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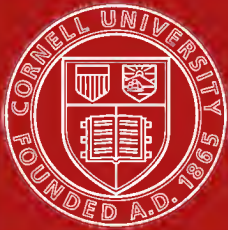
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This Report was prepared and partially edited, on behalf of the Historical Manuscripts Commissioners, by the late Mr. C. LITTON FALKNER, M.A., M.R.I.A. It has been completed by his executor, Mr. F. ELLINGTON BALL. The Index has been compiled by Miss M. BRADSHAW.

INTRODUCTION.

The present volume contains a further instalment of the correspondence of the first Duke of Ormond during his third tenure of the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. As stated in the Introduction to the previous volume of this series, the history of that period of Ormond's career occupies only a small space in Carte's monumental work, and the raid which Ormond's biographer made on the Kilkenny muniment room left the material for a complete account of the events with which Ormond was associated in the last years of his life, in a great measure intact. Undoubtedly Carte exercised a wise judgment and much perspicacity in not overloading his work with a full consideration of subjects which cannot be compared in historical importance with those treated of by him at greater length, and which add little to our knowledge of Ormond's attainments and character; but at the same time he left at Kilkenny in the correspondence now appearing in this Calendar, information necessary for the true reading of the history of that time, and it seems possible that if the duration of his stay in Ireland had permitted an examination of their contents, some of these letters might have been added to the collection which bears his name in the Bodleian. Such a conjecture gains support from the fact that a vast increase in the number of letters at Kilkenny occurs suddenly, and is continued until the termination of Ormond's third viceroyalty. In the Introduction to the last volume of this series it was pointed out that a portion of the previous volume was all that had been necessary to cover the correspondence of three years, whereas the whole of the volume then under review, although one of exceptional size, was required to cover the correspondence of two years; and now, as was then anticipated would be the case, the present volume, although it contains only seventy pages less than the last one, is filled by the correspondence of a period of similar length, from March 25, 1681, to March 24, 1682-3.

During the first of these years Ormond was in Ireland, where his own castle at Kilkenny was his chief abode; and during the second he was in England, where his attendance in the capacity of Lord Steward upon the King, necessitated his almost continuous residence in London. His principal correspondent was his only surviving son, the Earl of Arran, who during the first year from London, and during the second year from Ireland, where he acted as Lord Deputy in Ormond's absence, kept up a constant correspondence with his father. Next to the Earl of Arran, in the importance and volume of their letters, came the episcopal Lord Chancellor, Archbishop Boyle,

and the Earl of Longford, who was connected with Ormond officially through his office of Master of the Ordnance and privately through his marriage to the widow of Ormond's third son the Earl of Gowran; and amongst less frequent correspondents will be found, Sir Leoline Jenkins, the English Secretary of State in charge of Irish affairs, the Earl of Arlington, Chief Justice Keatinge, who appears in a light very different from that in which he is generally regarded, Sir Cyril Wyche, and Colonel Edward Cooