any act which may derogate from the regality of the young king, or make cumber among these lords, or redeem the Queen's liberty, without common consent of them all. He reputes the guard of the young king, government of his person, and of Stirling Castle, a great honour to him: and will do no act to impair his estimation, or work discord, or lose his credit. 'For,' said he, 'yff I cannot deale syncerely and honestly with these men, wyche be my neryste kynsfolkes and frends, with whom trow ye I can deale well, or betrayeng them and my young master, who wold credyt me hereafter'? In the end he said to me:—'I do not myslyke that you travell to preserve ower Quene from extremite, wyche wyll be somwhat to do, wheareyn I wyll ayde you as I may: but to save hyr lyffe to endanger hyr son or hys estate, or to betray my marowes, I wyll never do yt my lord ambassador for all the good yn the world.' I have so travailed with Lethington and others of estimation, that I dare affirm by your lordship to her majesty, that this "wofull" Queen shall not die any violent death unless some new accident chance. I pray your lordship to call for my revocation, now that this danger is avoided. Neither Murray nor Lyneroll are yet come. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Leicester).

Aug. 9. **590.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I perceive by Lethington, that these lords could be as well contented that I were hence, as I desire it. They see thoroughly into your doings, and understand such things and speeches as I wish had never come to their knowledge. Lethington said to me the night before despatch hereof, 'Yt is to no pourpose for yow to tarye here, yow may make matters worsse then they be, for we maye not satisfice the Quene your mistrys affections, unlesse we shulde caste our kynge, our contreye, and our selffes awaye, and she wyll doo nothinge that canne be plawsible to us; so as the leaste harme (nay' say he 'wyll take yt for a pece of good) for hyr majestie to lett us alone, and neyther to doo us good nor harme. And peradventure thys wyll bringe forthe better successe then any other course, for nowe we beginne to holde all thinges suspectyd that commeth from yowe; and if yow be over busye with us, yow wyll dryve us faster to Frawnce then we have desyer to ronne.' "They have utterly refusyd me accesse to the Quene, and I beleave Lynerolls shall spede no better, yf he have commission to presse yt." They show themselves resolved, whatsoever is thought of them abroad, and so much the more as they know there is no party here against them, and those that "laye alofe" now seek to concur. He says some among them will practise with any foreign prince to get money, but as for bloodshed among themselves, they will never come to it. 'My lord ambassador' said he, 'we knowe all the good pourposes which have passyd betwext yow, the Hambletons, the Earles of Argyle and Huntleye, since your comminge into thys contreye.' I see no great purpose in my tarrying here any longer, for whatever you intend with these men hereafter, "yt were good there were some pawse usyd to suffer them to chawe upon thayre owne

Elizabeth.
1567. brydelles." Pray send the inclosed letter to my wife. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Printed in Wright's Elizabeth, I., p. 262.

Aug. 10. **591.** KYRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

The Lords hearing that "Erll Bothell" with five ships is in Orkney, have ordered me to pursue him with three, the Laird of Tullibarne willingly joining. "Albeit I be na gud seeman, I promes unto your lordschip, gyf I may anes enconter with hym eyther be see or land, he sall eyther carre me with hym, or ellis I sall bryng hym dead or quik to Edinbrucht." My only reason for joining the lords in this last enterprise, was to restore my native country to liberty and honour, after this treasonable deed committed by that traitor "Bothell." If I get leisure, I shall write again or I depart on Thursday next.* I have received word from Farnehirst that your Tindale men have made a rode on him, slain 3 or 4 men and taken 40, which he takes very ill, as he and Sir John Forster had assurance. Pray take pains to satisfy him in reason, or he will take revenge, which I shall stay if I can. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Kyrkcaldy.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address.*

Aug. 11. **592.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

Sign manual. The more she considers these rigorous and unlawful proceedings of those lords against their sovereign lady, the more she is moved to consider how to relieve the Queen her sister, and is determined to spare no charge to impeach their further proceedings: having cause to doubt, that as they have begun so audaciously, they will increase in cruelty against her, whom they have it seems violently forced to leave her crown to an infant, to make her appear but a subject, and themselves, by gaining the government, to become superiors to her whom God and nature did create to be their head! Wills him therefore to return notwithstanding his revocation, and in her name charge those of them he can find, that they be otherwise advised of their doings, and to remember their duty as subjects born, to their sovereign Lady. For as she is a prince, if they continue to keep her in prison or touch her life or person, she will not fail to revenge it to the uttermost on such as shall be any wise guilty thereof. And he is to declare this message as roundly and sharply as he can, for sure she is he cannot express it with more vehemency than she means and intends. Under her signet. Windsor Castle.

P.S. Before signing these we received your letters of 5th hereof, and command you to remain in Scotland till you hear further. W. Cecill.

2 *pp. An official transcript. Original among the* "Conway Papers," *stated to have been* "given to Lord Hertford."

Aug. 11. **593.** CECIL TO THROKMORTON.

This afternoon about 5 o'clock the Queen sent for me hastily, and entered into a "great offensive speche" that nothing was thought of

* 14th August.

Elizabeth.
1567. for her to do to revenge the Queen of Scots' imprisonment and deliver her. I answered as "warely" as I could: but she increased so in anger against these lords, that "in good ernest" she began to devise revenge by war. Nothing I said satisfied her, but I must in all haste make a letter, if you were come away (which I said altered matters) to return and do the message. I said at last, this might bring the lords to desperation, and if the worst happened to the Queen, her Majesty would be very sorry, yet malice would say, she did it to urge them "to rydd awey the Quene." Whereon she agreed I might use the words in the very last sentence of the letter. And even as I entered with it for her signature, your packet of 5th instant came—truly with a good opportunity—for she saw there "my reason largely exposed, and so she began to pause." But this evening communing with my lords of Penbroke, and Leicester and me, she will have the letter sent, and me to write thus—that you use consideration to whom to open her earnestness, specially choosing Murray and Lethington, in whom she reposes most trust to preserve the Queen. I see two special causes move her Majesty, one. *That she be not thought to the world partiall ageynst the Quene*: the other, *That by this example non of hir owne be encoraged.** I think the "planett" which has so moved her Majesty was the conference with the Spanish ambassador.

I am sorry you shall be thus disappointed, for your trouble is doubled. Sir Richard Verney is dead and Sir Robert Whytney. We prepare general musters on our sea coasts in case the King of Spain come by. Yours assuredly W. Cecill. Late in the night.

1 *p. Official transcript. Original address leaf. Indorsed* (by Myddelmore (?). *The original (evidently holograph), among the* "Conway Papers," *is said to be with Lord Hertford.*

Aug. 12. **594.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

By my letter to her majesty, you shall understand what I have learned since Murray and M. de Lyneroll arrived. The French in negotiations, as in their drink, "putt water to theyr wyne." They take it not greatly to heart whether the Queen live or die, be at liberty or in prison, if they can renew their old league: and can be as well content to take it of "this lyttell kynge (howsoever hys tytle be and the same by the order of these lordes) as otherwyse." You may guess if the French will displease these lords, when they changed La Chappelle des Oursins coming for Lyneroll, doubting the former as a papist not "gratefull" to them! I think Murray will run the course these men do, and partake their fortune. I hear no man speak more bitterly against "the tragedye and the players therin then he." I hear an "ynklynge" that Lethington is to go to France, which I mislike as much as anything for our purpose. I assure you all the protestants there will live and die in these men's quarrels: and though it is bruited amongst you that aid should be sent to the adverse party, and Martigues come hither with force, M. Dandelot has assured of his honour, if Martigues come against them, he will bring as many to succour; and if sent under a meaner man, Robert

* Italics as in original.

Elizabeth.
1567. Stuart shall come with as many. But the Constable has assured these lords that the king will not offend them. Pray further my revocation, for my stay but kindles them more against us. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).
Printed in Wright's Elizabeth, I., p. 263.

Aug. 12. **595.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

On the 10th the Earl of Murray lodged at the Laird of Whytehyngham's house, and on the 11th repaired to this town, M. de Lynerolle in company. He was met between Berwick and here with a great number of gentlemen *etc.*, and I for your majesty's service, met him 3 or 4 miles from this for conference. As I find him very honourable, sincere, and direct, so I find him not resolved what he will do or consent to, abhorring on one side the king's murder, which he can no wise like should pass with impunity; so on the other, I find in him great commiseration for the Queen his sister. Though uncertain as to the regency, in my opinion he will take it rather than leave it, being thereto pressed by all the lords and gentlemen who have dealt in this action: all being in very deed the men he most esteems and values: and makes such account of them (as I see by his own words) that he would not gladly live in Scotland if they miscarry or abandon his friendship. Nor will he do anything in this or any other matter without their consent. And however your majesty have been persuaded by the French, I see Murray and the other lords nothing doubt the French king's allowance of their proceedings in this action. And as far as I can understand, Lynerolle's errand "was rather for the maners sake to purchasse the Quenes lybertye, than for anye devocyon they had unto yt": confirmed by his own words, the same day of his entry to this town—when I took occasion to talk with him by the way—that his commission tended to this—to say before the lords: "That the Kynge hys master was bounde by three respectes to doe for thys Quene—thone because she was a quene, a prynces, soveraigne as he was, betwixte whom there was some symylytude of affections more than coulde be betwixte common persons.

"The seconde was for that she was hys brothers wyffe and had honored Fraunce (hys realme) with her educacyon.

"The thyrde was for the manye allyaunces betwixte the howse of Fraunce and the howse of Scotlande: and for thauncyent league and amytye which had contynued betwixte thoose realmes theys manye yeares." He said also that the king, while mindful of this, did not forget the nobility and the realm, and he was charged (1) to seek to unite them, and that done (2) they would all together devise better for the Queen's enlargement and good treatment, and (3) for their own surety. The reasons which the king had given him for the Queen's relief, he could only press on them by persuasion and entreaty: and if these did not serve, the king could do no more but be sorry for his sister's misfortune, having no means to constrain them.

Before he talked with me, he talked with Lethington (while I conferred with Murray): by whom I found that Lynerolle's commission was as aforesaid, afterwards confirmed by Lethington to

Elizabeth.
1567. me ("even as yt weere *verbatim*") save that Lynerolles told him, that the king advised them to provide substantially for their own safety. James Melvyn, who conducted Lynerolles to Edinburgh, gave me the same report. Murray was received into Edinburgh with great joy of all people. Lynerolles said he looked for no access to the Queen, though he would press it: and after delivering his message to the lords, he would depart. Speaking of the King his master he always joined the Queen mother. He has brought particular letters to most of the nobility, and will press renewal of their old league from these lords in their king's name. Your Majesty must know of the present given to Murray on leaving France, valued at 1500 crowns of the sun, and the pension brought him by Lynerolles of 4000 "frankes" yearly. Before his audience, Lynerolles privately assured these lords of his master's care and good will for them. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. 13. **596.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

On the 12th August, Murray entertained Lynerolles to dinner, and the same afternoon brought him to the Tolbooth where the lords were in council; when he delivered letters from the King to the Earls of Atholl, Morton, Glencairn and Mar, the Master of Montrose and lords Hume and Semple. That done, he declared his commission, as I last wrote, pressing specially for access to the Queen, and also liberty to pass to the Hamiltons, with his master's respective messages. The lords, by Lethington's mouth, gave their humble thanks to the King his master and the Queen mother, but required him to take in good part that they suspended answer till they had consulted. Then Murray gave a summary of the points touched by Lynerolles, and also in his presence required leave to see his sister at Lochleven, "wherunto bothe duetie and nature moved him"—whereto the lords answered as to Lynerolles. This I heard from one there present, where assisted these lords, the bishop of Orkney, Lethington, the provost of Edinburgh, Sir James "Bawfore," and Mr James "Magyll" some time clerk of register. Murray then accompanied Lynerolles to his lodging: and after reposing half an hour, Lynerolles visited me, and reported his proceedings as above. Adding by his honour and credit, that his master will send no men of war here, nor take any part, being on no side. He chiefly desires the old amity, and with all (he says) the enlargement of the Queen. As I wrote last, the regency will light on Murray (unless he will hasard the amity of all his friends) before this letter reaches your majesty's hands. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

2¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. 13. **597.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

By my letter to her majesty, you shall see that the French have taken another course with their ambassador than the Queen has done with me: who uses himself very mildly, and all to the contentation of these men. I find that Murray concurs with these lords, "yea! and that as seryouslye as anye one of them." I think he shall be Regent

Elizabeth.
1567. before this comes to your hands. "Prayinge you to geve order that I maye be so boulde as to kyll a bucke in Clyffe parke at my retorne." Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 13. **598.** THROKMORTON TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDREWS, ETC.

Signifies to them that (as they well know) having spent a long time to no purpose, being unable to prevail in anything with the lords to his sovereign's satisfaction, she has revoked him, with charge to enquire of them what they and their confederates will assuredly do to set the Queen their sovereign at liberty and restore her to her dignity by force or otherwise? that his sovereign may concur with them in this honourable enterprise. Requests their answer by Tuesday next at the farthest, the 19th instant, as he intends to depart on Wednesday the 20th. Edinburgh. N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Copy in a Scottish hand and dialect. Addressed* (to the Archbishop of S[t] Andrews and the lord of Arbroath). *Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

Aug. 14. **599.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

On the 13th August I received your majesty's letter of 6th from Windsor, with my revocation. By your majesty's leave, I think meet to conceal the same for 5 or 6 days, partly because Murray is in some expectation of leave to visit his sister at Lochleven, before whose return I could not well depart—and partly as I have written to the Hamiltons this day (and send the copy herewith)—looking for their answer.

I have used my best persuasions to Murray to press these lords that he may go to Lochleven to comfort his sister after her long and grievous affliction; and to be favourable to her. He is much perplexed with the matter—his honour and nature moving him to lenity and commiseration on the one side: the assured friendship between him and these lords, their surety, and the preservation of religion, drawing him as far on the other side—yet I hope the best.

The Hamiltons would not permit the herald sent by the lords, to proclaim the young prince king at Hamilton, till they knew the Queen's consent thereto.

Murray and Argyll have appointed to meet about 17th or 18th instant. I understand the Duke of Chastellerault has a pension given him by the French king of 4000 "frankes" yearly, in recompense of that duchy, worth 12,000 francs yearly besides casualties—also a cupboard of plate worth 1500 crowns. By long conference with Murray and also Lethington—and both jointly, I see they are disposed to send some one in the king's name (if your majesty would receive him graciously), otherwise they will deal no further with you. They have asked me, as of myself, to learn your majesty's disposition hereto. I think they mean M[r] James Magyll, well known to M[r] Secretary, very wise and discreet, and long of the privy council. It may please you to signify your pleasure, and if I be on the way home, that it miss me not by the way.

Elizabeth.
1567. Though I gather that Lyneroll is not like either to speak with the Queen, or the Hamiltons, yet his answer is but dilatory not peremptory; for Lethington told him they had good hope shortly of Bothwell, "who havynge accordinge to hys demerytes," the Queen could not remain under restraint: and for the Hamiltons, if their treaty did not succeed, he thought the lords would not hinder his going. I think he is not ill satisfied with this answer; but if he tarry the issue, he is like to stay as long as I have, with as little fruit. Bothwell is gone to Shetland, being refused entry to Orkney. Sir James Balfour on good composition will resign the guard of this castle to Grange, at Murray's desire. The captain of Dunbar, it is thought, will at length keep it for Murray, or resign it to him. Atholl and Morton as now intended, accompany Murray to Lochleven tomorrow; returning by Stirling, that Murray may visit the young prince, now as they call him their king. This day I dined with him, where with his lady, was Lord Robert's wife (Cassillis' sister) and two or three others, with all the lords here. I discovered to none your majesty,s revocation. Murray and the lords accompanied me to my lodging, and after the others departed, he told me privately his visit to Lochleven was like to be broken, the other lords not liking it.

I therefore insisted earnestly as best I could to move him to the voyage thither, and at the despatch hereof left him well disposed to it. "God graunte some others doe not dyverte hys opynion." I hear the Hamiltons and their friends do much impugn his accepting the regency, as they think it will succeed too well for the "Stuardes" and too ill for themselves. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Copy of his letter to the Archbishop of S[t] Andrews and Abbot of Arbroath).

1 *p.* Same as No. 598. *In his clerk's hand, and English words. Indorsed.*

Aug. 14. **600. THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.**

Before receipt of your majesty's pleasure to me by my lord of Leicester, I found means by M[r] Robert Melvyn to send to the Queen, who with some difficulty answered me, which I send herewith. He has showed himself very affectionate to his sovereign and has stood her in great stead by his credit, discretion, and honesty. I declared at good length to Murray and Lethington the instructions given me by my lord of Leicester; they heard me patiently, and say they will have more conference with me in 3 or 4 days, after the earl returns from Lochleven. Thus I stay (1) for answer from the Hamiltons, (2) to learn how the Queen and Murray agree at their meeting, and (3) to understand how these lords answer Lynerolles. Thereafter as commanded I repair with speed to your presence. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Leicester ?).

Elizabeth.
1567. Inclosed in the same:—

(Mary to Throkmorton.)

"Monssieur de Trocmarton:" I cannot omit this word of thanks for your good will, as I have heard by this bearer. Praying you to continue the same and present my affectionate remembrances to my good sister the Queen and thank her for the affection she has shown me in my affliction. Having neither leisure nor commodity to write more amply, I commit you to God. "De ma prison en la tour de Loklivin." *Signed:* Votre plus asure et obbligee amye Marie R.

¾ *p. French. No address or indorsation.*

Aug. 14. **601.** THROKMORTON TO LEICESTER.

It may like you to deliver the enclosed to her majesty's own hands. I have declared to Murray and Lethington on her majesty's behalf and yours, what I had in charge. Answer is deferred till Murray returns from Lochleven. He will not accept the regency till he knows the Queen his sovereign's "alowance," and this is one cause of his journey there. "I truste thys wofull Quene hathe abydyn thextreamite off hyr afflyction; and my lord, the way to amend hyr fortune and treatement, ys for the Quenes majestie to deale yn hyr speche off them more caulmely then she dothe"; and not let them see that she will shake off their friendship and amity. I fear if her majesty refuse to accept the ambassador they propose to send to her in the young king's name, Scotland and the ablest and wisest of this nation will become good French. Referring your lordship to both my letters to her majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Leicester).

Aug. 14. **602.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I thank God, her majesty, and you all for my revocation: for particularities I refer you to her majesty's letter. Advertise me of her allowance or the contrary, in case these lords send an ambassador in the king's name—if refused, *Actum est de amicitia.* They mean to "entreate" M[r] James MacGill to make the voyage: as you know the man, I say less of him—he is noted to be wise, honest, and "experimentyd." Pray give order that your letter miss me not by the way, that Murray and Lethington may hear from me thereon. Send this letter to my wife to London. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 19. **603.** ARCHBISHOP HAMILTON, ETC., TO THROKMORTON.

In reply to his letter of 13[th], they inform him, that in the absence of the greatest of their party, as Argyll, Huntly, Hereis and others, from the short notice, they for themselves and these "confederates" are deliberate by all honest means to seek their sovereign's liberty and restoration as dutiful subjects ought, conform to their "bande," of which they sent him a copy. Willing also the preservation of their native prince, and punishment of the horrible

Elizabeth.
1567. murder, with surety for them that enterprised against her majesty. Doubting not but his sovereign will concur and help them in performing the same. Beseeching him that they may know her grace's mind, and what they may "lippin to," to be sent to Lord Herryes one of their confederates, with diligence. As requested, they send him the "dubble" of the protest at the prince's coronation, whereby he may see "yt is aswell made for her hienes weele, as for anye perticler personne." "Of [ ]." S^{t}. Andrewes, Arbrothe, Flemynge, R. Boyde.

1 *p. Copy by his clerk. Indorsed. Flyleaf of the original attached. Addressed* (in a Scottish hand). *Indorsed* (by Throkmorton's clerk): "From the busshop of S^{t}. Andrewes, thabbot of Arbrothe and the lordes Fleminge and Boyde. M^{d}, my lord receyved thys lettre the 19th of August by the hands of M^{r} John Hammylton." *Wafer signet: Hamilton and Arran quarterly, "J.H." at sides. Coronet above shield.*

Aug. 20. **604.** THROKMORTON TO ARCHBISHOP HAMILTON, ETC.

Acknowledging their letter "bearyng no date neyther for the tyme nor place." The contents he will with expedition signify to his sovereign, with such other things as M^{r} Hamilton this bearer by credit moved to him. Since he wrote last, his sovereign has been pleased to "recontynewe" his charge, till some issue be seen of these lords' proceedings—her majesty's acceptation whereof he has communicated to the bearer, who is well worthy of credit. Edinburgh.

½ *p. Copy by his clerk. Indorsed.*

Aug. 20.

605. THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

"I wyll not bemone unto you the gryeffe I take for my staye heere": seeing I most willingly obey her majesty's order. But if my judgment serve me, it were better I were revoked and none sent hither for a time, than I or any other to continue in these "contraryous" proceedings. For neither is it convenient that I, who have spoken so roughly, should by and bye speak mildly, nor any other be sent, till some "mynister" come from hence to her majesty, or these lords' "projectes" be better established. I have not yet declared my last charge in your letters of 11th August; but I find by conjecture, that "the Lord Regent" (for so I think he shall be published within these 2 days) "wyll goe more stowtlye to worke than anye man hathe donne yet. For he sekes to imytate rather some which have led the people of Israell, than anye capytaynes of our age. As I can learne, he meanethe to use no dalyinge, but eyther he wyll have obedyence for thys yonge kynge of all estates within thys realme, or yt shall cost hym hys lyffe. And yet I see no dysposycion in hym eyther to bereave the Quene of her lyffe, or to keape her in perpetuall pryson. He ys resolved to defende thoose lordes and gentlemen that have taken thys matter in hande, though all the prynces in Chrystendome woulde band agaynst them. And as for the Hammyltons and theyre faction, theyre condycions be suche, theyre behavyour so inordynate, the moost

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1567. of them so unhable, theyre lyvgnge so vycyous, theyre fydelytye so tyckle, theyre partye so weake, as I counte yt loste, whatsoever ys bestowed apon them." Shortly you are like to have with you "an handsome yonge man . . . John Hammylton," to set you on fire, to get some money to countenance their doings—which serve little for our purpose. "The Lord Herryes ys the connynge horsleache and the wysest of the wholle faction: but as the Quene of Scotland sayethe of hym, 'there ys nobodye can be sure of hym.' He takethe pleasure to beare all the worlde in hande. Wee have good occasyon to be well ware of hym: Sir, you remember how he handled us when he delyvered Dunfryse, Carlaveroke and the Harmytage into our handes. He made us beleave all should be oures to the Fyrthe, and when wee trusted hym best, how he helped to chase us awaye, I am sure you have not forgotten! Heere amongest hys owne countreymen he ys noted to be the moost cautelous man of hys natyon. It may lyke you to remember that he suffred hys owne hostages, the hostages of the lardes of Loughenver and Garles, hys nexte neyghboures and frendes, to be hanged for promesse broken by hym"! I say thus much of him, as the likeliest man to "inchaunte" you. In two days you shall hear from me again after I have had answer from these lords to my last commission—very unpleasant I am sure to them. I will observe your order to treat with Murray and Lethington: otherwise I am sure I shall do more harm than good—and this commission accomplished, I pray you help that I may be again revoked with speed—for truly it is lost money, lost labour, and lost time, that is spent here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 22. **606.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

By this despatch you shall see the lords' answer to my commission from her majesty of the 11th. Now she knows their answer to the French ambassador. The Hamiltons have answered my letter "coldelye" as you see, to make profit of her majesty if they can. So you also see what passed betwixt the Queen and Murray at Lochleven—of which her majesty wished to be well advertised. I do humbly pray your help for my revocation once again. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 23. **607.** THROKMORTON TO ELIZABETH.

The 22d of August, Murray was declared Regent of the realm, thus:—All the lords, barons *etc.* here, assembled in the Tolbooth, where the Justice Clerk after reading the Queen's Commission of Regency under her hand and privy seal, willed the earl in her and the king her son's name, to accept it and take his oath. Whereupon Murray with great modesty (as I was informed), made a long discourse of his insufficiency, but being again pressed by him and the other lords, the earl accepted, and the Justice Clerk administered the same oath that Morton made for the prince at the coronation, copy whereof I send your Majesty. Thereafter certain articles proposed for the Earl being read and consented to by the lords, the Earl took his

Elizabeth.
1567. place, and there was great joy among all sorts. Then his regency and authority was by heralds and trumpets proclaimed at the "Hye Crosse" and elsewhere in the town.

Of the 40 persons summoned before my coming, to appear the said 22d August, accused of the late king's murder, there only appeared three, viz. Sir James Cookeborne of Skyrlynge knight, Sir Patrick Hayborne of Rycartton knight, and William Edmonston son to the parson of Fallowe, all arraigned on the said king's behalf by the Lairds of Mento, Dromewasell and Howstoun, as his servants and next kinsmen. But as the jury summoned did not appear, the said parties finding sureties for next appearance on 21st October, were dismissed and the court discharged. Their innocence is presumed, as they appeared uncompelled. Skirling and Riccarton came well attended. Of the others summoned, 12 were put to the horn and outlawed: so that there are 25 "respected," amongst them Sir Patrick Whytlaughe captain of Dunbar. The abbot of Kilwinning has treated with Murray here—(1) to suspend accepting the regency till the Duke's return: that being refused, (2) to have the like till Argyll, Huntly, the bishop, and abbot and others might convene, to arrange for joint access to the Queen for her mind on the regency etc.: being also refused (3) that they might not be forced to obey the regency: which being denied, (4) that the proclamation of the King and Regency be not published in their bounds: which was also refused —and the Earl said that no subject nor place should be exempted from the king's authority, and obeying himself as regent. The convention at Stirling between the Hamiltons and these lords, with de Lineroll as mediator, is not like to be, as the Hamiltons will not come there.

I send the articles proposed by Murray to the lords, to which they have consented, with an addition by them, viz: that he shall make neither war nor peace—break nor make league—dispose of the prince's person or marriage, nor of the Queen's person or liberty, without consent of the majority.

Since there is an authority here established (how it will continue God knows) it may please your majesty to revoke me. For Murray as Regent (I learn) minds to take precedence of all ambassadors, which hitherto I have had of him and all in this realm. And giving place to him, it might seem your majesty (by me) allowed his authority *etc.* in some sort. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(1) (Oath by the Regent.)

Promising according to God's word revealed in the Old and New Testaments, to maintain true religion, preaching the same, and administration of the sacraments as now practised, abolish false religion, rule the people by the foresaid word, preserve the rights of the crown, root out all heretics and enemies to true worship, that shall be convicted "be the true kyrke of God of the forsaid crymes."

Finally he is to lay his hand on the Bible with inclination of his body, and then sing the 72d Psalm.

½ *p. Copy by Throkmorton's clerk. Indorsed*: "22d August 1567. The othe" etc. *Printed in Keith, II., p. 751.*

Elizabeth.
1567.

(2) (Articles between the Regent and the lords.)

Under 7 heads not numbered. Edinburgh 22d August 1567—The lords of Secret Council and others subscribing, narrating the Queen's voluntary commissions, transferring the crown to her son, to Murray as Regent, and others, failing his return—the coronation on 29th July, Murray's return, and acceptance of the regency: agree (1) to concur in maintaining true religion, and in holding a parliament without delay, (2) to further justice, (3) to put order throughout the realm, (4) to remove unfit, and appoint upright officers, (5) to remit no murders, (6) to promote the glory of God, *etc.* (7) the Lord Regent on the other side, promises to contract with no foreign princes towards peace or war, the king's marriage, the liberty of the queen his mother, "nor yet sall speke with her, send writingis to her, or have intelligence in ony sort with her, without thadvyce of my lordis of the Secret Councell present undresubscriband, or of the maist part of thame."

2 pp. In a Scottish official hand. The 7th clause in another hand (the Justice Clerk?) *Indorsed* (by Throkmorton's clerk).

Aug. 23. **608.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I find in the Regent and all his assistants a determinate resolution to govern this realm in the King's name, and have obedience of all sorts, "or to lye by the walles." If the Hamiltons and their faction will not acknowledge and obey authority, he will extend force against them. I am much perplexed as to giving him the precedence he means to take of all ambassadors, which will come in question "at the preachinges where I ame present." You see how necessary it is I be revoked to avoid inconvenience to her Majesty. M. de Lynerolles desires the enclosed packet may be conveyed to M. la Forrest the ambassador. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 26. **609.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

I might have returned before, or with M. de Lynerolles; and I believe these men would not have been so backward to satisfy her Majesty. For I see they so "stomake" my negotiation that they will do nothing "gratefull" to us, and if you do not revoke me, they will send me hence "er yt be longe." I send you copy of a letter from Lord Herries, and my answer; but pray forget not what I wrote of him before. He wrote lately to Murray with humility, making difficulty to come hither, continuing his "pretence" for the Queen's liberty, or for licence to speak with her, and then will obey "the Lord Regent." Murray in 2 or 3 days will lodge in the castle here to show his authority; Grange is to be keeper at his return. Bothwell has taken in Shetland a great ship of "Breame" [Bremen?] with fish, and arms it as Admiral; Tyllyberne and Grange are in pursuit of him. Pray advertise her majesty, to whom I do not write. Lyneroll departed for Berwick "the 26th" hereof; his present was "a basen and an ewer gylte, twoe standinge cuppes gylte, and twoe layers gylte, and twoe hackeneys, with certeyne Scottyshe daggers, garnysshed with sylver and gylte." Though Murray signified his regency, this

Elizabeth.
1567. dispatch with Lyneroll to the French King, is from all the lords in reply to him, to whom Murray has also written at great length a particular letter to confirm the same. Edinburgh. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same :—

(1) (Herries to Throkmorton.)

Humbly praying, if he finds any appearance whereby their sovereign may be relieved and troubles pacified, to command him and his friends to serve therein. If not, that he would command his secretary to write with his pleasure. Excuses coming personally, to avoid suspicion. Is as ready as any Scottishman of his degree to serve him. Dumfries, 23d August 1567. Herys.

1 p. Copy by Throkmorton's clerk. Indorsed.

(2) (Throkmorton's reply.)

That notwithstanding his delivery of his Sovereign's charge to the lords assembled at Edinburgh, to desist from their violent behaviour to their sovereign, they will neither consent to enlarge her, or suffer him to speak with her. Whereof he has advertised the Queen's majesty, and expects daily her further order, which he will signify to Herries, whose letter he will report to her majesty. Edinburgh.

1 *p. Copy by his clerk. Indorsed:* "24 August 1567. To the Lord Herryes."

Aug. 29. **610.** ELIZABETH TO THROKMORTON.

We have within these 2 days received your sundry letters of 20th, 22d and 23d of this month—none for 7 days before—and find you have diligently advertised us of all the hasty and peremptory proceedings there, which as we nothing like, we trust in time to see them "waxe colder," and receive reformation: for we cannot see how they with whom you have dealt, can answer the Hamiltons—"who howsoever they may be carryed for their privat respectes, yet these thynges which they move, will be allowed with all resonable persons! For if they may not, being noble men of the realm, be suffred to here the Quene ther soverayn declare hir mynd concerning the reportes which ar made of hir by such as kepe hir in captivite, how shuld they beleve the reportes, or obey them which doo report it?" You shall therefore let the Hamiltons plainly understand that we do well allow their proceedings so far as these concern the Queen's relief, and that as they require, on your coming thence, Lord Scrope shall deal with Lord Herries to impart their meaning to us and ours to them: we are well pleased that you advertise Lord Scrope to be favourable in their actions plainly tending to the Queen's relief. As our secretary wrote we willed you to return, your message done to Murray, "so our meaning is you shall." If these our letters meet you on the way, you shall advertise Scrope and the Hamiltons. [Farnham Castle, 9th of our reign.]

Elizabeth.
1567. 1½ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

The original address leaf attached. Indorsed: "The Q: to my father, dated 29 : Agust: 1567." *Damaged by damp.*
Printed in Keith, II. p., 747.

Aug. 30. **611.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

"Being assured that nou it is already cum to your knawlaige how I am changytt of latte frome my privatte state to ane publict charge —quhilk I pray God may to this State be moir commodious nor to me it is wellcum or pleising—but I mwst neidis with all utheris yeild to necessiteis!" I cannot but assure myself to find you as heretofore of good counsel and favourable to myself, who am in nothing changed but the "rowme," and have more need of true friends than ever. Heartily desiring you to "persecut" me with your good will, and advise the Queen's majesty to follow the best and most agreeable course for security of the king's majesty her highness's cousin. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *First signature as "Regent" R.* [*Lemon*].

[Aug. .] **612.** EXHORTATION TO THE REGENT AND LORDS.

[*A rhyming ballad of 18 stanzas of 8 lines each: by* "Johne Upaland," *with many marginal references to texts of the Old Testament —saying that the land was ruled by* "that hornit byke of Hell" *before their uprising—exhorting them to* "ruit out" their enemies—*to let no idolator escape their hands—to relieve labourers and poor tenants as the papists never did—and eject* "ane curset byke of Sophistis in Abirdene, that cheiflie dois maling"—*putting in their place learned men of God.*]

Broadsheet. Blackletter. Indorsed: "An exhortacion" etc.

[Aug. .] **613.** DECLARATION OF THE LORDS' JUST QUARREL.

[*A rhyming ballad of 34 stanzas of 7 lines each: in form of a dialogue between two learned men, Philandrius and Erideilus: the former on the lords' behalf, the latter more for the present state, but represented at the close, as stalking away quietly* "reid for schame" *at the other's remarks. The language about the Queen and Bothwell is very coarse. The lords' action in imprisoning her is justified by many examples, real and apocryphal.*]

Broadsheet. Blackletter. Imprentit at Edinburgh be Robert Lekprevik A.D. 1567. Indorsed: "The Lordes of Scotlands quarrell sett out in metre."

[Aug. .] **614.** ANSWER TO THE REGENT'S SLANDERERS.

"Ane answer maid to the sklanderiris that blasphemis the Regent and the rest of the lordis."

Elizabeth.
1567.

A ballad of 10 stanzas, the first whereof is—

"Reingat rapfow thocht yow raif
Skorner of poitis and sklanderus knaif,
Quhat sayis thow bot we knaw oursell?
In spite of the and all the laif,
The bastard bairne* sall beir the bell."

and the last:—

"Luik the first letter of entrie wers
Hangman gif yow can rehers,
Mark weill my name and set ane day
In fechting war yow never so fers
Thow salbe marrowit and I may."

Finis, quod "Maddie gar mak ye boun
To all the papistis of this toun."

"Hatbag Hammiltoun" *is named in the second verse.*

At the foot is written by Drury—"Robarte Symple ys the dooer hereoff."

1 *p.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed.*

615. PROCLAMATION BY THE REGENT.

"Ane proclamatioun set furth be my lord Regent, in the name of our soverane lord, declaring the purpose of thame quha assistit with our soverane lordis mother etc."

Giving an account of the Queen and Bothwell's proceedings—Bothwell's "cullorat clengeing" *on 7th April—her being* "put in suertie"*—her demission of the crown etc. Ends with the words* "our gudschir." [*The remainder is awanting.*]

Broadsheet. *Blackletter.* *Indorsed:* "1568."

(1) Transcript of the same.

4 *pp.* *Indorsed:* "A declaration of the just quarrell of the Lords of Scotland."

(2) Another in a much later hand.

4 *pp.* *Indorsed.*

Sept. 1. **616.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

Your letter of 20th August from Guildford, I received on 27th, with her majesty's instructions and (to my comfort) her pleasure for my return after performing these. The Earl of Murray in Lethington's presence, said to me, first—to the matter declared by her majesty's order of 11th August: that Lethington had answered it 5 days past at good length. This I signified to her majesty on 22d August. To my going to Lochleven: the lords saw no more reason to accord more than before—and much less, as de Lynerolles had been refused and was gone. As to accepting the Regency: it was past deliberation, he had no other defence against ignominy and calumny,

* Murray.

Elizabeth.
1567. but the goodness of God, his upright conscience, and sincerity: and now there was no remedy but he must go through with it. For her majesty's satisfaction that he had his Sovereign's consent: he would be loth to avow any such matter, specially a thing touching himself, "yf he had not the Quenes consent thereunto confyrmed by her owne mowthe." For my demand for her enlargement: the lords could not resolve, as it "depended apon accydentes: 'Albeyt' (sayd he) 'for myne owne parte, I coulde be contented yt weere undelayedlye.'" To my demand for her "condycion and estate after Bodwells apprehencion and justefyinge": he aunswered 'That theye coulde not marchaundyze for the beares skynne before they had hym'! I said they could foresee what should be fit to do then. He answered that her liberty would chiefly depend on her own behaviour; for if these lords saw that she "dothe dysgest" well Bothwell's justifying and his adherents' punishment, showing no wrathful and revengeful mind thereto, and also if your sovereign did not trouble the realm by maintaining factions, then the lords will do all grateful things to both the Queens. 'Marye! to fyshe so far before the net, and to tell nowe what shalbe donne than, neyther doe I nor theye thynke convenyent to geve any determynate aunswer.' Having these resolute answers, I make no longer tarry.

On giving them this notice, they desired me to wait for my dispatch. I said I needed nothing but my safe conduct. Murray required me to stay, having something to write to her majesty, and that I should say something on his behalf to her. On 30th August after the sermon, I accompanied him to his lodging, where all the lords were assembled, and Lethington in name of all, made a summary repetition of their proceedings since the beginning of this matter, ending with a digression on the great favour and relief they had received from her majesty, when oppressed by strangers. Then Murray at great length set forth his grief if her majesty thought otherwise of him than well: for there was no prince "nexte to thoose which he ought hys chyefeste duetye unto," loss of whose favour would trouble him more. Then Morton said—'I . . . praye you to render myne humble thankes to her majestie for the favoure I receyved in the tyme of my trowble in her realme.' Then Murray, Atholl, Morton, Mar, Glencairn, and Lethington "led me into a lyttle cabanet, where they had prepared a preasent of gylte plate, as I estemed yt better than twoe hundred markes," which Murray asked me to accept by way of present from the king. I declined to accept any present but from their sovereign the Queen, "but as from the kinge (whom I tooke to be prynce) I coulde receyve non, seinge he had attayned to that name by injurynge the Quene hys mother." The lords required me to desist from such matters, as but breeding contention to no purpose, and earnestly pressed me again to take it: "which (to be shorte) I refused, and so wee parted (as yt semed to me) they not best pleased." Lethington accompanied me to my lodging, persisting I should change my mind, but I would not yield, and took leave. Something he asked me to say to you on his behalf. I was attended for 6 or 7 miles by a good company of Murray's gentlemen, and being late at departing, lay at Haddington that night, and came the last of August to this town with Mr Robert Melvyn. Pray look not for any great haste to court, for I am not in

Elizabeth.
1567. case so to travel. When I left Edinburgh (the 30th) there was no news but that Tillyberne and Grange's ships were seen within 40 miles of Shetland: where the principal man named Fogge favours Bothwell who is there. The Lord "Glaymes" and Master of "Saynctcleare," are in Edinburgh, associated with these lords, and Cassillis is looked for shortly. The Hamiltons have had a convention at Lanark, whence they mean to make a dispatch to the Queen's majesty. "Herewith I send you a congratulaceon latelye set forth by one of theys poetes." Berwick. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

3¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Printed in Keith vol. II., p. 757.

Sept. [12]. **617.** OCCURRENCES OUT OF SCOTLAND.

Demands by the Hamiltons *etc.* of the Regent and lords.

(1) A meeting at Lythco: altogether denied. (2) Assurance to come to Edinburgh to parley: also denied. The Regent said he would hear any complaint and do justice: otherwise he would not deal. Then Argyll, Boyd, Livingston and the abbot of Kilwinning, came to Edinburgh unassured, to show their griefs. Huntly coming to the Regent to Earl Marischal's house, was stayed there, and sent his servant to make his way: but the servant having first gone to Glasco to see how the Hamiltons did, the Regent refused to deal with him.

Herries having written for leave to come: the Regent utterly refused him.

John Hay son of Tallo, and chief servant to Bothwell, and another, was taken in Fife Sunday 6th September*: who can confess much on the King's murder, and "bleke" some great men with it. Saundy Duresme the king's page is suspected to be privy—was examined before the Regent, and is in irons in the Tolbooth. On 10th instant the Laird of Whytlawe keeper of Dunbar, was put to the horn at Edinburgh Cross: the same day the laird of Yester and Douglas of Long Niddry committed to the castle for oppressing a neighbour "for a tyth in Lodyan."

The Earl of Mar since I came to Edinburgh, came there from Stirling for but one hour; so Bothwell's favourers said the king was dead.

The Laird of Waughton delivered from ward on Sunday, with days given him to subscribe or deny: hearing this bruit of the king, took his wife and children into Dunbar, but hearing it was untrue, is out again.

2½ *pp.* *Contemporary hand.* *Addressed:* "To Mr Secretary." *Indorsed* (by his clerk): " . . . Received xvij°. Septembr."

Sept. [12] **618.** SECRET PROCEEDINGS OF THE HAMILTONS, ETC.

They have appointed 3 regents, viz. John abbot of Arbroath (till his father return from France), Argyll and Huntly, and have agreed (1) to have the Queen's liberty, (2) to pursue the King's murderers, (3) obey the prince but not as king, (4) seek relief of these lords that took this accord in hand, (5) to levy 400 foot, and appoint as "cronell" Captain Steward late of the Guard, (6) Argyll to bring

*7th (Nicolas and Bond).

Elizabeth.
1567. 5000 men, the Hamiltons 1000, Huntly 1000, Crawford 1000, Herries, 1000; Lords Fleming and Livingston lieutenants of their horsemen. They also require 2 of themselves and 2 of the lords to go to the Queen, and if she grants what has been done is of her free will, they will obey without further question. Denied them altogether.

1¼ *pp.* *In same hand as last.* *Addressed:* "To M^r^ Secretary." *Indorsed* (by his clerk): " . . . Received xvij° Septembris."

Sept. 15. **619.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

Since our last to you by Sir Nicolas Throgmorton there is nothing occurred worth writing, saving that "it hes pleased God to unit againe the apparent division of this realme": for Argyll has been with "ws," and offered obedience to the King; with him my lord of Kilwinning, offering the same for the Bishop of S^t^ Andrews, and my lord Duke's friends. Huntly by message did the like, and also Herries. So the realm is like to have repose. I persuade myself that my acceptation of the public charge shall rather augment your godly affection, than any wise impair the same, "especially yff ye sall persaive ws walk worthye of our wocation, quhilk I intend be Goddis grace, on quhome our confidence doyth repoise."

I recommend to your favour these honest men M^r^ John Rutherfurd, Thomas Hammilton, Adam Wauchop, James and Henry Nisbettis, James Mosman and Thomas Bruce, going on their lawful trade to France. Edinburgh. *Signed*: James Regent.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 15. **620.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO THROKMORTON.

Since your departing, our friends "be west wa," the Hamiltons, Argyll, Herries, and Boyd convened at Glasgow on the 3^d^ instant, and finding no "outgaytt," scattered, and a number came straight way to us, though refused assurance; while we promised some should be welcome, others not. Argyll, Boyd, and Kilwinning came, and incontinent every man began to travail for himself; in the end craving but remission for past contempt, to acknowledge the King, and us as Regent. A message from Herries the same day, we have delayed to answer as yet, for good occasions. Huntly has "bayd" at us in the same manner, so as there appears no breach in the whole wall, praise to God. Kilwinning craves our license to go to the Duke in France, to move him, he assures us, to obey the King, and will shortly be with you at Court. Tullibardine and Grange are returned from pursuit of Bothwell, and even when they had as it were his "haill" ships in their hand, Grange's ship "straik on ane blind rok" and had much ado to save men and ordnance, so occupying the others that the enemy escaped. Divers are taken, but none notable except Callan, being Bothwell's "chalmerchiel," and one of the "verray executors": he may clear the whole action. We hope shortly to recover Dunbar, and of that and other things you shall be advertised. Not doubting you will be a faithful minister to move her majesty to tender our honorable causes, and that no fugitives and rebels, specially the late king's murderers, shall find favour in her realm. We pray you present our commendations to my lord of Leicester—the rather that we bear

Elizabeth.
1567. charge: who shall find us nothing altered. Excuse me to M[r] Randolphe that I do not write. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

2½ *pp.* *A transcript from the original among the* "Conway Papers." *Attached is the original address leaf to Throkmorton, with indorsation.*

Sept. 15. **621.** DAVID SINCLAIR TO BEDFORD.

"I reprewit syndrye of yowr lordschippes auld acquentance, that thay wer so unkynd in wryteing to your lordschippe." As my servant repairs to "thay partis," I let you know that my lord Regent with the rest of the lords dined in the castle "this Fryday,"* and it was delivered to him. A ship is come from Grange showing Bothwell's narrow escape in "Schytland," leaving his ships—the *Unicorne* following too near, is "brokkin," but the crew safe. Grange and the Constable of Dundee landed there, have taken the principal man of the country, one of Bothwell's ships, and two "spetiall mariners" David Wilye and Geordе Fogo; Tillebairn has followed the other ships. [Edinburgh.] *Signed:* David Syncler.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed.*

Sept. 20. **622.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Commending to his favour the bearer George Clappertoun "induellair" of Leith, his dependant, who is repairing with his ship towards London. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 23. **623.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO BEDFORD.

I received your letter of 20[th] by your man Colwyche, desiring earnestly licence to speak with the Queen: a message surely somewhat strange, "and I do not merwell aneuch what hayth mowed your lordschip to mak sic a motion at this tyme," knowing that the ambassadors of France, and of your own sovereign, were lately refused the like for necessary considerations. I therefore see no ground for your looking for performance at your private desire. Bear with me, and accept my excuse for not granting your requests, as none of the lords but Atholl are with me, some being occupied inclosing Dunbar, others at home. If your meaning be to know the Queen's estate: I assure you "that she is in als guid health of personne, als lusty, and to the utter apparaunce to ws, als merylie disposed, as at any tym sence hir hyghnes arrywall in this realme, whearin your lordschip sall credit me." Your man has seen how we be now in hand with Cesford and Faymyherst and all the barons of Tywidall, who are here, and will do our uttermost to procure quiet on the border to your content; referring other things to his sufficiency. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* 12th September.

Elizabeth.
1567.
Sept. 27. **624.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

I send my servant the bearer to Scotland for my private affairs, and pray you be so good as convoy him to the Queen's majesty, to whom he will declare my mind. Arques. *Signed:* Yowr louffing frend James Hammylton.

¼ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By one M^r^ Rob. Hamilton."

Sept. 27. **625.** CHATELHERAULT TO ELIZABETH.

Most humbly thanking your highness for sending me your passport by this bearer my servant, I now send him to your majesty instructed with my mind: "becaus that beand upon my woyadge, tuik sik alteratioun be reason off sursfit travaill by my accustomit ordinar* towardis the king and court, in procuring help and releif for my soverane quha is sa extremlye handillit, as I could on na wys keip the appoyntid dyat quhilk I was purposed. Alwayis (thankes be to God) begynnyng to convoles." † Prays your majesty to give him your passport to me and my "suet" to pass and repass through your realm for a year—and credence to him, who will declare my mind "at mair lynthe." Arques. *Signed:* Your majestes mast hwmyll and obedeant serwetur James Hammylton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By one M^r^ Rob^t^ Hamilton."

Sept. 30. **626.** THROKMORTON TO CECIL.

When in Scotland, the bearers, 2 Frenchmen, "called" Bellam late page of the Queen of Scots' chamber, and Jaques la Fyniewr her butler, asked my passport to Court, and have Lord Bedford's. They now pray your passport to France, with one Adam Wowgham, M^r^ James Magill's servant, going to his master's son at study there, and 4 or 5 more Scotsmen scholars and merchants, all in their company—with their horses. London. *Signed:* N. Throkmorton.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 1. **627.** KYRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

This Wednesday 1^st^ October I shall receive the castle here to my lord Regent's use, but will not tarry 2 hours in it, for I must return this same night to Edinburgh Castle, where I purpose to remain "a poore sogiour (?)," unless there be business ado on the field, whereof I see little appearance, for both Huntly and Herries are seeking to be friends with my lord Regent. Herries I believe is to be in Edinburgh on 6^th^ instant. Bothwell is certainly in "Birrenn"‡ where my lord Regent is sending a herald. The "goshalk" you desired for my lady your bedfellow, I trust to send shortly one worth keeping. Dunbar. *Signed:* W. Kyrkcaldy.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

* i.e., My hurried journey. † Recover. ‡ Bergen.

Elizabeth.
1567.
Oct. 11. **628.** CHATELHERAULT TO CECIL.

Desiring a passport through England for his friends the bearers, "Masteris" Alexander Cambell, John Linsay, Andrew Attoun, William Carnagye, Walter Ecclem, and Thomas Baquhannan, students in Paris, constrained through the troubles risen in France to go home to Scotland. Dieppe. *Signed:* Yowr louffing frend James Hammyltoun.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 14. **629.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

Gives him most hearty thanks for his true friendship in promoting amity of late, which he prays him to continue between both these nations, "quhome God hayth thus frome the begynning inclosed within ane yill and seperat frome the rest of the warld." The state of the realm draws to great quiet, and no appearance of any "sturre" unless it be practised by foreign enemies of the religion. Is about to pacify the borders, and put order, if the officers on his side will endeavour as they shall do here. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 14. **630.** R. MELVILL TO BEDFORD.

I received your lordship's letter from Corbat, and give you most humble thanks. The Lord Regent, on hearing your mind, has "deliberat" to take order to content you, and has charged Fernyhirst, Cesford, Hunthill and Badrull, with divers others, to be here "agane Setterdaye nyxt" to answer for their men to be delivered under bills. Your letter to my lord grieves him sore, as he perceives you are sore pressed. Since Corbat's coming I have done nothing except for his dispatch, and pray you excuse shortness. This day Lord Herries is in this town. Your novels from France please us well. Edinburgh. In haste. *Signed:* R. Melvill.

My brother James commends his service to you.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

Oct. 16. **631.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting in the king's name, passport for his born subjects the Laird of Haltoun, and William Aikman "now indwellar in Dieppe," with 16 others Scots and French, to pass through England to France for a year. Under the royal signet. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed.

Dec. 4. **632.** ACT BY THE REGENT AND COUNCIL.

Convened in Edinburgh 4th December 1567, the Regent's grace, the lords of Secret Council, and other barons and men of judgment: and it being proponed to them how parliament approaches, wherein the cause of the imprisonment of the Queen must be debated and

Elizabeth.
1567. tried—which matter being largely debated and reasoned at great length on sundry days, they all desire it may be found and declared by the Three Estates that the cause of the taking of the Queen's person upon the 15th June last, and detaining the same within the house and place of Lochleven "continewalie sensyne, presentlie, and in all tymes cuming, and generalie all other thingis inventit, spokin, writtin or done be thame or ony of thame sen the tent day of Februar last bipast" (the day of the horrible murder of the late King Henry) to the date hereof, was in the said Queen's own default "in sa far as be divers hir previe lettrez writtin and subscrivit with hir awin hand and sent be hir to James erll Boithvile chief executour of the said horrible murther, alsweill befoir the committing thairof as thaireftir it and be hir ungodlie and dishonorable proceding in a pretendit mariage with him suddanlie and unprovisitlie thaireftir, it [is] maist certane that sche wes previe, art and part, and of the actuale devise and deid of the foirnemmit murther" of her lawful husband the king our sovereign lord's father. Therefore she justly deserves all that has been attempted against her for the said cause; which murder, though she and the said earl "yaid about to colour and to hald bak the knawlege of the trewth thairof; yit all men in thair heartes wer fully persuadit of the authoris and devisers of that mischevous and unworthy fact." Wherefore the nobility who took action thereon, justly fearing not only for themselves but chiefly for the preservation of the innocent prince, the chief and almost only comfort sent by God to this afflicted nation, and took arms in the said quarrel, are now and shall be free and quit of the same, and of all action criminal or civil that may be "ententit or persewit" against them in all time coming. And that a part of the three Estates "prelattis buschoppes greit barronis and burgessis gif thair selis heiruponn to be usit as salbe thocht maist expedient be thame for the honour of the realme and securitie of the noblemen and utheris having enterit in the caus."

James Regent, Mortoun chancellair, Glencairne, Erroll, Bowchane, Alex[r] L. Home, Ruthven, L. Simpill, John l. Glammis, Patrik lord Lindsay, Patrik lord Gray, John l. Grhame, Vchiltrie, Innermeth, Adam Orchaden., Robert commendater of Dunfermling, Alex[r] commendater of Culros, Schir James Balfour, Ja. Makgill, Henry Balnaves, W. Maitland, Drumlanerk, Coninghameheid, John Erskin of Dun, W. Kirkcaldy, Johnne Wischert of Pettarro, James Halyburtoun, Craigmillair.

2 *pp.* *Broadsheet, closely written in contemporary Scottish hand. Indorsed* (in Makgill's?): "This act of Counsayle is confirmed by an act of parlament intituled 'Anent the retention of the K. mothers person in Loughleven.'"

In Hayne's State Papers. p. 453.

Dec. 15-16. **633.** PARLIAMENT AT EDINBURGH.

Lists of those present for the Three Estates, on the 2[d] day of the first parliament of James vj under the Regent Murray; and of the Lords of the Articles.

Extracted from the Books of parliament by Master James

Elizabeth.
1567. Makgill of Rankelour Nether, clerk of the rolls *etc. Signed:* Jacobus Makgill.

3 *pp. Broadsheet. Indorsed:* "xv° Decembris 1567. the parlement began at Edenbourgh."

Printed Acta Parl. Scot. Vol. III., p. 4.

Dec. 15. **634.** MAITLAND'S HARANGUE TO PARLIAMENT.

Passes over the late controversies, and other points, not to weary them, as these will be brought before the Lords of Articles: touching two chief points only—(1) The wonderful victory of God's word among them within less than 8 or 9 years, the "calmnes" with which the work has proceeded—not a Scotsman's blood being shed in the quarrel—a peculiar favour of God to Scotland. Whereas in Germany, Denmark, England, France, Flanders, "or quhair ye pleis," the lives of many thousands have been spent before they attained the tenth part of the liberty, which the Scots have got, "as it wer sleaping upon down coddis"*—urging perseverance in the good work. (2) Praises the Lord Regent, but as he is present, more moderately than otherwise he would do.

2¼ *pp. In Hay's writing. Indorsed:* "La harangue que fit Monsieur de Liddington au commencement du parlement": also (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 20. **635.** ATTAINDER OF BOTHWELL AND OTHERS.

Act of Parliament declaring that James sometime Earl of Bothwell, James Ormistoun of that Ilk and others, having been duly summoned to answer for the King's murder etc., and failing to appear, have incurred the crime of treason in their persons, and their lands and goods are confiscated to the King. Extracted from the books of parliament. *Signed:* Jacobus Makgill.

Nearly 4 feet long—very faint in parts. Indorsed.

Printed Acta Parl. Scot. Vol. III., p. 5.

Dec. 30. **636.** FREDERIC II. OF DENMARK TO JAMES VI.

Your herald brought us on 15th instant your letters of 30th November, confirming the death of King Henry your father, demanding Earl Bothwell to be delivered for punishment. As Bothwell was lately taken and lodged in our castle of Bergen and thence brought to Denmark, and assures us that he was lawfully acquitted in Scotland, and moreover was driven hither by tempest, we have thought it will satisfy you if we keep him in safe custody till full enquiry be made by the next assembly of our nobles. "Ex regia nostra Haffnia."

2¼ *pp. Latin. Contemporary copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* *i.e.*, Pillows.

Elizabeth.

[1567?] **637.** LADY LENNOX'S LANDS.

Given to Lady Margaret "hir grace for hir dowry" in Scotland, by the Earl her husband before marriage—as appears by the conveyance remaining "of record."

First:—The lands of Glenfruine, Ballocht, and Auchinturleyes, with appurtenances, within the earldom of Lennox and sheriffdom of Dunbarton.

Second:—The lands and baronies of Crukisfe, Inchechinnane, Crayge of Neylstone and Tarbowton in the lordship of Darnley and sheriffdom of "Renfules."

Third:—The lands of Erere (?) and appurtenances in the sheriffdom of Perth.

All which are "abled" and promised to be of the yearly value of 500 marks sterling.

½ *p. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Lady Lennox land."

1567-68.

Jan. [15?] **638.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Though he has not lately "interprisit" to write to her highness, yet he is always mindful of her benefits, and has taken the boldness to direct the bearer M[r] Nichol Elphinstoun his servant, instructed with his mind, for whom he prays audience and credit. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet quartered: 1 and 4,* Scotland debruised: 2 and 3, Moray: coronet above: "J.S. 1567" at sides.

Jan. [15?] **639.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

Could not have believed so long time had passed without a letter, "as thingis now standis in the warld." Having directed the bearer M[r] Nicoll Elphinstoun his servant to the Queen, with his mind at large, prays that he will show him favour in his despatch and credit him. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as preceding).

Jan. 31. **640.** ELIZABETH TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

His servant Elphinston having declared his mind to certain of her Council, on their report she has caused them to make such answer to him as in honour and reason she thought meet. Under her signet.

½ *p. Corrected draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Feb. 14. **641.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Praying her in the king's name for a safe conduct to James Stewart "archear of the Croce gaird" in France and 3 companions, to pass between Scotland and France for a year. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet. Scotland—collar of Thistle round shield.

Elizabeth.
1567-68. Feb. 24. **642.** THE ABBOT OF ARBROATH TO ELIZABETH.

I trouble your Majesty with a small suit in behalf of a poor gentleman of my country, who was "maymed" serving in your wars at the siege of Leith, and since served in Ireland under Sir Henry Sydney, who can report the same—that it would please you to grant him some recompence. London. *Signed:* "Be your majeste maist hummil and obedient serviteur, Jhone Hammilton."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . L. Arbrothe to the Q. Majestie for John Dowglas that hath served in Ireland."

Feb. 29. **643.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

Albeit I know your sovereign's gracious inclination towards amity, which shall be also my chief care, next God's glory, "sa lang as at his plesour I sustene this charge and bourding": yet now I doubt not men are busy to break the frontiers, "and glaid wald be that the occasioun of sic troubles wer layed on my schulders." I pray you therefore that in case any complaint occur for default of justice, or attemptats be made by any of this nation on your mistress's subjects, you suffer not reports to be admitted as truth, but suspend judgment till we make our part known. For whatsoever shall be or has of late been excited by broken men, is "be sic as hes not in fulnes acknawledgit and obeyit the king my soveranis auctorite—(to name thame planlie), the Hammiltonis and thair fautoris." Edinburgh, "last of Februar." *Signed:* James Regent.

"Forget not my commendatiouns to my gude lady your wyff."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

March . **644.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

As Bothwell the chief murderer of the late king "of gude memory," and fugitive from the laws, is now detained in Denmark, I sent a herald to require his delivery to suffer according to his deserts: but find no appearance to get it "condiscendit unto," unless your sovereign will direct her letters unto the King of Denmark therefor. I pray your furtherance herein, and that her majesty will require the ambassadors of France and "Hispainyie" to procure like letters from their sovereigns. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 12. **645.** CAPTAIN COCKBURN TO THE REGENT.

I find my lord ambassador's man ready to depart, and received letters how that M. de Bevas left Paris on Tuesday before this date.* On the 6th, 25 Scotsmen archers of the king's guard were "broken" that served with the Prince, and the Bishop of Glasco has put papists in their places—as the Laird of Melgon, Robert Dore, Andro Dore, George Straiton and others, and will put

* 9th.

Elizabeth.
1567-68. out all of the religion. This man is directed to Scotland by his advice, but be not afraid, here is peace. Word came to Court on 7th that the king of Spain and his son be dead, others say the lords are rebelled against him. There is great appearance of new troubles. "In hast at the Dep." *Signed:* . . . of Cocburn.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address* (to Cecil), with a short note praying his honour to send this to the Lord Regent—to whom the letter is also addressed. *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) as "12th April," *having misread Cockburn's very illegible hand.*

1568.
April 20. **646.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have "now agane" directed the bearer my servant Mr Nicol Elphinstoun to the Queen's majesty, and have commanded him "to impart my causes unto you speciallie, and to use him evin as ye sall find maist mete and expedient"; whom I pray you credit as myself. Glasgow. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (*indistinct*).

May 3. **647.** ELPHINSTON TO CECIL.

That it would please his honour to write sharp charges to all the English wardens, specially to my lord Scruipe and Sir John Forster, that they concur with such as the Lord Regent shall appoint to apprehend or put in order troublers of the frontiers, *viz.* Annandale, Esdaill, Ewisdaill, Liddesdale and Tewydaill, and reset no rebels of Scotland. Also that Lord Scruipe suffer none of Liddesdale to have access to the market nor town of Carlisle, nor victuals *etc.* to be supplied them, as they presently reset the laird of Ormistone, and his uncle Robert Ormistone murderers of the late king. And that no Scotsman be suffered to pass the march without the Regent's grace recommend him.

1 *p. Holograph, not signed or addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 3. **648.** PROCLAMATION BY THE REGENT.

In the King's name, commanding Alexander MacCullo pursuivant—as the Queen his mother has escaped from Lochleven and repaired to the place of Hamilton, where sundry of his lieges have joined her, for what purpose is uncertain, but supposed to be by the counsel of wicked persons: to summon his lieges at the market crosses of Edinburgh, Haddington and Dunse, to attend him at Glasco with 15 days' provisions, with all diligence possible, to preserve the king's person and authority and quietness of the realm, under pain of forfeiture. Under the signet. Glasgow. 1st year.

Broadsheet. Contemporary copy. Indorsed (by Cecil's clerk).

May 7. **649.** PROCLAMATION AGAINST MARY'S ADHERENTS.

By the Regent in the king's name, commanding Martine Uddart, Ormond pursuivant, [and others,] to pass to the market crosses of

Elizabeth.
1568. Lanark, Rutherglen, Glasgow [and 12 other burghs] and there charge his subjects that none of them rise, assist or obey the conspirators —now treasonably in arms by pretended authority of the King's "derrest" mother. And proclaim that all who have been allured to their treason, if within 48 hours after such proclamation they confess their error before the Regent, shall be received to favour and mercy; but all who persist in said treasonable conspiracy, under pretence of ignorance, shall have the ancient laws and pains thereof executed against them. Glasgow.

Broadsheet. Blackletter. Printed at Edinburgh by Robert Lekprevik the king's printer. Indorsed.

(2) Two other copies of the same. *Blackletter.*

May 8. **650.** BOND OF MARY'S ADHERENTS.

The subscribers, considering that it has pleased God to put to liberty their sovereign lady the Queen, forth of the hands of her disobedient and unnatural subjects, who have presumed to hold her most noble person in prison for "thair awin prehemenance and particulareteis, menassand and boistand frome tyme to tyme to tak hir magesteis lyfe maist unjustlie frome hir, expres aganis all lovable law of God and man": for which they render thanks and hearty praise: bind themselves to serve and obey her with their bodies lands goods friends *etc.* against the said unnatural subjects, to the setting forth of her authority, honour, commonweal of the realm and lieges, to their uttermost power, to their lives end, and bind themselves to refer all bypast or future actions or grudges among them, to the commandment of their said sovereign lady or the lords of her Council. At Hamilton. *Sic subscribitur:* Archibald earl of Argyll; George earl of Huntly; Hew earl of Eglintoun; David earl of Crawfurd: Cassillis; Rothous; Muntrois; Sudderland: Arrell constable. Lords:—Fleming, Levingstoun, Setoun, Robert l. Boyd; Somervaill; Hereis; Ros; Maxwell; Ogylby; Olifant; William l. Borthweik; Sancher; William l. Hay of Yester; Drummond; Elphinstoun; lord Glawd Hamiltoun; Sinclare; Cairleill. John archbishop of S^t Andrews; John bishop of Dunkeld; John bishop of Ros; Alex^r bishop of Galloway; Alex^r bishop of Aberdeen; Robert bishop of Brechin; John bishop of the Isles; James bishop of Argyll; John bishop of Murray. Abbots:—S^t Colmes Inch; Lyndoris; Glenlus; Halywod; New Abbaye; Dundraynen; Salsyde;* Corsragell; Inchaffray; Kelso; prior Pluskaty;† prior Lahatten.‡ Barons:—Lochinwar, Bas, Wachtoun; Rosling. Corstorphin, Johnstoun, Weymes, Balweyrie, Torry, Dalhoussy, Fairneherst; Sheriff of Tevydaill; Lamingtoun; Caderwod; Cloisburne; Langtoun; Trequair; Keir; Garden; Airth; Clakmanen; Sauchy; Tulleallen; Fyndletar; Barnebowgall; Greinheid; Banf; Haddow; Lard of Rowallen; Drummalyer; Coilstoun; Samelstoun; Quhytfurd of that Ilk; Robert Boyd of Baddeneth; Geriswod; James Johnstoun of Torry; Robert Johnstoun of Lochmaben; John Creychtoun of Ryhill; Sheriff of Air; Schir James Hamiltoun knycht, sheriff of Cliddisdaill; Robert Maister of Simple; Thomas Maister of Boyd; Lard Bombie; Skirling knycht;

* Soulseat. † Pluscardine. ‡ Ardchattan (?)

Elizabeth.
1568. Lard Boyn; Lard of Boghall; Lard of Innerveik; Lard of Stenhous; Lard of Dunrod; Craigehall; Annestoun; Kilburny; Lard Cokpule; Neill Mungumery knycht; Patrik Congiltoun of that Ilk; Pook;* Ladyland; Lard Smetoun; Prestoun knycht; Caldwell knycht; "M^r of Kneland; James Stewart of Cardonald; Lard of Kneland; Lard of Camnethen; Lard of Lachop; Barclanochan; Gawstoun; Romanes; Cranstoun knycht; Newtoun of that Ilk; Lard Bandeneth; Lard of Belstanis; Quhytfurde; Schir Andro Car knycht; Sherif of Lithgw; Gairtlie; Silvertoun knycht; Hanyng; Rikertoun; Arkinles; Dalyell; Semenance;† Lekpreveik; Corhous; Robart Lawsoun of Humby; Esilmont; Macum tosche;‡ Geycht; Creych knycht; Abergeldy; Quhytlaw.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Copy in a Scottish hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "viij Maij 1568. The band of 9 erles, 9 bishoppes, 18 lordes, and others, for defence of the quene of Scottes."

May 9. **651.** THE REGENT TO SIR JOHN FORSTER.

We thank you for your friendly letter. "Trewth it is that sic chance is ocuerrit as ye write. . . Nochtwithstanding the event, we doubt na thing bot that same God quha begouth the actioun, sall conduce it to a happie and confortable end, for we ar richt weill accumpanyt with the haill noble men that enterit in the actioun at the begynnyng." We are sorry that our good meaning to repress disorders, should be impeded, but God we trust will ere long bring matters to a stay. Glasgow, "lait." *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 9. **652.** NEWS FROM SCOTLAND.

Understanding by your honour's servant Richard Fransche, "that ye cannot get the sure advertisment of the procedinges in this countrye," I send these few lines. On the 2^nd^ day of "this instant May," a servant in Lochleven, nursed there since his birth, and therefore having credit "theyr in till," stole the keys at the time of supper, thereafter passed and received the king's mother forth of her chamber, conveyed her to the "botte," locked all the "yettes" on the rest at supper, and spoiled the rest of the "bottes" of their furniture, so that none was able to follow them: and when they were come to land, George Douglas brother to the Laird of Lochleven, "who was in fantasy of love wythe hir," and had provided this money before, met her at the loch side, accompanied with the laird of Ricarton a friend of Bothwell's, and 10 horse. They took away all Lochleven's horses to prevent his following. Within 2 miles or thereby, Lord Seton with James Hamilton of Ormiston met them with 30 horse; and in this company they passed "the Ferry," when Claude Hamilton the Duke's 2^nd^ son met her with 20 horse, and conveyed her to Lord Seton's place called "Nedery," where she wrote some despatches with her own hand, viz. one to John Betton for France, sending him away with it, another to Ricarton to take Dunbar castle; who passed there, but failed of his enterprise. At her leaving Niddry, Lord Herries met her.

* *i.e.*, Maxwell of Pollock. † St. Monance. ‡ Mackintosh (?)

Elizabeth.
1568. with 30 horse, and all conveyed her to the castle of Hamilton, where she now is, with all such as "was at the moshon" of this conspiracy, no very great number, "and earnestly at this present repentes that ever they had melling therwith." The principals of the faction are the Archbishop of S[t] Andrews, the Hamiltons, Herries and Seton; "sen syne" they have drawn to them Eglinton and Fleming and some "meane" gentlemen, friends of Bothwell, that would gladly be quit of the matter. Their force is not great and very "evell frayed." They intend to have all their force about Monday or Tuesday together in Hamilton. They cannot agree who shall be lieutenant. My lord Regent's force will be ready against that day, which will far exceed them in number and goodness of men. After Wednesday he takes the field, and it is thought the others will steal away, if possible to put the king's mother in Dunbarton; but I think they shall not be able. Your servant has written to Glasgow and remains here for his answer. Edinburgh, "this Sonday."

The proclamations in the king's name are well obeyed: the queen's are "reven" and the officers punished.

2¼ *pp. Contemporary copy. No address. Indorsed.*

May [14]. **653.** BATTLE OF LANGSYDE.

Names of the lords with the Queen on the field:—

Earls:—Argyll, Montgomery, Cassillis, Rothes. Lords:—Herries, Boyd, Yester, Borthwick, Sancher, Flemyng, Levyston, Seton, Sheriff of Ayer, lord Rosse, lord Glowde; Sir James Hamilton, all the rest of the Hamiltons, and many great barons and gentlemen.

Names of the principal slain on the Queen's side:—

Captain Steward, tutor of Castlemilk; Goodman of Ormeston, a Hamilton: John Hamilton of Milborne; James Hamilton laird of Leprevick; the Laird of Hunterston; James Hamilton of Daserfe; John Hamilton of Garen; with 3 or 4 score of Hamiltons and other gentlemen, and the Laird of Lambineton's brother.

Names of those on the Regent's side:—

Earls:—Morton, Marr, Glyncairne, Monthith. Lords:—Howme, Lindsay, Ruthven, Semple, Graham. Lairds:—of Trawick, Drumlangrick, the lord Secretarie, the lord Comptroller. Abbots:—of Drumferling, Bamerino (?) . . . . . .*; the lord Treasurer; the Justice clerk, Sir James Bawfour, M[r] James Magill, the laird of Bargany, laird of Glengarnok, laird of Mackfarland with his "Heighlandmen," and many great barons and gentlemen.

Names of the prisoners:—Lord Seton, Master of Cassillis, lord Rosse, Master of Eglinton, Sheriff of Ayer, Sir James Hamilton, bishop of S[t] Andrews' 2 sons, lord of Kilwinning's son; Lairds of Innerveik, Trebrowne, Balverie; young laird of Preston; Lauchop, Mowe, Irnok, Camskeith, Hahill, Kneeland, Grenschellis. Goodmen:—Bothelhaugh, and Perdawhen, with many more of the Hamiltons *etc.*

2 *pp. In a Scottish contemporary hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Obliterated.

Elizabeth.
1568. May 13. **654.** DOUGLAS OF BONJEDWARD TO MOW OF THAT ILK.

"Cowsing," . . these news "is nocht plesand to nay Scottisman to heir, to veit." On Thursday last the 13th instant there was "ane provyddit battaill of artylye" betwixt the Queen and Regent upon Geving Mur* at 9 "houris," and most cruelly fought "that heis bein hard this mony day in this rowm." There is slain on both sides 500, out of 3000 men—2000 on the Queen's party and 1000 on the Regent's. "Howbiet God hes gevin the victore to the Regent." Herries "hyied" on horseback and has received as "grit sketh as tham that vas on feit." They would not suffer the Queen to be on the ground; some say she is in "Dumbartain or ellis in the Draiffain." No word is come of any principal men slain, except Lord Seton and Trekware; Morton was in the vanguard. "Ve vill geit sykare vord or ewin, quhat principall men is slane on both the pertyis, gyf ye may coum down, ye sall knaw." Few of this country was there, except Lord Hume and young Cesford, who left Jedworth (?) on Monday last. Ormistown was there, but some say they would not suffer him to be in the Queen's company. Yester and Borthwick were horsed in the field and came away when they saw the battle lost. I trust Borthwick sends "thir newis" to Buccleuch "quhay maikis grit dolowr" for loss of friends. The Regent has great spoil of the Queen's munition *etc.*, left on the field. "Bunjedvard this Seterday." *Signed:* William Douglas of Bunjedward.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address:* "To his traist cowsing Jhon Mow of that Ilk." *Indorsed* (by Cecil (?): "15 Maij 1568." and (by another) "To be perused and abrugged."

May 16. **655.** BATTLE OF LANGSYDE.

The Queen had 6000 men: Argyll was her lieutenant general. The lords were esteemed at 4000. The Hamiltons and others, 2000, were in the vanguard. Both sides strove for a hill nigh adjoining; and met at a "streight" passage through a village. Lords Hume, Semple and Morton had the Regent's vanguard: the fight endured at least ¾ of a hour, and the Queen's side first gave way. At beginning the chase, Murray required all his to spare shedding more blood, otherwise the foot (the greatest number) had been in their enemy's will. Herries with the horse fled, and with him the horses of those that had lighted. The Queen beheld this conflict half a mile distant, standing on a hill with Lords Boyd, Fleming, Herries' son and 30 others, who seeing her company overthrown, took the way †*to Dunbarton, but was so near pursued, she could not take the boat to bring her there, but was driven to ride for Dumfries where she remains.*

The number slain in the place is by skilled men judged to be 6 or 7 score, besides those since dead in the town and elsewhere. Prisoners taken, 300 and more, whereof Lords Seton, Rosse, Sir James Hamilton, the Masters of Montgomery and Cassillis, the Sheriff of Ayr: Hamilton the sheriff of Lythco the Hamilton's standard bearer; young laird of Preston, laird of Underwick, lairds of Pitmilly and Baweary, Laird of Boyne, Robert and Andro Melvins, Captain Ainstrother, the Laird of Trebrowne, 2 sons of the bishop of S[t] Andrews—if one not

* Govan Moor. † The italics scored out.

Elizabeth.
1568. slain; and a son of the abbot of Kilwinning. Alexander Steward captain of foot, John Hamilton of Milborne master of the Duke's household, and John Hamilton of Ormeston, all slain. The rest of the prisoners mostly Hamiltons, in the castle of Glasco. On the lords' side never a man of name slain: divers sore hurt. Lord Hume hurt in the leg and face: Lord Ogeltree in danger of his life by a sword wound in his neck from Herries, at the horse skirmish in the morning. His son in revenge would have slain Seton, had not Murray saved him after yielding. Andrew Karr of Fawdonsyde also hurt in danger of his life. Argyll it is reported swooned as they were joining, for fault of courage. Divers taken were not brought in, for father was against son and brother against brother, *viz.* 3 Melvins on the lords' side and 2 (Robert and Andrew) on the Queen's. After the fight had long continued, a Highland gentleman Macfarlane who not 20 days before for misbehaviour was condemned to die, and pardoned at Lady Murray's suit, now with 200 of his men was a wing to the east side of the vanguard, and made great slaughter, thought not the least to achieve victory. Huntly was on his way to the Queen with great speed . . . * The lords won 10 brass field pieces and slew the master gunner. Next day 14th, Hamilton castle was summoned, and on 15th the keeper came to Glasgow offering the keys on his knees to the Regent, who said he would go himself, and took it that day about "xij howers," and a few hours after, went to Draffen but I know not yet how he prevailed, but shall at my two men's return. Atholl though he promised, neither he nor his came. Grange had charge of the horsemen and that day played his part. The French ambassador was either at Hamilton or on the field. Eglinton hid himself in a house under straw till night, and then escaped. Noblemen with the Queen:—Argyll, Eglynton, Cassillis' brother and friends, Rothose, Boyd, Fleming, Livingston, Seton, Rosse, Yester, Borthwick, lord Glowde the Duke's son, Sir James Hamilton, . . . sheriff of Lythcow,† . . . Garleys, Wemys of Fife, all Galloway and Liddesdale. That day the Regent went to receive Hamilton, his horsemen ran a foray and took many nags, which he caused to be restored to the poor people.

4 *pp.* *Same hand as No. 652.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "16 May 1568. Advertisementes of the conflict in Scotlande." *Damaged in parts.*

May 17. **656.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

"Madame,"—My hand has been little used since your "tresinfortunee captivité," but on the joyful news of your happy enlargement, affection to my nearest relative and the honour of a Queen, constrain me to send this word by a gentleman, and my advice in matters touching your estate and honour, whereof I am no less careful than you can wish, and whereof you have been careless in the past, as he will declare in plain terms. If you had as much regard thereto as to "ung malheureuse meschant,"‡ all the world would have condoled with you, as to speak "sans faincte," not many do. But this is a time for congratulation, and pardon my affection,

* Defaced. † Torn off. ‡ Bothwell.

Elizabeth.
1568. leading me to consider your present needs, and give the advice which I should wish for myself in like case. I pray you give ear to what the bearer will say, and remember that those who have two strings to their bow may shoot stronger, but they rarely shoot straight. Greenwich.

1 *p. French. Official hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) : " . . . Copy of the Q. Majestes lettre to the Q. of Scottes. By Mr. Tho. Leighton."

May 17. **657.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. I. Relating the treasonable proceedings of her subjects, some of whom she had raised from the least to be first in the realm—slaying her servant in her presence " estant grosse "—imprisoning her with mean attendance, 2 women, a cook and a surgeon—compelling her for fear of death to resign her crown—her escape by God's pleasure to the content of all, except " Mora, Morton, Humes, Glinquerne, Mar e Symple"—their rejection of her offers to forgive their rebellion, and hold a parliament to reform matters—imprisoning her two successive messengers and officer with her proclamations—refusing safe conduct for " mi lord Boyd " whom she wished to treat with them to avoid bloodshed—besetting her march to Dunbarton, to slay or take her, and chasing her to Lord Herries' country, so that with him and others she had to take refuge in England. Beseeching her to take pity on her " piteux estat, non pour royne mais pour gentill fame," for she has nothing in the world but her person, having ridden 60 miles the first day and no where to go at night. Wirkintone. " Vostre tresfidelle et affectionnee bonne sæur e cousine et eschapee prisoniere, Marie R."

3 pp. French. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed (by Cecil) : " 17 May 1568. Copy of the Q. off Scottes lettre to the Q. Majesty, sent."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 92. App. I., No. 1. Original of the same.

May 17. **658.** RICHARD LOWTHER TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Yesternight about 7 p.m. the Queen of Scots arrived at Wirkington, attended by Lord "Cloyde" Hamilton, Lords Flemyng and Herries, with others, to the number of 20 persons: from whence this day " hir majestie " has repaired to this town, where I made my attendance upon her, and after reposing her person this night, intend to conduct her to-morrow to the castle of Carlisle, with such entertainment as I can on " suche subden," till I know by your honour the Queens majesty's pleasure : and how many of her subjects I may suffer to visit her, as it is like many will desire. The French ambassador will return this way very shortly, as Lord Herries informs me. Cockermouth, at night. *Signed:* Richerd Louther.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 18. **659.** ELIZABETH TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

Hearing that the Queen her good sister is of late come to her liberty, contrary to his and other nobles' mind, great forces are gathered on both sides, and the realm lamentably divided : being desirous of a

Elizabeth.
1568. good accord, and that no foreign force be brought in, has sent the bearer Thomas Laighton (not she thinks unknown to him) to impart her letters and mind to her said sister, and the like to him, for speedy answer.

1 *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2) Another copy of same. Greenwich, 10th of reign.

½ *p.* *In another clerk's hand.*

May [18]. **660.** INSTRUCTIONS TO LEIGHTON.

The Queen commands him to express her joy to the Queen of Scots at her delivery from captivity, to declare that on receipt of her letters, and conference with her servant Mr Beton, she determined (1) with all speed to send him to learn her estate, and (if she so like) to charge her subjects to submit to her, and if they would not, to let them plainly understand, that for her part, she shall not want the assistance of that power which God has given her. And if she is content to stand to the Queen's order in componing the controversies with her subjects, without soliciting aid from France, she shall receive all aid from the Queen either to persuade or compel them. Then with her consent, he shall offer to resort to the contrary part, and understand if they will likewise be advised by Elizabeth: which if they will, she will send some honorable personages to treat between them for accord. Thereon if she agree, he shall deliver his letters to the Earl of Murray, moving him and those combined with him, "to compromitt" the whole controversies to her decision. He shall declare to Mary the causes why his mistress deals in the matter—(1) She is next to her in blood and neighbourhood, (2) the meetest to do it, thinking her subjects will be advised by her,—if not, she has most commodity to compel them by nearness on land. Lastly:—She sees evidently, that if Mary, being offered her aid, will bring in aid from France, she must conclude her principal object is to renew old quarrels, and therefore has made this choice on her own charges to procure Mary's restitution of her estate and obedience of her subjects: which if she refuses, he is to declare the Queen his sovereign's sorrow at altering her own mind, as she must do contrary to her natural desire, and then return with speed.

3 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil carefully corrected.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2) Fair copy of the same.

2 *pp.* *By another clerk.* *Indorsed.*

May 18. **661.** NEWS FROM SCOTLAND.

C.P., vol. I. After the conflict between the Scottish Queen's party and the lords on 14th May, she came to a village near Dumfries, thence took boat and landed at Workington near Cockermouth, with 15 persons in her company—one a woman, with a son of the Duke's named Clawde, lords Herries, Fleming, *etc.*—on Sunday night the 16th about 7 p.m. On 18th May Lord Scrope's deputy with the gentlemen of the country conducted her to Carlisle castle where she remains.

½ *p.* *Written by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1568.
May 18.
C.P., vol. I.

662. NORTHUMBERLAND TO ELIZABETH.

This Tuesday 18th May about 1 p.m. I received intelligence from my officers of my liberty of Cockermouth, of the Queen of Scots' arrival last Sunday night late at Workington, with divers of her nobility *etc.* to the number of 16 persons, as by the enclosed letter appears. For her entertainment and safety, I have sent to my officers and friends there, to attend upon her till your highness' good pleasure be known. My lodge at Topclif. *Signed:* Northumberland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Lamplugh etc. to Northumberland.)

This last Sunday night is arrived here within your liberties of Cokermouth, the Scottish Queen and divers of her nobles whose names follow. Albeit the Queen's majesty is advertised by post, we have thought good to advertise your lordship in all haste: and meantime shall attend her grace with all diligence. Workington. *Signed:* George Lamplughe, Rychard Symson, Henry Flycther.

"Mr Curwen and his bedfeloe is at the Bathe."

Names of the lords:—The lord "Schatilroye" the Duke's eldest son, lord Fleymyng, Lord Herres, and others whose names not yet known to us; and one gentlewoman. Not above 16 persons.

1 *p. Holograph of one of the signatories, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 18.
C.P., vol. I.

663. NORTHUMBERLAND TO CECIL.

[*To the same effect as his letter to the Queen's majesty of the Queen of Scots' arrival.*] As the Queen of Scots has "happened" into his hands, hopes Cecil and his other dear friends will not so discredit him as to deliver her to any other. My lodge at Topclif. *Signed:* Your right assured cosyn, Northumberland.

1¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet damaged: trace of Garter.*

May 18.
C.P., vol. I.

664. LOWTHER TO CECIL.

As I signified from Cockermouth "yester night," I have this day conducted the Queen of Scots to Carlisle and lodged her highness in the castle. "Hir graces attyer is verie meane, and as I can learne, hathe not any better, neither other wherwith to change, so as I doubting that hir highnes treasure dyd not muche surmounte the furnyture of hir robes," I not only ordered her charges at Cockermouth to be defrayed, but provided geldings to convoy herself and train. Beseeching you, if the Queen's majesty will have her to court, to advertise how and in what manner? There met her this day by the way the French ambassador returning from Scotland, who is here, and says he intends to be at the Court on Sunday next *. The Queen has heard that the Regent means to execute some of her

* 23rd.

Elizabeth.
1568. true subjects taken at the late conflict, and this night at supper, with tears uttered, that if God should presently call her, yet her good sister the Queen of England, or her friends in France, would revenge her cause. Carlisle, at night. *Signed:* Richerd Louther.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 20. **665.** LOWTHER TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. This evening about 8 o'clock arrived post, a servant of the Earl of Northumberland, with news of my lord's repair hither tomorrow before noon—and "bringing with him" the Queens majesty's letters from her council in the north, directing the Sheriffs and Justices of peace in Cumberland and Westmerland, as the earl shall appoint, to see the Scottish Queen now in his seignory, honourably used, as the copy enclosed will show: which I suppose have been granted upon information she was still at Cockermouth. Wherefore I intend, as Lord Scrope's officer, having "seased" the said Queen and company in the castle here, to keep her till further instructed of her majesty's pleasure, and to meet my said lord "on the wave," and if his lordship seek to remove her, shall "in my best maner" dissuade him: if not, I mean to detain her till instructed. Carlisle, . . . at mydnight. *Signed:* Richerd Louther.

Postscript:—Attachments are come furth of the "Starre chamber" at my lord of Cumberland's suit, against James Brigham constable of this castle and others my servants, whom I cannot spare. I beseech you to obtain a *supersedeas*, not to hinder justice, but that they may answer by *dedimus potestatem.*

1 *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: a griffin.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(The Council's letters.)

In the Queen's name, commanding the Sheriff, Justices of peace, and gentlemen of Cumberland, to use the Scottish Queen and her company at Workington honourably, as the Earl of Northumberland shall appoint, and let none of them escape. York, 19 May 10th of reign. "Pulleyn."

1 *p.* *Broadsheet.* *Copy by Lowther's clerk.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 21. **666.** N. ELPHINSTONE TO CECIL.

At my return, I declared to my lord Regent's "grace" your advice for expedition in quieting the troubles—something whereof you will understand by this gentleman the bearer, as also how the invasion was made in Ireland—never known to my lord Regent till my return, when it was disclosed by a gentleman taken "in the battell," a friend of Argyll's and chief of his council. If it please God to send quietness, the Regent's grace shall satisfy the Queen and stop their incursions, or join with her to punish them. The bearer will show the estate of the country and particulars of the battle, where he was in person, with my lord Regent. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Nycolas Elphinstone.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1568. May 21. **667.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

This bearer, well known to you, is directed to the Queen by my lord Regent, on matters greatly importing us here. You know what danger with time may grow to your state, if strangers get the upper hand here. God has given us a breathing time, wherein to provide for our safety. If by her Majesty's protection, we may avoid the force of foreign nations, we see little peril at home—if she be otherwise disposed, it shall be no small benefit to deal plainly with us, that we hope for no more than we shall find in effect, and so direct our course to safety. The bearer's sufficiency shall excuse my shortness. I am the same man as ever. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By M^r Jo. Wood."

May 22. **668.** JOHN WILLOCK TO CECIL.

I am thus bold to write, for bounden duty as for my promise. Travelling from Lowghborowe hitherward, I perceive the people "in this north (wich are mere ignorante of religion and altogither untaught) moche to rejose at the libertie of the Quene of Scottis," and many utter their good minds to her. What end it may bring unless provided for, "God knoweth: for that her witt (wiche maie abuse) is not unknowen to your honoure." As matter falls out, I purpose to advertise. Berwick. *Signed:* Johnne Willock.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 21-22. **669.** WARRANT TO THE VICE-CHAMBERLAIN.

C.P., vol. I. The Queen having instructed him to repair to the Lord Scrope her warden, wills him as Treasurer of her chamber, to defray the daily diets of the Queen of Scots, and her company thought meet by him to remain—also his own and his company's diets and those of the said warden when attendant on her—causing a journal thereof to be kept by some trusty skilful clerk, to be allowed by the auditors.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): as also with "note" of another warrant to him to defray the deputy warden's charges for the Queen of Scots and her train already paid, and to use all means to moderate the same in future. 22^d May.

May 22. **670.** LOWTHER TO CECIL.

C.P., vol I. Yesterday here arrived the Earl of Northumberland, and remains yet: and after speaking with the Queen of Scots, demanded delivery of her highness, which I refused, having already charged myself with her safe custody. He grew into great heat and anger, and in the hearing of all men, gave me great threatenings with very evil words and language. Whereof I advertise your honour to consider me; for although I am "a poore and meane man" not worthy of such charge, yet I think I should not have been so evil used "or rather abused" —specially as before meeting his lordship on the way, to avoid dissension between us, I told him how and in what manner I could deal therein—wherewith he then seemed satisfied. Wherefore I

Elizabeth.
1568. wholly commit myself to your honour, for your good advice and order therein. Carlisle. *Signed:* Richerd Louther.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 25. **671.** SIR FRANCIS KNOLLYS TO NORTHUMBERLAND.

C.P., vol. I. "I shall desyre your lordship in the Quenes hyghnes name, not to medle with removyng of the Quene of Skottes any furder into this realme, before I shall come to hyr graces presence." My Lord Wharton's house at Heley. "At mydnyght." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

½ *p.* *Holograph.* *No address.* *Indorsed:* ". . . Copy *(sic)* of M^r^ Vichamberleins letter to the Erle of Northumberland."

1566-68.
Dec. 5—May . **672.** DIARY OF EVENTS IN SCOTLAND.

Extracts.

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 298.

Dec. 5. "Thay [Mary and Bothwell] past to Striviling, and tuik the king frome his ludging in Williame Bellis, oup to the castell and placed him werray obscuyrly thair."

,, 17. The prince now our sovereign, was baptised, and they remained after to the 24^th^ there . . . The king then departed to Glasgow where he fell deadly sick.

1566-7.

Jan. 6. The Secretary was married in Stirling.

,, 21. The Queen took her journey towards Glasgow accompanied by Huntly and Bothwell to Callendar Lord Livingston's place.

,, 23. The Queen came to Glasgow, Thomas Crauford from the lord of Lennox meeting her, . . . Huntly and Bothwell returning that night to Edinburgh.

,, 24–26. The Queen remained at Glasgow—had the conference with the king whereof she writes: and in this time "wrayt hir Byble" and other letters to Bothwell: who on the 24^th^ was found "werray tymus weseing* the king ludging that wes in preparing for him," and that night went to Liddesdale.

,, 27. The Queen ("conforme to hir commission as she wryttis") brought the king from Glasgow to the Callendar towards Edinburgh.

,, 28. Thence to Linlithgow, remaining till she got word of Bothwell's return that day to Edinburgh by Hob Ormistoun one of the murderers.

,, 29. She remained at Linlithgow with the king, and wrote from thence to Bothwell.

,, 30. She brought the king to Edinburgh, "and patt him in the ludging quhair he endit"—Bothwell, keeping "tryist," met her on the way.

Feb. 5.† She lodged all night under the king in the "chalmer" wherein the powder was laid thereafter, whereof Paris her "chalmerchild" received the key.

,, 7.‡ She lay again there, and from thence wrote the letter that night concerning the abbot of Holyroodhouse.

* *i.e.*, Very early, examining. † "Thursday" noted by Cecil. ‡ "Fryday" noted by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1568. Feb. 8.* She confronted the king and said abbot.
„ 10. "Betuix 2 and 3 of the clok the king wes blawin in the ayre be the poulder."

8 *pp. In a Scottish hand. No title or indorsation. Ends with the battle of Langsyde and an isolated note as to Myddelmore.*

May 26. **673.** THE QUEEN MOTHER OF FRANCE TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 102. "Madame ma bonne seur": As soon as the king my son heard that the Queen of Scots my "belle fille" has been obliged to take refuge in your lands from her subjects, we dispatched the Sieur de Monmorin to tell you our great contentment that she has done so, as we are assured she will receive all aid and succour which an afflicted princess is entitled to expect from another against rebels. And both my lord the king my son and I pray you to afford all the aid she needs to restore her to her liberty and authority, as we have given express charge to de Monmorin to declare more at length, whom pray credit. Paris.

Postscript:—My good sister: I write this word in excuse for not using my own hand, being still weak from my illness. But for this I would have written in person touching the Queen "ma belle fille," who has assured me of her great happiness to be in your realm. *Signed:* Vostre bonne seur et cousine, Caterin.

1½ *pp. French. The text of letter by her secretary, the postscript holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

May 28. **674.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. I. I have received your two letters, the first whereof I hope to answer "de bousche moy mesmes"—and by my lord Scrup and your vice-chamberlain, understand your natural good feeling to me, and wish my affection for you was equally apparent to you.

I am "marrye" that the haste in which I wrote my last, made me omit my chief object in writing, and what is more—is the great cause of my coming hither, *viz.* my long imprisonment and unjust treatment, as well by their acts as their false reports, made me above all, desire in person to complain to you, and discharge myself of the calumnies they dare to prefer against my honour, and also in respect you will remember that at your request I recalled these "ingrats" banished for their "crymes" against me, to my detriment as now appears. If then for your sake, I did what has all but ruined me, can I not justly seek recourse with her, who with no ill intention has caused the damage, to repair her error? I have now sent Lord Herrys "mon fidelle et bien aymé subject," to inform you of all matters, whereof I learn by "Messieurs" Scrope and Knolles you are in doubt. Praying you to credit him as myself, and answer at once by writing, and if it please you I come to you without ceremony or in private, I will tell you the truth against all their lies—and meantime assure me you will adopt my just cause till I am restored, as all princes should do for each other. I also send my cousin Lord Flemyng a faithful subject, to France (if assured by you) to thank the king for his good

* "Satyrday" noted by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1568. offices. If for any reason I cannot come to you, seeing I have freely come to throw myself in your arms, you will I am sure permit me to ask assistance of my other allies—for thank God, I am not destitute of some. I find it strange that coming so frankly without condition but trust in your amity, I have been kept as if a prisoner in your castle 15 days, and on your councillors' coming, not allowed to go to you only to declare the truth of my grievances. Consider the importance to me of this long "demeure" and act like my good cousin and sworn friend. "Je vous envoyes mon cueur en bague, e je vous ay aporté le vray e corps ensamble, pour plus seurement nover ce neud si a vous ne tient." Credit this bearer as myself. Carlisle. Marie R.

Postscript: Since writing I learn for certain that these so called Regent and governors, proclaim they will destroy the houses "des gens de biens" and take their persons, whereby you may judge how the loss of time annoys me—and I pray you in all haste command them to stay proceedings. The bearer will declare the necessity. I must not forget to thank you for my good reception, especially by the deputy warden "M^r Loders," who did all courtesy without express command.

4½ *pp. French. Copy in Randolph's court hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . Brought by the Lord Herriss 5 Junij." *On margin at the head in another hand:* "The originall of this is in my book fol. 195."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 104. App. I., No. 2. Original of this letter.

May 29. **675.** MARY TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 111. "Mester Ceciles."—For the love you bear to the Queen my good sister, and by consequence to all of her blood, and in hope of aid in my just quarrel, I have sent the bearer Lord Herries to tell you more at length. Recommend me "a votre famme." Carlisle. *Signed*: Votre bien bonne amye Marie R.

1 *p. French. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

[May .] **676.** ESCHEATS OF MARY'S ADHERENTS.

Glencairn has gotten the laird of Richarton's; Morton has the laird of Wawghton's and another; Grange has the Laird of Basse's; John Howme of Wetherborne has the Lady Pollardes; Archibald Dowglas has the Laird of Kirstolphins; Jasper Howme has the Cawe Mylnes; young Cesford has "Black" Ormeston's which Captain Anstrother before had. Divers others given, which I leave for lack of certainty. Borthwick's and Yester's not yet determined.

½ *p. Addressed to Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

May, end of. **677.** ALEXANDER PRINGILL TO [THE COUNTESS OF LENNOX.]

"Pleis your grace to wyt" that the Laird of Rikarton a "Habron," the principal deviser of your son's death, came over Tweed at Norham, was kept in the "stepill," convoyed to Durham and eats and drinks at the Bishop's "burd," and is well treated by him; as I saw and shall make good on my honour; and has brought money to furnish the lord Bothwell. I wish your grace would pass to the Queen, either to stay him in the bishop's hand, or get commission

Elizabeth.
1568. to Sir John Foster to take him, who told me he had one already to take him and others. Also to get a letter to Lord Scrope to take the laird of Ormiston, and Robin his brother, who repair daily to the Queen at Carlisle in secret; or else the Queen's letter to Fergus the Grame and Ryche the Grame, who are daily in Ormiston's company, and that the warden may "compas" them—for Fergus has two sons "cassin by the law" in prison at Carlisle. What I write is true and by advice of your special friend, Sir John Foster, and if it please your grace to send the letters, I shall ride with them myself and get the answer. They may be sent to Bertrame Andyrson's house in the New Castell, "a gud frend of your grace," as my lord your husband can show you. *Signed:* Alexandre Pringill of Farinakirk.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *No address leaf.*

May 29. **678.** SCROPE AND KNOLLYS TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 108. We arrived here yesterday at 6 o'clock p.m. and by the way Lord Herries met us 6 miles from this town, discoursing much of his mistress's lamentable estate, her enemies' cruelty, her innocence of the murder of her husband, which would be easily proved, if she might be heard thereon before your highness—trusting also you would either give her aid to chasten her subjects, or leave to pass to France to seek relief. We said we doubted if your highness would like her to bring French into Scotland—and whether you could receive her so honourably to your presence as your affection to her wished, till you were satisfied of her innocence of the said murder. Whereon he seemed determined to ride towards your highness in a day or two—the thing we specially sought for. Then repairing to the castle, we found the Queen in her chamber of presence ready to receive us. Whereafter declaring your highness's sorrow for her "lamentable mysadventure, and inconvenyent arryvalle" thongh you were glad of her escape from peril: we found her to have "an eloquent tonge and a discreete hedd, and it seemethe by hyr doyngs she hathe stowte courage and lyberalle harte adjoyned therunto." After delivering your highness's letters "she fell into some passion with the water in her eyes," and taking us into her bedchamber complained that you did not answer her expectation to admit her forthwith to your presence, where on declaring her innocency, you would either without delay aid her to subdue her enemies, "or els beyng nowe come of good wyll, and not of necessitie, into your hyghnes handes (for a good and greatest part of hyr subjects, sayd she, doe remayne faste unto hyr styll)": you would at least give her passage through your country to France—not doubting but both the kings of France and Spain would help her. Here she said the cause of the war and treason of her subjects, was to keep that which she had so liberally given them, by violence, since by her privy revocation thereof with full age, they could not enjoy it by law. And "she affyrmed that both Lyddyngton and the lo[rd]* Morton were assentyng to the murder of hyr husband, as it cowld wel be proved, althoe nowe they wo[ld]* seme to persequte the same." To the first part we answered that your highness "was inward[ly]* sorye and verye

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. moche greved, that youe cowld n[ot]* doe hyr that great honor to admytt hyr solempn[ly] and worthely into your presence, by reason off this great sclander of murder, wheroff she w[as] not yet purged. But we sayde we were sure that your hyghnes affection towards hyr w[as] so great, that whether hyr grace could purge hyr s[elf] or not in that behalffe, yet yf she wold depend u[pon] your hyghnes favor, withowte sekyng to bryng in stran[gers] into Skotland, (the ymmynent danger wheroff your hyghnes cowld not suffer), then undowtedly yowre hghynes wold use all the convenyent meanes youe cowld for hyr releeffe and cumforte." And if it pleased her grace to direct us, we would advertise your highness of her declarations with speed; and on your answer, we should be able to declare your intent and meaning. "Wherwith hyr grace complayned motche of delayes to hyr prejudice, and wynnyng of tyme to hyr enemyes, so that discontentedlye she contented hyr selffe therwith." Wheron we took our leave, promising dispatch: and her grace sends Lord Herries with her letters.

Now it behoves your highness in my opinion, gravely to consider your answer herein, "specially bycawse that many gentlemen of dyvers sheres, heare neare adjoynyng within your realme, have herde hyr daylye defences and excuses of hyr innocencye, with hyr great accusations of hyr ennemyes very eloqwently told before our comyng hether. And therefore I the vicechamberlayn do referr to your hyghnes better consideration, whether it were not honorable for youe in the syght of your subjectes, and of all forrayn prynces, to put hyr grace to the choyse, whether she woll departe frelye backe into hyr cuntrye withowt your hyghnes ympechement? or whether she woll remayne at your hyghnes devotion within your realme here, with hyr necessarye servants onely to attend uppon hyr, to see howe honorablye your hyghnes can doe for hyr? For by this meanes your hyghnes, I thynk, shall stopp the mowthes of backbyters that otherwyes wold blowe owte seditious rumors as well in your owne realme as elswhere, off detaynyng of hyr ungratfully! And yet I thynk it is lykely that yf she had so hyr owne choyse, she wold not goe backe into hyr owne realme presently, nor untyll she myght looke for succors of men owte of France to joyne with hyr there; or yf she wold goe presently into hyr owne cuntreye, the worst were that peradventure with danger ynoughe, she myght get into France; and that wold hardly be done, yf my Lord of Murray have a former ynklely[ng] of hyr departure thether. And on the other syde, she can not be kepte so rygorously as a prysoner with your hyghnes honor (in myn opynyon); but with devyces of towels or toyes at hyr chamber wyn[doe], or elswhere in the nyght, a bodye of hyr agyly[tye] and spyryte may eskape soone, beyng so neare the Border. And surely to have hyr caryed fur[ther] into the realme, is the hygh waye to a dangerous sedition, as I suppose." [Carlisle.] *No date. Signed:* H. Scrope, F. Knollys.

5 *pp. Written by Knollys. No flyleaf or address; the latter possibly covered up by the Queen of Scots' letter to Cecil, No. 675. Dated* "29 May 1568" *by another hand.*

* All syllables in square brackets worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. May .

679. MEMORIAL BY CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 97.

"Thynges to be considered uppon the Scottish Quene comming into England."

Whether it be "metar" she remain on the frontier, or be brought to the middle part of England.

No English, Scottish, or French to come to her without permission of her keeper, and any secret letters to be seized.

All persons now with, or to come to her, suspected of the king's murder, or workers of her marriage with Bothwell, to be put in safety to answer.

That our ambassador signify her arrival to the French king, and that "the Queens majesty will see hir savely and honorably preserved, and will use all good meanes to restore hir and hir realm to quietnes—" requesting him to send no men or ships to Scotland, to trouble it, which her majesty cannot endure.

"Thynges to be well considered herafter":—

That the certainty and "proves" charging her with her husband's murder may be had and sent hither. That the Queen's majesty, on considering them, with the Queen of Scots' answer if not culpable, may restore her—but if otherwise, then her majesty to devise how to "cover the dishonour of the cryme" and settle her in her realm, secure from French tyranny.

"Certen imaginations how to restore the Quene of Scottes to hir country, although she be culpable of the cryme objected":—

1. "That by no practise she shuld be conveyed out of the realme."

2. To treat her discreetly, to know if she will have her cause examined, and by whom? and what she desires of her majesty? that it may be considered.

3. If Murray and his party require to have their case heard by her majesty, "it is reason to yeld therunto."

"Note": It seems meet for her majesty to hear and decide any controversy for the crown of Scotland—"for that of ancient right it apparteneth to the crown of England, as by multitude of recordes, examples, and presidentes may be proved."

It is also necessary for her majesty to intermeddle herein:—

1. As the Queen of Scots has heretofore openly challenged the crown of England, "not as a second person after the Quenes majesty, but afor hir."

2. Also an alliance between England and Scotland is profitable to both—for Ireland, being quieted, they may preserve themselves from France "and the rest of Christendom."

3. And the cause of "Relligion" shall be thus furthered against "the usurped power of Roome."

If the cause be heard and the Queen acquitted: in consideration of that benefit, the treaty of Leith should be confirmed. If found criminal, then she is either to be restored under certain limitations and restrictions—or if the criminality be excessive, to live in some convenient place without possessing her kingdom. If restored, she

Elizabeth.
1568. and her son may reign jointly—the Regent retaining office till the son's majority *etc.*

Dangers if she pass to France:—

The danger of her title would be revived, "uppon the opinion that she hath, of a great party for hir in England; some for relligion, some for affection to her title, others for discontentation, and love of chang." The old league of France and Scotland would be revived, and now that Burgundy is no longer our ally, we stand alone: and be in more danger than for "these 3 hundred yeares"—for

(1) We have no longer the command of the narrow seas, as we had by Calais, while the French with a few galleys there, can interrupt our trade with great injury to the crown of England, as the charges of government are now increased.

The discipline of France is more excellent in war, than it was before artillery was known, when England by archery always gained. But now France being almost thrice as big as England, and the government martial, and its strength in great and small ordnance, it is now superior in force to us.

Dangers if she remain in England:—

She will practise with her friends for this crown and in time recover all her subjects in Scotland: "for no man can thynk but such a swete bayte wold mak concord betwixt them all." She will thus embolden all the evil subjects here.

Dangers if she return to rule as before in Scotland:—

The friends of England shall be abased, and those of France increased. The young prince shall have but a short time, and the Hamiltons be "exalted." Most likely the Queen herself shall not have long continuance. The frontiers shall be constantly in trouble—increasing the cost of defence, and Ireland more molested with Scots than ever.

7 *pp. Holograph of Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "May 1568. A memoriall of things to be considered upon the Q. of Scottes comming into the realme."

May 30. **680.** SCROPE AND KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Partly because my lord Herryse is unacquainted now about London, and in the Court, "thoroe his long absence," he desired the company of this bearer the deputy warden ot these marches: and partly as we thought meet to send a fit man with him and Lord Fleming, we beg consideration of the bearer's private charges. Carlisle. Sunday evening, 30th May. *Signed:* H. Scrope, F. Knollys.

½ *p. Written by Knollys. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By Mr Lowther."

May 30. **681.** SCROPE TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Recommending the bearer his cousin Lowther, dispatched with Lords Herries and Fleming, who in his absence has diligently

Elizabeth. 1568. discharged his office, and deserves thanks and "some further consideracion." Carlisle. *Signed:* H. Scrope.

$\frac{1}{3}$ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: a duck or gull.*

May 30. **682.** KNOLLYS TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 114. "This daye ymediatly after dynner, the Quene of Skottes, before the closing upp of hyr letters directed to your majestie by my lord Herrys, in private communication with my lord Skrope and me, fell into hyr ordinarye invaying agaynst my lord of Murraye and his adherents; saying amongest other things, that whan she was but 9 dayes owlde, they had a reverent and obedient care of hyr—'But nowe' saythe she, 'that I am 24 yers owlde, they wold exclude me from government lyke disobedient re[bels]. * Wheruppon I thowght with my selffe that yf I should not object sumwhat to make the matter disputable, whether the lordes of Skotland, deposing hyr from the government (althoghe not by hyr owne inward consent yet by hyr owne subscripton) dyd well or not? that then she wold more clamorously be offended with your majestie, yff youe shuld not answer hyr reqwestes according to hyr expectation. Wherfore I objected unto hyr, that in some cases, prynces myght be deposed from theyr government by theyr subjects lawfully, as yff a prynce should fall into madnes, in this case good subjects myght depose theyr prynce from government, and restrayne hym from lybertie. 'And' (sayd I) 'what dyfference is there betwene lunecye, and cruell murderyng? for the one is an evyll humor, proceding of malyncolye, and the other is an evyll humor procedyng of color: wherfore the qwestion ys, whether your grace deserved to be put from the government or not, for yff your grace should be gyltye of any sotche odyous cryme as deservethe deposall, than' (sayd I) 'howe should they be blamed that have deposed youe'? Hereuppon hyr grace begynnyng to kleare hyr selffe after hyr accustomed maner, the tears yet fell from her eyes. And then I sayd your hyghnes wold be the gladdest in the world to see hyr grace well purged of that cryme, that thereby your hyghnes myght ayde hyr fully and amplelye to the advancement of hyr grace to hyr government royall agayne." For I said she was your nearest kinswoman on the father's side, and you were both born in one "continent of lande," though not in one "circute of obedience." She answered me very courteously, but said she must close up her letters to your highness, and went to her bed chamber. Seeing her tears, I forebore to say more than assure her of your highness's affection and good will. Though I think it necessary that M^{r} Secretary be made privy hereto, how far I refer to your highness's pleasure. Carlisle. "This Sondaye the 30 off Maye at nyght." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568.
May 31.

683. JOHN WILLOCK TO CECIL.

At my coming here the 24th of "this Maie" I find the common state exceedingly troubled—for those that heretofore gave their names as protestants, have openly resisted the "publick regiment" for their wilful "affectionet" minds under colour of old familiarity and friendship, and also by reason of the multitude of the "godless papistis and abhorers of justice" who delight in this troubled state, to live "wythowt chek" in wikednes. The names of the chief I need not express. The battle beside Glasgo fought on Thursday the 13th of this, did utter their evil wills and also the judgments of God to them: yet the chiefest instruments remain in their former "stubbornes," as Argyll, Huntly, Crawfurd, Eglinton, Cassillis, Rothes, Fleming, Herries, and some more here, still looking for aid to continue their wicked enterprises. Wherefore the good minds of the Lord Regent and others in authority, cannot bring to pass the good they gladly would. The castle of Dunbertaine is kept to the comfort of the froward: the Bass is taken by the laird for his defence: the West Border much broken by Herries, and the North is not quiet. The towns wholly remain in obedience. They which were at the last field are hid for fear—some seek to be reconciled—some are condemned but none "exequnted" as yet. The works of the Queen are so detected, that few of the most froward can excuse them; and yet she has sent for Bothwell to come again to her, which shows no "synge" of repentance. I beseech God that his vengeance follow her not to the hurt of others that have nothing to do with her doings. Neither can the state of the church be quiet in this confusion, as your honour may understand. The Lord Regent purposes to ride to Dumfries about the 10th June to reform the thieves and rebels there. Edinburgh. *Signed:* Johnne Willock.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 2.

684. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 119.

Yours of 29th *ultimo* came this morning: and touching the conclusion likely to insue that this Queen shall be brought either to Nottingham or Fodringhaye, though in my late letter to her majesty, I signified it might encourage the papists to some dangerous sedition, partly led thereto by the confluence of divers subjects here to welcome her grace without commission: I now submit this scruple of mine wholly to my lords of Council. Indeed we find that your withdrawing my lord of Northumberland hence by letter, and our reproving the Council of York *etc.*, for their hasty dealing, has calmed and quieted the "hoate disposed papistes," and will be a lesson to all good subjects to attend wholly on her highness's pleasure. Nottingham and Fodringhaye are in countries nothing so given to papistry as hereabouts. Therefore, if her highness, with advice of her council, "shall gyve a better cowntenance to religion, and brydle the papists shorter," I see no danger in the aforesaid conclusion, specially as my lords of Shrewsbury and "Wrytlond" [Rutland] and my lord Marquis, having rule of those houses and countries, have a careful eye to their charge both far and near. But I trust it is not meant that I be a "settylled jayllor" where I have neither rule, land, nor "maured," to my shame and against my nature.

Elizabeth.
1568. For her conduction: I think horses for her grace's self and her women the chief lack: hitherto she has had "not past 3 or 4 women, and those not of the best and fynest sorte": what ladies attendant, furniture of wardrobe stuff, whether cloth of estate, and, if so, whether to be borrowed of my lord of Northumberland *etc. etc.*, I refer to your grave considerations. Hitherto her company of servants are not above 30 or 40—whereof gentlemen sewers, carvers, and cup bearers, half a dozen: and as many gentlemen waiters, not much inferior—the rest cooks, scullions and varlets of the chamber and lackeys; but not past 3 or 4 of them lie within the castle, "wheroff Gorge Dowglas is one, by cawse we fownde hym so." Lord "Cloyd" and the laird "Skarling" and young M^r^ Maxwell and others, with their servants, lie in the town at their own charges to the number of 30 or 40 more —the gentlemen between meals go to see the Queen, which we have not altered. We find her tractable enough in diminishing resort of her company, if we think fit. For yesterday on M^r^ Nicolas Elveston coming here to Lord Scrope and me from my lord of Murray, though she sent to desire us to apprehend him if he came without licence, "as hyr grevous enemye and seller of hyr juells," the Laird of Skirling also complaining that such an enemy was lodged near his company, and that if they met, they could not refrain to assault him, whatsoever came of it: whereon we answered "very sharplye," so that he was "abasshed," and her grace very mildly referred all things to our discretions, offering if we thought her companies in the town too many, to reduce them. Touching Elveston's conference, I refer you to my lord Scrope's letter. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Wylford came yesterday.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 2. **685.** CERTIFICATE BY KNOLLYS.

C.P., vol. I. I think horses for her grace and her women furnished, are the greatest lack. Hitherto she has not "paste 3 or 4 women, and those not of the best and fynest sorte." What "wardrope stuffe" may serve for her honour—as whether she would have "a clothe of estate," and if so, whether it may be borrowed of my lord of Northumberland or not, or what other honourable usage should be had? I refer to your "grave considerations." Her servants hitherto are not above 30 or 40—whereof gentlemen sewers, carvers and cup bearers "halfe a dosen"—and as many waiters not much inferior to the other. The rest be cooks, "scollians," varlets of the chamber, and lackies; yet not past 3 or 4 of these that lie within the castle: "whearof George Dowglasse is one becawse we fownd him there." The Lord Gloyde, the Laird of Skarlinge, "and yonge M^r^ Maxill" and other gentlemen with their servants lie in the town at their own charges, to the number of 30 or 40 more; "which gentillmen doe betwene mealles come in to se the Quene." We found that usage and are loth to alter it till we know her highness' pleasure.

This is the copy of a part of my letter sent to Master Secretary 2 June 1568. *Signed*: F. Knollys.

1 *p. Last sentence holograph. Indorsed* (by a later hand).

Elizabeth.
1568.
June 2.

686. ALEXANDER CLARK TO CECIL.

I met my lords Herries and Flemyng here at Newark, "werrey proude and heichtlie offendit that thai sould be brocht to Court." They hope good entertainment for their good service, and hasty despatch—Herries to Scotland and Flemyng to France, with "our" queen's commission to the king. There is a Frenchman with them, an "indueller" in Edinburgh, "quhome" I suspect has writings from our queen and these lords to take to France. I asked him where he was going? and he said for money owing him there. His name is Sebastyen Danvelerot, and is "claid in blak cotte and blak clok." M^r^ Wod knows him well, if you think good to stay him: "for he is ane werray craftye and dyssymulat knaive, and hes bene alwayis ane evyll reportour, and thairfor I think hes laift the countrie." Fleming and Herries will seek all means of intelligence with the French ambassador, and the other called Bewmound, that was in Scotland; for they asked me where they might "spaik hym, and gif he wes nocht pertit"? Scrubye. *Signed:* Alexander Clark.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . From Newark."

June 5.

687. ANSWER FOR THE REGENT MURRAY AND OTHERS.

To the Queen's objections that Murray, Morton, Mar, Glencairn, Hume, Ruthven "et cet." were moved to arms, for that they could not abide her revocation of the alienations made of her property:—

First: Whatever she gave to Murray was ratified in parliament by her own command and "hand wrytt."

Item: Morton could not grudge, who never had of her property worth 20 shillings (?) a year "that evir I knew off."

Item: The like may be said of Glencairn, Hume, Ruthven and Lindsay. Mar only had "ane lytle thing" of it, also confirmed in Parliament. Argyll only made any evil countenance, who spoke "largely" to the Queen herself of the corruption of an Act of parliament on her majority, and so hindered any revocation then.

1½ *pp Written by John Wood. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "5 Junij 1568. *Pro Com.* Murray."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 115. Another copy.

June 6.

688. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 116. I presently received yours of 2^d^: and touching the Queen of Scots' coming into the realm, "althoe she saythe and the Lord Herrys also, that she was not of necessitie dryven thereto, but she came voluntarelye: yet hyr hasty comyng in so slendrely appoynted, dothe argue that she came in for feare of furder extremytye, beyng unprovided bothe of saffe refuge in hyr owne cuntrye, and also of saffe passage there for hyr conduction into France: but yet hyr grace dyd shoe unto to my lord Scrope and me 3 letters, one from the Earle of Argyle, and one from the Earle Huntly, and one also from the Earle of Cassyls, wherin they seemed to bayre theyr devotion and good hart to hyr servyce. Althoe my lord Scrope and I doe thynk that the cawse of these theyr letters was sum opynyon that they tooke that by

Elizabeth.
1568. her arryvall here, hyr hyghnes wolde ayde hyr with succors to make hyr the stronger partie—the which fallyng owte otherwayes they woll change theyr cowrse forthwith." Lord Scrope and I have moved her that these young lords and gentlemen of hers, that lie in the town here at their own charges, might be placed farther into the realm: and that she cease sending to or receiving letters from Scotland. But she earnestly desired the contrary, unless we kept her a prisoner; for if her friends did not hear from her, they might be endangered, and the Queen's majesty show herself of the adverse party. We said we had no commission, but knew her highness would take in good part if she ceased practising: but as she would not be content unless we said we had commission, we forbore pressing her—but have taken order with the Mayor to let no Scot pass unless with a message to Lord Scrope. Our household charges for a whole week yesterday are 54*l.* and "freshe a cates groweth sumwhat dearer." The standing charges come to about 8*l.* daily—whereof Lord Scrope offers to bear 20 marks a week—as the ordinary charges of his household servants before his and my lady his wife's coming hither. But having no warrant, I think it a pity to take it of him—but await her highness's pleasure. I long for resolute order and direct way with this Queen, for it is time to leave "dissimulation and haltyng," lest we be not able to answer our charge. I pray you remember me to my wife to whom I wrote of late. Carlisle, the 6 of June "this Sundaye at 3 of the kloke after noone." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June [8]. **689.** MEMORIAL FOR HENRY MIDDLEMORE.

The principal cause of your journey is to learn the state of the troubles in Scotland, and to advertise us from time to time what you think thereof. You shall advertise Murray how the Queen of Scots conceives no small offence in matters, she says, published concerning us: which you shall receive in writing from our secretary.

You shall advise him not to hazard himself and his friends in battle, but be content that these inward controversies be rather ordered by us, than by bloodshed, and to that end advise us what he thinks meetest for us to do. Yet if his adversaries are bent on extremity, and he must levy force in defence, we mean not—as he has hitherto remitted himself to our order—on being advertised by him, to neglect his preservation.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Not indorsed.*

June [8]. **690.** NOTES FOR MIDDLEMORE.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 122.

"When the Scotch Quene was at Carleil."*

"A breeff note for M^r^ Midlemore":—

(1) To report the access of Lord Herris with his letters and message.

(2) "The Quene meaneth to take hir and hir cause into hir protection, and accordyng to the justice of the cause, will prosequte all hir adversaryes."

* In another hand, on margin.

Elizabeth.
1568.

(3) The cause why the Queen has not received and entertained her, as she most gladly would, were she not taxed with so horrible a crime: "is the publick note of the sayd cryme."

(4) Her majesty neither condemns nor acquits her, till she hear what may be said therein.

(5) "The note wherwith her majesty is touched," is her not avenging the death of her near kinsman, nor regard to the "infamy" of the Queen marrying the principal murderer, but also his having a lawful wife, divorced by him for his own adulterous life.

(6) To send to Murray on Herries' request to show him the copy of the Queen's letter.

(7) Her majesty's forbearing to deal with Murray "in any poynt tendyng to affirm the coronation of the prince hir sonn as kyng."

(8) Her majesty's meaning to have the Queen brought nearer to her, to some place of more pleasure and liberty, so as to advance her full contentation. *Signed:* W. Cecill.

As each side is to surcease hostilities, so the Queen's party are to allow no French to land in Scotland.

1¼ *pp. Holograph of Cecil. The last sentence added by Myddelmore. No indorsement.*

June 8. **691.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I.

I received yours of the 5th of this month at 8 a.m. to-day, by Lord Scrope's man—superscribed to him not me, but "all is one." You have passed over answer of all my letters, "almoste with scylence saving for Mortons cawse, your travell wherein both Morton and I doe moste thankfullye receave and ymbrace." If your silence is a "scilent" note of some error, I would thankfully accept admonishment—otherwise I conclude your silent "warenes" argues uncertainty of plain resolutions for answer to me.

The Queen of Scots' state of body and countenance begins to refresh and amend much: and I conjecture by her pleasantness and other circumstances, that she looks for present relief from France, to advance her faction in Scotland: and knowing that to bring in Frenchmen would be odious to the Queen's highness, I think with their money she will corrupt as many in Scotland as she can to damage the Regent's government. It seems all the "hungerrye" borderers hereabout, would be made of any party with French crowns, as my lord Herries knows right well: and howsoever she is detained and "defrayed" by her highness, yet all her dowry and arrears in France with her friends' further aid, will be employed to overthrow the Regent. If so, what would ensue of her stay here? I rather fear than presume to speak, but leave to your "wysdomes" to consider. Lord Scrope sends you particulars of his wardenry; and though his man "fondlye" refused his charges of postage at your hands, I see my lord gave him no such commission, which may be "helped" as you think good.

It is time for us to know how to frame our service—for we have no provision either to stay here, or to convey the Queen farther into the realm. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript:—If Herries writes to his mistress here, without forewarning us, our service may be endangered by our ignorance "yf hyr

Elizabeth.
1568. detaynyng be ment: for haltyng of bothe knees as hetherto we have done, can not be withowt perryll of hyr escape."

1½ *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 8. **692.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P., vol. I. "Madame:"—I learn by your letter and by "my lort Herrys your desire to justify yourself in my presence of the things charged against you. "O madame," there is no creature living more desirous to hear it than I, or who will more readily lend her ears to such answer as shall acquit your honour. But whatever my regard for you, I can never be careless of my own reputation. I am held "suspecte" for rather wishing to defend you herein, than opening my eyes to see the things these people condemn you in. If you knew the quarter from which I have been warned to be careful, you would not think these matters too low for me to see to. And since you put in my hands the handling of this business, which concerns all appertaining to you, assure yourself I shall be so careful of your life and honour, that yourself or any other "parent" could not have them more at heart. And I promise on the word of a prince, that no persuasion of your subjects or advice of others shall ever induce me to move you to anything dangerous to you or your honour. If you find it strange not to see me, you must make a "metamorphose" of our persons, and then you will see it would be "malayse" for me to receive you before your justification. But once honourably acquitted of this "crime," I swear to you before God, that among all worldly pleasures that will hold the first rank. To show you I wish no delay, I have commanded this gentleman, well known to you, to declare with what purpose I have sent him, also my commission, which I would not have issued but for your good. I have good hope to see a good end of all these "fascheries." Praying God to aid in all your good actions and deliver you from "tous voz mavais ennemys."

1¼ *pp.* *French.* *Fair copy with slight corrections.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "viij Junij 1568. Cop. of the Q. majestes lettre to the Q. of Scottes, by M^r^ Myddlemore."

June 8. **693.** ELIZABETH TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

For as much as the Queen of Scots is lately come into our realm, "as we are well assured you knowe, with the causes of hir arrivall in the partes where she now is," and has accredited Lord Herries to us to report her estate, and discourse her whole troubles and great injuries done to her by her subjects: beginning at their notorious ungratefulness, on her pardoning their former great offences at our request, raising force against her, and though she yielded to avoid bloodshed, and to reform what was amiss, "was most hardly kept" in prison, forced in fear of her life to demit her crown, proceeded against in parliament without herself or any advocate being heard, deprived of her royal estate, and now finally, having escaped accompanied with her nobility, was by force pursued by you and some other "particuler parsons in battell," and had to fly into our realm: all which things sound very strange in our ears, a sovereign prince, as she was. And

Elizabeth.
1568. as she requires our aid as her next cousin and neighbour, and is content to commit the ordering of her cause to us, we impart thus much to you, seeing the government is in your power at present, and that by your servant Mr John Wood we understand your offer to declare to us your whole doings. Requiring you to forbear from all hostility and persecution against all who have lately taken part with her, and suspend all proceedings against them both by law and arms: as we mean to observe the same on her part—and to impart to us plainly all that is meet for you to inform us of the truth, for your defences against such weighty crimes and causes as the said Queen has already or shall hereafter object against you. That we being duly informed on all parts, may by the assistance of God's grace, direct our actions accordingly.

2¼ *pp. Fair draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "viij Junij 1568. To the Erle of Murray from the Q. majesty, by Mr Middlemore."

Cott. Calig. C.I, fol. 123. (2) Another copy of same letter.

"The trew copy of the Quenes Majesties lettre to the Erle of Murray, by me." *Signed:* W. Cecill.

2 *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. The certificate holograph of Cecil. No flyleaf.*

June 8. **694.** SCROPE TO MURRAY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 121. Acknowledging his message by Nicholl Elphiston, and will be always ready to join in riding on those who break the peace of his Border. Though he has no commission to pursue them, he will give no receipt or aid to any of the king's murderers.

Being advertised by the Council that certain ships freighted with French arquebusiers are bound for Dunbarton or Dunbar, he doubts not that Murray will look out for them, whereto he will give all assistance. Carlisle.

1 *p. Contemporary copy.*

June 11. **695.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Desiring her in the King's name, to grant her safe conduct for David Somervile and a servant to pass through England to France on their lawful errands for a year. Edinburgh, 1st of reign. *Signed:* James Stewart.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet (Scotland) *as before.*

June 11. **696.** KNOLLYS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

C.P., vol. I. Lack of her highness's plain resolution for the order of this Queen "provokethe" me to trouble your lordships. "We nowe have a charge to see that this Quene escape not, and yet we have no awthoretie to abridge hyr, nor detaine hyr as a prysoner." We hear the French are at sea bound for Scotland: "and we see that she repents hyr selffe of comyng into Ynglond." It is no honour to her

Elizabeth.
1568. highness, and shame it were to us, that she should escape; "yet we dowte not hyr cowrage to aventure to eskape as farr as hyr lybertie, resorte and conference woll suffer hyr to practise." Though lord Scrope be too wise to promise holding sure "so great and so slypper a charge": yet if he were charged plainly to detain her a prisoner, I see his care is such, that it would be very hard for her to escape his hands, with aid of "this bande of Barwyke," though I were not here to assist. He says that Naward castle "is moted abowte and motche stronger for hyr detention than this." Now whether this plain dealing be "the honorablest waye," as it is the surest, while she is here; or if she shall be removed further into the realm, and when, or set at liberty to return, we refer to your better consideration, and "thynk longe" to be fully advertised. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 11. **697.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 124.

Touching that article in my letter to the Council, as to Lord Scrope detaining this Queen with the band of Berwick, without me: he is privy to that, as all other things, and will not refuse the charge, if offered. And I would be glad by your means to be rid of my "superfluous charge."

Her strength in Scotland (saving what Frenchmen or French crowns may do) depends not on herself, but on the Duke of Chatelherault "for his tytle"; on whom Herries and many others depend.

"And yet this ladie and prynces is a notable woman; she semethe to regard no ceremonious honor besyde the acknolegyng of hyr estate regalle: she shoethe a disposition to speake motche, to be bold, to be plesant, and to be very famylyare. She shoethe a greate desyer to be avenged of hyr enymyes, she shoethe a redines to expone hyr selffe to all perylls in hoope off victorie, she delytethe motche to here of hardines and valiancye, comendyng by name all approved hardye men of hyr cuntrye, althoe they be hyr enemyes, and she concealith no cowardnes even in hyr frendes. The thyng that moste she thirstethe after is victorye, and it semeth to be indifferent to hyr to have hyr enemies demynysshed eyther by the sword of hyr frendes, or by the lyberall promyses and rewardes of hyr purse, or by devysyon and qwarylls raysed amongst theym selffes: so that for victories sake payne and parylle semethe plesant unto hyr: and in respect off victorie, welthe and all things semethe to hyr cont[emptible?]* and vyle. Nowe what is to be done with sotche a [ladie]* and pryncesse, or whether sotche a pryncesse and ladie be to be norysshed in ones bosome? or whether it be good to halte and dissembyll with sotche a ladye, I referr to your judgement." If her highness think good to stay the French coming to Scotland, or fear any peril or conspiracies against her: then I am sure she will think it good policy roundly and plainly to assist her own cause, without "colours and klookes" that only deceive the blind: and surely the plainest is the most honourable way!

It is an honourable quarrel to expel the French, and the easiest way "is to ayde and cowntenance the Regent in tyme: and yf the

* Torn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. spotts in this Quenes coate be manyfest," the plainer and sooner her highness reveals her discontentation, it will be the more honorable, and stop the mouths of factious murmuring subjects. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 12. **698.** CHARGES OF THE SCOTTISH QUEEN.

C.P., vol. I. From her arrival at Cockermouth till 12th June.

Charges of Sir Francis Knoles at London, and from thence to Carlisle: 69*l.* 16*s.* 6½*d.*: the Queen's charges at Cockermouth and Carlisle till 28th May, 65*l.* 18*s.* 7½*d.*, and at Carlisle till 12th June, 162*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*

Sum total 297*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*

From which deduct the *remanet* [as wheat, bear, Gascon wine, spiceries, vinegar, verjuice, lamb, mutton "petes and turves" *etc.*] 30*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* Provision same day, 42 muttons 10*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, charges bringing them 3*s.*: also fish, veales, lambes, kids, capons *etc.* 7*l.* 9*s.* 5*d. etc.* "bif" 3 qrs. 48*s.* Total deductions 52*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* So clearly expended 243*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*

Net charge of the Queen 109*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* *Signed:* Robert Vernon.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed* (to Cecil). *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

June 12. **699.** HERRIES TO [LEICESTER?].

C.P., vol. I. My lord, you will remember my request yesternight was—"seand this matter as the Quenis majestie intendis to proceed in my soverane caussis man haif ane tyme," that I might depart to Carlisle with her highness's answer to my sovereign, and "licent" to pass to Scotland and back, while she remains in this realm: also that Lord Fleming may have licence to pass to France for her money and other her affairs? if not, to pass to Scotland "as I do," and with 100 other nobles to go and come while our sovereign abides here. *Signed:* Herys.

½ *p. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "12 Junij 1568. The L. Herys request for his dispatche."

June 12. **700.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 125. I received yours of 8th this morning at 9 o'clock: and this Queen seeing letters were come, and being very desirous of news, marvelling she heard not from Herries, we said her highness minded to send a gentleman forthwith to her grace, and then to Murray to stay hostilities. But she, not satisfied, sought to learn, whether her party if forced by hostility, would be received in England? Whereto we said her highness meant to have march law observed towards him that is in possession of government, which admitted no such reset, and therefore we thought it better for her party "to bayre with the tyme" if they could not resist. The Laird of Skirling said "privately" to us, he thought the answer reasonable, as her highness was presently to treat with Murray. "But this Quene beyng dedicate to revenge, in hoope off victorie by the ayde of strangers,

Elizabeth.
1568. cowld not forbayre to saye that she had lever * all hyr partie were hanged, than that they should in the mean tyme submytt theym selffes to the Earle of Murraye: and she dyd brayke forthe into these wordes, saying, that yf she were not detayned by force, she wold goe into Turkaye rather than she wold have any peace or agrement with the Lord of Murray *et cet.*, otherwyse than to have theym subject and obedient unto hyr." We said we could not see how her highness could do her grace good, but by such a treaty—or rashly enter into war to justify her cause not yet sufficiently cleared: but her grace's mind was so desirous of victory that it seemed no mediations could please her. She said she misliked not her highness's mediation, but meantime her party would be spoiled and subdued, and wished herself back again to abide all adventures; and said some of the Privy Council delayed time to help Murray and disgrace her party. She would have had us presently to deal with staying Murray, but we said we had no commission, though we looked for the messenger forthwith.

For my negligence in not saying how her highness's present was accepted by this Queen: I thought that either by her letters, or by Herries who was present, her highness should have understood the manner. But her silence argues rather scornful than grateful acceptance, which I, suspecting before delivery, said it was no present from her highness, but such necessary things, as one of her maids for lightness of carriage chose out: and afterwards seeing her grace still silent, I added, that the maid had mistaken me, and only sent things such as a servant like herself required. Whereon she answered courteously and took it in good part. Morton hearing your good will to him in his suit for the "scitadell,"† affirms, much as he needs, that he esteems it ten times more than the value of his suit. Immediately after your letter, I viewed it, and find it "to stand uppon a corner of the towne walle, and dothe flanke bothe sydes of the towne walls, bothe owte sydes and in sydes. It is made tryangle wyse, at that corner of the towne, with three rownde plattformes; the walles theroff be strong, but the boordes and tymber of those platformes be u[tter‡]ly decayde, neyther is there anye peece of ordinance mownted to play uppon theym. The platformes beyng repay[red‡], it stondes resonably well for defence of the towne walles, and for masterynge of the towne at that ende, but strong it is not for defence of it selffe, savyng agaynst speare and sheelde, bycawse it flanketh not it selffe very well, and for that the cownter skarffe serveth to cover the approche of the enemyes. The three platformes may with smalle coste be fylled with mayne earthe, and so I thynk 200*li.* overplus may be made of the leade that is there." I will not hinder M^r^ Warcop's preferment, or I would have thought it more meet to be in the Lord Warden's hands.

After writing thus far—came M^r^ Midlemore at 4 p.m.; and by this unseasonable coming, I think it is not God's will that things should prosper in Scotland for her highness's advantage, and it had been better for her to have given 10,000*li.* than have sent him so soon with this message. For though I think Murray too wise, now that he has brought 6000 men and artillery to the borders, to go straight home again, without forcing them to yield to his government: yet whereas

* *i.e.*, rather. † The citadel of Carlisle. ‡ Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. they would have all come in in three days, with pledges, yet now on this message, they will take heart and stand out. For he came so "laysorely" from Edinburgh, that it will be Monday* before he can do any great thing. Midlemore was so weary, than he cannot speak with the Queen before tomorrow morning. Carlisle. This Saturday at 10 o'clock at night. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

4 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 13. **701.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 127. This day at 9 o'clock, Lord Scrope and I presented M^r^ Mydlemore to this Queen: and I leave their discourse to his declaration, lest "I should disgrace his well labored speache." But to be plain with you, "no fayre semblance of speache" seems to win credit with her, and though she allows this message to Murray for abstinence of hostility, as it may stay her party from falling from her, yet she sees that this "coolde dealyng" will not satisfy her "fyerye stomake." And it is great vanity (in my opinion) to think she will be stayed by courtesy, or bridled by fear, from bringing the French to Scotland, or employing her money, men of war, and friendship to satisfy her "bluddye appetyte to shede the blude" of her enemies. As for imprisonment, she makes no account of it, and unless as a prisoner, she will not be removed further into the realm, if to be detained from her highness's presence. And she plainly says, howsoever she be detained, the Duke of Chatelherault "beyng heyre apparant," shall prosecute her quarrel, with the French power, aid of her dowry, and a "masse" of money to be levied for her. Now being "thus desperatly sett," shall not her highness "defraying" her here, enable her to employ her French dowry of 12,000*l.* yearly, both against Scotland and England? Whereas if she were at liberty, it would be spent upon her own "fyndyng," and her highness's charge for her here would be well spent in "expulsyng" the French from Scotland! But I speak like a "blynde bussard," and leave these matters to you. Desiring to be remembered "to my wyffe *et cet.*" Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

(1) Postscript:—The last week's charges, ending Friday, came to 56*l.*

(2) Postscript:—She also spoke, when "shoyng hyr loethsomnes" to be removed unless to her highness's presence, as if some practises of escape were not out of her head; and the free access to her incourages her "over boldnes" herein.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 14. **702.** MIDDELMORE TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 130. Sir: I left London on Wednesday at 4 p.m. and arrived here on Saturday at the same hour. Having conferred with Lord Scrope and M^r^ Vicechamberlain in the castle, I retired to my lodging, being very weary with posting. This day, Sunday,† at 8 a.m., they brought me to this Queen's presence, and before them I declared my despatch by her majesty after the late arrival of Lord Herries, chiefly to satisfy

* 14th. † 13th June.

Elizabeth.
1568. her grace, and proceeded to deliver her majesty's letter. Which being read, I proceeded to say, that her majesty earnestly desired her grace, besides her own cause, to consider her majesty's honour and reputation, that by her dealing for her, she might not incur the evil opinion of the world, and thus become less able to do her grace the pleasure and good that she most desired; and her being here was for her greatest preservation, and her majesty never meant it otherwise. Then as to her not having access to her majesty, I was commanded to say, it would hinder her own cause, and make her majesty suspected, if, being taxed as a party to her husband's murder, she received and entertained her grace before her justification — that many, and some very great, princes, already greatly suspected that her majesty would rather wink at her grace's faults, than have the truth known, or justice done—and they thought she little regarded the murder of her near kinsman, and the "infamye" her grace had incurred by marrying the principal murderer, who divorced his living wife, in respect of his own adulterous life. Hereon she said "that she hir selffe dyd knowe, and had meane to knowe, howe other princes dyd thinke and digest of hyr cause, and in all reason shulde best knowe yt. Marye! best trustinge hyr majeste with all, she had putt hir selfe into hyr handes, with hope of fyndinge greater favour then she dothe."

Then she asked me if Herries had answer of her majesty? if he was prisoner, and if I had brought her any letters from him? I said, I knew not of his answer, but he was no prisoner, and by the Queen's command, I had told him of my journey, offering to bring letters to her grace: whereon he said he had sent his letter to her grace "on Saturday last"* and also hourly expected her majesty's further answer. 'Then' said she, 'yf I had anye letters wrytten to me on Saturdaye was eight dayes, yow may see how lytle I ame beholdynge to Mr Randolphe † that in all this tyme they be not come to my handes'! I said I knew not how Herries had sent, but I was sure Randolphe would not hinder letters. Whereon "she lent him a lyttle charitye, which I will tell you when I come." Then she said she greatly marvelled her majesty had not answered Herries, having both herself written, and charged him to solicit most earnestly her majesty's direct answer, and that "which I browght was nothinge to that she demawndyd: and that hyr case might so be understode of hyr majeste, yf so it pleasyd hyr, as that it cannot well suffer any delaye: but she fearethe most wylfull delayes—but now that hyr majestie hathe hyr in hyr handes, she maye use hyr as she shall please: but she lokyd for muche better usage than she hathe yit fownde. And since hyr majeste dothe shewe to forbeare to have hyr come to hyr, first uppon respecte of gettinge an eyvell opinion therby, and then as afrayed (for that was hir tearme) to offende suche princes as she sayethe doo alreadye mislyke with hir good usage of hyr, she wolde be gladde to ease hyr majeste of them bothe, and so she trusteth that at the least, yf she wyll not gyve hyr that healpe by accesse unto hyr and otherwyse as hyr case reaquyrethe, and she demaundethe, she wyll yet suffer hyr to goo to suche as wyll bothe doo the on and the other: which hathe bene moste frelye offeryd hyr since hyr commynge hyther. And

* 5th June. † Then postmaster.

Elizabeth.
1568. that yf hyr majestie of hyr selffe wyll not ayde hyr and assist hyr, yet she trustethe she wyll not keape hyr backe from suche as wolde healpe hyr and do for hyr." I answered but few words, for M[r] Vicechamberlain and I thought it best to send you truly what she said than our answer.

Then I went on as instructed, and said if her grace would please to look "with indifferent eyes and putt on the person of hyr majeste for a tyme, spoylinge hyr selffe of hyr selffe, and of hyr affections to hyr selffe (as hyr majeste had donne full manye a tyme for hyr to m[ake]* the better of hyr cause) she shuld not fynde anye good or lawfull w[ay] lefte that coulde permytt hyr comminge into the presence of hyr majestie [be] fore some declaration of hyr innocencye in the foule fact layed against hyr. And that by waye of talke to admytt hyr graces commynge [to] the Quenes majeste and hyr being with hir accordynge to hyr desyer, y[f] the same were before hyr justification, yt coulde not be but greatlye prejudiciall to hyr owne cause—for wheras she had alredye made choyse of hyr majeste to be the only judge of hir cause, and dealer in yt for [hir], hyr ennymyes wolde take by this meanes this advantage, to saye 'The Quene of Englande ys no competent nor mete judge for us,' and so wolde utterlye reafuse to have her majeste any dealer or judge in yt—alledging the over great persualytye† and affection of hyr majeste towardes hir, and [hir] cause, and so worke to exclude hyr from all takynge of knowledge of [the] cause—which commynge to passe, shulde bringe hir majeste in that state as she shulde not then be able to stande hyr in anye stede, or almost to healpe hyr any waye. But yf it coulde please hyr to forbeare with pacyence hyr commynge to hyr majeste, untyll some good tryall were made of hyr innocentcye, then she shulde see with what love, with what hart, and with what joye, hyr majeste wolde bothe receave hyr and embrace hyr, yea! and doe everye waye for hyr that which she coulde desyer! Here she brake forth agayne into some pece of collor, and sayd she had no other judge but God, neyther none coulde take upon them to judge of hyr: she knewe hyr degre of estate well inowghe. Mary! indede, of hyr owne wyll, and accord[yng] to the good trust she reposyd in the Quenes majeste, she offeryd to make hyr the judge of hyr cause. 'But howe,' sayeth she, 'canne that be, when the Quene my suster wyll not suffer me to comme at hyr? I wolde and dyd meane to have utteryd suche matter unto hir as I wolde have donne to no other, nor never yet dyd to anye.' And then she came forthe with these wordes—'N[one] canne compell me to accuse my selffe, and yet yf I wolde saye any thinge of my selffe, I wolde saye of my selffe to hir and to none other. But I [see] how thinges frame eyvell for me. I have many ennymys about the Qu[ene] my good suster, and suche as doo worke all theye canne to keape me from [hir] at the solicitation of my rebellyous subjectes, and for some other pertycular respectes, which I ame well inowghe acquayntyd with': and emongst others [na]myd on, of whom I wyll tell yow at my commynge. All this was not donne, Sir, withowt great passion and weapinge, complayninge of hyr evyell usage and contraryous handelynge to hyr expectation. 'But always,' sayeth she, 'my truste ys, and therin the Quene canne doo no lesse,

* All syllables within square brackets are worn away.
† Partiality.

Elizabeth.
1568. then not wyllinge to helpe my meserye hyr selffe, she wyll suffer me to passe to other princes, where I maye fynde remedye; for so I ame suer it is in subjectes cases, [and]* muche more in princes.'" I made some little answer, and then, returning to my instructions, I told her that as she had put herself into her majesty's hands as sole judge, she had commanded me to assure her, "that she wolde take both hyr and hyr cause into hyr protection, yea! and yff after tryall made, the justice of hyr cause wyll beare yt, she wolde so prosequute her adversaryes as that she wolde compell them to doo hyr ryght, and healpe to restore hyr to hir honor, dignitye and governement." And I showed her of her majesty's command (at Lord Herries' request) that with speed I should pass to my lord of Murray, and in her name most earnestly request his abstaining from hostility against her grace's friends, especially those in the last action; which she only did for her cause, not meaning to have more to do with them, than she had since they first troubled her grace, which she always misliked, and would no way countenance; and had always forborne to deal with Murray in any thing tending to "affyrme" her son's coronation. Thereon I gave her grace the copy of "my lorde of Murrays lettre to reade," wherewith she was somewhat satisfied. "But for the rest she sayd, it appearyd that the Quenes majeste wolde be more favorable to my lorde of Murraye and his, then she wold be to hir: for it seamyd she was contentyd that they shuld come to hir presence to accuse hyr, but she wyll not permytt hir to comme to hyr to purge hir selffe! Here she inveyghed greatly against my lorde of Murray and hys partye, and sayd she was a prince, and they were but subjectes and yet traytors, so as there was no equalytye betwene hyr and them to make them selffes as partye against hyr. 'But' sayd she, 'yf they wyll nedes comme, desyer my good suster the Quene to wryte that Ledyngton and Morton (who be two of the wisest and most able of them to saye most against me) maye comme, and then to let me be there in hyr presence face to face, to here theyr accusations, and to be harde howe I canne make my owne purgation; but I thinke Ledyngton wolde be very lothe of that commission'"! Then I asked her to stay her friends from hostilities, as Murray was stayed. She said she thought Herries had already done so—but if not, order should be given forthwith. Then I came to "the trowblesome poynt of Dombertaine," and that her grace would take order that no French be received: for if they were, her majesty would deal otherwise in these matters. "Hyr answer was playne—that in case hyr majeste wolde not assuer hir of hyr full helpe and ayde for the suppressinge of hyr eyvell and unrulye subjectes, she neyther colde nor wolde leave and forsake the ayde of other frynd, but rather then not to be revengyd of them, she wolde go hir selffe to the Great Turke for healpe against them. Mary! yf hyr majeste wyll reasolve absolutely to gyve hyr ayde, and to be partye for hir, she wyll then promesse and assuer hyr majeste she wyll neyther seke to nor deale with any other prince." Last of all, I uttered this last article, "which I kept in store to make a pleasant partinge, althowghe it dyd not so faule owt," viz., that her majesty meant shortly to have her brought nearer to her, where she might have more pleasure and liberty and be utterly out of danger of

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. her enemies *etc.* She immediately asked if she was to go as a prisoner or at her own choice? I said I was sure her majesty meant no such thing as to imprison her, and would rather leave it to her choice, than she should think so: but I thought she meant her a great pleasure by bringing her nearer her. Here "we had a great conflyct"—for her desire is altogether to come to her majesty, but "to remayne in any place from hyr," she had rather tarry where she is. She reasons, that being carried farther in, if not to the Queen, only removes her farther from her friends, who being disheartened may forsake her—whereas now she hears from and comforts them. But I think she likes this place as well for escape, being so near her West Border, which is wholly for her. She asked me the place, but I said I did not know: and on asking if her removal should be before Herries' return, this I could not tell, but thought not. 'Alas' sayd she, 'it ys a smale pece of comfort to me (nay rather yt is a hurt to me) to be removyd hence and not to be browght to the Quene my good suster; but nowe I ame in hir handes, and so she may dispose of me as she wyll'; 'which is Madame,' [sayd]* I, 'no otherwise but as yow wyll your selffe, only exceptinge your graces [pre]*sent comminge to hir before some declaration made of the goodnes of your cause.' 'But' sayd she, 'althowghe I be kept prisonner all the dayes of my lyffe, yet there be which be next to the crowne, as namelye the Hambletons (the chieffes wherof are now in Frawnce) that wyll not quyte nor leave their ryght, but prosequute the same by all the wayes and meanes they canne." She ascribes all her troubles to her majesty, for at her entreaty all those now bearing arms against her were called home from banishment—and therefore she should now aid her against them. "Sir, I have wrytten all night, and so eyvell, as I pray God yow maye reade yt." The Queen presses me forthwith to go to Dumfries, where the Regent is, purposing to invade her friends in this quarter. Carlisle. *Signed:* Hen. Middelmore.

I send you inclosed her letter to her majesty which she prayed me to see safely conveyed—it is an answer to her majesty's letter sent by me—also 2 letters from her for Lords Herries and Fleming.

5¼ *pp. Holograph, closely written. No flyleaf or address.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(Mary to Elizabeth.)

Regretting that her confidence in coming into her realm, as to her nearest relation, to escape her enemies, has not been met in the same spirit. Since she will not aid her, asks leave to seek it from other princes, and will return to her hands thereafter. But as her rebels who have now been her ruin, were pardoned and restored for love of Elizabeth, she thinks this binds her to assist in putting them down. Complains that she received her bastard brother when a fugitive, to her presence, but refuses it to herself. Wishes immediate answer by Lord Herries, and thinks she will find her a more profitable friend than her opponents, for all their false discourse against herself. Carlisle 13 June. Marie R.

3 *pp. French. Fair contemporary copy. Indorsed* (by another hand): "xiij Junij 1568. Cop. of the Q. of Sc. lre. to the Q. Ma^tie."

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568.
June 15.

703. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. B. IX., fol. 348.

[*After referring to his precautions against Mary's escape—that Navard castle is much stronger than Carlisle—that many of his letters are not acknowledged, mentioning her grace's* "comyng forthe fyrst to service of the suffrages songe at the towne churche," *as of late she has usually done—he says:*] Yesterday she went out at a postern to walk on a playing green towards Scotland—waited on by Scrope and himself, with 24 of Read's halberdiers, and some of her own gentlemen *etc.*: where 20 of her retinue played at football before her for 2 hours very strongly, nimbly, and skilfully, without foul play—"the smalnes of theyr balle occasyonyng theyr fayrer playe," and twice since coming, she did the like in the same place, and once rode out hare hunting, gallopping so fast, and her retinue so well horsed, that they feared a rescue by her friends in Scotland, and mean not to permit this in future. [*Describes Murray's progress on the opposite border—taking Sanquhar's house, but sparing it at the suit of Drumlanrig his father in law.*] Carlisle. Tuesday 4 p.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 16.

704. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 133.

We send you enclosed the copy of the proclamation in this town at noon to-day: the cause of which Lord Scrope has written at large. Whereof this Queen hearing, was much offended, and at our coming to her, complained that the Lord Warden thereby seemed to allow Murray to be Regent of Scotland, contrary to the Queen's letter and message by Middlemore. But we said her grace mistook it, for he is not called "Regent," but only "Governor" of Scotland: and whether his title be good or evil, her grace sees he is in possession, and governs. And as he offers justice by March law, which if neglected might be 2000*l.* "hyndrance" to her majesty's subjects, and no order could be kept, unless Englishmen were forbidden to reset Scotsmen fugitives from the coming of him that governs Scotland to this Border: so we devised to call him governor, and "to flye the name of Regent." Hereto she said we should please neither; for Murray would not be content to lose the name of Regent, nor was she that he should be called governor. We said we preferred justice and good order before pleasing any party. 'Well' sayth she, 'I see by this dealyng that his partie is cowntenanced and myn is disgraced.' 'Madam' said we, 'he hathe none other cowntenance in this behalffe than the necessitie of justice dothe reqwyre.' "But inded yf we had not advysed owre selffes better, the name of *Regent* had ben in the proclamation, but I was trobled this laste nyght withall in my bedd, and in the mornyng we altered it to the name of *Governor* and some other thyngs withall."

I am marvellous sorry to hear of Herries' return hither, whose "wylye head went beyond youe," when he got Mydelmore to come so soon. For it would cost the Regent 20 days' work to finish his business, thus interrupted. Herries sees the bottom both of your doings and ours, and will stir the coals when he comes. But I am not "gyltye" of his return. Carlisle. Almost at midnight. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Elizabeth.
1568. June 16.

705. SCROPE TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 134.

Reporting that on the approach of the Regent to his march, he had issued a proclamation against resetting Scotsmen, and encloses the copy. That on the Queen of Scots' objection to the title *governor* given to Murray, and her question if it was by order?—he said it was done of himself. Mentions her offer to give redress for Herries' march, but not for the others. Carlisle. *Signed:* H. Scrope.

2 *pp.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Inclosed in the same:—

The Proclamation referred to.

1½ *pp.* *Contemporary copy.*

June 17.

706. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 136.

This Queen has dispatched a Scottish gentleman of hers, with letters to her highness: we suppose either complaining of yesterday's proclamation or else of the Regent's hostility after M[r] Mydelmore's coming. But we hear he only exacts obedience since then: for M[r] Mydelmore found him at Canmerr* the Laird of Lochinvar's house, where he offered the laird, if he would accompany him "only this jorney" he would save his house and forget the past. The truth is, unless he cause these lords to come in, or overthrow or garrison their houses, he shall never be able to do justice there, and also peril his own overthrow—"more desyerd of this Quene than lyffe." We hear from overthrowing Kenmure house, he comes this night to Terregles, a house of Lord Herries, and thence to Dumfries. This Queen sent us three letters to read this morning that came from the Earl of "Eglantyne," the Laird of Lochinvar, and Lord Boyd—declaring they remained at her devotion, and would not submit to the Regent, though earnestly solicited—which is thought to be done only in hope of M[r] Mydelmore's coming ("savyng that my lord Regent lovethe justyce to well for these borderers appetytes)." For my writing, that you passed over answer of my letters "almoste with scylence": I meant that I would gladly know what you thought of my opinion "in my fyrst 2 letters wrytten to hyr hyghnes," and in my first to yourself, on my Lord Herries' detention, and detaining this Queen as prisoner ("yf she should be detayned at all"): but to many of these things you have answered me since mine to you of 8[th] instant.

We had yours of 13[th] this morning at 4 o'clock, but stayed answer, as Lord Scrope distrusting his memory, caused M[r] Reade to ride to Naward castle and Kirkoswald, to view their strength: who says that "Kyrcosold" is very weak, but Naward is "a very strong and fytt place." Whereon we think to make ready there for this Queen, but cannot suddenly, for neither wine nor beer is laid in there: and we have but a "slypper hoape" that she will remove willingly—so we shall keep her here as carefully as we can.

If that "devyse of this Quene gyvyng upp of hyr interest of Ynglond to the Duke of Anjoye, whan she comes into France, be trewe, than myn opynyon of settyng hyr at lybertie is qwyte altered,

* Kenmure.

Elizabeth.
1568. but I wolde the Regent had hyr agayne?" And I think you shall see her grow so impatient and intolerable in her practises, that it is time her highness dealt plainly and sharply with her. Carlisle. 6 o'clock p.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 18. **707.** SCROPE TO ELIZABETH.

C.P. vol. I. Understanding by M[r] Secretary of her Majesty's good disposition in relieving his necessity and allowing his former service, gives her his most humble thanks, and assures her his whole service here or elsewhere is at her disposal; still hoping for some relief to maintain it, without which he cannot answer her expectation. Carlisle. *Signed:* H. Scrope.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 20. **708.** CONSULTATION TOUCHING THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 137. On hearing as well of her letter to her majesty after M[r] Middelmore's report of his message, and his own letter at good length of his negotiation with the said Queen: these matters were deliberately and after every one of the Council's mind, "accorded upon as their uniforme advise." [*Here are noted on margin*—"L. Keper, D. Norff, L. Marq., Erl of Arundell, Erl of Bedf., Erl of Leic., L. Admirall, L. Chamberleyn, M[r] Secretary, M[r] Sadler, M[r] Mildmay."]

1. That without delay, as "at the begynning was thought necessary," she be removed from the Border and not near Yorkshire. And if Nottingham and Fodringhay are not meet, then at Tutbury. Unless done before Herries' return to her, she may escape.

2. Notwithstanding her last letter, or speeches to Middelmore, the Queen's majesty should be informed of the cause between her and her subjects. And in the hearing, to avoid mistake, no prince's ambassador named by her shall be excluded—"saving always the superiority that of ancient right belongeth to the crowne of England in causes of Scotland." And as it appears by her last letter she means not to have her cause tried, but first to come to her majesty's presence, and be restored by her, then to be tried, or licensed to depart for foreign aid, under promise to return to the Queen after restitution, it is thought meet, as she did once offer, and now refuses, to be tried, that this should be notified to the kings of France and Spain.

Her majesty "can nether in honor nor with surety" either aid her to restitution to her realm, or suffer her to depart, without trial; for in the former case she acquits her of her husband's murder, and aids her to suppress the favourers of amity; and in the other, if she goes to France, the perils are greater, and she shall be more kindled with ire and desire of vengeance against her majesty.

"Lastly": As to restoring her in "title and name" only, without government—it is too hard a matter to devise assurance, and too dangerous so to proceed; considering the comforts and aids from her kindred, and also from Rome, whereby she may vanquish all both here and in Scotland "that do discent from the

Elizabeth.
1568. Chirch of Roome," whereon the whole strength of her title is founded. Besides what oaths or promises can be imagined to withstand her appetite to this crown? wherein she refused to ratify her commissioners' renunciation "by good authority"—at last broke the treaty, yet in the end pressed to be declared her majesty's next heir to England! How she abused her majesty by practising marriage with Lord Darnley her subject, thereby intending to make a great party here to trouble her majesty, is well known. So her majesty can neither aid her, permit her to come to her presence, or restore her, or suffer her to depart before trial.

3 *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Not indorsed.*

June 20. **709.** CASE OF THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 139.

"Pro Regina Scotorum":—

(1) To be helped, as she came willingly here on trust of her majesty from whom she had many messages of help in her trouble.

(2) She is unlawfully condemned, for her subjects seized and imprisoned her, put her in fear of life, charged her with her husband's murder, refused her leave to answer in person, or by advocate, in the parliament which condemned her.

(3) She is a queen, subject to none, nor bound by law to answer her subjects, otherwise than her conscience shall lead her.

(4) She offers in the Queen's presence, to acquit herself.

(5) No private person coming for refuge should be condemned, unheard.

(6) She offers to charge her subjects who have deposed her with the crimes wherewith she is charged.

(7) And alleges, as things moving them for their own gain, to proceed as they have done: that in her minority they procured great possessions for themselves, which she at her majority, "did secretly revoke."

"Contra Reginam Scotorum":—

(1) She procured her husband's murder, "whom she had constituted kyng, and so he was a publick person, and hir superior"—therefore her subjects were bound to search for and punish the offenders.

(2) When they did, Bothwell the chief murderer, was protected by her, and a confederacy made by her solicitation, with sundry, to defend him in all quarrels, to defeat justice. "Contrary wise," the earl kept evil company with her, led her to "placees dishonorable," accompanied with the murderers, known pirates, robbers, and such like.

(3) She also procured Bothwell to be colourably acquitted by force, "and devised that his endytement was falsly conceaved, to furdre the judgment to be reputed for trew: for the supposell of the cryme wherwith he was charged was, that he murdred the kyng uppon the 9 daye of [*] and he was knowen to be murdred in dede the 10 daye."

(4) She also procured his divorce from his lawful wife on his

* So blank.

Elizabeth.
1568. charging himself, "that he had lyved in frequent advoutry, specially with on Lady Reress, who also was the principall instrument betwixt the Quene and hym."

(5) She also feigned herself to be forcibly taken by him, to colour their conversation; and then married this principal murderer, giving him greater estates *etc.* than ever she gave her own husband, and also gave the other murderers lands and offices: committing such authority to him and his companions that none of her nobles or council durst abide about her.

(6) He notoriously evil used her, keeping her prisoner in Dunbar: and yet when the nobility had assembled to punish the murder, he and his complices came in force to attack them, carrying the Queen with him: who though humbly requested to dismiss him, would not, but let him secretly fly.

3 *pp. Holograph of Cecil. Indorsed* (by him).

June 21. **710.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 142. To-morrow Lord Scrope is to meet with my lord of Murray for redresses. Yesterday, at our coming from the "sarmon" at the church into the great chamber, we found the French ambassador awaiting the Queen, as he said: who in courteous manner asked if Lord Scrope would meet Murray on the frontier or not? Whereon we answering that for execution of justice, he could not refuse: 'Therbie,' said he, 'youe woll do my lorde of Murraye great honor.' We said it was but for justice to her majesty's subjects, not to be neglected; wherewith seeming satisfied he departed into the Queen's bed chamber. After dinner, her grace, conversing with Lord Scrope and me, as her manner is when she "syttes abroade," among other things "fell into this strange speeche, that she was not yngnorant of my wrytyng to the Cowrte, and that she knewe that I had wrytten in one thyng more in hyr behalfe then was well lyked of by some others at the Cowrte, saying that she knewe what was sayd unto it: wherunto I answered that she was full of conjectures, I perceyved by hyr dalying speaches that had no grownd nor fowndation." But we saw this came fresh to her eares by the French ambassador, "be lyke towchyng her settyng at lybertye." Thus you may see there be some "gropers off newes in that cowrte" for her instruction by aid of the French and Spanish ambassadors. And for all her "allowance" of my writing, Lord Scrope thinks she takes me for one of her greatest enemies here, "bycawse I have used more playnnes with hyr, in reverent maner, than cowld be well lyked of hyr by any meanes." She also told us that as the King of France gave himself to pleasures, the Duke of Anjoye was made chief governor of affairs, and the Cardinal of Lorraine next under him—thereby insinuating what authority her friends began to have there—which, if true, the "practyse" you wrote of is like enough to insue. She likewise fell into great passion with Mydelmore for being present at the overthrow of Lochinvar's house, and not coming away as offended with Murray's hostility, contrary to her highness's letter. We said we did not know Murray's provocation, or what Mydelmore could say, but it was hard to condemn him aforehand. 'Well' sayd she, 'I woll not detayne this Frenche ymbassador untyll Master Mydle-

Elizabeth.
1568. 'mores comyng, neyther woll I be any longer delayde, for I woll reqwyre the Quene my good syster, that eyther she woll let me goe into France, or els that she woll put me into Dunbritone, unlesse she woll hold me as a prysoner, for I am sure,' saythe she, 'that hyr hyghnes woll not of hyr honor, put me into my lorde of Murrayes handes.' Hereby we gather that she dare not go to Dunbarton of herself, if set at liberty. 'And' said she, 'I woll seke ayde forthwith at other prynces handes that woll helpe me, namely the Frenche kyng and the kyng of Spayne, whatsoever come of me; bycawse I have promysed my people to gyve theym ayde by Awgust.' And said she had found true, what she often heard before coming, that she should have fair words "enowe," but no deeds. 'And' says she, 'I have made great warrs in Skotland, and I praye God I make no troubles in other realmes also'; and parting from us, she said, if we detained her a prisoner, "we should have motche adoe with hyr." I omit our replies for brevity: but touching her prayer, I joined with her that God of his mercy would defend this realm from such troubles, as through our own tenderness, by her attempts might arise, and her highness from perils thereby insuing. But alas! how can we be safe from troubles so long as our "tender haltyng on both legges before God and the world" doth hinder our friends and strengthen our enemies, provoking God's anger, that many ways has been so merciful to us! But I shall be too "lavyse" if I take not up betimes! Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph, very closely written. No flyleaf or address.*

[June 22.] **711.** THE REGENT'S REPLY BY MIDDELMORE.

Note of what we have desired M^r^ Middlemore to report touching answer of the Queen's majesty's letter sent us by him:—

1. [*Relates his proceedings on the West march with Herries and his son in law Lochinvar—his dispatch of Wood and intention to send others to Elizabeth—as in his letter to her majesty, No. 712—with this addition:*] "Bot becaus we persaive the triale quhilk the Quenis majestie is myndit to have taken, is to be usit with grite ceremonye and solemnities: we wald be maist laytht to enter in accusatioun of the quene, moder of the king our soverane, and syne to enter in qualificatioun with hir: for all men may juge how dangerous and prejudiciall that suld be. Allwyis in cais the Quenis majestie will have the accusatioun directlie to proceid, it wer maist reasonable we understude quhat we suld luke to follow thairupoun, in cais we prove all that we allege? Utherwyis we salbe als incertane efter the caus concludit, as we ar presentlie! And thairfoir we pray yow requyre hir hienes in this point to resolve ws, at least that my lordis of the counsall will assure ws, quhat we sall lippin unto? Farther it may be that sik lettres as we have of the Quene our soverane lordis moder, that sufficientlie in our opinioun provis hir consenting to the murthure of the king hir lauchfull husband, salbe callit in doubt be the juges to be constitute for examinatioun and triall of the caus, quhether thai may stand as full pruif or nocht? Thairfoir sen our servand M^r^ Johnne Wode hes the copies of the same

Elizabeth.
1568. "lettrez translated in our language, we wald earnestlie desyre that the saidis copeis may be considerit be the juges that shall haif the examinatioun and commissioun of the mater, that thai may resolve ws this far, in cais the principall agree with the copie, that than we pruif the caus indeid; for quhen we haif manefested and schawin all, and yit sal haif na assurance that it we send sall satisfie for probatioun: to what purpois sall we ather accus or tak cair how to pruif, quhen we ar nocht assured quhat to prove, or quhen we haife provit, quhat sall succeid?"

We are content (as we have said) to send one or more of good credit to her majesty, in case our servant M^r John Wood has not satisfied her. But as we are uncertain whether the matter is to be handled at Court, or here towards the frontiers: we desire you to resolve us of the time and place; for what shall it serve to send now to Court, unless assured the matter shall be tried when they come? And as M^r Wood has already spoken (as we believe) so far as needful, none need be sent till the Queen our "maisteris moder be transportit" and the matter ready for debate, otherwise the time "willbe long that men mon tary, and the charges wilbe sumptuous."

We pray you remember how prejudicial it is to the quiet of the Border, that the Queen mother is permitted to remain at Carlisle, and thus convey letters through this country to France: and in like manner nothing can be more hurtful to the quietness of the Border than suddenly to let Herries come home: for do what we can, he will trouble all again, and whatever promises his friends have made, will immediately be broken.

2 *pp.* *Closely written in a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by Hay): "A note of that quhilk is to be reportit be M^r Middlemore, June 1568."

June 22. **712.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

I have received your majesty's letter of 8^th^ from your servant M^r Middelmore, with the report of Lord Herries to your highness, and his desire at your hands: requiring me to forbear all hostility to "sic" as have taken part with the Queen, the king my sovereign's mother, and to impart to your majesty what shall be meet for our defence. What pleasure I have taken in hostility against "ony Christin men," specially my own countrymen, "the eternel God best knawes," and if I had delighted in private revenge or the "exterminioun" of any Scotsmen, I lacked not commodity to execute rigour in this short space past; when God "kest" many my private enemies in my hands, whom yet I touched not. "Sensyne" I have attended that men should have acknowledged their duty, and so staid force; but lenity not availing, it behoved me to prepare force. Yet I would not have been "sa suddane," if the king's authority and state of the country had stood. Chiefly preservation of the godly amity, was the occasion of my drawing force to this West march, seeing it destitute of a warden and in greatest disobedience; for Herries had purposely "schaken lowis" all the broken men there, under the direction in his absence of the Laird of Lochinvar his "sone in law, who, though reasonable offers ("yea farther then of honnour I culd have gudely grantit") were made, has despitefully rejected them, as M^r Middlemore can show. Thus I was compelled to let him know I was in his bounds, which he

Elizabeth.
1568. thought no man could come to. But for reverence of your majesty, I have forborne to "wrak" his friends, and shall use like moderation to others as far as possible; for the "scope of the haill" is but this—to place an officer to meet your majesty's warden for justice, which cannot be at present. To inform your majesty in what is objected against me and others, I have already instructed my servant M[r] John Wood to satisfy you before this letter shall come to your hands; and intend with all diligence to direct to your highness one or more men of good credit well instructed therein. Not doubting but the further your highness "dippis" in the cause, you shall know that the noblemen of Scotland have not entered on it without good ground and occasion. Hoddome. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1½ *pp.* *In Hay's writing.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By M[r] Midlemore."

June 22. **713.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

I send you these few lines, having so good occasion. But the bearer's sufficiency "makis me far mair breif nor utherwys I wald be." He has been here all the time with me, seen our proceedings, and I have given him my mind at great length, and doubt not he will make true report. Hoddome. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By M[r] Midlemore."

June 22. **714.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

By the bearer M[r] Midlemore you will understand what cause has been given to my lord Regent to use some extremity here, and yet how he has moderated himself after seeing her majesty's letter, "not without the evident prejudice off the cause he hath in hand"! For some take advantage of her majesty's "smallest' mocion," and the disordered people have taken great comfort thereby, and become "a litle more stout then otherways thay durst have bene." Yet I trust their pride will be abated before we go hence, where we intend to lay some foundations for establishing good order between the people of both frontiers—our principal end in coming hither. Hoddome. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed* (by Hay). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 22. **715.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 143. Appendix I. No. 3. Signifying Middlemore's return from Scotland, to whom she had complained both of his long stay, and the bruit of Murray's open boasts at his table, confirmed by M[r] John Wood's letters, which she sent by M. Montmorin to Lord Herries, to show how Elizabeth's servants discredit her promises. Middlemore's errand has done little to stop the destruction of her friends' houses, though intended as a great benefit to her. Excuses her bad writing, for these letters so falsely invented have made her ill. Again urges that they two may deal themselves on these affairs. Fears the bearer's haste is more to excuse himself than otherwise. Written at 11 p.m. *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp.* *French.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1568. June 11-24.

716. THE REGENT'S CAMPAIGN IN THE WEST.

"The dyet of my lord Regentiis campt quhair it wes every nycht."

Friday 11th:—They camped in Biggar where they first met.

Saturday 12th:—"About 10 howris the castell of Skyrling wes cassin down and brynt"—rode that night to Crawfurd John, and that house was rendered.

"Sunday xiij at nycht":—They camped in "the Sancher" beside the castle which was rendered.

Monday 14th:—At night they camped in the "holme of Dauchquharne." Tuesday 15th:—They camped in "Santt Jhonis schlawghe" where there was a great fray in camp. An English ambassador came and got presence. Wednesday 16th:—They camped in "the Kenmwyr in the howme callit Beisk hawcht" underneath the castle; "swte the castell, and haill place wes cassin downe and brynt." "Fwrisday" 17th:—They camped in the "howme of Clauchquhainte besyde the lard of Makneiffis place," where 5 thieves were hanged for stealing in camp. Friday and Saturday 18th and 19th:—At night they camped in Dumfries. Sunday 20th:—In the morning they removed to the Hoddome and burned the Tynnell belonging to Robert Maxwell's wife of Cowhill—and "syne" the laird of Howmanes' place and steads about, and camped at night in the warde of Hoddome within gun shot of the castle—and "segyt" the castle that night till Monday at 10 "howris," when it was rendered and servants of Drumlanryk's put in to keep it. The rendering was on condition the house and men's lives in it should be safe. In the afternoon some "oistes of horse" rode forth and burned the "Kyrkhows" the young laird of Howmains'.

Tuesday 22d:—At "fowr howris" a.m. my lord Regent's "oist" rode a mile beyond Annan and met my lord Scrope with a small company "be aucht howris," and talked with him till 4 p.m.—while he sent 4 gentlemen to the camp to see the number of their vanguard, and the fashion of their camp, "quha gaif tham the mwsteris"—and in the Regent's coming backward, the house of Annan was rendered, and men put in the "castell" at his command. Wednesday 23d:—They removed camp at 3 a.m. and burned certain steads in Annerdaill till they came to Lochmaben castle, which was rendered and servants of Drumlanrig's put in. Thereafter passed to the house of Lochwood the laird of Johnston's which was rendered to the Regent, and given in keeping to the laird of Bukclewcht that night. Thereafter passed forward and camped in "Casse howm forneut Loganwode." And word came that night that the laird of Cowhill had come after them to Lochmaben, put out Drumlanrig's servants, and put in his own to the castle — and though the lords was once in purpose to have ridden back and was long in council thereon, because of the scarcity of victuals *etc.* they stayed it.

"Fwrisday" 24th:—At morn they raised camp and "cam in at Arykstane and downe Twede to Pebyllis," and remained that night, and so far as I can get knowledge, they purpose rather to Edinburgh or Tewydale.

1½ *pp.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "The Diary of the Regentis campe of Scotland;" and (by Drury) "for Mr Secretory."

Elizabeth.
1568. June 11-24.

717. THE REGENT'S PROGRESS IN THE WEST.

[*Somewhat fuller than the preceding.*]

Imprimis:—On 18th May before, the Regent of Scotland proclaimed that the shires of Mernis, Angus, Fyf, Mers, Lowdyan, Kyll and Carryk, with 15 days' victual, should meet him on 10th June in Biggar to aid in the S. W. of Scotland for punishing thieves etc.

Extracts.

June 11th:—He and his nobility marched from Edinburgh to Biggar and there received Boghall castle, Lord Fleming's—and would have cast it down, but (1) He was in England and could get no word to them, and (2) he held Dunbarton castle, which they hoped to receive. This day's march 20 miles.

June 12th:—The Regent cast down Skirling castle and place—"ane notable beilding"—to make others fear—then marched to Crawfurde Johne, Sir James Hamilton's, and received the castle—not casting it down, as they had "the man" in their own hands. Day's march 10 miles.

June 13th:—To Sancher, and lay there, but cast not down "my lordis place," as he had promised to come in and found surety. Day's march 12 miles.

June 14th:—Marched to "ane valey callit barbarusle the holm of Dawhernyn" and lay all night. Sending the laird of Wedderburn to the Laird of Lowinvar—but he "alluterlie" refused either to come in or give pledges. Day's march 12 miles.

June 15th:—Marched to "Sant Jhones clawan," 2 miles from Lochinvar place; in hope of his "incuming." But this night Lady Herries wrote to him not to go in, for her husband would get support, and stopped him. Days march 10 miles.

June 16th:—They marched to Loch Ken "fornentis Kenmure": 60 men appeared on a hill side, but enterprised nothing. The place of Kenmure was destroyed and cast down, and another "proper place" a friend's of Lochinvar. Day's march 2 miles.

June 17th:—Came to the water of Ur, to a gentleman's place "callit Makneth," where divers gentlemen came in and were thankfully received. Day's march 8 miles.

June 18th:—To Dumfries, hanging certain robbers and "villans" by the way. Day's march 14 miles.

June 19th:—At Dumfries the castle was offered, being Lord Maxwell's; and sundry Maxwells and others came in and were received. Pledges:—For the Maxwells, the goodman of Hillis; for the Johnstons, the laird of Newbie; for the Grahames, Fergus the Grahame; for the Urwyns, Criste of Bonshaw, "etc." Lord Maxwell, the Laird of Johnston, Cowhill, and Lochinvar, with 1000 men, were in Dumfries 2 days before, "and spendit all the meit and drink that wes reddy," consulting how to do best against the Regent. It was thought Maxwell would have come in, but for the other three. Day's march 14 miles.

June 20th:—Marched to Hoddom a place of Lord Herries' and a strong fort—held against the Regent, and they shot heavy ordnance and slew a horse and some men. This night the thieves gathered 1000 men, and broke a chase on some of ours outside of the camp: but the

Elizabeth.
1568. Regent's men issued and took 2 or 3—one the Laird Johnston's "father brother." Day's march 10 miles.

June 21st:—The house was given up to the Regent—"quhilk thai mycht haif holdin long enewcht, yf thai had bene gud fellows within it": on condition they had their lives "and na mair—all bag and bagges to remane in it." Delivered to Drumlanrig to keep, who is appointed warden there, forenent England. Hume and Morton led out 1000 men to draw the thieves, but they fled and would not "preik." There was great hunger in camp—"the Scottis pynt of wyne wes at vijs. Scottis, and no breid to be had." Some died for hunger.

June 22nd:—The camp remained—the Regent with 1000 horse went to Annan and received the castle, putting Edward Urwine to keep it. Met and talked "a long while" with Lord Scrope—returning at night. Day's journey 6 miles.

June 23rd:—Marched to Lochmaben and received the castle: but some of the Maxwells remained in "a close hous or volt," and took it again after the Regent had gone. They received the Laird of Johnston's places of "Lokat" and "Lowchthous," but cast them not down, for he has promised to come in and given surety. Took many cattle and furnished the camp, slew 2 thieves out of 60 by a shot of great ordnance, and hanged another stealing horses. Day's journey 10 miles.

June 24th:—Came to Peebles, where all came in. Day's march 22 miles.

June 25th:—The Regent went to Edinburgh and the rest to their own country and bounds. They journeyed 12 miles.

The countries passed through—Clydesdale, Galloway, Nydisdaill Annerdaill, Tweedale.

Order of the army:—Alexander Hume of Manderstoun, and Hutounhall scoured the fields a mile in advance, with a "cornett" of 200 men. Then the vanguard under Hume and Morton, 1000 men "and ma." Then came the "careage," and behind it the Regent's self with the rest of the army. Behind him the Laird of Cesfurd with a "cornet" and a company. At each side of the army, went a cornet *viz.*: the lairds of the Mers on one, and "Bowclewcht" on the other.

5 *pp.* *In a Scottish hand* (Hay's?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "... the Regent of Scotlandes progresse."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 148. (2) Another copy of the same in an English hand.

June 26. **718.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

The more I look forward the more I feel sure of your good inclination, yet things here are all contrary. Had it pleased God I could have spoken to you 2 hours before Middelmore came, or after, on the letters I sent you the other day, and many things much at my heart which might profit you. But to my purpose: Middelmore said he had prevented these houses being destroyed: but the defenders obtained that, when surrendering, as the bearer George Douglas will tell you, and also Lord Heris, to whom the conditions were sent. Heris has written to me that you grant passports to my subjects, but

Elizabeth.
1568. Lords Scrope and Knolls must be written to, for they have refused: and "my lord Workington" two days past arrested two Scots coming to me from their burned houses, one wounded, and took their letters. Consider that my enemies are in the field, while my hands are bound, and do not favour them against my friends. It is told me I am to be removed—that would hinder my affairs, and I have said I will not stir (bouger). Assuring myself that you, a queen, sister, and cousin, will not favour those who only seek to make you a judge to cover their injuries to me. Herries will tell you how I am treated. I pray you give your passport to this gentleman, and good countenance, for his service in my deliverance. He goes to France to learn the language and be rewarded in part by the king and my uncles, who desire to see him who has done me a service so agreeable to them: and I have permitted him, having no need here for so many of my good servants. I pray you trust Lord Heris. Carlisle. Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Fair contemporary copy. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 146. (2) Original of the same.

App. I. No. 4. 3 *pp. French. Holograph, also address* (in vernacular).

June 26. **719.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P. vol. I. I received yours of 22d June this afternoon; since which time this Queen has dispatched Mr George Douglas in message to her highness, and then I suppose to France. I think she sent by him to her highness copies of "newe letters of Mr John Wodds agayne newlye taken." I am sorry to hear that my Lord Herries' messages and persuasions should prevail with her highness. As I find nothing in your letter to stay our commission from my lords of Council in her highness's name, to remove this Queen 2 or 3 days journey into the "realme wardes": therefore as we have made some provision at Bolton castle, we mean to press her very earnestly tomorrow to remove thither upon Tuesday or Wednesday next. We have already persuaded her, for her own commodity, to remove, but could prevail nothing. So now we mean to say "that hyr hyghnes pleasure is to have her come nere unto hyr from this rude and unconvenyent place," and will press her by all means we can: "and all wolbe lytle enoughe." I think she will desire to see letters of the Queen's highness own hand "sygned," before she shall remove. Our charges of household increased one week, but this last week it came within the "lystes" again.

"Youre feare of this Quene hearyng of hyr hyghnes relentyng to motche unto hyr, is not withowte cawse, for we fynde hyr unrulynes to grow therby." I thank you heartily for the "towardnes" of my discharge. Carlisle, at 11 at night. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 28. **720.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 345. [*After discussing the proposed removal to Bolton and his omission to name the Queen's attendants etc.—whereof he had already written on the*

Elizabeth.
1568. *2nd instant—he adds,*] since writing that letter, M^rs^ Mary Seton, Lord Seton's daughter, and the master cook's wife are come: M^rs^ Seton being praised by the Queen as the finest "busker" of a woman's head and hair to be seen in any country: as we have seen since her coming. "Yesterday and this daye she dyd sett sotche a curled heare uppon the Quene, that was sayd to be a perewyke* that shoed very delycately: and every other daye lighty . .† she hathe a newe devyce of head dressyng, withowte any coste, and yet setteth forthe a woman gaylye well." Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

June 30. **721.** NOTES ON THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' CASE.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 152.

OBJECTION:—They would be loth to accuse her, and thereafter to qualify it.

ANSWER:—The Queen's majesty never meant to have any come to accuse the Queen, but wishing agreement between her and her subjects, is content to hear what they can say for themselves.

QUESTION:—If they prove all they shall allege against her—what shall follow? Otherwise they will be as uncertain as now.

ANSWER:—The Queen never meant so to deal as to condemn the Queen of Scots, or to allow any faults that shall appear to be in her, but by reasonable conditions, to make a good end between her and her subjects—with surety to all parties.

"QUESTION:—Whyther if the originalls shall accord with the copyes of the wrytynges produced to charge the Quene of Scottes, the proves shall be thought sufficient?

ANSWER:—No proves can be taken for sufficient without hearyng of both partyes."

QUESTION:—When and to what place shall they come?

ANSWER:—Without delay, that some end may ensue before the 1^st^ of August.

1 *p. Holograph of Cecil.*

June 30. **722.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P. vol. I.

"Madame": I am greatly astonished (je m' esbahy fort) that you press me so for Lord Flemyng's going to France, and will not take my answer by Lord Herries at his first coming. You surely doubt my wisdom, in asking for such a thing as to let the keeper of such a place to go there, being at this moment the only strength where the French can enter—not so much to aid Scotland, as to annoy England; and serve themselves under cover of your distress. I love no dissimulation in another, nor do I practise it myself; that made me give the same reason to the king my good brother's ambassador. Begging you to have some consideration of me, in place of always thinking of yourself—the rather as the king makes no complaint of his stay, knowing from me your object in sending him. As to Middelmore: I swear to you those same persons have written, that if I had not sent him, he might have been taken for your "partie." Which moved John Wood to contrive such a letter, as himself confessed

* Periwig. † Worn away.

Elizabeth. 1568. before Lord Herries, without cause given by any of my servants—fearing his arrival would cause too much fear in his master who wishes to help your cause. After reading your letters, Herries came to tell me two things I thought very strange: one, that you would not answer but before myself—the other, that without force you would not stir from your present abode unless licensed to see me. Your innocence being such as I hope, you need not refuse answer to any noble personage I shall send: not to reply "judiciellement" (a matter not yet come) but only to assure me by your answers, not to your subjects ("chose que ne pensois onques convenable") but to tell me your defences for my satisfaction—the thing I most long for. As to the place I have ordained for your safeguard: pray do not give me occasion to think that your promises are but wind. I assure you I will do nothing to hurt you, but rather honour and aid you. Awaiting your reply, I shall keep your trusty Herries with me on a matter touching you, and learn by him if any "doubte" occurs in our letters which he can explain. I have been bold to do this in your interest. Yet I trust in your honour to send Lord Fleming to Scotland and return to you, as he has begged of me, without going elsewhere. Credit the bearer with my news. Greenwich. Your good sister and cousin Elizabeth.

2¼ *pp. French. Cecil's clerk's court hand. Indorsed:* "xxx Junij 1568. Copy of the Q. majestes lettre to the Scottish Q. written with her owne hand."

July 5. **723.** SCROPE TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 158. Signifying that the Regent had appointed the Laird of Drumlanrig warden opposite, with 100 arquebusiers, and pay for 100 light horse at Hothom *—that the lairds of Johnston and Cowhill and others were banded to oppose both the Regent and him for this Queen—and at the charges of Lady Herries and the Laird of Lochinvar, have levied 100 arquebusiers placed at Lochmaben within 6 miles of Hoddam. Carlisle. H. Scrope.

1 *p. Contemporary copy. No flyleaf.*

July 5. **724.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 154. I received your letter dated "of Saynt Peters eaven,† and your other of last of June, together this morning, but an hour before Lord Fleming's arrival. We have since conferred with this Queen, as well to see how she liked the Queen's letters sent by Lord Fleming, as to feel her disposition for removing to Bolton castle. She mislikes many things (1) not having present access, (2) if not, that she is not suffered to depart, to shift for herself with aid of other princes, (3) that Lord Herries is stayed there, (4) that Master John Wood is not punished nor sharply dealt with; and (5) that her majesty's privy council favour her enemies in Scotland—noting you for one.

We replied by divers speeches (1) that her majesty had not denied access, and wished it soon if possible: but till her cause was somewhat "broken and herde aforehand," thought her grace might forbear it.

* Hoddam. † 28th June.

Elizabeth.
1568. But she said she would have it heard no where but in the Queen's presence, and speak for herself. We urged that this would be discourteous, and her highness might thus be induced to doubt her cause. (2) We said her desire to depart would be thought strange by her majesty, and hoped she would think better, and please her by removing as far as Bolton castle from this "noysome and unsaverye" place, as we had been commanded. Whereto she answered that unless compelled, she would not remove "any whytt" into the realm out of this town. Nevertheless if we had the Queen's direct commandment, she would not resist. We answered that if she would so refuse her highness's courtesy, and not remove "2 or 3 litle daies" journey to a sweet, pleasant, and commodious place—little farther from her country, with convenient access to her: we thought her unwillingness carried with it some mystery, and she must not blame us if we looked about us more than we had done. She said we need not fear she should steal away. Then on our saying we should be driven to restrain further access here, being a frontier town and not suffered by the laws of the Borders, and for which we had no authority: she answered with many "stowte wordes" and strange speeches, that she would seek and get aid at other princes' hands, who would mislike her usage here—that she came freely and ought so to go—that she is a Queen and free princess and subject to none, and would not be made equal to traitors, who yet were offered to be heard against her, and she was delayed here till they strengthened their usurped authority. We said she was the cause of her own delay, for if she would only remove further into the realm till her cause was heard, her highness could be sufficiently instructed therein within 14 days, whereby to take order as to her honour should appertain—as she most earnestly wished to do to her satisfaction. But if her grace was so stiffly bent as to follow her own will, and reject these offers, we could only say we were sorry for it. In this conference many tears now and then passed from her eyes. To stay our pressing her removal till she writes to the Queen (which she is now in hand withal) and has answer, she showed us a letter from her highness in French, desiring her answer to two points (1) Whether, as Lord Herries declared, her grace would not have her cause heard as she had appointed? and (2) whether she would not remove farther into the realm? Wherefore we have sent this speedy messenger to know whether we shall yield to her "pervers wyll," or whether we shall remove her against it? After this, she touched little on the matters of my lord Herries and of M^r^ Wood, (3 and 4) though she would fain have Herries here to serve her. Touching the Privy Council, (5) we said we were sorry she misjudged them on light information. She said she did not "thoroly" judge they favoured her adversaries, but if any did, they did not honourably, or as true servants of her majesty. In her heat also she alleged that merchants of London, some English noblemen, and the Queen herself, had bought her jewels: but her grace "brydled" herself from saying much herein.

Lord Fleming hastes to Scotland: and we have suffered young M^r^ Maxwell to go for 3 or 4 days, at her earnest request, and had also thought to have let Lord Claud go thither for 4 or 5, under her highness's general licence for this Queen's friends to pass to and fro in her affairs, so as not above 30 be with her at once. But now since her

Elizabeth.
1568. obstinate denial to remove, we mean, till otherwise advertised, not only to deny Lord Claud going, or any intelligence from Scotland—though the Scottish horse boys watering horses out of the town, may convey letters "in spyte of owre teethes." We also mistrust that she desires to remain, trusting when the nights grow longer and dark, she may better steal away. For if she keep her chamber, unseen of us or my lady Scrope, she cannot lack opportunity. You say you look daily to hear from me when we shall remove her, which is much desired by the whole privy council: and yet you know we have no warrant to remove her against her will, though you know she will not go willingly.

We trust to have this bearer returned again with us by Saturday night or Sunday morning.*

The "lytter" is not yet come, nor M[r] Skypworthe with the horses. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

6¼ *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf. Addressed* (at foot in another hand): "To Sir William Cecill."

July 5. **725.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 160. "Madame: although the necessitee of my cause (which makith me to be importune to you) do make you to judge that I am out of the way: yet such as have not my passion, nor the respects wherof yow ar perswadid, will think that I do as my cause doth requyre. Madame, I have not accusid you neither in wordes nor in thought to have usid your self evell towardes me, and I beleeve that you have no want of good understanding to keepe you from perswasion, against your naturall good inclynation. But in the meane tyme I cannot chose (having my senses) but perceive very evell furderance in my matters, sence my comming hither. I thought that I had sufficiently discourcid unto you the discommoditees which this delay bringeth unto me; and specially, that they think in this next moneth of August, to hold a parlement against me and all my servants. And in the meane tyme I am stayde heere, and yet will you that I shuld put my self further into your contrey (without seeing you) and remoove me further from myne; and there to do me this dishonnour at the requestes of my rebelles, as to send commissioners to heere theim against me, as you wold do to a meane subject, and not heere me by mouth. Now madame, I have promised yow to comme to yow, and having there made my mone and complaint of those rebelles, and they comming thither not as possessers, but as subjectes, to answer: I wold have besought yow to heere my justification of that which they have faulsly set furth against me; and if I could not purge myself therof, yow might then dischardge your handes of my causes, and let me goo for such as I am. But to do as you say, if I wer coulpable, I wold be better advised. But being not so, I cannot accept this dishonnor at their handes, that being in possession they will come and accuse me before your commissioners, wherof I cannot lyke. And seeing you think it to be against your honor and cousynage, to do otherwise, I beseech yow that yow will not be myne enemye untill you may see how I can discharge my self every waye, and to suffer me to go into

* 10th or 11th July.

Elizabeth.
1568. "France, where I have a dowery to mainteyn me, or, at the least, to go into Scotland; with assurance that if there comme any strangers thither, I will bynd my self for their retourne without any prejudice to yow. Or if it please yow not to do thus: I protest that I will not impute it to falshode if I receyve strangers in my contrey, without making yow any other discharge for it. Do with my body at your will, the honnor or blame shalbe yours: for I had rather dy heere, and that my faythfull servants may be succourid (though you wold not so) by strangers, then to suffer theim to be utterly undon upon hope to receyve in tyme to come particuler commodite. There be many thinges that moove me to feare, that I shall have to doo in this contrey with other then with yow. But forasmuch as nothing hath followed upon my last mone, I hold my peace, happen what may happe. I have as leef to abyde* my fortune as to seeke it and not fynde it. Further, it pleased you to gyve lycence to my subjects to go and comme: this hath ben refusid me by my lord Scroope and M^r^ Knolles (as they say) by your commandement, because I wold not depart hence to your charge, untill I had answer of this lettre; though I showed theim that you requyre my answer upon these two points conteynid in your lettre.

Thone is (to let you breefely understand them) I am comme to you to make my mone to yow; the which being heard, I wold declare unto yow myne innocency, and then requyre your ayde. And for lack therof, I cannot but make my mone and complaint to God, that I am not heard in my just quarell, and to appele to other princes to have respect therunto, as my case requyreth, and to you Madame first of all, when you shall have examyned your conscience before Him, and have Him for witnes. And thother, which is to comme further into your contrey, and not to comme to your presence: I will esteeme that as no favour, but will take it for the contrary: obeyng it as a thing forced. In the meane tyme I beseech you to retourne to me my lord Heris, for I cannot be without him, having none of my counsel heere, and also to suffre me if it please you without further delay, to depart hence whither so ever it be, so as it be out of this contree. I am sure you will not deny me this simple request for your honors sake, seing it doth not please you to use your naturall goodnes towards me otherways. And seeing that of myne accord I am comme hither, let me depart againe with yours. And if God permit my causees to succeede well, I shalbe bownd to you for it; and happeninge otherwise, yet I cannot blame you. As for my lord Flemin, seeing that upon my credit yow have suffrid him to goo home to his house, I warrant yow he shall passe no further, but shall retoorne when it shall please you. In that you trust me I will not (to dy for it) deceave yow. But from [for?] Donbertran, I answer not, when my lord Flemyn shalbe in the towr: for they which ar within it will not let† to receive soucours, if I do not assure theim of yours. No! though yow wold charge me withall—for I have left thim [him?] in charge to have more respect to my servants and to myne estat, then to my life. Good suster, be of another mynde; wyn the hart, and all shalbe yours and at your commandment. I thought to satisfy yow holely, if I might have seene yow. Alas! do not as the serpent that stoppeth his heering, for I am

* Altered from "endure." † On margin "forbeare."

Elizabeth.
1568. "no inchanter, but your suster and naturall cousyne. If Cesar had not disdaynid to heere or reede the complaint of an advertiser, he had not so dyed. Why shuld princes ears be stoppid, seeing they ar payntid so long? meaning that they shuld heere all and be well advised before they answer. I am not of the nature of the basilisk, and lesse of the camelions, to turne you to my lykenesse. And though I shuld be so dangerouse and curst as men say: yow ar sufficiently armyd with constance, and with justice, which I requyre of God, who give you grace to use it well with long and happy lyfe. From Carlile this v. of July 1568. Your good suster and cousyne Marye R."

3 *pp. Copy in Cecil's clerk's best hand. Indorsed* (in same): "3 Julij 1568. Copy of the Scottish Queenes lettre to the Queenes majeste." *From the style, the original must have been written by a secretary.*

July 7. **726.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL.]

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 338. [*After describing his discussions with Mary as to removing to Bolton*] he adds, that yesterday she said 'I can sell my ryghte and there be that wolde bye it, and peradventure it hathe ben in hand alredye'; making him think of Cecil's information of the Cardinal of Lorraine's practise between her and the Duke of Anjou. Murray has sent her 3 coffers of apparel: but as her grace says there is but one gown of "taffyta," the rest but cloaks, coverings for saddles, "sleaves and partletts, and qweysses and sotche lyke trynketts," they have sent again to Murray for her own apparel in Lochleven. Carlisle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

July 7. **727.** MR. JOHN GORDON TO MURRAY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 162. Signifying to his "grace" that Robert Steuart his faithful cousin and servitor had sent him a packet of letters from "Norerris," which he had delivered to Captain "Cogbran" to take to his grace. He has learned by men of credit at court, "that the Quinnis delyverence out of Ingland is boicht and sauild, the moyens is send out of France to the Duc of Albe," who causes the Spanish ambassador in England practise with the lords there, but their names are not known. Has told the English ambassador here. Paris. *Signed:* M. J. Gordon.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed at foot* (in another hand): "To my Lord Regent's grace."

July 8. **728.** JOHN WILLOCK TO CECIL.

Since my last writing, I have travelled through the most part from Edinburgh west, of this realm, as well in towns as in sundry gentlemen's houses, specially such as favour the religion: the state whereof wholly is in great trouble and far out of order, by reason that Cassillis and Eglinton with Lord Boid, take part with Argyll, and disobey the King's authority, though some of them subscribed thereto. Argyll had a convention of his "Irishemen," with "Macklein, Macklode, Mudyerd and Donald, all of the Iles;" but where he looked to have agreed their controversies, and so strengthened himself, the contrary has followed. For Donald of the Iles (who would fain be Lord) left

Elizabeth.
1568. that company in great grief that he could not obtain that purpose. And Mackloid has spoiled him of some of his boats and men; and so the controversy is again kindled among that "ragged companye." Mackonelle and Mackleine are agreed—for how long, time will declare. Some of the west now travel with the Regent to be reconciled, and the Lord Borthick in Lothian: but the most part that was in the last field, keep back looking for a new aid of French. Dunbertane castle is still in the same captain's hands, and the bishop of S[t] Andrews "sojournere" therein, with sundry Hamiltons *etc.*, but they are very quiet, and live without troubling their neighbours. But the whole west country is in such a state, that no man comes to his parish church without his armour, company and weapons, and every man is ready to avenge his old and new quarrels. Huntly lies out still, and does what he can to trouble the north. His brother Adam Gordon is entered in the "spoileng trade, wherin his brother Johnne began and continewed, for [he] haith nowe of late spoiled Kynlos etc." Of Atholl I hear but little good, except that he stands fast with the Lord Regent, "who myndeth verrey welle, as well towardes religion as justice—God grante him power to performe." The assembly of the ministers is begun, "who in one voice complaineth there states, and bewaileth the sturdines of the poeplle." I have been bold thus to trouble your honour with "this trowbled state, which there owne negligence haith fostred." Touching my own state: "I have easelie obteaned licence of the wholle, aswell Regent as churche, to returne to my old rowme in Lowghborowe, wherof I praise God." Edinburgh. *Signed:* Johnne Willock.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet:* "J. W." (faint).

July 12. **729.** MR. JOHN GORDON TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

"Pleis your graice wit that this paket of letres was send me be Monsieur Steuart" your most faithful cousin and servant—which I would have sent sooner, but that Captain "Cobrun" is stayed, and in great danger for his letters to your grace "gretumly displesant" to the court here: which being taken "withe mony utheres of the Princes, Almiralds, Dandelots, the Inglys embassadeurs" and divers Scotsmens, he is fugitive and has "tint al his crydit and estaites," and is "recersit"* daily, and constrained to hide himself. But I shall not "ses" to advertise your grace of things of importance, knowing your end to be establishment of "the woirde of God, wertu, and gud letres, and for no wairdly respecte." You may be assured you shall not be "cummerit" with any help the King of France shall send against you: "for he hes anuiche ado hir, and is ebelen to haive mair ado nor he hes—for it is haldin for ane thyng maist assurit that the Duc Albe hes empoisunit him self, fairand to fal in his ennemis handis: bot I am ferit that it be fals, as God forbid! George Dougles is in this toun and passis dayly to the courte to Madry. Robert Steuart wreitis to me to receve ane letre of the Almirals frome ane gentilman of this toun, quho hes recevit nain sik, bot so sone as ony sik letre cummis, I sal send it to your graice." I would remind

* Sought for.

Elizabeth.
1568. you of your promise to me "this tym almeist twelf monethes, that your graice was we and sory that the scoilles of Scotland was so iwil maintenit; saying that gif ever it plesit God to grant your grace the moyen, that your grace suld avance theim." God grant you may perform so godly a promise: "for Scotland was never so fertil of gud ingynis as it is at this present, and I persaive and syis a far that letres is flittin out of thir hoit cuntres, to refreche thaim withe cauld and hoilsuim air of Scotland. For the cunnyngest men that ar hir, to wit Ramus and Mercerus, is nothe thoillit to reid: so that Ramus hes obtinit licence to pas out of France and hes promisit me to visit Scotland befoir his returnyng; and that cheifly to visit your graice, to quhom abuive al uthers he beris singuler luif and affection, quhois godlines, luif to justice, and happines in wear, he extollis aboive ony uther." Paris. *Signed:* M. J. Gordon [*also his name in Hebrew*].

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address:* "To my lorde, my lorde Regents graice." *Indorsed.*

July 13. **730.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Rendering to her his most humble and hearty thanks for giving ear to the cause of the states and people of Scotland professing the obedience of the king her dear cousin, and that the ground and whole proceedings of their cause may be made manifest to her: the thing "in the warld" that they most earnestly desire: firmly trusting that the further she is informed of the matter, the better she shall like of the noblemen and others that entered and continue therein, and think that they have rather used moderation than put things "in sic executioun as the mater and occasioun requirit." So being certified of her gracious inclination, upright dealing and just zeal, bent to this trial, by his servant M^r^ John Wood, he has resolved with all possible diligence to expede to her majesty either himself, if she thinks convenient, or some noblemen or others of credit and experience, to prosecute this cause so far as she shall think expedient for her information: that being certified of the "verie trewth," she may thereon resolve "that thing quhilk mycht tend nixt Gods glorie, to the establishing of universale quietnes in this haill Ile." And if it please her to advertise, how soon her "laser" will permit her to hear, or appoint some to treat and conclude upon things tending to the final end of this trial: when assured of the time and place, he will (in person or otherwise) keep the time appointed. Saving her good pleasure, his opinion is, that "the les tyme be drevin it salbe the mair proffitable for the haill Ile"; and he shall be ready on such short warning as her majesty pleases. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *In Hay's writing.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 14. **731.** HENRY MIDDELMORE TO CECIL.

Having yesterday to deal with this bearer M^r^ Gerarde Lowther, touching the troublesome wardship bestowed on me of young Myddelton of Stockhelde (wherein he has always been a special instrument for the mother)—I chanced afterwards to talk of Lord

Elizabeth.
1568. Herries. Whereon he uttered to me such matter as is not unfit you understand, and I but touch the principal heads. He said (1) he could not tell whether Herries dissembled, but he seemed to show the greatest desire that the Queen of England should rule and command before all others in Scotland; (2) that the French might be utterly cast off, to which as a "perfect good Englisheman," he would give his open furtherance; (3) that the Regent and lords should bear rule as now, but under the Queen of England's direction; and (4) "which is moste of all, that he canne be very well content that the Quene of Scotland shall never receave any governement againe in the contrey or comme there any more." Now though this may be but good policy "to rydde" him hence, yet surely he shows himself "no good solicitor of hys* [mestris]." It may be the present troubles in France cause this new language. And it is thought if he be somewhat straitly dealt with by your honours of the council, with show of his longer stay here, that he will give good ear to any reasonable accord made by her majesty between the Regent and him. Leaving the rest to M[r] Lowther's larger report. London. *Signed:* H. Middelmore.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Damaged and stained.*

July 14. **732.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 163. Yesterday we removed this Queen to M[r] Loder's house, he being Lord Scrope's deputy warden. The cause why we chose it for the first remove to Bolton castle, is, that it stands 20 miles in from Carlisle, and we had no other choice but a house of Symon Musgrave's† (nearer to Scotland than Penrith town) unless we had taken Penrith town, which we refused, not only as being 4 miles nearer Scotland than this house, but also there are more shifts for escape in a town, than in a gentleman's house in the country, which may be watched and guarded. It chanced M[r] Looder himself to meet with the Queen 5 miles from his house; who declared in message to this Queen from her highness, that she had prepared not only Bolton castle, but also 3 or 4 other houses, where she would be safe from her enemies, and "also more comodiously placed and nerr unto hyr majestie." But as this was but a "coold message," and no way encouraged her to go forwards, we persuaded him to declare to her that of himself he was very glad to see her removing to Bolton, and thereby there should be "no sotche pyke of displeasure happen between hyr hyghnes and hyr grace," as otherwise might have done. "Surely yf I shold declare the difficulties that we have passed, before we cowld gett hyr to remove, instede of a letter I shold wryte a storye and that sumwhat tragicall! But this I must saye for hyr, that after she dyd see that nether hyr stowte thretenyngs, nor hyr exclamations, nor hyr lamentations, cowld disswade from our preparation and constant semyng to have awthoretie and determynatyon to remove hyr (althoe we never sayd expresly that we had awthoretie or intent to remove hyr *nolens volens*), then lyke a very wyse woman, she sowght to understond, whether yf she dyd remove, she myght send some of hyr

* Torn away. † Edenhall?

Elizabeth.
1568. noble men into Skotland to conferr with hyr partie there? and also whether she myght have some others of hyr partie to repayre unto hyr to Bolton to conferr with hyr selffe there?" Whereto we said, that though we had no authority to suffer recourse to her grace, except for her purgation of the crime wherewith she is charged: yet if it pleased her to remove with good will, we would interpret our commission to permit passage for 4 coming in, to replace 4 going out, till her highness's further pleasure; so that the whole number with her, except her servants of the baser sort, should not exceed 30. Hereon she has sent Lord "Gloyde" and my lord "Skarlyng," for 30 days to Scotland, to tell her party that she removes with her own goodwill, and they shall still have conference with her. She said yesterday to me, riding on the way, that she had signed and sealed an instrument giving all her interest "of the governance" of Scotland to the Duke of "Shatilleroe" till her return. 'Wherfore,' saythe she, 'nowe howe so ever I be kept as a prysoner, yet my partie woll stand fast agaynst my lord of Murraye.' Surely this seems a dangerous matter to Murray's government!

This night, God willing, we mean to lie at Wharton, and tomorrow night at Bolton castle. I need not commend Captain Reade to you: but though I have written to the Treasurer of Berwick to allow him the carriage of his men's armour to Carlisle as usual, he scruples payment without further warrant. As he will also refuse to allow the "cariages" in this removing to Bolton, without your order: and surely besides these, the horsing of 30 of his men is very chargeable to him, I pray you let him not be discouraged in his request, for his "paynes" have been very "soore." Looder (Lowther). "Thys Wensdaye the 14 of Julye in the mornyng." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript:—Our money is spent—I pray supply forthwith, and forget not my return.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

July 16. **733.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 165. We received your letter of the 12th hereof "a Wensday nyght"* very late "at Wharton," and arrived here with this Queen yester night, one hour after sunset. She has been very quiet, tractable and void of displeasant countenance since we left, though "she semethe" she will not remove any further without constraint; which will be easier done by better personages than we are. There has been no repair to her by the way, which I suppose was abridged by our sharp dealing with one Kristofer Lassells who came to Carlisle from Yorkshire about 3 weeks past of purpose to see her. For understanding him to be a lewd and arrogant papist, and once before in displeasure for practising with her, as he confessed: we told him no subject should honour another prince without commission, and appointed Mr Morton to accompany him till he made ready with speed and to see him out of the town gates homewards. This house appears very strong, very fair and stately, "after the owlde maner of byldyng," and is the highest walled house I have seen, with but one

* 14th.

Elizabeth.
1568. entrance. Half the number of soldiers may better watch than the whole could do at Carlisle, where we had 5 watches: 1. Reade and William Knollys with him "for his learnyng"; 2. Morton; 3. Wylford; 4. Barrett Reade's lieutenant; and 5. Weste his "ansygne" bearer, a very careful man. This Queen's chamber there had a window looking to Scotland, the bars whereof being filed, out of it she might have been let down, with plain ground before her to Scotland. Near to it we found an old postern door, dammed up with a ramper of earth inside, 20 foot broad and 30 deep, between 2 walls. We cut into that rampier a stair with a turning about, down to the postern, opening it so that we could safely watch; although another window of her chamber looked into an orchard within the town wall, whereby so to slip over that wall: but I will show you better on a "rude platte" of it. "Nowe, yf you lyke well of owre removyng of this Quene hether: then I pray youe consyder that youre colde assistance in backing of us to the acheving of this enterprise, that had so manye difficulties therin, ys worthie of no prayse at all! but althoe a foolles bolte be soone shotte, yet I dare not tell youe all that I thynke herein": and I trust you will now return me home for I see no need to stay. Vernon the clerk being a careful and honest man, can easily defray the charges once set down. So I pray you either that I may serve as a "sypher in agryme" at Court, where I mean to occupy a place, or be dismissed to "the carte," which is fitter for me. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript:—The charges of removing were larger, for we were driven to hire 4 little cars, 20 carriage horses, and 23 saddle horses for her women and men—all to her satisfaction.

2 *pp. Holograph, closely written. No flyleaf or address.*

July 16. **734.** STATEMENT AS TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

C.P., vol. I. She escaped from Lochleven 2d May, and came to Hamilton castle about the 4th. On the 13th with her forces repairing to Dunbarton castle, met in fight passing Glasco, with the Earl of Murray's forces, and was overthrown. She from a hill saw the same, and departed with a small company for Dunbarton, but doubting safe passage, resorted to Galloway, when Lord Herries met her, who on Saturday 15th May wrote to Mr Lowder deputy captain of Carlisle, to know if she might safely come hither? who replied that in Lord Scrope his captain's absence in London, he could assure nothing, but would send post to court for the Queen's pleasure, and till then he would receive and save her from her enemies. But before his messenger reached Herries, the Queen and he with 20 persons took passage in a "fisher bote" and arrived that Sunday night at a creek called Wyrkington; whereof till Monday night, said deputy knew not. Some gentlemen of the country brought her to Cockermouth belonging to the Earl of Northumberland, by whom her majesty was first advertised—and there she remained till brought to Carlisle. On the 20th the Queen's majesty commanded the deputy to treat her with all honour, also Lady Scroope sister to the Duke of Norfolk then in the north, and other ladies and gentlewomen to attend on her, ordering Lord Scrope and Sir Frances Knolles to depart in post towards her: as they did on 22d with letters and messages of comfort from her

Elizabeth.
1568. majesty. Whereon the said Queen took great comfort, and sent up her most trusty councillor Lord Herries, with Lord Fleming, to her majesty. Being hospitably entertained there by the Queen's majesty's command, and many of her subjects freely resorting to her, it was thought by Lord Scrope and others to be somewhat dangerous, and they moved her majesty to order the Queen's removal further into the realm, both for better air, provision, and hunting as the season required, which her majesty about 8th June caused be opened to said Queen, devising a very honourable house in these north parts called Tutbury, for largeness of house and pleasure grounds, to be compared to any second house of all England. But finding her unwilling, forbore to press her, and she has now remained a month and more than was at first meant. In the end about 13th July, she was "with hir good contentation" conducted to the Lord Scrope's house called Bolton, to which place she came about the 16th—not half so far from Carlisle as Tutbury; to which place any of her subjects not exceeding 30 at any one time, above her ordinary attendants, are licensed by the Queen's majesty's appointment, though she herself required but 4 at a time.

3¼ *pp. Draft, with many corrections by Cecil.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 166. (2) Another copy entitled "A collection of such thinges as have passed in the cause of the Quene of Scottes, betwixt the Quene of Englandes majestie and her, since her escape out of Loughleven in Scotlande in May 1568."

3¼ *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk, very carefully corrected by Cecil. Indorsation obliterated.*

July 16. **735.** ANOTHER STATEMENT AS TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

C.P., vol. I. Of what had passed between the two Queens and their messengers since the Queen of Scots' arrival in England—her requests for a personal interview, and reasons for declining it for the time—also aid to put down her rebellious subjects—discussions as to the enquiry to be made before Elizabeth—the new proposal in lieu thereof, by Lord Herries, that if Elizabeth permitted Mary to return to Scotland with her good countenance, he undertook both for the kings of France and Spain, that none of their subjects should pass into Scotland without Elizabeth's "good allowance"—for which it was found on special pressure, that he had no express commission from his mistress—Elizabeth saying to him, in presence of her whole Council, that she would proceed either by the former way, or deal in this new motion, if assured by Mary's own letters, or some more special credit, how she meant to proceed in this later motion of Lord Herries: assuring him she had not countenanced the Earl of Murray, but ever since her troubles, had forborne to allow him or name her son as king, or the earl as Regent, and had indeed been the cause of saving her life, though she would not have it reported to crave thanks.

This answer being given by her majesty to Lord Herries on 15th July, in the end he seemed to like best of the former proceeding, to have the cause heard and ended by her majesty's order, and requested answer to the Queen of Scots' last letters, for which her servant did abide; "and so this xvjth at night he had the same."

Elizabeth.
1568. 11½ *pp. Draft partly by Cecil and two of his clerks. Much altered by him. Indorsed:* "What passed betwixt the Q. of England and Scotland since her escape from Loughleven in Scotland in May 1568."

July 17. **736.** THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' REQUESTS ETC.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 168. "Here followeth the Quene of Scotts requestes made sence hir first comming into England, as well by hir lettres as by hir messadges":—

Relating her request to come to the Queen's presence, and for aid in her restoration—sending Lords Herries and Fleming, for leave to the latter to go to France—reasons against either being granted—Herries' long conferences with her majesty, declarations *etc.*—her dispatch of Middelmore to stay Murray's hostility *etc.*—the Scottish Queen's change in her resolution to refer her cause to her majesty—the latter's decision against this change *etc.*

11¼ *pp. Draft by two of Cecil's clerks, corrected by his own hand. Marginal notes by another. No indorsation.*

July 20. **737.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. This evening, "Garse" Richie Gream, whom we sent to my lord of Murray from Carlisle, for this Queen's apparel left in Lochleven, came with "5 lytle carr loodes of apparylle, and 4 horse loods," and a copy of the earl's letter to this Queen, which we send you inclosed. He passed by Annan, where Edward of Bonshawe, appointed keeper of the house by Murray, being afraid of surprise by the Maxwells who had taken his brother prisoner, pursued them with but 10 men in jacks and spears, and overthrew them, slaying 3 and taking 30 prisoners, all "yong hargabossers." Our money is spent and I send you a "breeffe" of expenses under our clerk's hand. As I hear of no merchant hereabout who will deliver money here to be repaid at London: the surest way is supply from York, or by some receiver forthwith: for to send 300*l.* by a small company, it might be robbed on the way. We are quiet, but our Scots of "the baser sorte" are increased from 45 at Carlisle at her highness's charge, to almost 60. Yet we allow them no more meat than they had: but all that were at Carlisle "at theyr own fyndyng, saving my lord of Leviston, returned with my lord Gloyde and my lord Skarlyng into Skotland as theyr servants. My lord of Rikarton whom we sent to the bisshopp of Durrham, is nowe here, at this Quenes reqwest attending uppon hyr." If you will have this number of Scots "abridged," she will think she is used as a prisoner, "and to saye the truthe, althoe she dothe make fayre wether to us," she takes the Queen's usage of her, as ill as if she was one. Bortyke her man that carried her letters from Carlisle to her highness, is returned. With Lord Scrope's and my own hearty commendations. Bolton castle. At midnight. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Since writing, Bortick delivered me your letter of 17th. Touching French soldiers in Scotland: this Queen fearing her stay here, boasts not so much as she was wont, but seems to trust in the Duke's return, as I signified from Lother. Murray's aid consists in the success of this next parliament there. I can say more on my return, as I daily look for, and Berwick being but 90 miles hence

Elizabeth.
1568. (little more than one day's journey in post) if it please her highness, I will take it in my way home, as M^r^ Drurie requests.

2 *pp.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same :—

(The Queen of Scots' expenditure.)

From arrival in England till 14^th^ July 10^th^ Eliz., including herself, her train, Scrope and Knollys and their attendants: 615*l.* 12*s.* 0½*d.* The rate per week for 7 weeks is stated as 56*l.* 9*s.* 2½*d.* *Signed:* "*Per me* Robart Vernon."

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Indorsed:* "View of the Q. of Scotts expenses . . . to the 14 of July 1568."

July 22. **738.** ELIZABETH TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

As we find by your late letters to us, that if we so order it, you will not forbear to come in person with others of meet condition, to treat of this great matter concerning the Queen of Scots now remaining in our realm: we have made the Lord Herries privy thereto, who has required that all expedition be made either for your own coming with others, or else that such others as shall come may be chosen persons of the best degree and estate, and also void of all particular passion in such a cause as this is: and further as it is reported you have appointed a parliament for next month, that it may be prorogued during the time that we shall hear and treat of this matter; which to us seems reasonable. Wherefore we require you to use all the speed you can, that if you come not yourself ("wherin we meane not to presse you") then such others as above expressed make ready to come to Newcastle or Durham, where they shall understand our further pleasure: and that the parliament appointed may be suspended till the issue of this matter, as we wish, and are well assured the lack shall not be in us. And as we intend as always, to proceed in this great matter with all sincerity and look for the like on your part "(as reason is)" we require you before coming or sending into our realm hereon, to take order among yourselves "that our requestes may be more regarded and observid then heertofore they have ben." And that special regard be had and provided for that during the treating, nothing be done or intended in any way to the prejudice of the said Queen: which we do more earnestly iterate and require, as we are fully assured from her that she will take like order with her own friends there. "Which we pray you to consider, that we be not occasioned to be otherwise advisid, wherof no good can ensew to you." At our manor of Enfield. 10^th^ of our reign.

2 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

July 25. **739.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. I long to hear from you and therefore "plye" you with letters. We have "extreme nede" of money, and I trust soon to be recalled, as my stay here is "superfluous," and if I were with you I could say

Elizabeth.
1568. somewhat worth hearing, "not to be commytted to letters." I forgot to say in my last that Bortyke declared that upon our letters to you at his first arrival at court, all you of the privy council were sore perplexed for 2 or 3 days and could make no resolution; but on our second letters, you were somewhat better satisfied. He said "before the Quene here" that yourself longed to hear of her removing hither, and "in his presence" you marvelled you had not heard of it. "Wherunto this Quene answered *ironecie*, that youe were a great furderer of hyr cawses"! Also I forgot to tell you, that at Carlisle (the day before our removing) when she saw by "our dowtfull wordes and constant cowntenance," our provisions, and the repair of Sir George Bowes thither with 40 armed horse, to attend her "conduction," that "we wold indede remove hyr thence eyther by hyr good wyll or els by force": that after she required that Lords "Gloyde" and "Skarlyng" might return to Scotland to comfort her party there—Skarlyng required Lord Scrope and me to bear witness that she was willing to remove, and did not remove forcibly or against her will. But now since Bortik's return, "she hathe taken an other maner of cowrage," and says that Murray's chief "harqabussers" are gone to serve for "hyerr" in Denmark, assures herself that Atholl is hers, and supposes Lethington to be in "a manieryng": * that all Scotland is weary of Murray's government and ready to yield to her. She likes Murray's letter well whereof I sent you the copy, and says "that he wold doe well ynowghe of his owne nature, saving that he is sumwhat pufte upp by others and made to desirous of government." She has written a reply to him in French, which she read to us—"wherin she accusethe hym of ingratitude, but after a frendly maner of qwaryllyng, so that it semes she wold fayne wynn hym, and that she is not utterly owt of hoope theroff." But I think his life should not be long, if she attain to her "regiment" again.

Even now after writing thus much, Lord Herries arrived, and the time will serve him to make troubles against Murray: for he said "in myn eare" that the Queen's highness would take order to reduce him to his obedience to this Queen. I trust you will cause the enclosed to my wife, and my lord of Hundesdon's letter to be delivered. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (faint).

July 28. **740.** HERRIES TO [CECIL].

C.P., vol. I. On the 24th I came to Bowtoun and according to the Queen's majesty's commandment given me "of Enveill" on 21st, I have declared to my sovereign her mind and natural favour "that scho hes to hir grace, and to se hir and hir cawsis veill." Her grace accepted it most heartily, as by her own writing will appear. As the matter is of great weight, "and I oure sobbre to beir it except in wryting," I repeated my directions before Lord Scrope and "Maister Vischalmerlane," and so thought necessary to write it to your honour "in effect that na part thairof maye be mistaikin." "My lord" † I showed my mistress that finding some delay in answer to her letters to the

* Manœuvering (?) † Addressing Scrope.

Elizabeth.
1568. Queen's majesty, I desired, if her council and nobles would not consent to take my mistress's cause on hand—as her "speciall traist" was in coming here, that she would let her depart to seek help where she might. "My saying wes"—though better treated here for the time, 'gif your grace' will neither take her cause on hand nor let her seek aid elsewhere, 'scho wald rather returne in that sam sobre boit scho come': Madame you will see her helped of the greatest princes in Europe. Her majesty's answer was, she would do for my sovereign as her special friend, as would stand with both their honours, not sparing "travell nor pence"; and to write so to her, as she had written to Murray. Your honour then declared "neir the same effect" both at Greenwich and your "awin hous." After I had desired you "to repeit it dyvers tymes oure, becaws the mater wes wechty and my jugement vaik, I understude it nocht be your honouris raport sa cleir as be the Quenes former sayeng": so awaiting my direct answer till the 21st instant, my lord of "Lisister" and your honour, declared your sovereign's "gud mynd" to take order, and send for Murray or some of his party to hear them, and when examinate and my mistress's answers made and "understand." I often spake "thir wordes, nocht that my souverane vald recognoce ony juge, nor yitt wes it for feir of hir caws to cum in jugement befoir ony prince in the varld, bot that scho vald not prejuge hir posterite." Leaving this, I was required to get my sovereign's direct answer, if she would submit the hearing of this cause to the Queen? My answer was—to hear and order it as God had appointed *viz.* she to be in her own place as sovereign and native princess, the others as subjects, and the hearing to be ordered by the Queen. The Religion, amity, and Darnley's murder, were reasoned. I wish the religion in Scotland to be as here, whereto the estates I believe would agree, and the Bishop of S^{t} Andrews, with whom I had spoken. I thought would not be far "fra" it. The amity when restored in safety, she would keep: and I believed all the nobility of her side, who were sackless of the murder, would pursue Bothwell and his fellows with all extremity. Then on taking my leave, her majesty commanded me to declare to her grace she was her loving friend, and would leave nothing undone for her as if the cause was her own—and if she referred the hearing of her case to her, commanded me to say she would not take it upon her to be a judge, knowing my mistress was a princess, but accept it to dress and agree her and her subjects, and put her in her own country again, according to God's calling: and would send for Murray or some of the best, authorised to abide her judgement and end the matter; appointing some of the special noblemen of her own realm by whom she may understand it. My lord: my mistress has referred it to the Queen's majesty as her highness wishes. Bolton. *Signed:* Yowr ll. to command Herys.

4 *pp. Closely written by a clerk, and the signature etc. on margin. No flyleaf or address.*

July 28. **741.** PROCLAMATION BY ARGYLL.

Archibald earl of Argyll lord Campbell *etc.*, lieutenant of the Queen, to John Andersoun messenger at arms: whereas it is notorious that certain ambitious subjects have of late thrown her most noble

Elizabeth.
1568. person into the fortalice of Lochleven and held her in captivity there, compelling her to demit her authority through fear of her life, and after her escape and muster of her lieges at Hamilton, when she minded to have gone to the castle of Dunbarton, they "unbeset the hie waye besyde the toune of Langsyde nocht far fra Glascow," where they cruelly slew a great part of her followers, obliging her to save her life, to take refuge in England, and now have proclaimed a parliament in Edinburgh to be held in August next to come, intending to forfeit a great number of the nobility her faithful servants: wherefore he as lieutenant summons all lords barons, *etc.*, betwixt 60 and 16 "boding feir of weir" to muster on 10th August with 20 days' victuals to assist him as expedient. or be held as traitors. Under his signet and subscription. At the Largis.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Contemporary Scottish hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . The Erle Argile lieutenant to the Scottish Quene. Commandment to . . . putt men in redynes by the 10 of August."

Royal MSS. B. vi., fol. 278. (2) Another copy.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 183. (3) Another copy.

July [28]. **742.** THINGS TO BE DONE BY THE QUEEN'S PARTY.

1. To make sure bond to support each other in the Queen's service and invade adversaries "gif neid beis."

2. That a company of men of war be taken up, and paid out of the Queen's "patremony and thrid," in every man's bounds—as her majesty wills—and if this be insufficient, that every nobleman support it in his degree.

3. That all have their folks in readiness with 15 days' victual against 10th August, to answer the pretended summons of forfeiture against us intended on the 18th.

4. No officer of arms, not directed by the Queen or her lieutenant, to use execution within our bounds "under the pane of deid."

5. That the "burrowis," nor their "commissaris," furnish neither men nor money, nor votes in aid, to the Queen's enemies, nor hurtful to us her faithful subjects, or proclamation shall be made to ride on them with fire and sword.

6. To advise if we shall annoy the enemy (every man in his own bounds) or "abyde quhill forder mair." We refer to your lordship's wisdom with the rest of the "heidis."

1¼ *pp. In same hand as last. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Julij 1568. Articles by the Q. band."

Cotton. Calig. C.I., fol. 182. (2) Another copy.

July 28. **743.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 177. This Queen has desired to convey her grateful letters to her highness (herewith sent to you) on such declarations as my Lord Herries has made to her. And he in "solempne maner" required Lord Scrope and me to hear him repeat the sundry messages he has had to declare from her highness to this Queen as follows:—"That hyr hyghnes had commawnded hym to saye unto hyr, that yf she

Elizabeth.
1568. "wold commytt hyr cawse to be herd by hyr hyghnes order, but not to make hyr hyghnes judge over hyr, but rather as to hyr deare cosyn and frende to commytt hyr selff to hyr advice and cownsayle: and that yf she wold thus doe, hyr hyghnes wold surely sett hyr in hyr seate of regiment and dingnitye regall in this forme and order: fyrst, hyr hyghnes wold send for the noble men off Skotland that be hyr adversaries, to aske accownt of theym before sotche noble men of Yngland as this Quene hyr selffe shulde lyke of, to knowe theyr answer whye they have deposed theyr Quene and soveraygne from hyr regiment? and that yff in theyr answers they could alledge some reason for theym in theyr so doyng (which hyr hyghnes thinks they cannot doe) then hyr hyghnes wold sett this Quene in hyr seate regall, conditionally that those hyr lords and subjects shold continue in theyr honors states and dignities to theym appertaynyng: but yf they shold not be able to alledge any reason of theyr doyngs, that then hyr hyghnes wold absolutely sett hyr in hyr seate regall, and that by force of hostilitie yf they shold resyst: uppon condition that this Quene shold renownce to clayme or have any present tytle to the crowne of Ynglond, duryng the continuance off hyr hyghnes and the yssue of hyr bodie: and also uppon condition that this Quene leaving the straight leage with France, shold enter into leage with Ynglond: and also uppon condition that this Quene shold abandone the masse in Skotland, and receyve the comon prayer after the forme of Ynglond. And this message the saide lorde Herrise repeated 7 or 8 sundrye tymes in our hearyng unto this Quene." Though at first she seemed to scruple yielding thereto, yet after conference with him, she said she would submit her cause to her highness in thankful manner. We said we understood nothing of this message, but if her grace wrote to her highness, we would convey her letters. Touching her receiving common prayer after the manner of England: I said to Herries, if he meant thereby to condemn the order now used in Scotland "agreable with divers well reformed churches in Germany, Swyserland, France, and in Savoye," and "reject and adnichilate the Confession of Faythe acknoleged in Skotland by parlament," because there is no such confession acknowledged by parlament here, or if he meant to expel the learned preachers in Scotland unless they receive and wear "cornerd cappes and typpets with surpless and coopes," which they have left by order ever since they first received the gospel: then I feared that in contending for the form, he might bring the substance in peril, and so fight for the shadow, that he might endanger the body and truth of religion. He said, that in cities and towns, he allowed well of the form and order of preaching now used in Scotland, but in the countries, where learned men were lacking, the English form was better in his judgment: whereto I agreed very well. After divers conferences with him, this Queen said to Lord Scrope and me, 'I am sure that yf I wold have returned into Skotland from Karlylle, youe wold not have resisted me by force,' Herries merrily affirming the same—thus accusing us of some severity of authority pretended beyond our commission. Wherefore we said to him, that we would only learn our duty of the Queen our mistress, and of no Scottish man. We have complained to him of the increase of her retinue of the baser sort, on "hyr hyghnes charges": which he misliking, asked how many I thought con-

Elizabeth.
1568. venient? On my saying 30 men and 6 gentlewomen, he trusted this Queen would be contented to find any "overplus" at her own charges in the town. And though he is departed this day, we are not without hope to bring it about or diminish her highness's weekly charges. I have often "brydled" her chief servants, for their "gredines hathe ben unsatiable": but she has not known thereof till my lord Herries has opened it.

He seems well acquainted, and to have well prevailed, at court. Touching this Queen: she has used herself very discreetly, and grown to good liking of our common prayer, has received an English chaplain to her service, a good preacher, and has heard him in his sermons "invaye agaynst Faresaicall justification of workes and all kyndes of Papistrie, and that to the advancement of the Gospell, with attentyve and contented ears: and she hathe semed repentantly to acknoledge that hyr offences and neckligence of hyr dutie towards God, hathe justly deserved the injurious punyshment (as she saythe) and disgrace done unto hyr by hyr adversaries in hyr owne cuntrye. Nowe whether this increase of hyr sober, religious, and repentant behavor be done *bona fide*, or not, I leave betwene God and hyr conscyence; or whether the tirannous subteltie of the Cardinall of Lorayne, and the ambitious heddes of the howse of Guyse, may call hyr back to peryllous enterpryses, I woll not take uppon me to judge: but my lord Herrys mislyketh not in wordes that she shold be brydled in hyr regiment by assistants of noble men of her realme, in consideration of hyr rashnes and fowle mariage with the earle Bodwell, whom he wold have persequted to deathe." He has earnestly desired to know by Lord Scrope, whether he and 6 servants (above the 30 allowed this Queen) may pass to and from her, under her highness's declaration to this effect made to him (he says)? Wherein Lord Scrope desires your answer. Our case for money you know, yet we cannot hear from you! Bolton castle, . . . 6 p.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

3 *pp. Holograph, clearly written. No flyleaf or address.*

July 28. **744.** ARGYLL AND OTHERS TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 181. "It will pleis your Majestie to call to your memorie the odious and scharp handis puttin in our souverane Lady the Quene of Scotland, be certane of hir unnaturall subjettis and conspiratouris: quha for hir rafuge without the advyis or cunsell of us hir nobilitie, bot in the hoip and confidens scho haid in your majestie be the tendirnes of bluid, fameliaritie and guid promeis of your wryitting and speikine of your imbassadouris in your name. And now scho being within your realme of Ingland, we will maist humlie craif of your majesteis guidnes to schaw your prencelie favour and liberalitie toward our soverane in furthsetting and helping of hir grace at this present to hir libertie, with certane men, mony and munitioun instantlie, quhairby scho may racover hir strenthis falslie tane and withhaldin fra hir, and stableis hir agane in hir auin realme": whereby the whole honour shall redound to your highness, and we and the whole realm, ourselves, and friends (the conspirators excepted) shall be for ever bound to your majesty, and will do you greater service than these adversaries to our sovereign. "Forder:

Elizabeth.
1568. "albeit our soverane war nocht of your majesteis bluid, it becumis your heychtnes and all utheris princes, of your prencelie deutie, to put hand to this mater, and to geif help and supple to our soverane for exemple caus, that utheris inferiouris subjettis be nocht thoilt* to put violent handis in thair prencis, kingis, quenis, or utheris supreme pouerris. And geif thai ourse and thoill sic thingis unpuneist, within schort tyme it may cum to pas that princes sall cum in greit cummer and trubles, and contempnit be thair inferiouris; for your majestie seis the preparatyve thairof alreddie begun. And geif it be sua that your majestie be nocht myndit to the supple of ouir soverrane at this present, as we have dusyirt: we will maist humlie beseik your heychtnes to suffir ouir quenis grace to cum and depart frelie furth of youir realme agane to hir auin cuntre, and nocht to maik ony aid or assist in ony sort to thais hir unnaturall subjettis, conspiratouris aganis hir: that we may do hir ouir service in raponyng and establissing hir grace in hir auin realme, as ouir detbound deutie is: for we ar all deliberat to serve hir heychtnes to mainteine hir as ouir natyve princess, indurand hir lyiftyme, and efter hir the airis cumit of hir body. And this is the leist thing that youir majeste can do, or we can desyir, for we will never put douit in this poynt, bot your majestie will frelie delyvir our maistres in hir auin realme—considderrand quhow scho come of benevolence to seik youir prencelie aid and help, as to hir sister, and nocht as ane presoner. And gyf youir heychtnes wald be sa extreme and rigorus as to hald her within youir realme agane hir will: it will be heychtlie aganis youir princelie honour, quhilk we trow nocht youir majestie will fyill† nor violat, nor yeit youir dyvereis promissis maid to hir: and als it wald be odious to all utheris princes and nationis that the lyik thairof hes nocht bene sene, and unsufferable to all princeis of honour, geif ony sic thingis war schauin to thame or cumit to thair eiris, that ony king or quene cumand furth of thair auin cuntre to seik succurris at ane uther prence, sould be haldin captyve thair aganis hir will. And our soverane hes mony sindrie freindis in uther realmes, quha wald be heychtlie offendit geif thai knew hir majestie stayit or haldin aganis hir will or captyve, quha wald fynd rameid thairfoir. Alsua we can never think nor be persuadit that youir majestie will use sic maneir of extremetie touart ouir soverane your sister to ratine hir wythin youir realme: bot mikle rather that youir heychtnes will nocht onlie delyver hir frelie furth of your cuntrie, bot als will supple mainteine and set forvart ouir soverane as ane prence of youir auin bluid that is cumit of hir auin realme to seik youir succurris and defences, quha after this will be able to racompence youir majestie of all the guid deidis avansenentis and gratitudis that ye do till hir at this present: and that to your heychtnes plesour and honour, togidder with all the honouris and service that we and ouirris may do to youir majesties plesour. Beseikand maist humlie youir heychtnes to heir and grant to us ouir reasonable desyiris touart ouir soverane, that ye may addet hir majestie and us perpetuallie to your heychtnes: and nocht to rafuis us or cast away this ouir reassonaybill and gentle petitioun, quha is sa willing to do youir majestie honour and service; and nocht to alienat us or ouir hartis fra youir majestie throw the evill handling

*Allowed. †Tarnish.

Elizabeth.
1568. of our soverane. And lat us nocht have occatioun to lament hir majestie and ouir caussis to uther prences, quhilk, geif scho be deteynit, we man and will do of ouir deutie, to all Christiane kingis and prences in Euroip for hir help. Dusyrand youir majestie perdon of this ouir lang and quik lettre, quhilk of ouir deutie we can do na les, the occatioun standis sa hard to us. And quhat we sall lippin to in this mater, dusyris maist humlie youir heychtnes answer. From the toun of Largis the xxviij day of July 1568. Youir majesteis maist humule servandis at pouerris. *Signed:* Ard. Ergyll, Huntlye, Archibischop of Sanct Androis, Erll Crawfurd, Arroll, Cassillis, Caitnes, Rothows, Eglyntoun, Flemying, Ros, Oliphant, Drwmond, Borthik, Maxwell, Somervell, Ogilvy, Forbus, R. Boyd, Sanquhar, Yestir.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Closely written. Addressed:* "To the Quenes Majestie of Ingland."

July 29. **745.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Yesterday "eavenyng" I wrote to you of my Lord Herrys' proceedings and departure: since which I have a letter from M^r^ Alyngton your servant, that you are fallen into a "feverr ague," whereof I am right sorry, trusting yet that "God woll so use his owne good gyftes uppon youe bestowed," and you shall shortly recover perfect health again. Seeing you have got a warrant for 500*l.* to my clerks for me, I have sent William Knollys and Master Wylford herewith for the sure conveyance thereof hither. They can instruct you of anything more to be said. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed.*

July 30. **746.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P^l^, vol. I. This Queen's "currer" the bearer, brought me your servant Alyngton's letter, of your sickness, yet with good hope of speedy amendment: and offering to carry my answer, I trouble you with these.

An "owlde" baron of Scotland called the Laird "Ruslen,"* dwelling within 6 miles of Edinburgh, is come lately to this Queen: said to be of as great revenue as Lord Herries, but has not "halffe so motche wytt"; is called rich and a great sparer of money, but what he may get by sparing I know not: but by invention and policy it seems he should get little! They say his possessions are seized by the Regent: "belyke" that is the cause of his coming. This Queen calls him a papist in religion.

I shall desire you that M^r^ Alyngton may cause my wife to warn William Knollys and M^r^ Wylford to beware any "open shoe" of the 500*l.*: "for yf they shold carye it to the shoe uppon a spare horse," what misadventure might happen them on the way "in these hungerye thevyshe dayes I knoe not"! So let my clerks convert it into gold and let them bring it closely about them. Lord Scrope goes tomorrow to Carlisle to return "a Wensdaye next": the Queen is "merye," and hunteth and passeth time daily in pleasant manner. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

* Roslin.

Elizabeth.
1568. 1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Wafer signet: shield with a chevron (charges indistinct). Crest: a dog's (or ram's) head.*

747. ARGYLL AND OTHERS TO THE DUKE OF ALVA.

July 30. Complaining how "immaniter et barbare" their sovereign the Queen is handled and detained by the Queen of the English, who has deceived her with many promises both written and verbal, of aid and protection against the rebels and conspirators who have usurped her sovereign rights. Beseech him to procure that his master write very sharp* letters to the Queen of England demanding liberty for her to go to France or her own realm: also that he would aid them with men and munitions of war, that they may retake some of the castles in the enemy's hand. Largs. *Signed:* Ard. Ergyll, Craufurd, Eglyntoun, Arroll, Caitnes, Huntlie, Cassillis, Rothous, Archiep'us Sanctiandree, Ep's Moravien., Dunkeld., Jo. Rossen., Maxwell, Oliphant, R. Boyd, Drowmmond, Ogilvy, Somervell, Forbus, Borthik, Yeistre, Flemyng, Sanquhar, Bas, Louchinver.

Broadsheet. Latin. Bold round hand. Addressed: "Illustrissimo Duci de Alvie principi militiæ Christianissimi Hispaniarum Regis." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (on an additional flyleaf): "This wrytyng was found in the byshop of S[t] Andrewes lodging at the burnyng of Kynele."

[July.] **748.** ARTICLES AS TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

C.P., vol. I.

To be answered by the Lords of the Council.

(1) Whether she shall be served as a Queen "with assayes *etc.*"?

(2) What number of men and women attendants, and their diet if allowed?

(3) What order to the Master of the Jewelhouse for plate *etc.*?

(4) To have the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's warrant for wood, "as well for makinge of coles as otherwise" from the Queen's woods there.

(5) Warrants for "venyson" weekly as thought meet.

(6) Provision of "dyaper," linen cloth, wax, spices "*etc.*" made, or to be received from the Queen's store in the "spycerie."

(7) Provision of "pewter vessell," brass pots and pans, "rackes and spyttes," and a copper kettle for boiling beef, "gardevyances," and other necessaries "incydent" to divers offices *etc.*

(8) A warrant to the lieutenant of the ordnance for 4 "shodd" carts *etc.*

(9) Whether the charge of the stable shall be in the household or not?

(10) That prests be delivered for purveyors, defraying charges *etc.*

1 *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "M[r] Stonhows for matters of the Q. of Scottes."

(2) Another copy of the same.

1 *p.* *By Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed.*

* Asperrimis.

Elizabeth.
1568.
July 31.

749. THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

That her highness's letter of 22d came to his hands on the 29th July at night; greatly rejoicing him to see her resolution to hear the cause concerning the Queen still continues. According to her "mynd," he shall with all speed cause men of "gude estate and qualiteis" make ready to repair to her realm to prosecute that matter. For the suspension of parliament: being in Stirling "quiet" without fellowship of any but Mar, he dare not enterprise in such a matter, without the others' consent; but has immediately on receipt of her letter written to all the noblemen "ewest" * to convene at Stirling on 3d August, by whose advice she shall be resolved in that point. Meantime is bold to say he will serve and pleasure her in every way. Stirling Castle. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Wafer signet* (as before).

July 31. **750.** HERRIES TO HUNTLY.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 39.

I came here on the penult of July, and thought it necessary, as also the Queen our mistress commanded me, to advertise you what I had "procedit" with the Queen and Council of England. I need not tell it at length till I have seen you: but the effect is referred to the Queen of England for the Earl of Murray's part. It pleased her to let me see his writing, referring this for himself and his partakers to her, and praying her to take hasty order, and he was ready to come whenever she appointed. Then she sent me to declare to our mistress, that she should send for some of her friends to meet and hear the said earl *etc.*, and accuse them of their doings, usurping her authority *etc.* When their reasons were heard, the Queen of England said "Sche culd nocht understand thai mycht have ony ressone sua to do, eyvin supponyng thair allegiance wer trew. The Quene our maistres answeris suld be hard with all honour and favour that mycht be. Gif thair allegiance wer nocht funden wourthie, she suld in rycht honorable and solempnit maner, put hir in hir realme, restoir hir to hir crowne, honour, and authorite, hir strenthis, and all thingis thairto pertenyng; and gif it wer nocht sa weill as sche wald wische it, the triale thairof wer hard, yit sche wald with all the honour that sche mycht (the caus beand considerit) restoir hir to hir realme and full authorite thairof with the strenthis and all uther thingis thairto pertenyng, upone condition that sche suld at all tymes hereftir use ane consale of the principalis of the nobilite of this realme. Sua sche salbe restorit to hir hale crowne with all thairto belanging, and that in grit haist eftir this ressonyng, quhilk sall begyn within xx dayis at the farrest. And thair sall no party cum hayme in Scotland, nor yit pas to the Quene of Ingland, quhill this triale be hard and endit, in maner foirsaid." There are other three heads reasoned and in a manner condescended on, *viz.*, "For the religion according to the maner as it is in Ingland; quhilk quhen ye understand advisitlie, I traist your lordschip sall nocht be miscontentit with, *rebus stantibus ut nunc.* 2. A band to be betuix us and Ingland, and yit nocht unressonable to our freyndis in France. How this may be done at the first, it will appere doutfull.

* Nearest.

Elizabeth.
1568. "The quene and consale of Ingland will consider our anceant leag with France, sa far as ourselfis of visdome sall think our awne weill. 3. The Quene our maistres sall nocht ples to truble this Quene of Ingland, nor hir succession lafull gottin of her body, of the crowne of Ingland in rycht; nother sall sche induring hir lif do nor suffir to be done, na thing that may prejudge our maistres titill thairto be the lawis nor utherwais." To the communing hereof for our mistress, you and the lords who advise you, must see what special wise men shall pass to England, by the time Murray passes—uncertain yet, but assuredly believed within 20 days at the farthest. "In this men tyme, the Quene of Ingland hes writin bayth to discharge the parliament proclamit and all maner of trubling of ony personne other of our maistres party, and hes writen to hir grace that nane of hirris sall truble nane of the uthir party." This is the effect of the communing. I desired our mistress that I might have sent to Murray to know if he would continue the parliament and not trouble any of her obedient subjects? But her pleasure was I should not, for it would make him and them "the mair heycht." Therefore I cannot certainly assure you what you shall "lippen to," but you will use your wisdom therein. It is our mistress's commandment and pleasure that you shall with diligence advertise Argyll and all other lords and barons her true subjects, of this writing in haste, and "advising quha sall pas thair, advertes me agane." Dumfries. Herys.

For punishment of the king's slaughter, it is devised to be put to execution on Bothwell and the "doaris of it, sa far as may."

2 *pp.* *In a Scottish contemporary hand.* *Indorsed:* "Copye of my lord Heres wretting to my lord Huntle."

July 31. **751.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO [CECIL].

That he is "maist sory" to hear of his disease, by his servant M^r^ John Wood. As for the Queen's desire to suspend parliament: it being a matter of great consequence, he has written to her majesty that the consent of the other lords is requisite, which he hopes to get on the 3^d^ August. Meantime lest her majesty be offended, he desires Cecil to present the letter which he has been bold to write to her, and to credit M^r^ Wood. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *No flyleaf or address.*

[Aug. 1.] **752.** HUNTLY'S PURSUIT OF MORTON.

News from Angus:—On 27^th^ July a court of justice was appointed at Killemore to hear John Regett's summons against the laird of Fentrie for imprisoning him. Morton himself came to see justice, but hearing Lord Ogilvy had gathered his friends, remained in Glammis, sending M^r^ Archibald Douglas, M^r^ David Borthick, and James Miller "the wrighter" to hold it; who continued it to a day in September. While sitting, John Tawdell came in great speed on a horse without a saddle, sent by Lady Crawford, who told them that Huntly with 700 horse was but a mile from them. They sent post to Morton coming out of the gates of Glammis

Elizabeth.
1568. to Killemore fearing nothing: who rode to Dundee, sending word to lord Gray by Lard Pureis servant to meet him there. Gray mustered 300 of his friends by 9 hours next morning, and tarrying that night, next day after dinner, they came to Fowlis, remaining that night, and after dinner next day, Thursday, they convoyed Morton to Kilspyndie (?) where he is, but passes tomorrow, Friday, to Stirling. Huntly hearing Morton had gone, went to Fenewyn Lord Crawford's place and drank with him, both returning north that night to Balbegenothe in Mearns. Ogilvy went to Airlie, spoke with Huntly "or" he passed, and knew the whole device.

1½ *pp. Copy by Cecil's clerk.*

[Aug. 1.] **753.** NEWS OUT OF SCOTLAND.

Lord Gordon will be in Edinburgh on the 4th instant at night, and many have ridden to meet him. What he will prove is not known, but he is reputed a protestant, and he knows that this action is chiefly against the Duke his "good father."

Charge is sent over the water to Rothes, Grange, and the Tutor of Petcur, to enter themselves prisoners in Dunbarton castle within 10 days. "What they will yet do against my lord of Murrey is not yet known." This day Atholl and Ruthven required of the town of Edinburgh in the Queen's name, pay for 300 soldiers, or as many men; and what part they would take if England invaded her country? They have granted pay for 200 men for 2 months.

The soldiers there are paid in "angells": whence come not known, but they have got 3000*l.* sterling among them.

1 *p. Written by Bedford's clerk. Marked* "5 Aug." *by Cecil, probably date of receipt.*

Aug. 6. **754.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 186. App. I., No. 5.

Signifying that her friends though in arms against the pretended parliament, have sent Skirling to assure her of their cession of hostilities by Elizabeth's order—but she hopes the others will do the like—not as on Middlemore's visit, or that Elizabeth will punish them. If not, they will muster on the 10th to defend their interest. Begs speedy reply by the bearer. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p. French. Holograph.*

Aug. 7. **755.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO [SCROPE?].

After most hearty commendations to your "gude lordschip": I received your letter from the bearer hereof. For the "reconsiliation" mentioned by Lord Herreys: as here we have not yet heard of any "sic thing at all"—so for my own part, if this realm be pressed with it, I wish your sovereign and her council look no otherwise on it than is convenient for God's glory and their own surety. "Glaid I am to heare by your lettre, the Quene moder to the king my souverain, to becum so religious, and mair glad wald I be gif I culd be persuadit of hir unfenyeit lyking of the trew precheing of the Gospell, thinking it suld move hir to humiliatioun and repentence; without quhilk grund, hir resorting to the service of the kirk of England servis hir turn presently to move godlie men to consave a gude opinioun of hir conformitie and

Elizabeth.
1568. "towardnes. Bot I feare being restored to hir governament agayn (as your lordschip writtis) it suld be ane of the maist difficill condicionis to becum gude for, that she suld abandon the Masse: and he that swa tuke on hand in hir name, mycht peradventer or lang tyme past, anys be reprochit. Heiron we neid write na farther: for upoun the schort experience your lordschip hes had of hir, I doubt not bot ye considder weill anewch baith hir zeale to the trew religioun and hir inclinatioun utherwys, quhilk I wishe to God had bene alsweill employit as God endewed hir with mony gude qualiteis. All wilbe as his godlie providence appoyntis. At this beraris hithercuming, ressaving a lettre from hir be his convoy, we have agane maid answer in sic forme as ye may persave be the copy quhilk we have sent you heirwith inclosit, that your lordschip may the better understand in quhat termis we stand." Stirling castle. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Inclosed with the same:—

(The Regent to the Queen of Scots.)

I have received your highness's letter, "the somme quhairof consistis cheiflie in the accusacioun of my unthankfulnes and evill naturall, that being to youre hienes I am be nature,"* and having had so many benefits at your hands, I could pursue your life at the parliament, with other great outrages alleged. "Madame," I think yourself doubts not, and the world may see that if it had been my intention to shorten your days, within this 12 months I have had greater "moyen" than ever will entered my heart. Had I been as willing thereto as they who now disturb the quietness of this realm, "youre hienes had lang or now bene ryd of this mortall lyf." Only this I will say, "I sall nevir ask God mercy for ony thocht that ever enterit in my mynd, towardes the liffe of ony mortall man, latt be of your grace, quhome I tak God to witnes I have luiffit als dearly als evir I did or sall ony levand creature." For the other injuries wherewith you burden me, I shall be able to discharge myself to the world, and be found to have done the duty of an honest man. With your letter I received the "doubles" of two of mine written when "I wes maist injustly exilit my native cuntrie": your grace need not reproach me with any favour then shown to me, that I will not recompense so far as I have the means: I have not yet been so required by your grace, "without prejudice of the publict estait (quhilk I mon prefer to all prevat respectis") without answering it as became me. For your wish to know if your servants may pass to and from you: I have not refused this in time past, though some under colour of your service, has practised to break the Borders and endanger peace. And though such general liberty is not convenient, yet I will not restrain the necessary passage of quiet persons on your private matters: whose names it were well to be expressed. For answer of the last point of your letter: "Let God, quhome ye call to witnes quhat youre naturall is towardis me, be juge alsua to me, of all my meaningis and intentioun towart youre grace." Stirling the 7th of August 1568.

1¼ *pp.* *Contemporary copy.* *Indorsed* (by Knollys): " . . . A copie of my L. of Murraies letter to this Q."

* *i.e.*, half-brother.

Elizabeth.
1568. Aug. 7.

756. HERRIES TO [MARY].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 187.

At the request of the barons here with me, I wrote to the Earl of Murray that the Queen of England had sent me to your highness on the 21st July, with command to show you that she had accepted the cause betwixt your grace and your subjects, upon her, and would send for him to come to the north of England near where your grace remains; and meantime would command him to prorogate their parliament, and that hostilities on both sides should cease. "Madame I am adverteist credabillie he intendis to hauld furth his pretendit parliament, and has planlie said to my servand he will sua do; and being sua determinat, wald nocht oppin my writtingis, the caus as he said, was for that I wald nocht style him *Regent*." Now we your obedient subjects understand that in this parliament the "trattouris" will forfeit the true men, forcing them to take arms. And if they may not within the town of Edinburgh, "be ressoun of the strenthe of your majesties castell and munition, quhilk thay have alsua falslie cumit be,* yitt thay will anoy thare boundis that gangis to thaire foirfaltour." So it may break the communing appointed by the Queen of England. Therefore it is necessary your majesty cause the post to pass to her grace, declaring that notwithstanding her commands to me, under which your grace has written, and I by your command, to Huntly, Argyll and the bishop of St Andrews, yet Murray will not continue the parliament, nor forbear your obedient subjects. And that no fault may be in your grace, with all diligence advertise her majesty, that her sharp writings may be in Edinburgh against the 16th of this month, discharging their proceeding "according to hir henes awin speking," for though we regard not their forfeiture, that have no power to forfeit us, I would not any "faile" should be in your grace's party, in what her majesty has commanded. Awaiting your majesty's command. Dumfries. *Signed:* Herys.

1½ *pp.* *No address or flyleaf.*

Aug. 8.

757. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I.

On Friday afternoon, before "Master Bortyk's" departure, I received your letter of 3d with 2 others from her highness to this Queen—the first whereof, as prescribed, I delivered forthwith—whereon "she fell into great passions, and cowld not contayne hyrselffe from tears in open presence; and gyvyng the letter to my lord Scroope and me to reade, she wysshed that she had broken one of hyr armes on condition that she had never comme into Yngland! and after owre readyng theroff by hyr helpe," we said we thought her grace need not mislike our mistress's "famylyar playn wrytyng," since it was "frendly playnnes," and if taken in good part, might promote the "good mynd" that her highness has hitherto borne to her. She said the effect of her letter answered "thus uncurtouslye," was but "that she myght frelye returne home into hyr cuntrye lyke a free pryncesse; 'And,' saythe she, 'I have not fledde the lyght, synce I was content my cawse shold be herd in Westmyster halle'; and often she repeted that this rebukefull letter was mete to have ben wrytten to one of hyr hyghnes subjects, and not to hyr beyng

* Treacherously gained.

Elizabeth.
1568. a free pryncesse." But finally she was content that Bortyke her man should go with his despatch taking no "knoledge" of this "sharpe" letter. But we think she is chiefly moved because her "present prosperitie" in Scotland on Herries' return (and constant declaration of her highness' determination "to sett this Quene in hyr seate") depends much on the aid of England, "althoe these newe instruments and proclamations doe make a fayre showe." Yesterday I sent a servant to Richmond, who returned at 6 p.m. as if with letters from the Dernton post; and thereon I delivered the second letter "as then newlye" received: which she took in so good part, that after reading it to me, she said she would not have written the sharp letter that offended her highness, but for the counsel of some in Scotland for their private ends.

Touching the fault found with me that my commending the "religious usage" there, after the Genevan form, disallowed the "formularye" here, and might occasion this Queen to rest in her "owlde," which was not her majesty's purpose: I answer it is easy for the Court to find fault with me "a symple poore man," but no man here thinks that I have hindered this Queen from favouring our form. For both she and Herries understood me, that under pretence of favouring the English form, the Geneva form might be so condemned in Scotland that "a hye waye shold be made open unto papistrye: eaven as the Cardinalle of Lorayne in France, in his fyrst dispute agaynst Peter Martyr and Theodore Beza, dyd pretend to favor the Lutherians, meanyng by reconcylyng theym unto hym to the overthrowe of these that came from Geneva, he shold have the lesse to doe to overthrowe the resedue afterward." She seems outwardly to favor "the cheefe artycle of the relygyon of the Ghospell, namelye justification by faythe onelye: and she herethe the fawltes of papistrie reveled by prechyng or otherwyse, with contended ears, and with gentle and weake replyes, and she dothe not seme to lyke the worse of religion thoroe me." [*He then deals with an accusation of his reducing Mary's attendants, by retorting that he is constantly written to to abridge charges. Explains how these increased by the grooms and pages bringing in boys to wait on them, a thing not allowed at the English Court—relates Herries telling him of Elizabeth's dissatisfaction at the increased charges, of which he was himself ashamed, and the reduction by arrangement between them of the weekly charges from 62l. to 43l.*] "I have good cawse to thynk that this Quene hathe a better opynyon of my servyce than any pryncess in Chrystendome els hathe"; and though I have always denied to further her causes, being not master of myself, but servant to another, the better opinion she seems to conceive of me. "And surelye she is a rare woman, for as no flatterye can lyghtly abuse hyr, so no playne speche semethe to offend hyr, yf she thynk the speaker theroff to be an honest man; and by this means I wold make youe beleve she thynkes me an honest man." Now my fault in abating her charges can easily be mended, for my lady Leveston, "wyffe to this Baron of Leviston," is coming to attend her and must lie in this house: "and the hungerye Skotts woll come in agayne dayly without any byddyng, yf youe so please"! Pray take note of my letter by Bortyke to my lord of Leicester: and lend your helping hand to my revocation, which her highness seemed to promise "or this tyme." Lord Scrope

Elizabeth.
1568. will accomplish the rest of your letter for Lord Herries, and the noble men. Bolton Castle. At 3 o'clock a.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: This Queen's letter to her highness is inclosed.

6¼ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "8 Aug. 1568: Sir Franc. Knolls to me." *Wafer signet.*

Aug. 10. **758.** KNOLLYS TO NORFOLK.

C.P., vol. I. I am glad to hear you remain at court where so many great affairs are to be considered, "farr to hyghe for the reyche and compas of my wytt."

Having written thus far: this Queen sent for me and read divers of her letters from Scotland, showing that her party since Herries came thither, have taken great courage. But by his letter (here inclosed), it appears that Murray will not stay the parliament, and she required me to send it with speed to Court, that her highness may take precise order to stay Murray, or her party will make war against him, which she desires much to avoid. I therefore inclose it, not being sure if M^r^ Secretary is presently at Court. Lord Scrope and I refer the state of things here to the bearer your servant's declaration. Bolton Castle. At night. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: charges on chevron, 3 annulets ?*

Aug. 12. **759.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Though as I promised in my last from Stirling to your Majesty, I wrote for the rest of the nobles to meet on the "ferd" instant, only the nearest came, the principals not daring to leave their countries for tumults: wherefore there has been longer delay than I looked for. Therefore I hasted to this town, where "the haill" will be in 5 or 6 days, and "a gude part" are come already. Conferring with them, they are all at your highness's devotion, and would gladly have performed your request for stay of this parliament, had it not been that Huntly, Argyll and others of the Hamilton's faction, within these few days, have risen in force against the king's authority, raised men, taken castles *etc.*, and are coming forward "within thir thre dayes" with displayed banners: and if parliament were deferred for "bot a day," they would make people believe their bragging had put us in fear, and that we durst not proceed, putting the cause in great danger: which things if your majesty had known, you would not have required the stay aforesaid. Lord Herries also on the West march, and some of that faction on the Middle, travail to endanger the peace. I have written particularities to my servitor M^r^ John Wod, who will inform your highness at more length, and also declare the names of the noblemen and others appointed to resort towards your realm, and when they will be ready. Praying credit for what he shall speak on my behalf. Edinburgh. *Signed:* . . .*

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* The signature cut off *ante* 1857.—R.L.

Elizabeth.
1568. Aug. 12. **760.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

Understanding by my servant Mr John Wod, that her majesty is now resolved quickly to send some noblemen to her town of Newcastle upon Tyne, to hear and put a final stay to the matter between the king our master and the queen his mother, we would be glad to know their names, but "mair glaid to be assurit that efter your lang disease, ye war able of persoun to occupy thairin a rowme amangis utheris": with my heart wishing "that ye and sic noblemen as wer affectionat to the amytie betuix the realmes, suld have the charge in this wechtie cause—the lyke quhairof will not every day occur." The experience of your last "travellis" in this country has satisfied many of what you are able to do. "Oure" servant Mr Wood is instructed to inform you further "baith in this and toward the parliament now approcheing, quhome we pray you credit." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 12. **761.** THE REGENT MURRAY TO LEICESTER.

I have now sent to the Queen your sovereign my answer of her highness' letter "anent the suspensioun of the parliament approcheing" —and have also instructed my servant Mr John Wood to inform your lordship in that behalf. It would be lost labour to weary you with a long letter—only to assure you the truth is as I have written—wherein credit my servant. I heartily wish you should be among the first of the noblemen to be sent by her majesty to "the Newcastell" on this weighty cause: as I might find commodity either "to confer with you face to face," or by frequent message to understand each other's meaning; "quhill the sure knawlege quhairof, I will remane in continewall doubt and suspence." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 13. **762.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 190. App. I., No. 6.

Having received her letter at midnight, and an hour before seen that to Knolles and Scrope, began to write to Scotland, as she advised, and has since dispatched a messenger there. The report in her first, that her party was enterprising anything is untrue, for they are men of honour and respect her commands. Has no news from France, but as she has told Knolles, having no assurance of her good will, must seek her old allies. Since Herries' return, has done nothing to hinder his dealing with Elizabeth. Still desires a perpetual assurance, and to talk with her of many things at her heart. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp.* *French.* *Holograph.*

Aug. 14. **763.** ELIZABETH TO ARGYLL.

Though we understand from our Depute of Ireland, Sir Henry Sydney K.G., your good meaning to stay the "disordered resort and hauntyng" of the evil disposed people of the "Ilandes and Kentyre" to the north parts of our said realm: and the more "in respect of the

Elizabeth.
1568. good will we beare to the Quene of Scottes"—for which we thank you and commend "your good dexterite in being adverse to such barbaroos rude people": yet forasmuch as otherwise we hear that at this present their heads have assembled great numbers and levied great "taxees" of victual both in your "contrees" and also where the Earl of Cassillis and such like joined in friendship with you, have command: we thus plainly write to you that if these reports prove true, and any numbers invade our realm, thus aided under your rule, they shall find small advantage; and for your part, we shall make less account of your apparent good will. Yet if your doings accord with your letters to our depute, you shall find us ready to "acquite your good will," and have written thus plainly as we mean—"which in all causees proveth best."

1 *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk): "14 August 1568. M. from the Quenis Majeste to therle of Argile. At Eston."

Aug. 14. **764.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 193. App. I., No. 7. Has received letters from Scotland which she has shown to Knollys, also one for her from her chief subjects, whereof having the double, fears to send it, as they wrote before knowing her good will, but as they offer Elizabeth all good service, thinks she will excuse their "ferfeur." Murray threatens to hold a parliament; but Huntly is marching against him. Assures herself she will prevent this "bravade," and reminds her of her promises, as herself and friends will obey her wishes. Has ever been open with her and taken her as protectress, and begs her to accept the enclosed letters in good part, which she would have moderated had they come open to her, after Herries' arrival. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

Having shown Huntly's letters to Knollys, who will report, does not send them.

2 *pp.* *French.* *Holograph.*

Aug. 15. **765.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. At Lord Herries' first arrival here, this Queen desired that Lord Scrope's man Garse Richie one of the Greames, a borderer, might carry her letters to Lord Symple's son in Scotland for some "juels" of hers in his keeping—whereon Lord Scrope and I wrote to my lord of Murray of Herries' declaring to her in our presence, that the Queen our mistress would reconcile her and her subjects, and of her "conformatie" to religion: this Queen herself also wrote to him. He replied by the same messenger, and sent copy of his answer to this Queen: both which we herewith send to you—and Symple's son also replying that the Regent would not give him leave, and he could not bring the jewels: the said Richie coming home by Lord Herries, received from him divers letters, one from the nobles of her party to this Queen, copy of which she showed me for advice whether or not to send it to her highness? And pressing me very much, I left it to her judgment, whether her highness would take it in good part, some expressions of suspicion as to her good will, and of other princes' eyes on her doings; and if such "curtyse thunderboltes and musters of remembrancies sett owte so largelye" would provoke her highness to

Elizabeth.
1568. assist her grace further than she was already bent? Yet I would not dissuade her, but if it pleased her, would inclose it in my own packet —whereto she consented, and the same, with a letter of her own, "are packed herewyth." My letter of the 6th to Lord Leicester was inclosed to you on the 8th, noting that I meant to go to Berwick, and as William Knollys and Wylford are returned, without any stay of it, I mean to bestow next week on that journey. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Advertise me plainly if I am to tarry long here, that I may send for necessaries if need be.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 16. **766.** ACTS OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT.

Holden at Edinburgh 16th August 1568.

(1) It is statute and ordained that the castles of Draffen and Hamilton shall be sustained as in times past "upon the dewtes apertenyng to thame."

(2) That albeit the Regent has "disponit certane jewellis of the lait Quene of Scottis" to pay men of war *etc.* and shall do—it shall not hurt him hereafter.

(3) That all earls, lords, barons "*etc.*" that come not to the kirk "one the Sabboth day," shall pay 40*s.* Scots for first fault, and double after: gentlemen and "substantious yemen men," 40*d.* Scots [as above]: and "thame that hes no money, to be punist be the [*illegible*].

(4) All men that was with the king at Glasgow, though their superiors be forfeited, it shall not hurt them or their lands.

(5) Debts owing by the forfeited "befoir the tresoun," shall be paid by the intromitters with their lands *etc.*

(6) Protestation by Grange captain of Edinburgh Castle, that nothing he did while in St Andrews castle after the Cardinal's "slauchter," shall be laid to his charge by the latter's heirs.

Names of them forfeited:—

Lord Claud Hamilton; Bishops of St Andrews and Ros; abbots of Newabbey and Halywode. Lairds, knights, and gentlemen:—Mr David Chalmer, Lairds of Rechertoun and Whytlaw; Mr John Hamilton brother to the laird of Samelstoun: James Hamiltoun of Prestoun; Francis Tennand of Lasswade; Patrick Hebburn of Kirklandhill; Hary Hebburn of Fortoun; Captain Robert Lauder; Mr Thomas Hebburn person of Oldhamstoks; Andw Hamiltoun of Goslintoun knyght; Andro Hamiltoun of Cowchno; John Hamiltoun his son and heir; John Hamiltoun of Stanehouse; Andro Hamiltoun of Lekprevik; Mr James Hamiltoun of Neilsland; Alexander Hamiltoun of Netherford: Robert Hamiltoun of Kilwynning; Robert Hamiltoun of Geruk (?); James Hamiltoun of Wudsband; James Hamiltoun of Wodhall; John Hamiltoun "maissar"; David Hamiltoun son to the gudman of Bothwellbank; Alexander Symmervell of Terbrax; Fardinand Hwme of Brwmhous; Patrick Hebburn of Quhitcastell knight.

2½ *pp. In a Scottish hand (Hay's ?). Addressed* (in same): "To the rycht honourable the Governor of Berwik and Warden of the Eist Marches" *etc.*

Elizabeth.
1568.
Aug. 16.
C.P., vol I.

767. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

Lord Scrope has stopped my journey to Berwick for this week, through his sudden desire to go to Carlisle "to avoyde certen dangers feared to arryse by Francis Dacres and his adherents." I trust to hear next week if my journey is liked or not? I see not why in Lord Scrope's absence I should necessarily remain here, for Mr Reade and his band can guard this house, and I see no cause of fear at present. But I am uncertain how things may be taken at Court. Let me hear when I may look for revocation, "for I am not provyded of apparylle here for September weather." Lord Scrope has "trussed" herewith, a packet of letters from Mr Banyster to the Duke's grace his master. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: crest a ram's head.*

Aug. 16.
Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 195.

768. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

I trussed up the pacquet herewith closed, late yester night, to have been sent this morning, but at 1 o'clock after midnight, came your pacquet of the 12th; and at 9 this morning, before this Queen was ready, I had access and declared her highness's offence at the hostile enterprises of her party. She answered they were appointed to gather before Herries' coming, to defend themselves and impeach parliament, and his coming was no assurance that Murray would not confiscate them and execute the prisoners—until her highness's letter came saying that nothing should be done against herself and party: whereon she sent a special messenger to Herries and others, to observe her highness's pleasure, and they will remain quiet although gathered. But that Morton's own servants (10 days since Herries arrived) have spoiled Skirling's brother of 60 head of cattle *etc.*, which Herries warranted to be sent safe from the border to Skirling's brother's house not far from Edinburgh. As for Mr Drury's letter: she wrote from Carlisle to her Tevidale borderers, to annoy her enemies in Scotland only, and since Herries came, willed them to cease, but it is hard for her to rule thieves. She sends Bortyke to her highness now, and writes again to Herries to stay her party—wishing me also to write—but as Lord Scrope presently goes to Carlisle, he will advertise him.

For Scottish matters: I refer them to God's providence. But I must commend this Queen's policy, ready wit, and constant courage. At our first coming to Carlisle, she comforted her party with hope of aid from France, and familiar, loving and hearty letters and messages, besides liberal rewards to assured friends. To the Hamiltons "privatlye," she dedicated herself "as in whome she had her hoole delyte and truste." Those she would fain have as friends, she made believe they were her friends at heart, however drawn otherwise. When she saw these daily "conferences and comfortyngs" should cease on coming thence, she gave out all was for the best, and her highness would do for her, howsoever her Council was disposed. To make the Hamiltons sure, she made a writing that Chatelherault was to have her whole authority till she returned to Scotland. Meanwhile she plied her highness with "dulce thunderyngs, and greate

Elizabeth.
1568. "cowntenances, althoe with gratfull conditioned promysses." And now Lord Herries' message has been set forth with such "a tryumphant blaste, that it hathe shaked a great maynye in Skotland to hyr syde: so that it semethe the cowntenance of Ynglond swayethe the realme of Skotland at this daye." Yet like a wise princess, she makes "semblance" to her highness, and would persuade us here, that the continuance and increase of her party is of "mere dutyfull" love to her. But she knows all their humours, and discerns who be her's for her own sake, who for the French sake, who for the Hamiltons' title and cause, and who be "observers and folowers of tyme." I am glad of your bettered news of the matters of "Cownt Lodowyke." I commend "the artificiall usage of your coper mynes," but hereof when I speak with you. I pray you have an eye to conveyance of our letters, "for one here was in hand with one of my men for the prynt of my seale in waxe," and there is a goldsmith attending on this Queen. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: I read to this Queen so much of her highness's letter as I was commanded by her, and no more.

2 *pp. Holograph. Closely written. No address or flyleaf.*

Aug. 16. **769.** MARY TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 196. "Maister Seceill": having sent the bearer to our good sister on our affairs, as he is but a young man "not sa veill experimentit in travelling with sic matteris as neid war, and nocht haifing the intelly-[gence]* sa prompt to expreme all that to oure sister quhilk is necessare for our service, in default of ane better at this present, hes imployit him in the same": praying you as our good friend to instruct and help him in communing with our sister in the matters in our memorial to him. Also that yourself will assure her, that whatever report be made of us, we shall keep our promise with the grace of God. And having her assurance "in vrit," have sent it to our lieutenant and lords of Council, charging them to desist pursuing our rebels, but keeping together for their own defence and surety "as reasoun vald, conforme to our sisteris vryting." Till receipt whereof, Lord Herries could not take on him to stay the rest of our nobility *etc.* from defending their persons, lands and goods. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* Your richt gud frind Marie R.

1½ *pp. Written by a secretary. No flyleaf or address. Oval wafer signet,* (Scotland): *crown above shield,* "M. R." *at sides.*

Aug. 17. **770.** HERRIES TO SCROPE AND KNOLLYS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 197. I received your writings the 14th (?) instant at night, and understand thereby your Sovereign is informed of the army devised to withstand this pretended parliament summoned by Murray to forfeit us: but her grace learning they mean not so to do, willed us to desist, that our Sovereign's cause referred to her grace may be well ended. When it pleased her majesty to speak to me, she desired that no Frenchmen be received, nor her subjects troubled by us of the Queen's party during the communing. And having our mistress's command, I with

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. all diligence sent to Huntly and Argyll her lieutenants, and others, of the Queen of England's mind and our Sovereign's command not to pursue the other party; yet I hear the others proceed with their parliament. As for Frenchmen: I told her majesty many times, if she restored my mistress to her crown, and punished her rebels, she would seek no foreign help but her grace, so she did it with speed. "Marie! twentie tymes" I showed her, delay was the wrecking of my mistress and her friends; for the others grant escheats of the loyal, spend her patrimony, destroy kirks and policies, murder old and impotent men, priests that never bare weapons, "wyffis and bairnis." Ravishing women, burning and spoiling by thieves are so great, that no man that fears God would live here. If your Sovereign will not take order with speed, we must seek help from France or Spain, or wherever we can get it. I do not believe any obedient subject of our mistress, has offended England—I mean any great attempt—"for the lytill pykand thevis" are ever stealing. And I am sure there is thrice as much stolen out of Scotland as out of England. Dumfries. *Signed:* Herys.

2½ *pp.* *Addressed.*

Aug. 18. **771.** LENNOX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. As I understand that by the Queen's majesty's appointment and the estates of Scotland, the murder "of the late kinge thereof my sonne" shall be tried in the beginning of September next: and as my wife and I exhibited a bill of supplication to her majesty "as ye knowe," requiring justice for that horrible deed, "the chefe actoure thereof beinge nowe within her realme": yet being the party whom the matter toucheth nearest, and whose appearance may be thought most necessary, I will no wise determine nor prepare myself for that journey, but as shall stand with her pleasure, which I crave humbly to understand by your mean. Cheswicke. *Signed:* Mathew Levenax.

Credit the bearer my servant on the matter I have willed him to declare.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 18. **772.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. As my wife has lately been sick, "and moderate travayle and qwyatenes of mynd" are the only means to preserve her health, and she is desirous to come hither if my return be not shortly, I desire you to signify to her by this bearer whether it is likely I shall remain here 5 or 6 weeks longer? For if it be, then with her highness's contentation (whereof I make no doubt) she will come forthwith; and if the likelihood be not, then I am sure it will content her. Her sickness has made my purse bare, and seeking health elsewhere cannot be without expenses, wherefore since I must needs be at charge, the same is best bestowed in satisfying her mind to the comfort of her spirits, and the healthful exercise of her body in travelling hither. The bearer goes straight from you to her, and by next post I would be glad to hear your answer. If she do come, she can well bring 2 or 3 horses with furniture for this Queen's own saddle: if not, the bearer can bring them. Lady Leviston is come with 2 waiting women to attend

Elizabeth.
1568. upon this Queen, as I wrote on the 8th—and 8 men servants with her. Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Mr Vichamberlein to my master, by Jones his servant." *Wafer signet. Charges on shield are flowers.*

Aug. 19. **773.** HERRIES TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 201. On the 18th instant I received writings from my sovereign, whereby I understand your highness is informed, that since I came from your majesty where I was so honourably treated—far beyond the worth of my service or life—"in recompance" I have caused some of my countrymen spoil your frontiers and subjects, and further, that I provoke troubles betwixt my sovereign's friends and her "disobedientis" here. If true, I am not worthy to live: but beseech your majesty not to credit it—for if either Englishman or Scotsman can prove me "othir art or counsele" to the hurt of any Englishman's body or goods "sen I come to Barvik to the Duke of Norffok ane of the procurares (?) your majesteis army to Leitht, I sall recompance the skaitht with my geir, and offence to youre majestie with my life." Having my Sovereign in your country and "my simpilnes self ressevand sik honores of your majestie," it is most unlikely and untruly invented. When I came here, I found the greatest part of the realm so inflamed against Murray, Morton and their adherents for their treason, that they had appointed a day to make them repent their misdoing: and as your "excellencie" had declared to me that your mind was to put my mistress in her own country without bloodshed, to consider their proceedings as her subjects, and as by your majesty and council was found worthy, so to use them in your "appointment makin betuix our soverane and thame,"—and as I was the only Scotsman that "this fer" knew your mind, I wrote to Murray sending a wise man instructed, declaring my commands from your majesty, and that you had said "ye wald caus thair pretendit parliament to ceis," and all hostility on both sides to stay till your highness had heard and ordered the cause. After hearing my servant's credit at length, he would not open my letter, "becaus, as he sade, I wald nocht stile hym Regent: and as I schew to your majestie, I think nevir to stile him swa nor obey hym with that stile." Yet in discharge of myself, I sent another "discreit" man to him 4 or 5 days before parliament, repeating your majesty's commands, and offered, if he would so do, I would inform the obedient subjects, of your majesty's command to live quietly. I sent this subscribed and unclosed, and not to "mystile" him, I wrote nothing on the back, but when Morton and he had heard my man at length, I could get no answer. Besides this warning, to show I moved no discord, I have left two of my houses, taken from me when I was with your majesty "far by my expectatioun,"—kept only by 4 or 5 simple men, who could not have defended them—had I not obeyed your command. Madame, this great cause requires great haste, for our sovereign's obedient subjects receive great hurt by the thieves waged by these rebels, who rob and murder poor creatures without redress. "Now sen it is in your majesteis handis put be our mastres, and as your majeste sad mony tymes, thay had refferrit thair haill caus to your

Elizabeth.
1568. "hienes (quhilk I am maist assurit thay dar na uthervys doo) that for Goddis lufe and for his feir, ye will tak sik haistie ordour with it as your majestie and your counsele fyndis to his glorie and equitie of the caus in the wardle: utherwis, gif ye will nocht haist it with greit speid, that ye will leif it and suffir my maistres and ws to seik our help; I say that scho may brouk her awin cuntre as God hes callit her and nocht truble youris. I knaw weill your majestie wyll gett greit counsele nocht to be haistie in this mater. Considdir Madame the feirfull jugement of Almychtie God for thir innocent creaturis that beis slayn! (ane cais unremedable be princes) gif ye sall nocht with speid gif your determinatioun, or with speid discharge yow of it, and latt sum uthir Christiane prince do it: for gif ye will nocht, we will with speid be forsit to seik it. I leif of the occasionis that your grace hes specialie to doo herin, becaus I have sa oft tymes reportit thame to your majestie . . . bot maist specialie, your promys of luf, frenship and assistance, quhilk was the occasioun of hir grace cumming in your realme." Dumfries. *Signed:* Herys.

3 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 20. **774.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Desiring full credit for his servant "Maister John Wod." Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

¼ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 21. **775.** DRURY TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 203. That his servant has been in Edinburgh from the 17th hereof till this day, and brought these "accidents." That "same day" 2d of their parliament, it was not known to the Regent, that Huntly lingering about Fife and Angus with above 5000 men, had commanded his force to "scale"—greatly rejoicing them in Edinburgh—but next day they heard that with 2000 and more he meant to burn Perth and Dundee: rather bruited to colour his march to Glasgow to join Argyll and Fleming, who were there that day with 1500 men, besieging the castle held by 60 persons. This news moved him to dissolve, and next day to send force to impeach Huntly at Stirling, which discouraged their "unsorted enterprise." Parliament is prorogued, after forfeiting ten gentlemen, and Argyll *etc.* are invited to come in on penalties. Herries lately sent letters to Huntly with copy of one from our sovereign, purporting that the parliament should not prejudice the Queen and her side: but being intercepted, and brought to the Regent, he judges the meaning "more milder" to him than their "construccion." He has also intercepted letters from the Queen to Lord Fleming, and from Mr John Livingston to his father of a letter he saw to the Queen from France, that the King would send her 6000 men. But the Regent thinks more of news, that George Douglas by help of the Duke and lord of Arbroath, has taken up 1000 French to be paid out of her dowry and will conduct them hither about the middle or end of next month, with the Duke himself. Berwick. William Drury.

2 *pp.* *Contemporary copy.* *Closely written.*

Elizabeth.
1568. Aug. 23.

776. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 207. App. I., No. 8.

Telling her she had ordered her party as desired, to cease hostilities, but the others paying no attention, had seized her man and letters, held their parliament and forfeited many of her friends. Relies on her promise to punish such dishonesty, praying her to excuse the warmth of Herries' letters, for his heartbreak to see honest men thus treated. Makes no doubt her natural "cueur de lion" will move her against these traitors who have thus broken truce, and disobeyed her orders, to aid herself who has placed her cause in her hands. Begs her resolution with diligence. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp. French. Holograph.*

Aug. 23.

777. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I.

As soon as the post was despatched with my letters of this evening's date, came a packet from Carlisle with Lord Scrope's letter to you, one from Lord Herries to him, and a letter to my lord of Norfolk; all, with this Queen's letter to her highness, are herewith "trussed" and sent.

She is marvellously troubled with the forfeitures of her party in this parliament, as it seems by a letter from Herries to her which she read to me, and partly by his letter to Scrope, that many of her party are ready to submit to Murray, others in mind to go to France, and thus her party will be "soore weakned." She complains much that by her highness's letters to her, she caused her friends to "surceace" hostility, and "skatter" as her highness wished: and thus her adversaries have had their opportunity, to her great prejudice, "contrarye to hyr hyghnes promess." Whereto I said that her majesty would not fail to keep promise to save her from prejudice, "when that the matter came to orderyng." Bolton. "At 12 in the nyght." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). Also (by Knollys): "After the sealyng hereoff, this Quene sent me my lord Herrys letter to hyr directed, to be sent herewith to hyr hyghnes."

Inclosed in the same:—

(Herries to Scrope.)

I received your letter on 19th instant at night, and sent your sovereign's "writtingis" to the Earl of Argyll.

This day I am advertised that Murray and his "confidderattis" has in this pretended parliament "maid his fassoun of forfaltour" on the bishops of S[t] Andrews and Ros, the abbots of New Abbey and Halywod, 15 landed men of the Hamiltons, some of the Hepburns, "Maister" David Chalmer and others; and "hes superseidit ane uthere part of ws quhill Twysday nixt."* When I consider how your Sovereign showed me how she had directed Middelmore to stay Murray's army, when he came here and cast down our houses, and therefore would not suffer me to "cum hame" to withstand his "new usurpit auctorite": and notwithstanding I showed her highness and

* August 24.

Elizabeth.
1568. her Council, 26 days before this, of the pretended parliament, when her grace sent me to declare to my mistress that she would write to continue the same—and I believe wrote also to her to stay us her friends than then "menit" to have taken arms against it—declaring in her letters that the other party had written to her highness that they only meant a convention to choose some of them selves to pass to England, to declare their parts of this rebellion and obey her commandment: "My lord," seeing these proceedings to be "sa far contrarie to hir grace sayingis," and that I know well there is no other prince in the world they can have comfort of. "I cane nocht, I say, bot merwell heirin werie gretlie! And yitt, my lord, quhen I remember hir majesties faythfull promeis sa mony tymes maid to me in hartlie and loving maner, to help my soverane: quhen I considder quha it is of quhome my maistres has this promeis, hir nobill, anceant and princelie blud that ever to foir hir progenitouris has maist trewlie observit to menar estaittis, quhen it was mekill mair haird to be eschevit—than I cast all dispair asyd, and determinatlie thinkis nobilitie and princelie honour in that magnificent prences will never suffer doublenes to have to do in hir workis"! And seeing their proceedings so far contrary my speech in her majesty's name, makes this country hold me "a wantar and lyear," and sundry of the "obedientis to gang and mak thair dres with thame: as wndoutitlie rycht mony will do, seand the Quene haldin, that come thare upon promeis seikand freindschip, almaist as ane prisonar, and to hir part na favour schawin. Now my lord, I writt rabling ourhead* this bill, and yitt I think upone our auld acquentance, gyf your quene and soverane will hald the quene our soverane quha haid of hir grace befoir hir cuming in that realme, the promessis of freindschip and assistance that sche haid, and senesyne the affermance of it, quhilk is knawin to the kingis of France and Spaine, to this haile realme and mony utheris: we wilbe constrenit to laive our soverane thinking and speiking werie evill of your princes promeis, and that sche is the caus be hir promeis of our wreking." Some of the best and worthiest will go to France, some will flatter, others of us "will stand to our debait": and all, with Murray and his adherents, "will never efter lippin gud to yow." This matter is of such weight, and "sa mekill in my mynd, it constrenis me in my bill far to pas the boundis of wisdome." Dumfries, 21st of August 1568. *Signed:* Herys.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 23. **778. ELIZABETH TO HUNSDON.**

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 205.

Sign manual. "An instruction to our trusty and right welbilovid cousin the Lord of Hunsdon appointed by our commission to be warden of thEast Marches foranempst Scotlande."

Having appointed him warden under her great seal in the same manner as the Earl of Bedford, who left in October last, since which time William Drury esquire marshall of Berwick has been deputy warden: directs that before his entry, a view be taken of the march, with advice of Sir Henry Percy captain of Tynemouth and Norham,

* *i.e.*, offhand? or outspokenly?

Elizabeth.
1568. and of Sir John Forster warden of her Middle March, and others not bound to personal service there, how that frontier may defend itself.

(1) As one cause of decay of horsemen, was said to be the uncertain tenure of her tenants of Ethell *etc.*—if true, he shall assure them of "reasounable estates of contynuance."

(2) As Norham in her "charge" is in great decay, a view and estimate shall be made, when order shall be given for the money.

(3) The like of Ethell Castle, being her own possession, and Wark Castle the possession of her ward Thomas Graye.

(4) As the country under rule of Norham and "Aylamshire" is decayed in men of service, by non residence of the captain, and letting out the domains to profit, he is to find out the truth, and report on remedy: also to put certain ordinances in execution accorded under a statute of her late sister, for enclosures on the frontiers, and the impediments hitherto.

(5) Also to put in force an order that none of her lands within 20 miles of the Borders should be let to any but those who shall inhabit them.

(6) Also to confer with Sir Thomas Gargrave vice president in the North. to prevent conveyance of horses across the Border.

Finally: to strengthen his border, she has commanded the Bishop of Durham and Earl of Westmorland to provide 100 horsemen, 50 of them "to cary shott," to be ready when he requires them, but not for more than a month in wages without her special license. *Countersigned:* Cecill.

3 *pp.* *Not indorsed.*

Aug. 23. **779.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. By a copy of letter here inclosed from the Regent of Scotland to Sir John Foster, it seems a practise to my shame has been in hand. Surely if those with me are faithful, such dangers are foreseen—"and I trust God woll defend me" from any such reproach. Methinks this Queen will not make such an uncertain adventure, thereby "to heepe uppon hyrselfe hyr hyghnes displeasure and enmetie." I also send Herries' letter to the Queen's highness—"an excusing of hym selffe, and an invectyve agaynst his adversaries." Bolton Castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(Murray to Forster.)

It is reported to me as truth, that Fernehirst looks continually on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of this present" that the Queen shall be conveyed to his house from Bolton, by some Englishmen: the chief enterpriser of which is thought to be "your frende George Herron." So I warn you, being assured you would be right sorry at any such accident, especially through any friend of yours: as it would offend your sovereign, endanger this estate and perturb the isle. Doubting not you will advertise lord Scrope and Mr Vicechamberlain, and look into it yourself. Edinburgh, 21st of August 1568. James Regent.

1 *p.* *Copy by a clerk.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1568.
Aug. 24.

780. ARGYLL TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 209.

Please your highness: I received your Majesty's letters at Glasgo the 22d of August, wherein I perceive your majesty thanks me for my last writing to the Deputy of Ireland. As I wrote to him, my mind was and is to do what might please your highness, so far as lies in my power, in all things under my charge, or all others that I may reasonably stay from troubling your country or lieges: most specially in the hope that your majesty will set forward the Queen my sovereign to her "authorite ryall" and suppressing her unnatural and disobedient subjects, "conforme to your hienes promes maid to hir grace: quhilk I doubt nocht bot your majeste will do, in respect of your princelie honour, and that my soverane is so ner of blude to your hienes." Where your Majesty writes there is great numbers of people levied in my bounds and my lord of Cassillis', my friend, to invade your lieges in Ireland: I assure on my honour this is not true, nor shall I do any thing offensive to your Majesty, "ye standing gude freinde to my soverane," but all the service in my power. Dunbarton. *Signed:* Ard. Ergyll.

1 *p. No flyleaf. Addressed at foot* (in a neat small hand): "To the Q. Maty of England."

Aug. 24.

781. ARGYLL, HUNTLY ETC. TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 210.

Signifying that as Murray and his accomplices not satisfied with their deeds against the Queen their sovereign, proclaimed a pretended parliament to be held in Edinburgh on the 18th August "bypast" to forfeit them and other loyal subjects, they took arms, "with twa armeis quhilkis thai war nocht able to have resistit": —but on 16th of August "instant," they received the Queen their sovereign's letters to stay hostilities conform to Elizabeth's letter to her "of Breichthill" the 10th instant, which they obeyed "in all sortis." Notwithstanding this, the others contemptuously disobeyed, held their parliament, and forfeited the Archbishop of St Andrews, the bishop of Ross, Claud Hamilton son to the Duke, and other nobles and barons of the Queen's friends, and as their forces "ar skaillit," will proceed with all rigour. And since by occasion of her highness writing to their sovereign, they stayed their army and suffered the others to hold their pretended parliament, they desire most humbly that she will put some remedy thereto, as they have received damage by her said writing, which she is bound in honour to make good. Remind her that they wrote from "the Largis" in behalf of their sovereign, and think the time very long for answer. Again beseech most humbly that she will either restore her to her estate and honour as before, taking the whole thanks: or let her pass to France or to her native realm. Desiring most humbly her answer with expedition. Dunbarton. *Signed:* Ard Ergyll; Hwntlye; Archibischop of Sanctandr.; Eglyntoun; Cassillis; Erll of Crafurd; Flemyng; R. Boyd; Claud Hammiltoun; Sanquhar; Somervell; Jo. Rossen.; Ros; Ogilvy.

2 *pp. No flyleaf. Addressed at foot:* "To the Q. Maty of England."

Elizabeth.
1568. Aug. 25. **782.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

According to my late letter to your highness, I and the other noble men and the states professing obedience to the king my sovereign, were most willing to have suspended all proceedings in this parliament against his disobedient subjects, "gif thay had contented thame selffis with that, quhilk your gracious pleasure wes to write to me in there favour: bot seing thay (lichtlie esteamyng the same) had taken armes," violently to stay us, it was thought both dishonourable and dangerous to delay, or it would have been judged we durst not proceed conform to law. So they being gathered in the field, of determinate purpose to repair to Edinburgh, we were constrained to forfeit "a certane" that had been chief authors of renewing hostility—"evin sen your majesties lettre come in Scotland"; delaying process against the "remanent," specially them in the degree of nobility, who were called for certain days, that they or their kinsmen might have time to procure pardon, on submission for their former offences: as we have most willingly granted to some. Meantime the leaders finding themselves unable, but "wantand na malice," departed to their houses, and we might with rigour have proceeded against them, "yit the reverence of your majesties lettre sent me, hes movit me and the states to suspend farther proceiding at this tyme aganis the Erles of Cassillis and Eglintoun, the lordis Flemyng, Yester, Hereis, his sone and air, the lard of Lochinvar and sundrie utheris, how sone I understude thay had left armez": doing this rather because of a bruit spread by them, that their departure was by your majesty's order. Though, had their force been equal to their evil will "thay had na mair now followit your hienes avys . . . nor thay obeyit your first ordour": whereto the meanest knowledge of your pleasure should have served! I doubt not your majesty will allow these our doings, and ever esteem us ready to do you humble service. As your majesty's pleasure is that some of this state repair to Richmond to meet your commissioners on our causes, "I mynd God willing, to keip the tryst myself agane the tent of September nixt" or where else you appoint. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Aug. 25. **783.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Having presently written to the Queen's majesty, I pray you deliver the same, and desire you give your good advice that her highness accept it not in evil part, but esteem it as truth. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 25. **784.** JOHN WOD TO LEICESTER.

Please your lordship to receive a letter from my lord's grace that came to my hands in this town; also I send to you and M^r^ Secretary the letter he writes to myself—beseeching your honourable lordship to supply my place in reporting the truth, as I am here

Elizabeth.
1568. commanded, for satisfying the Queen's majesty, "quhome my lord and maister is so loytht to offend, hawing frome his barneheyd dedicat his lyiff to hir service: and lett hir majeste knaw the oppin armes, the privat trahison, the practises in France for his distruction, that under God hes ewir with single hart, sought his refuge under hir majestes wingis." Let her consider to what extremity he is driven in defence of his own life and that innocent prince "quho being spoilyit of his fader to ayrlye, hes no umbre* to saif him under," but her majesty and that "puir" nobleman that has sworn to protect him against his father's murderers and the cruel papists, who would subvert "the Star of all Europe."† Let her majesty beware of their "paynted wordis." I also send divers letters come to my hands to show their "esperance" in France. Bullyke. *Signed:* M. Jhone Wod.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Addressed. Indorsed:* ". . . , from Barwik." *Error for* "Bulwick" *10 miles south of Stamford on the north road.*

Aug. 25. **785.** JOHN WOD TO CECIL.

Receive herewith a letter that came to my hands inclosed with your pacquet, "butt severalye for the nonis." Also the letter from my lord's grace to myself that you may have "in wryitt quhilk is commandit me to report"; the copies also sent to me, please consider and let them lie in Master Alytoun's hands "to my return quhan God pleisis." One thing is worthy to be "merkytt," that Huntly came with this force within mentioned beyond 160 miles, so it may appear he and Argyll both were in arms "befoyr thai culd be certifeytt whyther my lord wald hald parliament or nocht, and thairfor traistytt to thair awin force and not to the Quenes majestes letter"! The rest your honour can better consider than I can pen, and use the "naked wryttin" to persuade the Queen to consider how my lord was driven by the practices of the French faction, *viz.* the Hamiltons, the murderers, and the papists, whom God confound throughout the world. Remember the recommendation and credit to me in your honour's letter to the treasurer M^r^ Brown, that I may find his favour "in ane neid." Let my lord of Leicester be participant of these letters; it were meet some were only seen to yourselves, lest they be found "owyr trew." Bullyk.‡ *Signed:* M. Jhone Wod.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 26. **786.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. I presently received yours of 22^d^, perceiving her highness's pleasure to be against my wife coming hither. I trust, since she stays her, lest the journey might be to her danger or "discomoditie," that by your good means, her majesty will comfort her with her "benigne clemencie and gracious curtesie." I send herewith a pacquet for my lord of Norfolk's grace, which came from M^r^ Rychard Loother; it was stayed one day here, for "the poostes cryed owte on me for vexyng theym so often with letters." I have not heard from you if they shall

* Protection. † Elizabeth (?) ‡ Bulwick.

Elizabeth.
1568. have increase of wages in this busy time of service? As our money will not last beyond the latter end of September, you will do well if this Queen is likely to remain, to send more by the Duke of Norfolk to save carriage: "wherin you must consyder that this Quenes returne into Skotland wolbe motche more costlye to hyr hyghnes than the wekely charge of her remaynyng here." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: She has been very earnestly in hand with me of late, and very often, that I travail for her access to her highness's presence —which obtained, she says she would turn it to her highness's singular commodity, and "wold dedicate and oblige hyr selffe to hyr hyghnes for ever."

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 27. **787.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 214. App. I., No. 9. Perceives by one of her two letters of same date, Moray's excuse for his pretended parliament, which seems very cool, and is not true—the real object being her friends' forfeiture. Quotes Elizabeth's letter of 10th August, that she would prevent the adverse party doing anything to her prejudice; whereon her party sat still by command. The report of their invading the border is untrue. Cesford and his son are her rebels, and to prove her faith, she will make her party attack and "justify" them, or the English may, with their aid. Knows nothing of French or the Duke coming, and if they come against her will, would send them back, on one condition—that Elizabeth helped her as a sister and friend. But many have her ear who tell lies against her, thus making it impossible to be assured of her. Will not leave Bolton without her good will, whatever these liars say. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

3½ *pp.* *French.* *Holograph.*

Aug. 27. **788.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 212. I received your letters by Mr Bortyke very late last night. This Queen, on reading her highness's letters brought by him to her, complained to me of her unkindness crediting the untrue reports of her adversaries: and therewith read both these letters "bearyng one date," saying that they varied much, one containing "some gentle promysses," the other "all bytter threatenyngs." For the two special points charged: (1) her people invading the English border; and (2) the French coming to Scotland with the Duke *etc.*, she says (1) Cesford's retinue only, being her adversaries, have done so, and if her highness please, she will cause the borderers of her party to join with England to overthrow and "justefye" the offenders. (2) At leaving Carlisle she gave the Duke full authority by seal to govern Scotland in her absence, and wrote to her friends in France to aid him with money and munition; but as to French coming, she is utterly ignorant, and has forbidden them, and would send them back if they came. Touching Huntly's attempt to take Morton: she says it was before Herries' return. Whereon I said that if she would have her majesty do amply for her grace, she must repose more special trust in her than hitherto, for though she is well content to accept her majesty's promises in good part that are made to her benefit, yet I

Elizabeth.
1568. said that her "great exclamation" against holding a parliament, mustering her forces, and seeking aid of the kings of France and Spain, argues her mistrust in her highness! for if she specially trusted her, she need not doubt that her highness would deal so honourably in ordering matters by her commissioners, that nothing done in parliament or otherwise should be prejudicial to her or her party. 'But,' said I, 'as youe wold have the Quenes hyghnes to doe for youe before youe trust hyr, so the Quenes hyghnes contrary wyse, wold have youe to trust hyr before hyr doyng for youe. And,' said I, 'where as youe thynk that the shewe of your frendshyp and great countenance in France, Spayne, or Skotland, shold move the Quenes hyghnes the rather to doe more amplelye for youe: contrarye wyse hyr majestie wold be moved to doe moste amplelye for youe, yf youe shold indede repose your onely trust in hyr'! Whereto she said she was credited in nothing, but her adversaries were trusted in all things. Yet she seemed to show less impatience than her wont: saying she was in her highness's hands, and must receive according to her pleasure, and could be no otherwise thankful than the benefits she received should bind her, and that her party had obeyed the Queen "thor[olie]*" and was glad, 'for,' said she, 'my lord Huntlye, before he had word from the Earle of Argyle and my lord Herrys that we shold abstayne from hostilitie by my commawndement, he levyed his power and came towards Edenbroghe to have broken the parlament, but in his jorney thetherwards he beyng advertised by the earle of Argyle of hyr [*sic*] commawndement of abstinence, althoghe he was provoked to skyrmyshe by Tuto . . . *pen Cor, yet he restrayned all his forces from skyrmysshyng and all hostilitie, and retyred hym selffe forthwyth to the Earle of Argyle'; and the cause why he had not sooner warning of abstinence, was the taking by Murray of Herries' letters to him.

Touching the practises for her stealing away: though I believe she never assented, knowing how hard it is for her to escape: yet I mean to send for the other 50 of Captain Rede's band, to return hither forthwith. I mean to attend Lord Hunsdon to Berwick as you desire, if Lord Scrope return meantime. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Herewith is this Queen's letter to her highness.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Aug. 29. **789.** SIR RALPH SADLEIR TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Since being at Court, I have thought on this great matter of Scotland, and considering that many special matters may come in question, requiring great learning "in lawes and wisedom": as "who is a tyraunt? who may depose a tyraunt? and whether she be bounde by that she did in prison, *etc.*"? which shall touch not only England and Scotland, but all kingdoms, it is meet we go well prepared with learned men, for be assured the Scots will bring such. The Duke's grace and my lord of Sussex are noble, wise and discreet, but of their learning in the laws you can judge. For my self, I am utterly unlearned in all kinds of learning, and would rather adventure my life in the Queen's service, than where wisdom and learning ("whereof I am destitute") are to be showed. If our commission shall be, "to persuade that at leaste she may have the name of Quene, and others

* Worn off. The Tutor of Pitcur (?).

Elizabeth.
1568. the governement, I see not howe it can hang togither: well may it percase serve a turne for the tyme, but surely it can not long contynew, but rather lyke to make all worse both for Englande and Scotlande! whereof you can judge better then I." Staundon. *Signed:* R. Sadleir.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 29. **790.** MURRAY TO [CECIL].

Requesting his favour for James Clerk an "auld servand" who came with him from France and has continued with him "sensyne": now returning to his charge. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Aug. 29. **791.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. This Queen's "master stableler" John Leviston is presently returned from Scotland with 2 letters directed to "hyr hyghnes," and divers others to herself: whereon calling me to her, she said her party imputed great oversight to her, for staying their forcible interruption of this parliament holden to their forfeiture; 'But yet' said she, 'I am so loothe to offend the Quene with myn owne letters, that I shall desyre youe to send these 2 letters directed and sent to hyr hyghnes from the lordes of Skotland, and withall to sygnefye unto hyr my good syster, howe that I and my partie have obayed hyr in all thynges, and that myn adversaries have owtrageouslye dealt with us contrarie to hyr hyghnes pleasure and order.' Leviston also gives out that this Queen's party coming to the field were above 20,000 men, and could not have been resisted; and there would be yet great blood shed if her highness do not take it up in time. This Queen also desired me earnestly to procure her highness's speedy answer to the lords' letters sent. I said I would send them, and signify her grace's desire, but as I knew not their contents, I thought her grace, submitting her whole causes in faithful and trusty manner to her highness, would rather draw her to deal beneficially for her grace, "than anye stowtnes of letters, or musters of forces cowlde."

She had an "owlde klothe of estate, fallyng but to the myddle of the chayre, browghte unto hyr with hyr laste 6 cariages owte of Skotland, the which she hathe nowe sett upp here in the great chamber."

Lacking wood through our great consumption, "I have taken uppon me to fell a dussen or twentie trees dotterds, in hyr hyghnes parke of Wenlesse" a mile hence, to serve us.

Remember her highness and my lord of Leicester for saddle horses for this Queen. I pray you comfort my poor wife's "disease of the mynde, yf she have anye sotche dolor." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: After writing thus much, this Queen said that divers of her party dwelling about Edinburgh have promised to come in to Murray: but if her highness do not stay him from forcing them to come at the day—15 days' hence—she says they will resist by force. 'But' said she, 'I woll not bed my partie use force.' Leviston says

Elizabeth.
1568. the Duke of "Shatillarowe" is presently looked for in Scotland, and munition to Dunbarton from France is coming before him.

Here are 2 other letters sent, directed to one John Gordon a Scotsman, dwelling with the Duke of Norfolk—as this Queen says she is informed—and she begs they be conveyed to him.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet.*

Aug. 31. **792.** MARY TO KNOLLYS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 218. "Mester Knoleis: Y heuv har sum neus from Scotland, Y send "you the double off them. Y vreit to the Quin my gud sister, and "pres you to du the lyk, conforme to that Y spak yesternicht unto "you, and sut hesti ansur. I refer all to your discretion, and wil "lipne beter in your gud delin for mi, nor Y can persuad you nemli "in this langasg. Excus my ivel vreitin, for Y nevver used it afor, and "am hestet. Ye schal si my bel, huilk is opne. It is sed Seter- "dey my unfrinds wil bi vth you. I sey nething, bot trests weil. And "ye send oni to your wiff, ye mey asur her schu wald a bin weilcom "to a pur strenger, hua nocht bien aquentet vth her, wil nocht bi "ouuer bald to vreit; bot for the aquentans betuix ous, Y wil send "you letle tekne [token], to rember you off the gud hop I heuv in "you. Guef ye fend a mit mesager, Y wald wysch ye bestouded it "reder apon her no nain uder. Thus efter my commendations, Y "prey God heuv you in his kipin. Your asured gud frind." *Signed:* "Marie R. Excus my ivel vreitin thes furst tym."

1 *p. Holograph, also address:* "To Ser Franseis Knolis the Quin my gud sisters Vyschamerland." *Indorsed* (by Knollys): ". . . The Q. of Skots lettre (and by Cecil's clerk) to Mr Vichamberlein."

Aug. 31. **793.** ADVICES FROM SCOTLAND.

C.P., vol. I. The Regent is "exhonerit be woit of parliament" of "intromis- sioun with the Quenis jwellis," disposition of a part, and liberty to "dispone" the rest as occasion shall serve—"the remedie for salvetie (?) thairof."

Mr John Wod has written from England that the Queen is offended with the direction of the bishop of Dunblane to the "Pape," and the bishop of Glasgow's diligence in France for men, and the tumult by the bishop of St Andrews, and represents to her that "owre Quene" pretends nothing but the plain deprivation of Christ's Evangel and setting up idolatry: which her highness will not suffer. He has advertised the Regent of 1000 Frenchmen to come here, and how England will resist them. There is "great cumar in France, for the papeistis hes slane ane grit nwmbir of the protestantis laitlie at St Wallereis quha was gangand to support the brether in Flanderis." The Regent's taking the castles of Hamilton and Cragnethen is voted by the three Estates as done for the commonwealth, and all intromitters with the goods and gear therein are exonered: also Grange by vote of parliament, of the like in the castle of St Andrews: and likewise "the confirmatioun of my lord of St Johnnis few is ratifeid new as of bifoir."

Elizabeth.
1568. These in Lothian are come in to the Regent:—Lord Borthik, Lairds of Bas, Corstorfin, Colstoun; the "Guidman" of Humbie, the Laird of Rosling has promised; and "Lameintoun" and others are come in, and given caution to serve the King and Regent truly.

1 *p.* *In a Scottish hand.*

(2) Another copy of same. *Indorsed* (partly by Knollys): "Ultimo Augusti: the Q. of Skots newes."

Aug. 31. **794.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P. vol. I. "My lord of Hundesdon sent my cussen Gorge Carie after the closyng of my last letters, hether to me a Sunday nyght laste," to meet him at Newcastle and go with him to Berwick: so (God willing) this night I mean to be with him. I have ordered Captain Reade, M^r^ Morton, M^r^ Wylford, William Knollys and Barratt Reade's lieutenant, to govern the watch here "severallye everye 5^th^ nyghte," till my return: which I mean to be about Monday or Tuesday next at furthest. Lord Scrope will be here tonight, and there is no fear of this Queen escaping. She has of late not only used me very courteously, but also pressed me marvellously, as though she conceived I could persuade her highness to show her great favour, and grant access to her presence. And when I say I am but an inferior person, trusted for my truth not my wit, and unable to meddle with her grace's causes, too intricate for me, but "as an informer or reporter, whearin I sayde that I was commawnded by hyr hyghnes": yet she doth "skase" forbear her importunity. And still I tell her "that she must fyrst wyn a credyte with her hyghnes by commyttyng hyr full and specyall truste in hyr majestie." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 1. **795.** HERRIES TO THE REGENT MURRAY.

When I was in England, it pleased the Queen to show me that the ordering of the matter betwixt our sovereign and her nobility, being referred to her, she would appoint time and place to decide by commissioners, and would give command that no trouble be done by either party, till her determination; directing me to show my sovereign this. I have written to you to know certainly if my sovereign's obedient subjects shall be untroubled by the other party, till that deliverance, or at least till our return from England? For the proud thieves of these parts, assisted by some Englishmen and people altogether without fear of God, burn and nightly rob the poor. If ye will give the wardenry here to any true man, I shall make him sure of my assistance to keep order, till this great matter of authority be tried. If this cannot be, I desire again the houses ye caused take from me when I was with the Queen of England, and had her promise I should take no hurt. But yet, as Sir Nicolas Throkmorton and Myddlemore advise, if it please you to put some noble and worthy man in that office, he shall with my good will have the use of them "as ane help for trew men, as my intent wes quhen I biggit thame; quhair now thai ar ane ressait and refuge to maist errant thevis." Dumfries, 1^st^ September. Herys.

1 *p.* *Contemporary copy.* *Addressed:* "To my lord Regent."

Elizabeth.
1568.
Sept. 1.
C.P., vol. I.

796. CHATELHERAULT TO ELIZABETH.

"Beying advertesit be my soveranis wryttingis off the guid will and mynd your hienes beiris to help to restoir hir majestie to hir awin realme," and remembering your great kindness to me "nocht alanerlye" in times past in my great necessity, but now lately since the beginning of my sovereign's troubles, and last of all, "within thir few dayis declarit to me be your hienes ambassaldour in thir partis": I send this bearer my cousin and servitor the commendator of Kilwinning, to give your highness most humble thanks and commendation of my most humble service. Beseeching your majesty "werray humbly" (1) to continue in your good mind to restore my sovereign to her own, and (2) that I may remain in your good favour, and that your highness will grant me a safe conduct, and "sielyk" to the bearer, to "speik" my said sovereign "for sik thingis as I haiff gevin him in charge," and return to your majesty; whereby I trust in God by your help and "moyence," some good way shall be found to stand with your honour and her contentment. Praying your highness very humbly to credit him as my self. Paris. *Signed:* Yowr majestie mast hwmyll and mast obedeant serwetwr. James Hammylton."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By the Abbott of Kilwynning."

Sept. 1.

797. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 191. App. I., No. 10.

Disregarding favour or suspicion of friends or enemies, false reports about herself, or that Elizabeth favours her rebels *etc.*, sent by the 2 chief commissioners—one always her foe—prays treatment as an equal and friend. Is like a ship in a storm unable to make port, and supplicates her friendly help. Has asked Knolles to forward her subjects' letter, which she fears shows too much distrust. If she gets no resolute answer hereto, she will be so bold as visit her, if not kept prisoner. Begs her not to ruin but advise her against the wicked inventions of this world. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

Begs some liberty for poor prisoners so straitly kept undeservedly, and to command that the rest of her jewels be not sold as parliament ordered—for she promised they should do nothing to her prejudice.

3 *pp.* *French.* *Holograph.*

Sept. 1.
C.P., vol. I.

798. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

The chief merchants of Newcastle made earnest request to Lord Hunsdon and me, there this day, to commend to you of the Council their suit against "the merchants of Danske and stylyarde men." Their goods and ships are stayed in "Danske," by their note here inclosed to you, (1) for "Danske" goods stayed in England, and (2) for the traffic the English make in "the Narue": and till redress, will not be released. When I consider what favour these "stylyard" men receive by their English freedom, and what "cater pyllers" they be, I marvel they should dare to offend thus, or hope for favour! I enclose the Queen of Scots' letter to me, and note of her news from Scotland. The matter she names, of yesterday's "talke," is her desire for access to her majesty, as I wrote to you from Bolton yesterday

Elizabeth.
1568. morning at leaving. You see how she corrupts me, sending "tokyns" after me! That for my wife is a "pretie cheyne of pomander beades, fynelye laced with goolde wyer." I marvel at Murray's coming into England so long before the commission—"but she mystrusted at my comyng awaye that I sholde mete hym at Barwyke. . . . Ceaton Dalavale in Tynmothe shere." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 3. **799.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 222. I continue ready to "keip tryst" at Richmond with your highness's commissioners, when I hear from my servant there. Every day since I last wrote to your highness, the king's disobedient subjects look for the Duke with a French force, and the report is they are embarked. We, practising no hostility, but preparing to come to England, the other faction work their malice, take poor labourers prisoners, maintain their garrison of Dunbarton at the town's expense, and with French cruelty, stay poor fishermen from their lawful labour till they pay fines. Huntly has besieged the Provost of Aberdeen's house and forced that town to yield, and taken one of the king's cannons, "liand at a rowme in the north" in my heritable charge, to assail the houses of all who resist him. Wherefore I beseech your majesty to continue your gracious favour to our liberty from foreign tyranny, and aid our innocent master's just quarrel, which I doubt not is dear in your eyes. Having taken this boldness to inform you of the state of this country, I abide your highness's further pleasure. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1½ *pp. No flyleaf or address.*

Sept. 3. **800.** WOOD TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 219. I understand that a packet has escaped me, and come to your hands, and was by my lord's grace desired to be hasted. If there be no alteration of the diet of meeting, I humbly desire your honour to send 2 safe conducts—one for my lord's grace himself with 100 horse, the other for the earls of Morton and Glencairn, Adam bishop of Orkney, Robert commendator of Dunfermline and Patrick lord Lyndsay, with like number—to be here with Lord Hunsdon as soon as may be. What disorder grows on these borders, my lord warden will inform you, and by whose means. Consider the charges, *etc.* to that afflicted realm and also to this, through "the defacing of my lord Regent," which a word might have helped within these 3 months! And if ever matters amend, it must be by his, and not your forces—for if you begin to employ them against our wicked borderers, let me never have trust of your honour, if that "sall nott kendle and not slokin the fyir," to the Queen's majesty's heavy charges. If they knew not the Regent's extremity, they durst not so far "dip in thir attemptatis": but hereof I trust you shall hear from himself. If the resolution to resist the French, (which we attend every hour), proceeds as slowly as the last matters in hand, we cannot miss a long and dangerous war. You shall understand further at my arrival in Court. Berwick. *Signed:* M. Jhone Wod.

1½ *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Elizabeth.
1568.
Sept. 3.

801. MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have again by this my letter to the Queen's majesty, made some little discourse of the state of this country "sen" my last to her highness: which I pray you present to her, "excusing thairwithall my bauldnes that thus importunis hir majestie. . . . quhilk I am constrenit to do at this present, becaus I feir Mr Johnne Wod my servand salbe in his viage returnyng befoir thir lettres can cum to your handes." Ye will no doubt do the best, and we persuade "our selff" your advice will be to our commodity. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 3.

802. HERRIES TO [THE PRIVY COUNCIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 220.

My lords, I am informed by James Bortwyk lately come from the Queen your sovereign, that it has been shown to her, that I have ridden in Crawfurdmuir since my return, on Murray's "dependandis." and have counselled raids on her majesty's subjects. As God lives, I have neither consented to nor know of any Scotsman's riding in England since the siege of Leith: and if any have, it is the Queen my sovereign's "disobedientis." I have done more good to Crawfurdmuir than ever Murray has, and will be "laither" to hurt them than he. I hear your sovereign is ill content of the bruit of the French coming with Chatelherault. I know no more thereof than by Bortwyk's report from her majesty. "And gif I mycht alsweill sa it as it is trew indeid: hir grace self is all the wyitt and the counsale that will never latt hir tak ordour with my maistres caus. For that our soverane haveand hir majesties promeis be writtin, of luff, freindschip and assistance, gif neid haid so requyrit, enterit that realme upone the xvj day of Maii." [*Here he repeats Elizabeth's promises to him to reinstate Mary—his demand for their fulfilment, or to let her go to France, or to her own realm as she came out of it, one of which could not be refused in honour*]—"and siklyk I said to hir hienes, gyf my maistres haid the lyk promes of hir nobilitie and estaitis, as sche haid of hirself, I suld have reprovit thame heichlie gif thay haid nocht condiscendit to ane of thir thre. And so I say and so I writt, that in the warld it salbe maist reprehendable gif this promeis taikis nocht wther gud effect nor yitt it dois. Nochtwithstanding I gatt gud answeris of thir promessis of freindschip maid to my soverane, and to put hir grace in this hir awin cuntre peaceabillie: we have found the contrarie working be Middilmure, directit frome hir hienes to stay the armie that cuist doun our houssis, and alsua in the proceiding of this laitt pretendit parliament, promeist twentie dayis befoir the tyme to my selff, to have causit it bene dischargeit. And yitt contrarie to this promes, have thay maid thair pretendit maner of foirfaltour of xxxi men of gud reputatioun, bischoppis, abbattis and baronis, obedient subjectis to our souverane, onlie for hir caus! Thay have alsua disponit sene our soveranis caussis was tayne upone hand be the Quenis majestie of that realme, ane hundreth thowsand pundis Scottis worthe of hir awn trew subjectis geir, wnder the cullour of thair law, groundit upone thair fals tressonable stowin* auctorite." The murders, oppressions.

* *i.e.*, stolen.

Elizabeth.
1568. burnings, ravishing women, destruction of "policie," ecclesiastical and temporal, as I wrote before, is lamentable to any Christian man to hear of. Except God give grace, the profession of Christ's Evangel "professit" by your prince, council, and realm, "be mair myndit nor the auld inamitie that has stand betuix the realmes, mony of my cuntre men will dout in this article: and thir proceidingis puttis my self in SancThomes beleif. Now my lordis, gif the Quenis majestie of that realme, upone quhayis promeis and honour my maistres come thair, as I have said, will laif all the Frenche writtingis and Frenche phrasis of writtingis, quhilk amangis thame is oure mekill one boith the sydis usit, and plainlie, according to the auld trew custome of Ingland and Scotland, quhairin be a word promesit, trewtht was observit, promeis, in the name of the Eternall God, and upone the heycht honour of that nobill and princelie blude of the kingis of Ingland, quhairof sche is discendit and presentlie weiris the diademe, that sche will put my maistres in hir awn cuntre and caus hir as quene thairof in hir auctorite and strenthis to be obeyit: and to do the same will appoint ane certane day within twa monethis at the forthest; as we wnderstand this to be our weill, sua will we or the maist pairt of ws, all follow upone it, laifand the Frenchemen and thair evill Frenche phraissis togiddre. And thairfoir and for the trew perpetuale freindschip of that realme, will conditioun, and for our part, with the grace of Almychting God, keip, sik headis and conditionis of agrement as nobill and wys men cane condiscend upone, for the weill of this haile yland, as I have bene partlingis declaring to the quene your soverane, quhilk I schew to your lordschippis selfs, boith in religioun, in the puneisment of the Erle Boithvile for the Quenis last housbandis sclauchter, and for a mutuale band of amitie perpetualie to remane amangis ws. Doutles my lordis, without that we may find sik trew and freindfull working, as may gif ws occasioun bayth to foryett Middlemure and this lait pretendit parliament, we will turne the laif,* laifing our soverane aganis our will, to rest quhair sche is, under the promeis of freindschip, as I have bayth said and will ever afferme, maid be your soverane,—quhilk was onlie caus of hir grace cuming in that realme—and seik the help and myane† of Frenche or Spanische till expuls this tressonable and fals pretendit auctorite, quhilk menis to regnne above ws. My lordis, I desyre your lordschippis considder that it is he that maist desyris the amitie betuix Ingland and Scotland to continew, and of a puir man best caus has, that writtis this! My brother the lard of Skirling schawis me that in your lordschippis commonyng with him, it appeirit to him your mynd was we suld suffer the Erle of Murray to work, althocht it war aganis ressoun to ws, and complene thairof to the quenis majestie, and hir hienes wald se it reformit! My lordis, hir majestie will be our mekill troublit to reforme the wrangis we have sustenit alreddy, for I am suir gif ressoun and justice may have place, our maistres and we hir subjectis has ressavit expres wrang far abone twa hundretht thowsand pund sterling in this tyme of his unhappie governament. Seing the reformatioun of sa gret caussis cumis now adayis so slawlie, and the ungodlie law of oblivioun in sik matteris so mekill practisid, I think nother for the

* *i.e.*, leaf. † Moyen, *i.e.*, aid.

Elizabeth.
1568. "Quenis honour nor eais nor our weill, your lordschippis wald sua mein, nor that it is gud to ws to follow it. And that ye will gif your soverane sik adverteisment heirof as your gud wisdomis sall find in this caus meitt, it wilbe trew and freindfull working for ws in deid. And nother Frenche phrasis, nor bosting, and finding lytill uther effect, that will caus ws to hald away the Frenchemen. This is planlie writin, and I desyre your lordschippis plane answer: for in trewtht and plainnes langest continewis gud freindschip." Dumfries. *Signed:* Herys.

Postscript: "My lord Wardane, in my last writtin I complenit of my auld compeditour anon," and I have required "law souerteis." I desire your lordship's answer, for he shall have nothing to do with me in that country while I live.

4 *pp.* *Very closely written.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Sept. 4. **803.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. I received your letters of 28th and 29th yesternight late. Touching her highness's letter to the Queen of Scots by Borthyk: though not satisfied with it, "yet it semethe manifestlye that she hathe newlye determyned to restrayn hyr selffe from offensyve speaches and wrytyngs, and to bayre with hyr hyghnes wrytyngs and messages more dulcelye than she was wonte to doe: nevertheles she saythe unto me often that yf hyr hyghnes doe arbitrate the matter betwene hyr and hyr subjects, as it were betwene eqwalls, althoe she woll take that which she maye gett, yet she cane not be so motche bownden unto hyr hyghnes as otherwyse she wold be gladd to be." As for holding the parliament: though she would "fayne incense hyr hyghnes offensyvelye" against Murray, I have told her that her highness cannot "make this any matter offensyve to hyr selffe, yf he doe yelde to hyr hyghnes order in sotche wyse as no thyng done in this parlament shalbe prejudiciall to this Quene, otherwyse than hyr hyghnes shall think reasonable."

Yesternight came hither Mr Stward and Mr John Wodd, and about midnight there was a great "larum" and one of the 14 scouts near the castle walls, was spitefully murdered: yet they took very small spoil away. Her highness's cattle were in the castle ditch, near where they killed the man, yet in their haste they took none. Whereon at Wood and Steuart's taking leave this morning, it was resolved to avoid open war (which these thieves seek to make to cause the Regent's overthrow), that the Regent should signify to Lord Hunsdon what borderers he will answer for, that the others may be "plaged." Mr Wood also desired that my lord Regent's cause should not be determined at Conrt till duly heard. Before your letters came, Mr "Robart Stward" discoursed of the "papisticall tyrannye in France, and of the dawngerous lacks of the Prynce of Cowndie and the Admyralle"—whereon I told him how her highness had sent to the French king "rowndlye" thereon, by her ambassador "lydger" there, and pray God she may do as appertains to a vigilant and godly princess.

I wrote to you of Huntly's repulse as informed: and will write to Herries of his "false pryncyple" soon. I will write to my lord of Leicester for the Queen of Scots' horses, when I come to Bolton, since I have no answer at your hands. Hunsdon will needs stay me here

Elizabeth.
1568. two days longer, so it will be Thursday or I get to Bolton. I am glad you have given the posts double wages for this their chargeable time. If the "nootes" I have of Sir John Foster be true, then some of this Queen's party are guilty of spoil, whereof both she and Herries shall hear shortly. Berwick. *Signed:* F. Knollys,

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: 3 flowers on chevron.*

Sept. 6. **804.** WOOD TO CECIL.

"I fand my lord Regentis his grace heir . . . werray quyett," the nobility being gone home to prepare either for the Frenchmen, or to come to Richmond on the 25th: which has been no small "hinder" to State affairs, "nor na small chardgis to the Regent, so mony ways besye exhaustit be thir trowbles past." What hurt the countenance of the Queen's majesty has done to her friends and their just cause here, was "butt in ane part lamentit be me thair"—and if I had seen what I do now, I would have had your honour and the Council more largely informed. What trust can be given to the adversaries' promises, the past has declared, and now their continual attempts on the borders, and practices in France, and their lieutenants' ("as thai call thayme") proceedings in all "cornayris" of this realm! Yet my lord Regent is "resolutly deliberat in personne to justifye his cause befoyr ewir he will sturre armour," and therefore craves earnestly the speedy dispatch of his safe conduct. For once his true meaning and just occasion were notified to her majesty, and thus to the whole world, he will fear no kind of hazard in doing his duty to his "innocent maister," and "lett all causes of conscience and honour be smowrit and putt in oblivion." I find nothing grieves him more than lack of opportunity to confer with your honour, "and says he must neidis haif it be on meinis or uthir."* I remit the rest to the letters directed to me and come to your honour's hands. "The state is no better nor your honour conjecturit, and sic necessite of the sennwngis† of warre, as gryttar can nocht be." Edinburgh. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

1½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 6. **805.** EARL OF SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. What has passed in the Scottish causes shall appear by letters from my lord of Norfolk, Mr Saddeler and me, to the Queen's majesty.

My time has been so short here, and my attendance such on my lord of Norfolk "for that commyssyon," that I can write little till further understanding: till which time pray you hold my "scylence" excused. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

I beseech my most hearty commendations to my lord "Stuard" to whom I would have written if I had matter. While writing, I received a packet from Murray to Mr John Wood, which I send herewith.

1 *p. Holograph, also address:* "To Sir Wyll'm Cycyle" *etc. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* These words are in cipher. † Sinews.

Elizabeth.
1568. Sept. 7. **806.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

By my servant Mr Wood's report I abundantly understand your many good offices, but will not weary you with "wordes of assentatioun, quhairin I knaw weill ye delite not. Bot in my accustomat maner, I may nevir ceas to put yow to panys," and to remind her highness of the preparation of "the Franscheis," who, though not landed, are daily looked for here by their faction, and that she will take order. For our coming to England: we are in the same mind, and understanding by Mr John Wod that the 25th instant is appointed, "we think it a greit favour, and myndis to keip that day precislie God willing." Praying safe conducts expede, one to James Earl of Morton, or Alexander earl of Glencairn, Patrick lord Lindesay of the Byris, Adam bishop of Orkney, Robert commendator of Dumfermling or any three *etc.* with 100 horse—the other to myself, with like retinue. We only ask them lest "the Quene my souveranis moder, mycht peraventier desire to deteane ws alsweill as hir that enterit in that realme without hir warrand." If they were at Berwick by 18th or 19th, "I sall Godwilling attend thairon and be in readines" to journey. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

On the flyleaf is a draft of part of the Regent's safe conduct in Cecil's handwriting.

Sept. 8. **807.** ROBERT STEUART TO CECIL.

Finding passage to France not so ready as "I dessyr and mestaris,"* I must remain some time longer in "thir" parts, and will be very glad to know what is doing in the matters whereof I had charge. Fearing to trouble you, I have prayed this gentleman, known to you, "to schaw you the rest." Edinburgh. *Signed:* R. Steuart.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address:* "To . . . Schir Weillem Cesiles knycht" *etc.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 9. **808.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Praying him that his servant Mr John Wod the bearer, returning to the Queen's majesty instructed of his mind, may be furthered and "exped": and to give him all credit. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 11. **809.** MURRAY TO HERRIES.

Your letter of Dumfries the 7th [*sic*] of this present, come to us the 10th of same. We are at all times willing to follow the Queen of England's advice, and since your coming here ye must admit all hostility on our part has been suspended. What on the other part has been the behaviour of your party, and whether they have reverenced her majesty's writings and good advice, "ye knaw weill

* Need.

Elizabeth.
1568. aneuch! It is not ane or twa symple injuryis and violences that we have past ower, and for hir hienes pleasoure patientlie sustenit," but a great number of outrages, purposely to make us and others of the King's Council, prepared to go to England, stay at home to defend his lieges. It had been well done of you to have known whether they in the castle of Dunbarton minded to keep this abstinence before ye wrote to us. We mind however to keep it to all (except those legally forfeited) till our returning from England—the like being done by them ye term of your party. And it were well ye certified us how far ye might answer—seeing ye are the first here that has written for this end.

We are glad to find you offering assistance to such as we shall appoint to the wardenry. If ye had been as willing this twelve month bypast, as now, assuredly theft and oppression had not been so frequent. "Bot remedie is never to be rejectit, nor faithfull assistance offerrit in sa gude a caus is nocht to be refusit." Only we must say—if ye had pleased to continue in the wardenry, we meant not to have altered you, knowing how ye could have stayed the thieves. "Bot now to speik directlie to yow: to quhat purpois sall your offer serve? Have ye nocht proclamit yourself wardane?" commanding none to obey the king or us, and has not that "nuke" of the realm followed you, as if a province by itself? And what profit would it be to appoint a true man, unless you promise for yourself, dependants *etc.*, obedience to him in the king's name? We had sought neither the houses of Annand nor Hoddom out of your hands, had ye served as warden or made your men obey the king. Nor did we deliver them to "na errant thevis, bot to your nychtbour and nearest kynsman the Laird of Drumlanrig, quhome we nominat to have bene warden." And as for the persons reset therein, we and he shall be as able to answer, as ye for your men the Batesons and others of like quality. We will boldly take in hand to answer both England and Scotland for all professing the king's obedience. Edinburgh.

2 *pp. Copy in same hand as Herries' letter. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "September 1568. Doubles of the lettres sent betwene therle of Murrey and the Lord Herys."

Sept. 11. **810.** SCROPE AND KNOLLYS TO HERRIES.

C.P., vol. I. You shall herewith receive from the Queen our mistress two letters—one to you the nobles of the Queen your mistress's party, in reply, the other to the Earl of Murray—copies wherof your mistress has seen—but being received on my the Vicechamberlain's return, they have come to you later than otherwise. Touching your letter of 3d instant to us both: I lord Scrope sent it on receipt to the Court. As you require our plain answer to your plain letter: though we cannot answer "as directars of the Quene and her Councell," yet as private persons we may say unto you that we think it very strange "that since at your cominge frome the courte of Englande, ye made greate accompte of the Quene our mistres promis, whearof you made many repeticons, and coming into Skotlande, you did publishe and set forthe the same promis in the highest degree to the terror of youre adversaries and to the alluremente of doutfull or indiferent persons, and also to the confirmacion of your assured frindes: yet after that

Elizabeth.
1568. "you have uside the same our mistres promis in all respectes to your beste comoditie, nowe it semes by your lettre that you doe make very small accompte of her majesties saide promis"! Also where her highness appointed to end all controversies there by a meeting of commissioners—the execution whereof has been hitherto delayed partly by levying great forces on your part, before "dispercing" whereof there could be no meeting of commissioners—and partly by bruits of the French coming into your country, a thing so disagreeable to our mistress that it must have broken all her peaceable and loving intentions to your Queen and country, had they proved to be true: also partly by Murray's severe proceedings in parliament—"but his faultes are rather to be layed to his owne chardge then to be published unto you." And where in sundry writings you allege "that the Quene oure mistress promised you that no parliamente sholde be holden in Skotlande, withoute addinge therunto these woordes followinge—*prejudicyall to the Quene your mistres and to her partie*: hearin we muste admonishe you, that is a dangerous matter for a man of your wisdome to lay a principle that is not justifiable—for wee are wylled to say unto you that the Quene oure mistres never made you promis that no parliament sholde be holden in Skotlande; but her majesties promis was, that if the Quene your mistres wolde stande to her order, that nothinge done in that parliamente sholde be prejudicyall to her or her partye; but if so be you will not peaceablie suffer the Quene our mistres to order the causes by metinge of comyssioners, then you can not blame her majestie if she doe nothinge for you! Hit semes by youre lettre that you wolde be contentid to be done for: but to abyde the metinge of the comyssioners wherbie her majestie may doe for you as to hyr honoure and uprighte judgmente may seme reasonable, we se you nothinge inclynede. Your lettre is full of mystruste of the Quene our mistres upright dealinge; and it is also furnishid with threatninges of bringinge in of Frenche and Spaynishe unlesse the Quene our mistres shall doe for you in that tyme and order that you have prescribyd! The which maner of writinge wee thinke verye strange; but if you be inded Sir Thomas of Yude,* and will not beleve nor truste the Quene our mistres promise, nor stande to her order otherwies then according to your owne prescription, you may truste to the Frenche, to the Spaynishe, to the Pope, or to whome you will, we cannot lett you: but we are verie sorie that you sholde otherwies thinke then honourablye of the Quene our mistres."

We send the names of such of the Queen's party as have ridden in our Middle Marches, this August last. The notes of offences against the East Middle Marches, are too many to send at present.

(The names of the riders.)

The Lairds of Manchester,* Whytehawe: Dan Karr of Shylstock brays, William Ensley of Fallowe; Douglas sheriff of Tyvidale.

2½ *pp. Copy, certified by Knollys. Indorsed.*

* Juda—*i.e.*, "Thomas the doubter." † Mangerton?

Elizabeth.
1568.
Sept. 12.

811. KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 224.

Coming hither from Berwick, I received on Wednesday last* at Alnwick, her highness' letters of 2d, one to myself, one to the Earl of Murray, and the other to the noblemen of this Queen's party, with copies, which I showed to her on Friday morning last, as directed; requesting her grace to name commissioners and order them to be at York against the last of this month. At first she misliked much the long date: but has directed letters to be conveyed by Herries, ordering him, Lord Boyd, and the Bishop of Rosse, as her commissioners to meet on the day. On imparting the rest of her highness's letter to her grace, she earnestly affirms she is not privy to the Duke of Chatelherault's coming with a foreign force, and thinks it untrue.

I send you copy of Lord Scrope's and my reply to Herries' letter, which Scrope sent to you last Wednesday immediately on receipt.

Lord Hunsdon stayed me two whole days longer at Berwick, but I leave the discourse till my next, having "a rewme and colde."

†I have your letter of 3d by my servant, and see thereby your good intent to further my suit for "Nuelme": but since it is too great to obtain, as it is too little to supply my need, I will hereafter rather abase my countenance to answer my poor living, than hope to advance my living agreeable to my countenance. I have 6 sons living, besides my eldest, and I fear that "theyr youthfull stowte hartes woll not abyde myserye": and yet if God took me away tomorrow, I should not leave "four nobles" yearly revenue: and should be sorry to think "they shold aventure the gallowse" for lack of living! But if "my cowrtlye cowntenance" were taken away, I would leave them such an example of a contented poor life, that they should better contain themselves "to lyve within theyr compasse." My daughters also are far too chargeable for me to keep in this order: and experience teaches what "fowle crymes" youthful women fall into for lack of orderly maintenance. My will is good, they cannot lack as long as I have it, but there is no more "to be had of a catte but the skynne." God keep me from falsehood: "and yett I see that they which playe false or become banckrowt, to hyr hyghnes intollerable losse, have fownd more favor than is fytt for a trewe man to looke for"!

My suit was only for an exchange, but most beneficial to me, with least loss to her highness: "but I woll nevir hoape for mowntaynes, synce sotche moole hylles‡ doe fayle and escape me. I doe not envie favorr shewed to yll men, but happie is that realme where vertue is honorred and vice is brydled." When I had written thus much, I received your letter of the 8th, and see that the Abbot of Kilwinning, servant to Chatelherault, will soon be here: also your continual care for the relief of me and mine, though undeserved on our part. I have written to my lord of Leicester trusting to obtain hôrses for this Queen: and thank you for the good news of France and Flanders. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Pray relieve me of this tedious service.

2 *pp.* *Partly written by his clerk.* *No flyleaf or address.*

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* 8th. Holograph from this point. ‡ Molehills.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Sept. 15.

812. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 245. App. I., No. 11.

Has been much consoled by her promises to the Abbot of Kilwinning, and since by her letter that she will give no credit to reports by enemies who only seek to hurt her. She cannot answer for complaints against Cesford, but Fernehirst has promised obedience and she has written to him to satisfy the Governor of Berwick. Herries will do his utmost to keep order—repeats her offer of her subjects' assisttance against offenders named by Hunsdon. As for foreign aid, she may see by Kilwinning she has but one string to her bow and depends only on her—reminds her of her promise to restore her while in prison before Langsyde—and in return will serve her in any way she can, and meanwhile will exercise patience. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

Is weary till she sees her, or returns whence she came.

3½ *pp. French. Holograph.*

Sept. 15.

813. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I.

The Abbot of Kilwinning came hither last Monday morning,* and this day departs for Scotland. On conference with him, this Queen has increased the number of her commissioners, appointing them to be at York the last of this month, as in the schedule here inclosed: desiring passports for them. On my return from Berwick, I rode from Alnwick "this daye sennyght in the mornynge in post," with such speed that I reached Tynemouth by 9 a.m., and the day being "hoot," my body already "swetynge," Sir Henry Percy travelled me on foot to view "that pece": and after dinner "caried me also on foote" to view a "grose" fortification made in King Henry VIII. days, whereof Mr Brenne was surveyor: and my body being thus "swetie" with travel, I took boat from the castle over the haven with "some longe cercute to the sea wardes," whereby and the "colde sea wynd" I fell into a "rhume" and hoarseness, my flesh is fallen away and my body so "consumed" that I stay from writing, though I am "hart hole" and I trust not in danger. We had also "a larum" the second night I was at Berwick: I rose and remained "coldlye aparrayled" most of the night, "a preparative" to taking this "rhume and horsenes." The last of August I went to New Castle "to my bedd" and found Lord Hunsdon, and spake with one of the "customers" about money, who said if he had warrant, he could deliver me 200*l.*, and more the end of this month. Desiring your warrant therefor, and for a further supply, I will send Mr Morton to you ere long.

After writing thus much, I received your letter of 11th and immediately delivered her highness's letter to this Queen, who took it in very good part, but says "hyr hyghnes doethe not promise hyr anye thinge thearby of certantie—more then afore tyme she hath donne." I told her grace that her highness must first hear, and then determine. Then I reminded her of the complaints of her highness's subjects against the borderers of her party. She said she could not call them her party, but "unrulye theaves and no men of accompt," but did not excuse it: and has written to Herries to take straight order for punishment, as she hears that Murray and Hume have dealt with Hunsdon. I am sorry to hear of the "tyrannye" in France

* September 13th.

Elizabeth.
1568. and pray God to give all princes wisdom to foresee the papists' malice. The Queen and the abbot of Kilwinning have both declared that her highness need not fear the Duke's leaning to the French, for he depends on her order only: but what he is, you know well enough. For Berwick, I can only say that the Marshal is a careful, vigilant and "uncorrupte" servant, and deserves encouragement from Court; and I doubt not my lord Hunsdon esteems him accordingly.

"I cannot forgett that the scytuation of Newelme howse is accompted the better bycause it is invironed with a standynge puddell water." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(The Queen of Scots' Commissioners.)

Passport to be made for:—
Gilbert earl of Cassillis; M[r] John Lesly bishop of Ros; Alexander Gordon bishop of Galloway; John lord Herries; Robert lord Boyd; Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar knight; Sir James Cokburne of Skirling knight.

In a Scottish hand. *Indorsed.*

Sept. 16. **814.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. The bearers Captain John Lawder and Thomas Bogg, in wages at the Court of France, came hither with Lord Hunsdon's passport, to go to Court and thence to France. As this Queen has detained them somewhat longer, than they "pretended" to my lord, she has desired me to commend them to you for passport to France. This Lawder is well known among our soldiers of Berwick to be a valiant well conditioned captain in the wars between England and Scotland. Bolton castle. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 16. **815.** SAFE CONDUCT FOR MORTON ETC.

C.P., vol. I. The Queen licences James earl of Morton, Alexander earl of Glencairn, Patrick Lord Lindsay of the Byris, Adam bishop of Orkney, Robert commendator of Dunfermline (or any 3, including 1 earl and 1 lord) with 100 persons in their train, to repair to her realm within 40 days, to treat and confer at York with her commissioners, "for the pacificacion of the grete troubles of late tyme risen, and yet contynewing," betwixt the Queen of Scots and part of her nobility and subjects.

1½ *pp.* *Draft corrected by Cecil.* *Indorsed.*

Sept. 16. **816.** SAFE CONDUCT FOR MURRAY.

C.P., vol. I. The Queen licences James earl of Murray with 100 persons in his train, to repair within 40 days to her city of York to speak and confer with her commissioners for [*the purposes as in preceding No.*].

Elizabeth.
1568. The said letters patent to endure for 3 months. Under her great seal of England. Town of Reading 10th of her reign.

Broadsheet. Copy in Scottish hand. Indorsed.

(2) Another copy of same.

3 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil.*

Sept. 17. **817.** KNOLLYS TO LEICESTER.

C.P., vol. I. I doubt not your lordship will relieve our need of horses for this Queen's own saddle: and though I said nothing of saddles *etc.*, you will think meet to send one at least furnished, "for the better settyng foorth of hir highnes present of horses."

I marvel not a little to hear Mr Nycolas White is stayed in England behind my lord Deputy, and fear his hindrance has been what ought to be his chiefest commendation: for I have ever found him to seek the reducement of Ireland from maintenance of "quonye and lyverye,"* and of thieves and murderers, to the obedience of the Queen and her laws. I am loth to speak rashly, but having some experience of Ireland, and being free from partiality, I take it for *malum omen* to see Nycolas White disgraced, but must suppress this "greafe" amongst many other sorrows. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 18. **818.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Your Majesty's letter of the 2nd instant came to my hands the 17 of same, containing the complaint of the king my sovereign's disobedient subjects, with your gracious advice to me, "quhilk maist willinglie I have alwayes and presentlie accordit unto: and indeid may bauldlie affirme, that na processe of law had bene led aganis ony of that factioun, gif thay had acceptit the benefite of your majesties requeist send in thair favour, and left attempting to stay the parliament be thair awin force," as I trust before now your majesty understands by my letters and my servant Wod. How soon I knew that their several companies had gone home, "as thay then spak," at your majesty's order, I not only stayed to proceed further by law against the nobility, but "ay sensyne hes uterlie forborne all hostilitie" against all of that party; and for reverence of your majesty's advice, mind the same, till the matter is heard by the commissioners; also to keep the day named by your highness, and leave nothing undone agreeable to your majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Sept. 18. **819.** COMMISSION TO MURRAY AND OTHERS.

C.P., vol. I. James King of Scots to the Earls of Murray, Regent, and Morton chancellor, Adam bishop of Orkney, Robert commendator of Dunfermline, and Patrick lord Lindsay of the Byris or any three, empowering them to meet the commissioners of the Queen of

* Native services.

Elizabeth.
1568. England at York to declare the true causes, whereupon divers of his nobility, while the Queen his mother yet possessed the crown, took arms, whereon followed her detaining and sequestration of her person for a time. Signed by the hand of his uncle the said Regent, and his great seal appended. Edinburgh, 2d year of reign. *Concordat cum principali. Signed:* Alexander Hay.

Broadsheet. In Hay's writing. Indorsed (by Cecil).

Sept. 20. **820.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

Where we hear say, that certain reports are made in sundry parts of Scotland, that whatsoever should fall out now upon the hearing of the Queen of Scots' cause, in any proof to convince or to acquit the said Queen concerning the horrible murder of her late husband our cousin, we have determined to restore her to her kingdom and government: we do so much mislike hereof, that we cannot indure the same to receive any credit. And therefore we assure you the same is untruly devised to our dishonour: for as we have been always certified from our said sister, both by her letters and messages, that she is by no means guilty or participant of that murder, (which we wish to be true) "so suerly if she shuld be found justly to be gilty therof, as hath ben reported of hir, wherof we wold be very sorry, than in dede it shuld behove us to consider otherwise of hir cause, than to satisfy hir desire in restitution of hir to the government of that kingdome."

¾ *p. Draft carefully corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "20 Septembris 1568. Copy of the Q. Majesties lettre to therle Murray."

Sept. 21. **821.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. I received your letter of 15th by Mr Beaton; at writing whereof you had not received mine of 12th, of this Queen's order for her commissioners to meet at York on 30th of this. Since my last, I sent Mr Wylforde with 2 men to apprehend one Dr Marshall, a notorious papist, lurking privily in a husbandman's house 3 miles off; who brought him and his man to me. He is very "tymerous and fearfull, he is aparaled obscurely, and not lyke a doctor, but rather lyke a ploweman, with white hose and a sadd tawnye cloke withoute sleves." I send you some interrogatories, with his and his man's answers—not of any great moment. He denies using conjurations or casting figures—though I see some of "good countenance" in this country think so. Also denies dissuading people from church or hearing common prayer "nowe established." And to persuade me, since coming hither, he refuses not to hear and kneel thereat in "our great chamber," though he confesses he was partly deprived for refusing obedience. He denies building any part of his faith on the Pope's doctrine, though "he stickyth somewhat to the unity of the Churche." He seems to me fearful, and would live privately not refusing to come to church, or dissuading any from "our religeon of the Gospell," so that his conscience be reserved to himself. It would be well if your lordships committed him to the bishop of Durham to examine him on oath, and if tractable, to release him on sureties for obedience and

Elizabeth.
1568. forthcoming. As he would lack no sureties here, I would rather limit him to some other country, city, or house, less superstitious than this. He says he gave away his books at first coming from Oxford. There was found on him an old story book in Latin beginning with the division and description of "the thre partes of the worlde," and speaking of England, it makes mention "that Marlion was a prophet." He has another English written book of medicines, with many "charmes," which he only copied for company of the others; also a book of surgery. He has one patient at Richmond and takes money for curing those that come or send to him.

I forgot to say in my last that the East and Middle Marches would be better governed if Hunsdon were made lieutenant of both. The warden of the Middle would concur better with him, and Hunsdon and the marshal having no lands there, would do justice indifferently without awe of the Scots.

*A bruit came to this Queen's ears lately that she had turned to the Gospel, to the great mislike of the papists here abouts: and yesterday in the great chamber, in a full assembly, and some papists present, she openly professed herself of the papists' religion more earnestly than before, though her arguments were so weak they only showed her zeal. And to me alone, when I misliked this, she said—'Whye wold youe have me to loose France and Spayne and all my frendes in other places, by seemyng to change my relygyon, and yet I am not assured that the Quene my good syster woll be my assured frende to the satisfaction of my honor and expectation'? Bolton. *Signed*: F. Knollys.

3 *pp.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 23. **822.** CECIL TO SUSSEX.

C.P., vol. I. "The Cardynall of Chastillion lyeth at Shene, *and is well used by the Q. Majesty*, the rather to displease *all papistes*. I thynk he hath or shall shortly *obteyne such comefort* for *the Prynce*† as *Stuard* demanded. The D. of Norfolk *etc.* ar gon to York, wher the dyett shall begyn the last of this month.

"It is *not ment if the Q. of Scottes shall be proved gilty of the murdre*, to restore hir to Scotland, *how so ever hir frendes may bragg* to the contrary: *nor yet* shall ther be any *hast* made *of hir delyvery, untill* the success of the matters of *France and Flanders* be seene."

½ *p.* *Holograph of Cecil.* *Indorsed* (partly by him): "The Earle of Sussex, xxiij Septembris 1568. Memoryall." *The words in italics are underscored in the original.*

c. Sept.[24] **823.** ELIZABETH'S INSTRUCTIONS TO NORFOLK ETC.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 227. Memorial for the proceedings of Norfolk, Sussex, and Sadleir, with the Q. of Scots' and her son's commissioners, at the city of York.

After exchanging commissions with the several parties, they shall declare to both sides how her majesty with great earnestness had said to them, as she had undertaken the matter in the fear of God, so she

* Remainder holograph. † Condé.

Elizabeth.
1568. desired her commissioners and all parties to do the like, and all to take oath to further nothing but truth. After hearing each side apart, those of the Queen's first, both in speech and writing, these things must be considered before treating with both sides together. 1. If Murray's side allege that though they can prove it, it is inexpedient for them to charge the Queen of her husband's murder, doubting that notwithstanding this, her majesty will restore her—and will stay proceedings till they know—the commissioners shall say, that if such should be plainly proved, her majesty would surely think her unworthy of a kingdom: but if mere suspicions and conjectures only touch misgovernment of herself, and her marrying Bothwell *etc.*, somewhat diminish her reputation, the Queen's majesty having regard to the princely state wherein she was born, and from which she only departed for fear of her life, would have it considered how to restore her without danger of relapse—leaving it to the accusers to say what they will do. And if they proceed to charge her with the crime, the commissioners must advertise her majesty. If not, then the commissioners must require them to consider how she may be restored to her crown, and deal with both parties indifferently, using all means to further a reasonable settlement—but all proposals must come from the Queen's and Murray's party, not from the commissioners.

First: The treaty to be tripartite betwixt (1) The Queen of England, (2) the Queen of Scots, and (3) the Prince her son—and duly ratified—before she returns to her country. 1. Oblivion on all parts. 2. A great Council to assist the Queen, and how the great officers of State are to be appointed. 3. She is not to marry without consent of the Three Estates—the persons *etc.* contracting, *ipso facto* to suffer as traitors. 4. Bothwell and his abettors to be severely punished. 5. All laws by parliament for sustentation of ministers of religion to remain in force. 6. No stranger to have any office spiritual or temporal, and no preeminence allowed to the Bishop of Rome except with consent of the Three Estates. 7. For the safety of the young prince, if it can indirectly be procured of his mother the Queen, he should be kept in England by Scots. 8. Titles of the crown to be made clear. 9. That the Queen of England be made umpire under this treaty, at the request of the Scottish nobility, their Queen's consent being also accorded, and any subject grieved may reasonably complain to her majesty, without incurring forfeiture. 10. If the Queen of Scots break any part of this treaty, on notice thereof to her Majesty and due proclamation of the breach at Berwick and Carlisle, and refusal of reformation, then her son, or if he be dead, the next heir, shall enter to the crown and kingdom, as if she were departed from this life.

Other matters to be remembered:—

1. That a proviso shall be added to the treaty of Edinburgh in July 1560, that no part of the same shall bind the Queen of Scots or her children, after the determination of the life of the Queen's majesty and the heirs of her body, in respect of the title or arms of England. 2. As to a reasonable league between the two Queens and their countries. 3. That Ireland be included in the old leagues whereby England and Scotland shall not reset fugitives or rebels of each other. 4. That if the Queen of Scots permits any subject to aid a foreign prince against England and Ireland, she shall forfeit

Elizabeth.
1568. her title to these crowns. 5. That the Debateable land on the East March be divided as was that on the West Border in King Edward 6th time. 6. If the Queen of Scots send message or letter to them, the commissioners shall answer at their discretions, not repugnant to these instructions.

11½ *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Corrected by Cecil.*

Sept. 24. **824.** MARY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. "Monsieur de Cecil." I am sending the bearer the Sieur de Beton to the Queen, with charge to confer with you on my affairs. Credit him as myself. Bowton. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

½ *p. French. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 24. **825.** WOOD TO CECIL.

This day there came "towardes you ane serwand of the Quene our souveraynes mother," for a passport to France. "I spak with him; his nayme is Robert Lawder, ane that servit in the last feyld* with the Quene in uther qualities—ane werray raisonable gentleman." He promised me "to signifye" to your honour of the letters he carries to the King of France, to his ambassador, and the Spanish ambassador, "that I trust is departed from hence." My coming so suddently from Court, was "for depesching with my Lord of Lewenox, quha departis this day, sum necessayris to my lord Regent, and so soyn as I may speik the Duikis grace," I return to court for your commands. London. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 24. **826.** SADLEIR TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. Being not careless or unmindful of this great cause we have in hand, if it please you to let me have a copy of the instructions by this bearer, sealed with your seal, I shall have good time to consider and "to make meself rype" in them, while on my journey. Also it may please you to consider as to giving the higher place at our sitting to the Queen of Scots' commissioners: for though there be some respects to move the Queen's majesty thereto, yet the other side will not yield, both as being greater personages, and specially because the young prince is "in reall possession" of the crown—and therein give us directions. "The Duchie House at the Savoy." *Signed:* R. Sadleir.

If there is any money "upon my dyettes in prest," appoint the bearer how and where to receive it.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 24. **827.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. This Queen sends M^r^ Beaton this bearer to Court as her "solycyter" while the commission sits. Herries will be here tomorrow, and the rest a day or two after.

* Langsyde.

Elizabeth.
1568. "In Doctor Marshials booke of nootes of phisike and surgerie," I have found such abominable ribaldry, written with his own hand as he confesses—he said at first within "this 14 yers," and now "16 yers agoe"—which the "veriest ribald hauntyng the stewes" might be ashamed of. At first mistrusting nothing in it but plain medicines, a few of which I read, I gave it back, and he has blotted out the "charmes, conjurations and wytchecraftes," enough to abuse the common people with. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Sept. 28. **828.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

I have received your highness's letter dated Reading 20th instant, "proporting in effect" that your majesty is not disposed in this great cause, as our adversaries have reported. Truth it is, that Herries and others have written, affirming that whatsoever falls out either to convict or acquit the Queen, your highness intends to see her restored; copies of which letters are dispersed through this realm. And though for my own part, I never conceived any such opinion of your majesty; yet I must confess it has done great harm to our cause, and kept many in suspense, that neither dare nor will resolve, till they see to which party your favour inclines—"being ready to fall to that side that salbe lyke to have the better." It is no small comfort to us, to know your majesty's intention by your own letter: your majesty knows better than I what is intended by the adversaries of true religion throughout Christendom, and is too wise and well advised, to wink at their doings or suffer them to gain time to execute their tyranny against yourself and your dependants. This matter is of no small consequence, and I doubt not your highness will handle it accordingly. Berwick. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 29. **829.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. I. I have your letter of 23d, and thank you for good news of the two princes. In your former letters you gave me good hope of my discharge from this tedious service, when the Commission sat at York: but now you are "muett," to my great discomfort. And "I am utterlye unprovided of sufficient wynter garments for this mowntayne cuntrie weather, that beginneth alredye to growe sharpe and boysteous." My lord of Norfolk has sent for me to meet him at York on Saturday next: but as Lord Scrope is to meet his grace that day, it may suffice.

These parts are so full of papistry that there is great need of a zealous bishop of York to be speedily appointed "for to plucke upp the seades of disobedience that otherwyse may growe upp to a greatter force and danger than ten tymes the fyrst fruytes shalbe hable to cowntervayle. Also this parte called Rychemond shere, beyng within the diocesse of Chester, for lacke of a zealous bysshopp, hathe had never a sermon therin (as I am crediblye informed) synce the begynnyng of the Quenes hyghnes raygne; wherfore the people hereabowts are the redier to receyve and harboure sotche parsons as

Elizabeth.
1568. are of Doctor Marshialls humor." The Bishop of Durham has his diocese well instructed, though there be "obstakles" in his way. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1¼ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

[Sept. .] **830.** THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' COMPANY.

C.P., vol. I. Attending upon the Scottish Queen at Carlisle and Bolton:—

Almost vij^{xx}*. The bishop of Rosse; Lord Herries; Lord Livingston and his wife; the Lord Fleming; Laird of Skirling controller of Scotland*; M^{r} Hambleton, master household; A Frenchman "comptroller"; John Livingston master stabler, with his wife; M^{r} Crafforde; M^{r} Hambleton "the fensor"; M^{r} Doglasse; "Little" Doglasse; M^{r} Beaton master of household after Hambleton*; Bastian and his wife; Gilbert Curle secretary; Laird of Whytlawe*; M^{r} "Nawe" a secretary; Captain Bruce; a pantler, a cook, a pattiser, a wardrober. The Lady Lyviston; Marie Seton; Curselles; M^{rs} Liviston; Mary Bruce; the comptroller's wife; Bastian's wife "and da."* The Queen's meat was assigned by her own officers. The company had theirs as called for. She went daily hunting and hawking.

1 *p. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "The nombres of persons with the Quene of Scottes at Bolton."

Oct. 2. **831.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

Our sister the Queen of Scots having required us to move you, as her cause is to be ordered by us, by her own consent and yours—not to sell or otherwise dispose of such jewels you have, that were taken from her, though you have power from the late parliament: as her request appears very reasonable to us, we earnestly require and advise you to forbear to do so, or it shall be judged that your actions proceed of a mind to spoil her, and benefit yourself and your friends.

She has also complained to us of oppressions and violence by certain of yours against those faithful to her, under colour of process and attachments for forfeitures adjudged by parliament: which we have remitted to our commissioners at York to impart to you for redress according to their truth and equity.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 3. **832.** LADY LENNOX TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 335. In reply to his letter about the Laird of Riccarton's "stay," has learned what she can of a Scotsman that served her husband, and was at Langside, who says that the laird was cleared by an assize, but how true it is he cannot tell. It was said he carried letters to Bothwell from the Queen after her escape from Lochleven. This is all she can learn, but "Mester Jhone Wode" knows the guilty persons, and if he be at Court, she will speak with him. "From Coldharbar the iij of Octobar." *Signed:* Your asured loveyng frend Margaret Lennox.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Notes by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Oct. 3.
C.P., vol. II.

833. THE QUEEN OF SCOTS TO CECIL.

On the occasion of "mes gens" arrival at York, having written to the Queen my good sister, I send a word to you, to see that these matters "ne tirent en longueur et dilation." Moreover credit the Sieur de Beton as myself. Bowton. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

½ *p. French. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 4.
C.P., vol. II.

834. ANSWERS TO JOHN BETOUN.

Who complained on the Queen of Scots' behalf against my lord Regent *etc.*

1. To the complaint on behalf of James Innes of Drany's cautioners: *answered*—that Innes and others being fugitives for resetting Bothwell, came in the Regent's will—found caution, and is now called on for entry.

2. To the like against James Cullayne: *answered*—Being apprehended for privity in the king's murder and suspicion of piracy *etc.*, tried and let to liberty—was apprehended again "listing" men against the king—and let to liberty on caution when called on to enter. This noway touches the abstinence 6 months after.

3. As for the escheats of Wauchtoun, Roslyn and many more: they were given for good service at the field beside Glasgow, and being under the king's seal, cannot be recalled.

2¼ *pp. In a Scottish hand* (Wood's?). *Indorsed. Faded in parts.*

Oct. 4.
Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 249

835. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

I received your letter of 27th ult. and as directed, Mr Morton brings Doctor Marshiall to the Council, with my letter. I trust the money in Mr Sadler's hands, and that from the customers of Newcastle for the "defraying" this Queen, shall be delivered in due time.

It seems by my letter of 21st *ult.* her highness and you thought many strangers were present, when in the great chamber this Queen openly professed papistry and seemed to patronise it: the very truth is there were none, but some "howshold" papists—one a soldier of Reade's band, and a few of Lord Scrope's servants "infected with that disease."

I am glad the bishop of Reynes' credit is no better amongst you, and trust his French phrases shall not abuse her highness.

As this Queen hears the plague is in Edinburgh Castle where Lord Seton and others are prisoners, she desires her highness to cause Murray to remove them to a clearer place, lest it "devoure" them. She also earnestly intreated me to move her highness to end the questions with her subjects without delay, whereby, and by Herries' words at now going to York, I think they fear after this conference, her highness will respite till Christmas or longer, to declare her resolution. And if they like it not, she says plainly these lords will not come here again, but rather, leaving her at her "owne aventure," they will wholly dedicate themselves to the Duke as governor for her. She also says her friends in France will give her no more money till she is in

Elizabeth.
1568. Scotland: whereby I see from henceforth she will burden the Queen with all her expenses. 'And' sayth she, 'yf I shalbe holden here perforce, youe may be sure that then beyng as a desperate parson, I woll use any attempts that may serve my purpose eyther by my selffe or by my frendes, whatsoever shalbe come of me.' Yet she would fain persuade that if her highness dealt well, she would dedicate herself wholly as her grateful friend. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Lord Scrope went to York Saturday* night, but the Duke came not before yesterday.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Mr Vicechamberlein to my master."

Oct. 4. **836.** OFFENCES BY THE QUEEN'S PARTY.

Committed on those at the king's obedience since the Regent at the Queen of England's desire, forbore prosecution of arms :—

Under 24 heads.

First:—The Earl of Huntly in the end of July with 1500 men came to Aberdeen—threatened extermination against the proovost, "ane antient and worshipfull man"—in 2 or 3 days after with 400 or 500 horse crossed the "Month" to kill Morton the Chancellor, and Monteyth, the Master of Grahame, Lord Glamis *etc.*, who hardly escaped—took prisoner the king's herald John Caddell and keeps his letters—about 11th August marched to the Tay to have joined Argyll, but returned. Besides plundering Aberdeen, he has spoiled Alexander Clerk and William Byrny, honest merchants of Edinburgh, of their wares—has appointed as chamberlain to draw the rents of the earldom of Ross, Mr Donald Monroo "archden" of Ros an outlawed rebel—and to the like office for the Lord Regent's earldom of Murray, one named John Innes *alias* John the "sweit man," to spoil that patrimony.

Item:—The Earl of Argyll has also detained prisoner a king's herald—and about 16 or 17 August led 2000 Highland men to Glasgow to have joined Huntly's force—having three days before, for this ungodly enterprise, seized 200 or 300 "fyschair boyttis then lawbowring in the heyd tak of hering, quhilk lestis butt werray short tym in thay partis"—an inestimable damage and hership to the poor labourers.

Item:—Lord Claude Hammilton the duke's 3d son, surprised and took the castle of Hamilton from Lord Sempill holding it for the king—attempting also the house of Draffen, which narrowly escaped.

Item:—Lord Fleming captain of Dunbarton, in September took the Laird of Walterton, Glencairn's brother, and detains him—also resets William Stewart late Lyon herald there, a fugitive for conspiring the Regent's death—refusing his delivery; also sent Maister Thomas Flemyng burgess of Edinburgh to France for men and munition, and has this last month, by Argyll's help, hired 80 or 100 hagbutters, made them fortify Dunbarton kirk, and entrench the whole town as a fortress: and within "thir xv days last bypast" received a great number of "corslettis, pykkis, lang habwyttis, morionis" for arming the French men as they arrive.

* 2nd October.

Elizabeth.
1568. *Item*:—Herries and Johnstoun have taken young Appilgyrth prisoner. And in the latter end of August or September, the Laird of Whythaw and other Ellottis, broken men, took "ane honest and trew gentleman" Andro Ker of Faldounside, and hold him perforce—alleging that the Queen's highness our sovereign's mother "hes commandit to deteyn and hald him in ony sort: and that nothing suld releif him." And the said Whythaw ever since the field of Glasgow, maintains the laird of Ormestoun of Tyvydale, forfeited in parliament for the king's murder.

Item:—The Laird of Greynheid, Dandie Ker of Sheilstokbraes, and their defenders, do all they can to break the Borders *etc.*

6½ *pp.* *In a Scottish hand* (Wood's ?). *Indorsement* (faded).

Oct. 5. **837.** MARY TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. II. "Maister Knolis" is making provision here for me till Noel, as I know by his despatch yesterday. He tells me he understands Norfolk has spoken to the commissioners on both sides, but can learn nothing, I see well that if he (Knollys) knew anything to serve me, he would not tell me, for he favours the opposite party. He wishes "tirer les vers du nez," and learn my secrets, so I affect to doubt the objects of the meeting. He has asked me if my adversaries find some appearances or indices likely (vraysemblables) enough to justify their actions, what I would oppose? My answer is that I would oppose the truth to their false charges and some thing which they perchance have not yet heard! 'And if the matters' (said he) 'were so extremely handled that it appeared there was no prospect of good accord, how would your majestie deport yourself towards them'? I answered 'Seeing the last effect of their ill will, they clearly could not trust me, and how could I believe their promises'? Finally I said I could not resolve yet what to do in a matter requiring deliberation. I doubt not you will find out their schemes. It seems they conform to your demand instead of exhibition of the Articles, to see their aim and scope, or if the "mediateurs deputez" of the Queen my good sister, or any of them wish (as I cannot believe) to do us the ill office of imparting them to our adversaries, which will greatly prejudice the business. Therefore you must take care, and if you suspect anything, demand at once from these "mediateurs" the others' articles containing the whole charges of their party, and all that they intend to produce. Bowton, "ce Mecredy au soir" 5th October.

As I find Knolles is "marry" at not being on the commission, and thus "picque" against Norfolk, it would be well if this jealousy could be fostered, and no loss to us.

2¼ *pp.* *French.* *Closely written cipher.* *Deciphered.* *Addressed:* "A Mons^r Levesque de Rosse." *Indorsed:* "Recept' octavo Octobris 1568."

(2) Decipher of the same.

1½ *pp.* *Modern copy.*

Oct. 6. **838.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

This 6 of October I received your highness's letter as to the Queen's "jowellis." As I mind to obey your majesty's command

Elizabeth.
1568. therein, "sa of dewitie I mon rander unto your hienes my maist humble thankes for your gracious advyse. . . . This far I may bauldlie afferme unto your hienes, that neyther I nor na frend of myne, hes bene enriched worth the valu of a grot of ony hir guidis to our privat uses." For the other complaints to your majesty: since ye have remitted them to your commissioners, we will not weary you, but shall answer them according to truth and equity. York. *Signed :* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Oct. 6. **839.** NORFOLK, SUSSEX AND SADLEIR TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 255. On Sunday* night we arrived here, the Queen of Scots' commissioners (named in inclosed schedule) who came the night before, meeting us 2 or 3 miles from the city. Murray, Morton *etc.* (as in same schedule) arrived here an hour before us. On Monday morning they came to my (Norfolk's) lodging, and were welcomed with friendly talk only. That afternoon, to lose no time we sent for the Queen's commissioners, declared the tenor, and read our commission, requiring to see theirs. Seeing ours so ample, and knowing the "tenuitie" of their own, they paused as loth to show it, saying their mistress had not had time to confer with them on a meeti form, but on our pressing them, they produced a paper commission signed by her hand and sealed with her signet, which the bishop of Ross read to us. Being very brief, and not only restraining them by special words to treat and agree on anything that might touch her in estate and honour, but also binding them to go no further than limited by certain private articles whereto their commission had relation—but what these contain we know not—so whatever we agreed on, she might always except to, as touching her in honour: yet we seemed not to find fault, but required a copy to consider, as they should have of ours, whereto they agreed. But they themselves finding fault with and excusing it, desired us to proceed, and they would procure a more ample commission. And so we broke off, sending a copy of our commission and requiring theirs: but they said they would dispatch post to Bolton for a new one, a copy whereof we should have. But though we sent again, we can get no copy of the other as promised, they being loth, it seems, that your majesty should see how little trust their mistress has committed to them, whereby you may judge the sequel. Yesterday morning, Murray and the others of that side came—with whom we so dealt, and required to see theirs. Whereon Murray answered, that having now come in person as Regent, he had sufficient authority to treat—promising to put the great seal of Scotland to whatever was agreed on. But after some talk among us, they all offered and promised to show ample commission under their great seal. We see by their talk "at large," they mean to show whatever they have done against the said Queen has been on good grounds, "suche as some of them, as the Earle of Murray and the Laird of Lethington, do saye, they are most sorie that it is now come to that poincte, that they must needes declare and make manifest to the worlde, or els be accompted notorious rebelles and disloyall subjectes." Hereon we

* 3rd October.

Elizabeth.
1568. thought not amiss to move them to take oath, using the persuasions in your majesty's Instructions, whereto they are right willing and agreeable. Thereon we went together to church and heard a good sermon preached by the Dean of York. This morning we again conferred with the Queen's commissioners, "which" showed us their new commission, the copy whereof your majesty shall receive herewith; whereon some question grew among us, for the preamble imports that your majesty had taken it upon you to restore her to her realm and authority, and also they are empowered to treat on all things tending to reduce her subjects to obedience—not on the causes that have moved these troubles. Yet after something said hereon, we neither allowed nor disallowed it, till your further pleasure, they agreeing to have it amended if necessary. On moving them to take oath as the others, they made great difficulty, and were very loth to hear of it: specially Herries, who seemed content to promise by oath to say nothing but what was just and true, but in nowise to say all in this matter which he knows to be true. In the end, they desired time, whereto we agreed, thinking they will devise an oath different from the others. After they departed, Murray *etc.* sent us their commission under their great seal, copy whereof we send.

After writing thus far, all the commissioners of both sides came "at one instant," as we desired, and we caused the Dean of York to minister to us the oath, of which a copy is enclosed, and the Queen's commissioners not yet having agreed on their form, we thought not good to offer it, hoping they will receive it tomorrow. Murray and the others in their presence did not stick to take it, as by the copy sent herewith. We shall not fail to advertise from time to time. City of York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk, T. Sussex, R. Sadleir.

3 *pp. Closely written. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 6. **840.** NORFOLK TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. Though we be long or we dispatch, yet we have not been idle. Leaving report of our doings to her majesty's letter, thus much I will say to yourself—"the matter I feare wyll fall owte verye fowle, yff all be true that they heare stidfastlye affyrme." It imports the Queen's majesty very much to keep the "Duke" there till this meeting be past, if not longer. We that serve here have hard luck, for we are considered partial of both sides, according to their own "affectyons." Every day now will "brede" new matter, and you shall hear oftener. York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 7. **841.** OATH ETC. BY MARY'S COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II. (1) To make plain and ample declaration of the causes of their taking arms for their sovereign, for the information of the Queen of England by her commissioners the Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Sussex, and Sir Ralph Sadler appointed to that effect.

(2) Protestation by the Queen of Scots' commissioners, that their said sovereign in no way recognises herself subject to any judge on earth, being a free princess, having an imperial crown given her of God, and acknowledging no other superior.

Elizabeth.
1568. (3) Protestation in answer thereto by the Queen of England's commissioners, that the same should no way hurt or prejudice the superiority of the Crown of England over the Crown of Scotland.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed.*

Oct. [7]. **842.** OATH BY THE KING OF SCOTS' COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II. Form of an oath for the commissioners deputed by the King's majesty of Scotland "as they call him."

To declare the true causes why they took arms, sequestrated the person of the king's mother then their Queen *etc.*, for the information of the Queen of England's commissioners, before whom they swear to advance nothing against truth or their consciences, or conceal anything requisite.

Broadsheet. Indorsed (by Cecil). *Much damaged by damp.*

(2) Another copy.

1 p. *Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by same) and (in a later hand): "1582."

Oct. 8. **843.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. MSS. Calig. C.I., fol. 257. App. I. No. 12. Having heard by her cousin Chatelherault, of Elizabeth's displeasure at the report about her, swears that she has not seen one stranger since she came to England, and defies the world to say she has offended in word or deed, but has obeyed her laws, as Knollys can attest on his conscience, and she has commanded Beton to declare at length to her. Hearing that Ricarton is taken by her command, begs that he and the letters he brings on her affairs may be sent to her, and she will answer for his offence in aiding her escape from Lochleven. Begs her as promised to be her good sister and friend, and she will never do anything to displease her. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

3 pp. *French. Holograph.*

Oct. 8. **844.** PROTEST BY MARY'S COMMISSIONERS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 259. Declaring the unlawful acts of Morton, Mar, Glencairn, Hume, Lindsay, Ruthven, Sempill, Cathcart, Ochiltree, and others, and finally Murray, in taking on him the name of Regent—imprisoning their sovereign, and at last besetting her road to Dunbarton, overthrowing her force and causing her to take refuge in England.

"Produceit the viij of October 1568 be my lordis commissioneris for the Quene of Scotland." *Signed:* Jo. Rossen., Levyngston, R. Boyd, Herys, Skarling knycht, Kilwynning.

1 *p. The docquet written by the Bishop. No indorsement.*

Oct. 9. **845.** DEMANDS OF THE EARL OF MURRAY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 310. "1. We desire to be resolvit quhethir ye have commissioun and sufficient auctoritie from the Quenes majestie of England, to pronunce in the cause of the murthour, giltie or not giltie, according to the merites of the cause, and as ye sall se mater deduced befoir yow?

Elizabeth.
1568.

"2. Nixt: havand sufficient commissioun, quhether ye meane and will promes ws to pronunce according thairunto, inmediatlie, and without ony further delay, the mater being first deduced?

3. Thirdlie: your declaratioun being past, in cais she be found gilty, we desire to be resolved befoir hand for oure suirteis, quhether the Quene our souveranis mother salbe deliverit in our handes, or sic ordour put to hir persoun within the realme of England, as the king and we salbe assurit to be saulf from all danger that may ensew upoun hir libertie in tyme cuming?

4. Ferdlie: in cais she be found gilty, we desire to be resolvit gif your grace and lordis upoun the Quenes majestie of Englandis behalf, will allow oure procedingis in tymes past, as alsua hir majestie will from this furth mantene the auctoritie of the king our souverane lord and the regiment of his realme and liegis, establist in the persoun of me the Erll of Murray, during his minoritie according to the Act of Parliament past in Scotland thairupoun?

The resolution of these articles is so necessary for ws, and of so greate importance, that we can no wys enter to the accusatioun or triall of the murthur befoir we be fully answerit thairin. And the same being directlie answerit, we sall proceid immediatlie to the tryall." *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Written by Hay.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "9 Octob: 1568. The demandes of the Er. of Murray."

For answer see under 26 November following.

Oct. 9. **846.** NORFOLK ETC. TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. II.

As in our letters of 6th, we advertised your majesty they promised, so next morning the Queen of Scots' commissioners repaired to us and gave their oath for sincere proceeding, ministered by the Dean of York, with protestations before the same by them and us—all as inclosed—so passing the matter over "with merie and pleasaunt speaches," neither yielding opinion to the others. Then sitting down, we agreed that they as plaintiffs should show their complaints and requests to us—the adverse party then answering. And to an enquiry by the Bishop of Ross: that we would hear them first in speech, and afterwards in writing, as they thought good. Whereon Lord Herries discoursed on the Queen's usage, deposition *etc.*, ending with his own and others' private injuries. After him the said bishop "breifly and pithely" confirmed the same, and the others had good hearing. Then we having desired it, they delivered to us next day, in writing, the charges against the adverse party, of disloyalty *etc.*, omitting all private "greiffes" of their own—copy whereof we enclose. Having also sent one to Murray for consideration with his colleagues, they conferred with us, when Murray declared that albeit they could so answer, that all men ("beinge well and godlyly affected") must confess that in all their actions they were justified: yet till they knew your majesty's pleasure, they would be loth to charge their sovereign's mother with such things as "hitherto they have byn content rather to hide and conceile, then to publishe and manifest to the worlde, to her infame and dishonour" —and therefore would gladly know by us, how, in case they should

Elizabeth.
1568. prove their charges, they might be free of her displeasure, and the young king in safety? Whereto we referred them to your majesty's gracious letters to Murray thereon, and "we had also to saye further unto them in few wordes from your majestie," that if it was manifestly proved that she devised or procured her husband's murder, your majesty would think her unworthy of a kingdom, and would not stain your consience by restoring her. Murray replied that it was published through Scotland, and given out even now in this city, that whatsoever was proved against said Queen your majesty would amply restore her, and send her home: enforcing them to ask this question, assuring us that the adverse party said they had your majesty's promise in writing thereto. We answered we could not hinder their so speaking, but were assured that they could not affirm it, for your highness had written assuring Murray thereon, as he knew. Yet they seemed not fully satisfied, as though suspecting though you did not restore her, that some other means might be wrought for her relief, to their danger. But they promised, and we look this day to receive their answer to the complaint of the adverse party.

"Postscripta": Murray and his colleagues came and propounded the enclosed Articles, alledging they cannot proceed with the charge of murder till "resolved" on them. Having read these we withdrew to consider them, and answered thus for the present—To the 1st and 2nd articles, we said they had a copy of our commission—yet as wise men, they must consider, that the cause being thoroughly tried, we must report to your majesty for direction.

To the 3d: that they could not with a safe conscience require delivery of the said Queen to their hands, being her enemies—but we would advertise your majesty of their desire.

To the 4th: that if the Queen of Scots be found guilty of murder, then further consideration is to be had of the matter thereon, which depends on the rest—not doubting your majesty would come to such conditions as would content them. Wherewith we find them not satisfied, "and that they are fully resolved not to charge the said Quene of Scottes with this murder, untill they may be assured of your majesties intention to ayde and mayntaine them in this action, if she be founde giltie;" whereby we suspect they hope, if they do not accuse her or produce it to trial, they may compound and make their own way with her and the lords of her party—while if they proceed to such extremity as to charge her, they should be always in danger, should your majesty fail them. Wherefore it may please your majesty to consider and give us further instruction. York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk, T. Sussex, R. Sadleir.

3 *pp.* *Very closely written.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by Cecil): "Articlees sent which wer proponed by the Erl Murr."

Inclosed in the same:—

(The form of oath and protests as in Nos. 841-2).

2 *pp.* *Broadsheet.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil). *Much stained by damp.*

Elizabeth.
1568. Oct. 9. C.P., vol. II.

847. NORFOLK TO CECIL.

I desired "Mr Vyschamberleyne" to bestow a day or two with us, if his charge might so suffer him, to instruct us of that Queen's determination. Things fall out "but hardlye," as you may see by Murray's demand sent herewith to her majesty—yet considering "howe neare thys ther actyon ys lyke to towche them, I can not blame them thowh they well forsea ther ende." Till we hear from her majesty "we are att a staye," and hope your good furtherance. York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 9. C.P., vol II.

848. SUSSEX TO CECIL.

"Good Mr Secretary": you see by letters to the Queen how far we have proceeded, and on what "they for the prynce stand . . . bent to the on of these two endes"—either to prove her guilty and hearken to no composition, but not till assured the Queen will so keep her from ever hereafter working their peril, and also league to maintain their young king; or else avoid that charge, and seek to be reconciled. The cause is great; and I wish the Queen's majesty should deeply weigh what is most expedient for her honour and surety, and direct us. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 9. C.P., vol. II.

849. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

The Duke sending for me Thursday last I came hither to stay till Monday next.* His grace has imparted all things passed, and I see that Herries labours for a reconciliation without odious accusations. Lethington also says to me he wishes these matters ended in "dulce maner," so it be with safety. I am sure Mr Morton is arrived at Court with Dr Marshiall by this time, and you may safely make the doctor preach at "Pawles Crosse" to your content and the great dislike of the papists. I mean to take the 300*l.* with me to Bolton, that Mr Sadler offers me. York. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: After closing this, I received her highness's letter of 2d, and yours of 4th, come from Bolton. I have answered her highness sufficiently I trust, in my letter to you of 4th—but will not forget this admonition. I am glad to hear by you, her highness is wakened to look to her surety; God I trust will defend her. "My lord Herrys I take a protestant temporall onely." I thank you for good news "as well fro beyond seas, as of the helthie estate of my wyffe."

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 9. C.P., vol II.

850. LENNOX TO CECIL.

I have received this day by the hands of Mr John Wod the Regent's servant, a letter from my wife, whereby I see your

* 11th.

Elizabeth.
1568. affectionate mind against all thought guilty of the murder of my son the late king of Scots, in moving her majesty to stay the Laird of Rycarton: for though "clengyt" by an assize, yet he is much to be suspected. I have sent you here inclosed a little memorial of what I can presently lay to his charge written in the "Scotis frayes" by such as know his proceedings. York. *Signed:* Mathow Levenax.

I desire this other letter be conveyed to my wife.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed therein:—

(Memorandum referred to.)

Alexander Hepburne laird of Ricartoun, being first "houshald man and familiar servand" to the king, was suspected of the murder, at least privy in the counsel, seeing he accompanied Bothwell in his enterprises, as the "revessing" of the Queen, the trial for the murder, and ever till he was expelled from Scotland. Yet being taken in favour by my lord Regent, and continued in office, he was the first that practised the Queen's convoy out of Lochleven, and when she wrote to Denmark in favour of Bothwell's liberty, he received the letters and was of mind to pass therewith, as was credibly reported.

¼ *p. In a Scottish contemporary hand. Indorsed:* "Memoir towerdes Ricartoun."

Oct. 9. **851.** JOHN WOOD TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I arrived here this "Fryday* tymus in the morning," finding nothing done "butt peramtoules"† to the matter in hand. That day the Queen's party gave in their complaint, but the Regent's party before answering, gave in "thre heidis which I am assured cumis to your handis to be resolved of." (With your pardon), I most humbly beseech you to consider the danger of delay in so weighty and necessary a cause; let not (so far as in your wisdom lies) ceremonies stay and utterly undo so godly a work begun: "for I dar assuir you that thir thingis being resolved, that in furtherance of the rest of the cause the word of the Ewangell salbe accomplisshed—*Et erunt novissimi primi, et primi* etcet"; and now they are proponed, if they take not plain resolution, it may mar all the cause. "For as I oft haif said, I fynd men to be men, and the most part of the warld to propone sensyble swyrtye to conscience and honour boyth." Besides Lord Herries ceases not even here to augment sinister suspicions of the outfall of the matter and speaks plainly. Lastly John of Beton at his last "down cummyng," brought 6000 crowns to Bolton. If they were "angellis" they would fly abroad, and as they are, I knowing the nature of men, and "the liberalite of the hand that hes thayme," fear the harm they may do, if your honour provide not "suyer remeid." York. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

1¼ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

* 8th. † Preambles (?)

Elizabeth.
1568.
Oct. 10.
C.P., vol. II.

852. ELIZABETH TO NORFOLK ETC.

As our vicechamberlain has advertised us of the Scottish Queen's request, that as the plague waxes "warm and contagious" in the castle of Edinburgh, where Lord Seton and others of her party are prisoners, they may be removed: we are content you deal with the Earl of Murray therein. We also think good that respect be had to such as come to York "under the collor of the Quene of Scotes commissionars," being persons ill disposed to our state: that they be not suffered over boldly by deeds or speeches to "deprave" our proceedings *etc.*, for by our safe conduct to the commissioners, this was expressly restrained.

Having proceeded thus far, your letters of the 6th came to our hands. We allow your doings, and think it reasonable that you press that Queen's commissioners to provide a commission more correspondent to yours, at least with authority to hear and determine all matters between her and her subjects. Besides it is an "unequallite," that there should be 6 on one side and 5 on the other, seeing we appointed you 3 only—and it were good they observe that number in treating, with power to call to their aid as many as the nature of matters shall require. Yet if they yield not, you may as of favour, yield to them, lest they say their cause was hindered for want of any.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Marginal clause by another hand. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 11.
C.P., vol. II.

853. MURRAY'S ETC. ANSWER TO MARY'S COMMISSIONERS.

Narrating the whole proceedings since the king's murder—whereof "that godlesse and ambitious man" Bothwell is asserted guilty—Mary's menacing revenge for the lords' acts, refusing to give him up and offering to leave her realm so she might possess him—her detention for a season in Lochleven—"duringe which tyme, she fyndinge her selfe by longe, yrkesome and tedious travaill taken by her in the governement of the realme, and liegeis thereof, so vexed and wearied, that her bodie, spirite, and sences weare altogeather unable longer to occupie that realme, and perceivinge by thinges that had past before that time, betwixt her and her people, that neither she coulde well allowe of their doinges, nor they like of her fassions, and for other consideracions movinge her for the time, therefore dimitted and remitted the office of governement of the realme, and liegeis thereof in favour of her only, and most deare sonne, the prince of the same"—and because of his tender youth and inability, constituted Murray, then absent from the realm, and without his knowledge, Regent thereof—"and that voluntarily, no compulsion, violence or force used or practized to move her thereunto"—her subsequent escape, defeat on 13th May last—"God respecting the equitie of the cause," granting the victory to the king's party—and the subsequent rebellious proceedings of her party: protesting the Regent's right to the government. Jhames Regent, Morton, Ad. Orchaden, Da. Lyndsay, Dumfermlinge.

3 *pp. Closely written. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Sent xj Octob. 1568. The cop. of the Erle of Murrays answer *etc.*"

Elizabeth.
1568.
Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 266.

(2) The original of same. *Signed:* James Regent, Mortoun, Patrick l. Lyndsay, Ad. Orchaden., Domfermling.

3 *pp. Closely written by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil): Oct 14th.

Oct. 11. **854.** NORFOLK ETC. TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 260.

Since our last dispatch, Murray and his colleagues, to occupy the time, have put in their answer to the complaint of their adverse party, the copy whereof we send to your majesty: and albeit they in these touch nothing plainly of the cause of the murder—wherein they stay proceedings, till they are "resolved" in the Articles proponed to us, which we sent in our last to your majesty—"yet the said Earle hathe byne content pryvately [to]* shew us suche matteir as they have to condempne the Quene of Scottes of the murdre of her husband, to the intent they wolde know of us how your majestie understandinge the same, wolde judge of the sufficiencie of the matteir, and wheither in your majesties opini[one] the same will extend to condempne the Quene of Scottes of the said murder? And so they sent unto us the Laird of Lethington, Jhames Makgill, Mr George Boqwhannan, and one other, beinge a lord of the Session, which in private and secreate conference with us, not as commyssioners, as they protested, but for our better instruction, after declaration of suche circumstances as led and induced them to vehement presumption to judge her giltie of the said murder, shewed unto us a copie of a Bande, bear[ing] date the xixth of Aprill 1567† to the which the most parte of the lordes and counsail of Scotland have put to their handes, and as they saye, more for feare, then anie lykinge they had of the same. Which bande conteyned ij speciall poinctes: the one, a declaration of Botheilles purgation of the murder of the Lord Darley, and the other a generall consent to his mariage with the Quene, so farre forthe as the lawe [and] her owne likinge shoulde allowe. And yet in proufe that they did it not will[ingly] they procured a warraunt which was now shewed unto us, bearinge date the 19th Aprill, signed with their Quenes hand, whereby she gave them licence to agree to the same: affirminge that before they had suche warraunt, theare was none of them [that] did, or wolde setto their hand, savinge only the Earle of Huntley. Theare was also in the copie of the bande, a copie of a warraunt folowinge muche to tha[t] effect, savinge that the one did licence to do, and the other semed to discharge and pardon that was done—which bare date the 14 of Maye. It appeared also [that] the selfe same daye of the date of this bande, being the 19 of Aprill, the Earle of Huntley was restored by Parliament: which Parliament was the occasion that so manie lordes weare theare assembled: which being all invited to a supper by Bothaill, weare induced after supper, more for feare then otherwise, to subscribe to the said band, two hundred harkebusiers beinge in the courte, and abowt the chamber doore wheare they supped, which weare all at Bothailles devotion, wh[ich] the said lordes so muche misliked, that the next morninge by foure of the clocke, f[ewe] or none of them weare lefte in the towne, but departed withowt takinge their leave. Theare was also a contracte shewed unto us, signed with the Quenes hand and also with

* All words or letters in square brackets are worn off. †p. 321.

Elizabeth.
1568. "Bothailles, bearinge date the 5 of Aprill, written as it is said, with the Earle of Huntleyes owne hand, who with one Thomas Heborne, weare the only witnesses to the same; which contracte bearithe date before Bothailles purgation of the murder, whereof he was not tried nor pourged before the 12 of Aprill folowinge; and also before the processe of divorce begonne betwene Bothaill and his wief, which was not begonne before the first of May, and y[et]* with speede, ended within eight daies; and the ungodlie mariage betwene [the] Quene and him, solempnized the 15 of Maye after: and also the 15 of June folowinge the Quene herself was taken by her nobilitie. The counterfeicted and coulorable takinge of the Quene by Bothayll when he carried her to Dumbar, was the 24 of Aprill, after the deathe of her husband, who was murdered the 10 of Februarie 1567. Theare was also a contract shewed unto us, of the Quenes† owne hand, of the mariage to be had betwene her and Bothaill, bearinge no date, which had not *verba de presenti* as the other had bearinge date the 5 of Aprill. It appeared also unto us, by two lettres of her owne hand, that it was by her owne practize and consent that Bothaill should take her, and carrye her to Dumbar, of pollicie, as the Laird of Lethington tolde us, because els theare coulde be no devise in lawe to pardon his fowle facte of the murder—affirminge that by the lawes of that realme, a pardon for great offences, includethe all lesser factes and offences, but extendithe to none greater then that which is pardoned. And therefore, except he shoulde commit the highest offence, which is treason, as he did in layinge violent handes upon his Sovereigne, no pardon coulde serve to excuse him of the murder—and havinge his pardon for the treason, it suffisethe also for the murder: a fitte pollicie for a detestable facte! After the devise of the murder was determined, as it semed by the sequeale, they inferred upon‡ a lettre of her owne hand, that theare was another meane of a more cleanely conveyance, devised to kill the kinge. For theare was a quarrell made betwixte him and the Lord Robert of Holie Roodehowse, by carrying of false tales betwixte them, the Quene beinge the instrument, as they saide, to bringe it to passe; which pourpose, if it had taken effect (as it was very likely, for the one givinge the lye to the other, they weare at daggers drawinge) it had eased them of the prosecution of the develishe fact; which, this takinge none effect, was afterwards most tirannously executed. Afterwardes they shewed unto us one horrible and longe lettre of her owne hand, as they saye, contayninge foule matteir and abhominable, to be either thowght of, or to be written by a prince, with divers fonde ballades of her owne hand—which lettres, ballades and other writinges before specified, weare closed in a litle coffer of silver and gilte, heretofore geaven by her to Bothaill. The said lettres and ballades do discover suche inordinate§ love betwene her and Bothaill, her loothesomnes and abhorringe of her husband that was murdered,‖ in suche sorte, as every good and godlie man cannot but detest and abhorre the same. And theis men heare do constantly affirme the said lettres and other writinges which they produce, of her owne hand, to be of her owne hand in dede, and do offer to sweare and take their othe thereupon¶ the matteir conteyned in them beinge suche as coulde hardely be invented or devised by

* Worn off. † Originally "earles." ‡ Substituted for "it appearithe unto us by."
§ "And filthie" scored out. ‖ Six words scored out here. ¶ Two words scored out.

Elizabeth.
1568. "anie other then by her selfe—for that they discourse of some thinges which weare unknowen to anie other then to herselfe and Bothaill.* And as it is harde to counterfeite so manie,† so the matteir of them, and the manner how theis men came by them, is suche, as it semethe that God (in whose sight murder and bludshed of the innocent is abhominable) wolde not permitte the same to be hidde or concealed. In a paper here inclosed, we have noted to your Majestie the cheiff and speciall poinctes of the said lettres, written (as they saye) with her owne hand, to the intent it may please your majestie to consider of them, and so to judge wheither the same be sufficient to convince her of the detestable crime of the murder of her husband—which in our opinions and consciences, if the same lettres be written with her owne hand,‡ is verie hard to be avoyded." Most humbly beseeching your majesty to advertise us of your opinion and judgment how we shall proceed further: and "for the more expedicion sendinge this blotted lettre to your majestie (whereof we crave pardon)." York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk, T. Sussex, R. Sadleir.

2½ *pp. Very closely written. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . with the Er. of Murray's answer, and an abstract of matter against the Q. of Scottes." *Marginal notes also by him.*

Oct. 11. **855.** NORFOLK TO PEMBROKE, LEICESTER AND CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. This is but to remind you of your promises to me—"that you taryyng behynd, wold be as myndfull off the great cawse that we have in hand" as we reasonably could desire. By our two last, you see we are gone as far as we can till we have her highness's answer—and for my own part, I may assuredly say "that the Regent and ther syde (as by ther ware delyng you maye perceave)" will proceed no farther till they assure themselves what her majesty thinks of these causes they have showed us to charge their Queen with, her judgment thereon—and also after judgment, in what league she means to join with the king and them, now by parliament governors of that realm? "Thynk them not my lords to be to presyse, juge them as we wold juge of ower selfis yff we wer in ther cace; they play att no small game, they stande for ther lyves, lands and goods, and they are not ygnorante yff they wolde, for ytt ys everye daye told them, that as longe as they absteyn from towchyng ther Quenes honor, sche wyll make with them what reasonable ende they cane dyvyse, ytt wer pytye that they for to muche trustyng to us, schuld hender ther owne cawse." There are but two ways to be taken—one, if the fact shall be thought as detestable and manifest to you, "as for owgt we cane perceave, ytt semethe here to us—that condynal (?) jugement with open demonstratyon to the holle world with the holle cyrcunstancys, and playne, true, and indyfferent procedyng therin maye dyrectlye appeare . , . not forgettyng with what manner off person we have to deale." The other, if her majesty does not allow of this—"then to make suche a compo[si]tyon as in so broken a cawse may be." Praying her majesty's resolution with speed—for till then we but drive time with dilatory "plees," as by the Regent's answer sent to her highness, you may see. Whichever you take, one thing must

* A whole line deleted here. † Three words deleted here.
‡ Six or seven words deleted.

Elizabeth.
1568. be presently well weighed among you—how to compound the differences between the Regent and his party of one side, "and the Duke with the Hamletons off the other, whoes partye I thynk as good as ther Quenes, and . . . you schall make but bochyd worke," if you do not perfectly conclude them. Being there amongst you, you can better tell his humour for reconciliation than we here; yet I fear, "as longe as he dremes off a maryage to be hade betwyne hys sone the lord off Arbrothe, and thys Quene," he will hearken to no end. Thus you see how far in friendship to you as my assured friends, "I wade in thys most brykle cace." York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk.

2½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 12. **856.** MURRAY TO [CECIL].

Requesting a passport to France and back to Scotland, for his servant Nicholas Udert the bearer, with his servant and 2 horses, partly for the Regent's special affairs, partly for his own. York. *Signed:* James Regent.

¼ *p. No flyleaf or address.*

Oct. 14. **857.** KNOLLYS TO NORFOLK.

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 263. As your grace desired me to write to you of the humour that I found this Queen in at my return: as I rode hitherwards, doubting with myself whether her majesty would answer the request of Murray and his party for their "assurance (aforehand) to thear satisfaction, althoughe it might be that hir majestie wold thinke meete that they should procede fullye and holye to charge this Quene, and that your lordshippes hir majesties commissionars, shoulde procede to the heringe of all things to the full on booth sydes: thearfore I mused and did cast, and conceyved in myne owne opinyon, that althoe hyr majestie wold have the charge and heringe to procede on all sydes to the full, yet thear might be a waye left to a reconciliation, by a staye of the publication of the odyous accusations, so that it might suffise my lorde of Murraye and his partye, to contente them selves to procede uppon hir majesties promis by your lordshippes—that ether she wold uppon the full hearing detayne this Quene and mentayne the goverment of Scotland in the name of the younge kinge hir sonne, or else, that hir majestie wold staye the publication of all the odious accusations, and wold make a reconsiliation to all thear contentations." I thought this might serve, if her majesty thought not good to bind herself beforehand, and yet would have a full hearing. I yet know not if this Queen would allow a reconciliation, if the odious accusations once proceed. Therefore when she asked how matters went at York? saying she had received her adversaries' answer to the first accusation of her commissioners. 'But' said she, 'when woll theye procede to thear odyous accusations, or whether woll they staye and be reconsyled unto me, or what will my good sister doo for me'? I answered, I knew only that your lordships had full authority to hear all accusations *etc.*, and I could not see but proceedings would follow, "howe slowe so ever they wear in entringe thearinto." 'Well,' said she,

Elizabeth.
1568. 'my commissionars shall not begynne severely; but yff theye woll fall to extremyties, they shalbe answerd rowndlye and at the full, and then we ar past all reconsiliations.' Nevertheless, I could see that as long as there is no open publication to the world, of accusation of her guilt of the murder, she may be brought to outward reconciliation if "sett in the cheafe seate of goverment agayne." But how this may stand sure for her majesty's benefit, I see not, "unlesse (as it was mentioned in your graces presens) *some younger brother of a noble howse, or sotche a one as my cussen Gorge Carye, that is as nere in blood to hyr majestie of the mothers syde as she is on the fathers syde, myght be matched with hyr in maryage to hyr hyghnes good contentation, and to avoyde all maryages with the Hambletons or with the Frenche. But peradventure my lord of Hundsdon wold be offended with me for namyng of his sonne in this behalffe, and therfore I pray your grace to use the matter therafter." On Wednesday night late, the Bishop of Ross and Lord Boyd her commissioners came hither, and yesterday forenoon she learned of them that Murray and his party had privily uttered to your lordships all they could allege against her—and proceedings were stayed till you had the Queen's majesty's answer thereon. Lord Scrope can tell you of other speeches to us, "in so motche as we mervailed how hyr commyssyoners cold come by sotche intelligences! Wheroff we pleaded yngnorance, and sayd hyr advertisers disceyved and abused hyr, but she wold not be so perswaded."

I beseech your grace if things fall to extremity, I may know beforehand, and that Lord Scrope may return. Also that her removal to a safer place by other conductors may be thought upon, so that we may be relieved of this long bondage. "The 15 of October." *No signature.*

3 *pp. Partly written by his clerk. Indorsed* (by Knollys): "14 of October 1568. My letter to the Duke of Norff.": (and by Cecil): "Sent from M^r^ Vich."

Oct. 15. **858. MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.**

C.P. vol. II. Having so greatly to praise your highness's honourable dealing in taking this great cause in your hands, so I must highly allow the judgment and indifferency of your commissioners. I am constrained to let your highness understand, how prejudicial my remaining here "of ony continewance" may be to the estate of Scotland, or the preservation of the king's person: and beseech your majesty to command them to proceed summarily and put an end to the matter, after knowledge of the merits of the cause, how soon possibly as they can. I have willed the bearer my servant M^r^ John Wod to declare further of my mind, humbly praying credit for him as myself. York. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. In Hay's writing. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* From this point holograph.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Oct. 16.
C.P., vol. II.

859. THE REPLY OF MARY'S COMMISSIONERS TO MURRAY ETC.

The reply and true declaration of the commissioners of the Queen of Scotland our sovereign to the answer of James earl of Murray *etc.*, exhibited to the English commissioners:—

Whereas in the answer presented to your grace and the other commissioners of her majesty, to our complaint in our sovereign's name, they* allege that she "voluntarilie, uncompellit," resigned the government to her son, and constituted Murray Regent *etc.*—

First:—Adhering to our protestation of her independence, we reply that Bothwell was duly acquitted by an assize of his "peares" ratified by parliament and the greatest part of the nobility "alsweill of the principallis, quhilk" now withdraw themselves from their sovereign's obedience, who also solicited her to marry him, as fittest in all the realm, promising him service, and herself obedience—"and mony of thame selffis gaif thair bandis unto him to defend him aganis all thais quhasumevir mycht challenge or persew him thaireftir for the said cryme, as thair handwrytingis can testefie"—none of them before or after the marriage finding "falt" privately or openly with the earl for the murder, or seeming to disallow the marriage till they had practised with the keeper of the castle, and the provost of Edinburgh, to assist: whereon at night, on the sudden, they environed Borthwick castle, her grace escaping to Dunbar. Then raising forces, they beset her grace's way between Dunbar and Edinburgh, and sent Grange to her highness to cause Bothwell pass off the field as suspect of the murder, and that if she would come with them, they would honour and obey her as sovereign. Whereon to prevent bloodshed, her grace passed with Grange to them: "quha at the samyng tyme, tuke the erle of Boithwell be the hand, and bade him depart, promesing that na man sould follow nor persew him." But once they got her grace's person, they let Bothwell alone, while near them, and when "unrecoverable," they made "cullourit" appearance to seek him at sea: showing it was their own private profit they sought. When her grace first came to them on the field, Morton said with great reverence—'Madame, heir is the place your grace sould be: and we will honour, serve and obey yow, as ewer the nobilitie of this realme did ony of your progenitouris of befoir"—and having ratified Grange's promise in their names, took her to Edinburgh, rudely and rigorously lodged her in a "simple burges hous." It was no wonder her majesty gave them "quick and scharpe ansueris," but was always ready to reform grievances by the nobility in her presence. When secretly conveyed perforce in the night, to Lochleven, where as they allege she resigned her crown *etc.* for weariness—it is denied, for she is "nocht of sic age, or subject to maladeis and seiknes (thankis to God) or sa unhabill of hir persone, for to refuse that quhilk God hade gevin hir hienes to reule." And before subscribing the dimission, it is certain that Atholl, Tullibardin and Lethington, "being principallis of thair counsale," sent Robert Melvill to her, with a ring and "taiknes," advising her to subscribe the writings "for to putt of that present death quhilk was preparit for [hir] hienes, gif scho refusit the same" —assuring her what she did in captivity should not "prejuge" her

* i.e. Murray, &c.

Elizabeth.
1568. highness "in na sort." Melvill also brought Sir Nicolas Throkmorton's letter, advising her to the like—to whom her highness wrote to tell his mistress how she was handled by her subjects. Doubting not he showed it to the Queen's majesty, who was then minded to send an army to deliver our sovereign, were it not she was advised that if so, "the bluide of our maistres hade payit the sould* of hir graceis souldiouris." And when the writings of dimission of her crown were presented to her majesty by "the Lord Lyndsay, he menassit hir grace, that gif scho wald nocht subscryve, hie hade command to putt hir presently in the towre, and wald do the same; and counsalit hir grace to fulfill thair desyres, or ellis war† wald follow schortlie." Which she subscribed "with mony teares, newer luiking quhat wes contenit in the wrytingis," and afterward declared she would never abide thereat if she came to liberty. Also the Laird of Lochleven "her keipare, vald nocht cum present and desyrit ane wryting of hir hienes, to testefie that he was nocht present the tyme of hir subscriptioun, becaus hie knew the same to be done aganis hir will, and that the same sould nocht be imputt to him in tymes cuming: quhilk vryting hie obteanit." Which forced dimission neither the law of God or man approves: for at her coming out of prison, she revoked the same before her nobility at Hamilton. At the pretended coronation of her son, out of 100 peers of parliament, there were but 4 earls, 6 lords, and 1 bishop with "twa or thre" abbots and priors. God knows and men do testify, "quhat murthour and bloodesched, quhat thift and raiff, quhat distructioun of polyceis in casting doun cathedrall kirkis and trew barrownis housis, and taiking up trew menis guddis to satisfie thair souldiouris, haif bene committed sen the pretendit coronatioun and usurpit auctoritie or regiment, as be the particularis will appere quhen thai sall appere—the lyk quhairof in cronicle haith nether bene hard, sene, nor writtin, thir mony hundreth yeiris"! As for the alleged offences by our sovereign's lieges, in so far as done by her command, we affirm them lawful—if not so authorized, unjustly done.

It is therefore required that her grace may be supported by the Queen of England "to peciably enjoye and governe hir realme and liegeis," as called by God thereto: and their usurped authority be null from the beginning. Protesting to add to the premisses as time and need require.

5 *pp. In a Scottish hand. Closely written. Indorsed:* "The Reply producit at York for the Quene of Scotland 1568."

(2) Another copy with the names—Jhames Rossen., Levington, R. Boyde, Herrys, Loychinvar, Kylwynnyng, Stairlynge knight.

5 *pp. By the English commissioners' clerk. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 268. (3) The original of same. *Signed:* Joannes Rossen., Levyngston, R. Boyd, Herys, Lochinwer, Kilwynning, Scarling knycht.

5 *pp. Closely written in a Scottish hand.*

Oct. 16. **860.** ELIZABETH TO NORFOLK ETC.

C.P., vol. II. We have your letters of 9th and 11th: on considering which with those of our Council here, we find such difficulty in making resolute

* *i.e.*, Pay. † *i.e.*, Worse.

Elizabeth.
1568. answer, that as we mean to send for such of our council as are absent, for their advice, so we would have you Sir Ralph Sadleir repair hither to us with all speed, that we may be "asserteyned" in certain matters in a writing "hereincluded." Also we desire to have Lethington and James Makgill, with Herries and the Abbot of Kilwinning. Using these means—you shall declare to all the commissioners, that having seen the complaints for the Queen, and the answers thereto, finding it necessary for our own information and more speedy ending of the matters, to have conference by way of speech with some of either party—without which we cannot give you plain resolution: then as of yourselves, procure the sending of Herries for the Queen's part, and Lethington (if Murray approves) for the other. Then you the Duke and the Earl may add that you will be bold to send Sir Ralph Sadleir with them to us, who may at his return bring you our perfect resolution. This done, some private motion may be made to the Abbot of Kilwinning in a friendly manner, to advise him to come up in respect of the Duke of Chatelherault's cause, to the conference: using all means to convince the Queen's commissioners, who will most suspect it, that this conference is meant to take away the delay of time, in sending letters to and fro. You shall have good regard that none of them gather any doubt of the success of her cause, but imagine this conference principally meant how her restitution may be devised, with surety of the prince her son, and the nobility adhering to him. During this abstinence, you our cousin of Norfolk may do us good service, and we authorise you, to visit our three marches and with the wardens examine and take order as to their state, defence, resort of Scots *etc.*: you our cousin of Sussex, in the Duke's absence, making acquaintance with your charge of the presidency, from which this commission has somewhat detained you.

3½ *pp. Draft, large additions by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 16. **861.** NORFOLK TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. We have little new to write, but remain expecting her majesty's letters, till which we know not how to proceed. "Thys cawse ys the dowtfullyst and dangerowst that ever I delte in; yff you sawe and harde the constante affyrmyng off bothe sydes not withowte great stowtnes, you wolde wonder"! I find by some speech cast out by her commissioners, that if in the end she be driven to her trial, she will desire to be present in person—a thing in my opinion that needs good consideration. You shall find in the end as there be some few in this company that mean plainly and truly, so there be others that seek wholly to serve their own private turns, which being done, "they care not what becummes nether off quene nor kynge"! York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk.

The Queen of Scots in respect of herself, I think has better friends of the Regent's side than of her own.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. [16]. **862.** THE BISHOP OF ROSS TO MARY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 281. "Pleis your majestie": I conferred at great length with L[ethington] great part of a night: who assured me he had "ressonit

Elizabeth.
1568. "with [Norfolk] at lenth this Settirday on the feild;* quha determinat to him that it wes the [Quenis] determit purpois nocht to end your caus at this tyme, bot to hald the same in suspence; and did that wes in hir power to caus ws† persew extremetie, to the effect [the Regent] and his adherentis mycht utter all that thai could to your dishonour, to the effect to caus yow cum in disdane with the haill subjectis of this realme, that ye may be the mair unhabill to attempt ony thing to hir disadvantage: and to this effect is all hir intentioun. And quhen thai have produceit all thai can aganis yow, [the Queen] will nocht appoint the mater instantlie, bot transport yow up in the cuntre, and reserve yow thair till scho think tyme to schaw yow favour, quhilk is nocht abill to be haistelie, becaus of your uncles in France, and the feare scho hes of your self to be hir unfreind." Therefore they counsel you to write to her, to trust no one who said you would not remit your subjects till this controversy was ended: but assure her you would use her advice in all your affairs, and keep whatever you promised your subjects by the same. And if she discredit you, you would remain in her realm in secret and quiet manner till she was fully satisfied, your realm meantime being held in quietness, and your true subjects restored. And they think that thus in 2 or 3 months she may become better minded to your grace, than she now is. *No signature.*

1 *p.* *In a Scottish hand. No flyleaf or address. A note at foot explains the words in brackets, expressed by signs.* Also (by Cecil): "Copy of a lettre from the B. of Ross to the Quene of Scottes from York."

Oct. 20. **863.** NORFOLK ETC. TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. On Monday night‡ we received the Queen's letters of 16th, and next morning yours with the "Articles." After conference with Murray and his colleagues, they have agreed to send Lethington and Mr James Makgill forthwith to her majesty; and Murray himself is willing to go, in case delay arise from their sending to him for instructions. The Queen of Scots' commissioners are gone this day to Bolton to take her pleasure, and think Boyd, Herries, and Kylwinning shall be the men—whereof they promise to advertise us tomorrow; when I Sir Ralph Sadleir intend forthwith to repair to her majesty with all speed. York. *Signed:* T. Norffolk, T. Sussex, R. Sadleir.

1 *p.* *Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 20. **864.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. Hearing from York that her majesty as yet stays answer to Murray's and his party's Articles, I sent the copy of my letter to the Duke's grace on my return hither. They seemed resolute there, either that there would be no entrance "into the odious accusations, or els the extreme prosecution of theym owghte necessarelye to insue againste this Quene." Touching the matter of "my cussen Gorge Carie *et cet.*": I wrote the copies with my own hand, not to commit

* At foot—"This wes the day he raid to Cawood." † Mary's commissioners, as at foot.
‡ 18th.

Elizabeth.
1568. it to servants. "I doe suppose that this Quene (to have her majesteis favorr) wold not styck to inklyne to soche a one as he, and bycawse he and his race have none other honor, credite nor cowntenance in the worlde, but soche as dependethe uppon hir majesties favor towards theym," I could think of no other. All things considered, "I see not howe hyr majestie can with honor and safetie detayne this Quene, unles she shal be utterlye disgraced to the worlde, and the contrarie partie be thorolye mayntayned": nor how her majesty can reconcile and set her in her seat with a fixed council, unless all foreign practises "be avoyded by an Ynglyshe maryage"; but refer this to them that can see further. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Oct. 20. **865.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. This morning as soon as I could have access, I declared to this Queen the contents of her majesty's letter of 16th, as directed. At first she thought it strange that her majesty would hear the matters herself. 'But,' saith she, 'I was alwayes desyrous that my good syster wold here the matters hyr selffe'; and she thought they should now be ended at court, and not by the commissioners, and said she would send home the "residewe" of hers that went not to court. But I "supposed" to her that her majesty's meaning was only to be resolved of some doubts, without the "tedious expence" of sending to and fro, whereon the matter should be concluded without "stoppe." Then her grace was very "inqwysative" whether her majesty would reconcile her and her subjects, or otherwise? I said I knew only she would be very glad to be "justlye occasyoned to deale honorablye with hyr grace . . . and in processe of speache I dyd conjecture that she wold not greatlye myslyke to be offerd a maryage of one of the Quenes majesties nere kynsmen* of the mother syde, so that she cowld lyke of the parson and qwalitye of the man." This evening all her commissioners are come from York, and she has appointed the Bishop of Ross and Lord Herries to go up to court—who take journey hence "ymposte" on Saturday next.† The abbot of Kilwinning also goes with them, but "maks semblance" to go only to the Duke, not as commissioner.

This day I suffered "Docter Marshials" man to depart, enjoining him on his allegiance, to present himself to you before seeing his master—as he had no sureties. "The fellowe" is much devoted to him, so I stayed him till Mr Morton reached Court with the doctor, to prevent practises on the way. This Queen's commissioners that go not up, shall "lynger" here, saving Lord Boyd and "Skarlyng," which I think go home forthwith. Bolton. "Late in the nyght." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by Cecil): "Q. of Sc. marr. with on."

* Note here on margin by Cecil. † 23rd.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Oct. 21.
C.P., vol. II.

866. HEADS REQUIRED BY MURRAY.

"Certayne headis requyred by my Lord Regent of Scotland":—

Imprimis :—That the Queen's majesty would consider the "extreame necessiteis compelling his grace to crawe haisty and suddan end of this present cause," which are two: (1) the danger of the king's person, and the realm, in his absence, and delay of this cause if any "sturre" compelled his sudden return; (2) the "impossible" charges his grace is brought to at York, and which the "oupcummyng of thir men" to London, will infinitely increase, unless hasty remedy be provided.

The next head is his grace's desire that an end be put to the "long counteynance of two authoriteis," whereby factions are fortified and law brought to contempt.

Item :—His grace understanding his adversaries speak of the Duke's right both "to the succession" and the government in the king's minority: "beseikkis hir majeste that na mentioun myght be maid heirof (as ane cause impertinent to the action in hand, and for the quhilk that convention wes appoincted) in this present colloque and assemblye"—for the question of succession during the king our master's life, can no ways hurt him. And for the government, for the causes "abuif specifeytt," it cannot be mentioned at present: for on the one part, it should be an ensign displayed, whereto all the little factions (whereof to our grief that state abounds) would "reteyr"—as the late king's murderers, Bothwell's well willers, the "haill" papists, and all that hate the amity, law, and justice; and on the other, would grieve the hearts of those lately pursued by the Hamiltons and their adherents "under the clok and colour of the Quenes authorite and querrell and mwcht blood spilt betuix thayme, that . . . the only mention of oupsetting of that man* and his race (whome thai esteme boytht bloody and most rewengeable) wer anewcht to mak thayme all enter in dispair of you and your freindship, and think ye wer deliberat be one meanis or uther to cutt all thair throttis, att leist deliberat to continew ane civil warre amangis thayme. Thrydly, that race, haiving sic plattis in thair heade," and persuading themselves (though untruly) of their right to govern, and finding such opportunity by your countenance, will never cease to disturb the state, and hating the Regent's person and fearing the king's prosperity as their "exterminion," we shall be in constant civil war. "Lyik as thai haif newer ceassit to nowrishe and mak oup factionis sence the death of King James the Fyift for aspyring to the crowne." So his grace earnestly craves no mention be made hereof at present: not because he doubts the justice of his own cause and right, which he will never refuse to have reasoned and ordered according to justice, before the Estates of Scotland and the queen's majesty's commissioners, if she please to appoint them—but because entering on it now may drive much time and bring danger to the king's person.

"Forther"—his grace marvels if the Queen's majesty might for any cause be induced to enter in that "purpose, being so dangerous as said is" to that state, "whairof ane speciall cayre man now ly upon hir majestes shulderis for mony respectis"—and if so, it must be (1)

* *i.e.*, Setting up the Duke.

Elizabeth.
1568. if her highness were moved of conscience as taking the Duke to have assured right by law; or (2) it would breed quietness to that troubled state, or (3) it were profitable to her majesty's own state to have the said Duke bear charge and hold the government. "The fourt I se not."

As to the (1):—Her majesty must understand we have a law established in our realm concerning government "in les aage," about A.D. 1000 in King Kenneth the 3d time, "now fywe hundreyth and lxviij yeir syn, extant in our chroniclis and ewir sence that tyme used in continual practique, that the states sall haif election of the administratour during the les aage, and that fre, quhilk salbe prowin and deducytt as salbe requyrit . . . and quadrant aptly to the same cace." To call in doubt the "regiment" and the king's coronation, questions the succession, which we trust he will not touch. Lastly failing all these, "yit mony ways he* mwst be suspect and prowin unhable for the tutorye and administration of the king and his state, for sic causes as I list not twycht," but will be given at time and place—and that her highness may understand in conscience that my lord Regent can ground his right "mair assuredly than that the said Duik" can impugn it. As to the (2) his preferment can never breed quietness, but rather perpetual encouragement to the wicked stomachs of the seditious, the offences being so recent and "uncomponable." As to the (3d) how profitable it shall be to her majesty to place him in government, let the ancient councillors of King Henry 8th her father and King Edward her brother, answer that point—consider his person and his natural qualities, which he cannot now change—his chief councillors, his factions, and chief dependers—and if ye "eik" thereto, his life and manner of dealing and theirs, "not of auld but ewin within thir tuo moneythis, and yit quhat thai ar wyrking and with whome, and be what meanis"! Then ye may judge whether it shall be meeter for her majesty and her state to maintain "hir auld assured and experimentit freindis in thair possession and just possession," or run the course of these men and compel your friends to seek new friends where they can—for lay your account and assure yourselves in time ye can never "bruik boytht"!

But it may be objected: the other's faction are strong, and it would be difficult to quench them; but however they brag and would "fray ws with thair thoundering wordis and gryitt styillis," they are well enough known, and "I mwst speik on thing by experience: putt the cace thai wer all hable to stik togyther (as nayther can thai nayther will thai) yit whair wes all thair stowtnes and all thair gryitt forces, when without authoritye on thair syidis, ane number of the noble men that committed the Quene to ward and chased therle Bothwell to Noroway, then wer all thir same gryitt gyantis assemblit at Glascow, and yit befoyr my lord Regentis arrywall in Scotland, durst newir schaw thair faces in the feildis! but the gryitt campyonis and almost all that wer of thayme, so soyn as my lord Regent acceptit the authorite, gef all thair humble obedyence nor newir anis compleynit nor maid mention of the Duikis ryght, nor newir anis durst schaw thair counteynance mislyking the governement, butt obedyently serwit the same, ay and whill the Quene escapit out of Loychtlewin, and then in thair durris and in thair London (?) cloking and reinforcing thayme selfis with the

* The Duke.

Elizabeth.
1568. "Quenes authorite, thai cam and braggytt the matter: but what thai wan, lett thame mak thair adwantaige thairof, being then in the myddis of all thair forces"! Let the Queen's majesty aid the Regent with her favour, and "but ane werray mean support," to save the king's and his own person from their "trahison," and he doubts not, with God's grace, within 6 months and less, to make them acknowledge their shameful revolt from the king's just obedience, and quench "the factionis to the Yillis." He has long experience of the Earl of Argyll "and how lytill trustye ayther the Duik hes bene to him, or he to the Duik, quhair ewir fear or prouffeytt preassed ayther of thayme." The same experience had he of Huntly and Herries. "The rest will not anis sturre for that purpose; for long and frequent experientis hes teachit him how lytill luif or faythfull and constant freindship that race hes in Scotland—yea! and how odyous thair regiment wes and is to the tua part of the nobilitye, to the haill barronis and all the commonis of Scotland, I fear me thai sall pruif, yff God for our synis suld tak frome ws the esperance of our quyetnes, the king our souverayne, quhom God preserwe and grant to haif long yearis in the fawouris of God."

Therefore to conclude: the Queen's majesty must either establish the present government without delay, or nourish faction, hurt her friends, maintain her enemies, endanger the state of religion and amity, and provoke the entry of strangers within the Isle.

6 *pp. Written by John Wood—evidently for Cecil's consideration. Indorsed* (by Wood): "21 Octobris 1568. Headis proponit be my lord Regent of Scotland to be considerit."

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 272. (2) Another copy of same.

7½ *pp.* In a small English official hand.

Oct. 22. **867.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 279. Ye know well how the "inobedience" of some of our subjects, moved us to come in your realm for your support, being assured of your tender love. We caused (as you thought good) some of our council repair to York, and they having declared to your commissioners part of our "wrangis," then on the others' "inventit answer," gave a true declaration, now we believe in your hands. Hearing it is your pleasure that part of them repair to you, whereof we are right glad, assuring ourself of a good end, we send the Bishop of Ross and my lord Herries to await your pleasure; and dearest sister, albeit we are here well treated, yet we pray your good pleasure "in ending thir our long trublis." Bowtoun. *Signed:* Your richt gud sister and cusignes, Marie R.

Broadsheet. In a secretary's hand. Addressed. Indorsed (by Cecil's clerk). *Small wafer signet* (*Scotland etc.* as before).

Oct. 22. **868.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 284. App. I. No. 13. Expressing her pleasure that Elizabeth has undertaken to end her too long troubles with her subjects—good for her afflicted people and her own honour, and freeing her from seeking foreign aid. Has committed her whole mind to the Bishop of Ross and Herries, her two

Elizabeth.
1568. most trusty friends—one Elizabeth knows, and hopes the other will satisfy her. Begs full credit for them. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Holograph.*

Oct. 22. **869.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. According to her majesty's pleasure signified to the Duke of Norfolk, I have presently sent Lethington and the Clerk of Register, the bearers hereof, instructed fully with my mind in all things I could imagine her majesty desired to be resolved of by them—to whom give firm credit in the things they shall speak "on my name" as I were present myself: not forgetting that which I willed my servant Wood to communicate to you. York. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Written by Hay. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 24. **870.** ROBERT STEUART TO CECIL.

I have "deffarit" to begin my voyage unto now, "be my lord Cardinellis* advis and comand." But being "deliberat" to depart tomorrow, I will receive your letters or commands. "And yf you think necessaire that I go touarst you thair . . . I shall obay thairto: odervys I pray you aperdone me yff I go not now my self, becauis I haif tein my leif at the Quenis majeste, and at the lordes that ar thair." London. *Signed:* R. Steuart.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 24. **871.** WOOD TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I received the "pacquettis" directed to me, from the hands of "my Lady Lewenox hir gracis serwand . . . gryitt nouvelles thair is none in thayme"—except an accident on the Borders, somewhat dangerous to peace. I beseech you consider "aryght the raisonis" I left with you, that we may see quietness in that "trowblit state," and that your friends be used that it shall not repent them and theirs for ever of your friendship; "quhilk in my judgement standis gryttumly now in the election of sic ouvertuyris as will apperandly fall out." Let justice, conscience, and respect of the weal of the multitude, "and speciallye of the children of God," prevail in your deliberations, and such as fear God will go plainly to work with you. "We ar in no worse cace nor our brethren boyth in France and Flanderis, butt praysed be God in no wiht better"! I send the bearer to know of your honour whether the meeting shall be in my Lord Keeper's house or elsewhere? to accommodate the Secretary's lodging. If I hear not from them this night, I shall be with your honour tomorrow to let you know the rest of my lord Regent's mind. London. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 24. **872.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. The bearer Sir George Bowes desires me to commend his suits —which I am more bound to do, as lord Scrope and I used his service

* Chatillon.

Elizabeth.
1568. in removing this Queen hither—more chargeable to him, as he came twice, first with 100 light horse, when she refused to go—and within 8 days after, we sent for him again, when he removed her grace with 40 horse. Also a good part of the fair hanging and bedding of this house is his, for which he deserves the Queen's majesty's thanks —"since otherwyese we had bin destitute of conveniant stuffe for her majesties honor. He is also a good protestant, and his brother lykewyse, which is a rare matter in this contrye."

I have but 100*l.* of the customers of Newcastle, by Parkinson, and as it will shortly be spent, I know no better means for a supply than by Sir George, in 3 weeks or a month's time when he means to return to his house, "but xij myles here hence." If I may be rid of this "bond service" within this month, I trust our money here will serve for my time. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 25. **873.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 287. The Bishop of Ross hearing you have conceived "an yll opynyon" of him, desires me to write to you that he might answer for his purgation. How he comes to knowledge thereof, I cannot tell: I showed your letter touching him to none but the commissioners at York, who were present at my receipt of it, but he "supposethe" that your offence is for his papistry, wherein he says he has been always "qwyate" in religion, and seems almost a protestant. Lethington or Macgyll will inform you of him: he is in special favour with this Queen, and depends most on Huntly.

It seems by Lord Herries that the Duke, Argyll, and Huntly "et cet," will never agree that Murray continue in the government, "for hyndryng of the Dukes tytle; and the next heyre to the crowne besydes the Dukes chyldren, is Huntleyes chyldren, and next hym Argyles chyldren; and the next heyre to the crowne of Skotland dothe by the lawe (they saye) kleame the governnment of that realme in the mynorytye of anye young kyng there"—and it is said the Duke would hinder his title if he suffered the government out of his hands in any "vacation." Now how Murray will enjoy government "withowte hir majesties direct ayde and cowntenance (althoe this Quene be detayned) youe maye inquyre furder." The Abbot of Arbroath is landed in Scotland, and has signified it to this Queen—who is very glad. It seems her policy "to covett" to marry him, not only as the Duke and his house are "dedicate" to the French, but also "it were hyr owne perryll to cowntenance the Duke to governe uppon anye other occasion"; yet (though detained) she will maintain them to the uttermost, unless her majesty thought good to alter matters by an English marriage, as I wrote to you already. It pleased her to "remember me" in her letter to me of 2nd instant, how earnest I have always been that this Queen "shold not be any wyse exalted in credite or estimation"—and I am of that opinion still: for any such credit in England of peril to her majesty, is amongst the "unqwyate papistes." And she could lose this no sooner than by marrying an Englishman that favours the gospel. Whom her majesty may choose, devoid of suspicion of his credit *etc.*, it is for her to judge, though I have guessed one. If she think good to detain her, the "rowndlear"

Elizabeth.
1568. she goes to it the better, but if so, give me timely warning, for if this Queen once suspect such extremity, she will leave no practise untried for escape, and moving troubles in Scotland or here. And as daily when it is "drye over head" she rides out hunting the hare, or to take air, the wind never so boisterous, it is an easy matter for 12 or 20 Scots to ride over mountains and heaths, avoiding towns and villages, and laying 3 or 4 spare horses by the way, suddenly take her from us; for her servants horsed are as many as ours, and she hath an able body to endure "to galloppe apasse": and we have no trust in the country rising to stop her, but rather fear "they wold lawghe in theyr sleaves" at us. I see not how her removal can be safely done, but by my lord President. You should advise Lord Scrope to cease giving hay to her servants, for they are "unsatiable cravers"—and more of them than if they kept their horses themselves. I have written to you by Sir George Bowes for money. I trust I shall not need to write any more for my delivery from this "strange servitude," for now some resolution must be taken out of hand. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Oct. 25. **874.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. The bearer "M[r] Robert Melwyne" servant to this Queen, yet professes very good will to Murray, and Lethington also is his friend. He has a letter of "sum credite" from his mistress to her majesty, and seems desirous to return to Scotland, but his mistress stays him to witness that she "dismyssed" her crown for fear, and against her will, "and partly by his perswasion." He desired to make oath before the Duke of Norfolk, who refused on account of M[r] Sadler's departure that day to the Court; wherefore he returned here, and is now sent to the Court, I suppose to gather her majesty's disposition. "He is nothyng affected to the Hambletons." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 25. **875.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. Murray being desirous to see the country during the abstinence, is out this day with his train towards Pomfret, thence to Beverley and Hull, where I have written for his good entertainment *etc.* Yesternight, he supped with me, and had he remained, I would have made him the best pastime I could. I hear the Scottish Queen is offended that her commissioners are all returned and none remain here to countenance the matter.

Please deliver the enclosed packet which Murray sent me, for his servant "Wodd," at his departure. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 28. **876.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I received at 9 p.m. last night, your letter of 25[th] and therewith packets to Norfolk, Murray, Hunsdon, the Scottish Queen's commis-

Elizabeth.
1568. sioners here (in their absence to herself) and M^r^ Vicechamberlain—all dispatched. My letters of 22^d^ that had not reached your hands by 11 a.m on 25^th^, and the slow passage of others, might be amended by the posts. My good news from London, of the French and Flemish causes "quaile" of credit, as you do not confirm them. I will write more fully of the country causes. Meantime all are dispatched as their nature will suffer. "God holde the Quenes majeste in the mynde you write she is in, and put in her councelles hartes to advise her therto." I enclose a packet from Murray. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 29. **877.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 285. I have your letter of 25^th^ late last night, whereby I see at "insealyng" you had not received my two letters of 20^th^—one of that morning, the other of that night—and with the former a copy of my letter to the Duke of Norfolk. It seems you sent me a letter of 24^th^, but I have none such, and fear great fault in the posts, for I have presently received a letter from "Joones" my man dated 17^th^ instant. I send you another letter of 25^th^ hereof.

Touching this Queen's removing: there is no stuff here to serve elsewhere, for Lord Scrope has very "skant" to serve himself at Carlisle—and the rest borrowed of Sir George Bowes, is not much, but he has complained of "forbayryng" it so long, And I marvel at the removing to be committed to Lord Scrope and me, unless you mean her to escape on the way—for neither of us has any authority in this passage, and we have not 20 horsemen to conduct her, while she has as many of her servants, and besides will not be removed "but as a prysoner." I wrote to you already, it should be done by my lord President of the North. For her escape while hunting: I have avowed it—but that she hunts morning to night, is untrue, or out of my company; nor is she guarded with my sons, for I have but one here, and though he is not one to betray his trust, or his duty to her majesty, yet he is but one of half a score horsemen, whereof six ride commonly abroad. But consider what I have written hereon in my letter of the 25^th^ by post, and you must think that if I abridge her riding, she will exclaim she is a prisoner: but if taken from her, she will hardly escape. But I beseech you let neither me nor my sons be longer troubled with this service. Bolton . . . "earlye." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: (1) Commend me to my^r^ wife, and excuse me not writing to her for haste hereof.

Postscript: (2) 2 horses for this Queen's "owne sadle" with saddles *etc.* for them, are necessary for her remove; and my lord President may take order for furnishing her women and carriages. Unless himself conduct her, there will be no rule with the country in her passage: and yet he will need 50 of M^r^ Reade's band horsed to watch her "a nyghtes."

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Elizabeth.
1568.
Oct. 30.
C.P., vol. II.

878. ELIZABETH TO MURRAY ETC.

The Queen, having report made to her of "4 Articlees" in form of questions, to which Murray and his colleagues have required answer: has willed us to declare to them, that as she hath appointed the hearing of the cause betwixt the Queen of Scots and them, to us "of speciall trust of upprightnes," and we have taken our corporal oaths accordingly, there needs no particular answer to the said articles, but generally to assure them, that her majesty on the determination of the hearing of said cause, will do or cause to be done that "which shall be agreable to the honor of Almighty God, and to the mayntenance of the innocent and reprooffe of the gilty,"—with which she trusts they will be content. But if not, and they persist in their request, her majesty will have them to understand, "that though she will answer the same accordyng to the syncerite of hir good meaning and intention, yet she meaneth not, nor will that any person doo interprete, that therby, the sayd Erle of Murray or any with hym, shuld be boldened, moved, or comforted, to enter into accusation of the sayd Quene, for any cryme or suspicion of cryme; for that hir majesty principally wisheth that uppon the hearyng of this great cause, the honor and estate of the sayd Quene of Scottes wer preserved and found sound, whole, and firme: and with this meaning and no other, hir maiesty is contented that the sayd Articles shall be answered, if otherwise the formar generall answer shall not satisfy them." [*Form of answers.*]

"1. We have such authorite as by our commission may to them appeare.

2. We will certenly report to the Quenes majesty that which we shall in our consciencees accordyng to our othes, fynd to be trew, and hir majesty will also notefy that which to hir shall appeare to be trew without further delay."

1 *p. Draft by Cecil carefully adjusted. Indorsed* (by him): "30 Octob. 1568. Answ. by the Q. Majesty to 2 quest. of the Erle of Murray."

Oct. 31.
C.P., vol. II.

879. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

Since my answer to your letter of 25th hereof, I have been much perplexed with the words therein, that her majesty willed you to write to me, that she means this Queen to be conducted by Lord Scrope and me to Tuttberye, and she will then name others to take charge of her: whereto you add, "as she saythe." Thus I gather there is nobody yet named? There is no more reason why Lord Scrope should be so charged in a place where he has neither land nor rule, than there is for me that have none, nor friends or acquaintance there. Good Mr Secretary, let me be considered—I have taken on me services that few would have "medled in," but rather than this, whereby I should take shame, I had rather die than live in continual fear of her escape from a house I know not. But to show I refuse no reasonable service—though I think my time already spent more than need required—if it please her majesty to place her "where I have rule" within the Honour of Ewelme* in Shere-

* Oxfordshire.

Elizabeth.
1568. borne manor house, the inheritance of Master Chamberlayne, "kaptayne of Garnsey, and hathe a stronge brode moote abowte it, and but one gate to goe owte thereatt, and his mother in lawe hathe her joynter therin, beyng nowe maried to my lord Cheeffe Baron of the Exchequer—but he is a stranger there, and dwelles comonly eyther abowte Coventrie, or els at London, and therfore he may well spare Shereborne howse—whyche standeth within 2 myles of Rycott and within 4 myles of Newelme, and the same howse and all the cuntrye abowte it standes within my rule and among my frendes": I will not refuse the charge of her there, till her majesty advise on some other to discharge me. The "stuffe" of Woodstock may serve to furnish the house, and what lacks, from London—while M^r^ Doyley for "beere *et cet.*" may be an instrument about Tame and Henleye. I beseech you make this offer in God's name, that I be not pressed with service in strange countries, and envied, "malyced" and laughed to scorn, rather than helped. I mean to have M^r^ Reade and half his band or some such strength. Bolton. Last of October at 6 p.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: My lady Sussex has a "cooeche" and I think a horse litter too, if need be—besides horses fair dressed for her own saddle.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 2. **880.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I presently received your letter of 29^th^, and to-day my man brought me yours of 24^th^ mentioned in yours of 25^th^. Touching "conduction" of this Queen to Tudberye, I can say no more—there is no stuff to be had here, and "I knoe no parte of the waye." As I said on 31^st^ ult., I will not refuse the charge, so she be placed in the manor house of Shereborne, in my own country; but for Tudberye or such strange places, I trust you will think it no reason I take such, looking only for deceits, escapes or treason.

She must remove hence forthwith, for besides other inconveniences, there is no fodder to keep "fatte beeffes"; so if we tarry 3 weeks longer we must kill and "baryll" as many as we shall need before summer. And in 3 weeks we shall have no fodder for our horses: so that unless she be kept as a prisoner from riding, "which wold be a deathe unto hyr disposition, here is no beyng for hyr: and howe unfytt this place is for sotche a purpose, youe knoe." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 3. **881.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

That there may be no stay on my part of "the Scottes Quenes remove," I have written to M^r^ Vicechamberlain with a note of the way and the "cumpanye" in those parts fittest to attend on him—copies of both which I send to you herewith. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1568. Inclosed in the same:—

(Sussex to Knollys.)

"Good cosin"—As it seems her majesty means the removal of the Scottish Queen with speed, I send you herewith a note of the nearest and fittest way, and places for lodging, till ye pass out of my commission, with the names of the gentlemen of those parts fittest to attend you. York, the 3d November 1568.

½ *p. Copy by his clerk. Addressed* (to Knollys).

Nov. 4. **882.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. Even now I received these two letters in a packet from the Duke of Norfolk to be sent you. Let me understand by your next, if you have received mine of the 22d *ultimo*. York. 10 o'clock a.m. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

Murray late yesternight returned from Hull.

¼ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 5. **883.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

C.P., vol. II. I have her majesty's letter and yours "also," of the 30th *ultimo*, in Lord Scrope's absence at Carlisle with "the Dukes grace."* As her highness has warned us of this Queen's "escape intended," but no order to restrain her riding, wherein she delights, I have given to each of 12 soldiers a "groet" a day above his pay, to horse themselves, and attend on us with "pystoletts" when she rides abroad; and mean so to horse 20 more—the cheapest and surest way I can "invent": and for all this, I trust our weekly charges will not exceed 47*l*., though this Queen's numbers are much increased since Lady Leviston, and specially the commissioners, came. I have also sent for the other 50 of Mr Reade's band from Berwick, though I know not if Lord Hunsdon will send them. For her removing, if we must be the conductors, I know no better way than my Lord President's order, that 40 of our men be horsed by the gentlemen of the country, and a horsekeeper to every 5, so that straightway on lighting, they may keep watch on the Queen. For Tutbury or elsewhere, my lord President has made careful provision, offering me all assistance, and sent me a "collection" of the journeys, which I send herewith. For provision you must not cast the care on our clerk who is "skant hable" for his present service before coming there: but I herewith send you his "proportion" of household stuff that serves here, saving hangings and other "dressings" of chambers. By the note, you can judge as to beer, wine, provender for horses *etc.* I trust (after what I have said) neither her majesty nor you my lords, will keep me longer in charge. Whether this Queen's numbers are to be "abbridged," we need direction. In her majesty's letter we are to send away the [Scots] horses—but how or whither should we? "Belyke sumbodie cares not into what rudenes I doe enter"!

Touching my son: surely I think better of his wit, honesty, and

* Norfolk.

Elizabeth.
1568. duty to her majesty and to me, than your informer does! Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: As our money is near spent, and this removal will be chargeable, you must send not much less than 500*l.* forthwith.

3 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Nov. 7. **884.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I received yester night her majesty's letters and yours, and sent them to the Duke of Norfolk. The same morning I had the vice-chamberlain's letters as to removing the Scottes Queen (copies whereof I sent you in my last), and send copy of my answer, that I might have all things ready after his answer from her majesty. This morning at "the sermone," Murray delivered me your letters to him of the 4th, which he said came in a packet to him—but as it seemed to me on reading them, ye rather directed them to me first. He also delivered Lethington's letters to him, and thereon is resolved to set forward to London on the 10th, to be there the 13th: so I have ordered 30 post horses for him and his train.

He understands by the letters, of the "revoking" of my lord of Norfolk, and my sending for, and I told him I saw her majesty's pleasure was to have me come if conveniently might be, but qualified till receipt of other "more dyrecte" letters. He required me to convey with speed the enclosed, giving notice of his coming. With the council here I have dispatched all ordinary causes to be readier at her majesty's pleasure. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

1¼ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(Sussex to Knollys.)

I received this morning your letters of 4th, and yesterday yours of 2d. Where in your last you ask if I can help you with 50 horses *etc.*? Truly for lack of hay—not to be had here for any money—I have been driven to put to grass or send away all my horses, except for my "falkenors," and 3 or 4 for myself: but if you warn me in time of how many you must needs have, I will take order in the country. The journeys are not long, and ye may make the soldiers go afoot, gentlemen and their servants furnishing a train: but if the soldiers must be horsed, provision shall be made in Richmondshire to bring them to Rippon, and from Rippon to Wetherby and so on if possible—if not, some must go afoot. My wife has some saddles of "fustian of Naples," for her women, but too bad for the Scottish Queen's women; but her horses are at grass or gone to Essex—which I tell you lest you might hope for things "that be not." York, the 6th November 1568.

If you send me some note before you hear from Court, of what you must have, I will do all I can in "secret sorte"; for I think her majesty will remove that Queen to Tutbury.

1 *p. Copy by his clerk. Note at head by Sussex. No flyleaf.*

Elizabeth.
1568.
Nov. 8.
C.P., vol. II.

885. JOHN SOMMER TO CECIL.

The Queen's majesty has commanded me to write and order that my lord of Leicester and you "being now at London," shall consider the inclosed letter from M^r^ Vicechamberlain [of the 5^th^] and answer to this effect:—That her majesty wonders not a little that notwithstanding her sundry letters, and others from you, he has not all this while given order to diminish the numbers about the Scottish queen, "and these horsemen"—and where he writes that he has horsed and retained 12 "pistolyers" to attend her, and means to have 20 more besides 50 from Berwick: her majesty in no wise likes such "increasses." For if he removed the new increase of Scots with their horses, "and pretende (as her majeste devisethe), scarcety of horsemeat, or some other good causes," there should be no need of pistoliers or the 20, much less any from Berwick. But if by opinion of my lord and you, the 12 pistoliers are necessary, her majesty refers it to your order: but can by no means allow any more, as these, with his own company, are enough, if the superfluous Scots were removed, as she formerly gave order. For restraining that Queen as a prisoner ("as she hath and will percase alledge"): her majesty would that he do as appointed, "and not to be moved with others speeches." The Court, this Monday 3 p.m. *Signed:* John Sommer.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by a second clerk). *Wafer signet.*

(2) Copy of same.

1 *p. By the second clerk. Indorsed* (by him).

Nov. 10.
C.P., vol. II.

886. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

M^r^ Bortyke this Queen's servant came hither "a Sondaye nyght laste"* with letters from her commissioners at the Court; after perusing whereof, she alleged I had advertised to Court that she had caused the Abbot of Arbroath to levy 300 men for her escape to Scotland, which I denied. 'Yes,' said she, 'my lord Scroope and youe have so advertised.' I said Lord Scroope had been absent on the borders a good while and I could not tell what he had done—but I was sure I had not—whereon she showed me a letter signed by lord Herries and the bishop of Ross, "avouyng the same, uppon youre reporte to theym." I said they must have either mistaken or misreported you: and then she offered me the copy of their letter, which I enclose that you may save my credit in declaring to Herries that I have not lied to her in disavowing the advertisement. M^r^ Wylford a special trusty man, I must suffer to depart, as the Masters of the Requests will not sign his decree in their Court against Sir Adrian Poynyngs, without his presence. His case is pitiful, he is awarded but half of his due found by the jury, and yet no promise for payment, but all delays and frauds and bolstering friendship is sought to defeat him—but I leave him to tell his own tale to you, desiring his speedy return hither, and also some money with speed. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* 7th.

Elizabeth.
1568. Inclosed in the same:—

(Herries *etc.* to Mary.)

"This last Twisdaye* Maister Ceceil and Schir Raff Saidler" showed us that Lord Scrope and "my lord vischalmerlane" had written to Court that they were surely advertised that the abbot of Arbroath had taken up 300 horsemen and made means on the border to convey your grace from Bowtoun. We answered we knew assuredly ye would not depart even if ye were in Carlisle, or on the border side, till the end of this "conferrence"; and the abbot had "nocht silver to list" 50 men, and it was invented by our adversaries. Kingistone the ferd daye of November. *Et sic subscribitur:* Jo. Rossen, Hereis.

½ *p. Apparently in the bishop's writing—if so* "Hereis" *is written by him. Addressed* (in same hand): "Copie. To the Quenis Majestie owre soverane." *Indorsed.*

Nov. 11. **887.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 291.

I have received her majesty's letters and yours of the 7th November—and am much comforted to see she says she will "admytt" no good means to ease me of this service, but that for 20 or 25 days I must look well to it.

Touching her pleasure in this last letter, "that in no wyse we shold acknoledge that our warnyng of this escape to be intended to be practised for this Quene, hath not come from hyr majestie or from hyr cowrte: and withall hyr majestie saythe that in her other letter of the 30 October she dyd so specyally prescrybe to us: the which hyr letter of the 30 hyr majestie mystakethe: for the wordes therin are onely, that yf this Quene shold fynde anye offence with owre strayte lookyng to hyr, that then we shold playnely saye that we have ben warned of an intention and practise of certen hyr subjects tending to abuse us in the charge comytted unto us. But we had no prescription to saye whence we were warned—and therfore accordingelye I onely sayd unto hyr (one evenyng whan she wold have taryed owte a huntyng after sun sett) that I was warned of sotche a practise intended: but from whence I was warned, hetherto I never told hyr." But when at Mr Bortyk's coming, she charged me with complaining to her majesty of her intended escape by means of the Abbot of Arbroath: then because it was untrue, I utterly denied it, as you shall perceive in my other letter herewith sent: which I had given to Borthwick yesterday, but as he stays till tomorrow, I asked it again of him.

Touching her majesty's opinion, that if we diminish this Queen's train of horse, ours being thus superior, we may forbear keeping her prisoner within doors: if you note my letter of 25 of October, I imputed the danger of escape to horse coming over the heaths from Scotland and finding us a "huntyng." So I have charged her majesty with "12 groates" daily for 12 soldiers above their wages to furnish themselves with "pystoletts at theyr sadle bowes" as in my letter of 5th instant. And having 8 horsemen of my own daily attending her,

* 2nd.

Elizabeth.
1568. "God wyllyng, sum of us wolle smarte before she be taken from us in the felde." For William Knollys, though no "unsure" man, if need be I will send him away, but pray return me Morton or Wylford first. Bolton. In the evening. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Upon M^r^ Beaton's letters sent to this Queen immediately after Lord Herries and the bishop of Ross were "mydwaye herehence" toward the Court. she said to me that her majesty was much "incenced" with her, 'and,' said she, 'yf I had knone this afore my Lord Harrys departure with the sayd bysshopp herehence. I wold have made thaym a short commyssyon.' Now Lord Boyd comes away with Borthwick to join in commission with them: but "belyke" it is not ample: "but she lacks" [*the rest cut off*].

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or indorsement.*

Nov. 11. **888.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. In my last "bayryng this date" I showed what necessity caused me to suffer "this bayrer" M^r^ Wylford to depart: and now I am also destitute of M^r^ Morton, but trust my service is near an end. You know our need of money, which you may supply forthwith by Morton and Wilford, if the Masters of the Requests delay him not. I am void of counsel, and can see no more into these great matters: but as I have written to her majesty, wish her "fullye and hoollye" to take and follow the advices of you her councillors. Lord Scrope is presently returned. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 12. **889.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I received "at this present ower of vj in the evenyng" letters from the Duke of Norfolk, who will sup with me here tomorrow night, and set forward to court next day: which causes me to stay a day longer than I meant—to accompany him. He required these letters sent with speed. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 12. **890.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I received yesterday at noon, your letter of 8^th^ with Master Sommer's letter to you therein, which last I return inclosed. I perceive if I do not write all things that I do, "it wolbe thowght I doe nothyng"! I have received many letters to diminish the number of this Queen's horsemen, as though all the surety of her keeping consisted therein! while in deed it is but "an inferior mean"; for her horses are diminished to a "dussen or syxten," and this "in myld maner by waye of intreatie," and alleging scarcity of horse-meat—which "lenytye" Lord Scrope and I thought necessary, lest since Borthwick came for a new commission, she might break off her commission, as by my letter to you of Thursday last* you may see she was half disposed "to pyke a qwaryll therto," on Beaton's letters sent to her before her commissioners were fully at London.

*11th.

Elizabeth.
1568. For the wages of the 12 pistolers on horseback, wherewith this Queen finds no fault: since her majesty likes not my making them 20, "I woll staye uppon these 12, and take the adventure that shall happen." I have also ordered M[r] Reade to stay his other 50 men (though they were "never discharged from me but by myn owne curtesie, and the havyng of theym here shold cost hyr never a penye)." But unless you at Court see more than I do, "theyr wante here maye breade danger," for our nightly watch cannot be strong, "specially withowte the walles . . . , and so escape may easelye folowe owte of hyr chamber wyndoes, the barrs theroff beyng fyled readye, and towells at hand to bynd hyr bodye under the armes, wherby she maye be lett downe veryе easelye: but I doe caste the worste, peradventure cawseles." She and Lady Leviston and her women *etc.* have not "past a dussen" horses, till her commissioners' return.

I am glad to hear her majesty is disposed to assemble not only her Privy Council, but also most of her Earls, to determine this great cause; "and I pray God hyr majestie doe gyve theym leave to open theyr owne opinions frelye, before she doe prejudicate theym with openyng of her opynyon aforehand"; for surely if they, specially her council, do not sincerely and heartily join with her in this cause, "I feare me some danger may insue theron. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: After I had written this, at my lord of Norfolk's request, I rode to him to M[r] Robert Bowes' house near Richmond, tarrying all night, and showed his grace this letter. "God wyllyng, youe shall fynd me secrete towchyng your letters, and faythfull alwayes."

2 *pp.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 19. **891.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I have sent this bearer William Knollys "unto his mother accordyngly, bycawse I woll not stand in myn owne conceyte to motche: but yff he have no more stayde wytt nor honestye than by his young yers and uppon some reportes he hathe ben judged, than he is to well used: otherwyse yf he hathe ben mysreported, or mysconstrued, yet his reputation is onely therby injured and prejudiced—the which is a matter of smale moment, althoe his preservation theroff is the onely haven of refuge that may save hym from villanye and extreme myserye in all stormes and tempestes."

In this great cause, I only pray that you may so agree in the fear of God, that her majesty may be soundly and faithfully assisted. I have none here to watch, saving M[r] Rede and his band, wherefore we would be glad to hear of Morton and Wylford's return forthwith: and we trust you forget not we need money out of hand, and that beef *etc.* will now begin to fail us. So if we tarry 14 days longer, we must "barelle" what may serve for the time. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 20. **892.** WALSYNGHAM TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. I was willed "by my frende" to advertise you, "that yf for the dyscoverye of the Quene of Scottes consent to the murder of her

Elizabeth.
1568. husband, ther lacke suffycyent prooves, he is able (yf yt shall please you to use hym) to dyscover certeyn that shoold have ben imployed in the sayde murder, who are heere to be produced." London. *Signed:* Fra. Walsyngham.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . M^r F. Walsingham to my Master."

Nov. 21. **893.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. This Queen has presently some intelligences from her commissioners, "in message by the Laird of Rikerton," Alexander Heborn, lately stayed, and now come with your passport to Scotland, whither he goes. It seems to be that her majesty has told her commissioners that on advertisement from me, she will remove this Queen out of hand, "not for any feare, but for other respects." So by her speeches to Lord Scrope and me, it is plain "she dothe gather that hyr majestie is bent motche agaynst hyr," and therefore sends the laird of Newton a "ryder" (whose letters lord Hunsdon seized at Berwick not long since, and sent to you) to her commissioners to break up their commission. I have said to her grace, I would not wish her "to make a qwaryll nor to take a qwaryll" till offered her: but am uncertain what she has done. Our horsemeat grows marvellous "skase and dere," but this Queen will have it whatever she pay, "hyr delyght to ryde abrode is sotche." Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Nov. 21. **894.** SUGGESTIONS BY CECIL.

C.P., vol. II.

I. The best way for England, but not easiest:—That the Queen of Scots remain deprived of her crown, and the State continue as it is.

II. The second way "for England proffitable and not so hard":—

1. That she might be induced to agree that her son continue king because crowned, herself to remain also Queen, the government being committed to such as the Queen of England should name, thus:—"That a convenient nombre of persons of Scotland shuld be first named to the Quene of England, indifferently for the Quene of Scottes and for hir sonne—that is to saye, the one half by the Quene of Scottes, and the other halff by the Erle of Lennox and the Lady Lennox, parentes to the child: and out of those the Quenes majesty of Ingland to make choiss, for all the officees of the realme that ar by the lawes of Scotland disposible by the Kyng or Quene of the land."

2. Till this be done, the government to remain in the hands of the Earl of Murray, but that he shall dispose of no offices or escheats.

3. That a parliament be summoned by the "severall" commandments of the Queen of Scots and the young king.

4. That 12 hostages be delivered into England on the young king's behalf, of Murray's party, named by the Queen of Scots: the like number of hers, named by Murray—all to remain till 3 months after

Elizabeth.
1568. parliament, as pledges for peace. By which parliament it shall be concluded (1) That the Queen of England's ordinance for their government if not to the hurt of the Crown, nor contrary to law for any man's inheritance as it was before the parliament at Edinburgh [ ] December 1567, shall be obeyed under pain of high treason: (2) also all judgments against convicted murderers of the late king "stablished"; (3) that remissions be made from the Queen to her "contraryes," and from the king and his, and every subject to another—with restitution of lands, houses *etc.* taken from the owners at her committal to Lochleven; (4) that it be declared who shall succeed the Queen of Scots "and hir issew"; or else that such right as the Duke of Chastillerault had at her marriage with Lord Darnley, "may be conserved and not prejudiced"; (5) that she may have leave of her majesty to remain in England 12 months after parliament, and not depart without her special license; (6) that the young king may be brought up in England till [ ] years of age.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "21 x^bris^ 1568. Novemb. 1568."

Nov. [24]. **895.** COMMISSION BY ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. II. The Queen reciting her former commission of 20th September last —its sitting at York, and convenience of removal nearer her presence to conclude the matters there begun, and also the desire of her good sister Mary Queen of Scots: appoints Sir Nicolas Bacon keeper of her great seal, Thomas Duke of Norfolk, Henry earl of Arundel, Thomas earl of Sussex, Robert earl of Leicester, Edward lord Clinton and Saye, admiral, Sir William Cecil and Sir Ralph Sadler, to treat and conclude at her city of Westminster near London, or elsewhere, with the commissioners of her said sister, and the earl of Murray and others in the name of the Prince of Scotland, on all matters in dispute between the said Queen and her subjects *etc.* Honour of Hampton Court, 11th of her reign.

Broadsheet. On parchment. Official contemporary hand.

(2). Another copy.

4 *pp. Draft, corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Nov. 25. **896.** PROTESTATION BY THE ENGLISH COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II. (1) Declaring that the Queen of Scots' commissioners' former protest at York, likewise that made this day, are no wise admitted nor hurtful to the Crown of England.

(2) Accepting the same, save as above.

(3) That we do not mean to proceed judicially, but as commissioners, adhering to the protest by certain of us at York. "Subscrib. by the L. Kepar. D. Norfolk, Er. Sussex, Er. Lec., L. Adm., W. Cecill, R. Sadler."

1 *p. Written by Cecil's clerk. The names added by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him).

(2) Copy of 3d clause.

¼ *p. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by same).

Elizabeth. 1568. Nov. 25.

897. PROTESTATION BY MARY'S COMMISSIONERS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 303.

Adhering to their former protest at York, they declare that though their sovereign is content that the causes betwixt her and her disobedient subjects be "dressed" by advice of her sister and cousin the Queen of England: yet they no wise consent that their sovereign's causes shall be treated in form of judgment or in judicial place, conform to her highness's mind in her letters to their said sovereign—she being a free princess with an imperial crown given her of God—but are content to treat on matters in their commission, without prejudice of her most royal person, crown, estate and honour. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen. Herys. R. Boyd. Kylwinning.

1 *p.* *Not indorsed.*

Nov. 25.

898. OATH BY THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II.

[*In same terms as that at York.*]

1 *p.* *Written by Cecil's clerk.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "25 Novembr. 1568. The othe of the Commissionars for the Quene of Scottes—at Westm^r."

(2) The like oath by those of the King of Scots.

1 *p.* *Written and indorsed by Cecil's clerk.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 307.

(3) Another copy of same.

Sept. 20—Nov. 26.

899. PROCEEDINGS IN THE COMMISSION.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 42-51.

1. Commission by Elizabeth to Norfolk, Sussex, and Sadler, to meet Murray and others of Scotland.

2. The like in name of James King of Scots to Murray, Morton (and 2 others) and form of oath made by them.

3. Form of oath by the English commissioners. 4. Protestation by the Q. of Scots' commissioners. 5. The same in answer thereto by the Q. of England's commissioners.

6. Charge by the Queen of Scots' commissioners against Morton, Mar, Glencairn, Hume, Lindsay, Ruthven, Semple, Cathcart and Ochiltree for besetting the Queen on her way to Dunbar, imprisoning her in Lochleven, intromitting with her "cunyie hous" and money, and pretending to crown her son at Stirling then "bot of threttene monethis auld." Also against Murray taking upon him the name of Regent and usurping her authority in name of "that infant" *etc.*, and with his partakers besetting her way to Dunbarton, overthrowing her forces and compelling her to take refuge in England with her dearest sister and nearest cousin in blood for redress *etc.* Produced 8th October 1568. Johnne Rossen, Levington, Boyd, Herries, Scarling, Kilwynning.

Original in Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 259.

Elizabeth.
1568.

7. Articles proponed by the Regent *etc.* (four in number) as to the powers of the English commissioners before proceeding farther. 9th Oct. 1568.

Original in Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 310.

8. Answer by Regent Murray to the letter presented on behalf of the Queen of Scots' commissioners—relating her proceedings with Bothwell within 2 months after the King's murder—their own proceedings to relieve her from his keeping—her voluntary surrender of her crown to her son, and appointing Murray Regent *etc. etc.*—protesting for power to "eik" thereto. James Regent, Mortoun, Patrik Lyndesay, Ad. Orchaden., Dunfermling. 14 Oct. 1568.

Original in Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 266.

9. Reply by the Queen of Scots' commissioners to the "answer," denying it *in toto.* [York,] 16 Oct. 1568.

Original in Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 268.

10. Protestation by the Lord Regent *etc.* at Westminster 26 Nov. with the "Eik" to his former answer, directly charging the Queen of Scots with foreknowledge and complicity in her husband's murder. [Westminster, 26 Nov. 1568.]

3 *pp. Original in Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 303, and fol. 306. In a Scottish hand* (Hay's).

Nov. 26. **900. ELIZABETH'S REPLY TO MURRAY ETC.**

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol, 311.

The Queen having had report made to her of 4 Articles in form of questions, produced by the Earl of Murray and his colleagues at York, has willed us to declare that as she has appointed the hearing of the whole cause betwixt the Queen of Scots and them, specially to us as commissioners, and we have made oath to do sincerely and uprightly: there needs no further answer but to assure them that her majesty on the hearing of said cause, will "doo or cause to be don that which shalbe agreable to the honor of Almighty God, and to the mayntenance of the innocent and reproofe of the gilty, with which answer her majesty trusteth they wilbe content." And if this does not content them, and they persist, her majesty would have them understand, "that though she shall answer the same according to the sincerity of hir good meaning and intention: yet she meaneth not nor will that any parson do therof interprete, that therby the said Erle of Murray or any with him shuld be boldened, moved, or any wise comeforted to enter into accusation of the said Quene for any crime or suspicion of crime, for that hir majesty principally wisheth that upon the hearing of this great cause, the honor and estate of the said Quene of Scotts were preserved and found syncerely sound, whole and firme. And therupon with this meaning and no other, hir majesty is contented that the said Articles shalbe answered as hereafter followeth if otherwise the former generall answer shall not satisfy them."

1. To the first question [*repeated*]:

ANSWER:—We have full authority under our commission.

Elizabeth.
1568.

2. To the second [*repeated*]:

ANSWER:—We shall report to her majesty what we shall find true, and her majesty will pronounce that which appears to her true, without unnecessary delay.

3. To the third [*repeated*]:

ANSWER:—If she be justly proved and found guilty of the murder, "which wer much to be lamented," she shall be either delivered to your hands on good and sufficient sureties for the safety of her life and good usage of her: or else shall continue* in England upon the reasonable charges of the Crown of Scotland, so as neither the Prince her son, nor you the Earl of Murray, nor any other for holding his part, shall be in danger by her liberty.

4. To the fourth [*repeated*]:

ANSWER:—If found guilty, "which as above is sayd wer to be lamented," her majesty will allow your and the lords' proceedings for the past, as far as may be proved lawful by the laws in force "before your attemptes," and for the time to come, "in respect of the dimission of the crown made by hir to the same prince hir son, if the same may be proved," will maintain his authority, and the regiment of said realm now in the possession of you the Earl of Murray, till it shall be duly proved by these laws that any other should be Regent or Governor, or that any other form of government ought to be used. Saving that her majesty means not by these answers to maintain or save harmless any person now adhering to said Prince of Scotland, or any other party, proved to have been in any manner guilty of her husband's murder—but rather to aid in punishment of the same.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Corrected by Cecil.*
Attached to the original paper of demands 9th October preceding.

Nov. 26. **901.** PROTEST BY MURRAY AND OTHERS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 304.

Declaring their sincerity of purpose in all their proceedings—that for private affection every one of them wished their sovereign well, and rather than "spott" her with the murder of her husband, they would have winked at the shrewd reports of the world; and if with the perpetual exile of any one of them, they could redeem her honour with safety to her son's person, they would banish themselves. But now being forced by their adversaries, they are compelled in self defence to utter this most odious matter, the shame of which is caused by the former refusing to accept their first answer, which they know to be true—and will produce the evidence they have to prove her perpetual infamy, whereof her advisers are the "cheiff procurers." Westminster. *Signed:* James Regent, Mortoun, Patrick l. Lyndsay, Ad. Orchaden., Dunfermling.

Broadsheet, 2 pp. Hay's hand. Indorsed (by Cecil): ". . . A protestation made by the Erle of Murray" *etc.*

Nov. **902.** THE BOOK OF ARTICLES.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 51, etc.

"Articles contenyng certane conjectouris, presumptionis, likliehoodis and circumstances: be the quhilkis it sall

* Originally "be kept."

Elizabeth.
1568.

"evidentlie appeare, that as James sumtyme Erle Boithvile wes the cheif executour of the horrible and unworthy murther perpetrat in the persoun of umquhile King Henry of gude memory, father to our said soverane lord, and the quenis lauchfull husband: sa wes she of the foir-knawlege, counsell, devis, perswader and commander of the said murther to be done, and mantenar and fortefear of the executouris thairof. Dividis in five partes."

Extracts.

1. The alteration of her ardent love to extreme disdain and deadly hatred, within 3 months after marriage—shown by her postponing his name to her own on the new silver coinage of January 1565-66—not allowing him to sign letters *etc.*—in September thereafter, lodging in the "Chekkerhous" Edinburgh, and flying thence to Holyrood, to avoid his offered "familiaritie"—continuing the like conduct in November when he wished to "pas to bed with hir"—excluding him from the baptism in December—taking away his silver plate and giving him pewter instead *etc.*

2. Her inordinate affection to Bothwell, shown by giving him the rents of Melrose, Haddington and North Berwick abbeys, and promise of Scone when vacant—while Darnley only had a "sober" pension out of the bishopric of Ross. Then in March 1565 her gift to Bothwell of Dunbar, with all the powder and munition of Scotland. In September 1566, she being in M^r^ John Balfour's house in Canongate, and the "Chekkerhous." Bothwell resorted to her night and day. "Hir behaviour in the said Chekkerhous furthschew how at that tyme sche abusit hir body with him, he resorting through Maister David Chalmeris ludging quhair she lay, convoyit to hir be the lady Rires moyen; quhilk hir self hes confessit to divers. And specialie he breking the appointed tryst at ane tyme, and sche impatient of his tary and delay, send the said lady Rires to his chalmer for him: quhilk lady passing ower the dyke at the nerrest, tuik him out of the bed fra his wiff and brocht him to the Quene." Then when at Borthwick hearing of Bothwell's hurt, she rode in such haste to see him at Armitaige that she fell ill on her return at Jedburgh and was reported dead. After [other suspicious doings], at the baptism she ordered a passage to be made betwixt her chamber in the "new work" in Stirling castle, and the great hall, at the north end of which Bothwell was lodged—"as the unperfected work this day testefeis"—for they left Stirling before it was finished.

3. Their conspiracy for the king's horrible murder—her first proposal to divorce Darnley, abandoned in case it bastardized her son—Darnley's falling suddenly ill half a mile out of Stirling on his way to Glasgow, probably from poison; but overcoming the effects by his "youthheid," she devised with Bothwell to bring him from Glasgow to Edinburgh, and to see if there was a more secret way to kill him by medicine—that Huntly and Bothwell rode with her to Callander, remaining there a night—whereon she rode to Glasgow and they back to Edinburgh, where Bothwell was seen by divers persons looking at the Kirk of field to consider it. Then she altered her "fraward" countenance to induce Darnley to go to Edinburgh—when he wished to go to the Duke of Chatelherault's lodging, thinking

Elizabeth.
1568. it the one meant for him—she finding him at the "yett" took him to the other "unworthy hous" long unoccupied, ruinous, and with 4 entrances. On Sunday night she and Bothwell supped in M^r^ John Balfour's house in Canongate, where the bishop of the Isles made the banquet. Bothwell then passed to the Laird of Ormiston's chamber above the "Bow," and consulted with him, Hob Ormiston *etc.* as to the powder: the Queen passing to the house to entertain the king and said she would lie there all night—Paris her servant meantime taking in the powder to the "laich hous" (where she lay the nights preceding), and also the murderers. The powder being laid, whereat Bothwell was present, he came to the king's chamber, and played at dice with the lords attending the Queen. Then Paris came and gave a sign that all was prepared, which the Queen seeing ("being kissand and familiarlie interteneand the king, at quhilk tyme she pat ane ring on his fingar), she said, 'I have faillit to Bastian that this nycht of his mariage promisit him the mask': and swa incontinent cryit for hors, and departit towards Halyrudehous, Boithvile being in hir cumpany."

Then on the way and after her arrival, her sole talk was with Bothwell till 12 o'clock, when the Laird of Traquair captain of the Guard, went to his bed, leaving them alone together—then Bothwell departing as if to his bed in Lord Ruthven's house, changed his hose and doublet and went to the murder, returning thereafter to his said chamber, through her "watche."

4. The sequel of said murder:—Notwithstanding the horrible "crak" of the powder alarming the whole town, the Queen was no way moved "na mair nor evir sic thing had bene."

And Bothwell "be[ing r]aisit furth of his bed be Maister George Hacket his man . . . " *with other lords and ladies in the palace, passed to the Queen's chamber and declared the king's death; "yit she wes litle alterit or abasit of thay strange newis, bot desirit thame to pas to the towne and se the maner: and thaireftir slepit soundlie, durris and wondois all closit, unsperand farther newis quhill twelf houris at none."

The same Monday "xii of Februar" [*sic*] 1566, "for the maners saik" a council was held in Argyll's chamber, where Thomas Nilsoun and others that lay in the king's house were examined on several matters: and the Laird of Tullibardin comptroller, hearing, said "thair is a grund," Bothwell and others seeing the "perrell," stopped inquiry, and so "grudgit" at Atholl and the Comptroller that for fear of their lives they left court.

The "morne eftir the murther quhilk wes Twysday the ellevint day" Margaret Carwod the Queen's familiar servant ("quhais gret credite in all thingis is not unknawin to our adversaires") was married in the palace at the Queen's charges, showing the little "dule," and there was more inquiry for money "stowin fra the said Margret nor for the kingis murther."

The king's person was left lying for 3 hours, till the "irascall" people took it to a "vile hous" where it lay 48 hours, and then was brought to the chapel of Holyroodhouse on "ane auld blok or forme of tre," by vile persons and cast in the earth at night without ceremony.

* Damaged.

Elizabeth.
1568. The hasty proceedings for Bothwell's acquittal—her 2d contract of marriage with him dated at Seton 5th April and written by Huntly —her counterfeited "dule" lasting only 8 days, instead of 40—her playing at Seton "one day richt oppinlie at the feildis with the palmall and goif, and on the nycht planelie abusing hir body with Boithvell" who was in a "derne" and obscure chamber immediately under hers, with a secret passage thereto: and though M. de Crocq drew her to Edinburgh, yet she returned to Seton. She intromitted with the earldom of Lennox—taking fines of vassals and giving part of it to the Lord Boyd. Her restoring Huntly, for his consent to his sister's divorce—pretended abduction by Bothwell, and their marriage on Thursday 15th May "in twa fassionis, quhilk Monsieur du Croq the French ambassadoure sa greitlie disdaynit, that being ludgit within a very schort space to the palace of Halyrudehous, he wald not at the Quenis desyr pas to banket.

"Swa: apperandlie to oure jugement les presumptionis nor heir ar expressit suld serve for the full probatioun of this mater—considering that Quene Jane of Napillis being of the like cryme accusit, was adjugit culpable of the same, far feuar presumptionis being laid to hir charge, as it apperis be the exemple of Lowis king of Ungarie, ansuerand the said quene daris (?) in thir wordis:—

Inordinata vita precedens, retentio potestatis in regno, neglecta vindicta, vir alter susceptus, et excusatio subsequens: necis viri tui, te probant fuisse participem et consortem."

5. [This last part contains the reasons of their proceedings against their sovereign, sequestrating her person for a time, and crowning her son.]

They say they were trapped by coming to supper and signing the bond of 19th April, and therefore absented themselves—relate the meeting of the rival forces at Carbarry hill—Bothwell's offer of single combat taken up by Lindsay, but declined—his flight to Dunbar, and lastly when in the Northland preparing to go to sea in piracy he yet sent to Edinburgh Castle "for a box with letters quhilk he left thair, thinking gif he culd have the samin, the grund of the caus shuld nevir cum to lycht. Bot as God wald, the box wes intercepted and takin fra umquhile George Dalgleishe his servand: and being visiit, thair wes fund in the samin sic lettres of [the] quenis awin handwritt direct to the said erle, and utheris writingis as cleirlie testefeit that as he wes the cheif executour of the murther, sa was she of the foirknawlege, counsaler, devisar, and mantenar of the authors thairof: and that hir revesing preciding hir pretendit mariage with the said erle, wes nathyng ellis bot a colourit mask inventit and commandit be hir selff, as a cloik of the abusing of hir body and fylthie lyff frequentit with him of a lang continewance, baith before and eftir the murther of hir husband."

Which strange and unnatural cruelty before suspected, being now evidently known by many infallible proofs *etc.*, and the common fame at last coming to her own ears, she considering her ungodly life and wicked behaviour, was content to demit her government and crown to her son, and during his minority to establish "the regiment of the realme in the persoun of the Erle of Murray without his knawlege or desire, he being then absent furth of the realme; and

Elizabeth.
1568. that voluntarlie, na compulsioun, violence or force in word or deid usit or practized to move hir thairto."

27 *pp. Scottish hand* (Hay's). *Commonly called the* "Book of Articles" *and said to be the only extant copy.* Printed in Hosack's *Mary Q. of Scots.*

Nov. 26. **903.** EIK BY MURRAY AND OTHERS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 306. Being compelled by the obstinate and earnest pressing of their adversaries, they are forced in self defence to "manifest the nakit trewth" that Bothwell was the chief murderer of the late King, and the Queen the chief persuader, commander, and maintainer of him, and by her subsequent marriage with him, it was evident they intended to cause the innocent prince, now their sovereign, shortly to follow his father, and so to transfer the crown from "the richt lyne, to a bludy murtherair and godles tyran"; wherefore the estates decerned her demission of the crown, coronation of her son, and establishment of the regency in Murray's person. *Signed:* James Regent, Mortoun, Ad. Orchaden., Dunfermling, Patrick L. Lyndsay.

1 *p. Broadsheet. Hay's hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): " . . . The Eyk or addition by the Erle of Murray *etc.* to his first answer."

Nov. 25-26. **904.** MEMORIAL OF TRANSACTIONS AT WESTMINSTER.

C.P., vol. II. "Apud Westm^{r} 25 Nov. *die Jovis** 1568:—

A memoriall of things passed this present day in the Great Chamber anciently called *Camera Depicta* next upon the North side to the Parliament Chamber at Westminster":—

The Queen's majesty's (7) commissioners, sitting at "a long table being a table of counsell," showed and read their commission, "subsigned" by her majesty under her Great Seal "in grene wax" dated the 24th of this present, to the Bishop of Ross, Lords Boyd and Herries, and the commendator of Kilwinning, commissioners for the Queen of Scots, under her commission on parchment signed and sealed with her signet penult day of September last—both recited, and the protestation by the Queen of Scots' commissioners renewed. Whereon the latter withdrew into an "inner litle chamber," and the Earls of Murray, Morton, Bishop of Orkney, Commendator of Dunfermline, and Lord Lindsay, commissioners for the said Queen's son, "intituled by them James king of Scotland," entered the said Great Chamber, were received in like manner, and produced and read their commission under the Great Seal of Scotland in yellow wax. Thereafter, all being present, after some discussion, the oaths and protests *etc.* at York were repeated on the New Testament, held by "one [ ] Parkins" chief prebendary of "the cathedrall church" of Westminster, (1) by the Queen's majesty's commissioners all laying their hands on the book, (2) by the Queen of Scots' commissioners in like manner, who also affirmed anew their accusation against Murray and his colleagues, and the "replication" following,

* The day inserted by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1568. (3) by Murray and his colleagues, who also affirmed their answer to their Queen's charges *etc.*

Act of Friday 26th November in same place:—The Queen's majesty's commissioners being all present. Murray and his colleagues required that before answering the "replication" they might deliver a protestation, which was read as follows—"Albeit our wholl procedings *etc.*" Also they produced one other writing, "which they said they were most loath to exhibite, as by the contentes of their protestation might be considered; wherunto they did referre them selves. The said writing was subscribed by the said commissioners in the presence of the Quenes majesties commissioners, and is entitled 'An Eik to the answer *etc.*' wherof the tenor in this sort followeth—An eik *etc.*—after which the Quenes majesties commissioners departed from the said chamber to their lodginges."

5 *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "25-26 Nov. apud Westmr. The first and second Session."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 294. (2) Another copy of the foregoing *etc.*

8 *pp. In a contemporary official hand.*

Dec. 1. **905.** MARY'S COMMISSIONERS TO THOSE OF ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 314 "My lordes: we are hartely sory to heare that our contrymen shuld intend to colour thair most unjust, ingrate, and shamefull doinges (as to the world is patente) against thair naturall soveraigne liege lady and maistres, that hath ben so beneficiall to them. Her grace hath made the gretest of them of meane men (in their owne calling) earles and lordes, and now without any evill deserving of her graces parte to any of them in dede or worde, to be thus wise recompensed with calumnious and false invented brutes, slandered in so great a matter till her reproche, wherof they themselfes that now pretend herewith to excuse their open treasons, was the first inventers, writers with their owne hande of that divelish band, the conspiracy of the slaughter of that innocent yong gentleman Henry Steward late spowse till our soveraigne, and presented to their wicked confederate James Erle Bothwell, as was made manifest before ten thousand people at thexequution of certen principall offendours in Edenburgh. But seing they can gett no other excuse to this their treasonable usurpacion and wronges (ye! such usurpacion and wronges as never hath ben seene the like subjectes to have don before)—for the first and best of them hath not in parliament the first voyce of eightene of that realme: No! no! my lordes, this is not the cause why they have putt their handes in their soveraigne the anoynted of God, most often by his word expressely prohibited (a matter to other princes right dangerous and worthy to be foreseene) for if this in them be tollerat, what prince lives upon the face of the yerth that ambitious subjectes may not invent some slaunder in their living, to comme to their supreme authority? Because your wisdomes understand well how farr their doinges passeth the boundes of subjectes permitted in the Holy and Sacred Scriptures, and loyall duty to their native princes in humane lawes, we will not speke therof: onely will we playnly declare the very truth and cause of their usurpation. The Quenes highnes our and their native soveraigne, being of her self (as well is

Elizabeth.
1568. "knowen) a liberall princesse, gave them in her yowthe for their unshamefast begging, without other their worthy deservinges, the two parte of the patrimony perteyning to the crowne of Scotland, and when her grace came to furder yeres and more perfect understanding, seing that her successors kinges of that realme might not mainteyn their estate upon the third part (albeit her grace might for the time, having so great a dowery of France, and other casualties not proper to the crowne)—for their evill deservinges and most proude contempcion procuring her slawnder so farr as in them was, sleing her secretary in her graces presens: caused her use the priviledge of the lawes, always granted to the kinges of that realme of before—made revocation before her full age of xxv yeres. They understanding right well this to be a waye when it pleased her grace or her successors by the lawes to take from them the livinges before given them, and thus wise evill deserved—when they had herin advised with their Machavellis doctrine, seing her son an infant not a yere old—could find no better way then to cutt off their soveraigne liege lady (which, if it had not ben the Quenes majestie of this realme her great diligence, without dowte had ben don) — for that they understoode they might long possesse those romes or that infant had witt or power to displace them—and in the meane time gate great riches under the colour of a pretended authority. That it was not the punishment of that slawghter that moved them to this prowde rebellion, but the usurping of their soveraignes authority and to possesse them selfes with her great riches and her true subjectes, we will boldly avowe and constantly do affirme the same to be, as by the sequelles doth and shall playnely appeare.

Thus shalbe knowen the cawse and ground of their mind to the Quenes majestie of this realme, the kinges of France, Spayne, and other princes. And as the Quenes majestie hath written and sayd her highnes nether could nor wold be judge in this cause, considering the Quenes grace our maistres and her progenitours hath ben free princes—nother yett wold her highnes permitt them to come to her presens that thus had used their native soveraigne: so can we not dowte but your right honorable lordshippis reporting this to her majestie, we shall find her of that good mind and disposicion to our soveraigne her majesties owne blood, that upon the affirmed promis of frendship and assistance betwixt them, of her free opcion and voluntary will is come in this realme to her majestie, suing her highnes help that her grace may enjoy her owne given her of God, which others hath at all times, and we of reason can require. Howbeit our soveraigne had no time to have advised with her estates amont [anent?] her causes, nor leasour herin to indent with the Quenes majestie, but in very simple manner putt herself in her majesties handis, upon the premisses, trusting only in her majesties high honour, which ever hath ben found to others of farr meaner degree, that in such manner hath sought in this contrey—and at her commandement and promise of assistance hath left the seeking of ayde of any other princes, having no other but her majesties high honour to appeale her cause unto. And that ye my lordis of the noble, ancient, worthy blood of this realme, are content to heare and understand this cause and that your honors shuld report the same to your soveraigne, is our great comefort to have good answer, which we humbly require."

Elizabeth.
1568. 2¼ *pp. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Some nearly effaced jottings by Cecil. Dated by another hand at beginning, Primo Decembris . . .*

Nov. 25—Dec. 1. **906.** MEMORIAL OF TRANSACTIONS AT WESTMINSTER.

[*Repeats the proceedings of 25-26 November, and proceeds :—*]

C.P., vol. II. "Sabbati 27 Novembr. The commissioners repayred to Hampton Court to the Quenes Majesty: from whence they retorned on Monday the xxix."

Which day at one o'clock p.m. sitting in their accustomed place, they required of Murray and his colleagues, whether they would have their writing named "an Eik" delivered to the Bishop of Ross *etc.* ? who agreed thereto, requiring if the latter denied it, they might make proofs thereof, which they had ready. On their departure, the Earl of Lennox, after declaring his grief, and hope of justice only at the hand of God and her majesty, and his inability to express his cause in words, presented a writing with his charges against the Queen for the murder of his son, which, "being contened in three shetes of paper" with some letters, "he exhibited uppon his corporall othe"—which letters being 4, two written to the Queen of Scots, and two from her in answer—all here follow:—"A discourss of the usage *etc.*"

Thereafter about 3 p.m. on same day, came the bishop of Ross and his colleagues, and being shown the said "Eyk" and receiving a copy, they withdrew, returning after a reasonable time, and said they "found it very strange and as a thing unlooked for, that the other partie wold putt in wryting any such mater with such boldnes and in such sorte, specially considering the Quene theyr soverayn had so much benefited the greter nombre of them": and howsoever they charged her, they would as boldly defend her, for it did not become subjects to touch her thus. "After which speches usid, they requirid not to have the same taken now for theyr answear, for that the mater was of great waight, and requirid som furdre tyme of advise," which they were told to take—"and so they offrid to return tomorrow in the after noone to answear, to the same place, and so departid."

"Die Martis 30 November: This daye about xij of the clock at dynnar tyme," the bishop and his colleagues sent one Borthwick to the Queen's commissioners then in the "Sterr Chambre," asking excuse till 9 a.m. next day.

"Primo Decembris, 4 session": This day at 9 o'clock the Earl of Arundel the 3d in commission, having been "letted" by sickness, after hearing a summary of the whole proceedings, took his oath in like manner as his colleagues. Thereafter the bishop of Ross and others entered and sat down at the Council table; when the bishop said they had considered the "Eyk" and asked leave for Herries to speak—who read from his notes, that the other party had invented this accusation to maintain their own treason —that some of the best of them had received great benefits from their Queen in her minority, so that she had given away two parts of the revenue of her crown, and when she came to 25 years of age and might have revoked them, but in respect of her dowery in France and other casualties, might indure the lack for her life, her successors should not be able: and they fearing this, invent these slanders against their sovereign lady.

Elizabeth.
1568. Wherefore he required her majesty's commissioners as men of honour, and divers of the most ancient and noble blood of the realm, to suspend their opinions, and consider how dangerous an example this may be for subjects bringing false accusations against their sovereign. That when the cause was further tried, it would be proved that some "now the accusers, were privy to the making of bandes and writings for the conspiracy of the death of the Lord Darnley the Quenes spowse": and then remitted to the bishop to proceed—who said the writing being so weighty, they could proceed no further till they spoke with the Queen's majesty—for their mistress had specially instructed them, if the other party proceeded in any thing otherwise than at York, "to the prejudice of her honor, that then they shuld not procede to answer them . . . And after a little pawse," he said they wished to declare to her majesty their sovereign's commandment to stay herein and require that for answer of "these infamous calumniations, the said Quene might come in proper parson to the presence of hir majesty, and there before hir counsell and nobility, and such ambassadors as were here in this realme for any foreign princes, answer for hir self for defence of hir innocency: and in the meane season that the other parties having in this sort accused her, might be here arrested and stayed untill the end of this cause might be seen what they had deserved. According to which speche of the bushop, he produced and shewed furth lettres signed with the name of the Quene their soveraigne, dated the 22 of November last past, wherof he redd certen severall partes agreable with his speche: and did also shew furth an other writing in paper wherin was conteyned the request which they ment to make to hir majesty, agreable to his former speche. All" [*here it stops at foot of a page—the last word in Cecil's hand*].

11 *pp.* *Draft in three hands—corrected in Cecil's.* *Indorsed*: "25, 29 Novemb^{r}. primo Decemb^{r}. 1568. A memoriall of matters past at Westminster betwene the comyssioners for the Q. majeste of England and Scotland"; and (by Cecil): "The 1, 2, 3, 4 sessions."

Dec. 3. **907.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 317. I have your letter of 23^{d} by post, and another of 25th at Mr Morton's hands. You do well to admonish me to see this Queen escape not, wherein you say "slyghtes" are more suspected than force, according to your informers there—for I fear force more against our outside watch, which is weak, although all our soldiers watch their course every 5th night, *i.e.* 10 every night—but we have three sundry places within the house watched, so the outside watch is but 4 at most. To meet this I would have had the other 50 of Read's band, but am overruled, on whose credit I know not—though if anything happens, I shall be blamed rather than those in fault. We all agree this is a dangerous place for this Queen to tarry in. Yet you speak that her removing is wished, and that we here should take it upon us, without authority, as we did from Carlisle. I have told you that she knows we had no authority to bring her from Carlisle; and says plainly she will no more be abused by us, and that we shall bind her hand and foot, and forcibly carry her, before she will go further in the realm.

Elizabeth.
1568. Yet if she saw her majesty's "precyse commawndment," I think she would yield quietly. Wylford writes that if I send for him he will return—wherefore I gather he is not thanked for his painful service, and may be envied either for my sake or his own. I am his debtor for his pains and charges, yet will not send for him to his further charge. You know our lacks of money, victuals *etc.*

I pray you procure thanks for the Duke of Norfolk from her majesty, for half a tun of wine he gave at York, in our great necessity, that could get none for money. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: I am sorry my Lord Chamberlain is offended, and will not believe I sent him commendations, and that others complain of my not writing. I thought writing to you was sufficient from this "unpleasant place," but confess that discomfort has made me fall into "forgetfull ruednesse."

1½ *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Dec. 3-4. **908.** BISHOP OF ROSS'S REQUEST AND ELIZABETH'S ANSWER.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 318. Hampton Court, Friday 3d December, at 2 p.m. The Bishop of Ross and colleagues showed her majesty briefly, their coming was to present a request in writing signed with their hands, which they delivered, the tenor whereof follows:—"Pleiss your majestie: Albeit *etc.*" Which having been read, her majesty said the matter contained was of great weight, and she would consider of it, and would shortly signify when they should return for answer. And so they departed to Kingston.

On the margin here:—L. Keper, D. Norffolk, L. Marquis, L. Steward; Earls—Sussex, Bedford, Leicester, Lord Admiral, Lord Chamberlain, Sir W. Cecil, Sir Ralph Sadler and Sir Walter Mildmay.

Saturday 4th December, 1 p.m. The bishop and colleagues before coming to Court sent a message to Leicester and Cecil to speak with them "aparte" before receiving her majesty's answer; which, with her knowledge, being accorded, they came to the Earl's chamber: when the bishop said they would propound this matter to "them twoo," *viz.:*—That though Murray and his complices had made a written grievous accusation against the Queen their sovereign, and they were prohibited to answer it, but only to desire that her grace might come in person before her majesty to answer, as in their request yesterday: yet having considered with themselves their mistress's intention from the beginning, that these causes should be ended by her majesty by some good appointment betwixt her grace and her subjects, for her honour and the weal of her country, with surety to Murray and his party, they thought good to declare thus much to the Earl and Cecil, requiring the motion to be signified to her majesty, and her pleasure thereon known, [before*] any answer to their former request. For they said, if the motion were not allowed, nor the answer to be made to their request fall out to their satisfaction, they could proceed no further in this conference. To which Lord Herries added some further speech, which the Earl and Sir W. Cecil

* Worn away.

Elizabeth.
1568. finding (as they thought) different from the other, and thereby doubtful and obscure to submit to her majesty, and also by some words of Herries, that they had some writing: required to see it merely to read it. But finding the same were only notes "mixt with other thinges," and the bishop repeating it again, it was accorded as above, and being reported to her majesty, it was concluded they should be answered as follows, on their access to her, before her council.

Her majesty first moved them to repeat the motion, lest the Earl and Cecil (for lack of memory) might have misconceived it: and after the bishop had reiterated it as above, said, they knew, and specially Herries, how desirous she had ever been to have this cause well ended to her good sister's honour, specially that she be proved free from "the greate haynous crimes by common fame imputid to hir"—and howsoever they were authorised to make this "motion of appoyntment," she could not forget her office as a friend and sister. And therefore trusting and wishing that she should be found innocent as they had always given good assurance, "she thought it better for her sister's honour and declaracion to the world of her innocency, to have the Erle of Murray and his complices chargid and reproovid for this theyr so audacious defaming of the Queene their soverayne, and to receave that which was due for their punishment, than to have it endid by appoyntment, *except it might be thought that they shuld be able to shew som apparant just causes of suche an attempte, wherof her majestie wold be sory to heare.*" * And as for her coming in person to her majesty to answer—"the same being of no small moment to her ho[nour†], but rather lykely to touche her in reputacion, in that it might be thought the accusa[cion] so probable as it wear not to be improovid ‡ by any other, but that she shuld be fo[rcid] to com her self (being a Queene) in parson to answear for her self: her majestie said she wold not have the Queenes honor and estate in that manner endangerid, without this theyr accusacion might first appeere to have more likelyhode of just cause then she did § find therin: for she rather hoped that the same shuld be found to be devised without just grounde. And so fynding it, the Queenes honor shuld be therby savid, without eyther any composition by appoyntement, or any necessitie [for] answeare: and so the accusors might be usid according to theyr desertes. And therefore her majestie concludid it to be best for the said Queene, that the said accusors should be rowndly chargid and reproovid heerin, and according to that which they shuld answeare therto, the Queenes majestie wold lett them knowe her meaning and opinion, eyther for this motion of ending the cause by appoyntement or otherwise for the comming of the Scottish [Queene] unto her presence, which she so muche had allwais desyrid, as nothing could [have] stayed the same, but this unhappy chaunce and common reporte made of he[r in] so horrible a cause.

Heerunto the Queene of Scottes commissioners saide, that this last motion for an appoyntement cam not from the Queene since the accusacion given in by [the] Erle of Murray (and so also the Queenes majestie assentid therto) but of th[eyr] owne

* So italicised—perhaps by Cecil. † Words so marked worn off. ‡ *i.e.*, Disproved.
§ "Trust to" scored out.

Elizabeth.
1568. "consideracion, partly gatherid of the desyre they had to have th[inges*] quietly endid: partly also upon the Queene theyr mistres disposicion knowen [to] them at the begynning of this treaty, and also before, that this whole [cause] shuld be endid by the Queenes majestie by som appoyntment. And seing [her] majestie lyked not therof, they renewed theyr request that their mistres might com up in parson to answeare: wherupon the Queenes majestie, contynuing in her resolucion, said as before, that she thought it better for the honour of the Queene h[erselfe] to have her cleerid upon reprooving the accusars, as she trusted she sh[uld be], then to have the matter wrapped up by any appoyntment. And yet bothe in [the] motion and also for her comming up hither in person, they shuld know her pl[easure] if she shuld finde any furdre cause requisite for the same. And for making of [the] aunsweare (which they much pressid), her majestie ment never to deny the same, if cause so requirid, eyther before her self or before other meete persons, or any otherwise that she might fynd convenyent and honorable. Wherunto the said commissioners said that her majestie might heerin doo her pleasure; but they thought it not reasonable, in the cause of private persons to have any prooves requirid of the accusars untill som aunswear wear made. To which her majestie answearid that she ment not to require any prooves, but contrarywise to charge the Erle of Murray as reason was, and to reprehend and impugne the accusacion by all good meanes, in the favour of the said Queene of Scottes. And yet if the accusars wold needes therin persist and for theyr defence shall alledge any thing, hir majesty wold receave the same for hir owne satisfaction, and theruppon the same shuld be duely declared to them the Queenes majesties commissioners, or to her self, as they shuld finde it meetest. And therupon they shuld have answeare to these theyr motions, as well for the ending of the cause by appointment, as for her aunswering for her self as cause shuld require."

3½ *pp. Fair copy by Cecil's clerk, corrected and noted by Cecil. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "3 Decembre 1568 at Hampton Court. The request of the Q. of Scottes commissioners to the Q. majesty. The answer of the Q. majesty to them."

Dec. 6. **909.** PROTEST BY THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II. Beginning "my lordis"—*the remainder totally illegible from damp, except at the end,* "Presentit and gevin in to," *etc. Signed:* Jo. Rossen, R. Boyd, Herys, Kilwynnyng.

2 *pp. Broadsheet. Holograph of the bishop. At the end is a certificate by another hand, that the above had been offered to the Queen's majesty's commissioners on 6th December and refused by them,* "because their lordships affermed that the reporte of their" . . .† Written this ix[th] of December in presence of the Quenes majesties commissioners, and the bishop of Ross and the Lorde Boyde. *Indorsed* (by Cecil): "25 Novemb[r] 1568. Protestation by the Q. of Scottes commissioners . . . Subscribed by them at Westm[r]." . . . *Nearly obliterated also.*

* Words so marked worn off. † Obliterated.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Dec. 6.
C.P., vol. II.

910. FURTHER PROCEEDINGS AT WESTMINSTER.

"Die Lune vj Dec.":—

At 2 p.m., "when all the Quenes majesties commissioners were assembled in th'accustomid chambre, to have declared to therle of Murray and his collegues the Quenes majesties myslyking of theyr late accusacion of the Quene their souverayn, for which purpose the said Erle and his collegues was sent for to be there present": the bishop of Ross and his colleagues sent one M^r^ Borthwick, to require permission to declare certain matter, which the commissioners preferring to consider before they proceeded with Murray then present, agreed to. Whereon the bishop with his colleagues came and said that since their being with her majesty last Saturday,* where they saw "that her majestie ment to procede with therle of Murray and his partie to require proofes upon th'allegacions produced against the Quene their souverayn, thay cam to declare that thay could no furdre procede in this conference": but would protest, that except the Queen their mistress might appear in person before her majesty to answer for herself, this conference might be dissolved, and produced and read a paper to this effect. "Wherin because they did otherwise repeate the Quenes majesties answear made unto them on Satterday, then was both plainly and manifestly knowen unto hir majestes commissioners which wer at Hampton Court in presence of hir majesty at the gyving of the answer to them, the same was by them† all with one consent improovid, and theruppon answered that they could not receave the same wryting without prejudicieng of truth it selfe and manifest offence in their own consciences." And therefore required the bishop *etc.* to retain their said writing: offering to receive any that contained the Queen's majesty's true answer. But the bishop "reiterating" their request, and protest that they would "compeare" no more, they went their way.

Then Murray and his colleagues coming before them, were charged by the Lord Keeper thus:—'My lord, the Quenes majestie upon the consideracion had of that ye call your 'Eyke,' being an addition to your former answear, hath commanded us to saye unto you, that her highnes thinkith very muche and very strange that you being natyve subjectes to the Quene of Scottes, shuld accuse her of so horrible a cryme, odible both to God and man; a cryme against law and nature, wherby if you shuld proove yt true, she shuld be infamid to all princes in the world. And therfore hath willed us to saye unto you, that although you in thus doing have forgotten your duties of allegeance toward her your soverayn, yet her majestie meanith not to forgett the office of a good sister and of a good neybour and frend. What you are to answer to this, we are here ready to heare.' Whereto the Earl and the rest answered, that they trusted it had appeared both at York and here "how lothe they weare to enter so farre as they have don, to make any accusacion of the said Quene": for their first coming was by her majesty's command, on the Queen of Scots' motion, to answer any charges, which they had done at York, and they thought had shown good cause for their doings without accusing the Queen. But as their adversaries, not content to stay, had in their "replicacion"

* 4th. † The English.

Elizabeth.
1568.

made so many charges of disobedience, though justified by acts of parliament and as "great a presence of the iij Estates of that relme as had bene at tyme these one C. yeeres before"—they must ask the commissioners to consider that their "entring furder into the matter wherwith the Quene is to be charged, proceedith not of them nor of any plesure they can take to have her any wise touched in honour, but of their adversaries, who herby may appeer to have lesse regarde of the Quene, though they pretende to be her commissioners, then themselves"! So with sundry speeches to like effect, they said for the more satisfaction of her majesty so grievously offended with them, they would show to her commissioners "a collection made in writing of the presumptions and circumstances, by the which it shuld evidently appeere that as therle Bothwell was the chefe murderer of the king, so was the Quene a deviser and mayntener therof; the which writing followeth thus—'Articles conteyning certain conjectures *etc.*'" After reading whereof, they said the three Estates ratified and approved their proceedings as lawful—in which parliament some of their adversaries were present, and voted without contradiction for the same—and hoped her majesty, being duly informed, would not think them culpable—and presented to the commissioners a copy of the said Act of parliament and names of all the three Estates then assembled, subscribed by the Register of the Parliament—"the tenour of both which wrytinges heerafter followith: —'In the parlement holden and begon at Edenborough *etc.*'"

4 *pp. Draft by a clerk with many corrections by Cecil. Indorsed* (by Cecil) "6 Decembr 1568. The Session at Westmr., herein the Erle of Murray *etc.* wer charged. *Va Sessio.*"

Cott. Calig. C.I.. fol. 309.

(2) Another copy of the Lord Keeper's charge to Murray *etc. Contemporary English hand.*

Dec. 6. **911.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II.

I have your letter of 2d instant: we hear nothing of the "curror" of France otherwise. "God make youe all constant in his holye feare."

I see you are entered into the "bowells" of the odious accusations against this Queen, so are "passed over the tyme of reconsiliation, wherin by reason of certen letters and other circumstances that I had seen and herd, I was more busye than I had thank for." She is glad her commission is broken, and it seems vanity to look for her yielding to another: but "unconstant waveryng" may breed great danger.

Touching my lease of the Queen's lands of Syon, I heartily thank you for remembering me against Mr Gressam's suit, but refer all to her majesty's good pleasure.

Our oxen now begin to "payre motche,"* but we know not how many to "barylle" for the household, till we know how many days or weeks we remain here. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Grow poor.

Elizabeth.
1568.
Dec. 7.

C.P., vol II.

912. FIFTH SESSION AT WESTMINSTER.

"Die Martis vij° Decembris hora nona ante meridiem":—The Queen's majesty's commissioners having heard the said "Booke of Articles" thoroughly read to them the night before, now heard the two other papers also read: and then after having had three chapters or heads of said Book read anew, the Earl of Murray and colleagues came by appointment and said—they trusted after reading that Book and seeing the act of parliament, their lordships would not only think them void of crime, but her majesty would also be satisfied of their good meaning at York. [*Here as before, they charge Mary's commissioners as the real cause of the odious accusation.*] Requiring the commissioners to say if any article required proof, or if other proof was necessary, they would proceed to show such. Whereto her majesty's commissioners answered, that as it was well known they were to be only hearers in this conference, and with all indifferency to make report to her majesty of each party's case, without requiring anything more than each chose to utter, they could nowise declare themselves one way or other. Whereon the said Earl and colleagues, pausing a while, withdrew themselves, and returning, repeated ("in diversitie of speche") their former unwillingness, and that their adversaries had caused the utterance of anything spoken to "the infamy of the Queene." And then they produced "a small guilt coffer, of not fully on foote long, being garnished in many placees with the Roman letter F set under a kinges crown, wherin wear certain lettres and wrytinges which they said and affermed to have bene wrytten with the Quene of Scottes own hand to therle Bothwell; which coffer as they said being left in the castle of Edenborough by the sayd Erle Bothwell before his flying away, was sent for by one George Dalglish his servant, who was taken by therle of Morton: who also there sytting presently as one of the commissioners, avowed upon his othe the same to be true, and the wrytinges to be the very same, without any manner of change: and before they wolde exhibite the sight of any of those lettres, they exhibited a wryting wrytten in a Romayn hand in Frenche, as they said, and wold avowe by the Quene of Scottes her selfe, being a promes of mariage to therle Bothwell; which wryting being without date and although som wordes therin seeme to the contrary, they did suppose to have bene made and wrytten by her before the death of her husband, the tenour wherof thus followeth:—'Nous Marie par la grace de Dieu *etc.*'

"They also exhibited another wryting in Scottish, which they avowed to be wholly wrytten by therle of Huntley, dated the vth of Aprill, conteyning a forme of a contracte for mariage betwext the said Quene and Erle Bothwell, subscribed 'Mary,' which they avowed to be the proper hand of the said Queene, and underneth it 'James erle Bothwell,' which they also avowed to be the proper hand of the said Erle Bothwell: at which tyme he was commonly defamed and not clensed (as they tearmed it) which is not acquited, before the xijth of Aprill following, the tenour of which contracte thus ensuith:—'At Seton the vth day of Aprill *etc.*' After this they shewed the actes or recordes of the Justice Courte held at Edenboroughe the said xijth of Aprill, signid by John Bellenden, justice clerk, among which followed the ditaye otherwise called the inditement, in this sorte following:—'James erle Bothwell

Elizabeth.
1568. "lord Hayles and Crighton *etc.*': and in another place amongest the said actes and recordes, the names of the lordes of thassise, with theyr answeare to the said dictay as heerafter followith :—'Assisa: Androw Erle of Rothos *etc.*' To which they added this in defence of the said verdicte, besides the maters conteyned in the later parte:—Protestation made by George erle of Catnes chauncelour of the said assise, that the said dictay was not in this point true: alledging the murdre to be committid the ixth daye of February, which was . . . [*sic*] for that in deede the murder was committid on the next day being the xth in the morning before, at ij houres after the midnight preceding, which in lawe was and ought to be truly accompted the xth day, and so the acquitall not in that point untrue.

"They also required that consideracion might be had of certain wordes in divers places of the contracte made at Seton the vth of Aprill 1567, wherof the tenour is above inserted, wherby is by expres wordes mentionid, that before that vth of Aprill a proces of divorce betwext therle Bothwell and Dame Jane Gourdan his wife was intented, that is to saye, begon: for that they alleged that at the same tyme the proces of the said divorce was not begon, but the said contracte was made not only when the said erle was undivorced, but before any such proces or suite was intented. For which purpose the said Erle and his collegues produced fourth two actes before ij severall ordynary ecclesiasticall judges, of the wholle judgement of the divorce, wherin appeered that the proces of the one began the xxvjth of Aprill, and thother the xxvijth, as furdre may appeere by the tenour of the said proces heerafter following.

"After this the said Erle and his collegues offred to shew certain prooves not only of the Queenes hate towardes the king her husband, but also of unordinate love towardes Bothwell, for which purpose they first produced a lettre wrytten in French and in Romayn hand, which they avowed to be a lettre of the sayd Queenes own hand wryting to Bothwell when she was at Glasco with her husbande, at the tyme she went to bring him to Edinborough, the tenour of which lettre heerafter followeth :—'Il semble que avecques vostre absence *etc.*' After this they produced for the same purpose one other long lettre wrytten also with the lyke hand and in Frenche, which they also avowed to be a lettre wrytten with the said Queenes own hand to Bothwell from Glasco. Upon the reading wherof, they did expresse theyr own knowledge of certain maters concerning doubtfull speeches in the same lettre conteynid, of one William Higate, and [ ] and also of the Lord of Mynto, by which they intended to make it playne that otherwise was doubtfull; the tenour of all which lettre followith hereafter :—'Estânt party du lieu *etc.*'"

4 *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Corrected by Cecil. Indorsed:* "vij of Decembre 1568. The session at the parlement chambre" *etc.*, and (by Cecil): "6^{a} sessio."

(2) Another copy of same.

4 *pp. Written by another of Cecil's clerks. Indorsed, and* (in another hand): "M^{r} Windebanke." *For the letters referred to, see Appendix II.*, "The Casket Letters."

Elizabeth.
1568.
Dec. 8.

913. Productions by the Regent Murray.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 322.

Westminster, Wednesday 8 December 1568. This day the Earl of Murray by appointment yesterday, came to her majesty's commissioners, saying—that as yesternight they had produced and showed sundry writings tending to prove the hatred which the Queen of Scots bare to her husband to the time of his murder, wherein also appeared special arguments of her inordinate love towards Bothwell: for the further satisfaction of her majesty and their lordships, they were ready to produce a great number of other letters written by the said Queen, wherein they said might appear very evidently her inordinate love to the said Earl and other arguments of his guilt of her husband's murder. "And so herupon he produced vij severall wrytinges wrytten in Frenche in the lyk Romain hand, as other the lettres which weare shewed yesternight and avowed by them to be wrytten by the said Queene; which vij wrytinges being copied, weare red in Frenche, and a due collation made therof as neere as could be by reading and inspection, and made to accorde with the originals, which the said Erle of Murray requyrid to be redelyvered, and did therupon delyver the copies being collationid, the tenours of all which vij wrytinges heerafter follow in ordre, *the first being in maner of a sonnett*,* O Dieux ayez de moy *etc.*"

i. Then they produced three writings in English, signed by Sir John Bellenden knight, Justice Clerk: the first containing the examinations (1) of John Hay younger of Tallo 13th December 1567,
ii. (2) of John Hepburn of Bowton on the king's murder, 8th December 1567; the second, the examinations of one William Powry on 23d
iii. June and 3d July 1567; and the third, the examination of one George Dalglysh the 26th June that year: all which were read and delivered to the said commissioners—whereof the tenour follows:—"Apud Edinbourgh xiij° die mensis Septembris *etc.*"

iiii. Then they produced a writing likewise signed by the Justice Clerk, a copy of the process, verdict and judgment against the said Hepburn, Hay, Powrie and Dalglish as guilty of said murder, also read and delivered, whereof the tenour follows:—"Curia Justiciarie S.D.N. Regis *etc.*" Then they produced a writing in a "long paper" being the judgment and condemnation by parliament of Earl Bothwell, James and Robert Ormeston, Patrick Willson, Paris a Frenchman, Sym Armstrong and William Murray, as guilty of treason for said murder—the tenor whereof follows:—"In the parlement holden at Edinbourgh the xxth daye of Decembre."

v. Then they produced a writing signed by Mr James Magyll, clerk of register, containing a protestation by Huntly, Argyll, and Herries, requiring to have no fault imputed to them, for not doing their duty since 10th June 1567 till 29th December following: for which, by order of parliament, they were acquitted—which is produced to show "in what sorte" the said earls and Herries had acknowledged their obedience to the king: the tenor whereof follows:—"In the parlement holden at Edinboroughe the xxixth day of Decembre 1567 *etc.*"

vj. After this they produced a writing signed by Mr James Magill of an Act before the "lordes of sessions" in Scotland, containing the

* These italics interlined by Cecil, and figures 1 to 8 noted on margin.

Elizabeth.
1568. Queen's declaration that she remitted to Earl Bothwell "*etc*," the ravishing of her, coming from Stirling; the tenor wherof thus ensueth.—"At Edinborough, the xij[th] day of May *etc.*"

2½ *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Corrections and marginal notes by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "viij Decemb. 1568. Die Mercurij, the session at Westm., 7[th] session": *besides some numerals.*

Accompanying the same :—

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 324. Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials* (1833), vol. I., p. 496.* (1) At Edinburgh, 13[th] September 1567, in presence of the lord Regent, Earls of Morton and Atholl, Lairds of Lochleven, Pittarow, Master James M[agill†] and the Justice Clerk. :—

Confession and deposition of John Hay younger of Tallo as to his part in the King's murder.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 325. Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials* (1833), vol. I., p. 498.* (2) At Edinburgh, 8[th] December 1567, in presence of the Lord Regent, Earl of Athol, Lord Lindsay, Laird of Grange and the Justice Clerk :—

Confession and deposition of John Hepburne of Bolton on his part in the king's murder.

"Thir ar the trew copeis of the depositionis of the saidis Johnne Hay younger of Tallo and of Johnne Hepburne callit of Bowtoun, maid in presence of my lord Regent and lordis before mentionat in maner before expremit—concordand and aggreeand with thair originalis quhilkis ar remanand in the justiciarie, collationat be me Schir Johnne Bellenden of Auchnoule knycht, clerk of our soverane lordis justiciarie." *Signed:* Joannes Bellenden, *clericus justiciariæ.*

4½ *pp.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 327. Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials* (1833), vol. I., p. 491.* (3) At Edinburgh, 23[d] June 1567, in presence of the lords of Secret Council :—

The deposition of Williame Powery born in Kinfawnis, servitor to the Earl Bothwell as to his part in the king's murder. And further before the same lords on 3[d] July thereafter.

Certificate to the same effect as before. Signed: Joannes Bellenden, *clericus justiciariæ.*

3 *pp.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 329. Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials* (1833) vol. I., p. 495.* (4) At Edinburgh, 26[th] June 1567, in presence of the Earls of Morton and Atholl, provost of Dundee and laird of Grange :—

The confession and deposition of George Dalgleische, servant in the chamber of the Earl of Bothwell, as to his part in the king's murder.

Certificate to the same effect as before. Signed: Joannes Bellenden, *clericus justiciariæ.*

2 *pp.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 331. (5) Court of Justiciary held in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh on 3[d] January 1567 by Master Thomas Craig, justice depute of Archibald Earl of Argyle, justice general :—

† Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. Trial by a jury (of 15) of Hepburn, Hay, Powrie and Dalglish for the murder of the late king, and their sentence to death as traitors. Extracted from the Book of Acts of Adjournal by, *Signed:* Joannes Bellenden, *clericus justiciariæ.*

2 *pp.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 334. (6) Protest in the parliament at Edinburgh on 29th December 1567 by Huntly, Argyll and Herries, that no fault be found with them for neglect of duty since 10th June before—allowed by the lord Regent and ratified by the Three Estates. Extracted from the Book of Acts by, *Signed:* Jacobus Makgill.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 337. (7) At Edinburgh, 12th May 1567, the Queen, in presence of the "lordis chancellar, president, and haill lordis of sessioun," *viz.*, George Earl of Huntly, chancellor; reverend fathers in God, John bishop of Ros, Alexander bishop of Galloway, Adam bishop of Orkney; Maister William Baillie lord Provand, president, Maister Alexander Dunbar, dene of Murray, Maister Robert Maitland dene of Abirdene, Maister David Chalmer chancellor of Ros, Maister Archibald Craufurd parson of Eglischame, Gawin commendator of Kylwinning, Sir James Balfour of Pittendreich knight, clerk of Register, Sirs Richard Maitland of Lethingtoun, John Bellenden of Auchnoull, justice clerk, knights; William Maitland of Lethingtoun, younger, secretary to our sovereign lady, Maisters Henry Balnaves of Halhill, John Gledstanis, and Edward Hendersoun licenciat in the laws; and also in presence of John Archbishop of St Andrews, William bishop of Dumblane, David Earl of Crauford, George Earl of Caithness, John commendator of the Abbey of Abirbrothok, Alexander commendator of Culros, Robert commendator of St Mary Isle, treasurer, George lord Seton, Robert lord Boyd, and Symon Prestoun of Craikmillar knight, provost of Edinburgh—declared that as the lords of session had made some stop in justice for her grace being held in Dunbar by the Earl of Bothwell and his complices, contrary to her will: that she allows the said lords therein; and further, albeit she was "commovit" at her taking, yet by his good behaviour to her since, and his thankful service bygone and in time coming, her highness stands content with the said Earl, and has forgiven him and his complices for her imprisonment, and is minded to "promove" him to farther honours. Whereon Master David Borthwick, procurator for said Earl, asked instruments. Extracted from the Book of Acts by Master James MacGill of Rankelour Nether, clerk of the rolls, register and council of our Lord the King. *Signed:* Jacobus Makgill.

Broadsheet.

Dec. 9. **914. Rhyme in defence of the Queen of Scots.**

C.P., vol II. "Tom Trothe to the envyouse:—

If mauves children seake to knowe
My name and wheare I dwell,
I am Tom Trowth, and my aboade
I lyst not it to tell.

Elizabeth.
1568.

For wise men love not to enquire
Who, where, but what is sayde,
And whold them therwhith content,
Tyll further prove be made.

The doble dealinge of the rebelles in Scotlande."

The "rhyme" *consists of about 330 lines of doggerel. Murray is styled a traitor, an apostate deacon, and* "Bastard James," *designing to seize the crown on pretence that his mother was lawfully contracted to James V. before he married* "the Gwyse"; *Lethington is called a* "faulse Machyvilion," *and Murray and he, with Morton, are charged with the murder of Darnley, sacrilege, etc. etc., in very bitter language.*

11 *pp. Official round hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "1569. A rhyme in defence of the Q. of Scottes against Erle Murray, *etc.*"

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 364.

(2) Another copy.

"*Finis.* Quod Tom Trowth."

4 *pp. In a small contemporary hand.*

Dec. [9]. **915.** MARY TO THE ABBOT OF ARBROATH ETC.

C.P., vol. II.

Copy of the Queen's writing to the Abbot of Arbroath and the rest of her faction:—

I doubt not ye understand that at the convention in York "my rebellis was confoundit" in all they could allege for their insurrection and imprisoning my person: whereon by means of some of the Queen's ministers, she let them have presence, and before their coming promised to try the "haill contentis off thair conspiracye hir self, to the effect the same sould be endit with sum happye outgait to my honour and contentment; and thairfor desyrit that some of my commissionaris sould pas towardis hir with diligence. But the procedingis since hes shawin it was nocht the butt scho schot at, for my matteris hes bein prolongit in delayis, and in the mentyme that my rebellis practezit sacreitlie with hir and hir ministeris, so ar thay accordit and agreit that my sone sould be delyverit in hir handis to be norischid in this countrye as scho thinkis guid, and declarit him to be abill to succeid eftir hir deithe, in cais scho haiff no successioun of hir awin bodye; and for the mair securitye, the castellis of Edinburcht and Stirling sould be in Inglismennis handis to be kepit in the said Quene of Inglandis name.

"*Item*:—With moyence and concurrence of the Erle of Murray, the castell of Dunbartane sell be seidgit and taken out of your handis giff thay may, and in lykwys randerit to the Quene of Ingland in hir keping, provyding your promesis to be kepit. Scho hes promeist to help and support the Erle of Murray and menteine him in the usurpinge of my authoritye, and caus him to be declarit to succeid to the croun of Scotland efter the deythe of my sone, in cais he die without successioun of his bodye. And the Erle of Murray sell acknawledge to hauld the realme of Scotland in maner of fee of the Quene of Ingland—and this is all the equytie of my caus and procedingis: for the quhilk caus I trust the said Quein of Ingland myndis haill for the rewyn and destructioun of my haill realme. How-

Elizabeth.
1568. "beit hir promeis was uderwys as I lokid for; but God and guid Scottis hartis of my subjectis remeid the same. Yit this is nocht all —thair is ane uder leigue maid betwixt the Erle of Murray and the Erle of Hartford* quho sould [marrie] one of the Sacretarry Cicillis daughteris, quha dressis all the draughtis: by the quhilk legue the said erlis of Murray and Hartfuird sould meit and fortifie ilk ane uther in the successioun, that onny one of thame proceding of his awin syd: that is to saye, the erle of Murray for my realme by ressone of his legitimatioun, and the erle of Hartfuird on the uder syd for Ingland becaus of umquhyll Dame Kathrein on whome he begat twa bairnis—so thay ar boyth bent efter my opinnyoun to my sonnis deithe, he being onis out of my subjectis handis, quhat can I houp for bot ane lamentable trageddye? Theis thingis ar concludit amangist the cheif of my rebellis, with the auncient and naturall ennemeis of my realme; and thair restid nothing now bot to establische and assuir the said erle of Murray in his usurping against my authoritie. And to begin the same, thay wald haif persuadit me be craft to have liberally dimittid and renouncit my crown, and to caus me to condiscend to sik ane unhappye thing and unlefull desyre, thar hes bein usit all craft that was possible boyth with boasting and fair woordis and mony guid promeses to me. But yit thay seying I was resolvit to do nothing thairin to thair proffit, the quene of Ingland namit new commissionaris with thame quhilk war all reddy. Scho put in nomber of the quhilk the said Cecill with otheris of his faccioun: and nocht permitted† me to pas thair and declair my awin ressonis thar thai wald haif presentid in the said conference, quhilk being brokin for contravening that the quein of Ingland hes maid of hir promesis—quhilk was nocht to permit the Erle of Murray to cum in hir presence befoir the said conference war endit, and morowr that nothing suld be done prejudiciall to my honorable estait and rycht that I may haif to this countrey. Efter this my commissionaris left the said conference with solempnit protestatiounis that all quhilk wes done thair untill to my prejudicioun in ony sort, sell be null and off no effect; and thairupone ar deliberat to cum away as sone as is possible. Quhairof I haif thocht guid to adverteis you, to the effect ye may understand the veritie of the matter, to informe our freindis of the same. Heirfor I pray you assembill our freindis and faythfull subjectis, lyk as I haif writtin to my lordis Argyle and Huntlye to haist thame to your releif, doyng all the hinder and evill that ye may to the same rebellis and thair assistaris to stop thair returnyng hame giff it be possible"; and publicly proclaim the said conspiracy and treason. And do all this with diligence to stop them "this winter," and I doubt not but in spring we shall have sufficient help.

2 *pp.* *Closely written in a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (in another): "Copye le^{r} by Q. M. to the Abb. of Arbroth."

(2) Another copy of the same.

2½ *pp.* *Written by some hostile Scotsman.* *Intitled:* "This is the copie of the Quenis wryting writtin to the Abbot Arbroth and the

* Then in the Tower?

† "Permittand" in the other copy.

Elizabeth.
1568. rest of her factioun, quhairthrow every (?) faithfull may easelie understand that sche wald withdraw the peples hairtis frome my lord Regent be thir imaginat leis." *No indorsement.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 352. (3) Another copy of the same.

Headed—"The coppie of the Quene of Scottes lettre to the Abbott of Arbrocht and the rest of her faction," *and* (by another) "out of the originall signed with the Q. of Scotts hand out of the L. Burghly study."

3 *pp. Contemporary hand.*

Dec. 9. **916.** FARTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 339. Westminster, Thursday 9th December: "The Queenes majesties commissioners being occupied in perusing and reading certain lettres and sonnetes wrytten in French, being duly translated into English, and other wrytinges allso exhibited yesterdaye to them by the Erle of Murray and his collegues, the bisshop of Rosse and Lord Boyd sent one [ ] Borthick to require accesse for them to be hard, which was graunted, to be at one of the clock after dynner; and the lyke motion being made fro the Erle of Murray for accesse also, the same was appoynted to be at ij of the clock: and so the commissioners proceded untill dynner tyme in the hear[yng]* and perusing of the foresaid wrytinges."

At one o'clock the bishop and Lord Boyd came alone, and required the commissioners to receive a writing "in a long paper," subscribed by them and also by Herries and Kilwinning in form of a protestation, which being considered and found therein underwritten —"Presentid and given in to the Quenes majesties commissioners *etc.* by the Quenes commissioners of Scotland at Westminster the vjth daye of Decembre *etc.* by the sayd Bishop, Lord Boyd, Lord Herries and Killwenny, being commissioners of the Queene of Scottes," subscribed by them, while the same was not presented before this present 9th day, nor was now exhibited but by the bishop and Lord Boyd, the Queen's commissioners having showed this, were answered by them that because they and the others presented a like protestation on the 6th, which was not received by their lordships because her majesty's answer was not expressed there as she had given it, they had now in the present writing, altered and reformed the same, and being compared with the other writing of 6th, it was found they differed in the report of her majesty's answer, and in one other small sentence. So both were received, and to certify the truth of the circumstances, special clauses were added to both writings, by consent of parties, by a public notary there present, and read before the meeting—whereof the tenor follows—"My lords commissioners *etc.*," and in like manner the second.

After this, Murray and his colleagues came: and first Earl Morton said "that where heertofore he had declared by speache the manner how he cam to the lyttle guilt coffer with the lettres, sonnetes and contractes of mariage therin found and heertofore exhibited, he had caused the same to be put in wryting, which also he produced sub-

* Worn off.

Elizabeth.
1568. "scribed with his hand, and desyred to have it read. Which being doone, he avowed upon his honour and the othe which he already [had] taken, the same to be true, the tenour wherof followeth 'The true declaracion and reporte *etc.*'"

After this, Murray required that one Thomas Nelson, late servant to the king, who lay in his lodging the same night that he was murdered, "and scaped by reason of a gret sten wall (?) betwixt the kingis chambre and the prive . . . *," might be heard, who produced a writing in form of answer to an examination, which being read to him, he by corporal oath affirmed it to be true, whereof the tenor follows. The like request was made that one Thomas Crawford, a gentleman of the earl of Lennox, might also be heard on oath—who is the same party, they said, of whom mention is made in a long letter written in French and exhibited the 7th instant—where it is said, that a gentleman of Lennox's met "the partie that wrote the lettre about iiij miles from the place where the letter was wrytten." Whereupon before the commissioners he presented a writing of his knowledge, which being read, he affirmed on his corporal oath to be true, and said that as soon as the Queen of Scotts had spoken with the king his master at Glasgow from time to time, he was secretly informed by the king of all that had passed with the Queen, so that he should report the same to the Earl of Lennox his master, who durst not then come near the Queen; and immediately word by word as near as he could, carried the same away, and is sure that the words now reported in his writing of what passed between the Queen and him on the way near Glasco, "are the very same wordes [on†] his conscience that weare spoken, and the others being reported to him by the king, are the same in effecte and substance as they wear delyvered by the king to him, though [not†] percase in all partes the very wordes themselves." Here follows said Crawford's confession:—"The wordes betwext the Quene and me *etc.*" Then Murray and his colleagues produced another long writing "in royall paper" subscribed by Mr James Makgill, being the act of parliament of the demission of her crown and the coronation of the king, thus:—"In the parlement holden and begon at Edinborough the xvth daye of Decembre the yeir of God 1567."

Pitcairn's *Criminal Trials* (1833), vol. I.

3 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Much corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): " . . . 8th session."

Accompanying the foregoing:—

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 342.

(1) Protest by Mary's commissioners:

Declaring their refusal on the 1st instant to answer to the Eik by Murray and his complices, and that their sovereign would only answer in the Queen's majesty's presence—reciting their supplication to the Queen's majesty, presented at Hampton Court on the 3d, that Mary may be permitted so to answer the calumnies of these rebels against her honour—which not having been directly answered by her majesty at their audience on 4th, they protest that the proceedings are at an end. Presented at Westminster 6th December 1568. *Signed:* Jo.

* Illegible. † Worn off.

Elizabeth. 1568.

Rossen, R. Boyd, Herys, Kilwynning. A notarial docquet at foot attests that the same was presented to the Queen's commissioners on Thursday 9th December by the Bishop and Lord Boyd only. *Signed:* William Say *notarius.*

Broadsheet. Indorsed (by Cecil): ". . . the second protestation."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 346.

(2) Thomas Neilson's Declaration:

That he was the king's servant at the time of his murder and had been for long time—brought him from Glasgow to the Kirk of Field *etc.*

1¼ *pp. Probably holograph. No signature.*

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 348. Acts of Parliament, Scotland.

(3) Act of Parliament, 15 December 1567:

Containing the Queen's demission of her crown and kingdom in her son's favour, and Murray's regency. Extracted from the books of Parliament by; *Signed:* Jacobus Makgill.

4 *pp. Large broad sheets. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Dec. 10. **917.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II.

This Queen presently sends "one John Baffure" to her commissioners, and has desired my passport and commission for post horses. The "long holdyng" of my lord of Murray at Court may breed danger to his party, for there is great gathering of men, and the Queen has sent the Laird "Skarlyng and three of hir tallest servants" to stir them forward: but she says, it is for defence of Dunbarton and to "ympeche" some new erected forts to prevent victualling it—yet says plainly she will no more stay her party. Whether they will take their time now, before Murray's return or "hyr majestie hathe openly shoed to favorr" him, you can judge. "I trust youe have caste your cardes sò afore hande, that hyr majestie is not nowe to resolve what she woll doe, for it behoves hyr nowe to be constant and stowte." Christmas draws on, and we are utterly unprovided, as you know. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 10. **918.** MURRAY ETC. AS TO THEIR EIK.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 354.

"Quhairas for verificatioun of the eik or additioun to oure answer, presentit be ws aganis the accusatioun of oure adversaries, concernyng the murthure of umquhile king Henry of gude memorie, oure soverane lordis dearest fader: we have producit diverss missive lettres, sonetz, obligatiounis or contractis for mariage, betuix the Quene, moder to oure said soverane, and James sumtyme erle Boithvile, as writtin or subscrivit be hir hand: quhilkis wer interceptit and come to oure handes closit within a silver box, in sic maner as is alreddy manifestit and declarit. And we be the tennour heirof testefies, avowis and affirmis upon our honour and conscience, that the saidis haill missive writingis, sonetz, obligationis, or contractz are undoubtedly the said quenis proper handwrite, except the contract in Scottis of the dait at Seytoun the fift day of Aprile 1567, writtin be the Erll of

Elizabeth.
1568. "Huntlie, quhilk alsua we understand and perfitlie knawis tobe subscrivit be hir, and will tak the same upoun our honouris and conscience as is befoir said. In witness quhairof we have subscrivit thir presentis with our handes at Westminister (*sic*) the x day of December the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} threscoir aucht yeris." *Signed:* James Regent, Mortoun, Ad. Orchaden, Dunfermling, Patrick L. Lyndsay.

½ *p. Written by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "12 Decembr. 1568. Exhibited by Jhon Woode at Hampton Court *in presentia* L. Kep, Duk Norfolk, Marq. North., Erl Bedf., Lecester, L. Admyrall, W. Cecill, Ra. Sadler, Walter Myldmay."

Dec. 12. **919.** PROLONGATION OF MURRAY'S SAFE CONDUCT.

C.P., vol. II. The Queen, as the term of 3 months is "wel nere expyred," is pleased that his former safe conduct granted 16th September, endure [ ] months more on same conditions *etc.*

½ *p. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Dec. 13. **920.** LORD MAYOR ROWE TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. On receipt of your instructions, I conferred with Sir William Chester, whose dwelling is directly over against "the signe of *The George* in Lumbart Strete," where the Duke of Chatelherault is lodged: and gave secret charge to three "honeste parsonnes" near neighbours, *viz.* Christofer Bell, John Robynsoune, and George Sothake. And further, have given like secret charge to Robert Offeley, "a sadd and discrete man," with John Hardinge, William Droughte, and [ ] Wayte, all near neighbours to the lodging of "the Lord bishop of Roos, the lord Harrys, the lord Boddy and the Abbot of Kylwynyng." Hardinge and Droughte were of late "bidden gestes" to supper with the four last named lords, and heard them say—"it was greate pittye that the Quene of Scottes dothe rebell agaynste hir sonne the kinge of Scottes, and that the Frenche kinge dothe rebell agaynste the Prince of Condy." Also one "Patricke Frebarne personne of S^{t} Margaretes in Lothburye, and on Wilson a tailour, dwellinge at the furthir Tower gate," both Scots "and supposed to be ill men," commonly resort to the Duke. Also I am informed by Bell that Hambleton otherwise "cauled leorde Hambleton, hathe said in the hearinge of the said Belles wiff and others, in a chamber in the fyrste namyde lodginge," that the Duke intends to repair to Court this present Monday, or Tuesday next, and then on Friday* northward. The cause of his sudden departure is, that 30,000 Scots are "upp" on the Borders. London. *Signed:* Thomas Rowe, maior.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . L. Maiour of London to my master. Scottish lordes."

Dec. 14-15. **921.** MINUTES OF CONFERENCES AT HAMPTON COURT.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 355. Tuesday, 14 December:—The Queen, having commanded the lords of her privy council to call to them the Earls of Northum-

* 17th.

Elizabeth.
1568. berland, Shrewsbery, Huntington, Westmerland, Worcester, and Warwick, as principal persons of her nobility: and they being assembled, it was declared to them that her majesty desired them to understand truly and plainly the state of the cause of the Queen of Scots, now at some stay, as her commissioners have refused any further conference—and to keep it secret to themselves, without prejudicing one side or the other, as her majesty meant to observe for herself.

Then the whole proceedings were read over, first those at York, then at Westminster, till the last session ended about the 10th instant—the Queen of Scots' commissioners' accusation of Murray and his colleagues—the latters' justification by their laws without "speciall depraving or calumniating the honour of the Quene,"—next her commissioners' replication, and how Murray and his colleagues, when charged to answer the same, after protest of their unwillingness to touch the Queen's name and honour, unless pressed by their adversaries with lack of loyalty, produced an addition to their first answer, wherein they avowed, that as Bothwell was the executor of the murder, so the Queen was a procurer and deviser thereof. Thereafter was produced a writing in manner of Articles, first exhibited to the commissioners on 6th December: but before these were read, there were produced sundry letters written in French "supposed" to be written by the Queen of Scots' own hand to Bothwell, and also "one long sonnett," and a promise of marriage in name of the said Queen with Bothwell. "Of which lettres, the originalls, supposed to be written with the Quene of Scottes owne hand, were then also presently produced and perused, and being redd, were duly conferred and compared for the manner of writing and fashion of orthography, with sundry other lettres, long time hertofore written and sent by the said Quene of Scottes to the Quenes majesty. And next after, there was produced and redd a declaration of the Erle Moreton of the maner of the finding of the said lettres, as the same was exhibited upon his othe the ixth of December. In collation wherof no difference was found. Of all which lettres and writings, the true copies are conteyned in the memoriall of the actes of the sessions of the 7 and 8 of December." There were produced and read the examinations of John Hay yr of Tallo, John Hepburn and George Dalglish (who were executed at Edinburgh for the murder) contained amongst the acts of the session of 8th instant: and next was read the deposition of Thomas Crawford amongst the writings of the 9th. And as night approached, further declaration was deferred till next day.

Wednesday, 15 December:—The Lords of Council having said Earls with them, ordained that the Book of Articles, divided in 5 parts, should be "throughly and distinctly redd unto them." After which done, the deposition of one William Powry, one of the 4 executed at Edinburgh, was produced and read. Then was produced, read, and viewed the original contract between the Queen and Bothwell, written by Huntly, dated at Seaton 5th April, subscribed with their own hands as alleged, the true copy whereof was exhibited on the 8th instant. Also the extract of the deliverance by an assize at Edinburgh on 12th April—next the writing by Murray and his colleagues dated 10th instant, to testify the writings

Elizabeth.
1568. produced as written by the said Queen to be her own proper handwriting—next another deposition by Thomas Crawford on his oath, exhibited to the commissioners on 13th instant, of certain answers made to him by the foresaid John Hepburn and John Hay, on the scaffold instantly before their execution. There was also produced and read, the manner of holding parliament at Edinburgh on 15 December 1567, and the numbers of the three estates present, said to be as great as had been for 100 years. Also report was made of the Act of Parliament of that date, confirming the Queen's demission, coronation of her son, and Murray's regency—and a writing to prove that Huntly, Argyll, and Herries acknowledged these, exhibited on 8th instant. Besides production and reading of these sundry writings —many of great length—there was a short and "just" report made of sundry other matters exhibited to the commissioners at their several sessions—as the two acts of divorces, of great length, also acts for attainder in parliament of all persons charged with the murder. And it is to be noted that during the time of producing and reading, there was no special choice nor regard to the order of production, but the whole lying altogether on the council table, were one after other showed rather "by happ" as they lay on the table, than by any choice of their natures, as it might had there been time.

In the end, the foresaid Earls were told they were now made participant of the whole cause as largely as the rest of her majesty's privy council, and reminded of her majesty's charge to keep the same secret. "And that where the Quene of Scottes commissioners being made privee of this the accusation of the sayd quene, have forborn to answer to the same, refusyng also to have any furder conference in this matter, pressyng only to have the Quene thyr maistres permitted to come to the presence of the Quenes majesty to make hir answer—and otherwise to make no answer at all—it hath bene considered by hir majesty, and thought not unmete in this sort followyng to answer the said commissioners, if they shall persist in ther said request—That hir majesty will be very willing and desirous that some good answer may be made by the said Quene either by hir commissioners and delegates, or by hir owne self, before such sufficient persons as hir majesty wold send to hir. But considering hir majesty had at hir first comming into the realme, found it not mete for hir owne honour to have hir (being so commenly defamed of so horrible crimes) to comme to hir presence, before she might be therof some wise purged—so also now the crimes (wherwith she hath ben by commen fame burdened) being by many vehement allegations and presumptions, upon thynges now producid, made more apparant: she cannot without manifest blemish of hir owne honour in the sight of the world, agree to have the same Quene to come into hir presence, untill the said horrible crimes may be by some just and reasonable answer avoyded and removed from hir—which her majesty wold wish might also be. And in this sort hir majesties intention being oppened to the sayd Erles in presence of the said privee counsell": they each made several answer (1) acknowledging themselves much bound to her for being pleased to show them the state of this great cause so plainly, (2) "wherin they had seen such fowle matters, as they thought truly in their consciences, that hir majesty had just

Elizabeth.
1568. "cause herin given to make the sayd commissioners such an answer being as resonable as the case but beare, and the rather for that they could not allow it as mete for hir majestys honor to admitt the said Quene to hir majesties presence as the case now did stand."

6½ *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Carefully corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . The conference with the erles."

Dec. 15. **922.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. "A Saterdaye laste* the Frenche currer came hether" with letters both of the former and later corrected news of France, as your letters imported; and with him also the Laird of Newton from this Queen's commissioners, signifying that her majesty had taken 10 days' "respett" to answer them. I trust this "respett" is not for lack of constancy, or disagreement, or other "dangerous ympediment." It is very late for this Queen to remove before Christmas, and I desire you get me leave to come to court then. I cannot always be watching, and my service is but to set the times and places *etc.*—so fully done that it passes my "capassitie" to make it better: and you know Lord Scrope's faithful disposition, "and his youthfull hable bodie farr passethe myn, and in watchyng speciallye." And now the snow is fallen, it lies long in this "cold mowntanous cuntrie," so nobody can ride hence northward but in the beaten highways, both slippery and dangerous—so that a footman makes as much speed as a horseman. So I may be now spared without any scruple.

You know I have hitherto freely spoken my "owne conscyence" without putting "my head under any bodies gyrdell"; and this may have been misinterpreted, and not so well "patronised as obsequyous behavor perhaps myght have purchased unto me"; and I am sure I have much offended her majesty, when I thought I had very well deserved of her! but trust it will not hinder my desire. Mr Morton said her majesty's pleasure was "that my ladie Scroope shold remove herehence before Christmas, to laye her belye" elsewhere: and Lord Scroope has provided for her 2 miles from this. When here, she could at all hours freely visit this Queen in her chamber. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Dec. 15-16. **923.** ACT OF THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 64. Ratifying the detention of Mary's person and exonerating the actors in same from all consequences—with the names of the three Estates present and the Lords of the Articles.

6 *pp. In a Scottish contemporary hand.*

Dec. . **924.** A DEVICE OF LETHINGTON'S.

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 359. Narrating how "it wold be denounced" in the next Scottish parliament that the Queen by her demission of her crown *etc.* in July 1567, in favour of her only and dear son, had done so for love to him

* 11th.

Elizabeth.
1568. alone, and her meaning was not so to deprive herself of princely estate, and the name of Queen, as not so to be held throughout the world: having been born a Queen and crowned in her cradle before she knew what a kingdom was. She is determined to die a Queen, and yet for motherly affection wishes it shall not be derogatory to her son's estate. But in case it chanced he died in her own life, then she shall immediately return to her full right as if such demission had never been made, and the lawful issue of her body to come, shall be inheritable to her crown and kingdom, as they might before the same. This was her meaning from the beginning. This declaration to be read in parliament and accorded by the three Estates.

3 *pp. A draft in Hay's writing. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "A devise of Lyddyngtons at Hampton Court, how the young prince of Scotland shuld remayn kyng and yet the Quene not deposed."

Dec. 16. **925.** ELIZABETH TO MARY'S COMMISSIONERS.

C.P., vol. II. "Apud Hampton Court xvj° Decembr. 1568":—The sum of her majesty's answer to the bishop of Ross, lords Boyd and Herries and the Abbot of Kilwinning, in presence of the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, Duke of Norfolk, Marquess of Northampton, Earls of Sussex, Bedford, and Leicester, Lords Clinton and Howard, Sirs William Cecil, Raff Sadler, and Walter Mildmay chancellor of the Exchequer, was:—Their late requests being two, (1) that their mistress might in her majesty's presence answer the charges, and (2) if this were refused, that they might forbear farther conference: her majesty (as they well knew) thinking it more meet to reprove the said Queen's subjects for their audacious accusations against her ("the same being but generally alledged in wordes"), than to have her answer in person, had then caused her commissioners to call Murray and his company before them and sharply rebuke them: whereto they replied denying all disloyalty, but as their adversaries had directly charged them with crimes which they could not pass over without condemning themselves unjustly, they were unwillingly forced in self defence to proceed as they had done, and had therefore "produced and shewed to the said lordes hir majesties commissioners such matters as are very great and apparant presumptions and argumentes to confirme the former commen reportes of the crimes imputed to the said Quene—of which matters hir majesty, by the declaration of hir commissioners, also understanding to hir great admiration, and no small grief, never looking to have hard of such kind of matters and so many against hir": now seeing they had come again to require a further answer, her majesty said they should have a resolute answer in this sort:—She would reopen the same matters, if their mistress would make a direct answer, in either of these three ways—(1) by her sending a trusty person with power to make such, (2) or herself give answer to such noblemen as the Queen's majesty would send to her (if she so liked), or (3) to appoint either these her late commissioners or any others to make answer before her majesty's commissioners. "But as for hir comming to hir presence, considering at the first whan she came into this realme, hir majesty could not find it than agreable to hir honor, she

Elizabeth.
1568. "being then defamed only by commen report both here and abrode in most partes of Christendome: much less could she now think it ether mete or honorable for hir to comme to hir presence, considering the multitude of matters and presumptions now lately produced against hir, such as in dede greved hir majesty to think of. And therfore hir majesty required them to accept this hir answer, and to make report therof by sending the same to hir, or otherwise (as they wold) all or some of them to carry the same to hir. Thinking it always very necessary for hir to make answer: for otherwise who soever shuld advise hir to forbeare making of answer, having so many ways to do the same, only because she might not come to hir majesties presence, howsoever they shuld seme and appeare to be good servantes for hir, suerly they shuld rather be thought and judged (for some other respectes) to betray hir. And therwith hir majesty required them to consider well as hir servantes of this that she sayd, for it can not be well taken in the world for a reasonable excuse, if she be innocent (as hir majesty wished hir to be found) to suffer hir self to be noted culpable of such horrible crimes, only for lack of comming to hir majesties presence, and in no wise to cleare hir self to the world by any manner of answer. Nether could she find how the Quene shuld more redely procure hir owne condemnation, than to refuse to make answer. And so with many mo such like wordes and speches uttered at good length, not here remembred, hir majesties ernest meaning did appeare, that she wold gladly the said Quene might acquite hir self by some reasonable answer. And so ended."*

3 *pp. Fair copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed:* "16 X^br^ 1568. The somme of the Q. majesties answer to the Q. of Scottes commissioners."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 362. Another copy of the same.

2 *pp.* After the word "ended," follows—*Examinatur per me. Signed:* R. Jones.

Dec. 17. **926.** MARY TO THE EARL OF MAR.

C.P., vol. II. "Monsr de Mar,"—My natural love of my child and the preservation of what it has pleased God to give in my charge, makes me write to warn you of things hidden from you by those whom you trust most—that my son is to be taken from you and brought to this country, and Stirling Castle garrisoned by strangers. You know I delivered both one and the other to you for "la fiance" I had in you and all belonging to you—and trust you still retain some remembrance of it, and will have that care of both to which your honour and love of your native country bind you. Take good care that neither is taken from you, for what I tell you is certain, and only waits execution. I trust you have no "parent" whose greed and ambition to reign could induce your consent to your country's ruin and desolation, and to see it a wretched vassal and slave to another—as it will be if God in pity breaks not these unhappy designs of those who wish only to

* These three words in Cecil's writing.

Elizabeth.
1568. aggrandize themselves and see to their own interests. Bowton. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

"Souvenes vous que quant je vous bayllay mon fils comme mon plus cher joiau, vous me prosmistes le guarder e ne le delivrer sans mon consentimant, comme despuis auves aussi fayt par vos lettres."

1 *p. French. Written by her secretary; the postscript holograph. Addressed:* "A mons^{r} le Conte de Mar." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

(2) A copy of the same.

1 *p. By Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by him), and (in pencil): "Transcribed."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 363. (3) Another copy of the same.

Dec. 18. **927.** LORD BOYD TO [LEICESTER (?)]

C.P., vol. II. "Pleiss youre guid lordschipe,"—I sent this bearer to your lordship on Thursday last * for a passport for myself and six servants to Boltoun to the Queen's highness, and thence to Scotland, if it be not her pleasure I return again; also for post horses and a "gyde," on my reasonable expenses—for I received her letter on the 13th instant to come to her with diligence "how sone this conference tuik ane end." Wherefore I pray your lordship to obtain the same at the Queen's majesty's hands. Kingiston. *Signed:* Yowr lordschipis asswrit frend lefwlly to command, R. Boyd.

1 *p. Flyleaf and address gone.*

Dec. 19. **928.** MARY TO HER COMMISSIONERS.

Cott. Calig. B. ix., fol. 344. "We haiff ressavit the Eik gevin in be the Erle Murray and his complices: and where thay have said thairintill or at anye tyme that we knew, conceled, devysed, persuaded or commanded the murther of oure husband, thay have falslye, traitoruslie and mischeantlie leyd, imputing unto ws maliciouslie the cryme wherof thay thame selfis ar authoris, inventaris, doaris and some of thame proper executoris. And where thay allege we stoppit inquisition and dew punischement to be made on the said murther, and siclyke of the sequele of the maryage with the Erle Bothwell: it is sufficientlie ansuerit in the reply gevin in at Yoorke to thois tuo poyntis and divers utheris thare allegeances, yf thay be well considered.

"And where thay charge ws wytht unnaturall kyndnes towart oure sone, allegeing we intendit to have causit him follow his father haistelie: howbeit the naturall love the mother bereth to hir onlie chylde *sik as we have borne to oure said sone,*† is sufficient to confound thame, and misteris na uther ansuer: yet considering thare procedingis bypast who did him wronge in oure wombe *befoir he wes borne,*† intending to have slane him and ws bothe: thayre is none of goode jugement bot thay may eselie perceave thare hypocrisie whow thay wold fortifie thame selfis in oure sonnis name, till thare tyrannye wer better establissed. And to the effect oure goode sister may

* 16th. † So in original.

Elizabeth. 1568. "understand we ar nocht willing to let thare fals invented allegeances pas our with silence, adhering to your former protestacion, ye shall desyre the inspection and doublis of all thay have producit aganis ws, and that we may se the allegeit principall writingis yff thay have anie producit. And wyth Goddis grace we shall first mak sic ansuer thairto that oure innocencie salbe knowen to oure goode sister and all utheris princes: and siclyke shall charge thame as authoris, inventaris and doaris of the said cryme thay wold imput to ws, and prove the same sufficientlie, sua that we may have oure gude sisteris presens (as oure adversaries hes had) and ressonable space and tyme to get sic verificacioun as pertenis thairto. And protest that we may ad thairto as tyme place and neid shall requyre."

1 *p.* *Written by the Bishop of Ross.* At head (in same hand): "The extract of the principall heidis contenit in the last lettir that come fra the Quenis grace our maistres direct frome Boltoun the xix day of December 1568." *Indorsed:* "Double dune responce faide aux rebelles (*illegible*) la Royne."

Dec. 20. **929.** ELIZABETH TO KNOLLYS.

C.P., vol. II. Whereas the conference at Westminster between our commissioners and those of Scotland is now surceased, we have thought good to inform you of the proceedings, and the "stey," which now rests on the Queen of Scots' answer: "to thintent you maye, reportyng to hir the same, understand as neare as you maye hir mynd, and that also before the comming of any hir commissionars unto hir."

[*Here the accusation at York by Mary's commissioners against Murray "etc."—his answer, and their replication, are recited.*]

"At ther entry here to conference, the Erle of Murraye, after a protestation made to excuse his entry into any manner of accusation, if his adversaryes wold not therto provok hym, an addition was made by hym to his first answer, in which was avowed, that as the Erle Bothwell was the executor of the murdre, so was the Quene the perswader and procurer: and the Quene of Scottes' commissionars being herof made privee, did delaye some tyme before they wold give answer, and in fyne sayd, that they wer directed by lettres from ther mastriss, not to procede any furder therin, but to speke with us; which they did, and exhibited a request, that to this accusation ther mastriss might be suffred to come hyther to our presence, to answer before us and all the ambassadors of forrayn princes, and our nobilite. Wheruppon we answered them, that we thought more mete for the honour of the Quene ther mastriss, to charge and reprove the Erle of Murraye of his so audaciouss a slaunderyng of his soverayn lady, than to seme by callyng hir hyther, to gyve any creditt to the accusation. Which being doone by our commissionars very sharply, the sayd Erle after some restyng uppon his former protestation, for answer did exhibite to our commissionars a great multitude of matters termed by them 'Certan conjectures, presumptions and circumstancees,' to prove ther former accusation—amongst which they produced a nombre of lettres and wrytynges, which they uppon ther othes affirmed to be of the Quenes own hand wrytyng to Bothwell, both befor the murdre of the Lord Darnly and after—in which ar conteyned manny matters

Elizabeth.
1568. "very unmete* to be repeated before honest eares, and easely drawn to be apparant proves ageynst the Quene. Wheruppon we being by our commissionars informed, thought good to staye furder procedynges therin and to suspend our judgment untill we might have some answer therunto, which the Quene of Scottes commissionars wold not make, but still persisted in ther request to have the Quene come upp to our presence, refusyng all other manner of answer. And theruppon we gave them answer, as you shall see herwith sent unto you, with also ther request; in the sight of which twoo wrytynges you shall easely perceave the state of the cause as it now is. And after this answer so gyven, the sayd commissionars have required licenss to retorn thyther, to impart to hir our sayd answer, and as she shuld direct them, ether to retorn hyther, or to pass into Scotland, so they wold doo, and therwith required to have the copy of the particular matters produced ageynst the Quene: which we sayd war not reason,† except they wold also answer therto; and so in the end they required passport to pass into Scotland from thence, if the Quene wold not retorn them hyther. Wherunto we answered them that they shuld have passport thyther, and uppon knolledg that the Quene ther mastriss wold not retorn them, they shuld have passport sent to you for them. And now the Erle of Murray and his part, makyng ernest request to know our furder plesure, we did cause hym have answer by our counsell (for we never treated nor spake with hym of this matter ourselves, nor never sawe hym but once, to tell hym that he shuld be hard by our commissionars). The answer was, that having hard by our commissionars how the staye was for lack of answer by the Quenes commissionars, we cold not make any full determination of the cause, and therfore gave hym liberty for hym self to depart not prejudyceng his cause, and to leave some here authorised to mak furder answer, as uppon the hearyng from the Quene, cause shuld appeare. And fyndyng hym not disposed to retorn without some fynall resolution, which also we can not justly make without hir answer to some purpooss, and yet understandyng how perillooss it is for his state to contynew longar from his country; we ar in dede very desyrooss to have some answer from that Quene, and that without delaye. Wherfor now that you ar thus farr informed, we require you to report the state of the same to that Quene, and lett hir understand how necessary for hir honor it is that she shuld accord to make answer, accordyng as by our answer to hir commissionars you may see our meaning is. And the sonar yow attempt this matter, the bettar it is, considerynge what her commissionars will advise hir we know not; but in any wise we see that the more delaye is used herin, the more harm may follow in the cause. We wold have you not to thynk but that as farr as in honor and good ordre we maye, we do not neglect that which is for our own interest and suerty, as we ar also not forgetfull of your good advisees gyven to that end."

Lord Scrope must give express order that none of these commissioners pass to Scotland without our express passport, to be sent hereafter under our hand and seal. We remit you to our secretary's letters who has shown us yours, specially of your desire to come up—whereof we are not forgetful, but as soon as possible with our commodity, mean to satisfy you.

* Here the words "to come from a Quene" are scored out. † Originally "denyed them."

Elizabeth.
1568. 4 *pp. Draft by Cecil, with marginal additions on last page. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "20 X^br^ 1568. Copy of the Q. majestes lettre to M^r^ Vichamberlein."

Dec. 21. **930.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P., vol. II. "Madam": whilst your cause was here treated, we did not write, supposing your commissioners would. Now since they have broken the conference by refusing to answer (as they say by your command), and return to you, who by them shall perceive the whole proceedings: yet we cannot but let you understand how the sorrows we have long felt for your mishaps and great troubles, are now "doobled in beholdyng such thynges as ar produced to prove your self cause of all the same; and our greeff herin is also increased, in that we did not thynk at any tyme to have seene or herd such matters of so gret apparance and moment to charg and condemn you. Nevertheless both in frendshipp, nature, and justice, we ar moved to cover these maters, and staye our judgment, and not to gather any sence herof to your prejudice before we maye heare of your direct answer therunto, accordyng as your commissionars understond our meanyng to be: which at ther request is delyvered to them in wrytyng. And as we trust they will advise you for your honor to agree to make answer as we have motioned them; so suerly we can not but as on prince and neare coosyn regardyng another, most ernestly as we may in termes of frendshipp require and charg you not to forbeare from answeryng; and for our part, as we ar hartely sorry and dismayed to fynd such matters of your chardg, so shall we be as hartely gladd and well content to heare of sufficient matter for your discharg. And although we dout nott that yow ar well certefyed of the dilligence and care of your ministers having your commission, yet can we not, beside an allowance generally of them, specially note to you your good choiss of this berer the Bishopp of Ross, who hath not only faythfully and wisely, but also so carefully and dutyfully for your honor and weale, behaved hym self and that both privatly and publickly, as we can not but in this sort commend hym unto you, as we wish you had manny such devoted discret servantes; for in our judgment, we thynk ye have not any that in loyaltee and faythfullnes can overmatch hym. And this we ar the bolder to wryte, consideryng we take it the best tryall of a good servant to be in adversitee, out of which we hartely wish you to be delyvered by the justification of your innocency; *for otherwise no liberty can proffitt you in the sight of the world.*"*

1½ *pp. Draft by Cecil carefully adjusted. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

(2) Fair copy of the same.

1 *p.* Added by Cecil—"And so trustyng to here shortly from you, we make an end. Gyven at Hampton Court under our signett the 21 of Decemb. 1568 in the xi^th^ yere of our reigne." *Indorsed* (by the writer his clerk).

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 367. (3) *Original of the same.* "Geven at Hampton Courte under our signet the xxi^th^ of December 1568 in the leaventhe yeare of oure

* The words in italics are scored out.

Elizabeth.
1568. reigne." *Signed:* Your good sistar and cousin, Elizabeth R. *Wafer signet (damaged).*

1 *p.*

Dec. 22. **931.** MEMORANDA BY CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 368. Schemes for Mary remaining in England—"the state" of her son and the Regent in Scotland—the child for education, being brought to England—Sir Francis Knollys or the bishop of Ross to persuade Mary thereto by these reasons:—

1. Elizabeth must notify her guilt to the world, as these matters "ar to be proved" *etc.*: and though either Murray or his company shall be by her charged as parties to the murder or her unlawful marriage, "yet that is no discharge of hir giltynes."

2. That Elizabeth resolved and "caused to be pronounced" to Murray at the beginning of this conference, that if Mary was not found apparently guilty, she should be restored to her estate: but if manifestly proved guilty of murder, she would not offend "God and hir conscience" by bearing with a murderer, or restoring her, or allow any other to do so, but would maintain the innocent child, whose life would be endangered by her restoration, and his favourers.

3. She cannot, without offence to her conscience, forget Mary's claiming title to her crown, for which yet no satisfaction has been made, "nor now cannot," or without great folly permit her to be free, to become her enemy, and stir up allies against her.

4. She also sees that Mary's party are mostly Hamiltons, the others Lennoxes and Stuardes, so if restored, and the latter were repressed as they would be very shortly, if the crown went to the Hamiltons and their dependants "in blood," as Huntly and Argyll, neither she herself nor the child should have long continuance.

5. If she allow her son to be educated here it may be beneficial to her supposed title to this crown.

Lastly:—Besides these, unless she assents to the propositions, things may be done more to her damage than can be revoked—(1) To be told she will be speedily removed; (2) that Murray shall have some open countenance, "as one that hath doone his endevor to produce that which must be accepted for truth untill contrary matter may appeare"; and (3) it is manifestly declared to her commissioners that Murray's "regiment" be allowed till she sees otherwise.

(At end): 1. She is a lawful prisoner by treaties; 2. may not depart till she has repaired the wrong done by her claim to the crown; 3. The Queen's superiority over the crown of Scotland is justly proved; and 4. She is bound to answer her subjects' petitions.

3 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "A memoriall wherof part was sent to M[r] Vichamberlayn."

Dec. 26. **932.** KNOLLYS TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. II. I received your majesty's letter of the 20[th] instant on Christmas "eave" at night, with copies of this Queen's commissioners request, and your majesty's answer, also M[r] Secretary's letter: and forthwith declared to her the state of her cause, and stay till her grace's further answer. She said that if you had reconciled her and her subjects agreeable to her honour, she would have been very well content; "but els to answer otherwyse than in

Elizabeth.
1568. "parsone before your presence, she saythe she never ment"—'For,' saythe she, 'I am not an eqwall to my rebelles, neyther woll I submytt my selffe to be wayed in eqwalle ballance with theym.' I said I thought she would better advise herself than refuse to answer, as it would be repugnant to her former agreement; but she replied she had reserved her "freedome of a pryncesse, and the savegard of hyr honor, by protestation." Whereto I said she had enlarged her commission at York, so that her commissioners should answer any of her adversaries' accusations against her honour. She said again, although she had done so, yet since then, you had broken promise in suffering Murray to come to your presence and refusing her the like. I said you only admitted him at his first coming, not to hear him defend himself, or accuse her grace, but that your majesty referred all these matters to your commissioners. Hereto she said, you had added divers "not indifferent" commissioners, and you had denied performance of certain things pertaining to her honour, "that she toke by my lord Herrys reporte, and by some letters, to have ben promest hyr by your majestie"—therefore if admitted to your presence, she would gladly answer for her innocence: otherwise would only answer her adversaries by open publication in writing, that all princes and the world might judge between them. I said this would only make the world more suspicious, as your commissioners were known to be uprightly bent. In the end, when she saw I pressed her much; 'Well,' saith she, 'there is no heede to be taken what I saye to youe herin, untyll I shall here from, or speake with my commyssyoners.'

"Nowe surely I thynke that this Quene never ment to answer the odious accusations of hyr adversaries, unlesse she myght be assuredlye promysed aforehande that your majestie wold ende and judge hyr cawse to hyr honor, according to the perswasion of my Lord Herrys message: or unlesse that your commyssyoners and your majestie wold take a short answer for a suffycyent answer, that is to saye, that the accusations of hyr adversaries are falce, bycawse that she in the word of a pryncesse woll saye they are falce. Yff this kynd of argument woll satisfye your majestie for hyr suffycyent answer, youe may soone I thynk have it: but I thynk it vayne in these cases to looke for hyr answer as standying to hyr justification formallye in probable order and sorte, withowte hyr assurance aforehand that howe so ever the matter fall owte, that yet the judgement shall fall on hyr syde."

Also your majesty must pardon me thinking it very strange, that while you command me to look carefully to this Queen for fear of her escaping, yet you have not only refused to let us have the rest of Captain Read's band as we had at Carlisle, but have licensed Lord Herries and her other commissioners to come and remain here with her—thus giving her and them more ability to practise her escape; which manner of dealing "to me semes a playne repugnancie." For her removing: your majesty and M^r^ Secretary have wished it, every man thinks it necessary, and I have been "provoked" to take it in hand as at Carlisle, without sufficient warrant: but "with reverence," your majesty has dealt and is dealing therein, "as thoe your majestie

Elizabeth.
1568. "wold gladlye all were well, so that it were nothyng longe of your selffe." And your majesty's thus forbearing to give authority at Carlisle ("farr contrarie to our expectation") for her removal hither, has stricken all hope of good backing me in your service, that I shall never be so hardy in such adventure again. This example, added to other experiences I have had and seen since your majesty's reign, makes me more fear your estate if any sharp troubles should arise: and I was thus so bold "before the entrance of this great consultation," to advise you to lay the whole burden on your faithful councillors, and incourage them by following their resolutions wholly without delay: for if you discourage them by staying assent to these till "all the passions of your mynde shalbe satisfyed," then how they shall stand to you at your need, it is fearful to me to consider.

This morning, after writing thus much, I received your majesty's letter of 22d hereof and memorial of reasons to induce this Queen to demit her crown to her son: and as soon as she came abroad, conferring with her as to her cause, and finding her "in hyr owld humor of denyall" to answer, I said "I dyd not mervayle that she was not disposed to answer formallye, but rather I thowght hyr the wyser woman, bycawse it passed my capacetie to see howe by just defence she cowld disburden hyr selffe of the crymes that are iayde agaynst hyr; wherunto she sayd, yes she cowld. 'Well' sayd I, 'your grace had nede to looke abowte youe, for youe doethe stand in a very hard case'": and then I recited to her what your majesty had promised to Murray. 'Nowe' sayd I, 'yf youe shall denye to answer (as youe have good reason therto) therby youe shall provoke the Quene my mystres to take youe as condemned, and to publyshe the same to your utter disgrace and infamye, specyally in Ynglond of all other places': and so began to strike as great fear as I could. At first she answered stoutly she would let all other princes know "howe evyll she was handylled, comyng uppon trust into this realme. 'And,' saythe she, 'I am sure the Quene woll not condemne me hearyng onely myn adversaries and not me'! 'Yes,' sayd I, 'she woll condemne youe, yf youe condemne your selffe by not answeryng; and,' sayd I, 'your not answeryng woll cawse the Quene to call to mynde your injurious kleamyng and makyng tytle to the crowne of this realme to hyr prejudice; but nowe,' sayd I, 'it were wyse handyllyng of your grace, yf youe could with curtesie and discrete behavor, provoke the Quene my mystres to save your honor and to cawse all accusations and wrytyngs that are to be shoed agaynst youe, to be commytted to oblivion, the which I thynk youe myght by offerryng to be content with the dimission of your crowne and government of Skotland to your sonne, and youe to remayne in Ynglond a convenient tyme.' And I showed all the commodities thereby to her and her son—and how he might be brought up here "to no hyndrance to theyr tytles." But when she "stooke" much that the judgment of the world might condemn her, I said I spoke only of good will, and desired her not to utter it to my prejudice, and so left her to think over it.

At afternoon, she told Lord Scrope what advice I had given her: 'and surely' saythe she, 'I thynk he dothe not thus advice me to the intent I shold be intrapped and abused'; and Lord Scrope being made privy by me aforehand, so advised her in friendly manner. And

Elizabeth.
1568. though she is too wise to be hastily persuaded, yet both he and I are in hope, if the Bishop of Ross at his coming will so persuade her, that she will yield.

But if she shall grow "styffe and unplyant" herein, the only way to bring her "on," is to remove her forthwith by your majesty's "severe" commandment; or, how toward soever she be, to remove her forthwith is good surety—but if she see you tender and soft in dealing, then she will be too "stowte" to be persuaded by any man. Bolton . . . after mydnyghte. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

8 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Dec. 26. **933.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. II. My long letter to her majesty "hathe cut away" my writing much to you. "The waye of wynnyng of this Quene to conformetie, is to use hyr stowtlye whan she is backwarde, and to use hyr curtyselye whan she is plyante; but I see no reason whye hyr removyng is stayde." I marvel you forget our money: you said you would send it by Sir George Bowes—but I hear of none. I thank you for good news of my wife, and remembering my desire to come to court, though it took no place. Bolton . . . after mydnyght. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: I send a brief note of necessary plate for this Queen, chambers to be hanged and bedding for 8 beds. For the servants' "wyffes" allowed, that wait on her, I leave it to you.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

Utensils to be supplied at Bolton for the service of the Queen of Scots.

"Sylver vessall, 1 garnishe; sylver pottes, ij smal ons; silver flagons, 1 payere; one basen and ewer of sylver; pewter vessall, iij garnish; drypinge pans, iiij; fryinge pans, ii; dieper for napkins, i pese; dieper for tablinge, i pese; Holland clothe for tablinge and napkins, ii peses; syxe peses of conveniente hanginges for the grete chamber."

½ *p. Indorsed* (by Knollys).

Dec. 28. **934.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO JOHN FITZWILLIAM.

C.P., vol. II. "Good frend *etc.*": Since my last writing, my lords Herries, Kilwinning and I, were in my lord Leicester's chamber this last "Tuysday," and conferred with the Duke of Norfolk, Leicester, and M^r^ Secretary—where our adversaries' whole arguments were uttered to us, "quilkis was *durus sermo*, and my lord of Norfolk and M^r^ Secretary war sayrest"—and it appears their judgments were almost confirmed in favour of our mistress's adversaries, notwithstanding our reasons to the contrary. "This daye we have sene the hayll articles in M^r^ Secretories chalmer, but he wold not gyve us the copy therof. In the quhilkis thar is contenit fyve sundry poyntes to be provyn:—first, disdayn to the kyng; 2. the avancyng of Bothwell; 3. the conspyracy of the murther; 4. the sequel and mariadg; 5. the cause

Elizabeth.
1568. "of the risyng; quhilk ar delatit by manny presumptions. Wharfor I pray you pas to our man of law, and shaw hym of our procedynges, and bid hym putt our defencees to the presumptions, in wrytt as was devisit before in all eventes—but we hoip for summe apoyntment *etc.*, but yet at y^{t} we arme us well; *quia felix ille populus qui tempore pacis cogitat de bello.*"

(At foot): To John Fitzw^{ms}, Grais yn, Brymmycham.

1 *p. Holograph of Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): "28 Decemb. 1568. Copy of a lettre sent by the B. of Ross to John Fitzw^{ms} in Graies In."

Dec. 29. **935.** DECLARATION BY THE EARL OF MORTON.

App. II., No. 6. As to his discovery of the silver casket *etc.* on 19-20 June 1567.

3 *pp. Contemporary copy.*

Dec. 31. **936.** KNOLLYS TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 371. Since Lord Boyd's coming (who brought the form and manner as it seems, of Murray's accusations, and the substance also) this Queen has been much offended and grieved: yet hitherto does not greatly mislike Lord Scrope's and my advice to yield in this last matter; but depends much on the bishop of Ross, and fears not to be plainly dealt with for safeguard of her honour. Within 2 days after the bishop comes hither, we shall be able to give "a great gesse." Whatever the bishop persuades her, if her majesty could handle the matter stoutly and roundly, she would yield, in hope or assurance that she would save her honour and use her favourably: but if the bishop and the others find her majesty tender and shrinking in dealing with her, or in supporting Murray thoroughly, then I look not for her yielding. I think you do wisely to keep this device privy from the Hamilton faction, for they will not like it—yet it is hard to keep them from it, for the bishop is a near neighbour of Huntly. But this Queen has greater reason to move her than they have to allow it.

After writing thus much, Bortyke came yesternight with letters from the bishop—whereon I stayed, to hear what she would say: and after spending long time in reading them, she declared that the Queen herself had told the bishop she wished some good appointment and end to be made for her, and that she would have her to be a queen still, but for the difficulty of the case, and that her word was "past" to Murray: and wished her to resign government to her son. 'But,' says she, 'shall I resygne for those rebelles that have so shamfully belyed me'? 'No,' said Lord Scrope, 'your grace may doe it in respect of hyr majesties advice and good wyll towards youe.' 'Well,' says she, 'I woll make no answer hereoff this 2 dayes'—and so went to bed. Therefore I send this bearer, rather because we have had none of her majesty's money for 10 days, and shall need 500*l.* Bolton, 7 a.m. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Two lines of a postscript carefully erased.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Elizabeth.
1568. Dec. 31.

937. KYRKCALDY TO THE REGENT.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 379.

"As the perpetuale prayeris of the troubled flok within this realme hes bene for your graces preservatioun, continewalie sen your departing fra the sam, sa is and hes bene thair thrist maist fervent for your graces sauf and snddane returnyng." Your letters to such as it pleased you to address, have held the faithful in good hope of prosperous success after your grace's long travel: till now they see nothing but delay upon delay, making them suspect that your enemies' bragging is not without cause. The affairs here we doubt are not so well known to the Queen and her council, your grace and your company, as they are to the poor men that cannot redress them. The enemy in all quarters have lately taken arms, and enterprise more than any of us can see the end of it. Huntly reigns in the North, the Hamiltons siege houses and take prisoners, and are on some "hiegh interpris." The Hepburns in East Lothian lie in garrison, and wait for the Hamiltons to join. Meantime for lack of heads, the willing hearts hang in suspense, whether to abide their fury or defend themselves. We will not press the Queen and Council of England: but will boldly affirm "that gif we mak schipwrak in this storme, the strangast cabillis of thair schip sall not ride out to the end of the sam": and most earnestly crave your grace to spare not to let her majesty and council know the danger of both the realms. We are uncertain if the Queen mother's last proclamation is known to you: but the favourers of the king's authority have found nothing more strange since the beginning of this action. Your grace and all that assist you, are "sa railit upoun, as the like dispite hes not bene commounlie sene put in writ under the name of ony that hes borne autorite." There is a revocation of all things passed by her before the date; also "ane fader adoptive and his airis appointit, to haif the administratioun of this realme, not onlie for hir tyme and during the minorite of oure king, and utheris hir barnis to be gottin of hir body, bot als failyeing of thame, he is declarit to be nerrest to succeid to the croun, and the sam to be enjoyit for evir be him and his airis without revocatioun quhatsumevir." This passes among the enemy, and is esteemed "na les nor ane oracle." Wisdom craves that in time and that "suddanelie," ye provide: the manner how, we leave to your grace's "farther avisment with God and youre faithfull counsale." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Kyrkcaldy.

1¼ *pp. Closely written by another hand. Kyrkcaldy puts in the day of the month. No flyleaf or address.*

1568-69.
Jan. 1.

938. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

I can write no more in this matter "off yeldyng" than I have presently in her majesty's letter. This Queen has changed her humour at the first receipt of Bortyke's letters, "uppon the furder waying and dissyferyng of theym." For all my special messages and letters, you have strangely forgotten us. We owe 140*l.* already, most of it to Lord Scrope—and have neither money nor credit. "Tell me frendly" if my letters to her majesty are offensive, as thought "to presumptuous a style?" I have no delight to do so, when no profit arises thereby to her. Bolton. "Nycht." *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph, also address.*

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Jan. 3. **939.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

This Queen has answered the bishop of Ross by this bearer M[r] Bortyk.

If you send us no money shortly "our klark may rune awaye, as ashamed to shoe hys face," unless he can keep this house without it! Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by M[r] Borthick."

Jan. 3. **940.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO EARL OF ARUNDEL.

C.P., vol. III.

Desires to give all assistance to the Queen's majesty, in the affairs of the Queen his own mistress, and has resorted to Court three several times to utter what he now tells his lordship, *viz.*—the King of Spain has empowered the Duke of Alva and his ambassador here to treat and conclude marriage with the Queen his mistress in 3 ways—(1) either with himself, or (2) with the Archduke Charles, or (3) with Don John of "Austrya"; and the Duke has sent a gentleman hither to the said Queen, whom he has stopped as far as he may, till himself may talk with his own mistress; for he desires that the Queen's majesty here should see the purpose meant and use it for her best commodity, and the Queen his mistress also. This thing thus being offered to her majesty's self, he trusts she will use him honourably and not expose him: for otherwise she will take away his credit and power to do his mistress good service in her need, which before God, is his greatest desire. Having heard much of his lordship's plainness and secrecy in such matters, craves pardon for troubling him, and begs him to keep his counsel, as he trusts her majesty will do. And when it pleases her to admit his access, he will explain his faithfulness herein. 3[d] January 1568.

3½ *pp. Perhaps in the Earl's hand, as next paper is. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Er. of Arun[dell]. Bp. of Ros. 3 Jan. 1568."

Jan. [4]. **941.** ARUNDEL TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. III.

"Concernyng cleryng"—If L[ord] J[ames] departs with a great sum, it may likely be lost, himself endangered, and "the talke with that Quene is lost." If he stands for a time, he and Hambleton may agree, as in the case of "George Dwglas *etc.*" that dwelt here before. It would be better to defray his debts here (for it is well seen he has borrowed here), having been called hither. If your highness do not end the matter between that Queen and them, before L[ord] J[ames] departs, I see not but "aventures" must follow. [*Suggestions made as to policy for Scotland.*] One that has a crown can hardly persuade another to leave her crown, because her subjects will not obey. It may be a new doctrine in Scotland, but is not good to be taught in England.

Your majesty will please remember what is to be done, is to be done with speed.

6½ *pp. In same hand as last. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "Januar. 1568. Erle of Arundell to the Quenes majesty."

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Jan. 5.

942. Mary to Huntly.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 380.

We have received your letter by this bearer, dated 5th ultimo, and considered the same. Though we wrote to you on our affairs "sa amplie as we war informit," this present is to show you that Lord Boyd (who arrived here from Court the 27th of same) has declared to us that "our rebellis hes done the worst thai could to haif dishonourit ws, quhilk (thankis to God) lyis nocht in thair power, bot by thair expectatioun hes found thame selffis disappoynted of that thai lookit for." They now seek appointment: "bot albeit we be nocht of sic natour as thais that forgevis newer," yet we shall cause them acknowledge their folly, and the Queen our good sister and council shall know their false inventions to colour their treason and wicked usurpation, and the world shall know what men they are, to our honour and content of our faithful subjects. For, praise to God, "our freindis increscis and thairis decrescis daylie." Ye shall receive by the bearer a letter to be subscribed by you and Argyll, made by Lord Boyd's advice, conform to the declaration ye made to our trusty councillor the bishop of Ross. We know there is no need to persuade you to that whereby you may have reputation and honour, but it is for our just defence calumniated by our rebels, and to repress the brags they make against us, "and yow twa," among our other faithful subjects. We are resolved not to spare them "in setting the veritie to thair leyis,"* and hope they shall find all they have alleged against us, end in their own shame and confusion. We refer to your discretion "to eik and pair"† the letter as you think best: praying you to send the same again subscribed and sealed the soonest ye may, that it may be produced with the rest of the accusations, which we intend to give in against our traitors. You shall receive also a copy of the Queen our sister's answer to our commissioners' supplication, which ye may consider. "Mairatour," understanding that you purpose to change the provost of Elgin: we pray you not to do so, but retain him who is in office already so long as he remains constant and faithful to us. Referring the rest to the bearer's credit. Bowtoun. *Signed:* Your richt gud cusignes and asuried frind, Marie R.

1½ *pp. In the same hand as that of Huntly and Argyll's letter of* [*12*] *January 1568–9. Addressed at foot* (in another hand): "To our richt traist consigne and counsalor the Erle of Huntlie our lieutenent in the North," *Small wafer signet (Scotland): damaged.*

Jan. 7.

943. Duke of Chatelherault to Elizabeth.

C.P., vol. III.

Reminding her that he came hither at her ambassador's desire and on her own passport, and has remained 16 "woulkis," far beyond his expectation: and when he last spoke with her, she seemed to wish his farther stay. Most humbly beseeches he may depart to his own country with her good will and favour, and for an answer by the bearer. [‡]. *Signed:* "Your majesteis mast humyll and mast obedeant serwetur, James Hammylton."

* Lies. † Add and shorten. ‡ Place blank.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. 1 *p. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "7 Januar. 1568. The D. of Chastilralts request to the Q. Majesty to depart into Scotland."

Jan. 8. **944.** ABBOT OF ARBROATH TO CECIL.

As he is sending the bearer his servant to "my lord my fadar" in France, begs that he "wald be so good as to garr him haif the Quenes majestes pasport;" and will do anything for him in return, where he has "puisance." Hamilton. *Signed:* Jhone Hammilton.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 8. **945.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO LEICESTER.

C.P., vol. III. Having advised with his colleagues' commissions, and writings from the Queen their mistress, desires to know when it will please the Queen's majesty that they shall come before some of her council, to declare plainly their mistress's mind. Kingston. This Saturday 2 p.m. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

½ *p. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "8 Januar. 1568. B. of Rosse to my lord of Leicester."

Jan. 9. **946.** MARY'S REPLY TOUCHING HER CROWN.

C.P., vol. III. Requesting the person who wrote to her to resign, to trouble her no more with such request, for she is resolved rather to die than do it, and the last word in her life shall be that of a Queen of Scotland. [*Giving her reasons for refusal and other great matters moving her.*]

2 *pp. French. In the hand probably of Bishop Leslie's clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "1568, 9 Januar., die Domi. French wrytyng delyvered by the Scott. Q. ambassad."

(2) Translation of the foregoing into English.

2 *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Marginal notes on its effect, by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him): ". . . Copy of an answer from the Scott. Quene" *etc.*

Jan. [12]. **947.** DECLARATION BY HUNTLY AND ARGYLL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 383. George Earl of Huntly *etc.*, Great Chancellor of Scotland and Archibald earl of Argyll *etc.* Great Justiciar of the same, considering that some of the Queen our sovereign's subjects, to excuse their rebellion *etc.* against her, accuse her highness of foreknowledge and counsel of the murder of umquhile Henry Stewart her majesty's husband, will, in discharge of our consciences, declare what we know thereof. About December 1566, after her highness's great sickness, she being in the castle of Craigmillar, accompanied by us, Bothwell, Murray and Secretary Lethingtoun: the last two came to Argyll's chamber while in bed in the morning, and lamenting the banishment of Morton, Lindsay and Rewen, and others, said that the occasion of the murder of David slain by them in the Queen's presence, was to trouble and impeach the parliament, wherein Murray and the others should have been forfeited and declared rebels—and seeing the

Elizabeth.
1568-69. same was chiefly for Murray's welfare, it should be esteemed ingratitude if he and his friends, in reciprocal manner, did not do all in their power for relief of the said banished, and thought that Huntly and Argyll should be as desirous. Argyll agreeing, provided the Queen was not offended, Lethington said the best way to get Morton's pardon was to promise the Queen to find means to divorce her from her husband, who had offended her highly in many ways. Whereto Argyll answering that he knew not how? Lethington said (Murray being ever present), 'My lord, cair ye nocht thairof, we sall fynd the meane weill anewch to mak hir quyt of him, sa that ye and my lord of Huntlie will only behald the matter and nocht be offendit thairat.' And then they sent for Huntly, who being come to Argyll's chamber, Murray and Lethington opened the matter to both of us as aforesaid, promising if we consented, that they would find the means to restore us to our lands and offices, and stand good friends to us, Mortoun and his friends doing the like in time coming. We answered we would not hinder anything for the good of them all, especially the pleasure and weal of the Queen. So we all four passed to Bothwell's chamber for his advice on "thir thingis proponit, quhairin he ganesaid nocht mair then we." Then we all passed to the Queen's chamber, where Lethington (after reminding her of a great number of intolerable offences, that the king ("as he said) ingrait of the honour ressavit of hir hienes") had done to her, and every day from evil to worse—proponed to her, that if it pleased her to pardon Mortoun, "Rowen" and Lindsay, and their company, they should find means with the rest of the nobles, to make a divorce betwixt her highness and her husband, "quhilk sould nocht neid hir grace to mel thairwith"—whereto it was necessary she made resolution therein, "asweill for hir awin easment, as weill of the realme—for he trublit hir grace and as ws all: and remaining with hir majestie, vald nocht ceis till he did hir sum uthir ewill turne, quhen that hir hienes vald be mekill impeschit to putt remeid tharto." After these and other persuasions of his, "by"* what every one of us said to her, she answered—"that under twa conditions she might understand the same—the ane that the devorcement war maid lauchfullie, the uthir, that it war nocht prejudice to hir sone: withirwyse hir hienes wald rather indure all tormentis, and abyde the perrelles that mycht chaunce hir in hir gracis lyftyme. The Erle of Bothvell ansuerit, that he doubtit nocht bot the devorcement micht be maid but prejudice in ony wyse of my lord prince: allegeing the example of him selff, that hie ceissit nocht to succeed to his fatheris heritage without ony difficultie, albeit thair was devorce betuix him and his mother. It was als proponit that eftir thair devorcement, the king so[uld] be him allane in ane part of the cuntrey, and the Quenis majestie in ane uthir, or ellis he sould reteir him in ane uthir realme. And heiron hir majestie said, that peradventure hie wold change opinioun and that it war better that she hirselff for ane tyme passit in France, abyding till he acknawlegit himself. Then Lethingtoun taiking the speache, said, 'Madame, soucie† ye nocht, we ar heir of the principall of your gracis nobilitie and counsale that sall fynd the moyen that your majestie salbe quyt of him without

* *i.e.*, besides. † *i.e.*, care.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. 'prejudice of your sone—and albeit that my lord of Murraye heir present be lytill les scrupulus for ane protestant, nor your grace is for ane papist: I am assurit that hie will looke throw his fyngeris th[erat*] and will behald our doingis, saying nathing to the same.' The Quenis majestie ansuerit 'I will that ye do na thing quhairto ony spott may be layit to my honour or conscience: and thairfor I praye yow rather let the matter be in the estait as it is, abyding till God of his gudnes putt remeid thairto, that ye beleifing to do me service, maye possibill turne to my hurt and displeasour.' 'Madame,' said Lethingtoun, 'lett ws gyde the matter amangis ws, and your grace sal se na thing bot gud and approvit be parliament.' Swa eftir the premis[sis*] the murthour of the said Henry Stewart following, we juge in our consciences, and haldis for certane and treuth, that the saidis erle of Murraye and Secretaire Lethingtoun war autouris, inventouris, dewyseris, counsalouris and causeris of the said murthour, in quhat maner or be quhatsumewir persounes the same was execut. And quhair the saidis erle of Murraye and Lethingtoun or ony ane of thame, will deny and ganesaye to the foirsaid: we ar deliberat to defend the same be law of armes as our awin propre honour in quhatsumewir place thai will cheis in Scotland afoir the Estaitis thairof; owt of the quhilk realme we can nocht pas, be ressoun of the trublis ar thairintill. And gif the Quenes majestie of Ingland pleisis to send ony in hir name to heir and se the premissis defendit, the same salbe putt to executioun in thair presens. And albeit that Lethingtoun is nouthir of qualitie nor bloode equal unto ws; notwithstanding we will admitt and ressaif him in combat with the said Erle of Murraye, gif thai will baith present thameselffis thairto. And quhair ane of thame only wuld deny and ganesaye it that is afore rehersit, and accept the said combat: outhir the ane or the uthir of ws sall ressaif the same. Protesting that gif thai ansuer nocht directlie to this our present attestatioun, declaratioun, accusatioun and cartell, thai salbe reput giltie and vainquesit of the said murthour. In witnes of the quhilk we haif subscryved thir presentis with our handis and seilis of our armis affixt thairto. At [†] the [ ] daye of [ ]. And at [ ] the [ ] daye of the said month the yeir of God j^{m} v^{c} threscoir aucht yeiris and of our soverane ladyis regnne the xxvij yeir."

3½ *pp. In same hand as Mary's letter to Huntly of 5 January. Marginal notes in a small English hand. No flyleaf or indorsation.*

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 71. (2) Another copy. *In same hand, much damaged.*

(Murray's reply to the same.)

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 385. As the custom of my adversaries is and has been rather to calumniate and backbite me in my absence, than before my face: and it may happen when I am departed from this realm, to slander me and report untruths of me, "namely towardes sum spechis halden in my hearing at Craigmillar [in*] the moneth of November 1566: I haif alreddy declarit to the Quenis majestie the effect of the haill purpose spokin in my audience at the same tyme sinceirlie and trewlie, as I will answer to Almichtie God, [nocht*] conceling ony part to my

* Worn away. † Blanks so indicated.

Elizabeth. 1568-69. "remembraunce, as hir hienes I traist will report. And farther incais ony man will [say*] and affirme that evir I wes present quhen ony purpos wes haldin at Craigmillar in my audience, tending to ony unlawfull or dishonnorable end, or that evir I subscrivit ony band there, or that ony purpos wes haldin anent the subscribing of ony band be me to my knawlege, I avow thay speke wickitlie and untrewlie, quhilk I will mantene aganis thame, as becumis ane honest man to the end of my lyff. [Only] this far the subscriptioun of bandes be me is trew: that indeid I subscrivit ane band with the Erlis of Huntlie, Ergile, and Boithvile in Edinburgh at the begynnyng of October the same yeir 1566: quhilk wes [de]visit in signe of our reconsiliatioun, in respect of the former grudgis and displesouris that had bene amangis ws. Whairunto I wes constrenit to mak promis, before I culd be admittit to the Quenis presence or haif ony shew of [hir] favour. And thair wes nevir na uther band othir maid or subscrivit nor yit proponit to me in ony wys, before the murthur of umquhile the king, father to the king now my souverane; nowthir yit efter the murthur. [Nor ?] wald I evir for ony persuasioun agrie to the subscriptioun of ony band, howbeit I wes ernestlie urgit and preissit thairto be the Quenis commandement. This far I thocht gud to put in write and leif behind me, in cais (as I haif before said) my adversaries in my absence hald speche and report untrew materis of me to my dishonnour or disadvantaige. Subscrivit with my hand at London the nyntene day of Januar 1568. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . An answer of the Erle of Murray to the wryting of the Erls of Huntly, Argill." *Attached to the same sheet as the declaration.*

Jan. 13. **948.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. I have received of Joones my man and Gaskoyne the pursevant, 500*l.*, and return your letter by him as requested, though he delays on the way by your licence. We say nothing new till our "harkenyng" for her majesty's resolution be satisfied. As to the Duke of Alva's "awdacious boldnes": I know not what he sees in her majesty to encourage him. But I pray God to preserve her and direct her and her council in his holy fear, to the discouraging of her "covert deadlye enemyes": for this is the blessing of princes that follow good counsel.

It is supposed Murray's long stay in England has marvellously discouraged his party in Scotland. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: I thank you most heartily for comforting my wife in her "sycklye and dolfull estate."

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . by Gascoyne." *Wafer signet* (as before).

Jan. 13. **949.** ANSWER OF THE ENGLISH COUNCIL.

C.P., vol. III. To the demand of the Queen of Scots to have such letters and other writings wherewith she has been charged:—Her majesty means

* Words in brackets worn away.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. not to deny to her "the sight of the trew copies of the sayd wrytynges," but before delivering them, her majesty, of a very sincere good meaning to have her cause come to the best effect for her weal, thinks it good that the said Queen "wer serioosly moved to consider, that after the sayd wrytynges delyvered, of necessitie she must make answer, without any cavillation for lack of hir admittance to the presence of hir majesty or such lyke, and by that answer it must nedes ensue, that the sayd Quene shall be proved ether innocent or culpable of the horrible crymes, wherof she is as yet but accused, and not convynced; and if she shuld not by hir answer prove hir self innocent, than of necessite the Quenes majesty can never with hir honor shew hir any favor." Therefore this being considered by her, with advice of those that love her for herself only, if she mean rather to put the whole matter upon direct trial, than to have her cause otherwise ended for her quietness and honour: then if she will, by her own handwriting to her majesty, declare that if she shall not prove herself clear and free from the crimes imputed to her, "that she will be well content to forbeare request of any favor at hir majesty." This her majesty desires in writing, that as things fall out, she may forbear favour; and contrary-wise is determined, if she is proved free, to offer her as much favour as reasonably can be required.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "13 Januar. 1568. Answer to the Quene of Scottes commissioners by the Counsell."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 381. (2) Another copy. *Incomplete.*

Jan. 14. **950.** WARRANT BY ELIZABETH.

Sign manual. Having licensed her cousin the Earl of Murray, now returning to Scotland, to buy 18 horses or geldings, 2 dozen long bows of "ewe," and 2 dozen sheafs of arrows, orders the same to pass without impeachment. Under her signet. Honour of Hampton Court. *Countersigned:* J. Sommer. *Note at foot by Drury:* "Off thys plakard there ys twoo paste owte off thys easte marches: the one from Raphe Gray off Eatone gent., coller blake, to the Twtor Percore, the other from Herry Owrde off Orkeley, coller gray, to Kapten Bortyke."

Broadsheet. Addressed: "To all mayors" *etc. Indorsed:* " . . Placard" *etc.*

Jan. 16. **951.** ELIZABETH TO SIR THOMAS GARGRAVE.

C.P., vol. III. Commanding him on receipt of a list of persons from Sir Francis Knollys, to warn them privately with their servants on horseback to attend Lord Scrope and Knollys in conducting the Queen of Scots from Bolton to her castle of Tutbury.

1 *p. Draft. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "16 Januar. 1568. Copy of the Q. majesties lettre to Sir Tho. Gargrave" *etc.* "A like to the Sherif of Derbyshire."

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Jan. 17.
C.P., vol. III.

952. MARY TO CASSILLIS.

We have received your letter from Glasgow the 9th January instant: thanking you heartily for concurrence with our lieutenant Argyll, praying you to continue the same to the weal of our affairs: "quhilk (God willing) albeit our absens be presentlie tedious and irksum unto yow, ye sall haif our presens schortlie"—so that we shall recompense your expenses *etc.* in our service. Praying you that whatever ye see of ours "in chiffre, that ye wryt nocht the same to ws agane sa plainlie," for dangers that may fall out "being in the estait we ar in." Our rebells for all their offers will not get the support here that they pretend: and we assure you that "or" March we hope to get sufficient succour of friends to impeach their "malheureux intentions," and make them know their duty. Bowtoun. *Signed:* Your guid cusignes, Marie R.

Postscript: We pray you hazard not your own persons "our far," but being assembled, do some act against the rebels.

½ *p.* *Written by a secretary.* *Addressed.*

Jan. 17.
C.P., vol. III.

953. KNOLLYS TO ELIZABETH.

Though I am so wearied with this service, in place where I have neither land, living, rule, friends, acquaintance, kin, nor alliance, that my wits are dulled to consider foreign matters: yet hearing from Mr Secretary of the audacious boldness of Alva in spitting out his poisoned malice against your majesty, I cannot be silent in discharge of my duty, and under correction, I see no reason in his audacity, unless he presume that to enter into disquiet or expenses is so "lothesome," that you will not prosecute the quarrel so offered. How the case of this Queen may be linked to his, must be foreseen also. What policy is then to be used here for defence of your honour so conjoined with your safety? This appertains specially to your council resident —some of whom I know to be no delighters in war or wasters of your treasure, so you need not trouble yourself casting doubts of discommodities *etc.*, discouraging them, but rather cast your care on them, to hasten them in resolving for your benefit, lest they "plucke in their hornes and shrynk in theyr sinnoes," laying the burden off themselves "other whollye or manglelydlye, uppon your majesties backe"! And hereon must follow such wrestling of your mind, that precious time will be lost before you resolve: "and with all your majesties helthfull and youthefull bodie therbie must nedes decaye by diseases, or wyther awaye by consumption, to the hastenyng of aege before the naturalle course cowld bryng youe therunto." [*Here he shows how her councillors cannot govern her State unless she follows their opinions—by the example of a general in the field and his captains.*] I would to God your majesty had better maintained your merchants' traffic in Emden, begun on the stay of that in the Low Countries—and you would have got the victory, if your cause had not been defrauded by the "bosome crepyng Ytalyans with their pretie presents, and by the smothe tonged Spanyshe ymbassador with his colowred provisions and other pretie toyes," and by ladies suing you for strange wares to come in, and specially the corruption of your customers and such

Elizabeth.
1568-69. like officers, tolerated by your mild disposition! These things I learned on the special commission to inquire, and was envied therefore. If I may be so bold as repeat one thing often, you shall never be well served unless you back and encourage your faithful councillors. But now I had need to fall down prostrate for pardon of my rudeness—yet it proceeds of good will—or I stand in very hard terms with you—for please your eye I cannot as nature has not given it to me, and to please your ear I would fain, but my calling, oath, and conscience, force me to rudeness. Wherefore if your majesty think as I do, that you can never make me a good courtier, I most humbly beseech you dismiss me to the country, rather than aggravate my grief with noisome and fruitless service. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

3½ *pp. Holograph. Closely written. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Jan. 17. **954.** KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Since I returned your letter on Thursday last by Gaskoyne, the fear lest her majesty should feed the glorious humour of that proud Spaniard Alva, that expones himself the chief champion of the Pope's conspiracy, moved me to write somewhat to her majesty. I wrote it hastily, but did not like it, and to write it anew was tedious: but I send you the copy to peruse aforehand, and deliver it or not as you see fit—in the latter case returning it to me in secret manner. I see she shall never win her decayed credit, or hearten her good subjects, or escape peril, unless she trust her faithful councillors. If she would back them "with a merye and coragious chere," and put her trust in God, I doubt not she should have as much honour in the end as she could wish; but if she will needs be the "ruler or halffe ruler" herself, my hope of success is clean gone. This Queen has licenced one M^r^ John Hamilton, a papist somewhat learned but not wise, and one William Cerees with him, whom you had once in the Tower "beyng suttyll wytted," to go to France, and they have my letter to you. She made no great account of them here, but they have visited most of the gentlemen's houses about us, it seems to hearken for news. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

Postscript: Her majesty promised me I should shortly be rid of this Queen: but the resolution is long a coming. I trust you hasten it, for we have neither horse nor man's meat but at unreasonable prices.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as before).

Jan. 18. **955.** BOND BY THE REGENT MURRAY.

Acknowledging receipt by the hands of John Thomworth esquire of the Privy Chamber, of 5000*l.* sterling, lent to him by the Queen in his great necessity for the maintenance of peace and resisting the common enemies of both realms. To be repaid, one half at or before 24^th^ June next, and the other at or before 1^st^ November following. Westminster. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. Indorsed:* "My lord of M. b. for five thowsande pounde. *Wafer signet. Shield quarterly*: 1 and 4, Scotland debruised: 2 and 3 Moray.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Jan. 18.

956. MARY TO ARCHBISHOP OF ST. ANDREWS.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 73.

"Reverend fader and traist cousigne and counsalour": having received your letters by this bearer, ye shall understand it has been proposed to me, that my son should be delivered in . . .* hands—that Herries, Kilwinning, *etc.* should not "mel" therewith—none but Lennox and others of my name—and to get me into the snare, they have been very meek in manner: but for many reasons I will not agree. Keep this secret except to any assured man. I am resolved to do nothing in prejudice of my honour or my faithful subjects. As to the succour of [France and Spain ?] I hope to get of both "or the moneth of Marche," 10,000 men at least, and this I believe is the principal occasion why they seek appointment with me. I allow your proclamations "gretumly," but see that nothing shows they come of me in case of danger. Speak of her majesty's country with respect. I would "or ye sinder"† that ye take as many houses from the rebels as ye can, as the castle of Glasgow, Dunglas *etc.*—for if matters come to appointment, bypast deeds will be put in oblivion. As to the cipher, we fear not any man has got it. Ye shall have the escheat ye crave for . . .‡ For the commission ye desire us to send to Argyll, Eglinton, Cassillis and Boyd: we know not the form ye desire—but make it as ye think fit and send it, when we shall subscribe and date it. Bowtoun. *Signed:* Your gud cusines and asuryd frinde, Marie R.

2 *pp.* *Chiefly in cipher.*

(2) Decipher of same.

1½ *pp.* *Indorsed:* "Recept xxiiij January."

Jan. 18.

957. BOYD TO CASSILLIS.

C.P., vol. III.

I received your writing dated Glasgow 8th hereof on the 15th of same; thanking me for remembrances of your causes at my sovereign's hand: and though I have done nothing to deserve such, my good will shall never be wanting. There is great appearance here of war shortly betwixt Spain and this country. The Queen's majesty is glad you are of mind to do her service. I assure you she has as good opinion of you, and you stand as far in her "consait," as any Earl in Scotland. I have written to my two sons, desiring the "tane" to remain with my lord of Argyll, and the "todder" with your lordship, for a month or 40 days, till we know what end this communing takes between our sovereign and her rebellious subjects—that they be not "trappit" meantime by their enemies' craft in my absence. So ye perceive I put you to pains, but shall recompense your lordship when you "chancis to haiff ado," with the grace of God. Bolton. *Signed:* Yowr lordschippis asswrt frend to his power, R. Boyd.

Postscript: § "It will ples your lordschip to mak my hertly commendations of service to my lady my cumar."

1 *p.* *Addressed* (to Cassillis). *Wafer signet.* *Shield with fess chequy;* "R. B." *at sides.*

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* A symbol for Elizabeth. † Separate. ‡ A symbol. § Holograph.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Jan. 19.

958. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

I have received her majesty's private letter to me, and yours also, of 14th hereof, also her letters to my lord Scroope and me of 18th, and to this Queen of 20t, with letters to Sir Thomas Gargrave and Sir Nicholas Longford, with the copies and the proclamations. But as Archibald Douglas passing by Allerton, sent this packet to me, as he reported at Darnton, and said openly that this Queen should be presently transported by us to Tudberie, I mean to deliver her letter tomorrow, and have already made Lord Scrope privy of your letter to us jointly. For we mean to remove her on Monday or Tuesday next,* lest delay breed danger, since it is already bruited by Douglas, and cannot be hid. It seems by your letter you cannot promise my wife that I shall be discharged, but I trust you do not doubt it when I have brought this Queen to Tutbury—"for as sure as God is in Heaven," if I am not then discharged by order, I must repair to Court and suffer any punishment her majesty pleases. Save me that "obleqwye"—for if that is the fruit I shall reap for taking on me services that no man of my calling would have taken in hand, I will rather suffer such punishment as God lays on me, than adventure falling into such melancholy humours, as service in such a place might bring me to. Yet Lord Scrope's courtesy and acquaintance hath been some ease to my heart. Bolton. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed.*

[Jan. 19.]

959. STAGES BETWEEN BOLTON AND TUTBURY.

C.P., vol. III.

(1) Bolton to Rippon—16 miles:—To lie there either with Sir William Mallory, 1 mile from Rippon, or Richard Norton, 2 miles, or Simon Musgrave in that town—and the train to lie there.

(2) Rippon to Wetherby—10 miles:—To lie there with John Vavassor, 3 miles off, and the train at Wetherby.

(3) Pomfrett to Rotheram—16 miles:—To lie in the town, also the train.

The best way after passing Yorkshire (wherewith I have no dealing) is, as I am informed, to Chesterfield, near which Mr Godfray Fullgham hath a house—thence to Wingfield, where Lord Shrewsbury hath a house, and so to Tutbury. †The like of this was sent me by my lord of Sussex.

½ *p. Indorsed:* "The waye to Tudbury from Bolton."

Jan. 20.

960. ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P., vol. III.

It may be (Madame) receiving letters from me, you expect some news of your affairs, which I wish to go well: but not to deceive you, they are not so clear as they should be. If your servants do not declare the sincerity I show in your cause, they greatly deceive you and injure me. For all this I desire you not to be too presumptuous‡ in your actions, nor blind yourself, nor think me so. Hearing from your commissioners you dislike Bolton, I have prepared another place more honourable and agreeable for you, and ordered Knolles and Lord Scrope to escort you there—assuring

*24th or 25th. †Note by Cecil. ‡"Trop oultrecuydante."

Elizabeth.
1568-69. myself these two will do all to your content. I will finish this scribble,* praying the Creator to have you in his holy keeping. Hampton Court. "Votre bonne seur et cousine."

1 *p. French. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed.*

Jan. 20. **961.** WARDROBE STUFF FOR TUTBURY CASTLE.

C.P., vol. III. Sent by Rauf Rowlandeson, groom of the removing wardrobe, of beds for the Queen of Scots:—

From the Tower of London:—6 pieces of "tapstrye" hangings of the History of the Passion, lined with canvas; *item*, 6 pieces of the same of the History of "Ladyes," so lined; *item*, 7 pieces of same of the History of Hercules, so lined; *item*, 4 great carpets of "Turquey making"; *item*, 4 beds and bolsters of "tyke," filled with feathers; *item*, 4 "counterpoyntes of verdours" lined with canvas; *item*, 4 "peire of fustians"; *item*, 3 "cheires" of crimson cloth of gold; *item*, 8 cushions of same; *item*, 2 low "stowles," the seats embroidered with cloth of gold upon crimson satin; *item*, 3 foot "stowles" covered with tyssue; *item*, 2 "barehides" of ox leather to cover carts; *item*, one "standerde."

From the removing wardrobe:—12 small carpets of "Turquey making"; *item*, one square "stowle" covered with tyssue.

From the great wardrobe:—2 pair of sheets of fine Holland cloth; *item*, 2 pair of "pillowebeeres" and 2 "pillowbeers of assaye" of like cloth; *item*, 8 pair of "palliott" sheets of coarser Holland; *item*, 2 cart canvasses of 7 "bredes" of canvas: *item*, 2000 hooks; 1000 "crotchettes"; 2 hammers; 1 "boulte" of cords to truss beds; 2 cloth sacks, and 1 case of leather for a bedstead.

1 *p. Contemporary hand. Indorsed:* "Stuff sent to the Quene of Scottes."

Jan. [20]. **962.** PLATE FOR THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

C.P., vol. III. One bason and ewer, gilt; *item*, one gilt salt: *item*, 1 pair of "lyverye" pots, gilt; *item*, 1 pair of lesser pots, gilt; *item*, 1 pair of flagons, gilt; *item*, 6 gilt "bolles"; *item*, 12 gilt trenchers; *item*, 12 gilt spoons; *item*, 20 platters and 20 dishes "parcell" gilt; *item*, 6 "sawcers" parcel gilt; *item*, 4 gilt "chaundellours."

½ *p. Contemporary hand. Indorsed:* "A proportion of plate to serve the Queene of Scottes."

Jan. 21. **963.** HENRY KNOLLES TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. My brother being distracted with sorrow for his great loss,† and care of many "buysynes," has desired me in answer to your last letters, dated Hampton Court 9th instant, to say he cannot for many difficulties observe your order for conveying stuff for this Queen hence to Tutbury: for the ways being long and foul, and the journey to be with speed, the slow and weak carriages of this country cannot possibly get there in time. He thinks it better in my lord's absence you write to my lady Shrewsbery to supply the want with what she

* "Barbouillie papier." † Death of Lady Knollys.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. has at hand, till you make other provision—and wrote to her on the 19th. This Queen persists she will not remove "withowt vyolens," but we shall know the certainty this night; yet shall proceed as directed. Touching my journey: I left London on Sunday* about 1 p.m., and arrived here on Thursday between 2 and 3. A mile on this side Newark, I took such a "stytche yn my backe," that I despaired of performing the journey: but going on, it "somewhat asswaged" and with much pain I continued. Bolton. *Signed:* H. Knolles.

1½ *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Jan. 21. **964.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

This day at "Restoun" I met my servant directed from my uncle Mar and other friends to inform me of the present state of Scotland. By him I have "of new" the double of the Queen mother's letter to divers, pretending to set up authority in her name—which I showed you before. I send you copies of Argyll's proclamation, and letter from Glasgow subscribed by him, Cassillis, Eglintoun, the bishop of S[t] Andrews, the Duke's son "nominat" of Arbroath and Lord Fleming, to Grange the captain of Edinburgh—his answer with his own hand, and copy of a letter in French from the Queen at Bolton to Mar. Thereby you will see their untrue inventions to make me odious, and also how your sovereign's honour is touched by their strange never thought of lies. I need not counsel you what to do, but thought it my duty to let you know betimes. My lords of the king's council in Scotland has made answer. When you have considered the principal letters, send me them again at the first occasion. I will not write till new matter occur. Huntingtoun. *Signed:* James Regent.

I send also the copy of a "bill" sent by Lord Boyd from Bolton to a friend in Scotland, whereby you will see his "dealing amangis the rest." Communicate these letters to my lord of Leicester.

1 *p. In Hay's writing. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

(1) Protest by Huntly and Argyll.

Touching the murder of Darnley: that Murray and Lethington were the authors, and offering to prove it by law of arms.

3¼ *pp. Copy of their declaration of* [*12*] *January in same hand.*

(2) Kyrkcaldy to Huntly and others.

Your letter dated Glasgow 9th January I received on 13th. As to the writing you specify, you received from the Queen's grace, I think if it be so, it is the suggestion of her unfriends, enemies to the king and their native country. Touching the accusation of her before the commissioners: I understand "na suche" thing was handled at York, but only a simple answer to her commissioners' charge, And if anything since has fallen out before the Queen and council of England, "sure I am my lord Regentis grace was urged therto by them of hir partie." For his offer to deliver the king, and Edinburgh and Stirling castles, in English hands, "that is no new song": for it was

* 16th.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. so "devulgate" at the treaty with England before Pinkie field. I am sure you are persuaded in conscience, and the work has testified, that my lord Regent has so behaved himself, spending his substance and jeoparding life for liberty of the Evangel and freedom of the country, that he would never put his "particular" before the common cause. As to the proclamation set forth by your lordships, I marvel that at least somany of you as were at the approving the king and the Regent in parliament, should so proceed! For myself, I doubt not God shall so assist me with his spirit, that I shall declare myself a true Scotsman, and so behave myself that the king my sovereign's house shall be kept to his behoof against all that would the contrary. Edinburgh Castle, 14th January 1568. *Signed:* W. Kirkaldy.

1 *p. Holograph. No flyleaf or address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 22. **965.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 387. App. I. No. 14. Knows not the occasion of her offence signified. Came to her in trouble, trusting her assurances of aid—has done nothing against her, and to her unspeakable regret sees her actions falsely described. Cannot conceive whence her indignation proceeds, or her rigorous treatment, in return for her confidence—or refusal to see her or even let her have copies of her rebels' false charges, while favouring their usurped authority—or her forcible detention and removals—refusing her news from her friends in France, Scotland *etc.*, besides other little "rudesses." Begs her to consider her natural wish to know what is to become of her, a poor forsaken stranger princess whose only trust, after God, is in her, and not credit the false stories of her adversaries. Bolton. *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Holograph.*

Jan. 22. **966.** ELIZABETH TO SIR F. KNOLLYS.

C.P., vol. III. Alluding to, but forbearing to renew his grief and her own sorrow, she refers to her last letters of 14th, for the Queen of Scots' removal. Since when she learned from Scotland of the publication of certain letters sent by the Queen, one containing manifest untruths and slanders of herself and others. Sends him a copy, which he may impart to that Queen, and insist that she disclose the author or authors, if she expects any favour at her hands. Has meanwhile stayed the Queen's commissioners, though they use all manner of speeches to discharge themselves. Cannot believe that Murray and others named thought of the things imputed to them.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

Jan. 22. **967.** PROCLAMATION BY ELIZABETH.

Declaring to all and sundry that reports of late circulated (1) that the king is to be brought to England, (2) Edinburgh and Stirling castles kept hy Englishmen, (3) Dunbarton castle to be besieged and taken for her, (4) Murray to be declared "legittime" to succeed to Scotland on the death of the young prince "without barnis" and hold it in fee of England—are absolutely false, and devised of mere malice and rancour, and no such convention or accord has been made

Elizabeth.
1568-69. between her majesty and said earl, or any of her ministers to her knowledge—and all other reports of any intelligence between the Earls of Murray and Hertford are alike false *etc.* Hampton Court, 11th of reign.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed. Corrected and dated by Cecil.*

Jan. 22. **968.** ELIZABETH TO MAR AND HIS WIFE.

Assuring them on the word of a prince, that she knows their tender care for her cousin and godson the young king, and that the report by his mother that she and Murray have made any contract to his detriment, is utterly untrue.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): ". . . Copy of the Q. majestes lettre to therle of Mar and his wife."

Jan. 26. **969.** INSTRUCTIONS TO THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. III. Hampton Court, 26 January 1568—The Queen having made choice of him to have the charge of the Queen of Scots, directs him :—

(1) To treat her, being a queen, with reverence befitting her degree and nearness in blood, as Lord Scrope and Mr Vicechamberlain have been accustomed, and will inform him.

(2) By no pretence to allow her to gain rule over him, or practise for her escape ; as he well knows of what importance it is to Elizabeth and the quietness of her realm, that she depart not without her free assent, which she means to do "at tyme and in manner convenient" as shall be found meet and honourable.

(3) To allow none about her but her retinue, and others by special permission—nor any out of Scotland above the rank of mean servants, without the same.

(4) To cause a roll of her servants as at Bolton, reducing any superfluous number: arranging her own and their diets as there.

(5) As Tutbury Castle is not altogether so fit as was thought, he may retain her for a season in his own house of Sheffield, or as he sees cause, in any other of his houses.

(6) *In case she tries to make her cause seem more worthy of favour, and is not well used in being restrained, the Queen has ordered that, besides the knowledge the Earl has of the vehement and apparent presumptions against her for murdering her husband, and unlawful marriage with the principal murderer Bothwell, he shall be informed of other particulars too long to be written here, whereupon he may as of himself, without seeming to be directed "by us," answer her, and all her favourers that make report of her cause otherwise than it is ; and as of himself, he may say that if she utter any speeches touching Elizabeth's honour in her doings, it may occasion her to cause "hir whole causees and our doynges to be published to the whole world ; which once being doone, cannot be revoked"—and she and her favourers will repent it. As to her removal from Bolton, he may say it was partly for lack of necessaries by her long abode, and partly for her writing slanderous untruths to Scotland—for redress whereof Elizabeth has published what she knows to be true, on the Borders, but passed over in silence any accusation of her as

* The remainder in Cecil's hand.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. author of these untruths—yet he may impart his knowledge and show her own writings to her.

(7) Should she be sick or wish to speak with his wife the Countess, he shall permit the latter to come to her but "very rarely," and no other gentlewoman shall be suffered to come to her presence or sight, nor any stranger or any of the country, except his own ordinary attendants.

(8) When convenient, he shall discharge Captain Reade and his band to Berwick: and in place of them, shall be allowed 6*d.* a day for 10 of his own servants at his discretion in this service.

4 *pp. Draft by Cecil's clerk, carefully corrected by Cecil. Indorsed:* "26 Januar. 1568. The copy of thinstructions given to therle of Shrewsbery for the receaving and keping of the Q. of Scottes."

Jan. [26]. **970.** MEMORANDA BY LORD SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. III. 1. How long is the Queen to remain at Sheffield? and is he to conduct her to Tutbury whether ready or not?

2. About Sheffield the people are much "corrupted with Popery," and if she escaped, she may pass the moor to Scotland.

3. That M^r^ Henry Knolles remain with him, till her majesty's further pleasure.

4. Her pleasure for the charges of those that guard the Queen.

5. As to his wife's access to her if sent for.

6. Touching removal of her majesty's "stuffe."

7. For "aucthorite and for order of watches in the townes nedeful."

1 *p. Written on the flyleaf of the preceding Instructions.*

Jan. [26]. **971.** ELIZABETH TO SCROPE AND KNOLLYS.

C.P., vol. III. Commands them to deliver the Queen of Scots to Lord Shrewsbury, who has been well informed by herself—and instruct him of all things requisite to know regarding her safe custody and usage: for her meaning is she shall find no better usage, having given no cause for more comfort, but rather less, by her late untruthful letters to Scotland touching her. Licenses both thereafter to come from thence, but wishes that Henry Knolls may remain till the Vicechamberlain repairs to her presence.

1 *p. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "Minute" *etc.*

Jan. 26. **972.** COMMISSION BY ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. III. Commanding all justices of peace *etc. etc.* to aid and assist George Earl of Shrewsbury, to whom she has committed the charge of the person of the Queen of Scots.

¾ *p. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed:* "26 Januar. 1568. Copy of the Q. majesties commission" *etc.*

Jan. 27. **973.** HENRY KNOLLES TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. My brother being "letted" writing, desires me to advertise you that yesterday the Scottish Queen removed from Bolton to Rippon:

Elizabeth.
1568-69. of the difficulties therein, and manner of her behaviour, he will write more largely. He would have advertised from Rippon, but "stayed" for her answer to his demand, as commissioned, touching the late proclamation in Scotland. She says she willed certain things to be notified touching Murray's doings and practices: but utterly denies pronouncing anything to touch her majesty. For the letters: "she refuseth them playnly for none of hers." We forebore troubling her thereon last night for her weariness after the journey and late arrival at her lodging. Wetherby. Late in the night. *Signed:* H. Knolles.

Postscript: Lord Scrope desires the Queen's pleasure, if he may repair to court after conveying this Queen to Tutbury?

1¼ *p. Holograph of Henry Knolles. Postscript by Sir Francis. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Jan. 28. **974.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. III. For this Queen's answer to the copy of her "supposed" letter to Scotland: I must add to my brother's letter last night to M[r] Secretary, that she did not deny that "4 of the fyrst lynes" therein, were agreeable to a letter she had sent touching Murray's promise to deliver her son to you; and to prevent this without her consent, made her so write. She also wrote to cause a proclamation to stir up her people against Murray's intent as above, and impugn his rebellious government, as she termed it. But utterly denies writing any of the "sclanderous" parts touching your majesty. She said also that a Frenchman now in Scotland, might be the author of some such devised letter in her name, but would not allow me to write this for any part of her answer. Wetherby. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Jan. 28. **975.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. You know what has prevailed with this Queen—you know what may awe the evil affected of this realm—you know also what follows unbridled liberty of lewd speeches! I know this—I am not only the "yngnorants parson that is, but also the myserablest," in meddling in matters so unfit for me. I thank God it hath pleased him to chasten me and "make me see myn owne follye and myn owne presumptuous follye." I heartily thank you for helping me out of these troubles in this service. Wetherby. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Jan. 28. **976.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. The 24[th] at night I came hither, and finding Sir Thomas Gargrave ready to depart next morning to Bolton to conduct the Scots Queen, with those to go with, or meet him by the way: I advised him to permit none to join him but those specially noted in M[r] Vicechamberlain's schedule, or any to speak with her. The 26[th] "she with an evell wyll and muche ado to sett forward," removed to Rippon, and got

Elizabeth.
1568-69. there very late. The 27th she came to Wetherby very late in the evening, whither I sent excuse to Mr Vicechamberlain for not seeing him before departure: from whom I understood her discontented mind to come further into the realm.

This 28th, she is departed to Pomfrett "very sadde," as my servant tells me that saw her.

God knows her meaning: but seeing Murray's report of the present "accydentes" in Scotland—how near she lay to it, and how unwilling to be further off, I think it was full time to make her "a nerer geste."

The report goes here that an ambassador is sent from Alva with a herald and a trumpet. I beseech you I may understand something of that matter, to stop other reports. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

Please cause the packet enclosed to be delivered.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address:* "To Sir Wyllyam Cycyle" *etc. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Jan. 28. **977.** MARY TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 391. Hearing that her adversaries have sent copies of her letters and late proclamations by her subjects which have displeased the Queen and himself: assures him it is the work of the spies and creatures of Murray during the conference, to injure her with her faithful subjects, making out that she has lost her cause and Murray is established. As for one that has been shown to her, she never wrote anything of the kind. Her commissioners with her good sister have been charged with giving her information: on her faith and honour, this is untrue, and not one has done so. Ponfray. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Written by a secretary. Addressed at head.*

Jan. 29. **978.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

C.P., vol. III. In answer to your lordships' letter of 25th, we mean to stay this Queen at Sheffylde: yet it is strange you neither name any "uttermoste" day when Tudberye will be ready, nor any certain time when my lord of Shrewsbury will come to his house of Sheffelde to take charge. Yet this stay at Sheffield will make "unredines" for her removing to Tutbury, for I borrowed 10 horses and 2 keepers from the bishop of Durham for 10 soldiers, besides 16 other soldiers on their own horses—also 6 horses with women's saddles for her train. I mean, to save her majesty charges, to return all these borrowed horses from Sheffeild. The hired horses for her servants are 36, and carts for her carriages 6, besides 8 carriage horses. All these my lord can provide in this his own country, yet I see no need of soldiers so far inland.

I am much disquieted with this service in these strange countries, which melancholy humour grows daily on me since my wife's death. I am commanded expressly of God, "that I shall not tempte my lord my God," and my continuance here is intolerable, unless I obey man rather than God. My case is pitiful, for my wife disburdened me of many cares, kept all the "monuments" of my public charges, as well

Elizabeth.
1568-69. as my private accounts—now, my children, my servants and all other things, are loosely left without good order. But your lordships know all this without my rehearsal, and I leave it to your consideration. Pumfrett. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as before).

Jan. 29. **979.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Lord Shrewsbury's man that brought me your "lordshippes" letter yesterday, tells me we cannot stay at Sheffield as you directed, for my lady Shrewsbury has conveyed all the hangings thence to furnish Tutbury, and has presently sent another man, to declare she has furnished it as well as she can with her own stuff for the present. Wherefore we mean only to stay here all tomorrow, as this Queen complains of weariness, and on Monday* will proceed toward Tutbury. So my lord of Shrewsbury need stay "above" no longer.

I send you herewith a note of those of her train that must lie within the house at Tutbury, for she would leave none of her women behind; and I would not "stryve" with her thereon. Rotheram. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Also* (by Knollys): "I have herewith sent youe a letter from this Quene."

Inclosed in the same:—

(Note of the Queen of Scots' train.)

Chambers hanged:—My lady Livingston and her husband, 2 beds; "Mystres Ceaton," 2 beds. Chambers unhanged:—John Livingston's wife, 1 bed; Bastian's wife, 1 bed; the master cook's wife, 1 bed; the "phesition," 1 bed; the controller, 1 bed. In the Queen's bed chamber, 1 pallett. In the chamber near the Queen for the grooms, 2 palletts.

½ *p. Holograph of Knollys.*

Jan. 30. **980.** ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. III. Notwithstanding her former instruction as to the Queen of Scots remaining at Sheffield: learning now from him that the provision at Tutbury is in reasonable case, leaves it to his own discretion to remove her thither as he finds meet.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Jan. **981.** NOTE OF UTENSILS ETC. AT TUTBURY.

Kitchen plate:—silver platters, 10; silver dishes, 10; silver saucers, 12.

"Cupberd" plate:—silver flagons, 2; silver cups, 2; silver "bole," 1 little, gilt; silver basin and ewer, 1.

Chamber hangings:—chambers hanged for herself only, the great chamber, her bed chamber, and the chamber between for her grooms, 3. My lady Leviston's chamber and M^rs Ceaton's chamber, also hanged, 2.

* 31st.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Bedding:—the Queen's chamber, 2 beds; grooms' chamber, 2 beds: my lady Leviston's chamber, 2 beds for her and her maids; M[rs] Ceaton's chamber, 2 beds for her and her maid: in all, 8.

Also the master stabler's wife, the master cook's wife, the clerk of the kitchen's wife, and Bastian's wife lie here* within the house, but if warned aforehand that they shall have no lodging at Tutbury, peradventure they will return to Scotland. The 2 "phesitions" also lie here* in the house, and the master of household.

1 *p.* *Chiefly holograph of Knollys.* *Indorsed* (by him): "A note of utensyles for the Quene of Skotts at Tudberye."

Feb. 1. **982.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. My lady Leviston, "whom this Quene dothe exteme moste dearlye," fell sick yesterday at Rotheram immediately before our coming away—whereon though the Queen did not greatly contend to stay her remove, yet by the way the pain and "wynde" of her side troubled her, she found her head not well, and her disease so increased last night, and we found her so unwilling to remove suddenly hence, till she heard if my lady Leviston could join her today: that we thought it best to yield to her fancy, and offer to stay here this day and tomorrow—the rather because the gentleman of this house, M[r] Fulgeham, is a very worthy man and dutiful subject, and in all respects it is a fitter place than any we have found hitherto. And we were glad by this "curtesie" to make her more tractable and avoid the inconveniences, if she had feigned herself sick, or on displeasure the wind in her side might have grown on her: yet the alteration of removing is cumbrous to the country.

I marvel we heard nothing of the Duke's passage to Scotland, who lies tonight at "Dankester." I am much bound to you in divers respects, but had never so much need of your good will as now. M[r] Fulgeham's house beside Chesterfield. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . Received 3 Februar."

Feb. 3. **983.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P., vol. III. Madame:—We have received by the Bishop of Ross your letters, one from Bolton the other at Rippon: whereby we perceive your departure from Bolton "hath not ben the lest to your contentacion"†—though we see not why—and have given our reasons to said bishop: assuring ourselves you shall find honourable usage with our cousin of Shrewsbury. Meantime quiet yourself in all things according to the princely good heart that God hath given you, and be assured, if no impediments are ministered to us by yourself, or those whom you avow—as we have lately seen to our grief—we will take care of your causes "as in honour we shall alwayes answer to your trust reposid in us." Whereof this instant openly before our council, we gave occasion to the bishop and Lord Herries to take hold of some opportunity to do you good—but we know not how, they pretending lack of commission, rather desired to return, thinking you will send

* *i.e.*, Bolton. † "Discontentacion" in the other copy.

Elizabeth. 1568-69.

others to us, or give themselves further authority to treat. Wherefore we have stayed our intent and licensed them to depart to you "as persons whom we cannot choose but commende for their paynefull travelles and dutyfull dealyng with us at all tymes for you."

1 *p. Draft corrected by Cecil.*

(2) *Another copy in same hand, with additional clause by Cecil:* "And particularly we thynk the Bishop of Ross will declare unto you what manner of privat conferencees he hath had with us at sondry tymes concerning your weale, and how good disposition he hath found in us, as farr as our honor might beare, to reduce your causees to quietnes, to whose report we thynk it good you have regard." Your servant [ ] Beton requires license to return, and we cannot forbear to say we have in all "his servicees towardes us for you, found hym paynefull, dilligent and circumspect."

1½ *pp. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By the B. of Rosse and the L. Hereys."

Feb. 4. **984.** CHATELHERAULT TO SUSSEX.

C.P., vol. III.

I have read and considered both the double of the writings which my sovereign is said to have sent to my son and her faction for proclamation, and also of your sovereign's proclamation "in the contrar": and I assure your lordship, on my honour and "lawtie," and before God, that I never knew of the same, till two or three days before taking leave of her majesty, that my sovereign's commissioners showed me that the council had told them thereof, and that my sovereign "pleingyeit* greitlie" at the report of Murray's delivering her son to her majesty, and his having had presence to accuse her while she was denied; and desired her faithful subjects to stop the same, Mar not to deliver the child, and Grange to hold the castle of Edinburgh—all to your sovereign's great offence. I cannot believe her highness would have written so; and if done by ill advice, I am very sorry she has offended her majesty, her nearest in blood of any prince on earth, and who will "rathest" help her to her own. As to my accepting any such commission to set forward "sik inventid leis," ye may assure her highness on my honour I never desired nor was offered any such: and though I will not refuse on command to resist my sovereign's disobedient subjects, I will never maintain anything justly offensive to her majesty, to whom I have never failed since I promised her kindness, and will serve her to my utmost power, saving my allegiance. And I wish nothing more than perpetual amity between the two sovereigns and their realms. Praying your honour to signify this to her majesty, and beseech her to give no credit to my ill willers. Begging speedy answer, for I will remain here 5 or 6 days to know her pleasure; and if I am longer stayed, I must of very necessity "put the sobir folkis I haiff fra me": so you will be compelled to put me "in sum quyet prissoun against my will": though I believe her majesty will never do this, having her free passport. I have remained in this realm "mair nor tuentye oulkis,"† sixteen of them at her desire, notwithstanding

* *i.e.*, complained. † *i.e.* weeks

Elizabeth.
1568-69. my great necessity "quhilk I am in ane pairt eschamit to expreme, quhowbeit it is weill anewche knawin to the goldsmythis in Cheipsyd, quhome unto I haiff bene constranit to sell the sobir silver plait I had, to furneis my expenssis sence I com within this realme." York. *Signed:* Your lordschipis assuretlye, James Hammylton.

2 *pp.* *Addressed:* "To . . . my lord erle of Sussex, lord Feiswatter and precedent of the quenis majesteis counsell establischit in the northe." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 4. **985.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. By my letters to her majesty, you will see how I have dealt with "Chatylerhaulte," his answer, and my opinion "not to truste to ferre upon feyer wordes." He promises not to offend her majesty, and affirms that the Scottish Queen of late commanded him not to stir unless pressed to it in defence, as she expects some from her majesty soon to treat with her: but by some of his people's speeches, he will not be long at home in quiet. He required me to convey the enclosed packet to the bishop of Ross and Lord Herries—which use as you please.

Desiring to write to the Scottish Queen, he asked post horses for his servant to go and return—which I avoided by excusing my lack of authority.

Sir Henry Gates has duly executed his commission to invite and attend the Duke hither, whereby I am better informed of the resort to him. He will tarry here and have an "iye" [eye] on those matters while the Duke stays here. I mean to bid the Duke to dinner on Sunday,* as I have done all others before him. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 5. **986.** SHREWSBURY AND KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. The Queen of Scots arrived here yesterday afternoon in good health, though some of her women were sick by the way. After I the Earl had declared my message, she took it "in modest maner," and answered with "temperate wordes," as she did in like case to me the vicechamberlain. So all passed without sign of offence. Then on meet occasion to talk, she was content her attendants (presently 60) should be reduced to 30, besides her women and grooms of stable. As our officer of household is utterly destitute of money, and I the Vicechamberlain have not sufficient for my own charges to London, we desire that 500*l.* at least may be sent down with all speed for her majesty's service. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury, F. Knollys.

Postscript:† My brother remains here as commanded till I return to court next week. M^r^ Morton also, to instruct my lord's men in careful watch and ward.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* 6th. † Written by Knollys.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Feb. **987.** NAMES ETC. OF MARY'S SERVANTS.

C.P., vol. III.

CHIEF MEN, 10 :—Belton, master of household; Leviston, master of horse; Bortyque of the pantry; Laird of Gartleye; Crawfort, the carver M^r Magarine, "medesiner;" Peter Rolat, secretary; M^r Arnold Collommius, surgeon; Gary Formeir, controller; Alexander Boge.

VARLETS OF CHAMBER, 6 :—Bastien, Balthasar Hulls, Gylbart Curle, Ange Marye; Will Douglas, Florans Gwarde.

USHER OF THE CHAMBER :—Arche Beton.

THE WARDROBE, 2 :—Robart Mackinson, John Cristeles.

TAYLOR :—Jacques Seuller.

TAPISSER :—Florens Broshere.

PANTRIE, 2 :—William the sumlyer, Gwyon Lossellewr.

SUMLER, 2 :—Didye Chiftard, Gillya Royde.

KITCHEN, 3 :—Astyan Hana, master cook; Martyne Hewyt, Pearse Medard.

PASTRY, 2 :—Jahn de Bona, pastler; Clawd Gaulona, baker.

Lord Leviston, 2 gentlemen, 2 lacqueys, 1 page—6.

Sum 30—one more permitted to Lord Leviston.

STABLE, 9 :—2 pages, 3 lackeys, 3 horsekeepers, the "ferror." 10 horse. Provided in town till the Queen's pleasure known.

SERVANTS, 13 :—Mastris Seton, M^r Household, M^r Stabler, the phisician, Secretary Rolet, the surgeon, controller, Bastien, M^r cook, pantler, cellar, someler, taylor—1 man each—"liij" "Mr Beton."*

This order not yet executed, but only warning given till her majesty's pleasure be known—though they cease not to urge the whole number. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

2 *pp.* *In two hands—notes by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by Sir F. Knollys).

Feb. 5. **988.** SIR F. KNOLLYS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

It is forgotten in my lord's letter, to know her majesty's pleasure touching Lord Boyd this Queen's commissioner? who, when she left Bolton, desired he might come hither with her, as her majesty had stayed his passage home, and if he remained there, could not learn when she would license him; this Queen also saying she could not with honour leave him in "that desolate place." So here he lies at his own charges, but whether this be fit for her majesty's service, I refer to your consideration. Tutbury. *Signed:* F. Knollys.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

Feb. 8. **989.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Being come to Stirling to await the convention of the "obedient" nobility, I would not delay till the end, to let you know of my arrival, past the enterprises laid in our way by our adversaries, who have done all they could in troubling our friends, recovering houses held for the king, telling the people we would never return, and other lies: whereby they would have utterly despaired, but for our own presence and her majesty's declaration. As things fall out, ye shall hear, doubting not your good will and friendship: and hope in God

* Noted by Cecil.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. our enemies' bragging shall not prevail, as it has done. Stirling Castle. *Signed:* James Regent.

The principal letters by the Queen mother from Boltoun, I hear were in "chiffre," and the copies sent abroad: so I know not the principals yet. After writing this far, I had this principal letter to my uncle Mar, whereof I sent you the copy from Huntington, and got it back at Berwick. This letter I suppose can resolve you: and yet in respect of him that it was written to, "quha hes na will that the lettrez sent to him be objectit aganis hir," I heartily desire you after you have seen it yourself, ye will return it to me in the next packet. I trust ye will direct M^r^ Pellem anew of what I look for at his hands.

1 *p.* *Written and addressed by Hay.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 8. **990.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. About noon yesterday, the Bishop of Ross and Lord Herries arrived, and under their passports had access to the Queen of Scots. As she is very desirous to have the bishop stay here, alleging the Queen's majesty's will is so, I desire the same with speed: and meantime will see they abstain from conference as instructed. She also makes some complaint of money and that her horses may be provided and grooms found at her majesty's charges—not allowed before. And whereas she alleges the Queen's pleasure that, as at Bolton, she may have liberty to write or send, both to her majesty as to Scotland: I humbly desire to know her pleasure therein. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

Feb. 8. **991.** SUSSEX TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Upon Sunday morning* I heard that the Duke of Chatelherault had sent away a footman with letters—and doubting they were for the Scottish Queen, I dispatched a servant to Tutbury, with orders to take his letters, and cause the town officer where he found him, to put him in close prison, and return to me with the letters, which I will send you. And if he overtook none such, to deliver my letters to Lord Shrewsbury, who will lay wait for him, put him in close keeping, and send the letters in post to you. I have also given orders to stay all Scotsmen going or coming, while the Duke tarries here. York. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed.*

Feb. 8. **992.** HENRY KNOLLES TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Now at his brothers' return to court, trusts Cecil will not be offended at his renewing his suit for friendly consideration: not objecting to service to God, the Queen, and his country, but fearing his insufficiency for the charge, and want of provision by his hasty dispatch from London. Lord Shrewsbury is dilligent and careful in the charge: whereto Master Morton by his "exquysyte dylygens" is no small help. Tutbury. *Signed:* H. Knolles.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed:* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . by M^r^ Vichamberlen."

* 6th.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Feb. 10.

993. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 393. Appendix I. No. 15.

Expresses her pleasure at hearing by the Bishop of Ross and Lord Herries of her interest in her affairs, and that she is to have the same honourable treatment as at Bolton and leave to send to and from Scotland—but Lord Shrewsbury and Knolles have no such instructions—wherefore she has addressed a "memoyre" to Lord Leicester and Cecil by Knolles for her good pleasure and commands therein. As her council in Scotland advise, she will make a new commission to treat more effectually, and wishes to know her pleasure therein. Begs her to give no ear to the dishonest overtures of her adversaries, for she has begged Knolles to tell her she has solemnly vowed to God never to demit the place to which he has called her, for experience will enable her to fill it better. Refers all else to the bearer and the "memoyre." Hearing that her cousin Chatelherault is stayed at York with her passport, begs her for his health and the long delay to order his release. Excuses her bad writing, but the uninhabited house and cold have caused her some "rusme" and headache. Tutbury. *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp. French. Holograph.*

Feb. 10. **994.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

One Beton, a gentleman, servant of this Queen, came to her yesterday with her majesty's passport licensing him to see her and so pass to Scotland. As she desires to retain him here as one of her ordinary servants, I desire her majesty's pleasure thereon by you. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Feb. 11. **995.** MARY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

I willingly credit my commissioners' report of your upright deportment towards me: and touching the request to name the authors of some letters whereof you have sent "doubles," which you find offensive, I could satisfy you if I saw you. But I tell you once again, that they are come out of Scotland, and I have never seen them before, or authorized the proclamation. The bishop of Ross tells me you have put these things "soubz le pied." I pray you do, and I shall do the same, and continue the good will you have always promised me. My good sister told my commissioners I should have the same liberty for them to go and come on my affairs as at Bowton: but "le conte de Schrusbery" seems to have withdrawn this without express commission of my good sister, causing me loss of time in my urgent affairs: so pray see this rectified. As he will not suffer my commissioners to stay more than a day in passing, I pray my good sister will allow two of them, the bishop and Lord Boyd, to remain in this castle, beyond my number of 30, for they can find no lodging in the "vilage." Borthwick the bearer will tell you of his office of the stable, whereof pray have regard. Tutbury, . . . 1569. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Written and addressed by a secretary. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . 1568" etc.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Feb. [12].
C.P., vol. III.

996. MASTER ALEXANDER LESLIE TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

The Laird of Gartlie came to "Raderame" [Rotheram] this Friday* at 10 p.m., meaning to stay all night: but the "ballie" of the town arrested them under Lord Sussex's orders to stop all Scotsmen, took their "mailis" and locked them in a "kest," giving the key to the laird, and wrote to Sussex for further orders—not suffering one of our company to go back to Tutbury, but sent Gartlie's writing to the Queen, and this of mine to your lordship. Lord Herries we hear is stayed, and passed to York. Referring the rest to your wisdom. Rotherham. "This Satirday be ane of the clok." *Signed:* Master Alexander Leslie.

¾ *p. Holograph, also address.*

Feb. 13. **997.** MASTER ALEXANDER LESLIE TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

This Sunday "at thre houris efternone" a command came by post to the "ballie of Raderame" to let all Scotsmen pass freely: whereon incontinent the laird of Gartlie took journey for Scotland. Rotherham. "This Sounday the xiij day of Februar at four houris of the clok efternone." *Signed:* Master Alex^r. Leslie.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Small paper attached with two lines of cypher.*

Feb. 16. **998.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

I am right glad to see by your letter of 10^th^ that her majesty takes my doings in good part, and the 500*l.* is procured. This Queen continues very quiet in outward behaviour, and talks only of indifferent matters, "with myld and semely wordes" when the Queen's majesty is mentioned. Lord Boyd and the bishop of Ross are now removed to Burton, a market town 3 miles off, where I think they mean to linger; and I shall lay watch for them, and resorters to them, and generally in the villages thereabouts, and report with speed anything worthy. I have taken precise order for any resort or conference with the Queen of Scots: and beseech you to advise me therein, as also of news from beyond seas. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

I beseech you to require M^r Chancellor of the Duchy for his friendly furtherance to me touching Lord Ormond's book, as Thomas Knyveton this bearer shall inform you.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 17. **999.** THE REGENT TO ELIZABETH.

Rendering his most hearty thanks for all her past favours, which he trusts she will continue. For affairs of the state, refers to his letters to my lord of Leicester and M^r Secretary, who will impart the same at her "gracious lasour." Stirling. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p. Written and addressed by Hay. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

* 11th.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Feb. 17.

1000. THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Since coming to Scotland I have continued here quietly, howbeit cause enough has been offered for hostilities before, and "continewallie sensyne." Quietness would have liked me best, as your sovereign's meaning was if possible this matter should come to some accord. But we are constrained to use force against force, and the insolence of these people must be repressed: for even now, in the time of our convention, they have made "sic rubbery and depredatioun" on many poor people dwelling on the lands of my lords of Lennox and Sempill, and the laird of Mynto, that unless we resist them, their "vastatioun" will be very great. Wherefore we have concluded to convene the force of this realm "besowth" Tay, at Glasgow by 10th March, and put the matter "in Goddis hands in cace of obstinacy"; and after putting order, mind to leave 400 harquebusiers and six ecore light horse. And to show we have your sovereign's goodwill, I have required Lord Hunsdon with support of 200 harquebusiers "to accompany me in this viage": I trust not longer than 20 days, praying you for an effectual warrant to him. I enclose two letters sent by the Queen mother and Lord Boyd to the Earl of Cassillis, before she removed from Bolton. Though their contents be of no great "valu," yet you will see how the people were fed with the hope of her return, renewed by other letters "sensyne, quhairin she dissemblis not that hir tary or abiding is at hir awin plesour." Remitting the remedy to your wisdom, for a little help presently would do more good than a great matter hereafter. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

Lately they of Dunbarton castle assailed of new the little house of Dunglas, because they thought the soldiers "were sortit furth—vj or vij exept"— who have repulsed and slain two or three of them, and taken Lord Fleming's brother prisoner.

1½ *pp.* *Written and addressed by Hay.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 18.

1001. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

As this man Thomas Bishop gives me just occasion of suspicion, I send him up to be examined by you and the council. On Friday 10th* he came to a little town 2 miles from Burton on Trent, being (he said) benighted, and next day came to Burton. On Sunday following, the Bishop of Ross and Lord Boyd for better lodging, went there and remain. Learning of his abode and resort to these lords, I ordered the town bailiff to bring him to me, first taking the names of all their attendants, lest on his apprehension they said he was one of these. On Wednesday morning after so doing, he went to the inn where Bishop lodged, and not finding him, returned to the Scottish lords, and after half an hour's delay, was told he had been there, but was gone. Yet while the bailiff was in the house, Bishop's boots were privily brought from the inn, and himself conveyed on Lord Boyd's horse at the "backside" of the house, leaving his own, with writings in the box now sent—his man not privy, and his host "unsaluted." The bailiff brought his man to me, who said his master's name was William

* 11th by the calendar.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Lengley, and kept an inn at Newcastle, at the sign of the *White Hart*, and other fables. Bishop meanwhile, shunning the right way to Lichfield, was "myred" in a foul lane 2 miles from the town, and seeking help to recover his horse, was overtaken by the bailiff and brought back, saying to his takers his name was Lengley. Meanwhile I have signified to the bishop and Lord Boyd that this dealing seemed very strange, and how the Queen might take it I knew not; but have admonished them not to come hither and to forbear conference with English, Scottish or French men, except of their own company. The bishop seems the chief worker herein, Lord Boyd being a sober and quiet man. While this matter was in hand, some letters came from Rotheram to this Queen (which she showed me) only advertising her servant's stoppage and release. Some others to the bishop, I thought good to open and send you—but find nothing worth note, the cypher excepted, which I do not understand. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

3 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed:* " . . . with Tho. Bysshopp."

Feb. 20. **1002.** BISHOP OF ROSS AND LORD BOYD TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. As there was no convenient lodging for us near Tutbury Castle, we came here till our mistress should get answer of her last writing to her majesty, sent by Borthwick. Meanwhile a Scotsman dwelling in the north parts of this realm, in his journey home, "wessiet" us, and on departing, was convoyed to my lord of Shrewsbury at the castle, why we are "unertane." In case any sinister information "beis maid" of us, we pray you most heartily to declare to the Queen's majesty that ever since coming into her realm, we have given no occasion to her or her subjects to mislike us, but by all good means to procure her favour to our mistress: and beseech her highness to credit no such reports. Praying your honour to accept this in good part, "as fra theme wha ar willing to leiff and deall uprychtlie in all thair adois; and we knaw that witht suche kynd of men ye will nocht refuse to be employet." Burton. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen, R. Boyd.

1 *p. Holograph of the bishop. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 21. **1003.** ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. III. Instructing him as to the Queen of Scots sending either to Scotland or to herself, and as to access of Scots out of Scotland. That her attendants, as agreed by Lord Herries, shall not exceed 30, and he has no power to exceed that number. That the Bishop of Ross and Lord Boyd may tarry about her, so that they do not practise in the country, and that Beaton may also remain.

2 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Feb. 21. **1004.** THE REGENT TO [CECIL].

I have no occasion to write since my last of 19th, whereof I look for answer: but enclose a letter of my own to my lord the Cardinal

Elizabeth.
1568-69. of Chastillon, which I pray you be conveyed. Also that ye will present "thir" two letters of my uncle Lord Mar, and my lady his wife, to the Queen's majesty—and last that ye will be mindful of her highness' letter to the King of Denmark "for Boithvile," which was not ready at my departure, by reason of M^r^ Askam's decease. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Written by Hay. No flyleaf or address.*

Feb. 24. **1005.** THE REGENT TO ELIZABETH.

Requesting safe conduct for a year for George Hopper, burgess of Edinburgh, to pass and repass through England on his business. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Round wafer seal (Scotland).

Feb. 25. **1006.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 397. We are well satisfied to see by your letter of the 10^th^ of this month brought by your servant, that the Bishop of Ross and Lord Herries late here, have reported well of our affection to you: also that Lord Scrope and our Vicechamberlain have behaved themselves to you, as we charged them. For your mislike that at coming to Tutbury you conceived some restraint of your liberty as you had at Bolton, by our cousin of Shrewsbury: indeed at parting from us we neither commanded nor allowed him—as then we had just cause to think unkindly of you ("for any worse word we will not use") in that sundry false and slanderous proclamations touching us and our honour very unjustly had been made in Scotland by those having names of great offices for you, and wrote that they were so commanded by you—besides other information we had of your own letters to that effect. Whereon we leave it to you whether then we had cause to gratify you? But trusting that such an oversight hath grieved you enough, and you will avoid the like, we being "contented to do good against evill," have given order therein to our cousin of Shrewsbury.

For your sending a new commission by advice of your council: we wish it so absolutely conceived, that it may take good effect; wherein our furtherance shall not be wanting. So we pray you accept this, written by our command though not with our own hand. Westminster.

1½ *pp. Draft by Cecil.*

Feb. 25. **1007.** ANSWERS OF THOMAS BISCHOP.

C.P., vol. III. "To the interragatorys mynistred."

Extracts.

1. Being 25 years in England I never spoke with the French or Spanish ambassadors or their servants. I understood when the Queen of Scots' commissioners first came at Michaelmas, that their mistress had great offers from Spain, and the bishop of Ross communed with that ambassador, who spoke of the French "debilite," that Alva had commission to see to the Queen of Scots, offer her marriage either to the king, Don John his base brother, or Charles of Austria. I told the

Elizabeth.
1568-69. bishop my experience of Spain and the last marriage — his mistress was now in her majesty's hands, and if the "foraner" pretended force, she should be used as Alva used Count Egmont and his friends, who seeing they expected Orange's relief, said—'He shall not fynd yow heare at his comyng'—and cruelly dispatched them. For the marriage: the king was now old, his people proud, and while she should be much "honorated," she should be straitly kept and never see Scotland nor this realm. I wished the bishop to discharge himself of further conference. One M^r^ Henry Kers brought letters to her from the French king with but fair words, and with 3 others is returning to France.

2. With my lord Herries in London last "symmer" I neither spoke nor saw, being sick in bed: I heard that 16 of the Inns of Court had him at supper at the *King's Head*, Fleet street, and a book was made in Latin, translated and sent to the Queen of Scots, and afterwards at her accusation sent up by her servant Bog. To spread it abroad, the original was copied by a boy in the *Talbot* in "Gratious strete," hired by the bishop. I heard it read very "raling," yet dutiful to our sovereign. I told them my opinion—as there were sundry books in Latin against her, one or both by M^r^ George Buchanan: if they brought forth that book, the others would come out to her slander, and I wished them all in the fire on both sides. So it was stayed, and all the copies burned.

3. My journey to Coventry and Burton was 6 days, making no haste, thinking they had been gone. I was going home to Pocklington, whither I had sent my wife and children before me. I was sick 2 days in the town; they came after me, and not being well lodged in Tutbury town, I accompanied them openly. I went to the "heade" of the church with the bailiff, who knew me well, being lord Paget's man, and saw me every day. I departed not as reported, nor was taken, but riding within a mile of the town, hearing one was bound for me to the Earl, I went with him to the bailiff's house, and on his demand and of the Earl's gentleman, gave my name and was searched. My lord Shrewsbury, after writing his letters, took me by the hand before his servants, and said 'Yf either my wryting, worde, or purse, can pleasour yow, ye shall have all thre,'—as his men know.

My conference with the bishop and lord Boyd was a suit touching 2500 marks of mine received since the Earl of Levenax going home, "and by him that slew his fader I have landes, alsoo thrie of my owne and my sones," whereby I wished to relieve my necessity, and being sure of the Regent, wished their favour. The Bishop told me, Herries "witht weping eis" left the Queen, and much wished Boyd with him. He carries her commission of lieutenancy to Chatelherault, Huntly and Argyll with power to dispose her benefices under 1000 marks. Lord Boyd said to the bishop and me, that before they left the castle, Henry Knolles took him apart and said, 'My lorde I know yow of an earnest and good religion, and the bischop to be of the contrarie, and is a practiser; of myself withoute commandment, but for the yeale of religion, I wishe yow boetht in your contynewance at Burton, not to enter nor have cumpanye nor practise witht any papist, nor of suche as will seik and offer fair wordis; whiche yf ye should doo, it may turne to some mislyking.' Wherein they followed his counsel, and past their time reading books and stories. I minded to

Elizabeth.
1568-69. have shown this to M^r^ Baitman my secret acquaintance, as I told the Earl. My lords, I have served these 25 years for the union of the realms both in and out of the field, am hated of the French, and not loved of most part of Scotland. I came with an unkind man* whose life I had saved, brought him to a good living by marriage, was attainted in parliament with him, his enemies enjoying my lands and goods, attended him in the field, and have now lost him for the Queen's majesty's true service. If he had used my counsel his son had been still alive—how many warnings I gave him before his death, I refer myself to Robert Mailvile and that side—yet have been slandered by the parents. I can and will serve her majesty as well as any in this island, if well used. "The Lorde preserve yow all." *Signed:* Tho. Bischop.

6 *pp. Holograph. Damaged in parts. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Feb. 25. **1008.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Since our last writing to you, the Duke of Chatelherault is come home with Lord Herries, and are both at Dumfries, and mind from thence to Hamilton. They "saw† many inventions abrood," saying one thing to some and to others another, to confirm rebels in obstinate rebellion: wherefore we would be glad to know the manner of their despatch from your court. Before his arrival, we sent a gentleman of the Duke's own kin to my lord of Arbroath and adherents, craving return of the king's houses and lieges, taken while we were in England—who said he would not without Argyll's consent ("lieutenant as he stylit him")—who has given us a plain refusal—so we are compelled as we wrote, to meet in arms at Glasgow on 10^th^ March. We should have found no difficulty in the low country, if in our absence the abstinence had been kept, according to her majesty's promise, and so trust she will let us have the 200 "shott" to see us reponed in the strengths taken since we went to England; and cause her wardens of the Middle and West Marches stay the attemptats of their broken men: specially the west, where Herries and Johnston, joined with Lochinvar, are extreme enemies to the king. We would you moved her majesty to send some assured personage here to remain, with whom we may freely communicate our mind. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

2 *pp. Written by Wood. Addressed* (by same). *Indorsed.*

Feb. 26. **1009.** THE REGENT TO LEICESTER.

[*To like effect as in his letter to Cecil of 25th.*] The Queen can do no less in honour and duty than see us restored to the same point we were in at the time of going to England. I remit the rest to M^r^ Secretary and to Sir Nicholas, to whom we have written at more length. Stirling Castle. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. In Wood's hand. Addressed. Indorsed.*

* The Earl of Lennox. † Sow.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Feb. 28.

1010. ELIZABETH TO TOMWORTH.

Sign manual: Directing him to pay the Earl of Murray 5000*l.* on his giving "band" to repay the same before 1st November next. Westminster, last of February, 11th of our reign.

½ *p. Written by Cecil's clerk. Names and dates filled in by Cecil. Indorsed* ". . . 18 Januarii" *(sic). Wafer signet* (England).

Feb. 28. C.P., vol. III.

1011. PROCLAMATION BY MARY.

Appointing Chatelherault, Huntly and Argyll her lieutenants in Scotland, with power to assemble parliaments, dispense justice, coin money, dispose of benefices, dignities *etc.*: and as Murray and his complices have charged their supporters to meet in Glasgow on 8th March next to pursue her lieges, charges her lieutenants to assemble in the town of Hamilton on 6th of same month, to resist them. Given the 28 February 1568, year of her reign 27th. James Hammiltoun.

Broadsheet. Copy in a Scottish hand. Indorsed: "Copie of the proclamation set out be the Duke of Chastellerault."

Feb. C.P., vol. III.

1012. RESOLUTIONS AS TO THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

(Under 13 heads.)

Extracts.

6. What access Lady Shrewsbury shall have?
7. Whether Castle Heye, Stafford, shall be appointed for fatting beefs and muttons for the household?
8. Whether Lord "Patchetts" brewhouse at Burton may be obtained, till vessels are provided at Tutbury?
9. Whether Lord Shrewsbury shall be allowed 20*l.* and reversion of the vessels, to erect a brewhouse at Tutbury?
13. If Harry Knollys remain, shall he have license to London at Lady Day in Lent for his necessary business?

1 *p. Holograph of Sir F. Knollys. Notes on margin by Cecil. Indorsed* (by Knollys).

[Feb.] C.P., vol. III.

1013. LIST OF PERSONS ATTACHED TO OR ATTENDANT ON MARY.

Lord Claud; Lord Herries and son; Lords Fleming and Levingston: Laird of Skarling; George Douglas; Laird of Whitlaw captain of Dunbar; James Hamilton of Ormeston; Laird of Skeldoun; Laird of Bord; John Levingston; Maister John Hawtoun; Robert Hamilton; John Hamilton; Patrick Steinge; Hwe Cokbourne; Laird of Barclannuchar; Alexander Cambell; John Sarmer (?); Andro Weig; Wille Douglas; Hendrie Barrone; Dande Brounn; Willie Scot; Willie Keminkch; Thome Glasforde; Thome Dolleng; Dawalloure; Comptrollar; Jakis the farrieour; Capytane Janet; James Kempe; Jame Kelpatrek; Gibe Bonare; Jame Semsoun; Herrie Wolsoune; Jame Jamesoun, Andro Lagay; Jame Hamilton; Arche Macnare; John Steill; Willie Brome; Willie Weddell; Geordе Symengtoun; John Maxwell; James Geddes; Sir John Mortoun, a priest; Hobe

Elizabeth.
1568-69. Maxwell; Bastyane Barlawe; Gawyne Moat; Eddie Thomsoun; Niek Johnsoun; Dave Falles; Oduar of Tralltrow; the laird of Bellaggen; John Cokburn, person of Skerlyn; William Seirrys, servant to the Queen; Gawan Moat, servant to Lord Herries; John Johnston of Newby; John Hameldon; John Lewinston; Nicholas Howm.

1 *p.* *Contemporary hand.*

March 2. **1014.** SECOND ANSWER OF THOMAS BISCHOP.

C.P., vol. III. Declaring without boasting that in presence of Charles Duke of Suffolk and the privy council, at Bullane [Boulogne], Henry viii took him off his knees "in his majestes armes within his nyght gowne"—also gave him 20*l.* lands 3 months before his death—that he and his son King Edward, put him in commission with Lord Wharton on the marches for 5 years—that whereas but two of Scotland *viz.*, the young Laird of Mangerton, and "reid" Sym Armstrong, were assured then to England: "or" his departure there were 6700, and hostages, whereof Lord Herries was one—and he kissed King Edward's hand—was sworn servant to Queen Mary, and thongh delated to her as a "heretike" she gave him his pension and trusted him above all Scotsmen to "hir deing daye." Is sworn also to the Queen's majesty, and has served her truly, "the greif thireof will stik to me and my posteritie." Is no "slave nor vilane, but an honest man," and has been taken for a protestant these 32 years—is no "pyk thanke," and answers truly as follows:—

1. The Bishop of Ross's secretary is Alexander Leslie.

2. He heard of the Spanish offers but once, in familiar talk with the secretary and the commissioners' gentlemen, who said they would first prove the Queen's majesty's goodness, who they thought would "doo" for their mistress, without need of any foreigner. Before God, none are privy hereto but one M^r^ Baton, a Scottish gentleman.

. . . .*

3. That supper he heard say was in July or August, when Herries was in London—himself sore sick in bed all summer—as M^r^ John Wood for one can witness, who visited and "fell uppon" him weeping.

4. Before God, knows none of the 16 present—but thinks "the manne of the *Kingis Heade* can tell."

5. He saw no copy of "that booke but the originall that camme from the Quene of Scottes self," that the bishop caused write in "Gratious streit."

6. Knows not the makers of that book against Murray, and made no part thereof, as he would be sorry to hurt him—as Robert Mailville can tell.

7. Knows none who have seen it, but the Queen of Scots herself, the Duke of Chatelherault and the rest of her [commissioners ?*] the bishop of Ross . . . who told him neither book nor copy was in England, Scotland or France, "but all brynt."

8. For Christopher Lascelles: his usage *etc.* of him till the taking of the Queen of Scots has been to serve the "turne" of Murray, Lethington and Robert Mailvile while in exile: and had it not been for his

* Damaged here.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. devises *etc.* with that man, some of them had never seen Scotland or had the place at Court as after—as Murray's often letters will testify—who said in one after the king's death, he would follow Bischop's advice to the end of his life. Has not seen Lasselles this year past but once at his house in Yorkshire afore Michaelmas last, about 100 marks due the Queen's majesty, as M^r^ Secretary and M^r^ Wood of the Court of Wards know. Had the latter at his house in Pocklington and sent his son twice to Lascelles for the money, and though he has slandered him behind his back, cannot charge him with making "that booke." nor can Lascelles burden him therewith.

9. Knows no young nor old "lawere" called Fitzwilliam of Gray's Inn, or any other inn, or spoke with any lawyer in all the Innes of Court, as he will suffer death—except one M^r^ Ive, no lawyer, but "secundarie of the Crown office" who came on his private causes there.

10. He and one M^r^ Brynnynghame lodged a year in a house "before my lord Kepares gate," where he thinks they owe money to the man and woman there. One Robert Hammylton, "a cowsing of myne" and a "gaist" of that house, owes 12*l.* for his board and charges; and Brynnynghame, to gratify his "ostice," prayed Bischop's advice to help her to her money through some of the Scottish commissioners, and by it went once or twice to the bishop of Ross, who promised him help.

11. It is well known in London and Yorkshire how evil handled he has been by a bailiff of late—had to take him to the Queen's Bench in an action of account of 500*l.*—got a commission of rebellion from the chancellor and took him . . . .* He tried to have a composition in money drawn for certain of his lands in Scotland, with "one Andro Hammyltones sone of Lethen" who went away 3 weeks afore Christmas. The week before Christmas, he went to take leave of the Bishop and Lord Boyd, openly supped with them: and as for the bishop's going in the night, he was not privy, but conjectures it was on his mistress's affairs to get her dowry from the French ambassador. Wishes his legs may be stricken from his body and himself put to death, if he is not enemy both to France and Spain. . . .* Begs their honours to remember his services, that he is an "ould manne" not like to live long, having "a wyfe and . . .† chyldren," and not let him be cast away in his old age.

7½ *pp. Holograph. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "2 Martij 1568. Tho. Bushops answer to the second interrogatories." *Very much damaged in parts.*

March 6. **1015.** HENRY KNOLLES TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Your letters of 21^st^ February are to my great comfort, signifying her majesty's acceptance of my service here, and license for my repair to London, necessary for the affairs of "a poore orphane my nyece," the writings wherein can be found only by myself. Having written thus far, I received yours of 26^th^ February with "new comfort." Touching Bishop's suspicious behaviour and his apprehension: you shall receive a further declaration from my lord, confirmed by

* Much damaged to foot of page. † Obliterated.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. witnesses: and that the Scottish lords' removing to Burton the very next day after Bishop's coming, was very suspicious, as for 6 days before, they showed no mislike to this house, or wish to seek a better, through the foul ways. It increases the suspicion not a little, that Byshopp said to my lord he meant not to come to Burton till he was at Coventry: and yet in his box was found a note directing him from Stratford to Burton 2 divers ways—one by Coventry, the other by "Lecyter": and he confessed that from Barnet, the bishop's servant came with him. The day these lords were going to Burton, and we to our dinner, Boyd said secretly to me—I should admonish the bishop to forbear practising with papists; but not having time then, I told him to say so himself from me: which he did before this Thomas Bishopp. Tutbury. *Signed:* H. Knolles.

3 *pp. Holograph. No address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . M[r] Henry Knolles to my master" *etc.*

March 7. **1016.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. In answer to your friendly letter of 26[th] February, I send a note of the "stuf" occupied here, and am glad her majesty accepts my service in taking and sending up Thomas Bishoppe.

For his answer affirming that the bailiff of Burton made false report of him for his horse and goods: I send herewith the sayings taken yesterday, of these three persons, to compare with his—and where he says that after writing my said letters, I took him by the hand and promised him my writing, word, and purse to pleasure him: the truth is he had no doubt of his cause, and said all his travail was to do good service to her majesty; whereto I answered him thus—'If thou provest thy self Bishoppe to be as thou saiste, I promise the here my writing, word, and purse to do the good.' And sorry would I be, that you or any other friend should think I would say as he reported. For I think him still "to be a lewde practising Scot and a nawghtie parson."

I have for some time, to avoid troubling her majesty, allowed this Queen's stable at my own charges, specially to keep her better occupied abroad while the weather serves: but this exceeding dearth so raises the charge, that I doubt continuing it, and desire your kind consideration therein, and other things. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

Postscript: Where it pleases her majesty to allow but 45*l.* a week for this Queen's diet, and to retain the clerk she appointed: truth it is the charge will far "amount" the said sum, and therefore if it pleases her, I would rather deal with my own officer whom I may reform, than with another. And as the people near Tutbury are marvellously molested with their carriage of "wod and coole" daily, and the dearth of corn, hay, and victuals hereabout, I would, if it please her majesty, to ease this country (though to my own charges), remove this Queen to my house at Wingfeld. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

3 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1568-69. March 11. **1017.** THE REGENT TO ELIZABETH.

Seeing the troubles here increase, I cannot but impart to your highness the state of things since my return and a little before, and what is like to succeed. Your will and pleasure was for cessation of arms when I came to England at your desire; their attempts your highness understood before my return, and the report of them since would be "superflew." But so little was your order first and last regarded by the adversaries, that never since have they spared disorders—as first, taking Hamilton Castle before I left Scotland; next immediately after, seizing and taking the king's own house of Dingwell in Ross, assaulting the houses of Dunglas and Wauchtoun, taking the houses of Draffen, Hoddum, Rosling, and the provost's house in Aberdeen—taking the lord of S[t] John, a peaceable honest gentleman, out of his own house and spoiling his goods; and divers others in like manner—dispersing lies in letters and proclamations ("quhairin your majesteis self wes not spairit"), not only making my cause odious, but some of my friends to despair of our action. They refuse reasonable answer to our demands for reparation and offer to "owerloke" things past, or intermission of hostility "ane hour"—continue depredations on our friends' lands and tenants, besides intromitting with a good part of my own patrimony, whereof some have already "intitulat" themselves as heritors. The common ways are unbeset by wicked men set out by them, to bereave men of horses and goods. By these intolerable injuries we have been constrained to prepare a force against the 10[th] March. Meantime the Duke, returning out of your realm, has published letters and commission which I have sent to your highness's secretary, showing there is nothing meant by that party but to set up another authority. And though they pretend this proceeds not of their part, and have set some of our friends and servants at liberty, your highness may be well assured of the contrary, and they release none without bands for re-entry. Their meaning is but to delude us of our present expedition, till they may have aid of "Hispanye" and France, whereof they make no small account: or else get as many freed as were taken fighting against the king. I have taken the boldness to write the truth at such length, to obviate untrue reports peradventure made to your highness. As I had some bargain with your servant M[r] Pellem, I beseech you command him to "outred"* that matter, wherein I am compelled of necessity to importune you; and if it pleased you to send some of your own to remain here for a season, to inform your highness of the truth, it would shame those that scatter untruths. Stirling. *Signed:* James Stewart.

2½ *pp. Closely written and addressed by Hay. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as before).

March 11. **1018.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Refers him to his letter to the Queen. Sends him copy of the Duke's proclamation, showing their "pretens," that the Queen

* *i.e.* clear up.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. and Leicester may see it: also of certain articles sent by their adversaries to their faction, and hopes there has been no such purpose taken with her majesty or her ministers since his departure as they pretend: but will be glad to understand the truth. Urges him to use his good will in the matter of M[r] Pellem, which is most needful. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

Postscript:—Recommends himself to my lord Keeper, Sir Rauff Saidlair and Sir Walter Myldmay. Having conference under assurance with Herries and Kilwinning, no conformity appears, though he offered, if they acknowledge the king, to refer all things past to the nobility, at sight of her Majesty. They remain till more noblemen are present.

1 *p.* *Written by Hay.* *Addressed* (by him). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 13. **1019.** HEADS OF COMMUNING BETWEEN THE REGENT AND CASSILLIS ETC.

At Glasgow 13[th] March 1568:—between the Regent and his party, and Cassillis, Herries, and Kilwinning in name of the Duke's grace and his adherents.

Desired (1) that the Duke *etc.* acknowledge the King.

(2) That the Duke and his party be admitted to their place in the realm: the Regent swearing "solempnizatlie" to behave uprightly and forget byegones.

(3) That forfeitures of the Queen's adherents be cancelled.

(4) That the Regent shall condescend to such articles as may redound to the Queen mother's honour and "serve hir turne" without prejudice to the king: and that on 10[th] April next, the Regent, the Duke, Huntly, Argyll, Atholl, Morton, Mar, Glencairn, and Herries shall convene peaceably in Edinburgh on these heads—the majority to decide—hostilities being stayed meanwhile, and hostages being given by the Duke's party for performance—*viz.*, one of the Duke's sons, Cassillis or his brother, and Herries or his eldest son.

[*At foot in another hand*] "It may be seen thir articulis was never agreitt wpoun bot dwsyritt be the eyrll of Murray, nor thai war never subscriwitt nor mak (?) upoun to rasoun of tyme."

2 *pp.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by another hand).

c. March [13]. **1020.** HEADS OF THE REGENT'S PROCLAMATION.

The King, declaring that "Sathane and his ministeris nocht contentit to obey Godis will," persuaded the Queen his mother to pass into England, and there complain upon the Regent and other nobles, accusing them of treason and other crimes, to move the Queen's majesty and other foreign princes against them: whereby they were constrained to pass to England and there make lawful purgation. And God being pleased to bring his own work to perfection, "and eftir long and diligent tryall hade befoir the said Quenis majestie of

Elizabeth.
1568-69. England, hir commissioneris and maist part of the estaites," it was found that the said Regent and others had justly proceeded in the king's coronation, his father's murder, and all depending thereon; and they have done nothing but what became honest and faithful subjects, for "appessing of Godis wraith" *etc.*; and absolved them from the accusation, and willed the king and Regent's government to continue. "And that the eis of the people sould nocht be stylit with leis for to trouble thair waik hartis, the verraye trewthe man be declarit . . . that the quene our mother was participant of the murthour foirsaid, and that scho promotit, revairdit incontenent thaireftir, the umquhile erle of Bothuell ane of the authouris and cheif committaris thairof, with landis and offices, and jonit hir persone in mariage with that tyrannous tratour, quhilk being assignit to the probatioun before the quenis majestie of Ingland, and hir haill estaites, wer sufficientlie verefeit and be the quenis awin hand writt notourly provin."

Broadsheet. In a Scottish hand. Indorsed: "Certen headis in a proclamation published by the erle of Murrey, sent from the Q. of Scottis the 13 of March 1568": and (in Mary's own hand): "Copie des points de la proclamation." *Placed in error under 1567-68.*

March 13. **1021.** MARY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. "Mester Cesill": having received a copy of the proclamation made by my rebels, and since then a letter from my lord Herries signifying matters which I cannot credit, as contrary to my expectations and all the promises made to me, I can refrain no longer from writing to the Queen my good sister, as I have charged the bearer to communicate to you, for whom I desire all credit. I will go no further into matters, than to beg you, as I said to your servant at Bolton, to guard one ear and think impartially, and trust my innocence will merit better. Tutbury. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

1 *p. French. Holograph, also address:* "A Mester Cecil, segretere" *etc. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

March 13. **1022.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Yesterday I received this letter enclosed by the bearer named Robert Sharpe, and the supplication mentioned therein—also a letter from Lord Herries to this Queen, which (she understanding thereof) I delivered to her. On reading, she wept, and perceiving I saw, said I should see her news, trusting that they were not true, as her good sister would not so deal with her. These were, that Murray was levying 500 foot and 200 horse to meet the Duke and his power at Glasco on the 10th instant—that he had 8000*l.* of the Queen's majesty, and more money and men if needed. Herries said he and his would provide for defence as they could.

She daily resorts to my wife's chamber, where, with Lady Leviston and Mrs Seton, she sits working with the needle, wherein she much delights, and devising works—her talk altogether of indifferent trifling matters, without any sign of secret dealing or practise I assure you. Of which resort, though I think there can be no danger, but rather

Elizabeth.
1568-69. more surety, yet if her majesty be not pleased, I will make such restraint as she orders. She has complained almost this fortnight of her grief of the splene, which my physician Leveret informs me (being here to minister to me) he understands from hers, is *obstructio splenis cum flatu hypondriaco*, wherewith oft by reason of great pains through windy matter ascending to the head and other parts, she is ready to "swown." On Thursday last* she received pills devised by her physician, and was very sick that night, but "after the working, amended." She wants necessary medicines in such needful cases: wherein I will not deal without her majesty's pleasure. She appears troubled sometimes with remembrance of Murray, on whom then she utters some "melancolik affections." To the others she is outwardly quiet. I am, thank God, recovered of the great pain in my foot, "some cal yt the gowte"—and though it has been much pain to abstain from travel, yet I have not been absent from her half a day since she came. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

2 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Inclosed in the same:—

(Mayor and Council of Carlisle to Shrewsbury.)

Representing that the Queen of Scotland at her late being in Carlisle, had certain "waires" *etc.*, amounting to 286*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* from sundry poor inhabitants there, as by a bill signed with her majesty's hand appears. Beseeching him to be a mediator to the said Queen for these poor men, and have sent the bearer Robert Sharp with a supplication to her grace—with full credit. Carlisle. "This thryd of March 1568." The mayor and council of the city. *Signed:* Thomas Pattonson, maire; Richard Blenerhassett, Symon Brysco, Robert Mulcaster, Achilles James, Anthony Rumpney, Robertt Sharpe, Mathew Monke, Thomas Barne, John Hodshon.

1 *p. Addressed:* "To . . . therle of Shrewisbury at Tutberye."

March 15. **1023.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO ELIZABETH.

C. P., vol. III. When I call to remembrance the friendly countenance, loving and familiar conference, which it pleased your majesty's goodness show to me, "yea abowe the rest of my fellowes being in commissioun—it wald grefe me wonderous sore to heir the wordis which Borthuik hes told me of your majesteis opinioun consawit sence," did not my conscience bid me remind your highness of my speeches often used to your majesty at my mistress's command, so plain and sincere that I concealed nothing to hinder your mutual amity and love. This was my end, thinking with the wise man, *funiculus triplex difficile rumpitur*—and my study since coming to your realm, conferring with none of your subjects but your Council. And if anything be "imput" to me, it should be rather by the Queen my mistress, whom I have continually assured of comfort at your hands (albeit deferred), and therefore procured the stay of all things in Scotland and "vtouth," that might impede the union—as God knows and "partely your majeste self and sum of your awn," and others who blame my stay

* 10th.

Elizabeth. 1568-69. of their enterprises. But when the personal meeting of my mistress with your majesty shall be, then your majesty shall know them who have done good offices between you. Meantime I must humbly beseech your majesty to conceive no evil opinion of me, for no occasion shall be given in word or deed: being ever ready to employ my "sobir" service at your command (next to my mistress) before all others. Burton. *Signed:* Joannes E[piscopus] Rossen.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 15. **1024.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Reminding him that Lord Boyd and himself wrote to him of a country man visiting them: since which Borthwick has reported Cecil's speech to him at the Queen's majesty's command. Wherefore he has taken on him to write to her majesty declaring his objects ever since coming to her realm. Begs him to assure her highness of his good mind, and also, to comfort his own mistress in her griefs, that Lord Boyd and himself may have access to her within the place of Tutbury for the purpose of counsel, as that is the only cause of their remaining in the realm. Burton. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

March 17. **1025.** ORDER FOR HENRY MIDELMORE.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 399-400. *Sign manual.* Orders to all Sheriffs *etc.* to furnish him with post horses *etc.* on the Queen's special service to Scotland. Westminster. 11th of reign. *Countersigned:* J. Sommer.

Broadsheet.

(Instructions to same.)

Especially to understand the state of Scotland—and whether Murray's party increases or diminishes—to inculcate caution on him —and if his force is insufficient, some of her subjects, not the ordinary garrison, shall be allowed by the Governor of Berwick to take service secretly with him.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil.*

March [17]. **1026.** ELIZABETH TO [THE REGENT].

As we understand that the inward troubles of that realm increase, "and tend towardes a kynd of civill warres," whereof we are heartily sorry, and also understanding by your own letters, how desirous you are to have some of ours to see the state of your causes, we send to you our trusty servant Henry Midelmore: requiring you to give him credit in all things. Under our signet. Palace of Westminster, 11th of our reign.

½ *p. Draft corrected by Cecil.*

March 20. **1027.** INSTRUCTIONS TO JAMES BORTHWICK.

C.P., vol. III. Given to him by the Queen of Scots to be communicated to her good sister and Mr Cecil.

(1) To show Cecil her debts in Carlisle, and her sorrow she cannot

Elizabeth.
1568-69. pay them, having no money from France nor Scotland: and how it may be paid without cost to Elizabeth, as Lord Herries' letter shows —also another point.

(2) To know why the Bishop and Lord Boyd are kept from her? also about her horses—but not to press this last.

(3) For the Queen's plain commands as to her servants' liberty to go and come between Scotland, France *etc.*, and a copy of these, that there be no misunderstanding; as well as of Lord Shrewsbury's orders for herself and her "folkis": for she will not be thought importune—"quhilk to ourself is noysum anewche; bot necessitie constrenis to ga by boith natour and nowratour"*

(4) To have the same liberty as at Bolton, and that the bishop and Lord Boyd may have constant access to her.

(5) To command Murray not to molest her lieges: and after imparting to the Queen's majesty some points in her letters inexpedient to be written, touching the proclamation, he shall return with diligence. "Gyffyng at Tutbery."

2 *pp. Written by the Bishop. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 22. **1028.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Excuse my not writing since my return, as my lord Regent did: by reason I was absent most part of the time in Atholl and elsewhere, and not in his company till 8 days before his going to Glasgow. During this time divers letters have passed between Herries and me: then he came twice or thrice on assurance to the Regent, bringing with him the Duke, Cassillis, the bishop of S^{t} Andrews, and abbot of Kilwinning: whereby there is a beginning of an accord and union of this nobility. I pray God they mean truly, but if we be wise men, the first advantage will be ours. My lord sends this bearer M^{r} Wood to declare the whole to the Queen's majesty, and learn her opinion, which he will follow as it pleases her to command. As the bearer will inform you of all things, I will only pray you continue your good favour till I give cause to the contrary by misbehaviour. Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 23. **1029.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Finding matters of this country to frame otherwise than his expectation was at his late writing: he has sent his servant M^{r} John Wood to the Queen, fully instructed with the truth. Begs credit for him as for himself. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Written by Hay. Addressed* (by him). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March 24. **1030.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. By your letter of 14th, I perceive the Queen's majesty's pleasure is I remove this Queen to Wingfeld, if meet "for her save keping." This I doubt not, and shall prepare the house, which (for the foul ways, the great dearth *etc.*) cannot be for "a senight after Ester at the

* *i.e.* against her nature and upbringing.

Elizabeth.
1568-69. leste," when I trust to remove her. But meantime I must humbly desire by you a convenient sum of money, that things may be bought aforehand for ready payment: and pray answer by your next. As for M^r^ White's talk with this Queen, it was neither long nor of any moment, as I both heard and understood; and though to no harm, yet I removed all occasion of further speech or acquaintance between them. And I doubt not she shall be surely kept, without increase of acquaintance with any, contrary to her majesty's pleasure. I am heartily bound for your friendly admonitions. My wife desires hearty commendations to you and my lady. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

March. **1031.** MEMORIAL FOR REGENT MURRAY TO CECIL.

1. To remember his former suit for shot and powder.
2. That having 20,000 "weith of mettall" but no good "meltary," that it might be cast with her highness' ordnance. *Granted.*
3. For licence to transport "billon" from Hamburg and other ports in Germany through England, for profit of the Scottish mint. *Granted.*
4. For the great scarcity of grain, to allow the Treasurer of Berwick to support Scotland with his surplus grain.
5. Licence to certain Scotsmen to import 1500 quarters of wheat, barley, or beans. *Name them.*
6. That no rebels be reset in any of the English marches. *Granted.*
7. Some alterations on "placards" for horses at markets.
8. A letter to the King of Denmark to deliver the Earl Bothwell to the Regent.

1½ *pp.* *Written by John Wood. The italics in each paragraph are in Cecil's hand.*

1569. March 30. **1032.** SIR JOHN FORSTER TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 406. The Regent at Kelso appointed a journey to Liddesdale, and had Captain Rede with 200 of the Berwick men and some horse: and on 27^th^ I met him at the "Weele Causey" with my horsemen, his force being 4000. He had with him Lord Hume, Cesford, Ferniherst and Buccleuch, and appointed the last two to burn Liddesdale: but the best of the "surname men" desired a talk, and though he would have received them on good band and pledges, those they offered were not liked. So he burned all Liddesdale, not leaving a house standing. He lay Sunday night in Maungerton, and next morning had the house blown up, returning to Jedworth. He is to meet Lord Hunsdon and me on 1^st^ April at Rydingburn, and then returns to Edinburgh to finish matters with the Duke. A worse journey or so evil weather, I never rode in my life.

Beseeching your honour to remember the gaol for Redesdale. My house nigh Alnwick. *Signed:* John Forster.

2 *pp.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Elizabeth.
1569.
March 30.
C.P., vol. III.

1033. ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

We have of late received letters from the Queen of Scots by her servant Borthwick, with credit in certain matters, which we answer by you. On the others in her letter, of more weight, we have by letter of our own hand signified our mind. First: You may say we are pleased that the Bishop and Lord Boyd repair to her as they did before their suspicious maintenance of Thomas Bischop: which we have put in oblivion, but they must forbear such in future. You may offer them commodious lodging in the town of Tutbury. We have also instructed Lord Scrope to let her servants pass to and from Scotland, you giving passport in our name to those sent by her. As for her debt to the inhabitants of Carlisle, and allowance monthly to herself: We shall presently send to the Earl of Murray thereon by means of John Wood lately come hither from him—and this you may impart to her.

1½ *pp. Draft by his clerk, corrected by Cecil. Indorsed.*

March 31.
C.P., vol. III.

1034. ELIZABETH TO MARY.

"Parcell" of her letter:—Yesterday John Wood declared to me at length how the Duke and other lords submitted to your son as their king, and by a "harangue" made by Lord Herries before the council, all approved what had passed "de votre emprisonnement," had been wisely considered "*etc.*," which being long may annoy you and I write it not. They have agreed on certain articles which I send you as requested. Thus I do not conceal what I have done in your matter; and having now heard from one side, form no opinion, but wait till I hear further from yourself.

½ *p. French. Contemporary copy. Indorsed:* "xxxi° Martij 1569. Parcell of the queenes majesties lettre to the Q. of Scotts."

[1569.
March 31.]
Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 77.

1035. OFFER BY JOHN GRANT OF FRUQUHYE.

1. To acknowledge the king and my lord Regent's grace during his minority—giving oath and subscription manual thereto.

2. As the Earl of Huntly has taken on him for himself and partakers, to satisfy all persons hurt or "skaithit" by him or them from 1st August 1568 to the last day of March 1569 "instant," Grant shall satisfy all "dwelland bewest Spey" for all goods taken by him or his kin *etc.* for that time.

3. For himself and in name of his haill kin and friends of his surname, he promises to be faithful subjects, and if any refuse to obey, will deliver them to justice or put them out of the country.

4. For sure keeping of the premisses, he shall either enter his second son, or Patrick Grant of Davey, to remain as a pledge with the Regent.

5. Whereon he humbly craves a remission for himself and all his surname and tenants," unlandit or beneficit and not duelland upoun my lord Regentis proper landis," for all crimes committed by them since the 11th day of June 1567 to this date ("ydolatrie, witchecraft, incest, adulterie, murthour, slauchter, fire rasing, revessing of wemen, thift and ressett of thift exceptit"). *Signed:* Johne Grant of Fruquhye.

1 *p. Written by Hay. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1569.
April 6.

1036. [MR. ALEXANDER LESLIE] TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. III.

I wrote to you from Louthiane on 12th March, showing the impediments of my journey and the stay in the business you commanded me to dress there, "exped" by help of friends in England. Then I came to Aberdeen on your business, but had little success, and so sent the man as commanded to you with "clays,"* who left about 6th April with the state of your private affairs. The man that brought me writings from Lothian, was he on whose credence matters in Newcastle should have proceeded, and delivered me your letter from Burton of 11th March. Meantime I had news from Ross that young Androu Monro had given a charge to your house, and then "mellit with your wictualis in the girnellis,"† though but little therein: also proclaimed your forfeiture in the king's name, commanded your servants not to obey you, and to answer him for the Regent of the fruits of the bishopric. Meantime as my lord of Huntly had ridden to Elgin of Murray to meet his friends as appointed, I went there, as the bearer can show you, and declared your affairs to his lordship, who will order the same as well as the troubled state of the country will permit. Sundry matters have occurred here, far by the expectation of all friends, as the bearer will show you, who has been diligent in the Queen's service and encouraged her friends, who look daily for relief. Elgin. "Be your servitour at command redy." *Written by Alexander Leslie.*

Ten lines of cipher follow here—thus deciphered:—The Queen's friends are in great despair through the appointment by the Duke and Lord Herries—saying if they had known any relief for her, they had not done it. Wherefore abide ye constantly at her obedience, providing ye are assured of her relief—otherwise that "ye tak dres sik as may be had, to evite uter wrak,‡ qwhilk thay purpose to use towartis you." I refer the rest to Mr Alexander Hervye, who is gone to you with "some silver."

2 *pp.* *Addressed* (to the Bishop). *Indorsed* (by the Bishop): "Recept fra Bog, 13 May 1569, at Grenviche, with a cypher," *and* (by another hand): "To the b. of Ross . . . deciphrid."

April 8.

1037. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

According to the Queen's command, I have declared her pleasure to this Queen for the access of the Bishop and Lord Boyd—which she took contentedly, and the lords were well pleased, promising to abstain from offence giving. But the reading of the Articles touching Scotland did not a little disquiet her, as appeared by her words and tears—though she said she trusted they were not true, being persuaded of Herries' zeal and faith, and cannot think he will condescend to Murray against her—and so comforted herself. But to learn the truth, she asked my passport for her servant this day dispatched to Edinburgh, whose return is looked for about Tuesday or Wednesday "com senight,"§ and has instantly written to the Queen's majesty by her servant Borthwik. I see by your friendly defence of my doings, how much I am bound, touching this Queen's daily resort to

* Clothes. † Granaries. ‡ *i.e.* escape total wreck. § 19th or 20th.

Elizabeth.
1569. my wife's chamber: wherein your good interpretation shall never be deceived. True, I cannot avoid such resort, unless I kept fast the doors, so that she should think herself a strait prisoner; yet am ready and willing so to do, if her majesty command. Surely no man of understanding can think that I or my wife "wittingly" should be glad of such tedious hourly attendance to the want of our own liberties, as we fain would have: and where none of us can talk or hear without suspicion! One good I find in this resort, that thereby I feel more assured of her safe keeping. Though the talk has been ever on trifling matters, yet I know the peril of envious tongues, though I charge no person expressly. And assure you, were it not for her majesty's service, I would ere this time, have moved humbly for release from this "carefull burden." But hope her majesty doth trust me and my wife (notwithstanding all light reports) as her most faithful servants. My wife desires to be most heartily commended to you and my "Lady Cecil." *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

I give you right hearty thanks for your news, and trust you will remember me again.

2½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By M^r Borthwick."

April [8]. **1038.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 409. App. I., No. 16. Though much displeased at the false allegations of her rebels proclamations in Elizabeth's name, she cannot defer answer to her polite and favourable letter. Promises her faith that she has not had one single word from Scotland since arriving here, than the proclamation and letters of Lord Herries. Begs her good resolution on the urgent request which she last wrote by the present bearer—that whatever they do in Scotland, she will replace her in her state, for which aid after God, she will be solely indebted to her as nearest in blood and friendship. Herself or one of her servants will be ready to wait on and satisfy her as in her last letter. Begs her answer by the bearer as she hopes, for time and occasion require it. Thanks her for her favourable replies in other things, and begs credit for the bearer. Tutbury. *Signed:* Marie R.

1¼ *pp.* *French.* *Holograph.*

April 8. **1039.** MARY TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 412. "Mester Cisille": Though greatly pleased at the amiable letters of her good sister, and news of her country, yet as there are rumours which she cannot believe true, not wishing to importune his mistress, begs him to solicit her for speedy resolution of her pleasure on the request often reiterated, and last by this bearer, for whom she prays favourable audience: and thanks him for the good usage he has received often at his hands. Tutbury, "ce Vendredi saint." *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *No flyleaf or address.*

April 15. **1040.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

Commending the suit of 2 poor merchants of the realm, lately spoiled of their goods on the coast of Cornwall on their voyage from

Elizabeth. 1569. France to Scotland, on whose behalf he has written to the council. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

April 16. **1041.** MAITLAND TO [CECIL].

On behalf of the bearers, Roger M^c^Naucht of Dumfries, and George Clerk of Air, merchants, spoiled off the coast of Cornwall in January last, on their voyage from France, recommends the equity of their case to him as "trew puir men." Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

½ *p. No flyleaf or address.*

April 17. **1042.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. I see by your letter of 9^th^, her majesty's pleasure touching the bishop of Ross, and will have regard thereto. I am presently removing to Wingfeld, where my wife has been "this senight" preparing it: and to be more sure of the bishop, I appointed lodging there for him and Lord Boyd—the best way (though to my charge) to avoid resort to him, and will keep a special eye. He has been here divers times since Borthwick brought the letters authorizing me, and shows more "ware demeanour." On Saturday* he went to Lichefeld to see the "mynstre" (he said) and Lord Heriford and others of the shire being there taking musters, "he reasorted unto him." This Queen has digested my last news of the Scottish proceedings, and has "uttered no passions or trouble of mynd," but only a few words of her hope that her friends will not agree against her. She thinks long for her man Sandy Bogg's return, whom she sent to Edinburgh (as I wrote). He is looked for within 2 or 3 days, and then she will send the Bishop to the Queen's majesty. I can affirm that since M^r^ Henry Knolles' departure, there have been very few hours of the day but she has been within my sight and hearing: and I see her thereby more quiet and tractable. Thanking you "for my dispensacion of S^t^ George day" and the French news. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

2 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 22. **1043.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. This Queen arrived here last Wednesday,† and on the way there was no assembly of any sort, but she passed quietly. Only Sir George Hastings, (being at Tutbury with me the day before she left), not then seeing her, met her next day as she rode, with a gentleman of his acquaintance and 3 or 4 attendants: and talking with me for a mile, departed without talk between her and him or his party. Sandy Bog is not yet returned, whereat she is much troubled, and at not hearing otherwise as she hoped, fears proceedings there are not to her desire. The Bishop and Lord Boyd are lodged here, and she minds to send up the bishop immediately on Sandy's return, or other news. From my house of Wingfeld. "This S^t^ George even 1569." *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

* 16th. † 20th.

Elizabeth.
1569. April 23. C.P., vol. III.

1044. MARY TO CECIL.

"Richt traist freind": It is not unknown to you that we came into this realm to seek the support of our good sister the Queen, and because of this good hope we deferred seeking aid of any other princes, resting only on her loving friendship: wherein we have "travelled thir ellevin monethis bygane" by our commissioners. Now trusting for a good and final resolution, we send the bearer our trusty councillor the Bishop of Ross to her. Praying you to advise your sovereign to aid and support our restoration to our own realm and authority, and to give our said councillor credit as to ourself. Wynkfeld. *Signed:* Your very good frinde, Marie R.

1 *p. Written by a secretary. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

April 24. C.P., vol. III.

1045. MARY TO CECIL.

Her trust in the bearer the Bishop of Ross, forbids her saying more than to beg him to give him audience and credit as from herself, and such good counsel in his negotiation with the Queen her good sister as may advance her pressing requests. Winkfeld. *Signed:* Votre bien bonne amye, Marie R.

½ *p. French. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (as last).

April 27. C.P., vol. III.

1046. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

Yesterday afternoon Sandy Bog returned from Scotland, who repairs herewith, and with letters from this Queen to her majesty. He will declare how he was used in Scotland. After she had talked with him, she wept and lamented exceedingly till she went to bed, saying ofttimes she made small account of her own life, but to see her friends so spoiled for her sake was as grievous as death could be: and marvelled her good sister would see her so used, and like words. Her lips and whole face was greatly swollen—she would eat nothing at supper, but sat weeping, notwithstanding all the persuasion my wife and I used, that she should trust her majesty's goodness, assuredly bent to her. She heard all we said very quietly, but we could not appease her weeping. Wingfeld. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

Postscript: As I have to deal with Sir John Zouche my neighbour touching her majesty's musters: I desire to know if I may confer with him here from time to time without offence? He is a man of worship, honest, wise and trusty in affairs.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (as last): ". . . of Sandy Bogs returne" *etc.*

April 28. C.P., vol. III.

1047. SHREWSBURY TO SCROPE.

"Copie":—As the Queen of Scots has presently despatched the bearer Andrew Hamelton to Scotland, on her business, "riding now on a browne baye gelding burnt on the hippe behynde," I pray you suffer him to pass and return quietly. My house of Wingfeld. G. Shrewsburye.

Elizabeth.
1569. ½ *p.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk) and (by Cecil): "A Monseigneur de Hammy[lton]; Erle Argile; L. Ogilvy; L. Fleming; Sir John Kyrnagy (?); erle of Craford; Malcolm Tosche; Master of Forbas; Shyrriff of Murray; La. of Innermark; La. of Grant."

[April.] **1048.** CONSIDERATIONS ON THE BISHOP OF ROSS'S PROPOSITIONS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 410.

First:—The greatest offence is the Queen of Scots' challenge of the Queen of England's title, delay in making any reparation, as she was bound to do—and though her majesty of her natural goodness and certain knowledge of her clear title and lawful possession of her crown, has conceived no "inward offence" or displeasure to said Queen thereby, yet the Bishop must consider how this offence may be remedied.

As her majesty likewise is informed that since her coming to this realm, the said Queen has, so far as she could, ceded her pretended title to this crown to the Duke of Anjou, this matter must be clearly understood, before others can be dealt with. There must also be some conference with the party of her son and subjects, after this matter of Anjou be answered.

3 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsement* (if any) *covered up.*

May 1. **1049.** MEMORANDA BY CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 413.

On the matters betwixt the Q. of Scots, her son and her subjects:—

1. To allow him as king. 2. Or jointly with her. 3. If neither obtained, a peace as under—(1) Religion and crown free of Rome or as in England. (2) Murray and a council to assist her, appointing all officers *etc.* (3) Accord with her subjects, lands restored, *etc.*, quarrels abolished. (4) No strangers allowed. (5) Perpetual amity betwixt Scotland and England.

For this purpose. (1) Causes of offence to Elizabeth taken away. (2) Perfect league. (3) Treaties with France aganist England made void *quoad* this. (4) Justice on frontiers. (5) No Scots to assist the Irishry. (1) Questions as to Mary's forfeiture of the crown if she create any conditions. (2) Hostages to be given to England. (3) Where her person should remain. (4) Murder of L. Darly prosecuted. (5) Elizabeth to send a special person to Murray to confer and he to send some one, *e.g.* Lethington.

6 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsement* (if any) *covered up.*

May 2.

C.P., vol. III. **1050.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO MARY.

I came here on Tuesday night the 26th "ynstant" and had presence at Westminster on Thursday afternoon, being well accepted by the Queen's highness, delivering your majesty's letter sent with me, which was heartily received and read: when it pleased her majesty to reason with me on the contents and the heads of my credit, at great length in the garden of Westminster for near 2 hours. Where I thought her highness careful of your welfare and estate, and not content with your subjects, who had declined from your obedience—also excused my lord of Hunsdon on whom your majesty "plenyd."

Elizabeth.
1569. She declared she would gladly do all that might stand with her honour and surety, for the weal of your causes, by good advice: but deferred particulars till her council should reason with me thereon, I delivering your letters to them, and so departed. Next day as Sandy Bog had come "thys Thursday after myd[day]," I again had access on Friday, delivered your majesty's "wrytynge," and declared the state of Scotland. Her highness was heartily offended with them who professed obedience, yet left you, saying "they ar nott worthy too lyve herafter by cawse of theyr untrewthe." She is sorry you make so evil cheer as my lord of Shrewsbury has written, and is glad that I send one to you with comfort: as I intend to do within two days to report her goodwill. Meantime I have reasoned with my lords of council at length, and hope for good resolution. The Queen finds it not good you go to France, for divers inconveniences: one that "sumtyme ye acclaymyd her crowne"; and doubts not but the Cardinal and your friends will make you do the same yet. Whereto I said "gyf her hyghness feryd her seurty I showld fynd a remed tharfore suffycyent," *viz.* that she support you herself, and you will have to do with no strangers; otherwise ye must, and we your servants must travail elsewhere for you. She promises answer by advice of her council, but before giving it, must reason on certain heads, specially "the matter of the tytell"—whereon her highness spoke plainly and reasonably with me, for her surety and your weal. And I shall send Sandy Bog to your majesty with all information, for I believe they shall reason on our cause this day or tomorrow at farthest. Meantime I beseech you be of good comfort, though some untrue men cannot be "leyll," for you have many good subjects in Scotland "wha wyll not leve youe." The King and your friends prosper well in France, praised be God—so ye are not destitute, and I see her majesty here and her nobility seem more careful of your honour and weal than ever I saw them before: which puts me in good hope of speedy resolution. I showed her majesty it was ill done I was so long debarred from your majesty's presence, and my lord Boyd also "cawsles": and we reasoned the matter, so there will be no more thereof, I understand. I showed to her highness the article concerning my lord of Shrewsbury, who marvelled that he should be "so hard," for it is her will that any servants from Scotland shall have access to speak with your majesty, albeit they make no tarry in ordinary, but the number appointed. She has promised to cause the secretary write to Lord Hunsdon of her offence that he handled your servants so. She saw never one letter "tane from Kyncade," and Sandy Bog says to me "they war tane abak" to the Earl of Murray and so came not here. I have spoken with the secretary, and find him willing to do your majesty all the service he may in reason, and advance your causes at his power; and so do all the noblemen. My lord Bedford says, though ill reported of to you, he will never forget his honourable treatment in Scotland, and do what he can for your honour and the quiet of Scotland, as he favours Murray for religion. None of the council but have given me good answers.

For France: I trust the ambassador has advertised you, but daily many land here from the prince's camp (some Scotsmen), who tell me it is for the "grete hungar"; his whole foot are in the town of "Coygnyac," environed by the king's camp; and the admiral with the horse in other little towns. They are so wilful and desperate that

Elizabeth.
1569. they will have no composition, but lose their lives, and it is thought the matter is ended or now. It is assured here that 8000 foot and 2000 horse, "Ytalyans," are come to Alva, who has sent a great company of horse to the Duke of "Awmale" for support against the Duke of "Bypontes," and to destroy Burgundy. There is no news from Scotland since M[r] John Woode came, who returns shortly.

Since writing, I have just heard the council are advised this day on your affairs, and hope to God for a good resolution: for the Queen and they give me good answers "severally," and I hope they will when together. The bearer who has talked with sundry from "the Rochell," will report the state of France: and today word is come that the Duke of Bypont hearing of Condy's estate, has appointed with the king, and returned to his country. Proclamation is made in Flanders that no subject of Spain traffic with this country under great penalties: so I shall lose no time, but act as solicitor as well as commissioner in familiar manner, as her majesty has granted me. London. Jo. Rossen.

3 *pp. Closely written in Hunsdon's hand. Indorsed* (in another hand): "The bysshop of Rosse hys letter too hys M[r] the 2 of May 1569," and (by Cecil): "2 Maij."

May 8. **1051.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. I have declared to her majesty at three several times since my coming, the principal heads of my commission. And as her majesty first ordained me to be at Greenwich this Sunday to treat with 4 or 5 of her council, and since it has pleased her to command me to repair "na sonar thether nor this Monunday": meantime I have put the heads "in wreit," to be shown to the council by your honour, that I should not be mistaken in my speeches already uttered to her majesty. London. "This Sonday at morning the viij of Maij." *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Inclosed in the same:—

Articles devised by the Bishop of Ross at the Queen of England's command, for appointment between the Queen of Scots and her subjects:—

1. The Queen's majesty must order the cause between them, the Queen of Scots agreeing, without prejudice of her crown and estate, and it is believed Murray *etc.* will do the like.

2. Her majesty if assured of the reference, must send a trusty man to know Murray's and others' minds, they also sending one or two commissioners: which if they refuse, she cannot suffer her sister to perish "but help."

3. That the Queen of Scots shall suffer no prejudice by her forced demission of her crown and appointment of the Regent, whereon her authority has been usurped.

4. As a perfect reconciliation must be made, and she and her subjects live in quietness, the Queen of Scots will give them an ample remit of all offences, they binding themselves to love and serve her.

5. Thereto the Queen, Murray and his assisters shall be sworn in

Elizabeth.
1569. the presence of God: the Queen's majesty and nobles of this realm interponing themselves as cautioners, that whichever party offends, they will join the other to compel observance.

6. Twelve of the wisest in Scotland shall settle all internal disputes, feuds *etc.*—the Queens of England and Scotland being referees.

7. All forfeitures of the Queen's party to be annulled.

8. The Queen of Scots, though ignorant that Bothwell was her husband's murderer—as it might be feared she would restore him, shall declare her good will that he be punished as the Queen's majesty and the nobility of England and Scotland shall think expedient.

9. A parliament in Scotland shall be held to ratify these conditions under the seals and handwriting of the whole estates.

10. As for religion: the Queen never molested any for the same, but allowed the order then publicly professed, and doubtless will do the like under sufficient security.

Lastly:—She will make such surety to the Queen of England and her nobility, as she and they may see fit for the Queen's security "and the successione of hir body" *etc.*, as was specially expressed in the Articles given in before.

3½ *pp.* *In a Scottish clerkly hand.* *Indorsed:* "Articulis, *etc.*

May 12. **1052.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. On Tuesday last this Queen on receiving pills from her physician to ease her spleen, became very sick and "sownded" [swooned] divers times—so they were driven to give her *aqua vite* in good quantity, and when the pills wrought that night, she escaped danger: her body is still much distempered. Notwithstanding, she came yesternight at 11 o'clock to my chamber, weeping, and complaining that one of her servants, George Bartlye lord of Gartly, is stayed at Carlisle coming to her from Scotland. Earnestly requiring me to signify her majesty's late orders hereon to the Warden or his deputy—as I have done, to quiet her "exceding troubled mynd." She spoke much with grief and passion at this stoppage of her servants—yet I assure you without any unseemly word or sign uttered towards her highness, but with tears in talking of her. She seems to impute the stay to the Lord Warden or you. Wingfeld, in haste. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 14. **1053.** MEMORIAL BY THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. III. Presented to the Queen of England in his mistress's name.

1. He declared her great sickness by the soreness of her side and fever therethrough—desiring that 2 physicians might have licence to see her. *Granted by her majesty.*

2. Also the stay at Carlisle of the Laird of Gairtuly her master of household, and the young laird of Skeldoun, by Mowsgrawe the deputy there, who said he had no order. *Her majesty said she should send for Lord Scroope, and write to Lord Hunsdon to the effect desired.*

Elizabeth.
1569.

3. Also a letter to Murray to suffer M^r^ Renauld, her French surgeon in Edinburgh, to come to her—*which her majesty has granted.*

4. She denies on her conscience, dealing with the Duke of Anjou, and sends a written article under her signet, which he showed her majesty.

5. He declared how Chatelherault, his bairns, and S^t^ Andrews, Huntly. Argyll, Eglintoun, Craufurd, Fleming, Ogilvie, Herries, Lochinvar, and many more, had written to her declaring obedience, and for her commands, and if she hoped for support or not? and prays her majesty to order Murray to stay hostilities.

6. As Murray has meddled with the bishopric of Ross and threatens to take his house, he prays the Queen's majesty to write to stay this, while he is here in the Queen of Scots' service—*which she has granted to do.*

7. Her majesty wishing to promote reconciliation between the Queen of Scots and her subjects, desired him to advise, which he will do to his simple judgment.

1½ *pp. In a Scottish clerkly hand. Indorsed* (by Cceil).

May 15. **1054.** MARY TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 419.

As the Bishop of Ross by his letter of 12^th^ instant, let us understand that in conferring with you he was informed that we could not makc security to the Queen our good sister, as we had transferred our right to her crown to the Duke of Anjou, confirmed "be the Pape," as ye were long since advertised from France: we declare the same to be an evil and sinister calumny, and assure you on our honour and conscience, that it is utterly untrue, as we declare to our good sister "be ane letter of our awin hand.' Praying you for all expedition in our affairs. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your richt good frinde, Marie R.

1 *p. Written by a secretary. Addressed.*

May 15. **1055.** MARY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

Though we have written a general letter to all you lords of our good sister's council, to put you out of doubt on the matter, yet we write to you in particular, to assure you on the faith of a princess and our honour and conscience, that we never made "cessioun nor transport" of our title to the Duke of Anjou nor any other: praying you to give no credit to such invented lies, nor defer the prompt expedition of our affairs, wherein we hold us much obliged to you. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your richt good frind, Marie R.

½ *p. Written by a secretary. Addressed. Indorsed.*

May 15. **1056.** MARY TO CHATELHERAULT.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 417.

Having received his letter by his servant Andrew Hamilton, and "incontinent" thereafter instructed the Bishop of Ross to "meane" his cause to the Queen: she has answered she will shortly resolve, as the copy of the bishop's letter will show him. Farther, his messenger

Elizabeth.
1569. by credit said he had good hope of a letter from the Queen and council to Murray, not to "mell" with Dunbarton Castle nor trouble Huntly and his friends. Trusts her cause shall prosper to the honour of her faithful subjects, for the French and Spanish ambassadors have been commissioned to solicit it. Wyngfeild. Your richt good cusignes, Marie R.

He will hear more shortly, as she looks for the Queen's answer "thys four dayse, for her counsel syts apon ytt sens Munday."

1 *p. In Hunsdon's hand. An attempt has been made to copy the Queen's signature. Addressed. The date is probably 5th.*

May 16. **1057.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

Though in April last, we signified by letter how we had heard your servant John Wood on his commission from you, and remitted our mind thereon to his sufficiency: yet as he has since remained here and we have further conferred with him on matters of weight, and required him to use speed, we remit his declaration to your consideration, and answer us by some sufficient person. Assuring you we shall never forget your good will.

½ *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "16 May 1569. M· of the Q. majesties lettre to therle of Murray. By Mr J. Wood."

May [16.] **1058.** PAPER DELIVERED TO JOHN WOOD.

"Three degrees collected uppon spechees projected by such as hawe communed and dewysed of the Quene of Scottes cause":—

1. How she might be induced to affirm her son's estate according to the parliament while she was in Lochleven *etc.*

2. If not, how could they reign jointly—the government in his minority being in the Regent? her residence?

3. If not, then if she be recognised Queen, and her son Prince only, how would the following serve to good purpose?—(1) The religion as professed by the Regent *etc.* to be obeyed: the Queen to observe her own in the manner used in England, and herself and her crown delivered from the Bishop of Rome's superiority. (2) The Regent to govern till the prince is 18, with a council *etc.* not to be changed by the Queen. (3) A full accord between her and her subjects, restitution and remission of all offences and suits, saving the murder of her husband. (4) No strangers to remain except known merchants, or necessary household servants. (5) Perpetual league betwixt England and Scotland: and the amity of France with Scotland to be as it is between England and France. Lastly:—Whether the following may tend to assure the premisses?—(1) A tripartite treaty—the Queens of England and Scotland—the Prince of Scotland—the subjects a third. (2) To be stablished by parliament there, under pain of high treason. (3) If the Queen of Scots break any of them in the judgment of the Queen of England, the Regent and majority of his council, she shall forfeit her state to her son as king, without further coronation. (4) Hostages to be given by both sides of Scotland to England, till the king's majority. Lastly:—In what place the Queen of Scots shall remain?

Elizabeth.
1569. 2 *pp. In Wood's (?) writing. Indorsed* (by Cecil): "May 1569. Copy of a wrytyng delyvered to M^r^ Jhon Wood."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 422. (1) Another copy of the same.
2½ *pp.*

May 16. **1059.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Instantly I have a letter from Winfeild mentioning the extreme sickness wherewith my mistress is continually vexed. I have spoken to two doctors physicians, Maister Franceis and Maister Caldwell, who will go thither with her majesty's licence. Praying you to show the same to her majesty, as I did on Saturday,* and for the letters with diligence; as assuredly my mistress has great need of good counsel and company. London. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

½ p. *Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 21. **1060.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. I have your letter of 15th, that order is given to Carlisle for full liberty to this Queen's servants, which having declared in your name, she takes it thankfully, desiring you will continue her good friend, and give written order to Carlisle, still fearing a stay. She is in great hope of some notable goodness at her majesty's hand: and the daily repair of Scots to her so increases, that though lodged in the town, the company coming and going being 80 persons or thereby, my expenses greatly "excede," besides keeping more men on guard. So consider hereon as my very friend, and advertise me, which I shall observe. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

Postscript: My trust is you will continue your good will to my officer Thomas Knyveton for the wardship of young Swifte—the best for the young man, whose chief living depends on me—which I have granted to him.

1 p. *Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 22. **1061.** THE BISHOP OF ROSS AND LORD BOYD TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. (1) Praying that Lord Boyd might have passport to Scotland for his affairs, and to return to the Queen of Scots.

(2) Also a letter from her highness to the Earl of Murray, that Boyd and friends be not molested, nor his wife and children "troublit in uptaking" his rents *etc.*

(3) By the Queen of Scots' command, a letter from the Queen's majesty to Murray for relief of the Duke of Chatelherault from captivity, "becaus of his aige and inhabilitie," on caution.

(4) That "my lord of Ros" might have her highness' letter to Murray not to interfere with his benefices, rents, *etc.*

All which her majesty having granted, they pray for expedition.

1 p. *In the Scottish clerkly hand as before. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

*11th.

Elizabeth.
1569. May 22. **1062.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

At the earnest suit of Lord Boyd, we desire you to allow his resort to his own house to see his wife and children, make some provision of money, and return hither without offence to you—as he bore you good will, and was heretofore well esteemed of you.

½ *p. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): " . . . . The Quenes majesties lettre to therle of Murrey for the Lord Boyde."

May 24. **1063.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Having had a letter from his mistress to the lords of the council, which he showed on the 17th to the Queen's majesty, who opened and read it and returned it to him to be delivered as addressed: as much time has been spent, prays Cecil to present the same, and advertise him when he can attend them on his mistress's causes. London. "This Tuisday the xxiiij of May." *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Written and addressed in the Scottish clerkly hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

May 25. **1064.** ELIZABETH TO MARY.

C.P., vol. III. I heard of your great danger, but thank God, not till the worst was passed: for if any evil chance had happened to you in this country, my own days would have seemed too prolonged. I trust in His goodness who has guarded me from such " maladventures," and removed my grief had anything contrary happened. For the answer you desire by Lord Boyd touching " Monsieur D'Anjou ": I doubt not your honour nor faith, but it may be some friend or ambassador has given this promise as from you, like a spur to a thoroughbred horse. For as we see often that a little branch saves the drowning, they think the barque of your fortune needs all help to get to port. The bearer will tell you more amply all my wishes herein. Greenwich.

1 *p. French. Fair copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed:* "25 Maij 1569. Copy of the Q. majesties lettre to the Q. of Scottes. By the lord Boyde."

May 25. **1065.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P. vol. III. The two doctors Cawdwell and Francis came hither on Sunday last.* Their proceedings and private conference on the state of her body I refer to their own declaration. As since their coming, there is within these two days grown in the next chamber to her a " very unpleasant and fulsome savour, hurtefull to her helthe, by contynuall pestering and unclenly order of her own folkes," I have taken upon me, with the advice of these two and her own physician, and her consent, to remove her in a litter in 2 or 3 days to my wife's house " Chattesworth " 8 miles hence, for 5 or 6 days till her lodging here be made sweet and kept so—returning again next week. Though this will greatly increase my charges and trouble, I thought it good, and trust the Queen's majesty will take it in good part. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

*22nd.

Elizabeth. 1569.

Postscript: When these doctors declared the cause of their coming to be the Queen's majesty's great care and goodwill, she showed herself very thankful, with many good words, that no physic was so good as that comfort in her adversity, which she ever looked for at her good sister's hands, and wished to God her true heart and meaning were known to her, and that it might please him she might see her; and therewith appeared her tears.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

May 31. **1066** MEMORIAL BY THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. III.

Desiring Cecil to procure the Queen's letter to Murray not to trouble his servant, whom he is sending to Scotland for "furnesing," and a passport for him [Mr Alexander Hervy] by the East borders. Also at his mistress's desire, conducts for George lord Seytoun and Sir John Carnegy of Kynnard knight, to pass to France—both having Murray's goodwill to go.

½ *p. In the clerkly hand as before. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "31 May 1569" *etc.*

[End of] May. **1067.** CREDIT TO LORD BOYD.

C.P., vol. III.

The Queen of Scots having made earnest suit to the Queen of England in April last by her trusty councillor the Bishop of Ross for aid: was answered that she would gladly do so under conditions: and on conference it was resolved that she should send to France as to the truth of an invented report of a title said to have been made by her to the Duke of Anjou—the Queen of England meantime requiring the Earl of Murray to send commissioners here to appoint with the Queen of Scots. And the Earl and his party alleging that she would never appoint with them, or remit their offences, but call Bothwell home to their destruction: Lord Boyd was commissioned to assure Murray and others that on such appointment and restoration to her authority, their sovereign would freely remit all offences—also give all security against Bothwell's return, and procure divorce of the pretended marriage before competent judges. Further that he desire Murray to send commissioners to end these matters; and also abstain from pursuit of the Queen's party during the conference, as well as from sieging the castle of Dunbarton, *etc.*

2 *pp. In the Scottish hand as before. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "1568. Creditte committit to the Lord Boyd," and (by Cecil) "from the Q. of Scottes. Erle of Murray."

June [1]. **1068.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

Earnestly requiring him to allow the officers and servants of the Bishop of Ross quietly to collect the profits and revenues of his bishopric, as she sees he means no offence to him and therefore deserves favour.

½ *p. Draft corrected by Cecil.*

Also—Passport for George Lord Seton to pass by Berwick and London to France.

Elizabeth. 1569.

At foot—Sir John Carnegy of Kynnard.

½ *p. Draft by same clerk. Indorsed* : "M. of the Q. majesties lettre to therle of Murray : with copies of the passport for the L. Seaton and Sir John Carnegy of Kynnard."

June. [early in.] App. I., No. 17.

1069. MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Thanking her for her cordial letters and credit by Lord Boyd, as the succour which the timid mariner hails in unknown seas. Since she directs the course of her afflicted barque by her favour, now hopes after two long years' navigation she will receive her to the port of her grace. Thanks her for the care of her health, and prays her leave for Borthwick to pass to the King of France with speed. As she is rather ill again from the change of air, remits the state of her health to the report of the bearers whom she did her the honour to send for that purpose. Wingfield. *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. French. Holograph.*

June 3. C.P., vol. III.

1070. HEADS GATHERED BY THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

Of certain conference with some of the nobility of England, declared to his sovereign, and her answer in June last 1569.

1. That she refer herself wholly to the Queen of England.
2. And satisfy her concerning her title to the crown.
3. Establish in Scotland the same religion professed in England.
4. Dissolve her league with France, and make a perpetual one with England.
5. Touching her marriage with the Duke of Norfolk, moved to her by Murray and Lethington : she shall wholly refer to the Queen's majesty and do as she would have her—with all surety as devised by her council.

The Queen of Scots' answers :—

1. That she will do so, if restored to her crown *etc.*, and her son at her disposition.
2. Will make all surety of her good sister's title to the crown, as her council devise—under provisions as in the bishop's instructions.
3. For religion : these instructions contain her mind therein.
4. As also concerning a league of amity.
5. Touching marriage : her fortune has been so evil in marriage, that she has hardly mind to take a husband, but rather to lead "a simple and solitarie lyfe." Her troubles have so weakened her body, that she has no certainty of continuance, looks for no felicity or to leave a husband in so good estate as now. Nevertheless, if resolved of certain doubts, trusting in her good sister's and nobility's friendship, she will follow her counsel, not doubting she will consider her causes. (1) Though not to "bost" herself, yet to show her true meaning to her good sister, she assures him that if either men or money to reduce her rebels would have "tysit" her, she would have had a husband or now, but to please her, gave no ear to it. If she marries Norfolk, she loses France, Spain, and all Catholic friends beyond sea : and what will she get instead ? (2) If she consents to marry Norfolk, how will her good sister's consent be had ? whereof she

Elizabeth.
1569. doubts, considering how unwilling she found her to bestow her in marriage before, as her council know. (3) She would have as much consideration of her husband as of herself, and seeing the Duke's present felicity *etc.*, would be loath to bring him to worse estate, and therefore would know how her good sister would like it, and how friendly the nobility would use him? that he might not be "contreyned" as her late husband Darneley was, as she found to her grief, and was never warned.

2½ *pp. Fair copy. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil): "In June 1569, the articulis and ansueris from the Quene of Scottes."

June 5. **1071.** THE REGENT TO ELIZABETH.

Having received your highness's letter from my servant M^r^ John Wod, and conferred with him on the "matteris of wecht" it pleased you to impart by him to me: I humbly thank your majesty for communicating the same privately by my own servant, rather than "be oppin dealing, to haif indangerit this state and me unawarres." As the cause is most weighty and of marvellous consequence to your highness and this whole isle, and "utterlie unlouked for" by me, being on my journey to the north, and therefore destitute of councillors: till I find a fit personage, I cannot make such hasty answer as I would. Beseeching your majesty to take this short delay in good part. Aberdeen. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet, quartered* (as before).

June 5. **1072.** THE REGENT TO CECIL.

[*To like effect, more fully.*] His journey is to put down troubles in the north. Prays him to persuade her majesty to receive this small ("but necessair") delay in good part. Aberdeen. *Signed:* James Regent.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as last).

June 8. **1073.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. III. Beseeching justice for George Clark and Roger Maknacht, merchants, her subjects, who on 10^th^ February last on their voyage from Rochel in the *Hary of the tone marryne*, laden with 55½ tun "Coignac wyne" and 8000 "wecht of Spanishe irne," passing the Cape of Cornwall called the "Landis End," to a "raid namit Mentisbery," were attacked by Captain Kaill, gentleman of heritage near London, Masters Wautown, Blount, and Marcus of London in a war ship, who plundered them to the value of 700*l.* sterling, and set them on shore naked to beg their way—and who have been at court suing her council since Candlemas, without redress. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your richt good sister and cusignes Marie R.

Broadsheet. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet: the Scottish lion and tressure. M. R. outside shield.

Elizabeth.
1569. June 8.

1074. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

As their money is all spent which he has had by warrant, begs another for 500*l.* to pay for fresh provision for the Queen of Scots—also allowance for watch and ward since her coming there. Manor of Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 10. **1075.** MR. JOHN WOOD TO CECIL.

I found my lord Regent on 28th May in S[t] Andrews, and as he was proclaimed to be in Brechin on 1st instant, I went on to Aberdeen, where he arrived on the 4th, and after receiving his answer to the Queen's majesty, I was sent back to Lethington, to know his "habilitye," who had got leave to retire to his house, being touched with a grievous infirmity in his feet. I found him of good mind to serve, but doubted very much his ability, and willed me to report this to my lord, to whom I mind to return with diligence. My lord reposes "most almost alanerly" on his coming to the Queen's majesty at her "returning inwart," which we hope shall be about 4th or 5th July. My lord lacks no good will to send him, nor he to go. The state grows to obedience and quietness: the day after I arrived at S[t] Andrews, Argyll, accompanied with Mar, came there and behaved himself "wele," and as we think satisfied his grace's desires. Huntly, as he promised on 12th May, sent his brother Patrick Gordon and one of the chief of his kin, "young Straithdowyn," as pledges, who met my lord on his way at Brechin on 1st instant. On the 4th, Huntly came to Aberdeen and travailed with my lord for remission of all that had served under him. All the clans of the "Helandis" and divers principals of the Isles, with Caithness, Sutherland and "Lowett," convened at Inverness at my lord's command, with such a power as has seldom been seen there, and waited to be employed: no man lay furth, but all came in. So all is quiet unless a storm rise from the south. My lord minds to move to the Borders, who have made little stir since he was last among them. If the Queen's officers concur, their insolence will be repressed. The house of Dunbarton is not rendered, yet there is communing; the captain's power will not long keep it. Lethington. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (indistinct). "M. J. W." *legible.*

June 15. **1076.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III.

On Monday last (albeit with some pain) I came from my house at Chattesworth hither in "my lytter"—and found every man's part and duty as well answered as though I had been present. I am now reasonably well recovered of my sickness, which was so extreme that I cannot forget it. Manor of Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Elizabeth.
1569. June 19. **1077.** COUNTESS OF SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Though "moost sorowfully, yet of duty I must advertise you that my lord is fallen into extreme sicknes this afternone," as the bearer can inform you. "At this instant he is very wel recovered, thanked be God." The former order of watch and ward shall be more diligently kept, till I know her majesty's pleasure. Wingfield. "In all hast . . . at night." *Signed:* E. Shreuesbury.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 22. **1078.** ELIZABETH TO SIR JOHN ZOUCHE.

C.P., vol. III. As our cousin of Shrewsbury is fallen into a relapse of a late dangerous sickness, we will that you resort to his house, do your best to recover him to health, and meantime assist with your counsel and presence, due attendance on the Queen of Scots, according to our orders already given: behaving yourself to her with such reverence as she may see you are a gentleman of good blood and consideration, as we know you are. And when Lord Talbot comes thither, advise him in directing his father's officers and servants. Under our signet.

Postscript: Have regard that no strangers resort to her, without our special order.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed.*

[June 22.] **1079.** ELIZABETH TO [SADLER].

C.P., vol. III. As you are going north, touching our Duchy of Lancaster, and we hear our cousin Lord Shrewsbury is sick of a fever, you shall visit him on our behalf, expressing our grief thereat—and if you perceive the same grow on him, partly by opinion that we credit the late reports of one Corker (whom we mean sharply to punish) you shall assure him of our confidence, suffering him to remain in his charge—"the gage of our savety"—in spite of these. And if you see him in peril, you shall take order in our name for the custody of the Queen of Scots, requiring the Countess and all of her family to take your direction therein. We have commanded the Earl of Huntingdon, president at York, to assist you if required.

1½ *pp. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsement obliterated except the words* "not sent."

June 23. **1080** SHREWSBURY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. III. I have been for these 8 days past sharply visited with sickness, and though not recovered, yet in better estate, thank God. I removed at the peril of my life from my other house [Chatsworth], 8 miles off (near which it first took me), the better to guard this Queen, which has been done with as great care as if I had been in perfect health. And as I recover my health or "growe in perill of lief," your majesty shall be advertised, to give other direction thereon. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your majesties fethefull subjecte and servaunte, G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: a talbot, garter and motto.*

Elizabeth.
1569. June 23. **1081.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. *To the same effect.* The bearer his servant in constant attendance on him, will declare his state. Manor of Wingfield. *Signed:* Your lovynge frende evar assurede, G. Shrouesbury.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as last).

June 23. **1082.** ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. III. On receipt of your letters of "23 of this month" signed with your accustomed hand, mentioning your good recovery, we heartily on your behalf thank God therefor, wishing you to have good regard to your health. And as we commanded your neighbour Sir John Zouch to assist in your charge during your infirmity, and for no lack reported to us: our meaning is when you shall find yourself able for your former service, he may repair home by your direction. Under our signet. Greenwich, 24 June 1569.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): ". . . To the Earle of Shrewsbury."

June 25. **1083.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. The truth is I was so grievously tormented with the "gowte" and a hot ague, that I wished rather to die than live, if God so pleased. But since Monday last, through benefit of nature and some easy medicines, I feel day by day not only sound in body, but "so eased of my paynfull feete," that I trust in few days to be more able for travel than before. Touching the letter to Sir John Zouche: as I see by your note to my wife, it is for his attendance in my sickness, I thought it not needful to deliver it—but if necessary cause arise, I will not fail to use his assistance as my neighbour. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

June 26. **1084.** COUNTESS OF SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. My lord is now in comfortable health and strength and glad that his neighbour Sir John Zouche was appointed to attend if needed, rather than another. I will advertise anything of moment, but his lordship orders his charge as quietly and diligently as ever. Wingfield. *Not signed.*

½ *p. Written and addressed by a clerk.*

June 26. **1085.** COUNTESS OF SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. "I dare still affirme, God be thanked, that my lord dothe daylie recover and is right well restored to his strengthe agayne, having nowe almost no payne of his cruel disease, saving a litle that yet remaynethe in his lefte arme, wherof he makethe non accompt at all." God will defend me against malice, and no enemy would I refuse as judge that thought and spoke truly. Most heartily I thank you for your friendly admonition on my duty, without cause of suspicion. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your assured frinde bounde to my smal power, E. Shrewesbury.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1569. June 27. C.P., vol. III.

1086. DR. FRANCIS TO CECIL.

As to my lord Shrewsbury's case: before my coming, he felt a great pain between his shoulders and in his back, likewise in his legs, and so taking a bayne [bath] felt some relief of pain, and thereupon removed from Chatworth here in a litter, which being open, and the pores of his body somewhat loosed, the air entered and he took an ague. Thinking it but some heat from travel, and having a marvellous desire to drink "meethe eglin," he drank almost a quart, so inflaming his body full of humours and in pain from fever, that many "hotte and colyryk" vapours went from his stomach to his head, so that *in vigore illius accessionis loquaci delyrio laborabat.* But ever since, his lordship is clear of such symptoms, and God willing, shall continue. He has pain in both arms and hands, with great swelling, and a small fever; his legs not clear, but have been sorer and now amend. I have seen more pain in others sick *ex arthritide*, and therefore suspect its continuance more than any danger. Wingfield. *Signed:* Thomas Fraunces.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . D^r^ Fraunces to my master" *etc.*

June 27. C.P., vol. III.

1087. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

Expressing his thanks for the Queen's graciously sending the learned D^r^ Frances to him. Has recovered a good part of his strength and is out of danger. As the Queen of Scots is troubled with the old grief of her side, has this afternoon desired D^r^ Frances' advice for her, which he hopes her majesty will take in good part. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury. I send my acquittance for the money I see by my servant you have procured for me, desiring he may speedily receive it.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 2. C.P., vol. III.

1088. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

I spoke to your honour for a passport to a poor Scotswoman and her servant, who were at Wingfield desiring service of my mistress; who would not accept it, but desired her to go home, though herself wished to go to France. Please inform the Queen's majesty hereof, and obtain her passport to Scotland—and in case she go not with diligence the way prescribed, that she may be "comprehendit and chaistit as apperteanis" to vagabond persons. I trouble you herewith, as a matter of conscience, and for the honour of the nation, *ne in opprobrium nationis mendicare apud exteros cogantur.* London. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

¾ *p. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed* (as last).

July 3. C.P., vol. III.

1089. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

On Wednesday last* by "some myn owne negligent disordre," I had an extreme fit of my ague, so that both myself and those about me doubted my life that night: but since then feel

* June 29th.

Elizabeth.
1569. amendment and hope to recover shortly, intending to be more precise in obeying the physicians than I have been. My charge is better looked to than ever, having the daily attendance of Sir John Zouche. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 5. **1090.** HERRIES TO ELIZABETH.

Hearing your highness has been informed I have not truly used myself in the service of my sovereign: "Madame," I most humbly beseech you, for love of Almighty God, to hear the truth. I have ever sought agreement and the troubles here ended by judgment of wise men "nor be the sword." When my sovereign lady, on the former promises of love, friendship, and assistance, made betwixt your majesties, came in your realm, I sought of your majesty her restoration to her realm—if that could not be, then what is not refused in peace to private subjects, that you license her to pass to France; and if restrained, I said she would rather go home in the little boat she came. Your majesty's answer was, ye would send for Murray, and on hearing wherefore he and his adherents durst so use their sovereign, would order the cause as ye found reasonable. Whereon I returned to York, and after "we" had waited 17 days on your commissioners, were caused to pass to London, where and in Kingston, we remained more than a quarter of a year, obtaining only that your majesty said to the Duke of Chatelherault, the bishop of Ross and me, that you believed Murray would not pursue them that obeyed the Queen, "sua he wes nocht persewit." Yet shortly after we returned, we found him with 5000 or 6000 men ready to invade us. Considering that to be our destruction, I went to him on his safe conduct, not on any old promise of favours in England as has been told your "excellencie," as God is witness, and had plain and open reasoning for our sovereign and common weal, but not word or harangue against the honour of my mistress, as unjustly reported. God and the "auditour" of 200 men, was witness, and Murray I doubt not will also. He made certain articles, herewith inclosed, and though I thought them more hard than dutiful, I thought it better to agree and meet in Edinburgh to reason of the heads, than try it by force. Though this my thought please not other nations, I trust it pleases God and is good for Scotland, where I am a born subject and "hes the rowme of ane barroun." This I did by advice of my mistress's loving subjects, who thought it for her weal, and for no profit to myself or pleasure to Murray—and if I have displeased her highness, it is from ignorance. On these articles I came to Edinburgh to agree matters specially by your majesty's advice and ordinance, and unless my mistress's causes had been ordered to her honour by "the wisdome of thir viij nobill men, with my awin opinioun (quhome althocht nocht worthie, it plesit bayth the parteis to name ane of that number),"—I neither promised nor minded to agree with them. But on coming, as I have said, without accusation or trial, I was committed to ward, and not with my good will, as unjustly reported to your majesty. Most humbly on my knees I desire your majesty's pardon to say—if any affirm I agreed with Murray otherwise than above written, or spoke evil of

Elizabeth.
1569. my sovereign either in Glasgow or elsewhere before him, or am warded with my own consent: I shall answer the contrary in any competent trial with the grace of God. Castle of Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your majesties ryght hwmyll and ryght obedient servant wyth my hart, my allegiance obserwit, Herys."*

2 *pp. Closely written. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: a leaf. Motto:* "Content for ever."

July 5. **1091.** HERRIES TO CECIL.

Sending him a copy of the foregoing letter, and a summary of the charges—(1) privy communing in England with Murray; (2) speaking evil of the Queen of Scots in his presence; and (3) that he is warded with his own will, to colour his falsehoods: begging his good offices with the Queen's majesty. Castle of Edinburgh. *Signed:* Your lordschipis att power to command leffully, Herys.

3 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as last).

July 7. **1092.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. As I hear on occasion of certain reports late made to her majesty, as that I was dead or not like to escape: her highness was to send down Sir Francis Knolles or another to supply the charge—the truth is I have escaped danger as well of my grievous disease as of my ague, and am as able as ever for my charge. So I trust no other shall be needed, having Sir John Zouch attendant according to her majesty's pleasure. If I had any doubt, I would advertise you at once. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

"Post.": I beseech you my servant John Knyveton may receive the 500*l.* for this Queen's diet; and continue your goodness to Thomas Knyveton my officer for young Swifte's marriage, and a lease of his land.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed. Large oval wafer seal and garter* (indistinct).

July 7. **1093.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

In the beginning of June I came to these broken north parts, where my travail has had such success that Huntly has submitted and given hostages; and none of the "great masse" of the north, or very few, are disobedient. I mind so to proceed (God assisting me) that the realm reduced to obedience, may be "mair steidfull" to your majesty, and able to defend "the self" from foreign invasion. On my way south Lord Boyd came with your highness' letter, wherein as in any other thing, you shall find me "maist willing and obsequent." I was earnestly minded that the weighty matters "not unknawin" to your highness, might have been secretly handled: but they are so discovered by the Queen Mother's servants, chiefly by the Bishop of Ross's letters, that they must now be advised by the whole nobility, who are appointed to convene at S^{t} Johnston on 25th instant. Beseeching your highness to accept this delay in good part, as by just necessity. Aberdeen. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

* Differs from his old signature with a capital "H."

Elizabeth.
1569. July 7. **1094.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Though he wished that the great and weighty matters concerning this realm should have been handled "be wisdome and secrecy," his design is so hindered by divers of the Queen Mother's servants telling all they knew, augmented by letters sent home by the bishop of Ross, that the matter must now be treated by the whole nobility, whom he has convened to S[t] Johnston the 25[th] instant. Praying him to assure her majesty not to suspect any unreasonable delay or drift in him. Aberdeen. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

July 10. **1095.** MR. JOHN WOOD TO CECIL.

The state of the north parts ye understand by my lord Regent's letter. The public cause betwixt both states shall be publicly treated in S[t] Johnston "the xxiiij of July instant." My secret message being "devulgat," there was no other means but plain and open dealing, which God grant may take issue to the "wele of the Kyrk of God" and both realms. It is meant the secretary shall come, though I dare affirm no issue certain in this manner of dealing: "whairof God red me, for that I abhorre and fearis my small reputation in all unsecrete secrecyis." For the south parts and frontiers: if ye continue your favours, the Regent will "renge" them so as to have no trouble after. Edinburgh. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

¾ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed.*

July 11. **1096.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. To satisfy you against vain reports, I still increase in health and have my "stomake" and night's rest as well as ever. This day I attempted to walk in my outer chamber, and find some commodity; but abstain from more boldness than D[r] Frances will admit. The charge is duly ordered and looked to. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

July 11. **1097.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 421. App. I., No. 18. Hearing from Lord Boyd that her rebels, instead of obeying Elizabeth's command, pursue her faithful subjects more rigorously: in all haste begs credit for M. de Ross and expedition in her affairs, neglected through seeking her aid only. Seeing Murray's delays, begs her promptly either to give or refuse her help; for to treat with him is neither for her own good or Elizabeth's honour, whom he holds in so little account. Prays full credit for the bishop. Wingfield. *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p. French. Holograph.*

July 13. **1098.** MURRAY TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

On 12[th] July I received your letter of 18[th] June with one from M[r] Lowther, deputy warden of the West March, of 5[th] instant, and at once directed letters to the wardens and provosts of the principal boroughs nearest the Borders, and also privately to my friends, to

Elizabeth.
1569. make diligent search for the "personage" named in your letter—though the matter will be difficult, as your letter came without any trusty bearer, or information in M^r^ Lowther's letter touching it. Aberdeen. *Signed:* James Regent.

¾ *p.* *Addressed* (to the Council). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 15. **1099.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. Being desirous that you among other dear friends, should specially understand my state of health: I send this bearer to wait on and inform you thereof, who will truly report my doings. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

* "Althow I am nott yett abull for vante of strenthe to travell aboute the mustares, yett have I gyven ordar it shalbe duely folloid with all delygens."

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

July 16. **1100.** MEMORIAL BY THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. III. Whereas the queen his mistress is advertised, that though the Queen's majesty her good sister by special letters and message by M^r^ John Wood his servitor, desired the Earl of Murray to send commissioners to her presence and meantime desist from invading her good sister's obedient subjects: which writings and message were delivered to him in S^t^ Andrews about 1^st^ June last, yet he has paid no regard thereto, but has been more rigorous to them, and journeying to the north of Scotland, has compelled Huntly and others making no resistance, to pay such extreme compositions as never was taken before—and intends to do the like in the west, besides laying garrisons about Dunbarton castle to stop their "vivres," and purposes soon to assiege it, as he has certified Lord Fleming the captain. And notwithstanding the Queen's majesty's request, did on 21^st^ June last eject the bishop of Ross's servants from his place in the "Channonrie of Ros," and put in his own, and has summoned a convention of his favourers to S^t^ Johnston for 25^th^ instant to wreck the faithful. Therefore she desires her majesty to send a special gentleman to stop Murray's fury by special writings and message, to be with him by said 25^th^ instant, and meantime take good order with her causes, not to lose this "symmer as the wther was," and also grant a passport to a gentleman of the Queen of Scots to accompany her majesty's own special servant.

1½ *pp.* *Holograph of the bishop* (?). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "16 July 1569. The B. of Ros writinge of the Q. of Scottes griefes against the Erle of Murrey."

[July 17.] **1101.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

As she finds it strange, seeing the weightiness of the matters she imparted to him by his servant John Wood, and his own promise on [ ] June to send a messenger shortly with answer—Lethington being named: and a whole month has passed in

* Holograph.

Elizabeth.
1569. silence, she admonishes him that the protracting of time may prove so disadvantageous to him that he may be sorry to have pretermitted the opportunity.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. No date or indorsation.*

July 17. **1102.** ELIZABETH TO HUNSDON.

Having this day received letters by the Bishop of Ross from the Queen of Scots, complaining that she has no resolution from us in her causes, by Murray's delays in answering our messages sent by his servant Wood: at her instance by the said bishop, we have now written to the said earl thereon, which we send to you to forward by some discreet person of trust with all haste, you also writing to him privately for speedy answer.

For your coming up: we will shortly send your licence by M^r^ Marshal.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

July 20. **1103.** THROKMORTON TO MURRAY.

Add. MSS. 83,531, fol. 79. His position is thoroughly understood here by M John Wood's narration, and by a letter sent from Lethington on the same matter absolutely and briefly. [*Goes here into detail on m tters, and ends*] by strongly urging him to advise with and trust Lethington, who is undoubtedly the wisest and sufficientest man to provide for him and all the rest. For if he leaves to be advised by him, he and his country will be in the greatest peril and confusion. Greenwich. *Signed* (in cipher): N. Throkmorton.

3 *pp. In cipher deciphered. Addressed:* "Lorde Regent of Scotlande."

July 22. **1104.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. III. At this present I am only troubled with the gout in my hands and legs, and though somewhat weak, can walk from my chamber to "my gallerie" adjoining: yet mind not to walk abroad overboldly, but to tender my health better than I have done. Being advised to use the "baynes at Buckestones," I pray you move her majesty for my leave to go thither, and either give order that Sir John Souche take charge, or some other as it please her, in my absence. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

July 24. **1105.** HERRIES TO MURRAY.

"Plesit your grace remember" upon 11^th^ of March last I came to Glasgow on your "hand writ" and assurance to come and go at pleasure—where you declared to all the noblemen there, ye desired but peace to every man in the commonwealth (the slayers of the Queen's husband excepted)—causing the secretary to make certain "articlis" thereof, promising on your honour our safe coming, remaining and departing, at the place of conference. Whereon I came, and on your desire remained till 16^th^ April, as Morton, Athol,

Elizabeth.
1569. and Glencairn were absent. On your sending for me and asking if I would end the business? I said I was ready if the other part was done—that you had given Huntly and Argyll a longer day than appointed: and they said I had broken promise to them and not dealt truly in the Queen's causes—and I desired to defer my subscription to that day, that I might reason with them: which should not have offended you, and I saw no sign of displeasure. But at your next coming to me in your "chalmer," you said the council thought I should go to the castle, not for long, my friends taking no hurt while you were regent—your words to my remembrance. 'My lord,' said I, 'honour nor trewth will nocht suffer me sua to be usit: I haif maid na falt, for my parte I wes reddy to do quhatevir I had promesit, the uthir parte beand lykwyis done as in the Articles is contenit: I am cummit upoun your assurance within your strenth: ye may do perforce to me quhat ye pleis, but to warde me, honour, trewth, nor ressoun will nocht.' And I desired to be heard before the council: but you said you would see if they might be had after supper. Without more reasoning, when I had supped in your own chamber, Lindsay and Ruthven conveyed me to the castle. I thought myself assured by your promise in the name of God.

Meantime my poor folks suffer great "heirschipis," and my own goods spoiled to 5000 marks' worth—my friends and tenants slain and wounded, by the proud thieves of both countries. Therefore I humbly pray I may be relieved for God's cause and your own honour. I have served this commonweal as a true Scotsman, sustained great labours and expenses and dangerous wounds in my body. And if any man can prove when I came to your grace at Glasgow or Edinburgh, I meant anything but the weal of my native country (in defence whereof so many of my "foirbearis" have died) let me be punished with all rigour. Beseeching your answer.

2 *pp. In same hand as his last letters. Indorsed:* "The copy of the letter send to the Erle of Murray the xxiiij of Julij 1569."

July 24. **1106.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

I am heartily sorry at being so long in satisfying your highness's expectation in the matters imparted by M^r^ John Wood—the chief occasion whereof I touched in my last letter. Howbeit I think these weighty matters shall be more quickly and resolutely treated at this convention, than I could have done of myself; and therefore seeing the time "sa instantlie approchit," humbly beseech your highness to bear with this short delay. Dundee. *Signed:* James Stewart.

¾ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

July 24. **1107.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I was not minded to write till the issue of this convention, which begins, God willing, "the morne" at S^t^ Johnston, but for the Queen's majesty's letters coming to my hands last night: which compelled me to make to her highness "sum litle short answer." I pray you supply the imperfections, and excuse the necessary delay. Dundee. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed. Wafer signet* (as last).

Elizabeth.
1569. July 25. C.P., vol. III.

1108. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

The Queen my mistress has requested Lord Shrewsbury that I may have the use of his house of Coleharbart while I stay in this town; whereto he has consented if M^r^ Baiteman is certified, who presently is gone to you. Farther as I spoke the Queen's majesty last Thursday* for a passport to the Laird of Lochinvar and others: I pray you make your clerks expede the same. London. "This Monunday" 25^th^ July. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed. Wafer signet: shield with a bend charged with 3 (?) buckles:* E.R. *above,* I.L. *at sides,* "MEMENTO" *at foot.*

July 26. **1109.** HUNSDON TO CECIL.

According to her majesty's letters of 17^th^, I sent a special messenger to Murray, whose answer I send herewith. My not hearing from you I impute to extremity of business. As I see my stay depends on the Marshal's coming, who has disobeyed so many of her majesty's commands, I look not to be there at all: for unless she grants his request, I see he is unwilling to serve here. I am sorry to see her "so hard bested" of servants, as though none could exercise the room but he! I care not now though he never come—the town and country shall do well. My lord of Sussex and my lady are here with me. Berwick. *Signed:* H. Hunsdon.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 28. **1110.** CONVENTION AT PERTH.

Names of the noblemen and others of the Estates:—

James Earl of Murray. etc., Regent. EARLS:—James, of Morton, chancellor; George. of Huntly; John, of Atholl; David, of Crawfurd; John, of Mar; Gilbert, of Cassillis; Alexander, of Glencairn; Robert, of Buchan; William, of Menteith. William Master of Marshall, son to the Earl; John Master of Grahame, "nepote" and heir to the Earl of Montrose. LORDS:—Alexander, Hume: Patrik, Lindsay of Byris; William, of Ruthven; Laurence, of Oliphant; John, of Glammis; Patrik, of Gray; James, of Ogilvy; Robert, of Sympill; John, of Innermeyth; Andrew Stewart of Ochiltre; Hew Fraser of Lovett; Robert, of Maxwell; William, of Borthwick; Allan, of Cathcart; Henry, of Methven; Patrick Master Drummond; Henry Master Sinclair. BISHOPS:—Robert, of Caithness; Adam, of Orkney; Alexander, of Galloway; Alexander, of Brechin; John, of the Isles. ABBOTS and PRIORS (commendators):—Robert, of Dunfermline; John, of Balmerynocht; John, of Coldinghame; Alexander, of Culros; Walter, abbot of Kinlos; Robert, commendator of Whitherne; James, commendator of Pettinweme; John, prior of Portmook. Ordinary officers:—Robert, commendator of S^t^ Mary Isle, treasurer; Sir William Murray of Tulibardin, knight, comptroller; William Maitland, younger, of Lethingtoun, secretary; M^r^ James Makgill of Rankelour Nether, clerk of register; Sir John Bellenden of Auchnowle, knight, justice clerk; M^r^ John Spens of Condy, and M^r^ Robert Creichtoun, of Elyok, advocates to our sovereign lord.

* 21st.

Elizabeth.
1569. Commissaries for certain of the chief boroughs:—

EDINBURGH:—James Barroun, Alexander Clerk, Alexander Guthrie. STIRLING:—Alexander Forester of Garden, provost; Robert Forester, younger, William Norwell. PERTH:—Patrik Murray; Thomas Monypenny. DUNDEE:—M[r] James Halieburtoun, provost; James Scrymgeour of Ballewchy; James Lovell; John Fothringhame. ABERDEEN:—Thomas Menyeis of Petfoddellis, provost; Maister Robert Lumisden. GLASGO:—John Stewart of Mynto, knight, provost; James Flemyng. ST ANDREWS:—Patrik Leirmonth of Dersy, knight, provost; Maister Martyne Geddy. AIR:—James Bannatyne. MONTROSE:—John Erskin of Dwn, provost.

The above named personages were present at the said convention with a great number of ancient barons, divers senators of the College of Justice, and other learned men of good reputation.

Broadsheet. In a Scottish hand. Indorsed: "the names of thame quhilkis wer present at the Convention."

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 428. Another copy of same.

Aug. 1. **1111.** WOOD TO [CECIL.]

Please to show your accustomed favour to my master and this his servitor. "I shew you how straynge this propositioun wald be found heir. Howbeitt it is dangerous for my lord my maister and the kingis persoune, yett I truist it salbe hard to obteyn any uther ansueir to the lyik articlis. I hayd no thankis of the nobilite for the carying of thayme. Shir, lett not assurit freindis be uvir sayr assailyeitt I beseych you, speciallye with burdenys importable." The rest you will know by this gentleman. S[t] Johnston. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

½ *p. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Aug. 3. **1112.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

At the convention, I caused my servant M[r] John Wood to communicate amply your majesty's credit declared to him, according to the notes written with the hand of your secretary, "quhairin ar contenit thre degreis." These have been severally looked on, and every one by itself weighed and well considered by the noblemen here present, who have taken your highness's meaning in very good part. But finding the two degrees last in order, so prejudicial to the king's estate, and surety of his subjects, and dangerous for the "unquieting of the haill Ile," they can no wise send any man to your majesty to confer thereon, thinking the burden greater than any one's shoulders can bear. For the first degree, as not in itself so dangerous, and carrying some greater appearance of reason, if by your good means it may be compassed: they will not only have it conferred on, but think themselves highly bound to your highness for the same. And if the conference of any 2, 3 or 4 of them, with such of your majesty's subjects as ye will name, may find out anything tending to this end, they will gladly meet on the border to satisfy your desire. I beseech favour and credit for the bearer my servant Alexander Hume. S[t] Johnston. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Elizabeth.
1569. Aug. 3.

1113. MURRAY TO CECIL.

I refer you to my letter to the Queen's majesty, as also to the bearer my servant Alexander Hume, who is privy thereto, and credit him on my behalf. I desire you earnestly to search out and deliver to him a letter sent by me to you since I last came from England, written by the Queen Mother, to the Earl of Mar my uncle, as I trust ye remember. He is very desirous to have it again. S[t] Johnston. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed:* " . . . By Alexander Hume."

Aug. 5.

1114. WILLIAM STEWART TO REGENT MURRAY.

Add. MSS. 33,531, fol. 81.

Being suspected "most merceful Regent" to have been partaker, or at least concealer, of a conspiracy: for my purgation I will declare my whole knowledge. First: "most virtuous Regent," I believe neither your grace nor any other will accuse me of devising the same. To this hour I know not when or where it was concluded, "nother dar I swear yf ever any sik thing was conclwdit or not." But it may be replied that I am "pwnishment worthy" for concealing it: and albeit concealment of treason deserves punishment, yet till the principal devisers are tried and convicted, I cannot be accused. Though this is an "invincible" defence to any charge against me, yet will I give a further hint of my innocence: a matter universally published before it came to my ears, can be no offence in me. The bruit of your grace's murder "was tossed up and down at Edinburgh." The first day the "persown" told it me, was Wednesday the 21[st] of July, and word came that the comptroller, after purging himself of it, had left Stirling. I do not know if I durst have disclosed it to your grace. One reason is that I never thought nor to this hour believe, that the persons named by the "persown of Kynnoir" would attempt such a vile murder, and am assured your grace, knowing their names, will praise my bypast "taciturnitye," and put the matter to silence. I was assured too that though all Scotland had contrived your grace's death, it had been in vain, for you are in no danger but from "domestical treason"—and if you think my opinion vain, I do not. For he that told me, foretold so many true things that I must believe him, *e.g.* the slaughter of the Queen's husband—the ruin and forfeiture of Earl Bothwell—not only my last voyage, but where and why I made it—the death of Lyon Herald and my promotion—the Queen's deliverance and your grace's victory at "the Langsyd," and other predictions which have proved true. Why then should I distrust him in this? Now your grace shall hear how I knew it. "A certaine familiar courtiour come to my awin howse abowte the middest off July in the last year, at xi a clock or thairby before none, and told me these wordes:—'Trewly' (sais he) 'ye wil not trow a certain conspiracy is revealed to my lord Regent, and amangs wtheris that hes devisit his graceis slawghter, thair is sum of his owne freindis. Is not this a strawnge case that thay wil not suffer that gude man to leve amongst ws?' 'Trewly,' said I, 'I knaw nothing of the mater, and as to his freindis, I knaw none that favoreth the Quenis majeste, saving Arthwr only, and I dowbt greatly giff he haiff the cwrage to

Elizabeth.
1569. 'interprys so great a mater.' 'Forsuyth,' sayeth he, 'I knaw not whome to suspect; thair is of all the Quenis faction bot one man whom I fear—that is my Lord Boyd, for he is a man off a good wit and off great interpryse.' 'Weil,' said I, 'al thair interprysis wil tak no effect, for my lord Regent shal incour no dawnger bot by domestical treason.' These are our very words as near as I remember, and purposely recite them to recall the matter to his remembrance, for as it touches him not, he may have forgot them. Thus behold, most merciful Regent, my innocence of the alleged offence—to be unjustly accused of treason and murder, things I so abhor, that I think it unlawful to resist tyrants or usurpers, how wicked soever they be, following the holy writings of "Daniel and Jeremye prophetes, off Pawl, Peter and otheris," or in matters of religion, to resist the magistrate. How then could I conceive or conceal the murder of one professing the true doctrine of Christ Jesus? This, most victorious Regent, is the true discourse of the matter, and if the "persown" has for fear of his life, deposed otherwise of me, he has done far beside the truth, as I will show if it please you to confront us. As for the names of the conspirators, place and time *etc.*, I cannot for great reasons write, nor uncompelled, reveal them, but to your "grace only"; so humbly craving pardon for all other offences, and praying you to remember the commendable word "that Hadrian the Empriour said to his deadlye innemy," and call to mind that your grace is now no private man and cannot revenge any private injuries. Castle of Edinburgh. *Signed:* Wm. Stewart [Lyon Herald].

3½ *pp. Holograph. Headed by another:* "Letters from William Stewart to the Regent. . . ."

Aug. 5. **1115.** HUNSDON TO CECIL.

By a letter from S^{t} Johnston, where most part of the nobility are assembled, I see Lord Boyd's commission was read: and on long reasoning, the Scottish Queen's equality of government with the king was simply denied, but thus much granted generally, that whatsoever may be done for commodity of both countries shall be granted—two things excepted—(1) the king's authority; (2) the freedom of their country. Alexander Hume the Regent's servant, comes to the Queen's majesty with their resolution—for Lethington is suspected to be friend neither to king nor Regent, and comes not. I look for the other tonight or tomorrow.

Argyll came not to the convention. Lethington durst not go till Hume's, Atholl's and Huntly's servants and certain of the Hamiltons convoyed him. He is making a marriage between the Regent and the Hamiltons, *viz.*, between Claude Hamilton and the Regent's wife's sister, which will be cutting the Regent's throat.

The Scottish Queen sent a commission to be divorced from Bothwell, very much displeasing the nobility—for therein she wrote herself Queen, with all her styles, and also wrote to the bishop of S^{t} Andrews, "hed of the chyrche"—whereon fell great argument, Lethington for her, and James Makgyll for the king—Lethington affirming she might be divorced without prejudice to king or church, Makgyll the contrary, because she wrote to the bishop, who is not

Elizabeth.
1569. joined to the church they profess, but remains an obstinate papist: and she impugns the king's authority, not only writing herself Queen, but also writing to his rebel the bishop, and to her subjects, who were not her subjects—and therefore could have no answer. Lethington, the prior of Coldingham, "hys" brother, and the parson of Flaske [Flisk] reasoned for her—whereupon Robert Rycardston [Richardson] the treasurer took record that they "thre" had opposed the king's authority, and whosoever did so hereafter should be accounted a traitor—so her commission for divorce was utterly rejected. This morning before dinner came Fleming with the Queen's passport to return to England; and while tarrying the opening the gates, came Alexander Hume, sooner than he thought; and as I know he brings answer to her majesty's last letters, I stay Fleming (who knows all their proceedings and thinks to make his mistress privy before her majesty) for a night after Hume—sending off this letter before them both. Berwick. *Signed:* H. Hunsdon.

The Regent has written again for some aid into Liddesdale. I would gladly know her majesty's pleasure.

2 *pp. Holograph. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. 9. **1116.** GEORGE LERMONTHT TO THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. III. As I was disappointed of my letter this week to you for a passport, which the Duke of Norfolk's servant took in hand to deliver: we expressly send this young man to wait upon your lordship till it be sent us, with the most convenient diligence, as our horses are ready. Your lordship knows I have been long absent "from your ant my bedfello." There pass with me Masters James M^cGyll, Peter Young, and Patrik Adamson, to be comprehended in the passport, and our horses, not exceeding the "ordinar pryce off xl*s.* or their about." I also fetched a supply of pistols from "Allemagnie," which I pray you may be contained therein. I have nothing further to write, but that our company commends them to your lordship, and awaits your answer, if it please you to charge me with anything homeward. "Fair ye veill in the Lord." London. *Signed:* George Lermontht of Balcomy.

1 *p. Addressed* (to the Bishop): "presently in Court."

Aug. 10. **1117.** INTERROGATORIES AND ANSWERS OF NICOLAS AUBERT ALIAS PARIS.

At S^t Andrews, 10^th August 1569.

As to his first credit with the Queen at Callendar on her way to Glasgow—her demeanour to the king—messages and letters to Bothwell—return with the king to Edinburgh—her wish to place "Guilbert Courlle" as valet with him, as she did not trust Sandy Duram—the proceedings at the "Kirkafeild"—her first "pryveaute" with Bothwell—her secret talk at Linlithgow the night before she was seized—with Ormiston, who conducted Paris with her letter to "Monseur de Haltons" where Bothwell lay—who returned a message by him, that he should await her that day "sur le chemin du pont."

8½ *pp. French. Contemporary hand.*

Elizabeth. 1569.

At end, in another hand: "The copie of . . . This declaration and depositioun merkit every leafe with the said Nicolas Howbertes owne hand, beinge red againe in his presence, he avowed the same and all parties and claussis therof to be undoubtedly trew, in presence of M^r George Buchanan, maister of S^t Leonardes Colledge in S^t Androws, M^r John Wood, senator of the College of Justice, and Robert Ramsey, writour of this declaration, servand to my lord Regentis grace."

Indorsed (in Randolph's (?) writing): "Second declaration of Paris *alias* Hawbert that was at the deathe of the kinge of Scotlande."

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol., 430.

Another copy by Alexander Hay.

7 *pp. French.* Docquet:—"This is the trew copy of the declaratioun and depositioun of the said Nicholas Howbert *alias* Paris: quhairof the principall is merkit every leif with his awin hand. And the same being red agane in his presence, he avowit the same, and all partes and claussis thairof to be undowbtedlie trew."

"Ita est Alexander Hay, scriba secreti consilii S. D. N. Regis ac notarius publicus."

Aug. 12. **1118.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

On reading your letters of 3^d^, brought by Alexander Hume, with his declaration in your behalf, we found no reasonable cause of satisfaction, the matter touching you so near, that without our favour, both you and your simplest friend can well understand your perils. Plainly, our mislike is this: communicating to the whole estates (as yourself writes) our secret purposes sent you by John Wood, for excuse whereof you allege the Bishop of Ross and his servant's writings thereof—"which ar flatly denyed" by him—yet we mean to "admytt your excuse." Your private letter by your private servant is no sufficient answer: we sent you 3 heads of consultation—you having propounded them so openly, two are found so dangerous, that the noblemen will send no man to confer. The first you find not so, and you and they will send some thither. We see no reason why these dangers should not have been particularly advertised to us by writing, or at least by persons of known reputation and experience. Whereas now we are altogether unsatisfied with nothing but your private letter. And when you well consider, there is no cause why we should send commissioners to the Borders, the cause being properly yours, and it is for you to solicit our favours, and not to use the matter as if there was any equality between us and you. Wherefore we return this bearer your servant without delay, that you may speedily consider better of your proceedings, and as you mean to have continuance of our favour, satisfy us speedily in some more substantial and orderly manner than this, otherwise you shall occasion us, without further delay, to proceed of ourselves to such a determination with the Queen of Scots, as we shall find honourable and meet for ourselves. And in so doing, as we perceive by your manner of dealing you only respect yourself and no other party—we doubt how you will like it, and then though you shall afterward yield to more conformity, it may prove too late, and not recoverable by repentance. We have condescended to the two other small matters moved by your servant.

Elizabeth.
1569. 2½ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "12 Aug. 1569. M. of the Quenes Majesties lettre. . . . from Guldford."

Aug. 14. **1119.** NORFOLK TO MURRAY.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 434. I have received your letters and understand thereby what I am very sorry to hear of—I mean, that you follow not the course which your friends have both wished and advised you to take. Take heed in time, that your friends here may continue as they have done: which I assure you by this your dealing, they neither can nor will do. From the Court. Your l., as you know, T. Norfolk.

½ *p. Seemingly a copy by Hay. Below the Duke's name:* "James Regent," *possibly a signature.*

Aug. 15. **1120.** JOHN DOUGLAS TO CECIL.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol, 441. This is to advertise your honour I came from the Lord Deputy of Ireland with letters to the Regent and council, to stay the "Irishe Scottish of Kintire" and some of Argyll, from aiding the rebels in Ireland. I landed and came through Carlisle the 3d hereof, and hearing my lord Regent was in the north, I made all speed towards him till I came to Glasco, where I heard that "my lady of Kintire"* was ready to take shipping for Ireland "to marry with Tearlaghe Leynagh." She had 400 or 500 Argyll men, and 700 of Kintire. I thought to have overtaken and stayed her in Kintire, but she was gone 3 days before I got there; so I returned towards Court, came thither on 11th and was despatched on the 13th with the Regent's letters to my lord of Argyll and others he thought needful. His grace has promised to do what he can to stay these Irish Scots—but he and Argyll are not fully agreed: and as he has not full obedience in this country, he is loth to promise more than he can perform. Morton is well minded to do the Queen pleasure herein, and also bears good will to the Lord Deputy.

I hear great reports that the Queen mother is like to come home, which makes many disobedient. Dunbarton. *Signed:* Jhon Dowglase.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 16. **1121.** MARY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. You will remember our humble supplication by our trusty councillor the Bishop of Ross. in April last, to our "tender" dearest sister your mistress; to which it pleased her to order that we should send in France for declarations to satisfy her on certain "frivole" allegations —wherein we have so travelled that no "scrupule restis apoun that head." Wherefore having done all we were required, and long "abiddin" her pleasure, we pray you will advise her to aid and support our restoration without further delay; and what we can do for her content (our crown and honour reserved) we will accomplish as our said councillor will inform you, whom credit as ourself. Wingfield. *Signed:* Your richt good frind, Marie R.

1 *p. Written by a secretary. Addressed. Indorsed.*

* Widow of James MacConnel.

Elizabeth.
1569. Aug. 18. **1122.** MURRAY TO [HUNSDON ?]

I have sent you with the bearer "a tarsell and a falcoun," though I believe ye have little time for "halking," yet accept them in good part. Let me understand some "taist" of your mind, wherein I may pleasure you. S[t] Andrews. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. No flyleaf or address. Possibly to Hunsdon.*

Aug. 18. **1123.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. I have your letter by this bearer Robert Gaskoyne, and thereby see that my going to Buxton is to her majesty's offence. True, on my late motion, I had your friendly advice from Richmond to stay till I heard from her majesty (and verily meant to do): but my great necessity that ensued unlooked for, the physician's earnest persuasion, and also as her majesty's late pleasure was I should seek to recover my health, I was in manner compelled (for desire to serve her) to repair thither immediately: and though but once in the well, received much strength and comfort in my body. As in my absence all order was kept for this Queen's safety, and I could have done no more if all the world had been mine: my humble desire is by your means her majesty will not take offence. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. [20]. **1124.** MEMORIAL FOR THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. IV. Notes for the letter of this date written by the Queen to the Earl of Murray—(1) to answer her articles, (2) to desist besettiug Dunbarton, or (3) holding a convention or sending a force to the west.

1 *p. Written by the Bishop's clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): "Aug. 1569. A memoriall of the B. of Rosse at Farnham Castle."

Aug. 20. **1125.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

As since we returned your servant Hume for your more satisfactory answer, we learn that in the beginning of this month you have sent Glencairn, Sempill and others to besiege Dunbarton Castle; and appointed a new convention at Stirling towards the end thereof, to prepare new forces to pursue the Queen of Scots' adherents in the west: we think meet, as she has remitted to us the order of her causes, and have your promises many times to be advised by us, plainly to say, that we cannot take it in good part your delays in answering us, and such haste in pursuing her friends—giving us occasion to doubt, that though in words and promises you appear to depend on our favour, in your deeds you seek to fortify your own estate without our advice! Wherefore we require you peremptorily to consider our last letters sent by Hume, and make some more resolute answer on the articles sent to you by John Wood, and that by some meet person accustomed to treat with us: forbearing meantime not only to siege Dunbarton, but also to send any force to the west. And for more speedy advertisement, we have "in favor of the sayd Queene" sent these letters by this bearer Thomas Fleming, her

Elizabeth. 1569. own servant, whom we require you to return quietly to us with some meet answer: for we cannot with reason and honour satisfy her or her friends with any further delay by lack of your answer. But in default thereof we shall be occasioned, as we wrote before, to proceed so as you shall find to be much against you, and the fault only your own.

2 *pp. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed:* "20 Aug. 1569. M. of the Q. majesties lettre to therle of Murrey by Tho. Fleming from Farnham Castle."

Aug. 21. C.P., vol. IV.

1126. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

This Queen being still troubled with her old grief of her side, earnestly desires to change the air of this house, which by her long abode and the number of persons—above 240—waxes unsavoury, despite all shifts. I pray earnestly you will move her highness in my name, to give me leave to remove her to Sheffield, 16 miles hence, where I have two houses together within a mile—therefore apt to repair from one to the other, as each grows "noysome," and not troubling the country with removes. Praying early answer, as she greatly desires it, thinking it will much avail her health. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed.*

Aug. 22.

1127. ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

Since the return of your servant Hume, we are informed that one Parriss, who fled to Denmark with Bothwell, and is thought most privy to his worst actions, has by policy been brought to Scotland. Instead of executing him speedily, we think it reasonable that after diligent examination had of him, regarding the manner of the murder of Lord Darnley, his death may be deferred, whereby the truth may more plainly appear by his testimony living, than otherwise seem to have credit after his death—and require you to forbear his execution till we may hear from you, and reply thereto.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "M. to therle of Murray, 22 August 1569."

Aug. 24. C.P., vol. IV.

1128. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

Receive a letter from the Queen my mistress, by which, and my credit, she trusts your furtherance of her causes: and as it is not her good sister's pleasure she repair to her person, she prays she would send you to her, to remove jealousy; whereof I have informed some of my lords of Council. Also, as Captain Morton is coming to court, with all the "lesingis" he can invent against her, *viz.*, that she loves not the Queen's majesty in her heart, and "is the most dissimular can be," as he has said to some of his fellows at Wingfield—she prays, if admitted to court, he be caused to prove the same, or be held "for sic man as he is." London. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil).

Elizabeth.
1569. Aug. 28. C.P., vol. IV.

1129. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

By letters from the Queen my mistress, received this morning, I am commanded to shew the Queen's majesty that on 15th instant Lord Scrope proclaimed a "Lettre of Peace" on the Border—as was done last year when Murray invaded Lochinvar and others her faithful subjects, as he intends to do presently—declaring they will receive no Scotsmen nor their goods, as your honour may see by this writing of the Laird of Corrie's, who is come to my mistress. She has commanded me most humbly to pray her good sister to command Lord Scrope to receive all her servants and goods in case Murray pursues them, as it is believed he will do shortly. And if required to come myself, if ye appoint time and place for audience, I will attend with diligence. Pray expede the bearer with answer. London. This Sunday 28th August. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

Aug. 31. C.P., vol. IV.

1130. ROGER CHOLMELEY TO THOMAS MERTYFYLD.

I was at Wynkfyld last Wednesday,* saw the Queen of Scotland and talked with Lord Levyston and Mr John Levyston, who took your commendations in good part, and returned the like. I should have brought you a letter from Lord Levyston, but for good cause—as I shall declare at meeting, "not daryng to putt the sayme yn wrytyng." I am to answer my father of my business in London on "Fryday was a sennytt," on Monday next, and being very desirous to speak with you on Tuesday next, if not too "travelus" to come to my poor house at Brandysbye, you should be welcome to me, also to my wife, who desires to thank you for your pains taken at our marriage. Brandysbye. *Signed:* Roger Cholmeley.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address:* "To the ryght woorshupfull and hys very lovynge frynd, Mr Thomas Mertyfyld, esquyer. . . ." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . Roger Cholmeley to Markenfeld."

Sept. 3. C.P., vol. IV.

1131. SHREWSBURY TO LEICESTER AND CECIL.

By their letters from Basing, understands the Queen's majesty's licence for removing this Queen to his house at Sheffield, and is preparing accordingly. As his desire is to avoid any assembly or meeting at her remove, but pass quietly, he desires them in his name to assure her majesty that neither he nor his wife nor any under them, have suffered any such resort to her as has been reported, nor can any prove it. Feels by certain tokens that his gout is returning, and trusts if need be, to have their friendly aid. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed* (to Leicester and Cecil). *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 5.

1132. MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

I have received of late three letters of your highness': one by my servant Alexander Hume, the next by one Maister Thomas Flemyng,

* 24th.

Elizabeth.
1569. and the third by my lord Governor of Berwick, for deferring the execution of one Paris a Frenchman. All I have well considered: and concerning answer of the articles brought by Wood, by advice of the king's council "is deliberat" to send to your highness with all speed, Robert, commendator of Dunfermling, instructed to confer on the matters in your highness's letter and the three heads of consultation brought by Wood. For the present, seeing your highness requires speed: the information brought by the said M^r^ Thomas that I prepare any force for the west, is void of all truth, for I only came to Stirling to see the king and await my servant Hume with your majesty's message—nor is there any other besieging of Dunbarton than a very mean number of soldiers to resist their daily depredations of the poor country people. According to your highness's requisition, I have suffered Fleming to return, though his behaviour merited less favour, and have sent my answer to your majesty by my lord Governor of Berwick, and the ordinary post, rather than by him. As to Paris the Frenchman, partaker with Bothwell in the king's murder: he arrived at Leith about the "middis" of June last, I being then in the north parts far distant. Whereupon at my return after large time spent in his examination, upon 16^th^ August last he suffered death by order of law, 17 or 18 days before receipt of your highness's letters, which otherwise should have been most willingly obeyed, for its "sa gude reasoun." But I trust his testimony left shall not seem doubtful neither to you nor to those who by nature has greatest cause to desire condign punishment. Praying your majesty for letters of safe conduct for the said commendator and 12 companions to come to your presence and return at pleasure for 40 days, to be sent to me by means of the Governor of Berwick. Stirling. *Signed:* James Stewart.

2¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Sept. 5. **1133.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

By two of your letters received of late, I understand her majesty's mislike of my answer to her by Alexander Hume, and am "hartely sory": reposing as I do on her highness's favour. To let her well understand, I mean with all speed to send to her a personage of reputation and experience to confer, as she requires, and refer you to my letter to her highness's self—craving expedition of the conduct for my lord of Dunfermline. You wrote of Lethington that I do not use him as I have done: "the fault thairof as God knawis, was nevir in me." But since my coming here there was a public accusation of him and Sir James Balfour that they were of "the counsell foirknawlege and devise" of the late king's murder, and on the accuser's petition (a servant to Lennox) they were put in surety till due trial. I forbear to say more, as by my lord of Dunfermling "ye may mair amply understand the inward of my mynd." Thanking you for your admonition not to hazard losing her majesty's good opinion, I will always accept what she pleases to write, with that reverence whereto I am obliged. Stirling. *Signed:* James Regent.

1¼ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 8.

1134. HUNSDON TO CECIL.

This packet sent you, came to me this morning with a letter from the Regent, whereby I find my advertisement of Lethington is true. James "Bawfurd"* was taken out of Fife with certain horsemen and harquebusiers. They are accused by one "Craforde" a servant of Lennox, as consenting, aiding and devising the murder of Lord "Derle": and I think Parrys lately executed, affirmed no less. I hear Atholl is also in his house on "band." Craforde's accusation may be partly cause of their imprisonment, but surely the principal is a convention lately at Atholl, practising some matters for the Scottish Queen. Alnwick. *Signed:* H. Hunsdon.

¾ *p. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Sept. 11.

1135. SUSSEX TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 443.

By your letters of 6th received yesterday, I perceive you have heard that I have been no small worker in the matter of the Scottish Queen's marriage; "and yet you assured yourself that my entent was honorable and loyall, as you have fownd my lord of Norfolkes to be sens he made you pryve to the matter. And in thend you requyer me ether to deale playnly with you, or not to deale at all: for yf I showld varrye with you, the hurte myght be youres, but the dyshonor showld be myne." I thank you most heartily for your good opinion of my intent, and will give you no cause to remove from it.

My lord of Norfolk, as I wrote in my last, sent me word by Cantrell (since I came from Berwick) that the Earls of Arundel, Pembroke and Leicester had earnestly moved him to marry the Scottish Queen; wherein he required my advice as a friend whom he trusted. I answered I would give no advice until I first knew how the Queen's majesty liked it. Thereon I still depend, and if any person has said otherwise of me, or that I knew thereof sooner, or know more than I write to you, I say in plain terms, he has said untruly. I am glad you find Norfolk's extent (since he made you privy) to be honourable and loyal, and trust he will not digress, and truly I know no more than I have written. If the Queen's majesty had married with the Archduke Charles, wherein you write she now utters her disposition, it had been the best way for her surety; but the matter has been so handled as on one side it is desperate that she will *bonâ fide* intend marriage, and on the other side doubtful whether, after the hard dealing past, they will be induced to any further talk. God work in her heart for the best.

I have written plainly, I do write plainly, and I will write plainly to you, so as by my dealing you shall take no hurt nor I dishonour: and I will not vary, for with my prince and my friend I deal *bonâ fide* and know no cunning. My conscience shall be at God's direction, my heart and hand at the Queen's commandment, and all I may do with duty and honesty, at my friend's devotion. Cawood. *Signed:* T. Sussex.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

* Balfour.

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 12. C.P., vol. IV.

1136. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

Having occasion to send my servant thither, I only move you to have me in remembrance to her majesty for a further sum of money for this Queen's diet in time, the last being already expended, and a good part of my own revenue therewith. Touching health: by the "ache" of my joints, I fear my old grief of the gout, against which as I must apply care, so my very trust is in your friendship, when I shall desire it. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 12. C.P., vol. IV.

1137. ELIZABETH TO HUNTINGDON, SHREWSBURY ETC.

Having certain matters of importance to impart, sends her servant the bearer Henry Skypwith esquire, one of her equerries, to declare these with full credit, renewing to Shrewsbury her former commands and instructions as to his charge.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): "12 September 1569. M. of the Q. majesties 3 lettres to the Earls of Salop, Huntington and Viscount Hereford, sent by M^r^ Skipwith the equyry."

Sept. 15.

1138. JOHN BATEMAN TO CECIL.

Here is great care and pensiveness taken for Lethington, being as it is informed, in great peril, and most earnest desires and wishes made that ye will stand his good friend in this his extremity. I am thus bold, being moved by those that "singlerly" trust to you. Wingfeld. *Signed:* John Bateman.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 15. C.P., vol. IV.

1139. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

Master Thomas Flemyng arrived here this Wednesday,* whom I send to you to declare his proceedings in Scotland—with Murray's answer to the Queen's majesty's letter—as also to her majesty's self, if it be her pleasure to hear him. I understand her desire as to Dunbarton is not obeyed, but rather more vehement pursuit used; wherefore my mistress has commanded me to repair to your sovereign for her resolution conform to her appointment made at "Fernhame" to abide only 20 days, now past—and what relief she and her subjects may look for, seeing this summer is almost past without any comfort to them? And I hear by the bearer, that Murray has invented new occasion of delay by sending one from Scotland, which I hope her majesty will not accept for a sufficient answer from them, so prejudicial to my mistress's causes—and it is time for her to advertise other princes, her friends and confederates of her proceedings here. I pray your honour move her majesty to appoint me audience and advertise me thereof. London. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Written and addressed by his clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): " . . . By M^r^ Fleming."

*14th.

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 18. **1140.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. By the Queen's majesty's letters and credit to M^r^ Skipwith, I see her pleasure for this Queen's safe keeping, wherein I shall have the assistance of the Earl of Huntingdon and Viscount Hereford to resist any attempt for escape. Having declared by my humble answer my obedience, my suit by you is for her authority to levy men *etc.* as needful: praying credit for the bearer my servant Nicholas Browne. Would that my body were fit to serve, but for want of rest, I hourly feel danger to my life by "relaps," notwithstanding all counsel of physic in this "my restles charg." Wherefore I give you foreknowledge, that I may have your help for my release. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 19. **1141.** SHREWSBURY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. IV. Acknowledging receipt of her letters and commands by M^r^ Skipwith, which he will obey to the uttermost of his power. Praying sufficient authority to carry them into effect: and will execute them as far as the weakness of his "paynfull bodie" will suffer—which is in extreme danger by lack of rest. Begs speedy consideration of this great charge. Wingfield. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: talbot and garter* (good).

Sept. 20. **1142.** MAITLAND TO MARY.

C.P., vol. IV. Murray,* so far as I can learn, assures himself the Queen† will never support you, nor digest that you marry Norfolk. This feeds his humour and makes him more obstinate. All contrary advertisements and "terrours" he esteems but wind. Yet I assure myself, if he thought you in earnest, he would yield; if he saw you remove northward to the New Castle "he wald put water in his wyne." If the Queen let you come, and will assist with some force, I think ye shall not see a man here "yn your contrar, at least nane that is able to cast the ballance." If she but feeds you with words, and drives time to see how things go in other countries, my opinion is you solicit that Sir Nicolas Throkmorton may be sent with the Queen's commission, not only to Murray but the whole nobility. She has a good ground for this, for at the convention at S^t^ Johnston, when her instructions by Wood were opened, it was marvelled why she sent not one of her own, if she minded to accord the matter. Besides, Murray "wesshis at al tymes" his own hands of it, and lays the burden on the nobility. If one of her own came, "it may be other langage wilbe holden then yit hes bene." I know Sir Nicolas is a wise man and your friend, and has credit with many here. "Atour," if the nobility assemble, I dare undertake a few factious men shall not overthrow good matters. It were necessary I knew of his coming beforehand, to write to my friends, that so many assemble, as there shall be free speech. If the Queen will help your cause, even

* Symbol "X." † Symbol "D."

Elizabeth.
1569. at small charge, there will be no contradiction—if not, and she entertain both sides, there is a remedy, if men see it is but vain to trust to her, and reform what is amiss. There are enough that have will and force to do it: but building on two foundations will never help us. What Sir Nicolas will say will be taken here for the mind of the English nobility, and most of ours will be brought to it. I have of late dealt with divers ministers, who will not be repugnant to good accord: "howsoevir I think Nox [*sic*] be inflexible." Grange, who can do much by "this castel," bears you as good will as any subject you have. He will ever press to dress good ways for Murray, who must be rather drawn on by necessity, when he is in a strait, than he will yield before he sees danger. Meantime find the means to keep him on the Borders: and if the opposite wardens drive time, matters will frame better in the "in country." I had no leisure to write to Norfolk * hereon: so please your majesty impart this my letter. I did not plainly tell the bearer I would write to you, only to Norfolk in his and Alexander Clarke's favour. Please show them favour as I promised to Grange their friend. Ye know the bearer is S^t^ Colme's brother your affectionate servant: and though you esteemed Clarke "ane onfreind," he is not now so; "Tyme alteris wonderfully mens myndes." Robert Mailvile marvels ye write nothing to him this long time: on my faith ye have not a trustier servant, or that has more ill will of your unfriends, yet never ceases to do good offices for you. From the Castle of Edinburgh.

2 *pp. Cipher.*

(2) Decipher of same.

2¾ *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (partly by Cecil).

Sept. 21. **1143.** LORDS HUNTINGDON AND HEREFORD TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. Though M^r^ Skypwyth can tell you how my lord Shrewsbury sent for us, we thought good to give you the particulars.

First, my lord imparted to us, that while he thought convenient to remove the Queen of Scots, he now utterly misliked Sheffield—partly as she wished to go, partly as he likes not this country, and that "worsse," and chiefly as farthest from us—and concluded as for the best, to go to Tutbury, whither she goes this day and we in company, as he earnestly required. We came hither on Monday night †; and yesternight "at evenyng prayer" we saw her, and not before. The sum of her talk with us (as my lord also heard) was our sovereign's unkind and strait dealing, to whom she committed herself, hoping for aid, but was now in utter despair of going home: "for (to use hyr aune tearme) she sayd Tytteburye was fromwarde hyr heame. 'But,' saythe she, 'yf my gude syster wylle doo nothyng for me, then I wylle trye what other prynces wylle doo for me.'" You can better judge than we, of what force it is. She greatly desired to send up one of her own with letters, and used many devices—but my lord denied it, and so we advised him to do, till he heard further. We offered to carry her letters, but she declined with thanks. Wingfield. *Signed:* H. Huntyndon, W. Hereforde.

2 *pp. Holograph of Huntingdon, also address. Indorsed.*

* "A." † 19th.

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 22. C.P., vol. IV.

1144. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

[*Reporting his conference with Lords Huntingdon and Hereford, and their joint decision.*] This Queen arrived here yesternight, accompanied by the said lords and myself. I was moved to this by the weakness of Sheffield, in respect of this castle (though also not strong), and their near assistance if needed. She showed herself at first unwilling, though she came quietly to outward appearance, without uttering any "undecent wordes." She had some talk with Huntingdon, whereof I doubt not he has written, as he made me privy. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

On slip attached: Postcript: I have stayed all commissions for sending her letters anywhere till I know the Queen's majesty's pleasure.

1¼ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 23. C.P., vol. IV.

1145. BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

The Queen my mistress has advertised me of her letters to the Queen's majesty by M^r^ Skipwith, desiring audience for me; and as commanded, I came this Thursday* to Windsour, where I attend her majesty's pleasure. Praying you to move her majesty to hear me, as her leisure may spare: "and the sonar wilbe the more acceptable—quhairof it will pleis your honour advertis me with this berar." Windsor. This Friday. *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

¾ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 24. C.P., vol. IV.

1146. HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

Yesternight at Leaster [Leicester] I received her majesty's and your letters sent by Lord Shrewsbury's servant, and this day I came hither, and find that my lord has "cut of" most of this Queen's train, and she now has but 40, as he tells me. For her safe keeping: as he is as able by himself, as with me and but my 2 men, for want of lodging: so I do go to my house of Ashbey,† but 8 miles hence, so we may hear every hour from each other, and I can do as good service as here. I pray I may know her majesty's pleasure speedily herein, as I do it for the best. Tutbury. *Signed:* H. Huntyngdon.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 25. C.P., vol. IV.

1147. ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY, HUNTINGDON AND HEREFORD.

Since our last, we have cause to reiterate our former charge; for the Duke of Norfolk, who was named to marry the Queen of Scots, lately departed our Court to London on pretence of private business: writing on 22^d^ instant he would return in 4 days; yet beyond expectation, next day left London for Keninghale, whence he wrote on 24^th^ he doubts our displeasure, yet asserts his loyalty. Wherefore trusting in you three, we require you to have your friends ready against any attempt to "recover" the Queen of Scots "awey," employing none corrupted by her faction. You shall jointly arrange to be in her

* 22nd. † Ashby de la Zouche.

Elizabeth.
1569. company, and as we much doubt some of your (Shrewsbury's) servants are corrupted by her or her faction, we will that they are removed, and others of yours (Huntingdon) placed there. Also that the multitude of her servants be removed, leaving only a competent number for her chamber, and to dress and serve her meat—not allowing her to go out of the castle, or receive any messages, till our further pleasure—yet all with good speeches to her, as we know you can, and that this change is caused by herself, till we know the truth.

If you thought a search in her own or her servants' coffers might reveal writings meet to be known to us, we fully warrant you to make such and advertise us.

3 *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Sept. 25. **1148.** SHREWSBURY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. IV. Expressing his thanks for her command that Lord Huntingdon be joined with him during his weakness—but as he is now well recovered, and as able to serve her as ever, prays that she will graciously continue him in his charge. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 25. **1149.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. Referring to his letter to her majesty, and seeing that he is now recovered and as strong and healthful as ever, entreats that he will move her still to use his services in the great trust, without Huntingdon being joined to him; which would be as great a discredit and dishonour as could chance to him. Has reduced the Queen of Scots' number to 30 persons besides women—removed all suspected, and ordered that none shall be received in towns *etc.* about, or leave them without his knowledge. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

Prays credit for the bearer his servant Browne.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 26. **1150.** JOHN BATEMAN TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. Though at M[r] Skipwith's departure there was some peril of relapse feared of my lord, yet as he immediately well recovered by "due evacuation and order of phisick," he is now as well and able for his charge as ever. In the physician's opinion, there is no doubt of his former "grief" before next spring. Yet he is in some discomfort and perplexity at the thought of being removed as unwilling or unfit to serve her majesty. He has increased the number of his own servants and reduced that of this Queen's. He wishes it would please her majesty to send some trusty gentleman (as M[r] Skipwith) to remain about him. I dare not presume to mention how sorrowfully this Queen takes the matter of her cause. Tutbury. *Signed:* John Bateman.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 26. C.P., vol. IV.

1151. ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

Seeing by his letter of 25th brought by his servant "who caried our late lettres from the Vyne," that he desires to be in charge alone: assures him that no manner of doubt of his fidelity or diligence moved her to give him assistance, but only his sickness—and though glad to perceive it does not now hinder his service, yet thinks it better in its uncertainty, to provide for surety, but has no meaning to discredit him by joining a nobleman his neighbour to assist him. She is more moved thereto, by the sudden departure of the Duke of Norfolk from London without her knowledge; from whom till she hears somewhat, as matters have been "sinisterly handeled," she has good cause to see to the safety of his charge. Windsor.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by him): ". . . Sent from Windsor by Mr Nich. Brown."

Sept. 27. C.P., vol. IV.

1152. SHREWSBURY AND OTHERS TO THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTH.

Having lately received her majesty's direction to have good regard to the Scottish Queen: as it seems by her majesty's letters that "something hathe bene purpossed by some towching" her, and her majesty is doubtful how they mind to proceed: we are desirous to understand from your lordship and the rest, the state of the countries under your charge, trusting for answer by the bringer. Tutbury Castle. Shrowysbury, H. Huntington, Hereforde.

¾ *p. Copy by Bateman. Marginal note by Shrewsbury.*

Sept. 29. C.P., vol. IV.

1153. SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

The bearer Archbald Stuert, came hither desiring to speak with the Queen of Scots. He had no letters but those we send in a packet under our seals, for you to peruse and do as thought good. He spoke with her "for his owne causes," we being both present to hear what he said. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury, H. Huntyngdon.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 29. C.P., vol. IV.

1154. SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

Since writing our other letter which "this berer" brings, we have had much to do with this Queen as to her attendants; and have driven it to the number of 42 persons, which she says cannot be lessened, and further trusts the Queen's majesty doth mind she may be used as a prince and not as a common person. She says also she can send none of them into Scotland, except she would send them to be hanged: but if the Queen will imprison them, her will be done—for says she 'Nowe my self am a prisoner, my folkes may be prisoners also'—and many such speeches. When we consider the persons and their places, we cannot well see how to diminish the number, and send you the copy, staying till we hear again from you. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury, H. Huntyngdon.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Elizabeth.
1569. Sept. 29. C.P., vol. IV.

1155. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

The Queen's majesty's letter of 26th was greatly to my comfort: and I will answer her good opinion with shedding of my blood, "when occasyon requere." No servant or friend moved me, as she thinks, but it came wholly of myself. But now, in this doubtful time, I am right glad of the assistance of any her majesty pleases. I have removed all persons in whom I find any cause of suspicion. Tutbury Castle, Michaelmas day. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury. Credit the bearer Jhone Ryston, whom I well trust.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Sept. 29. C.P., vol. IV.

1156. EXAMINATION OF THE EARL OF ARUNDEL.

On margin:—Lord Keeper of Great Seal; Marquis of Northampton; Lord Chamberlain; the Secretary.

The Earl says that before the Queen was at Greenwich last, he never heard of intent of marriage betwixt the Queen of Scots and the Duke of Norfolk, and heard of the Duke there were that liked it, which were great both with her majesty and that Queen. Never dealt otherwise in it, but thought if well considered, it might be to the weal of the Queen and the realm.

(2) Never allowed it should be opened to the Queen of Scots before being declared to the Queen's majesty, for he never heard of such practise.

(3) He never saw nor heard of any letters from or to the Queen of Scots thereon.

(4) Nor of any money given or sent to her or hers.

(5) Nor ever advised the Duke to depart from court, or to persist in the matter without her majesty's consent.

[*Some question omitted.*] He answers that if Mr West has reported anything of him, and will deny it, he is satisfied. But Mr West being asked if he ever reported to her majesty or her council, anything to touch the Earl with treason, denied any such report to any person living, or knowledge of such.

"Secondly:"—Mr West being asked whether he said he was willed by the Queen's majesty to repair to Sussex to inquire of the Earl's proceedings? says he never so reported or used the Queen's name; but being asked by the Earl if he so inquired privately, answered that thereto he was not presently to answer. Whereon the Earl said that when West would answer therein, he also would show those of whom he had the report mentioned in his letters.

He never had any message of importance from the Spanish ambassador, but such as he had written to Mr Secretary this last summer, when the ambassador's servant said he had dealt therein with my lord of Leicester at London.

He never dealt with the French ambassador on any matter of importance.

1¼ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him).

(2) Another copy of same.

1¼ *pp. Written by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by Cecil): ". . . Erle of Arundells first examina."

Elizabeth. 1569. [Sept. end of.]

1157. MURRAY TO [CECIL].

Requesting him to procure sharp commandment to Sir John Forster to answer grievous complaints of Scottish subjects against Englishmen of the West March who go through Sir John's charge, committing divers enormities and spoils, not yet redressed. [Kelso.] *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. No flyleaf or address.*

Oct. 1. **1158.** MARY TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 444. App. I., No. 19.

Seeing the suspicion of me, the sudden change of my guards and treatment of my servants, when I looked for very different usage after my trust in you—left with but 20 attendants, my poor women driven away without money or shelter, far from their country — I feel this harder than I could have believed, being without news of Scotland or France—forbidden to go out and intruded on in my chamber with pistolets and arms in fear of my life! My coffers, my people, searched and nothing found to injure you, and looking for yet worse treatment: I make these last requests to you—1st, to give me an interview to satisfy you; 2nd, to send me back to my country with your help, or to France, or at least, to communicate with the bishop of Ross on my affairs and reply by letter or message; and 3rd, if you will keep me prisoner, put me to ransom and not let me waste away in tears and vain regrets—or place me in the hands of some keeper not suspected by my friends. From my prison at Tutbury. *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p. French. Holograph.*

Oct. 3. **1159.** HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV.

Because this bearer may bring me something from you, I am bold to trouble you: hoping that this day or tomorrow we shall hear from you—when as you know, if "the D." [Norfolk] come to Court (as I hear he does) I am in hope my abode here shall not be long. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* H. Huntyngdon.

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 5. **1160.** MURRAY'S INSTRUCTIONS TO THE COMMENDATOR OF DUNFERMLINE.

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 445.

Sent in embassy to the Queen of England from Kelso.

First: to do all to satisfy the Queen's discontent with the Regent's answer sent by his servant Hume. (Second to sixth): to declare the insuperable objections against her proposal that the Queen and her son should jointly rule—which moved them against sending any commissioners to confer thereon—relating also Mary's violation or evasion of her promise at Stirling before her marriage to the king's father, in presence of 22 of the chief nobles, that she would establish true religion and abolish papistry: but on performance thereof being craved of her in parliament by Sir Walter Ker of Cesfurd, Sir John Stewart of Tracquair, Sir Andrew Murray of Balward, and Maisters George Buquhanan, John Row and George Hay directed from the kirk, she partly denied and partly frustrated

Elizabeth.
1569. her promise—meantime trafficking with the Pope's nuncio in Paris to set up the papal religion. Also to remind Elizabeth of the "mynt" Mary made to the crown of England, her arms *etc.*—the utter impossibility of obtaining any surety for her promises—requesting her detention either in England or Scotland, as Elizabeth pleases, and repeating the charge of her being accessory to her husband's murder, and describing the documents produced to prove the same—eight letters in French of her own hand written to Bothwell [*with a list of other documents touching her demission, divorce of Bothwell, marriage, etc.*] Copies of all which were delivered to M^r^ Secretary, and remain with him. Finally expressing great wonder ("admiration") at some words in the Queen's majesty's letter of 20^th^ August last, showing her displeasure with his delay and pursuing Mary's adherents *etc.*—giving Murray's contrary statement, that he is not *in mora*, and her majesty must explain her meaning.

14 *pp. In a Scottish hand. Not indorsed.*

Oct. 5. **1161** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

Being at Kelso when your highness's safe conduct came for my lord of Dunfermling, I sent for him, and he being ready has addressed himself to your majesty so soon as possible. Trusting your majesty will give him favourable audience and firm credit according to that trust the noblemen have reposed in him. Kelso. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . By the L. of Dunfermling." *Wafer signet* (as before).

Oct. 5. **1162.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Requesting credit for the Lord of Dunfermling as for himself. Also desiring that when Dand Ker called of Sheilstokbrayes, a notorious trespasser now in prison at Berwick, has satisfied for his offences there, he may be delivered to him or his officers to answer for others done on this Border. Kelso. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 6. **1163.** QUESTIONS ON DISPOSAL OF THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 458. Memoranda on the dangers and commodities (1) of her being kept in England and (2) if she return to Scotland, and as to the number and rank of the hostages to be delivered for her safety in the latter case.

5 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by him).

Oct. 6. **1164** CECIL TO ELIZABETH.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 456. Many causes move me rather with this short wr[iting] to deliver my mind to your majesty "than by 'oppen speche befoir your counsell." No true councillor can be without inward grief to see this unfortunate case of the Queen of Scots, become so "troobloose" to you. But it is their part either to diminish your grief without peril, or show that the causes appear greater than they are. Under your

Elizabeth.
1569. favour, I am bold to show my opinion thus:—The Queen of Scots is and shall always be a dangerous person to your estate: yet there are degrees of danger. If you would marry, it should be less; whilst you do not, it will increase. If her person be "restrayned" here or in Scotland, it will be less; if at liberty, greater. If by law she cannot marry while Bothwell lives, the peril is less; if free to marry, the greater. If found guilty of her husband's murder, she shall be less "a person perillooss"; if passed over in silence, "the skarr of the m[urder] will weare out, and the danger gretar."

"Now for the Duke": whilst unmarried, his hope to match with her will continue; if he marry elsewhere (most necessary) all pernicious intents depending on him shall cease.

If charged, but not convicted of treason, his credit shall increase. I cannot see how his acts are within the compass of treason.

Wherefore I am bold to wish your majesty would show your intent only to inquire into the fact, and not speak of it as treason: and if you consider the words of the Statute, I think you will agree. These are in the "French book *in anno* 25 Ed. 3. *Si home leva de guerre ov[eq] nostre Seignor le Roy en son royalme, ou soit adherent aux ennemyes nostre dit seignor le roy en son royalme, aux eux donnant ayde et comfort en son royalme, ou par alliours et de ceo probablement soit atteynt de overt fayt par gentz de leur condition etc.*"

1½ *pp.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him): "6 Octobris 1569. My advise to the Q. Ma^{ty} in the D. of Norfolkes case."

Oct. 9. **1165.** INTERROGATIONS FOR EARL OF ARUNDEL.

C.P., vol. IV. 1. When her majesty was at Greenwich, at what time did "he" first hear of the intention of marriage?

2. In what place there did the Duke first break this with him?

3. Whether he heard of it at Hampton Court?

4. Whom did the Duke name that were "great" with both Queens, and liked of it?

5. Did he allow it, or dissuade the Duke, or advise moving it to her majesty before proceeding further?

6. Whether and how often the Bishop of Ross has been with him in any of his houses, and when did he confer first with him? And what passed between them on this marriage, or anything else touching the Queen of Scots?

7. Did he ever hear of letters to her from any lords of the Privy Council?

8. Did he ever talk of this marriage with Lord Lumley?

9. What messengers have "you" received from or sent to the Duke since your "restraynt"?

10. Have "you" not received a message from him how he had provided for his children whatsoever came of him, and had "made estates of his landes for sixten yeares to Sir Thomas Cornw. (?) and others"?

11. Who told him he was charged with treason by M^{r} West?

1 *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him).

Elizabeth.
1569.
Oct. 10.

1166. SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. IV.

As your majesty commanded, we have dealt with the Queen of Scots for the letters which the Earls of Pembroke and Leicester wrote to her. She confesses receipt since Whitsuntide of one signed by both, sent by the Bishop of Ross, and no more. We have earnestly desired a sight of it, and used many persuasions, and are forced to tell your highness she will not let us see it, nor say where it is, but says she will send for it if we will let her. We have offered to send for it, but she will not agree, saying that one of her own shall fetch it, or nobody. Though we offered one of our own to go with one of hers, she utterly refused.

A servant of Lord Herries brought letters to her, which we send to your majesty, as your pleasure was to keep her from all intelligence, and also a letter from the Bishop of Ross: none of which she has seen. M^r^ Secretary has advertised us of her complaint that we came to her chamber with pistolets suddenly to her great terror. We must confess that the night we searched her coffers, some of our men carrying pistolets, attended us as usual to the doors: and to confess the truth to your majesty, one or two entered the chamber, the rest following; seeing which, we turned and stayed them, commanding all without and within, to lay aside their pistolets—"whiche she dothe very well knowe," and we marvel at her complaint of this—knowing your majesty's pleasure that we use her with gentleness. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrowesbury, H. Huntyngdon.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet: a talbot, and garter motto.*

Oct. 10.

1167. HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV.

"Immanuell":—The bearer takes our letter to her majesty on the letters written by the earls of "P." and "L." to this Queen, about Easter as her highness writes—though she says brought since Whitsuntide—so I omit more: only adding that I gather by her speeches, they are neither in her keeping, nor in Scotland, nor with the Bishop of Ross. "Allmost in playne wordes she utteryd to me alone no lesse: but I toke yt sumwhat to hastelye, which I was sorrye for, and then she callyd yt backe agayne, saynge I shulde not knowe wheare hyr creddytte was in England." We have reduced her number to 32 persons—the rest are gone. She is now quiet and not without great hope—"tho she wolde have us to thynke that she ys in utter despayre" of any good here. I pray God assist the Queen and you her councillors in the spirit of wisdom and fortitude, considering the causes, the time, and the persons you have to deal with. Tutbury. *Signed:* H. Huntyngdon.

I have committed some credit to the bearer.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 10.

1168. SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV.

This Queen hearing this bearer's despatch, desired us he might take her letter to the Bishop of Ross, which we thought good, so it come first to your hands: and in my lord Huntingdon's absence 2 miles off, I send it to you inclosed. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

Elizabeth.
1569. "My ille nebur the goute" I trust will not visit me."*

Postscript: One John Levingston, master of her horse, lies I hear in Yorkshire. He left her at Wingfield, and being a chief practiser, I advertise you to move the Lord President to apprehend and examine him as you think good. His wife is here with this Queen.

2 *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 10. **1169.** NORFOLK'S PETITIONS TO THE VICE-CHAMBERLAIN.

C.P., vol. IV.

1. To explain his letter of submission to the Privy Council "a Mundaye laste":† that he meant not to deny, but confess, his offence to her majesty in not making her privy to his proceeding with the Queen of Scots touching marriage, "before hande." But as to forgetfulness of his duty of allegiance he is so clear, "that he utterly refuseth or defyeth marcye."

2. That I should deal with all his friends for her majesty's favour and "releace" of his punishment.

3. That Banyster his solicitor may repair to him in presence of the Lieutenant or Sir Harry Nevell, for ordering his suits and payments.

4. That he may send open letters for ordering his house, children and servants, and receive answer.

5. That he may have space to walk in and take the air for his health.

6. That Anthonye his servant may attend him in place of Sharpe.

7. That Schymen his servant may bring him "aelle drynk freshe and freshe" for his health.

1 *p.* *Written by Sir F. Knollys.* *Indorsed* (by him) and (by Cecil): "Presented by M[r] Vichamberlen."

Oct. 10. **1170.** ARUNDEL'S SECOND EXAMINATION.

C.P., vol. IV.

Lord Keeper; Lord Marq. of Northampton; Lord Chamberlain; M[r] Secretary:—

1. The motion was made by the Duke to him when last at Greenwich: but he cannot remember if her majesty was there.

2. He does not remember the place.

3. Never heard of it at Hampton Court.

4. He‡ named none specially: but in general as before answered.

5. He never procured the Duke to proceed, but does not remember his answer.

6. The Bishop at Nonsuch this summer, delivered to him a letter from the Queen of Scots, generally in favour of her causes, as to the other lords: he had no conference there or elsewhere with the bishop. Had another letter from her, but when, knows not.

7. Cannot tell whether he ever heard thereof or no.

8. Cannot tell if he ever talked with him or no: but if he did, it was neither to set it forward or backward.

9. Never received or sent message from or to the Duke since restraint.

10. Received no such message as in the article.

* Holograph. † 3rd. ‡ The Duke.

Elizabeth.
1568. 11. He advertised the Lords by his servant Stoughton, that the first time he heard the bruit of M^r^ West reporting of him, was by his son in law Lord Lumley: and confesses this only to satisfy her majesty.

1 *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by him).

Oct. 12. **1171.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Requesting that the enclosed letter may be delivered to the lord of Dunfermling as soon as may be. Kelso. *Signed:* James Regent.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 13. **1172.** SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON TO THE COUNCIL.

C.P., vol. IV. According to your letter of 8^th^ instant, we each sent a servant of trust to the house of Richard Cavendishe in Nottinghamshire, where his goods and folks remain, to apprehend him: but he has not been there since Midsummer. They searched the house diligently, but could find no writings. Those in it said he is in Suffolk at his brother's house nigh Ipswich. We can learn no more about him. Tutbury Castle. *Signed;* G. Shrouesbury, H. Huntyngdon.

* His man said he was at "Grymson Halle besydes Ipswyche."

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 13. **1173.** ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

"To the Regent":—We have received your letters and writings by George "Carie" our cousin, whom we are glad to see you have found a meet person to deal with: and where it appears to us that the Duke of Norfolk did first motion to you the matter of marriage with the Scottish Queen, we earnestly require you to consider well, and procure as many proofs with circumstances, as you can well compass, to make it appear that the said Duke moved it to you or any of yours, and that it was not moved by you to him, as we were informed of late, and had cause to think, before receipt of your late letters. "And herin the more evident the prooffes shall be to mayntean your advertisementes, the better shall we allow of you and your actions." We desire only to know the truth hereof, thinking ourselves not well used, "if any have reported that we did ever allow of any such mariadg, as indede we never did, nor in reason shall do, and so we assure you." Requiring speedy advertisement, which you may safely send in writing by William Drury, marshal of Berwick.

1 *p.* *Draft by Cecil.* *Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 15. **1174.** MEMORIAL BY THE BISHOP OF ROSS.

C.P., vol. IV. Since the abbot of Dunfermline is come commissioned by the Earl of Murray and others to treat on the differences between the Queen my mistress and her subjects: it will please the Queen's majesty (as her affairs may permit) to enter thereon, whereby my mistress may have resolute answer: also to cause Murray desist from sieging Dunbarton.

* Holograph of Huntingdon.

Elizabeth.
1569. Also to grant safe conduct to Lord Boyd to come to England and remain in her company.

And as I am required to produce the copy of a letter, whereof the principal is with my mistress, and have no special command from her therein, and the copy I have is not "autentyk": that her highness would grant me a passport to send a servant for the "autentyk" copy, and know her pleasure for my proceedings.

½ *p. Copy by Cecil's clerk. Indorsed* (by another).

Oct. 15. **1175.** ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY.

C.P., vol. IV. Referring to his letter in September for help in case of his gout returning, when Huntingdon was sent for relief, hearing that the Earl has no lodging in the castle meet for his health, and his servants have to go for their meals to the town, far distant: advises him to see these things amended, and in order to this, to reduce the number of the Queen of Scots' servants, and have good heed to his own, many of whom are reported to have been seduced to favour her practices, without his knowledge. Under her signet.

Postscript: Thinks that his former desire to have sole charge of her without Huntingdon, came not of himself, but of some about him too much "affectionated" to her.

2 *pp. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 17. **1176.** QUESTIONS ON DISPOSAL OF THE QUEEN OF SCOTS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 462. *Extracts.*

The dangers if she remain in England:—In the (7th) head it is stated that she is able "by hir great wytt, and hir sugred eloquence, to wyn even such, as before they shall come to hir company, shall have a great mislykyng"; (8th) continual solicitation for her by herself, the kings of France, Spain, and danger of her marrying a foreign prince "by a lettre"—war following thereon; (9th) commiseration of her state; (10th) casualty of her death; and (11th) the unquietness of the Queen's majesty's mind for all these reasons.

Reasons why she should return to Scotland:—In one of the objections, it is stated that her majesty might either keep her a perpetual prisoner "being her capitall ennemy in clayming hir crowne, or might do that which in other tymes ar seene by manny historyes, kynges and princes have done—that is by justice to take hir liff from hir" *etc.*

[*Summing up*]:—The Queen's majesty has most reason to send her to Scotland: "wher hir majesty is to provyde that she may lyve the naturall courss of hir liff in suerty, and to that end is to have a sufficient nombre of hostages."

4¼ *pp. Draft by Cecil. Not indorsed.*

Oct. 19. **1177.** SHREWSBURY TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. IV. In answer to your majesty's letters of 15th hereof: my desire to serve in this charge alone, proceeded only of myself, and not of the

Elizabeth.
1569. advice of any other creature, but rather contrary to the mind of any one about me, and for no other respect than to show my zeal in your service. For my lord Huntingdon's lodging in this your castle: he is placed the best in my judgment of all others here, next the Queen of Scots; and though I have required him to choose any other, he denied to remove. For his servants: such as have not tarried at meals, have been sundry times moved by my officers, and shall be again, to tarry. Though by your majesty's direction, the number about this Queen is diminished, yet no part of the diet is, that was allowed to her and her train either at Bolton or since. Touching the suspicion of my servants practising: I beseech your majesty to think I am most vigilant to every person about me; and I cannot find after examination and other trial, but that they are faithful and zealous to serve your majesty. Divers indeed I avoided before coming last hither, seeing some cause to fear of their seducement. Tutbury Castle. *Signed;* G. Shrouesbury.

2 *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 19. **1178.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. Will be evermore greatly bounden to him for his friendly advertisements. As it seems to him that her majesty does not yet think well of his "mocion" in September to serve alone: begs him to be a mean for her gracious interpretation thereof, and to assure her he is ready to serve her in any way. Confesses to him that he feared the ordering of his men by others. Has not a doubt of the truth and zeal of his servants: but should Cecil suspect any, will not fail to send them up forthwith. Tutbury. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1½ *pp. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 19. **1179.** HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. I have received your letters, the copy, "*etc.*" Nothing is imparted to me plainly, "but in darke and colleryke tearmes, sum thynge ys utteryd." I mind not to agree to any alteration for the time I shall tarry here, "but, as one ignorante what hyr majesty hathe wryttyn, passe yt over, and doo as I have don; I knowe yt wylle please hym, and be my best meane to quenche that as ys kyndlyd. I am sure also (under correction) thys to doo wylle prove best for hyr majestyes servysse and my quiet"; and therefore humbly sue her it may be passed over. For my travail, it is but my duty, and for my charge, she has already recompensed me, and I count no expense bestowed in her service: "so for Godes sake let yt be."

The bearer, who is honest and trusty, can inform you of all things, as I have imparted to him for brevity what else I would have written. Tutbury. In haste. *Signed:* H. Huntyngdon.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 22. **1180.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

At receipt of your highness's letter of 13th instant, I was ready to enter Liddesdale in pursuit of thieves, and all the requisite writs touching the matter are sent back to Edinburgh, seeing I looked not to

Elizabeth.
1569. have written to your majesty till my return; all letters being stayed by my order for the difficulty of passage—as my intercepted letter last year when in "thir" fields has given me experience. The "order" of moving that marriage I have already declared by M^r^ Carey, and whatever I can collect further to make the truth "mair evident" shall be sent to your highness as soon as possible. Hawick. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Wafer signet* (as before).

Oct. 22. **1181.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Explaining that he was near Liddesdale when the Queen's letter arrived on the 19th. Is uncertain whether Norfolk is free or not from any contract. "Thir wordes of his lettre to me in that respect ar to be considerit: That he is sa fer proceidit in that matter, as with conscience and honour he cannot turne bak." Has received no answer in one thing he specially asked advice, *viz.*, how to behave himself in uttering the matter moved by Carey, and yet keep it secret: for he must first "taist" the minds of divers. No diligence shall be wanting in him to give her majesty all the information he can on the marriage. Prays him to move her majesty not to take 2 or 3 days' delay in evil part; and give her his humble thanks for the assistance of her wardens, and the marshal of Berwick. Hawick. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 23. **1182.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO HERRIES.

C.P., vol. IV. Our sovereign wrote to me from Tudberry on 10th instant that the Queen of England wrote to Murray to pay the men of Carlisle the money she had borrowed from them: he then by John Wod excused himself, that Huntly had received the crown fruits *etc.* of the north, and if he might get them, he would pay it. This will not serve him now, therefore as commanded, I moved the Queen at Windsor on 15th instant, to desire Murray earnestly to pay the "puir" men: when it pleased her majesty to say that he having disobeyed her letters to him in favour of our mistress's faithful subjects, "for that and sum uther respectis, wald not truble him with forder writtingis in theis caussis at the present." Therefore as you and I obtained the first letters at Hampton Court to Murray, I pray you earnestly to travail with him therein, according to your wisdom and diligence. I doubt not ye know the estate of this country, which though partly altered on wrong reports, yet I believe her majesty and wise council will shortly take order to her contentment and the comfort of our mistress (?).* The King of France gained a battle on 3rd instant, against his enemies, and has written here he will be more able to support our mistress, and undoubtedly intends to do. Commend me to my lord Duke and other friends of your company. London. Jo. Rossen.

1 *p. Copy in a Scottish hand. Addressed at foot:* "To my Lord Hereis." *No flyleaf.*

* Much damaged here.

Elizabeth.
1569. Oct. 23.

1183 ELIZABETH TO MURRAY.

To the Erle of Murray:—

We have heard the bearer, the commendator of Dunfermling, in his charge from you in answer to our letters in August last, sent to you by your servant Hume: and allow his sufficiency. Certain of our Council also heard him by our command, and on their report we ourselves did advisedly peruse the writings exhibited by him. Finding the matters we propounded very weighty, and your answers well conceived, and mostly reasonable; yet as we see no clear resolution from you how a convenient end may succeed without evident peril, we have showed our mind to the said bearer, who is well able to discern the dangers, and on his report wish you to consider it, and with speed advertise us.

1 *p. Draft by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk).

Oct. 23. **1184.** MAITLAND TO CECIL.

Hearing from Arche Stewart lately returned, the continuance of your accustomed favour, I most heartily thank you. No man can be long employed in princes' affairs, without one time or other tasting of the malice of the world and envy of Court: which my present lot is to feel in my own person. Though many be "conjured" against me—most part bound for private benefits, and some advanced by me to chief offices of the realm, and enjoyment of their lands: yet (praised be God) I have as good friendship of the noblest and best as any man of my degree. Though my lord Regent has been more moved to yield than of his own "naturall" I am assured he would: I hope in God he shall show himself so "indifferent," that in the end their counsels shall be disappointed. If they can by their calumnies, as they have done here, make me odious to the Queen's majesty, they will endeavour: but I trust her majesty knowing my uprightness and sincerity in negotiations since she came to the crown, will not believe them till I be allowed to purge myself. By Stewart I learn, that conferring with the Earl of Lennox's servants, you have discovered that Crawfurd who accused me at Stirling, had no such commission from his master, whose letter to him you have read: if possible "retyre" the said letter and send it hither to convict the malice of my enemies; praying your answer with speed. Castle of Edinburgh. *Signed:* W. Maitland.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 23. **1185.** KIRKCALDY TO BEDFORD.

Your lordship I doubt not will be desirous to hear of the Laird of Lethington's committing to ward: whereof many here marvel. I can declare no better ground than the malice of his enemies whom your lordship knows "off auld," who craftily induced my lord Regent to do what he was most unwilling, though at first he knew not their designs. I am assured in his heart he repents yielding to them; but now since Lethington presses a trial, it will end to his honour and confusion of his enemies. So whatever your lordship hears, I pray you and your friends suspend your judgments.

I think you have heard of myself, that in handling this matter, I

Elizabeth.
1569. have not done my duty to the Regent: some indeed have tried to persuade himself—but in vain, for his grace has had long experience of my affection and constancy. I desire your lordship to think nothing will ever make me "spot my poore honesty," whereto I have greater respect than my life. I have done nothing but what I ought both for my friend and my Lord Regent's "awin weill," as himself allows; and pray your lordship to believe this, till ye see the end. Edinburgh Castle. *Signed:* W. Kyrkcaldy.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address.*

Oct. 26. **1186.** ELIZABETH TO SIR HENRY NORRIS.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 466. Signifying that the French ambassador lately solicited her very earnestly for the Queen of Scots, both in the name of his master and the Queen mother: which she thought was urged rather by some of Mary's friends in England. But seeing by his letter of 5th instant the special request of the said king and his mother by him, and for other reasons, she commands him to repeat to them the Queen of Scots' misfortune since the murder of her husband, re-marriage with the murderer, captivity and flight—Elizabeth's saving her life and honourable usage of her, notwithstanding her offence in claiming her crown—the subsequent proceedings in her cause—Mary's assurance that she would never seek other help—the conspiracy to marry the Duke of Norfolk, and suppress all proofs of her guilt—threats to murder the Regent if he did not consent *etc.* Farther to say to the Queen mother, as by her years more experienced than her son, that in this long practise, begun in October and not well known before August—a space of almost 10 months—many things were found showing it was but an entry to her greater designs. And if it is said she complains of her strait keeping, he is to assure the king and his mother it arose of her own doings, and if anything farther is sent to them by her or her servants, to suspend their judgment till further answer, believing they would have done the like.

9 *pp. Draft carefully corrected by Cecil. Addressed at head. Indorsement* (if any) *covered up.*

Oct. 28. **1187.** ELIZABETH TO SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON.

C.P., vol. IV. Having learned and daily learning many things since the discovery of the intended marriage betwixt the Queen of Scots and Norfolk, moving us to doubt of her surety: we advertise you thereof "in generalty" by our trusty servant Henry Skipwith the bearer: requiring also your joint opinions as to her safe keeping, and advertise us plainly. And as the greater part of the duty has long rested upon you our cousin of Shrewsbury, to the hindrance of your health, we desire to know thereof certainly, being loth to increase your infirmity, by the increased requisite care. Inform the bearer what numbers the Queen has about her, and who they be—and your own numbers also—and credit him.

1 *p. Draft corrected by Cecil. Indorsed* (by his clerk): ". . . To thearles of Shrewsbury and Huntington joyntly by Mr Skipwith."

Elizabeth.
1569.
Oct. 29.

1188. MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

In answer to your majesty's letter of 13th instant, I have already declared to Mr Carey my proceedings in regard to the marriage between the Queen mother and Norfolk: but for your fuller satisfaction, I shall to my best remembrance collect the things omitted, towards manifestation of the truth. That the Duke did first directly in plain words, motion the marriage to me, "I can not weill affirme"—howbeit the circumstances well considered, I think it shall appear that others "hes gayn about and compassit to mak me the author and instrument of the executioun of thair devises, and aganis my naturall, to mell in sic kynd of dealing as with my hart I have evir abhorrit." When first in York, I was moved to sue familiar conference with the Duke, as a mean to procure us expedition and end of the matters we had in hand: I suspected nothing less than that he had any way pretended to the said marriage. "Bot now and oftymes sensyne, I have considerit how the course went: for I persave it wes then preissit at to mak me the motionar of all thingis." What was talked betwixt him and Lethington the day they rode to Cawood was without my command or "foirknawlege." Indeed, after speaking with the Duke, I partly "smellit" his intention, though he spoke not plainly of marriage, for when he, who chiefly had the hearing and reporting of matters, was so careful of the said Queen "to have her schame coverit, hir honour repairit, schew hir interest to the title of the croun of England, and that the same title had sa mony freindis—that it wes convenient she had ma children, thair being bot ane baib proceidit of hir, and the Hammiltonis my unfreindis having the nixt respect, and that I suld esteme the yssue of hir body wald be mair affectionat to me and myne then ony other that culd atteyne to that rowme: it mycht weill be thocht be sic spechis and purposes, layed out be him, quhat he pretendit to, seing him fre and able to compleit mariage"! But of any direct moving it to me or mine in plain terms, there was nothing "substanciall" more than is already written with Mr Carey: "saulffing that the Duke willit me to mak nane previe to that quhilk wes spoken betuix ws in the park at Hamptoun Court, bot onlie Lethington and Mr Johnne Wod; and nane of his suld knaw of the same bot his man Liggenis." I was also not to find strange though he sent me no writing or message for 2 or 3 months. One word I may not forget that when I required that Bothwell might be sent for to be executed for treason, he said your majesty would never "sollist" that, but hold him living above the Queen's head, to stay any other marriage. When after the pacification at Glasgow, I directed Wood to declare the order thereof to your majesty, he had no instruction from me to the Duke, who then I thought not at court—but only general words of "benivolence." Yet after Wood had been 20 days at court conferring with the Duke, he willed him to write to me to know what I would do in the matter of marriage? Whereof Wood had no instruction from me: and this was the first motion in plain words. For he willed him to say that if I got her restored to her honour and crown, and her unlawful marriage with Bothwell dissolved, the third should

Elizabeth.
1569. follow, *viz.*, her marriage with the Duke, and all things to my weal and surety. Being thus peremptorily charged, and advised to show him good will, and thus "redeme tyme" in respect of his credit and greatness, I wrote again to Wood "in chiffre" to impart it to the Duke, conform to my declaration sent with M^r^ Carey. Then on conference between the Duke and Wood, the Duke liked my answer, saving in one point—"quhair I desirit hir mariage with sic a persoun as we mycht truist, to preceid hir restitutioun": he willed Wood to certify me in "chiffre," that this was a dangerous delay, and more dangerous to be opened, and pressed her restitution before the marriage. Seeing he could not prevail with me, then was your highness urged (as we judged) to end her causes, and require her restitution. So we, uncertain what your majesty was determined, or what your contentation might be: I thought no better mean to "redeme tyme" than to require the consummation of the marriage betwixt them, to precede the restitution—"jugeing that your majestie suld nevir allow of the first, and sua the nixt of necessitie suld faill." And when it came to the next point that your highness was induced, "be quhais persuasioun your majestie knawis best," to move her restitution, by your credit and articles sent with M^r^ John Wod, I was constrained to refuse the same, in plain declaration how far I misliked the matter, as well as the uncertainty of your majesty's inclination. The words of his own letter in "chiffre"—that he is so far proceeded that he cannot with honour or conscience pass back, nor yet proceed till the "stumbling blokkis" were out of his way: meaning her marriage with Bothwell dissolved, and she restored, "ar probatioun of his doyng quhilk he assuris me of, as a mater quhairin I wes of before dowbtfull." I say not that any ever reported that your majesty allowed the marriage; yet the circumstances gave us matter enough to think your highness had been "foirsene" in the Duke's design. And misknowledge of your resolution has caused things to be otherwise handled than if you had given us some "taist" of the issue of her cause. Yet I have ever protested that your highness's good will and allowance should be procured; without which I never meant to have "any melling" in the matter. Dumfries. *Signed*: James Stewart.

2¾ *pp. Closely written by Hay. No address—probably enclosed in the next.*

Oct. 29. **1189.** MURRAY TO ELIZABETH.

According to my promise in my letter from Hawick on 22^d^ instant, I have sent presently to your majesty, "sum notes collectit of that omittit in my discourse maid to M^r^ Carey your hienes cousing, quhairin I have left na thing untwechit serving for this purpose." And having dealt sincerely and plainly, so I beseech your majesty to consider it, and according as your mind is, that I may have some knowledge how to proceed. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Stewart.

½ *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Doubtless inclosing the preceding.*

Oct. 29. **1190.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

Being ready to enter Liddesdale with a force, at receipt of her majesty's pacquet, I was constrained to write to you as I did: farther

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1569. resolution I could not make, "without I had returnit, and left the purpose interprisit, quhilk praised be God, hes takin gude successe." I pray you move her majesty not to think ill of the short delay. The things you required in your letter are here inclosed, for in coming here I sent M[r] John Wood to Edinburgh for them.

I cannot blame you for finding the late proceedings strange, neither trust I ye will think it marvellous that "we heir hes not alwayes followed ane cours, quhen as we culd not see our exemple with you that we must nedes followe." As matters now stand, if her majesty had, on our proceedings in England, resolved on the cause of the Queen mother, "we had loukit to na other end. Bot seing hir hienes sa earnestlie travelling for hir restauracioun, I culd not think it proffitable to loisse the benivolence of sic as seamyt bent that way, having na taist of hir hienes mislyking of the purpose, bot rather dalie pruif of the contrary. It is na tyme now to dissemble: incertaintie with you hes bred incertaintie amangis ws, and bettir late provide the remedie than nevir! I do you wrang to answer your breif and sentencious lettre with this pluralitie of wordes: bot bipast experience and present necessitie enforcis me sa to do — wishing that on baith sydes the mater may be mait planly and frankly handillit nor it hes bene heirtofore—quhairin ye sal have na lak on my part, and all byganis must be byganis, as the people of thir cuntreis cravis." I can do nothing till I hear from you in the matter moved by M[r] Carey. Our ability ye know as well as ourselves: so to write is but loss of time. I am sorry you are so troubled with our "fashieux materis," and wish they may take good end. Confer with my lord of Dunfermling, and certify me by him. I think "greit lang" to hear of matters in France. These past days I have been inclosed in an unhappy country "plenist" with thieves, and have taken such order as doubtless ye understand by Lord Scrope and Sir John Forster, with whom, and the Marshal of Berwick, I have had good concurrence. Dumfries. *Signed:* James Regent.

1½ *pp.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 30. **1191.** SHREWSBURY TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. I hear to my grief that "suspycion is hadde offe ovar mychе good wyll boron by my vyfe to this Quene, and offe untrw delynge by my men. For my vyfe, thus muste I seye she hathe nott othervyes delte with that Quene than I have bene preve unto, and that I have hadde lyking offe"—and so I have been the more able to discharge my trust. And if she for her dutiful service to her majesty, and true meaning to me, shall be suspected, we may think ourselves unfortunate. And so far from her persuading me to continue this charge, "afore God she hathe bene in hande with me as farre as she durst, and more than I thought well offe, cynse my sykenes, to proqure my descharge. I ame nott to be ledde by hur otharvyse than I thynke well off." If I had not found myself well recovered, I would have been a humble suitor for my despatch. For my men: I dare assure, as far as any man will do for his servants. I humbly sue that those who for malice or otherwise have incensed her majesty, may justify their words. I am sure her majesty will not discredit me by taking "hur" from me and committing her to my lord of Huntingdon, to

Elizabeth.
1569. whom I think myself not inferior for service. What suspicions I have that her majesty hath heard of the untrue reports by Morton, or those he has uttered them to, I refer to Mr. Skipwith's declaration. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address:* "To my very lovynge frend" *etc. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 31. **1192.** SHREWSBURY AND HUNTINGDON TO ELIZABETH.

C.P., vol. IV. Where your majesty by your letters of 28th of this present, requires our opinions on the keeping of the Queen of Scots: while we cannot do so much as we would, yet this we may safely promise and perform, that your highness need not doubt but that by God's grace we shall be able always to give your majesty "a true accompt of her parson." Leaving the rest to the report of the bearer, and "beseching the hevenly Lord to preserve your majestie for ever." Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* G. Shrouesbury, H. Huntyngdon.

1 *p. Addressed. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk): ". . . by Mr Skipwith."

Oct. 31. **1193.** HUNTINGDON TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. "Because I wolde be gladde to know what shalle becum of me and my sute," I send the bearer with these few lines, to attend your pleasure. I have also written to my lord of Le[cester] for his furtherance for my discharge. Tutbury Castle. *Signed:* H. Huntyngdon.

"I trust Mr Sk[ypwith] hathe tolde you howe he founde lykynge and myslykynge and in what."

½ *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. **1194.** THE QUEEN OF SCOTS' ATTENDANTS.

C.P., vol. IV. "Premierement":—M. de Leviston, a gentleman and page; Madame de Leviston, a woman and man; Mlle de Cetton, a woman and man; Mlle [*sic*] de Leviston, wife to John of Levynston; Mlle de Brusse, daughter to the Laird of Arthe; Courcelles, a French woman; Ellas Bog; Cristine Hog, wife to Sebastian; Gin Canatte,* a maid; M. de Betton, "maitre dhostel"; M. de Craffort, "escuier tranchant"; M. du Castel, medecin; Le Contreolleur Gyott.

"Valletz de chambre":—Bastien Pages; Balthazard Hully, "valett de gardero"; Guillebert Courlles, secretary; Guillaume Douglas; Ange Marie, "Itallion"; Jaques Lader.

"Huissier de chambre":—Archebel Betton. "Tailleur":—Jacques de Senlis. "Portchaise":—Florenc Brossier. "Officiers de panneterie et eschansoundrie":—Guillaume le seigneur "sommellier de panneterie"; Guyon Lasselan, aide; Didier Chiffard "sommellier de schanre"; Gilles le Roidde, aide.

"Officiers de cuisine":—Estienne Havet, "escuier"; Martin Huet, "maitre guetix"; Pierre Medart, "potaiger"; Jehan du Bois, "pastieur"; ung porteur; ung galloppin; ung huissier de cuisine.

"Serviteurs:—Ung homme a Madamoiselle de Leviston; ung homme au Mre dhostel; ung homme au medecin."

2 *pp. French hand. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Notes by Cecil.*

* Jean Kennedy (?)

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1195. MR. JOHN WOOD TO CECIL.

Please your honour to understand my lord Regent's prosperous journey on the frontiers, and return to Dumfries, accompanied with the Earls of Mortoun and Cassillis, Lords Maxwell, Owchiltre and Yester and the chief barons of the Borders. I have written to my lord of Dunfermling, who will declare the conditions offered by the "brokin men." Some were used with necessary severity. Dunbarton is thought in great strait, and some have been put forth, to relieve the house of charges: but are most part returned. Things here are quiet: there is great expectation of this day of law of the Secretary's: the issue whereof may quiet or trouble the state.

"I dar not omitt one thing: that you cannot tell how to forgywe me, that wes not so playn with your honour as you thought I suld hawe bene: and peradventure frome the botome of my hart I wyshed, with preserwation of my honour, I myght haif bene! Remember, I beseik you, my protestation that I wald nouther carye nor return reportis. Yff I haif done, or procurit any thing to be doyn, prejudiciall to the Quenes majestie, or that state, or your personne, yea! or gif I did not only to your honour plainly declare what I wald do befoir my departing from you, I craif na pardone. Butt yff my naturall shaymefastnes wald not suffer my toung to be reportar of sic thingis as mycht bene my diffamation, whair na necessite requyreyth, your honour will beyr I truist with that my rusticite, the sawyte of my maister from ane present wrayk, maid me moyr curious in the practises inwented and nowrished by otheris, nor my naturall inclination almoist wald permitt. Seing I mwst dip that far, I chuised rather to tak one blott nor two; and as yit do not repent me —only frome my hart I repent your honour suld consave any sinister opinion of me. Yff you esteme the same ane faill, butt * replying I will craif your pardon of my closnes." And if faithful service to her majesty, her realm, and your honour in particular, may amend it, I will promise faithfully the same, my duty to God, my prince and master reserved. Manderstoun. *Signed:* M. Jhonne Wod.

1½ *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

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1196. MAITLAND TO [A FRIEND].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 471.

I doubt not ye have heard how I was calumniously "delated at Striveling be ane Thomas Crawfurde as giltie of the king his [*sic*] sones murther," wherein as my own conscience bears me record of my innocence, so I trust that no man that has seen my behaviour in times past, both since the beginning of "this caus as of befoir, will suspeck me." I have summoned all parties interested, to compear in this burgh the 21st November next, to produce whatever matter they can against me—"quhilk day my lorde Regent has appointed for my tryall"—and have also written to all my friends *etc.* to be present to see I have justice. Wherefore I affectuously desire you to be here on the 20th of said month, accompanied with your friends and servants, that I may have your counsel and assistance in my just cause. It is the weightiest I have ever had to do in, as thereon depends my life and my land—and what I esteem more than both—my honour. And I trust I have not made so evil

* *i.e.* without.

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1569. cause to my friends in times past, that any of them will refuse me. Send me answer with the bearer. From the Castle of Edinburgh. *Signed:* Youris assurit to my uter powar, W. Maitland.

¾ *p. Holograph. Address covered up, and has been obliterated. Very faint.*

[Oct.] **1197.** MURRAY TO [CECIL].

"This my lettre is formed upoun the verie wordes and devise of the Laird of Lethingtoun. Howbeit, to be plane with you (to quhome I will na wys dissemble, in respect of that honest dealing and sinceritie that I have alwayes fund with you) he hes flatlie denyt to me in ony sort to be ane accuser of the Duke of Norffolk, thinking he sall escaip thir stormis. And I cannot bot greitlie marvell of his doyng, considdering he wes the cheif, and almaist onlie powissair of me to proceid as I did: albeit now he denys to haif had speciall desire of the Duke sa to do, bot did the same of his awin motioun, upoun conjecture of that thing, quhilk in his apparence, wes like to fall furthe." So I pray you earnestly consider well what is in hand, and signify frequently your mind on handling things, for we have none else there to look to. For the matter the Commendator of Dunfermling had "in memoir" to impart to me: as to the "forme, it mon tak some reasounable tyme," but I will use no delay. Ye have heard by the wardens of this my "viage" on the Borders: we yet lack a warden on our West Border; Herries gives good words, and would fain be at liberty, but I cannot be sure of him, and he must remain where he is "quhill farthermair." Lord Maxwell is young, and though I have been in hand with him and his friends to accept the charge, they are not yet content, and as soon as I can, I must repair to the West Border again, to supply the place. Though I had Lethington's promise not to write to England without my knowledge, yet I learn from himself within "thir xij" days he wrote to you, and "lettis na tyme slip, unmakand sic moyen as he can." Commending myself to my lady, and by you to my lord of Bedford, "declaring to him that the greit papist auld Lard of Seyfeld (quhome he knawis) is becum a gude Cristin man and a favorer of the gospell." *Signed:* James Regent. Receive Paris' depositions "in auctentik forme."

On a small slip attached:—After closing my letter, I had new conference with Lethington, but could try out no more than I have written. He counts it no wisdom on my part to have touched the Duke's accusation; and looks to win furth of this strait, and acquit such as bear him small friendship.

1¼ *pp. No address or indorsement.*

Nov. 1. **1198.** BISHOP OF ROSS TO CECIL.

C.P., vol. IV. Hearing that the abbot of Dunfermline is "dimischet" by her majesty and gone to Scotland, I marvel not a little at his short dispatch, and I never heard of any treaty: which moves me to think her majesty will not take pains for any agreement between my mistress and her subjects. Wherefore most humbly I pray your honour to move her majesty to grant me audience for her resolute answer to my mistress's divers letters for her aid to return to Scotland or go to

Elizabeth. 1569. France. Also, not knowing whether my mistress "be seek or haile" or what she needs, and sundry of her servants here with me: I would know what she would have done with them, and pray you move her majesty for a passport to my servant to go with open letters to my mistress to know her pleasure and estate. "Frome Bishopgate Faulxburghis* besyde Loundon." *Signed:* Jo. Rossen.

½ *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

Nov. 5. **1199.** DRURY TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 472. Acknowledging his letter of 20th of last, and sending the inclosed received from Grange. If the assembly of the best of Scotland that intend to be at Lethington's "arreynement" be not stayed, there will be more bloodshed than has been any day since "Moskelboroe-feld,"† though he is weaker than when apprehended. Lord Hume either fears a dear year, or something else, for he is providing store of salt meat for "Fawste" and Hume Castles. The unkindness between the Regent and him increases. It is bruited that the battle of 3d of last in France is worse for the Admiral than Cecil said: wherefore they hope for support thence, Dunbarton in not least need. It was meant to have slain Mr James Magelle, but put off. Lady Hunsdon left for court on 25th ulto. Berwick. *Signed:* Willm. Drury.

This day the Commendator of Dunfermline passed through the town homeward.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Nov. 7. **1200.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have received your letters from the Commendator, and understand such matters as her majesty willed him to report to me. As for proofs that I was not the author or persuader of the marriage betwixt the Queen mother and Norfolk: I have at two several times uttered my part therein as truly as I can. Yet since my return from the Border, I have charged Lethington with it, who constantly affirms that it was never mentioned betwixt the Duke and him in plain and direct words, neither in privy conference or letters, whatever he thought in his own mind. And so soon as the matter he is charged with here is ended, he will gladly come to England, and answer all interrogations in presence of her Majesty or her council; and if convicted of trafficking with the said Duke against her highness, will be content to underly punishment as a Englishman. And he is most earnest with me herein. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Fragment of seal.*

Nov. 9. **1201.** DRURY TO [CECIL].

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 474. The packet he sends, received from the Regent, to go with all diligence, causes him to put the "gawllos"‡ on it. The Regent has twice conferred in the castle with Lethington, and "comes" this day to Dalkeith to Morton, who will not come to Edinburgh. A friend of Lord Fleming's goes to Dunbarton with one of the Regent's, to per-

* Faubourg (?) † *i.e.* Pinkie. ‡ *i.e.* "gallows," for despatch.

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1569. suade its surrender. Sends copy of one of Lethington's many letters to his friends. The Regent is asked not to give Morton more strength: and he minds if Lethington's day of law holds (as is likely) to forbid all to attend in fencible manner, "as jackte and sperde." The Crosiers of Liddesdale on the 4th spoiled and burned Kyllam at night, took many prisoners and 100 head of great cattle. Berwick. *Signed:* Willm. Drury.

1 *p.* *Holograph.* *No flyleaf or address.*

Nov. 19. **1202.** MURRAY TO CECIL.

I have "langit" to hear from you since the Commendator's return, and send you these two letters—one is a copy of a writing lately sent from the "nominat" Bishop of Ross to Lord Herries, truly "conferrit" with the principal, which I had in my hands. The substance is of little purpose — only for a word at the end, *viz.*, that the King of France intends to "supplie" our sovereign's mother—it were well to ask how he got the intelligence? The other letter is his own "handwritt." Some characters in it may easily be deciphered, and therefore I send you both copy and principal, some notes being on the "margent" of the copy, whereby you will perceive something of our proceedings at York, and whether the first motion of the marriage *etc.* came of me or not. Ye may cause the bishop be inquired on his "handwritt," and make him interpret his letter. It came thus to my hands. It has been the first form of a writing that he wrote from York to the Queen mother, while in Lord Scrope's house of Bolton: and he has given it negligently "outwith" a letter he sent to George Briggis, merchant in Newcastle, the bearer whereof inquiring for Briggis, some friend of mine looked at the "coverture" of the letter, and seeing it touched matters then in hand at York, abstracted the cover "fra" the letter and sent it to me, then at Hull upon Humber. Since then it has lain over unthought of, till at "sichting" other writings, it was newly found, and thought not unmeet to be sent you. For the matter moved by Mr Carey, and "sensyne" communicated to the Commendator: I have been diligently travelling in it since his return, and trust to bring it to an issue to satisfy her majesty. Edinburgh. *Signed:* James Regent.

1 *p.* *Addressed.* *Indorsed.*

APPENDIX I.

1568. May 17.

1203. MARY'S HOLOGRAPH LETTERS TO ELIZABETH WHILE IN ENGLAND.

Cott. Calig. C. I., fol. 92. Calendar, p. 408.

1. "Madame ma bonne sœur: je croys que vous nignores point de quel temps aucquns subjects, lesquels jay fait des moyndres les premiers de mon royaulme, se sont mis en devoir de me trad[uire ?],* et fayre ce a quoy il apert mayntenant ils tendoyent. A lors premier, vous scaves comme ils proposerent me prandre et le feu roy mon mari, dont il pleut a Dieu nous garder, et nous permetre les chasser hors du pays, ou a votre requ[est] je les resceuts. Despuis encores quils, ils eurent comis en leur retour un aultre crisme de me tenir prisoniere e tue[r] en ma presance un mien serviteur, moy estant grosse. Il pleut encores a Dieu, que je me sauvisse de leur ma[lice] et comme je (?) desubs est dit, leur pardoms non seulement ayns les resceus en meme faveur aupres de moy, mays eulx non encores contenpts de tant de bien fayts, non obstant leur promesse, au contrere ont devise et fauo . . . et signe et asiste a un crisme pour le me metre faulser a subs, comme jespere le vous fayre conoitre a plain. Ils sont soubs ceste couleur, venus en batylle contre moy et maccusants destre mal conseillee et que ils desiront . . . . me delivrer de mavayse compagnie, pour me res[torer] les choses qui requeroyent reformation: moy me sen . . . inoscente et desireuse desviter le respandem[ent de ?] sang, aley me metre entre leur mayns desirerent . . . ce qui estoit mal dispose; incontinant ils me prindrent et me misrent en prison, lors je les acusey de leur promesse, et priay que lon me fit entendre pourquoy lon me masmoyt, aynsin ils sabsantirent tous. Je demanday estre ouie en conseill, il me fut refuse. Brief: ils mon tenue sans serviteurs, que deux fames et un cuisinier, et un schirurgien, et mont menasse de me tuer, si je ne signoys une demission de ma couronne; se que craynte de soubdayne mort me fit fayre, comme jay verifie despuis dauvant toute la noblesse, que jespere vous en montrer temoygnasge. Apres ils me resarirent et mon acuse, et prosede contre moy en parlemant sans me dire pourquoy, ni sans monir, defandant tout advocat de parler pour moy; contreygnant les autres de sacorder a leur faulse usurpation de mon estast, mont pillee de tout ce que javoys au monde, ne me permite jamays descrire, ni parler, pour ne rien contredire a leur faulses invantions. A la fin, il a pleu a Dieu me delivrer lors, quils pansoyent me fayre mourir, pour etre plus seur de leur estast, combien que je leur ofris respondre a tout ce quil auroient a me dire et de leur ayder a la punition de seulx qui sera coulpables dauqun crisme. En fin, il pleut a Dieu me delivrer au grand contantement de tous mes subjects, excepte Mora, Morton, Humes, Glinquerne, Mar, et Semple, ausquels apres que toute ma noblesse feu[t] venue de toutes parts, jenvoye dire que non obs[t]ant leur ingratitude et injuste cruaute usee vers moy, je les vouloys bien se mondre de leur deuvoir, et leur offrir seurete de vie et

* Words in brackets and blanks worn away.

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biens, et de tenir un parlemant pour resformer toutes choses. Je env[. . .]* deus foys; ils prirent et enprisonerent les mesagers, firent proclamations declarant tous trytres ceulx qui masiteroyent, et coulpables de cest odieulx crisme. Je leur mandis quils men nomassent un, je le delivreroys, les priant me delivrer ceulx aussi qui leur seroient nomes; ils prindrent lofisier, et mes proclamation. Je envoie demander seurete pour mi lord Boyd, pour tryter apointemant, ne desirant moy nulle effudion de sang. Ils le refeusaient et dirent que si auqun avoit fayli a leur regent et a mon fils, quil noment Roy, quils si me lessasent et se missent en leur voulontay. Se que toute la noblesse prit en tres mavayse part, pour cela, quant quils nestoyen que particuliers, et que ma noblesse mestoyt plus affectonnee que jamays jesperois avecques le tamps et votre faveur quils seroynt reduits peu a peu; et voiant quils disoient me vouloir reprandre ou mourir, tous je mascheminay vers Donbertran, passant deus mille pres deus, ma noblesse macompagnant marchant en batylle entre eulx et moy, quoy voiant, ils sortent et vienent me couper chemin pour me prandre. Mes gens, voiant cela meulx de cete extresme malice pour leur couper chemin, les rancontrent sans ordre, de falson que combien quils feurent deus foys aultant leur soubdayn marcher, leur fit auor (?) tel desavantasge, que Dieu a permis ils soyent desconfits, et plusieurs tues et pristres, cruelemant auquns tues secretmant, et estant pris; et incontinant la chasse fut rompeue pour me prandre, alant a Donbertrant, et mestant gens partout pour me tuer ou prandre, mays Dieu par son infinie bonte, ma preservee mestant sauvee aupeis de mi lord Heris, le quel et autres signeurs qui sommes venu en votre pays, estant asuree quentandant leur cruaute et comme ils montraitee, que selon votre bon naturel et la fiance que jay en vous, non seulemant me resevre pour la seurete de ma vie, mays meideres et assisteres en ma juste querele et semondrays les autres princes fayre le samblable; je vous suplie le plus tost que pourres menvoyer querir, car je suis en piteulx estat non pour royne, mays pour gentillfame. Car je nay chose du monde que ma persone, comme je me suis sauvee, faysant soixsante miles atraver[s, les] chenps le premier jour, et nayant despuis ja[mais?] ose aller que la nuit, comme jespere vous reh[ersir] si il vous plest avoir pitie comme jespere de mon extresme infortune; de la quelle je laysseray a me lamanter pour ne vous inportuner, et pour prier Dieu quil vous deint en sante tres heurheuse et longue vie, et a moy pasiance et la consolation que jantands resevoir de vous, a qui jepresante mes humbles recommandations. De Wirkinton ce xvij de Mey. Votre tres fidelle et affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine et eschuee prisoniere." *Signed:* Marie R.

6 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf. Addressed at head by another.*

May 28. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 104. Calendar. p. 414.

2. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur, jay resceu deus de vos letters, a la premiere desquelles jespere fayre responce de bousche moy mesmes, et par milord Scrup et votre vischamerlan, entandu votre naturelle bonne inclination vers moy, ce que en certitude je me suis tousjours promis; et vouldroys que mon affection vers vous, vous feut aussi aparante que sans fiction cela vous porte neneu (?); et alors vous panceries votre bonne voulontay

* Words in brackets and blanks worn away.

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mieulx emploiee que je ne vous scauroys persuader par mes humbles mersion (?). Madame: je suis marrie que la haste en la quel jecrivis ma derniere lettre, ma fayt obmetre comme japercoys par la votre, la prinsipalle chose qui me ment a la vous ecrire et qui plus est est cause prinsiple de ma venue en ce votre royaulme; qui est, quayant ce longtemps estay prisoniere et comme desiaie vous avoys .... tretee injustemant, tant par leur fayts que par leur faulx raports, je desiroys sur tout venir en personne vous fayre ma complaynte, tant pour la proximite de sang, similytude de stat (?), professee amitie, que pour me descharger vers vous de telles calomnieuses parolles qui ont ose proferer contre mon honneur, et aussi pour lassurance que javoys que entre tous les points vous auries esgard, questant banis pour leur crismes contre moy, qua votre resqueste je rapelis ses ingrats subjects et les remits en leur premier estast, au destriment et prejudisse du mien; comme ores aparoit. Si donc pour votre respect, jay fayt ce qui a cause ma ruine au moigns trop pres de la, puis je pas justemant avoir recours a celle, qui sans mauvayse intention, a cause le domasge, de repare et amander cete erreur qui sen est ensianuie? Or jay despesche mi lord Heris mon fidelle et bien ayme subject, pour au long vous informer de toutes ces choses, et autres de quoy jay peu entandre par Messieurs Scrup et Knoules vous estes doubte. Vous supliant le croyre comme moy mesmes, et incontinant me fayre responce resolue, par ecrit si il vous plest avoir agreable, quen diligence et sans serimonie je viegne vers vous, ou plus par beuheremant (?) je vous declaray la verite de tout ce qui mest survenu au contrere de leur mensonges, ce que je massure aures plesir lantandre comment vous plest mescrire, et sepandant comme desubs massurer par vos lettres de prandre ma juste action entre vos mayns, jusques a ce que mayes remise en lestast au quel il a pleu a Dieu me apeller; et que tous princes sont tenus dentretenir et ayder aultres. Jenvoye en ce cas mon cousin mi lord Flimin un fidelle subject, pour estant par vous assure de ce la passer en France remercier le Roy monssieur mon bon frere de ses ofres et bons offices lesquels je reseyveray aun autre tamps si jen avois affayre comme tous princes ont dautres generalment, me contentant de votre ayde et suport du quel je me sentiray non peu osblisgee pour toute ma vie de reconoitre en tout ce qui sera en ma puissance si au contrayre ce que je massure ne viendra de vous ayns de quelques autres pour respects autres que je ne puis ni veulx jusger, au moyns masures je que me permetres comme libremant je me suis venew jeter entre vos bras comme a ma prinsipalle amye. Qua votre refus je chersche les autres princes et amys mes allies pour me secourir selon que plus me semblera commode; sans queu rien vous y soyes prejudisiee ni lansiene amitie juree entre nous deus et le quel desdeus quil vous playra me sera, le bien venu combien que lun me fut plus agreable que lautre. Car Dieu merssi, je ne suis denuee de bons amys ni voisins en ma si juste querelle par ayns ni il ne gist pour me nuire que le retardemant qua vous parler libremant comme faytes a moy jay trouve ja unpeu dur et estrange, veu que si fransche[ment] je me suis mise en votre pays sans nulle condition, aynsi me fiant en votre amytie promise par vos frequentes lettres, et que estant

* Words in brackets and blanks worn away.

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demeure quasi comme reteine prisonniere en votre chateau quinse jours a la venue de vos conseillers, je nay obtenu permission de vous aller lamanter ma cause; veu que ma fiance en vous estoit telle que je ne demandoys qualer a vous pour vous fayre entendre mes dolleances a la verite; [c]*ar je vous suplie consideres de quelle importance ma longue demeure mest et pour nestre cause de ma ruine, qui Dieu merssi autremant nest . . . suidante. Faytes moy conoitre en effect la [si]nserite de votre nature affection vers votre bonne sœur et cousine, et juree amie. Souvenes vous que jay tenu promesse le vous envoyes mon cueur en bague, et je vous ay aporte le [v]ray et corps ensamble, pour plus seuremant nouer ce neud si a vous ne tient or pour ne fayt tort a la sufisance de ce porteur au quel vous p[rioms] croyre comme a moy. Je ne vous inportuneray de plus long discours si non vous presanter mes affectionnes recommandatons a votre bonne grace et prier Dieu vous donner madame en sante longue et heurheuse vie. Karlil ce xxviii de Mey. Votre tres fidelle et tres. . . . bonne sœur. . . ."

Post scriptum:—tournes.†

"Jay despuis ma lettre ecrite receu advertissemant pour certayn comme messieurs qui se disent regents et gouverneurs, ont fayt leur proclameatons pour venir prandre et abatre toutes les mesons des gens de biens et aprehender leur personnes ce [ ], par quoy vous pouves jusger combien le tamps que ja jay obmis mest injur . . . parquoy je vous suplie si au moyns . . . . . je me promets aves esguard a mon bien et de ce pauvre royaulme voisin en toute. . . . mander a ses messieurs que ils . . . de poursuivre par voye de fayt, car vous en voules mesler et mayntenir. . . juste querelle. Ce porteur vous en de[clay]ra la nesscesite plus au long, et je priray d . . rescl. . . . Dieu quil vouchast en sa quir de je ni eulx oublier, aussi de vous remersier de la bonne resception que jay eue en votre pays et prinsipallemant par la depute de votre Warden, Mester Loders le quel en ce que peult; un serviteur sans commandement expres de son maystre ma resceu en toute courtoysi, ce que je vous suplie lui fayre paroytre vous amie sagreable affin que les autres nayont subject denuser autremant.

6¼ *pp. Holograph, also address:* "A la royne dangleterre madame ma bonne sœur et cousine."

Indorsed (by Cecil): "28th May 1568, the Q. of Scottes to the Q. Majesty. Per Lord Herriss 4 Junii." *Much worn at edges, and the Queen's signature probably cut off at foot of p.* 5.

June 22.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 143. Calendar, p. 443.

3. "Madame ma bonne sœur: despuis la despesche du sieur de Monmorin, Mayster Medlemur est revenu descosse, au quel je remontray la playnte que je vous auvois fayte, tant de sa longue demeure ayant este refeus, que du bruit qui venoit des parolles de Monsieur de Mora en playne table, ou il se vantoit avoir autre conseil que de cesser sa riegeuer, ce que vous voirres confirme par les lettres de Mayster Jon Woud, que janvoie par le dit Monmorin a mi lord Heris, pour vous montrer pour ce que sest a votre desseu qui je serois maltraytee, mays il nie quil ayt fait tels offices ou ceulx que ce

* Words in brackets and blanks worn away. † Foot of leaf.

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gualant comme je croyray aysemant comme dit Medlemur quil a advance cela car celui qui mant de moy je ne foys doubte quil rien fasse de mesme de vos ministres et comme je lui ay dit, cela leur tousche pour le deshonneur quil vous font prometant au contrayre de votre direct . . .* choses si hors de quite sans votre sceu po . . . je ne foys doubte queulx verifiant de . . . vous sa faulsete vous ne le fussies punir pour leur honneur et example a autres tels gualants de ce servir faulsemant du nom de telles gens, prinsipallemant en choses qui vont si loign que le raport de cessi ira, pour y avoir este present a la lecture deuncanture de ces lettres un serviteur du roy venant pour senquerir de mon traytemant, or encores que ce gentillhomme na en rien fayt a mon advantasge, nayant empesche auqunes maysons detre abatues et les autres destre semontes jusques a sestre randiees et quil dit avoir empesche apres davoir este abatues, chose plus domageable quautremant. Car je desirois les guarder destre maytre du pays et non sauver une mayson pour se tenir affin de nuire au reste de mes serviteurs si esse que en ce quil pancoit a ce quil dit auvoir use sa comission pour me fayre plesir, je serois marrie que lui enscensies maves gre mays bien vous asures je que le malheur avoulu que pencant me fayre plesir comme il dit, il a fayt que je vouldroys ne vous auvoir donne la poyne de lenvoyer cest afin que ne pansies que jaye resceu un grand benefisse. Parquoy je vous suplie consideres leur gloire de ne vous avoir voulu obtemperer, et la fiance que jay eue en vous jusques issi et nous traytes tous deus selon nos merites. Excuses moy si jecris si mal, car ces lettres que voirres si faulsemant invantees mont fayt tout emut si malade que je ne vois gouste pour ecrire si tard, car ce porteur se haste, je pance plus quil neust fayt si ibie (?) desiroit sexcuser de ma playnte qui le precede. Je vous bayse les mayns—Dieu me doynt grace de vous voir et vous envoires dautres excuses a mon advis. Ecrit a xi heures ce xxii de Juign. Votre bien bonne et fidelle sœur." *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address:* "A la Royne dangleterre ma dame ma bonne sœur et cousine."

June 26. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 146. Calendar, p. 446.

4. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: tant plus je vois en auvant, et plus je me sents satisfayte de votre naturelle bonne inclination combien que les effects issi soyent tous contrayres; pleust a Dieu que je vous peusse auvoir parle deus heures auvant Medlemur, ou apres, sur ces lettres que je vous envoye lautre jour, et dautres choses quil y a plus longtemps que jay sur le cueur, qui peut etre vous profiteroyent; mays il fault que je retourne a mon propos. Medelmur dit avoir estay avise de nabatre ces maysons, mays seulx de dedans ont obtins cela en randant la place, comme ce porteur George Douglas vous dira; et mi lord Heris, a qui les conditions sont envoyees. Aureste mi lord Heris mavoit ecrit que permeties aveques passeport a mes subjects qui auroyent affayre pour moy de venir et aller; mays il fauldra quen ecruties a milords Scrup et Knoles, car il menont refeuse, et milord Wierkinton a pris despuis deus jours, deus Ecosssois venants vers moy, apres quon avoit brusle leur maysons; et lun est blesse en sa prise, et sont tenus estroitemant, et pance quon leur ostera leur lettres. Je vous suplie consideres mes enemis sont

* Blanks so marked are worn off.

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aux champs et fortifies et conseilles, se disent ils de ruiner touts les miens, et de ne remetre leur action entre vos mayns mays oui de macuser vers vous; dautre part je suis tenue issi comme en prison, mes serviteurs desfavorises, et moy comme les meyns liees, sans pouvoir auvoir les inteligences requises, et eulx cherschent faveur en votre conseill, et moy je ne madresse qua vous, et a ceulx quil vous plest mapointer. Lon ma fayt entandre quon me vouloit transporter hors dissi, se seroit moster tout negosse, parquoy sans votre commandement jay respondu je ne veulx bousger, massurant onque menvoires querir pour aller vers vous, ou me donneres libertay daller ailheurs libremant, comme je suis venue. Car vous ne vouldrees favoriser seulx qui ne vous veulent fayre jusges de leur fayts, mays bien fruir de couverture pour me nuire, si votre consiance et honneur navoyent meilleure consideration que se laysser abuser par leurs meschantes inventions. Or je vous suplie, puis que vous voies que subjects favorisent subjects, vous Royne et sœur et cousine, favorises votre samblable. Milord Heris vous dira plus au long, quelles traytements je resoys, et commbien peu de faveur, qui me fayra vous suplier descrire a ces signeurs issi de donner un sauf conduit a deus de mes plus fidelles subjects et de commander que ceulx que viendront pour mes affayres ayent permission daller et venir, et si en rien ils enfreignent vos loyx, ils seront responsables et moy pour eulx. Et me remetant sur mi lord Heris, je vous supliray donner votre passeport a ce jentillhomme favorablemant, et lui fayre bon visasge, affin que lon conoisse quaves agreable le service quil ma fayt, me delivrant. Il sen va passer son temps en France pour aprendre le languasge, et etre recongneu et recompans en partie par le Roy monssieur mon bon frere, et messieurs mes oncles par leur commandement, pour le desir quil ont de conoitre celui qui a fayt un service qui leur est si agreable. Et je lui ay bienvoulu donner consgue, voiant que je nay affayre issi de beau coup de mes bons serviteurs. Il ne demande que pour senaller, car il na rien affayre que pour son plesir, au moigns pour moy. Et me remetant sur ce que vous en dira mi lord Heris, je finiray par mes affectionnes recommandations a votre bon grace, priant Dieu quil vous doint Madame en sante longue e heurheuse vie. De Kerlil ce xxvi de Juign. Votre tres affectionnee et bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address:* "To the Quin my gud sister and cusign the quin off Ingland." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Aug. 6.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 186. Calendar, p. 472.

5. "Madame ma bonne sœur: javoys resolu, massurant de votre bonne voulontay (la quelle plus cleremant j'avoys entendu par mi lord Heris que dauvant), ne vous importuner plus que je neusse votre responce, mays mes subjects, qui sestoyent tous assambles pour empescher ce pretandu parlemant mal et faulsemant apele, ayant oui que selon votre bon plesir vouloys quils fissent session darmes, mont envoye lerd Squerlin* qui sest trouve a leur assamblee (comme ce porteur vous declarera plus a plein) pour massurer de leur obeissance en cela comme en tout aultre chose, me priant etre seure que lautre partie vous obeiroit; et quant a eulx je vous en certifie quil ne fayront nulle hostilitay, et si aqun le faysoit, il lui coustera la vie.

* Skirling.

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Mais aussi il me suplie, comme moy vous, quil nadviegne comme de Medlemur, car les miens cesserent et les autres non; parquoy si voulles massurer quil vous obeiront ou que punires ceulx qui lenfreindront, ou leur seres enemie, je respondray des miens; si non, vous les tiendres excuses daultant quils ne cherschent que leur seuretay, ce metant pour cest effayt le dixiesme de ce moys en armes, et pour tenir leur lieu et le mien au parlemant, ou bien perdre la vie en ceste querelle. Parquoy je vous suplie en diligence depescher ce porteur, affin que je puisse ranvoyer vers eulx lasurance en votre nom, que si les autres y font refeus vous les defandrays. Et pour ce que ces points requierent brieve responce, je ne vous fayray plus long discours, si non vous suplier de vous souvenir dosblisger une royne et un tel nombre de fidelles subjects et une royaulme, sans vous laysser persuader a petit nombre qui ne se trouveront si dignes; et sur cela je vous beseray les mayns, priant Dieu quil vous donne madame ma bonne sœur, vous auvoir en sa sainte guarde. De Boton ce vj daust. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." [*Signature cut off.**]

1 *p. Holograph, very clearly written. No address.*

Aug. 13. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 190. Calendar, p. 477.

6. "Madame ma bonne sœur: ausoir a minuit je resceus votre lettre, et ayant une heure dauvant veu ce quil vous avoit pleu ecrire a milord vis chamerland et milord Scrup, javois ja commance descrire en Escosse pour commander ce mesme dont me donnes advis par vos lettres; les quelles veues jay dautant plus diligemant despesche un mien serviteur qui ira jusques aux plus esloigne, leur fayre le commandemant depar y moy conforme a votre lettre. Mays pour ce que par la premiere vous dites etre advertie que mes fidelles subjects devoient fayre quelque entreprise: Madame, qui vous a fayt cest advertissemant est mal adverti, car ils ne se sont mis ensamble, que pour empescher linustice des rebelles, par laquelle ils vouloyent leur atribuer le nom quils ont mieulx meritay; et quant a vos subjects, vous pouves asurer quil ne portent si peu de respect a ma personne de entreprandre telle chose contre ma voulontay; jentends jens dhonneur ou des grands. Asures vous que se que je dis, je le guarderay, et si aultre me faysoit mantense, je seray la premiere preste a les punir de parjure, ce que jaymeroys mieux mourir, questre. Quant a France, je vous promets que je nay en nulles nouvelles de ce que me mandes, jecrivis de Carlel quant jen advertis mester Knolis, et lui dis quoy je pance que mexcuseres guavant scavoir votre bonne voulontay et nayant nulle asurance, jay fayt deuvoir de cherscher mes ensienes aliances. Mays assures vous que despuis mi lord Herirs est de retour, je nay fayt auqune pratique qui puisse empescher rien de ce quaveques lui auves communique. Jespere vous satisfayre en cela comme jay discouru aveques mester Knoles divers foys et presantemant lui ay prie vous fayre entandre. Je vouldroys bien auvoir ce bien de parler a vous pour une perpetuele asurance lune de lautre. Je ne vous en ose presser, mays si je massuroys ne vous inportuner, je vous en inportuneroys jentands apres le retour de ceulx quil vous playra envoyer issi; car jay beaucoup de choses de quoy je me deschargerais voulontirs le cueur a vous de bousche a notre advantasge

* Tops of letters legible.

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commun, et daultant plus voulontiers que je me treuve osblisgee pour votre desmontration damitiay, quant ce vient au point. Je ne vous diray qune chose: souvenes vous que je vous ay dit que vous mauries pour jamays votre, si avous ne tient. Je ne vous ose inportuner durant votre progres, qui me fera vous presanter mes affectionnees recommandations a votre bonne grace, priant Dieu vous donner madame en santay longue et heurheuse vie. De Boton ce tresiesme daust. Votre affectionnee et bien bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. Holograph. No address or flyleaf.*

Aug. 14.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 193. Calendar, p. 478.

7. "Madame ma bonne sœur: jay resceu ce matin lettres de mon pays les quelles jay communique a votre vischamerland, ensamble une lettre pour vous des prinsipaulx de mes subjects; de la quelle ayant veu le double, jay creint vous lenvoyer pour ce que elle a estay devisayee par eulx, auvant avoir entendu votre bonne inclination vers moy, comme gens plus pasiones du desir de leur chief, que bons segretayres vers une telle princesse. Mays daultre part voiant que ils vous offrent leur service si unanimemant, jay pance que vous excuseries la ferfeur des membres vers leur chief et prendries leurs offres en bonne part; de quoy jay estay bien ayse pour les voir en mesme voulontay de vous demeurer osblisges, comme moy. Ce que jay prie votre vischamerland vous fayre plus au long entandre et ma bonne intention qui ma meue vous envoyer leur dite lettre. Au reste monssieur de Mora dit tout hault quil tiendra le parlemant; mens gens sont ja si aschemines, que le Conte de Hontlay marsche, comme vous voirres par sa propre lettre. Toutefoys vous voirres par celle de mi lord Heris, combien il desire les empescher ce que jay fayt, et si ils ne sont empesches dantandre ma voulontay, je masure ils i obeiront et a la votre, je vous supplie que les autres ne tienent un parlemant de bravade comme ils se vantent, ou si ils le veullent fayre, ne permetes apres que leur excuses soyent resceues; car de moy je me soubmets a votre bone sasge advis, massurant selon votre promesse, que si eulx en rien i contreviegnet, vous ne vous entretentr . . . plus pour leur cause. Le bruit est quil ne forfalteron persone, car ils nauseroient mays pour fayre dire que ne leur auves deffandu, ils se veuillent tenir et sesmondre chesqun, aleguant que cest asses les autoriser quant personne ni contredit. Je vous suplie, consideres que pour deputer qui viendra issi ils nen ont affayre, car ils ont ja resolu quatre. Je vous suplie considerer aussi que ce soyt des plus grands, et que si ils tienent le parlemant, cest en votre promesse que je le seufre, par quoy je desireroys que commandissies quil, ni en eut point du tout, ou si il ja na que les tinsies pour rompeurs de ce quils ont promis, et comme tels me favorisies contre eulx, celon votre promesse en cas qui forfalten[t] je massure quil ne mest besoign de vous en fayre plus grande instance, veu comme sur votre conseil seul je me fonde, et ne prosederay nullemant au contrayre. Vous ne vouldrie[s] quil me tournast a dosmasge, or je me suis mise moy, ma cause, et tout, entre vos meins, si jay mal je massure du contrayre ou dosmasge vous an (?) auries le blasme, car je mapuie sur vous en fiance et prosede si libremant auveques vous que je ne vous casche rien de mon intention; et si il vous plesoit que

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je vous visse, je vous en ferois une preuve pour jamays. Je ne vous inportuneray de plus longue lettre, si non vous souvenir de votre sœur qui vous a esleue pour sa protectrisse, et de prandre au meilleur sens ses lettres que je vous envoie, que jeusse meulx modere si elle fut venue ouverte en mes mayns despuis la venue de milord Heris prinsipallemant; et pour ne vous inportuner apres vous auvoir bayse les meins, je priray Dieu vous donner madame ma bonne sœur en santaye longue et heurheus vie. De Boton ce xiiij daust. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

"Je ne vous envoy point les lettres particulieres du Conte Hontlay pour ce que les ayant montray a Mester Knoles, il massure vous en fayre le raport."

2 *pp. Holograph. Very clearly written. No address or flyleaf.*

Aug. 23.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 207. Calendar, p. 485.

8. "Madame ma bonne sœur: au lieu que a tort vous auvoit fait pleinte de mes fidelles subjects et de moy, il fault queulx et moy vous en fassions une vrey, cest que pour vous complayre jay commanday a tous les miens ne se mousvoir ayns atandre leur prestandu parlemant, que je les assurois ne rien pretandre que de choisir qui envoier issi: les assurant que leur avies defandu le surplus. Or les miens ont obei, qui lont peu entandre des aultres comme du Conte dHont[l]e; car ils ont pris mon homme et lettres, et rien veute laysser passer auqune affin de le prandree trahison pensant se venir joyndre aux autr[es] qui ayant resceu mes lettres sont tous desmeures sans venir plus pres pour ne donner occasion de querelle. Ce pandant les traitres ont compdamne les gens de bien au moygne[s] une partie, et entandent daschever sur les aultres, qui mest de si grand inportance, que ils disent quils seront contreints ou se randre a eulx, ou aller en France, si je ni prevois de moy. Je massure tant de votre promesse, que il ne me sera besoign daultre remede que cestuissi, qui est vous ramantenoir votre promesse mon obeissance et fiance en vous, et leur desobeissance, massurant que ne soufrirays chose tant deshoneste que je soyes pour vous avoir creu en lextresmitay que voirres par les lettres de mi lord Heris, que vous excuseres descrire si passionemant, pour le crevecueur que cest a gens de bien destre aynsin traites. Si il vous plesoit, voyant la fasson de quoy ils procedent pour fayre quelque demonstration aux miens que estes selon votre promesse offencee contre eulx et au contrayre que lobeissance des miens vous a pleu menvoier querir seullemant affin que je vous peusse fayre mes dolleances voiant queulx me font atandre leur venue a leur plesir, et eulx cepandant preignent leur advantasge se servant de votre tolerance pour couvrir leur presomption: je pancerois ma pasciance daultant mieulx recompancee; ou si il ne vous plest, je massure que voiant que ils font tels fayts, mayderes presantemant a i metre tel ordre que je puisse asurer les miens navoir besoign cherscher aultre suport. Ma bonne sœur, a ce coup montres vous le lion, faytes diferance de qui fayt ce quil peult et contre votre commandemant, ou de celle qui se fie du tout en vous, et vous obtempere. Je vous suplie faytes moy entandre votre bonne resolution en diligence sur ces mienes resquestes et doleances or votre honneur . . . bon naturel cueur de lion et autoritay; parle pour moy et je metays seulemant dirais je que vous eussies pris a deshonneur si ayant pris la cause entre vos meins les

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miens ense use dhostilitay et si les leurs preignent mes asgiens et lettres, sest rompu tresves et si ils procedent comme estants lesgitis (?) jusges despuis enauoir remis le jusgemant a v[ous ?]*, si ils estoient tels ou non, que vous reste il fa[yre ?] tant plus ils prosedent et plus offensent ils ceulx que voulies acorder, je ne foys doubte que ne montries votre generosite a ceulx qui font si per destast de vos commandemants, veu mesmemant ce quils vous doivent ce qui me fera vous prasenter mes humbles commandations a votre bonne grace, priant Dieu vous auvoyr en sa sainte et digne guarde. De Boton ce xxiii daust. Votre tres affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

"Je vous suplie excuses moy si jescris si mal, car ayant resceu ses nouvelles, je ne suis pas si a mon ayse que dauvant."

3 *pp. Holograph, also address:* "A ma Dame ma bonne sœur et cousine la Royne dangleterre."

Aug. 27.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 214. Calendar, p. 491.

9. "Madame ma bonne sœur: Jay resceu de vos lettres dune mesme date, lune ou vous faytes mantion de lexcuse de Monssieur de Mora pour tenir son prestandu parlemant, qui me samble bien froyde, pour obtenir plus de tollerance que je mestois persuadee nauvoir par votre promesse. Quant a noser donn[er] commission de venir sans un parlemant pour leur peu de nombre de noblesse alors, je vous responds, quils ne nont que troys ou quatre davantasge qui eussent aussi bien dit leur opinion hors du parlemant, qui na este tenu pour cest efect, mays pour fayre ce quexpressemant nous avions requis etre empesches, qui est la forfalture de mes subje[cts] pour mauvoir estay fidelles, ce que je massuroys jusques a hier, avoyr eu en promesse de vous, par la lettre ecrit a mi lord Scurp, et Mester Knoleis vous induire a ire contre eulx voir a les en fayre resanter. Toutefoys je voys, que je lay malpris, jen suis plus marrie, pour c[e] que sur votre lettre, quil me montrerent, et leur parolle, je lay si divulguemant assuray que pour vangence que jendesirasse, si non pour metre diference entre leur faulx desportements, et les miens sinceres, dans votre lettre aussi datee du x^me^ daust vous mesties ses mots 'Y thinke your adve[rs] perty upon my sindrye former advises, will hold no parlment at all, and if they do, it schal be onley in a forme off an asembly, to accord whome to send to this realme, and in what sort; for otherwise if they schall proced in mener off a parlement vith any acte off judsgement aguanest any person, I shall not any wise alloue theroff; and if thy shall bi so overseen, than you mei thinke the sam to bi no uder moment than ther former procedins, and by suche their rasche maneir of proceding, they shall moost prejudice them selfs and be assured to find me ready to condempne them in their doigns.' Sur quoy jay contremande mes serviteurs les faysant retirer soufrant selon votre commandemant, destre faulsement nommes traytres par ceulx qui le sont de vray, et encores destre provoques par escarmouschies et par prinses de mes gens et lettres, et au contrere vous estes informee que mes subjects ont envahis les votres! Madame, qui a fayt ce raport nest pas homme de bien, car Lerd Sesfort et son fils sont et ont estay mes rebelles despuis le commancemant. Enqueres vous si il nestoyent adenfro aveques eulx. Javois offre respondre

* Words in brackets are worn off.

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de sa frontiere, ce qui me fut refeuse, ce qui men deuvroit asses descharger; neanmoigns pour vous fayre preuve de ma fidelitay et de leur faulsetay, si il vous plest me fayre donner le nom des coulpables, et mi fortifier, je commanderay mes subjects les poursuivre, ou si voulles que ce soit les votres, les miens leur ayderont. Je vous prie men mander votre voulontay. Au reste mes subjects fidelles seront responsables a tout ce que leur sera mis subs contre vous ni les votres ni les rebelles despuis que me conseillates les fayre retirer. Quant aux Francoys je sermis que lon nen fit nulle poursuite; car jesperois tant en vous, que je nen auroys besoign. Je ne scay si le Duc aura eu mes lettres, mays je vous jure dauvant Dieu, que ne say chose du monde de leur venue, que ce que men auves manday, ni nen ay oui de France mot au monde et ne le puis croyre pour cest occasion. Et si ils i sont, scest sans mon sceu ni consentemant; parquoy je vous suplie ne me condemner sans mouir, car je suis preste de tenir tout ce que jay ofert a mester Knolees, et vous asure que votre amitiay quil vous plest moffrir, sera reseue auvant toutes les choses du monde, quant France seroit la pour presser leur retour a ceste condition que presnies mes affayres en mein en sœur et bonne amye, comme ma fiance est en vous. Mays une chose seulle me rand confuse, jay tant denemis qui ont votre oreille, la quelle ne pouvant avoir par parolle, toutes mes actions vous sont desguiseees [*sic*] et faulsemant raportees; parquoy il mest inpossible de masurer de vous pour les manteries quon vous a fayt pour destorner votre bonne voulontay de moy. Parquoy je desirerois bien avoir ce bien vous fayre entandre ma sinsere et bonne affection laquelle je ne puis si bien descrire que mes enemis a tort ne la decolore. Ma bonne sœur guaygne moy, envoyes moy querir neutres, en jalousie pour faulx raports de celle qui ne desire que votre bonne grace. Je me remetray sur Mester Knoleis a qui je me suis libremant descouverte et apres vous auvoir besay les mayns je priray Dieu vous donner madame ma bonne sœur en santay longue et heurheuse vie. De Boton, ou je vous promets je nespere partir, quave ques votre bonne grace quoyque les manteurs mantent, ce xxvij daust. Votre bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

3½ *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Sept. 1. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 191. Calendar, p. 496.

10. "Ma Dame: nayant esguard ni a faveur dauquns des votres, ni au soupson des miens, ni aulx faulx raport[s] qui journaillemant vous sont fayts de moy, ni a ceulx que lon me fayt que lon favorise mes rebelles, et que deuves envoier aveques les deus prinsipaulx comisseres, un qui de tout temps ma este enemi; je veulx laysant touts les subdits points a part, vous suplier i auvoir esguard et me traiter en parante et bonne amye selon quil vous plest mostr . . , et contre seste violante tourmante de raports, me conforter du fayre de lasurance de votre favorable asistance. Jay dit ce que javoys sur le cueur a votre vischamerland, vous supliant ne me laysser perdre par faulte de seur port, car comme un navire agitay de tous vents, aussi suis je sans scavoir ou prandre port; si prenant amiable consideration de mon long erre . . . ne me recueilles a port de salut, mays jusges que jay besoign de prompt secours. Car je suis foyble dauvoir resistay a si long debat, aiser (?) moy et me donnes de quoy asurer les aultres; car de moy seulle je me fie tant en votre constance

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promise, que tous les raports ne me sauroyent persuader au contrere, pleust a Dieu, quen fissies aynsin de moy. Jay parle librement a mester Knoles et lui priay vous lescrire et vous envoyer les lettres de mes subjects, laquelle sentant plus de desfiance que je nen veulx avoir de votre bien naturel, je nay voullu servir dambassadeur. Ma bonne sœur hastes vous seullemant, affin que jempesche quoy qui vous pourroit desplere, ce que je ne puis sans votre faveur quan tiene aurois jamays si bonne devotion jusques a ce que je sasche votre bonne voullontay. Je ne vous [o]se inportuner mays jay telle chose en teste, que si je nay resolue responce, je prandray la hardiesse de mascheminer vers vous si je ne suis prise prisonere par votre commandemant. Ne me perdes je vous suplie, puis que je desire vous dedier ma vie et cueur pour jamays. Je prie Dieu prospere la votre, et me doint pasiance et bon advis contretant le meschantes inventions de ce monde. De Boton ce premier de Septambre.* Votre bien bonne et oblisgee sœur et cousine si il vous plest." *Signed:* Marie R.

"Je vous suplie de commander quelque libertay aux pauvres prisoniers qui sont fort estreitemants traites sans le desservir, e commander que le reste de mes bagues ne soyant vandues comme ils ont ordonne en leur parlemant. Car vous maves promis quil mauroit rien a mon presiudis. Je seroys bien ayse que les eussies pour plus de seuretay, car se nest viande propre pour traystres et entre vous et moy je ne fays nulle diferance, car je seroys joyeuse quil y en eut queussies agreable les prenant de ma mayn (?) ou de mon bon." [*Words cut off at foot here*].

3 *pp.* *Holograph, also address:* "A la Royne Dangleterre madame ma bonne sœur et cousine."

Sept. 15. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 245. Calendar, p. 506.

11. "Madame ma bonne sœur: jay resceu ungne grande consolation par vos amiables promesses et propos tenus de moy a labe de Kelow[inyng],† et despuis par votre lettre qui massure ne donneres credit aux raports faycts de moy. Je vous suplie auvoir tousiours ceste consideration de mes enemis, quils ont desservi par effect cest que par toutes voyes il cherschent a me nuire, comme ceulx qui pancent mauvoir tant offencee quils ont honte de ladva . . ou amander aveques desfiance quils ne meritent pardon. Au reste, vous estes mal contante de mes subjectes. Madame ils me seront manifestemants desobeissants ou ils se submetront selon les loyx seulx qui de disent miens. Je ne puis respondre pour Sessfort, car il est contre moy, ni de sa wardenrie; si non, lerd Farnhest ma promis que lui et les siens mobeiront. Je lui ay ecrit quon se pleind de lui, et quil satisfit pour tous les siens le gouverneur de Barouic, ou je lui seray enemye. Je vous suplie si des larrons qui sont a qui plus leur donne vous offencent, ne men faytes porter la penitance vous ni moy en temps de payx ne scaurions guarder les frontieres de desordres que puis i donc a cest heure que selui qui les gouverne ne me reconoit point; mays reguardes ce que je puis fayre, et mandes le moy et jenferay se quil vous semblera meilleur, et jemploiray tous mes obeissants

*Originally "Daust." † Worn off.

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subjects, e pour y fayre leur effort de mi lord Heris je massure, quil saquistera de sa charge et ou il osera aller, il fera telle radresse que lui commetres je luy ay ecrit. Pour cest efect je vous envoiray sa responce, que je pance il aportera lui mesmes aveques les autres dont mester Knolis vous envoy, e les noms qui ne fauldront au lieu et temps apointay de Farnherst. Je vous envoiray sa propre lettre, je montray la miene a milord Scrup, somme, mes subjects asisteront aux votres pour punir les offendeurs de quelque part quils sadvouent. Si il vous plest ecrire a mi lord Hondston quil les advertisse de ce quils auront a fayre si un larron suborne me pouvoit empirer ma cause, je seroys enpiteux estast et votre endroit. Au reste japersoys combien mavene vous seroit desagreable, je men desporteray, je pourroys asses que respondre a tout ce quon vous peut aleguer la desubs, mays je ne veulx vous contester contre vous. Puis donc que maue tant admonestee de mefier en vous et promis amitie si non voullois cherscher daillieurs (ce que vous voies deremant par la venue de Kelounin, lequel vous a demande passeport pour le Duc, vous offrant son service affin de vous fayre paroitre que contante de votre promesse je nay qune corde en mon arc) je ne doubte que ne consideries la fiance que jay en vous et ne fussies parotre que je nauray rien perdu au change quant jaurois mesprise toutes les amities forenes pour avoir la votre bien solide, et que je nay empiray ma cause de mestre humiliee a vous ayns amandee. Car estant en prison et davant la bataille vous promes me remetre, et aseste heure que je me suis venue randre au vos meins enferies vous moygns, je croys que non bien que vos lettres soyent honestemant froydes pour lambiguite diselles, si esse que je me persuade que si ne me voullies osblisger vous ne desirerie prendre sur vous le fayt de mes afferes dont lisue bonne ou mavayse vous en sera atribuee, comme ou a la restorerese dune royne, ou du contrere je n[e] vous admonesteray plus de rien faytes comme mieulx vous ensamblera, veu la foy que jay en vous quant a vous ecrire ceseroit un trop long discours et requerroit auvant la plus de repliques qui ne sen peut acommoder pur lettres quan[t] il vous samblera que chose que soit en moy vous puisse servir, je seray preste, ou apres que vos desputes seront venus, ou apres que maures selon votre promesse remise en mon estast a votre parolle de venir. Sependant pour moy je prandr [ai] passiance, me contentant de mestre offerte en tout ce que je puis pour me dedier du tout a vous sans exseption et vous promets que quant seres resolue de lacsepter, je ne vous desniray rien que jaye sur le cueur. Sependant Dieu me doint passiance et au sa seinte grace je me recommanderay humblemant a la votre et moy. Mes gens seront prests au jour apointes de atandre votre resolution. De Boton ce xv de Septembre. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

" Je vous suplie ne retarder plus le jour, car il me tarde bien ou que je vous voye ou que je retourne dou je suis venue."

3½ *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

Oct. 8. **12.** "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: jay entendu par mon cousin le Duc de Chatelerault, le raport que lon vous a fayt de moy, de quoy vo[us]* auves resceu quelque mescontantemant. Madame, je masure

Cott. Calig. C.I. fol. 257. Calendar, p. 520.

* Worn off.

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quant eussies oui les propos entre mester Knoleis et moy, vous ne leussies pris en mavayse part comme auves fayt, et si je vous jeure que je ne vis un seul etranger ni ne matandoys en rien etre copiee, madame, despuis que je suis en votre pays, je desfiray le monde de dire que je vous aye offencee en fayt ni parolle, m[ays]* du tout fiee en vous, de quoy je massure ne me n . . trouveres trompee et ay vesqu selon vos loyx sans donner auqune occasion a personne les neglisger. Je me raporteray a mester Knolis mesmes, que je massure ne prandra sur sa consiance que je disse lors rien pour vous offencer, comme jay commande a Beton vous declarer plus au long tout le propos qui feut entre nous et en riant de ma part et aussi deme . . . je vous suplie ne me blasmer pour en . . . promets que je ne suis nullem[ant] . . . aux affayres quils ont en m . . . Donner credit au dit Beton comme feries a moy de tous points, car je lui ay donne charge vous declarer plusieurs points de ma part. Au reste, jentends que Ricarton est pris par votre commandemant. Je men esbais, car estant revenu vers moy pour le moindre mot ne le vous eusse tous jours delivre et tous mes serviteurs. Car Dieu merssi, je nen ay nul coulpable; mays si len y soit pareille rigueur au lx autres vous auries juste cause de retenir la plus part de ceulx qui sont a Jorc [York] pour le fayt de quoy ils acusent aultrui. Je ne foys doubte que voiant quil venoit aveques lettres pour mes affayres, que ne me les envoies et lui aussi . . . et je respondray, et le vous randray quant il vous playra, si en rien il est acuse fors de mauvoir aydee a tirer hors de prison. Or me remetant a mon cousin le Duc au que laus jecris au long, le mandant et a Beton, je ne vous inportunerays de plus longue lettre si non vous suplier ne vous persuader rien contre moy. Car tant que selon votre promesse vous me seres et bonne sœur et amye, je ne feray jamays pour qui que ce soit chose qui vous desplayse et sur cela je vous bayse les mayns, priant Dieu vous donner madame ma bonne sœur longue et heurheuse vie. De Boton se viij doctobre. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address:* "A La Royne Dangleterre madame ma bonne sœur et cousine." *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 22.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 284. Calendar, p. 538.

13. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: mestant venue jeter entre vos bras comme de ma plus asuree esperance pour tant de respects asses souvent par moy ramanteus, que massure nestre nesecere vous en refreschir la memoyre, ce ma estay grand plesir dantandre quil vous a pleu suivant ma premiere requeste, vous mesmes prandre la poine de metre la fin de ses trop longs troubles entre moy et mes subjects, la quelle je massure meintenant ne pouvoir ettre que brieve et utille a toute notre pauvre affligee nation, et en particulier a mon honneur pour le respect et de la fiance que jay en vous et envie de vous complayre comme jay fayt paroitre et par lempeschemant defect entrepris de mes fidelles subjects quant leur puisance estoit bastante pour avoir au moigns resonable apointemant et pour avoir laysse de cherscher aylieurs secours que de vous, que je veulx comme ma bonne sœur et unique amye complayre, entout massurant que me seres aussi favorable que me laves tousiours asure quant je userois votre bon advis comme je fayt et ay intention de fayre comme par lesvesque de Rosse

* Words in brackets, and blanks, are worn off.

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et Mi lord Heris pourres plus au long entandre, que je vous ay envoyes pour les deus plus fiables que jaye, vous supliant comme a tels leur donner credit comme feries a moy mesme ou a part ou ensamble. Lun vous le conoisses, et lautre jespere vous satisfiera mieulx que le raport que . . . * vous en a fayt. Et pour ce que a eulx deulx aysje descharge mon cueur, et mi lord Heris scait tout la qui sest passe entre nous, me remetant sur eulx, je finiray par mes humbles recommandations a votre bonne grace, priant Dieu vous donner madame en santay longue et heurheuse vie. De Boton ce xxij doctobre. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. Holograph. No flyleaf or address.*

1568-69. Jan. 22.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 386. Calendar, p. 608.

14. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: je ne scay quele occasion je puis auvoir donne a auquns de cele compagnie ou au moygns de votre royaulme pour vous auvoir voullu persuader comme par votre lettre il samble; chose si esloignee de ma pancee de quoy mes (?) desportemants ont jusques a presant fayt asses de foy. Madame, je suis venu vers vous en mon trouble pour secours et suport selon lassuransce que javois . . . de me pouvoir prometre de vous tout ayde en ma nescesitay et pour ce . . . aysje layssay de rescherscher toutes autres aydes da mis parents et au siens allies pour seullemant matandre a votre promise faveur. Je ne atemptay ni en fayt, ni en parolle, chose au contrayre, et ne me scauroit on accuser vers vo[us]. Toutefoys a mon indisible regret je vois mes actions autremant et false[mant] commantees, ce que jespere Dieu et le temps pere de veritay vous declarera autremant, vous faysant conoitre ma sinser intention vers vous. Mays cepandant, je suis traytee si rigoureusemant que je ne puis cons . . . dont prosede votre extresme indignation que cela desmontre quaves consevee con[tre] moy pour rescompance de la fiance que jay eue sur tous aultres princes en vous, le desir daquerir votre bonne grace. Je ne puis si non lamanter en ce mau[vais] fortune voiant quil vous a pleu non seullemant me refeuser votre presance men faysant declarer indigne par votre noblesse ayns me soufrir a . . . par mes rebelles sans les fayre respondre a ce que je leur avoys mis sub . . . ne me permetant avoir les copies de leur faulses acusations, ni lieu pour acuser ayns leur aves donne permision se retirer aveques un decret comme les absolvants et fortifiant en leur usurpee pretandue resgence ante . . . mayant donne le blasme et couvertemant condamnee sans mouir retena . . . mes ministres, dune part me faysant transporter par force sans me . . . antandre la resolution en mes affayres ni a quelle fin je dois entrer en . . . pays, ni quant jen sortiray ni comme je . . . et a quele fin retenue; mestant tout suport et requestes refeusees. Toutes ces choses et autres petits rudesses, comme de ne me permetre rescevoir nouvelles de mes parens en France ni de mes serviteurs pour mes particulieres nescesites mestant le mesme de nouveau interdit dEscosse et voire refeuse de donner commission a un des miens ni de vous envoier mes lettres par les, leur me rendent si troublee et a dire vray si creintive et irresolue que je ne scay a quoy me ransger ni ne puis me resouldre dobeir a une charge si subite le partir sans entendre nouvelles de mes commissioneres non que se lieu ou un aultre me soyt en rien plus agreable que ou il vous playra

* Words in brackets, and blanks, are worn off.

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quant vous mavres fayt entandre votre bonne voullontay vers moy et a quelles conditions; et pour ce madame je vous suplie pancer que ce nest pour vous offenser mays un naturel soign que je doys a moy et aux miens de desirer de scavoir la fin dauvant que de me disposer si les . . . jentend de mon bon gre, car je suis entre vos meyns et pouves maugre moy commander au moyndre des votres fayre sacrifise de moy que je ne feray aultre chose quapeller a Dieu et a vous; car dautre apui je nen ay auqun et ne suis Dieu merssi si outrecuidee de croyre que vos subjets sempeschent des affayres dune pauvre delaysee prinsesse etrangere, qui apres Dieu chersche votre ayde seul et si mes adverseries vont donnent autre chose a entandre il sont faulx et vous abusee en cela. Car je vous honore comme ma sœur aynee et non obstant toutes choses (qui me son grieves) si desubs ramantue je seray tousiours preste de requerir . . . * aynee sœur votre faveur, laysant tout aultre et Dieu weuille que lacsepties et me treties comme je desire meriter en votre endroyct quant cela adviendra je seray contente; si non, Dieu me doynt passiance et a vous sa grace et je me recommanday en cest endroyct humblemant a la votre, priant Dieu vous donner Madame en santay longue et heurheuse vie. De Boton ce xxij de Janvier: votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

2½ *pp.* *Holograph, also address* (as No. 12).

Feb. 10.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 393. Calendar, p. 619.

15. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: jay entandu par lesvesque de Rosse et mi lord Heris la bonne affection dont auves proseday avesques eulx en toutes mes affayres; chose non moygns confortable que esperee de votre bon naturel, spesialemant ayant entendu par eulx que cestoyt votre bon plesir que je feusse tretee auveques les honorables respects et gracieulx entretenemants que jay resceus despuis que larivay a Bolton de Mester Knolis et milord Scrup, desquels je ne puis moigns fayre que vous tesmoygner la diligence et grande affection dacomplir vos commandemants et locasion que jay de me louer de leurs honnestes desportements vers moy, jusques a mon transportemant, dont je ne puis celer la fasson mauvoir semblay dure, dont ne desirant vous ennuier je men tayre (?) pour vous dire quil vous pleut au dit Bolton macorder non seullemant un certein nombre de serviteurs desquels a votre plesir je me contente pour presentemant me servir, mais aussi quelques aultres qui pouvoient auveques passeport du guardien et commission de ceulx quaves mis en charge auveques moy daller et venir dEscosse vers moy, ou en Escosse ou vers vous quant jaurois quelque chose a vous resmontrer. Lesquelles lise si par vous de noveau permises a mes dites commissioneres en ma fauveur, jay fayt entandre a monssieur le conte de Schreusberi et Mester Knolis, qui disent navoir telle comission de vous ayns mont refeuse de vous envoier auqun jusques a ce que je leur ay montray votre lettre fesant mention de quelque resolution requise sur les points proposes par mes commissioneres, aux quels ils ont commanday de despartir sans delay celon leur passeports auveques declaration quils nairont nul acses dorsenavant a moy sans votre expres commendemant. Sur quoy jay priay Mester Knolis vous fayre resmontrance et des autres petites nescesites ensamble

* Words lost.

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auveques la declaration de ma bonne voulontay vers vous, aveques lequel jay envoye ce porteur pour me raporter votre bon plesir quant aves vous et entandu les choses requises par moy au memoyre adresse au mon sieur le conte Lessester et Mester Cicilles, vous supliant que par lui votre bon plesir soit sur touts les points entendu de moy, et commanday a monssieur le conte de Schreusberi ce quil vous playra quil en fasse. Et pour ce que Mester Knolis ma promis vous fayre voir mon memoire et resquestes adressees a vos subdicts deus conseilliers, je ne vous inportuneray par la presante de mes particularitays, me raportant au memoyre et raport de Mester Knolis. Quant a ce quil vous plest touscher en votre lettre que trouves etrange que mes commissionneres ne sont condescendus sur les spesialites: apres avoir entendu leur raysons, jay advisay auveques eulx que celui qui retourneroit en Escosse proposera aux aultres de mon conseill et nobles denvoier quelque nouvelle commission sufisante pour sans scrupule conferer des spesialitays que nous penseront vous etre plus agreable, et a mon honneur et preservation de mon estast, en quoy eulx ni moy ne pouvons entrer sans leur consentemant de nouveau pour les choses advenues despuis qui metent doubte en la force de mes actions estant destenue comme ils pourroyent allesguer. Asures vous que je desireroys bien scavoir votre bon plesir pour madvancer bien vous suplie je dun ce chose qui est de ne permetre plus que soyt mis en-auvant de si deshonnestes et desadvantesgeuses ouverts pour moy que celles a quoy lesvesque de Rosse a estay conseillay preste loreille car comme jay priay le dit Mester Knolis vous tesmoygner, jay fayt veu a Dieu solemnel de jamays ne me desmetre de la place ou Dieu ma appellee tant que je pouray santer mes forces bastantes pour ce fays comme je le remersie de les sens auguemanter aveques lenvie de men aquister mieulx que jamays, et aveques plus de sufisance par le temps et experiance aquise; vous supliant en tout autre chose qui nimporte mon honneur et estimer quapres Dieu je desire singulieremant vous playre, et si josoys vous ranimantenoir combien je suis aproschee de vous et . . . * de maller offrir a plus particulieres conditions que je ne puis en lestast ou je suis, je diroys que cest tout mon desir. Cependant aveques ladvis de mon conseill, je maytray poyne en ayant responce de vous fayre les ofres a moy possibles pour obtenir votre fauveur, laquelle je proteste voulonteremant ne metre jamays en hasard de perdre, si je la puis aquerir. Quant a toutes autres choses qui me touschent, je men remetray au memoyre pour ne vous inportuner. Seulemant vous dirais—que quant aux responses que desirays je seray preste quant il vous plera madmetre a votre presance de vous en resouldre et fayre paroitre le faulsetay de leur calomenies et mon inossance, la quelle Dieu manifestera comme mon espoir est en lui, cepandant au quel je prie vous donner madame en longue santay bonne et heurheuse vie. De Tutberi ce x de Feubrier.

"Je viens dentandre Madame que mon cousin le duc de Chatelerault non obstant votre passeport, est arestay a Hiorc [York]. Je masure quil na commis nulle offese qui me fera vous suplier de considerer sa nescesite et le long temps quil a demeuray oultre son passeport a votre commandemant, et commander quil soit permis passer oultre.

* Worn away.

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Il vous playra excuser si jecris si mal, car le losgis non habitay et froyt me cause quelque rusme et doulleur de teste. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

3 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

1569. April 8.

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 409. Calendar, p. 639.

16. "Ma Dame, d'autant que les faulces allegations de mes rebelles en votre nom mentionnees en leurs proclamations, mont donné de mescontentement (bien que je n'y adjoustasse au . . . * foy comme a ceux que jay trop esprouves) d'autant plus m'a apporte de plaisir . . . amyable declaration au contraire par votre honneste et favorable lettre [a] laquelle je n'ay voullu differer responce plus longuement tant je desire vous faire [con]oistre ma naturelle inclination de chercher votre bonne grace sur toutes choses, souhaitant aussi d'entendre votre favorable resolution en toutes mes affaires desquelles il vous a pleu me donner advis, de quoy affectionement je vous remercye. Et pour vous informer a la verite de mon jusgement la dessusie ne scauroy. Car je vous promect ma foy que je n'ay ouy ung seul mot d'Escosse despuis mon arrivee icy, que ce que je vous envoyay de la proclamation et lettres de my lord Herys le quel je ne croy s'estre tant oublie qu'il apert par les articles que le conte de Shreuusbery ma monstres par votre commandement. Toutefoys vous ayant este mandé je desire bien en scavoir la verite et en faire faire telle diligence que la chose merite si le messager ne'st empesché ce qui je crain, encore que Monssieur de Shreuusbery ma assuré de son passage. La premiere certitude que je'n auray je vo[us] promect aussi tort vous en donner advis par lesvesque de Rosse ou autremie[nt]. Cependant je vous puis dire que si les choses sont ainsi passées, le desespoir q . . . de me voir retenue et tous moyens ostés d'entendre de moy en aura este . . . Ce que je vous suplie considerer bien que vous ne layes commandé si est ce qu . . . ministres sur la frontiere lont executé à mon dommage. En consideration de . . . de la bonne voulonte que jay de me desdieren tant que mon estast et honneur le . . . permetront a votre devotion, je vous suplie vouloir prendre une bonne resolution sur ce que par ce porteur dernierement je vous escriray touchant ma longue et instante requeste. Quoy qui se face en Escosse, de me remettre en mon estast par votre suport et faveur affin qu'apres Dieu seulement je soy obligee a vous par sang naturel amytie et benefice et matendant que seres encline a cela, moy ou quel vous plaira des miens, seront prests de vous aller satisfayre autrement selon ma derniere lettre quil vous plaise n'imputer a faulte de bon naturel, si ne pouvant estre secourue de ma plus proche, je accepte un plus loingtain et aggreable secours. Et de cecy je vous suplie me faire responce par ce porteur, pour ce que le temps et occasion requierent que jen soy resolue, et ayant desia par votre amyable lettre confirme une certaine esperance dobtenir ceste mienne affectionnee premiere requeste, je ne vous en feray plus longue instance sinon pour vous mercyer de vos favorables responces en toutes aultres choses, et apres vous auvoir prie de donner credit a ce porteur de ce quil vous requerra de ma part, je vous presenter mes affectionnees recommandations a votre bonne grace. Priant Dieu quil vous donn ma Dame ma

* Words in brackets, and blanks, are worn away.

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bonne sœur en sante bonne et longue vie. De Tutberi ce Vendredi Saint. Votre bien affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

1½ *pp. Holograph, very clearly written. No flyleaf or address.*

June. C.P., vol. III. Calendar, p. 651.

17. "Ma Dame ma bonne sœur: jay resceu par mi lord Boid mon consillier et lun de mes commissioneres, lamiable consollation quil vous a pleu me donner tant par vos cordialles lettres, que credit au dit me lord Boid, auveques non moygns de consolation et esperance de votre prompt secours et soulasgemant a mes longs travaulx, que le timide marinier quand apres lagitation dune horible tampeste entre incogneus ports il dele . . . * le desiray farre. Or madame puis que jay dressay le cours de mon affligee nau soubs labri de votre fauveur je me veulx certenemant persuadee que au bout dune si longue navigation que de deus annees que vous me recevres au port de votre bonne grace et faveur la quelle si naturelle afection et amour peult obtenir: je me foys forte diparvenir, comme jay priay ces deulx gentillshommes sufisants et bons phisisians vous dire de ma part auques la joye quentre tant de osbscures nevees me donna le rayon de votre naturelle pitie qui saparut a moy par le soign quil vous pleust par eulx me montre auvez de ma santay; pour le recouvremant de laquelle je suis grandemant tenu au conseill poyne et solisitude des presants porteur, de quoy je nay peu moygns fayre que vous randre tesmoignage par la presante. Au reste selon votre plesir jenvoy presentemant Borthik vers le Roy de France monssieur mon bon frere auveques charge de vous raporter le tesmoignasge resquis, du quel je foys si peu de doubte que je vous supplie cepandant ne laysser a proceder a ma libertay e dune part et liayson de lautre cest a vous en obligation et acroisemant durant laquelle je ne layrray a vous porter cepandant aussi affection que naturelle et propre sœur peult fayre. Vous excuseres si jay tant mis a vous fayre ce humble mercimant et a depescher Borthik sil vous plest, car jestois retombee un peu mallade au changemant dayre et ay eu certenes aultres affayre quil vous pourra dire lui mesmes, et pour ne vous ennuier dauvantasge, je me remetray a la sufisance des porteurs a vous deduire lestast de ma santay, puis quil vous plest me fayre cest honneur den estre soigneuse pour apres vous auvoyr besay les mains priay Dieu quil vous doynt madame ma bonne sœur en santay longue et heurheuse vie. De Winkfeild ce † de Juing. Votre bien affectionnee et bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

2 *pp. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

July 11. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 421. Calendar, p. 659.

18. "Madame ma bonne sœur: ayant entandue par me lord Boyd que tant sen fault que mes rebelles cessent a votre commandemant la poursuite de mes subjects, quau contrere ils ont use et pretandent user dauvantasge de rigueur: en toute haste je vous ay voullu fayre ce mot pour prier de donner credit a monssieur de Rosse et brieve expedition pour la grand nesesitay en quoy jay layssay tombay mes affayres pour vous complayre: ne scherschant plus secours aillieurs. Je voy les deleys de Mora, parquoy je vous suplie ou promptemant me

* Words lost. † Blank.

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resouldre de votre ayde, ou men refeuser, car datandre plus a trayter aveques Mora et cepandant quil se fasse meytre du tout, ce ne seroit mon bien ni grand honneur a vous que vous en estant meslee ils en fassent si peu de compte. Ayant envoye les discours au long a mi lord Ross je ne vous inportuneray plus pour le presant, si non vous baysant les meins prier Dieu vous auvoyr en sa seinte guarde. De Winkfeild ce onsiesme de Juillet. Vottre tres affectionnee bonne sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p. Holograph, also address. Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

Oct. 1. Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 444. Calendar, p. 682.

19. "Madame ma bonne sœur: voiant par ung soupson pris de moy, mon soubdein transportemant et changemant de guardes, e tretemant de mes serviteurs au tamps que jesperoys celon voz promeses, rescevoyr votre favorable resolution en mes affayres, je nay peu autremant fayre que de me lamanter que ma fiance en vous, mon amitiay et desir de vous complaire, mayent aportay si ineesperee et mauvaise conclusion, pour recompance de ma longue pasciance: a quoy toutes fois pancant remedier par vous resmontrer ma sincere intantion en toutes mes actions vers vous, javoys requis vous pouvoir eecrire par ung de mes fidelles serviteurs, esperant que congnoissant mon inoscance vous m'useries autremant. Mays cela me fut refusay, qui ma fait hasarder de'nvoier vers lesvesque de Rosse pour lui donner ceste charge. Mays cepandant voiant la rigueur auguemanter jusques a me contreindre de chasser mes pauvres serviteurs, sans leur doner permission daller, ou pour mon respect ilz pourroyent auvoir leur vie, ains les forcer de ce randre entre les meins de mes rebelles pour etre pandus, ne me voulant laysser que xx hommes si ne je voulois chasser mes fammes, sans scavoir ou, sans argent, ou apui, si loing de leur pays et tel temps: au quel nombre il ne mest possible etre servie pour les respects que lesvesque de Rosse fera entandre, a qui il vous playra, cela ma samblay trop plus dur que je n'eusse jamays sceu pancer de vous, et encores la deffance ma plus grevee que je ne rescoyve lettre, ni mesasge ni de mes affayres dEscosse, qui sont en telle extresmitay pour mestre atandue a votre promesse destre en brief despeschee: ni mesmes mest il permis d'antandre de celles de France, ou portemant des princes mes amys ou parans, qui satandent comme jay fayct a votre faveur vers moy: au lieu de quelle lon ma defandu de sortir, et mest on venu fouiller mes coffres, entrant aveques pistollets et armes en ma chambre, non sans creinte de ma vie: et accuser mes gens, les fouiller et retenir auvec guarde encores cuidoisie, qu'entout cela ne trouvant rien qui vous importast ou pour vous desplaire, quapres cela maporteroit meillieur tretemant. Mays voiant, que ceste vie mest continuee, aveques aparance de pis, jay pancay vous fayre ceste derniere requeste contenant ces points suivants—premier, que si vous trouves que la declaration de lesvesque de Rosse ne vous satisfasse, me permeties de vous en satisfayre en personne. Segondemant, quil vous playse, sans plus me deleier pour respects daultrui, me remetre en mon pays et autoritay, par vottre suport: ou me permetre selon mon enciene petition, me retirer en France auvesques le Roy treschrestien monssieur mon bon frere: ou au moyngs que durant ma prison, jaye libertay de communiquer auvesques lesvesque de Rosse, et aultres

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nescesayres ministres pour mettre ordre a mes affayres, et a ces mienes affectionnees requestes vouloir fayre responce per ung des miens, ou par vottre lettre. Et pour conclusion, si il vous plest me retnir pour votre prisoniere, je vous supplie au moings me metre a ranson, sans me laysser consomer issi en larmes et regrets de rescevoir le mal dont jestois venu querir la medesine. Mays si il vous plest m'user de rigueur sans l'avoyr deservi, au moings que je ne sois mise entre meins de personne suspecte a mes amis et parents pour dangier de faulx raports ou pis, que je ne veulx pancer de personne. Et esperant que considereres ces mienes lamantations et requestes, celon consciance, justice, vos loyx, votre honnheur, et satisfaction de toustes princes Chrestiens, je priray Dieu vous donner heurheuse et longue vie, et a moy meillieure part en votre bonne grace, qu'a mon regret je apersois navoyr par effect: a la quele je me recommanderay affectionnemant pour la fin. De ma prison a Tutberi ce premier doctobre. Votre tres affectionnee troublee sœur et cousine." *Signed:* Marie R.

1 *p. Holograph. Very carefully written. No flyleaf or address.*

APPENDIX II.

[Jan. 25.] THE CASKET LETTERS, ETC.

C.P., vol. II. **1.** It seemyth that with your absence forgetfulnes is joynid, consydering that at your departure you promised me to sende me newes from you; nevertheles I can learn none. And yet did I yesterday looke for that that shuld make me meryer then I shall be. I think you doo the lyke for your returne, prolonging it more than you have promised. As for me, if I heare no other matter of you, according to my commission I bring the man Mondaye to Cregmiller, where he shall be upon Wednisdaye. And I [t]o go to Edinboroughe to be lett blud, if I have no word to the contrayry. He is the meryest that ever you sawe, and doth remember unto me all that he can to make me beleve that he loovith me. To conclude: you wold saye that he makith love to me, wherin I take so muche plesour that I never com in there but my payne of my syde doth take me; I have it sore todaye. Yf Paris doth bring back unto me that for which I have sent, it shuld muche amend me. I pray you send me word from you at large, and what I shall doo if you be not returnid when I shall be there; for if you be not wyse, I see assuredly all the wholle burden fallen upon my shoulders. Provide for all, and consider well. First of all, I send this present to Ledinton to be delivered to you by Beton, who goith to one day a law* of Lard Balfour. I will saye no more unto you, but that I pray God send me good newes of your voyage. From Glasco this Saterday morning.

1 *p.* *Written by Cecil's clerk, evidently a copy of the translation of the alleged French original.* *Indorsed* (in another hand): "Ane short lettre from Glasco to the Erle Bothwell. Prufes her disdayn against her husband." *A note also by Cecil.*

[Jan. 24-26.] C.P., vol. II. **2.** Being gon from the place where I had left my harte, it may be easily judged what my countenance was, consydering what the body may, without hart, which was cause that till dynner I had used lyttle talke, neyther wold any body advance him selfe therunto, thinking that it was not good so to doo. Fowre myles from thence a gentleman of the Erle of Lennox cam to made [*sic*] his commendacions and excuses unto me, that he cam not to meete me, because he durst not enterprise so to doo, consydering the sharp wordes that I had spoken to Conyngham, and that he desyred that I wold com to the inquisition of the facte which I did suspecte him of. This last was of his own head without commission, and I tolde him that he had no receipte against feare, and that he had no feare, if he did not feele him selfe faulty, and that I had also sharply aunsweared to the doubtes that he made in his lettres, as though ther had bene a meaning to poursue him. To be short: I have made him hold his peace; for the rest, it weare to long to tell you. Sir James Hamilton cam to meete me, who told me that at another tyme he went his waye when he hard of my comming; and that he sent unto him

* *i.e.*, a hearing in court (?)

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Houstoun, to tell him that he wold not have thought that he wold have followed and accompany him selfe with the Hamiltons. He aunsweared that he was not com but to see me, and that he wolde not follow Stuard nor Hamilton, but by my commandement. He prayed him to go speake to him: he refused it. The Lard Lus, Houston, and the sonne of Caldwell, and about xl hors cam to meete me, and he told me that he was sent to one day a lau from the father, which shuld be this daye, against the signing of his own hand which he hathe; and that knowing of my comming he hath delayed it, and hath prayed him to go see him; which he hath refused, and swearith that he will suffer nothing at his handes. Not one of the towne is com to speake with me, which makith me to think that they be his, and then he speakith well of them, at leaste his sonne. The King sent for Joachim, and asked him why I did not lodge nighe to him? and that he wold ryse sooner, and why I cam, whither it wear for any good appoyntment that he cam, and whither I had not taken Paris and Guilbert to write, and that I sent Joseph. I wonder who hath told him so muche, evin of the mariage of Bastian. This bearer shall tell you more upon that. I asked him of his lettres, and where he did complayne of the crueltye of som of them, he saide that he did dreme, and that he was so glad to see me that he thought he shuld dye. Indeede that he had found faulte with me . . . . .* I went my waye to supper, this berer shall tell you of my arryv . . . † praied me to com agayne, which I did, and he told me his grefe and that he wold make no testament but leave all unto me, and that I was cause of his sicknes for the sorrow he had that I was so strange unto him, 'And' (said he) 'you asked me what I ment in my lettre to speake of cruelty: it was of your cruelty who will not accepte my offres and repentance: I avowe that I have don amisse, but not that I have always disavowed: and so have many other of your subjectes don, and you have well perdonid them, I am yong. You will saye that you have also perdonid me many tymes, but that I returne to my faultes. May not a man of my age for want of counsell, fayle twise or thrise, and mysse of promes, and at the last repent and rebuke him selfe by his experience? Yf I may obtayn this perdon, I protest I will never make faulte agayne, and I aske nothing but that we may be at bed and at table togither as husband and wife. And if you will not, I will never rise from this bed. I pray you tell me your resolution heerof; God knowith that I am punished to have made my God of you, and had no other mynd but of you: and when I offende you som tyme, you are cause therof, for if I thought whan any body doth any wrong to [me]† that I might for my refuge make my mone therof unto you, I wold open it to no other. But whan I heare any thing, being not familiar with you, I must keepe it in my mynde, and that troublith my wittes for anger.'‡ I did still answear him, but that shall be to long. In the end I asked him why he wold go in the English shipp? He doth disavow it and swearith so, but confessith to have spoken to the men. Afterward I asked him of the inquisition of Hiegate? He denyed it till I tolde him the very woordes, and then he said that Minto sent him word that it was said that som of the counsayle had brought me

* A blank left thus. † Worn off. ‡ Substituted for "makith me out of my wytt" etc.

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a lettre to signe to putt him in prison, and to kill him if he did resiste, and that he asked this of Minto him selfe, who said unto him that he thought it was true. I will talke with him tomorrowe upon that poynte: the rest as Wille Hiegate hath confessed, but it was the next daye that he cam hither. In the end he desyred much that I shuld lodge in his lodging; I have refused it. I have told him that he must be pourged, and that could not be don heere. He said unto me, 'I have hard saye that you have brought the lytter, but I wold rather have gon with your selfe.' I told him that so I wolde myselfe bring him to Cragmillar, that the phisicians and I also might cure him without being farre from my sonne. He said that he was ready when I wolde, so as I wolde assure him of his requeste. He hath no desyre to be seene, and waxeth angry whan I speake to him of Wallcar, and sayth that he will pluck his eares from his head, and that he lyeth: for I asked him before of that and what cause he had to complayne of . . . * the Lordes, and to threaten them? He denyeth it, and sayth that he had allready prayed them to think no such matter of him. As for myself: he wold rather lose his lyfe than doo me the leaste displeasour. And then used so many kindes of flatteryes so coldly and so wysely as you wold marvayle at. I had forgotten that he sayde that he could not mistrust me for Hiegates wordes, for he could not beleve that his own flesh (which was my selfe) wold doo him any hurte (and in deede it was sayde that I refused to have him lett blud) but for the others he wold at leaste sell his lyfe deere ynoughe: but that he did suspecte no body, nor wolde, but wolde love all that I did love. He wold not lett me go, but wold have me to watche with him. I made as though I thought all to be true, and that I wold think upon it. And have excused my selfe from sytting up with him this night, for he sayth that he sleepith not. You never hard one speake better nor more humbly, and if I had not proofe of his hart to be as waxe and that myne weare not as a dyamant,† no stroke but comming from your hand, could make me but to have pitie of him. But feare not, for the place shall contynue till death. Remembre also in recompense therof not to suffer yours to won by that fals race that wold doo no lesse to your selfe. I think they have bene at schoole togither, he hath allwais the teare in the eye. He saluteth every man evin to the meanest, and makith much of them, that they may take pitie of him. His father hath bled this daye at the nose and at the mouth: gesse what token that is! I have not seene him, he is in his chambre. The King is so desyrous that I shuld give him meate with my own handes, but trust you no more there where you are than I doo here. This is my first journay, I will end tomorrow. I write all, how little consequence so ever it be of, to the end that you may take of the wholle that that shall be best for *you to judge*.‡ I doo heere a work that I hate muche, but I had begon it this morning. Had you not lyst to laughe, to see me so trymly make a lye, at the leaste, dissemble? and to mingle truthe therwith? He hath almost told me all on the bisshops behalfe and of Suderland, without touching any word unto him of that which you had told me, but only by muche

* Word lost. † Adamant? ‡ On margin, "your purpose."

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flattering him and pr[essing?] him to assure him selfe of me, and by my complayning of the r . . . * en the wormes out of his nose.†

You have hard the rest. We are tyed to with two false races, the goodyeere ‡ untye us from them. God forgive me, and God knytt us togither for ever, for the most faythfull couple that ever he did knytt together. This is my fayth, I will dye in it. Excuse it, yf I write yll, you must gesse the one halfe, I can not doo with all, for I am yll at ease, and glad to write unto you when other folkes be asleepe, seeing that I cannot doo as they doo, according to my desyre, that is betwene your armes, my deere lyfe, whom I besech God to preserve from all yll, and send you good rest as I go to seeke myne till tomorrow in the morning, that I will end my bible. But it greevith me that it shuld lett me from wryting unto you of newes of myselfe, so much I have to write.§ Send me word what you have determinid heerupon, that we may know the one the others mynde for marryng of any thing. I am weary and am asleepe, and yet I cannot forbeare scribling, as long as ther is any paper. Cursed be this pocky fellow that troublith me thus muche, for I had a pleasanter matter to discourse unto you, but for him. He is not muche the worse, but he is yll arayde. I thought I shuld have bene kylled with his breth, for it is worse than your uncles breth, and yet I was sett no neerer to him than in a chayre by his bolster, and he lyeth at the furder syd of the bed.

The message of the father by the waye :—

The talke of Sir James Hamilton of the ambassade—

That that the Lard a Luss hathe tolde me of the delaye.

The questions that he asked of Jochim of my state, of my companye, and of the cause of my coming, and of Joseph.

The talke that he and I have had, and of his desyre to please me, of his repentance, and of th'interpretation of his lettre of Will Hiegates doinges and of his departure, and of the L. of Levinston.

I had forgotten of the L. of Levinston, that at supper he sayd softly to the Lady Rivees [Rires] that he dronk to the persons that I knew [if] I wold pledge them. And after supper he said softly . . . ¶ I was leaning upon him and warming myselfe—'You may well go and see sick folkes, yet can you not be so wellcom unto them, as you have this daye left som body in payne, who shall never be meary till he have seene you agayne.' I asked him who it was? he tooke me about the body, and said 'One of his folkes that hath left you this daye.' Gesse you the rest.‖

This daye I have wrought till two of the clock upon this bracelet to putt the keye in the clyfte of it, which is tyed with two laces. I have had so lyttle tyme that it is very yll, but I will make a fayrer, and in the meane tyme take heed that none of those that be heere doo see it, for all the world wold know it, for I have made it in haste in theyr presence. I go to my tedious talke; you make me dissemble so muche, that I am afrayde therof with horrour, and you make me almost to playe the parte of a traytour. Remembre that if it weare not for obeyeng you, I had rather be dead; my hart bleedith for yt.

* Several words torn off here. † Follows here on margin, "I have disclosed all, I have knowen what I wold." ‡ Scottic6 for "lues venerea"! § Altered from "so long the same is." ¶ Words torn off. ‖ These four words *may* be Livingston's.

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To be shorte: he will not com but with condition that I shall promise to be with him as heeretofore at bed and borde, and that I shall forsake him no more, and upon my worde he will doo whatsoever I will, and will com, but he hath prayed me to tarry till after tomorrow. He hath spoken at the fyrst more stoutly, as this bearer shall tell you, upon the mater of his Englishmen, and of his departure; but in the end he commith to his gentlenes agayne. He hath told me among other tak, that he knew well that my brother had told me at Sterling that which he had said there, wherof he denyed the halfe, and specially that he was in his chambre. But now to make him trust me, I must fayne somthing unto him: and therfore when he desyred me to promise that when he shuld be wholle, we shuld make but one bed, I told him (fayning to beleve his faire promesses . . .* did not change his mynde betwene this tyme and that, I was contented, so as he wold saye nothing therof: for (to tell it betwene us two) the Lordis wisshed no yll to him, but did feare, leste (consydering the threateninges which he made in case we did agree togither) he wolde make them feele the small accompte they have maid of him, and that he wold persuade me to poursue som of them; and for this respecte shuld be in jelousy if *at one instant*† without their knowledge, I did breake a game made to the contrary in their presence. And he said unto me very pleasant and meary, 'Think you that they doo the more esteeme you therfore? but I am glad that you talke to me of the lordis. I here that you desyre now that we shall lyve a happy lyfe, for if it weare otherwise, it could not be but greater inconvenience shuld happen to us both than you think: but I will doo now whatsoever you will have me doo, and will love all those that you shall love, so as you make them to love me allso. For so as they seeke not my lyfe, I love them all egally.' Therupon I have willed this bearer to tell you many prety thinges, for I have to muche to write, and it is late, and I trust him upon your worde. To be short, he will goe any where upon my worde; alas! and I never deceavid any body, but I remitt myself wholly to your will: and send me word what I shall doe, and whatever happen to me, I will obey you. Think also yf you will not fynde som invention more secret by phisick, for he is to take phisick at Cragmillar, and the bathes also, and shall not com fourth of long tyme. To be short, for that that I may learne, he hath greate suspicion, and yet nevertheles trustith upon my worde, but not to tell me as yet anything. Howbeit if you will that I shall *avowe*‡ him, I will know all of him, but I shall never be willing to beguile one that puttith his trust in me. Nevertheles you may doo all, and doo not estyme me the lesse therfore, for you are the caus ther of; for, for my own revenge, I wold not doo it. He givith me certain charges (and those strong) of that that I feare evin to saye, that his faultes be published, but there be that committ som secret faultes and feare not to have them spoken of so lowdely, and that ther is speeche of greate and small. And evin touching the Lady Rires, he saide, 'God graunte that she serve you to your honour,' and that men may not think nor he neyther, that myne owne powre was not in my selfe, seing I did refuse his offres. To conclude, for a suerety he mistrustith us of that that you know, and for his lyfe. But in the end, after I had spoken

* Words torn off. † "By and by" written above. ‡ Italicized.

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two or three good wordes to him, he was very meary and glad. I have not seene him this night, for ending your bracelet, but I can fynde no claspes for yt: it is ready therunto, and yet I feare least it shuld bring you yll happ, or that it shuld be knowen if you were hurte. Send me worde whither you will have it, and more monney, and whan I shall returne, and how farre I may speake. Now as farre as I perceave, *I may do much with you**: gesse you whither I shall not be suspected. As for the rest: he is wood† when he hearith of Ledinton, and of you and of your brother he sayth nothing, but of the Erle of Arguile he doth. I am afraide of him to heare him talke, at the leaste he assurith him selfe that he hath no yll opinion of him. He speakith nothing of those abrode, nether good nor yll, but avoydith speaking of them. His father keepith his chamber; I have not seene him. All the Hamiltons be heere, who accompany me very honestly. All the frendes of the other doo com allwais when I goe to visitt him. He hath sent to me and prayeth me to see him ryse to morrow in the morning early. To be short, this bearer shall declare unto you the rest, and if I shall learne any thing, I will make every night a memoriall therof. He shall tell you the cause of my stay. Burne this lettre, for it is to dangerons, neyther is ther anything well said in it, for I think upon nothing but upon greefe if you be at Edinboroughe. Now if to please you my deere lyfe, I spare nether honour, conscience, nor hazard, nor greatnes, take it in good parte, and not according to the interpretacion of your false brother in lawe,‡ to whom I pray you give no credit, against the most faythfull lover that ever you had or shall have. See not also her whose faynid teares you ought not more to regarde than the true travails which I endure to deserve her place,§ for obtayning of which against my own nature, I doo betraye those that could lett me. God forgive me, and give you my only frend the good luck and prosperitie that your humble and faythfull lover doth wisshe unto you: who hopith shortly to be an other thing unto you, for the reward of my paynes. I have not made¶ one worde, and it is very late, althoughe I shuld never be weary in wryting to you, yet will I end, after kyssing of your handes. Excuse my evill wryting, and reade it over twise—excuse also that . . .‖ for I had yesternight no paper, wher I tooke the paper of a memoria[ll] . . .‖ Remembre your frende and wryte unto her and often. Love me all[wais] . . .‖

7 *pp. Closely written by the same clerk. Indorsed* (by him): "The long lettre written from Glasco from the Queene of Scottes to the Erle Bothwell." *And* (by Cecil): "English." *Evidently the letter beginning* "Il me semble" *etc.*

[Jan.] C.P., vol.II.

3. Beginning "Mon cueur; helas! fault il que la follie dune famme dont vous conoisses asses lingratitude vers moy," ending, "car vous ne me scauries davantage outrasges ou donner mortel ennuy."

1 *p. French. Contemporary hand. Indorsed* (in a Scottish hand): Anentis the depesche of Margrett Carwod quhilk wes befoir hir mariage—pruifis hir affection"; *and* (by Cecil): "4. French lettre."

* On margin, "Jay bien la vogue avec vous." † Enraged. ‡ Huntly? § Lady Bothwell.
¶ Reade? ‖ Words torn off.

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(2.) (Translation of the same):—

"My hart:* alas! must the folly of a woman whose unthankfulnes toward me you doo suffyciently knowe, be occasion of displeasure unto you? Consydering that I could not have remedyed therunto withoute knowing it: and since that I perceavid it, I could not tell it you, for that I knew not how to gouverne my self therin. For nether in that nor in any other thing, will I take upon me to doo any thing without knowledge of your will: which I beseche you let me understande, for I will followe it all my lyfe more willingly than you shall declare it to me. And if you doo not send me worde this night what you will that I shall doo, I will rydde my selfe of it, and hasard to cause it to be entreprised and taken in hande, which might be hurtfull to that wherunto both we doo tende.† And when she shall be maryed, I beseche you give me one,‡ or els I will take suche as shall content you for their conditions; but as for their tongues [leur langue] or faythfulnes toward you, I will not answeare. I beseche you that an opinion of other person be not hurtfull in your mynd to my constancy. Mistrust me, but when I will putt you out of doubte and cleere my selfe §, refuse it not my deere lyfe, and suffer me to make you som proofe by my obedience [of] my faythfulnes, constancy, and volontary subjection, which I take for the pleasantest good that I might receave, yf you will accepte it; and make no cerimony at it, for you could doo me no greater outrage, nor give me more mortall greefe."

¾ *p. Written by the same clerk. Indorsed* (by another clerk): "Copia of a lettre from the Q. of Scottes to th'erle Bothwell (4)," and (by the writer): "Anentes the depesche of Margaret Carwood, quhilk was before her mariage. Prufes her affection." (By another): "Margaret Carwood was one speciall in truste with the S. Q. and moste previe to all her moste secret affayres."

[Jan.] C.P., vol. II.

4. Monsieur, si lenvy de votre absence celuy de vostre oubli la crainte du dangier, tant promis d'un chacun a vostre tant ayme personne peuvent me consoller, je vous en lesse a juger, veu le malheur que mon cruel sort et continuel malheur mavoient promis a la suite des infortunes et craintes tant recentes que passes de plus longue main les quelles vous scaves; mais pour tout cela je me vous accuserai ni de peu de souvenance ni de peu de soigne, et moins encores de vostre promesse violee ou de la froideur de vos lettres mestant ja, tant randue vostre que ce quil vous pleust mest agreable et sont mes penses tant volonterement, aux vostres a subjectes que je veulx presupposer que tout ce que vient de vous procede non par aulcune des causes desusdictes, avis pour telles qui sont justes et raisonnables et telles qui je desir moymesme qui est lordre que maves promis de prendre final pour la seurete et honnorable service du seul soubtien de ma vie, pour qui seul je la veus conserver et sens lequel je ne desire que breve mort et pour vous tesmoigner combien humblement sous vous commandemens je me soubmets. Je vous ay envoie en signe dhomage par Paris, lornement du cheif conducteur des aultres

* "Hart" in another hand. † Original: "Je mendeferay au hazard *de la fayre entreprandre ce qui* pourroit nuire a ce a quoy nous tandons tous deus. ‡ "Donnes men vne." § Original: "Mays quant je vous en veulx rendre hors de doubte et mes clersir."

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membres inferant que vous investant de sa despoille de luy, qui est principal, le rest ne peult que vous estre subject et avesques le consentement du cueur au lieu du quel puis que le vous ay ja lesse. Je vous envoie un sepulcre de pierre dure peinct de noir seme de larmes et de ossements: la pierre je la compare a mon cueur qui comme luy est talle en un seur tombeau ou receptacle de voz commandements et sur tout de vostre nom et memoire qui y sont enclos, comme mes cheveulx en la bague pour jamais nen sortir que la mort ne vous permet fair trophee des mes os comme la bague en est remplie, en signe que vous aves fayt entiere conqueste de moy, de mon cueur et jusque a vous en lesser les os pour memoir de vostre victoire et de mon agreable perte, et volontiere pour estre mieux employe que je ne le merite. Lesmail denviron est noir, qui signifie la fermete de celle que le lenvoie. Les larmes sont sans nombre, ausi sont les craintes de vous desplair les pleurs de vostre absence et le desplaiser de ne pouvoir estre en effect exterieur vostre commes je suys sans faintise de cueur et desprit et a bon droit quant mes merites seront trop plus grands que de la plus perfayte que jamais feut et telle que je desire estre et mettray poine en condition de contrefair pour dignement estre emploiee soubs vostre domination. Reseves la donc mon seul bien en aussi bonne part comme avecques extreme joie jay fait vostre mariage qui jusques a celuy de nos corps en public ne sortira de mon sein, comme merque de tout ce que jay ou espere ni desire de felicite en ce monde or craignant mon cueur de vous ennuyer autant a lire que je me plaise descrir. Je fineray apres vous avoir baise les mains daussi grande affection que je prie Dieu (o le seul soubtien de ma vie) vous la donner longue et heureuse, et a moy vostre bonne grace comme le seul bien que je desire et a quoy je tends. Jay dit a ce porteur ce que jay apris, sur le quel je me remets, sachant le credit que luy donnes comme fait celle qui vous veult estre pour jamais humble et obeisante loyalle femme et seulle amye qui pour jamais vous voue entierement le cueur le corps sans aucun changement, comme a celuy que je fait possesseur* du cueur du quel vous pouves tenir seur jusques a la mort ne changera car mal ni bien onque ne estrangera.

2 *p.* *French.*† *Same hand as No. 3.* *Indorsed:* "To pruif the affectioun": and (by Cecil): "(2) French lettre."

(2.) (Abstract of the same.)

Lamenting his absence and her cruel lot, but for all will not accuse him of forgetfulness, much less of broken promise or his cold letters, attributing these to reasonable causes, as she feels. Sends him as homage by "Paris," the ornament of the chief leader of the other members, meaning to invest him with the principal, in token of subjection of the rest, with all her heart. Also a "sepulcre" of hard stone painted black, "semeé" of tears and bones—the stone like her heart, the receptacle of his orders, name, and memory, as the ring is of her hair, not to come forth till death lets him make a trophy of her bones, as the ring shows his entire conquest of her heart. The black enamel shows the constancy of the sender, whose tears and fears are numberless. Begs him to receive this gift, her only treasure (bien),

* "Posseur" written above. † Said by Mr. Thorpe to be very obscure.

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with as much pleasure as she has his "mariage," which shall not leave her breast till they are joined in public. Ends by kissing his hands with all affection and remitting all she has learned so the bearer's credit with him.

Nos. 1, 2, 3 (2), and 4 are all that now remain in the Record Office.

1567. **5. MARY'S ALLEGED PROMISE TO BOTHWELL.**

Cott. Calig. C.I., fol. 271.

"Nous Marie par la grace de Dieu Royne descosse Douaryer de France etc. prometons fidellemant et de bonne foy et sans contraynte a Jacques Hepburn conte de Boduel, de navoir jamays autre espoulx et mary que lui, et de le prandre pour tel toute et quante fois quil men requirira, quoy que parante amye ou aultres y soient contrerayres: et puis que Dieu a pris mon feu mary Henry Stuart dit Darnelay, et que par se moien je suis libre, nestant soubs obeisance de pere ni de mere des mayntenant je protesteque, lui estant en mesme liberte, je seray prest et dacomplir les ceremonies requises au mariage, que je lui promets devant Dieu qua jenprante a tesmoignasge et la presante. Signee de ma mayn ecrit ce. Marie R."

½ *p. Copy in same hand as Nos. 3 and 4.*

One of the documents referred to in Murray's instructions to the Commendator of Dunfermline, 5 October 1569.

1568. Dec. 29. **6. MORTON'S DECLARATION ON THE CASKET LETTERS.**

Add. MSS. 32,091, fol. 216.

"The trew declaratioun and report of me James erll of Mortoun how a certane silver box ourgilt conteyning dyvers missive writtinges sonettz contractis and obligations for marriage betuix the Quene mother to our soveran lord, and James sumtyme erll Bothwell, wes found and usit.

"Upon Thewrisday the xix of Junii 1567 I dynit at Edinburgh, the laird of Ledingtoun secretarie with me. At tyme of my denner, a certane man came to me and in secrett maner schew me that thre servandis of the Erll Bothuilles viz. M^r^ Thomas Hebburn persoun of Auldhamestokkes, John Cocburn brother to the lard of Skirling, and George Dalgleische, wer cummit to the toun, and passit within the castell. Upon quhilk adverteisment, I on the suddane send my cousing M^r^ Archibald Douglas, Robert Duglass his brother, and James Jhonstoun of Westerraw, with utheris my servandis to the number of xvj or thairby, towerd the castell to mak serche for the saidis persons, and gif possible wer to apprehend theme. According to quhilk my directioun, my servandis past, and at the first missing the fornamit thre persons, for that thai wer departit furth of the castell befor thair cumming thair, my men then parting in severall cumpaneis, upon knawledge that the utheris quhom thay socht wer separat, M^r^ Archibald Duglas sochte for M^r^ Thomas Hebburn, and fand him not, but gat his hors—James Johnstoun socht for Jo. Cocburn and apprehendit him—Robert Douglas suiting for George Dalglesch, efter he had almast gevin our his serche and inquisitioun, a gude fallow understanding his purpose, came to him, offerand for a

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"meane pece of money to revele quhair George Dallgleis wes; the said Robert satisfeing him that gave the intelligens for his panis, past to the Potterraw besid Edinburgh, and there apprehendit the said George, with divers evidences and lettres in parchment viz. the Erll Bothvilles infeftmentes of Liddisdaill, of the lordschip of Dunbarre and of Orknay and Zetland, and divers utheris, quhilkis all, with the said George himself, the said Robert brocht and presentit to me. And the said George being examinat of the caus of his directioun to the castell of Edinburgh, and quhat lettres and evidentes he brocht furth of the same? allegit he was sent onlie to visite the Lord Bothuill his masteris clething, and that he haid na uther lettres nor evidentes nor thay quhilkis wer apprehendit with him: but his report being found suspicious, and his gesture and behaviour ministring caus of mistrust, seing the gravite of the actioun that wes in hand, it wes resolvit be commoun assent of the noble men convenit, that the said George Dalgleish suld be suirlie kepit that nycht, and upoun the morn suld be haid to the Tolbuith of Edinburgh and thair be put in the jayne* and tormentis, for furthering of the declaratioun of the trewth: quhairin being set upon Friday the xx day of the said moneth of Junii, befor any rigorous demaning of his persoun, fering the pane and movit of conscience, he callit for my cousing M^r^ Archibald Douglas: quha cumming, the said George desirit that Robert Douglas suld be sent with him, and he shuld schaw and bring to licht that quhilk he haid. Sua being takin furth of the jayne, he past with the said Robert to the Potterraw; and thair under the feit of a bedde, tuke furth the said silver box quhilk he hade brocht furth of the castell the day befor, lokkit, and brocht the same to me at viij houres at nycht. And becaus it wes lait, I kepit it all that nycht. Upoun the morn viz^t^ Setterday the xxi of Junii, in presens of the Erlles of Atholl, Marre, Glencarne, myself, the lordes Hwme, Sempill, Sanquhar, the Maister of Grahame, the Secretarie and lard of Tullibarden comtroller, and the said M^r^ Archibald Duglas, the said box wes strikin up, becaus we wantit the key: and the lettrez within contenit sichtit, and immediatlie thairefter delyverit agane in my handis and custodie. Sen quhilk tyme I have observit and kepit the same box, and all lettrez missives contractis, sonettes, and utheris writtes contenit thairin suerlie, without alteratioun, changeing, eking or dimissing of any thing found or ressavit in the said box. This I testify and declaris to be undowtit trewth.

"This is the copie of that quhilk wes gevin to M^r^ Secretarie Cecill upon Thursday the viij of December, 1568.†

"This is the trew copie of the declaratioun maid and presentit be the Erll of Mortoun to the Commissionaris and Cunsall of England sittand at Westmynster for the tyme, upoun Thurisday being the 29 of December 1568. Subscrivit with his hand thus—Mortoun."

2 *pp.* *In a Scottish hand.* *Indorsed* (by another hand): "Erle of Morton his declaration anent the manner whou the sylver box with contracts of mariage, sonets, missives cam in his hands."

* "gêne" Fr., a seat to hold him for torture. † This sentence cancelled.

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ADDENDA.

May 20. MURRAY TO CECIL.

I trust your honour forgets not how lately I wrote to my lord of "Lechester" and you, in favour of the "Maister Marshall" my brother-in-law, whose state is lamented "be mo nor me"—for neither can he have reasonable ransom according to the law of arms, nor freedom on his countrymen's sufficient bands, to see to his needful affairs. And albeit neither will I desire you for my request, "to impair your raisonable favoris in this cause towardis your new allya,"* yet for our "auld freyndschip" I will "obtest" your honour in memory of the same, "to schaw" my said brother-in-law some reasonable favour—which I will always look for at your hands. For albeit I hear other reports, my heart can never be persuaded of any alienation of mind towards me or mine, in you. Stirling. *Signed:* James Stewart.

1 *p.* *Written and addressed by Wood.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk). *Inclosed with No. 184.*

Sept. 30. RANDOLPH TO BEDFORD.

If not deceived, this will be my last day of liberty, either committed to some place, or commanded to keep my house. But I beg you not to stay your purpose "to do or sende" as you find easier. This ambassador does nothing to mitigate the Queen's ire against the lords, for since he came, the Duke, Glencairn, and Kilwinning, were put to the horn. The ship in the Frith and bruit of 13 more coming, puts us in great "fraye." We make little account of your few men sent to Carlisle, but your letter by my man puts me in "comforte of better." If I be "inclosed," it will please you to have Mr. David Chamber safely lodged, till I am delivered safe to your hands. I thank you humbly for my gelding, "whome" I will not leave here. Edinburgh, "this Sondaye." *Signed:* Tho. Randolphe.

Darnley was this day at the preaching and heard M^r^ John Cragge.

1 *p.* *Holograph, also address.* *Indorsed* (by Cecil's clerk).

* Sir Henry Percy (?)

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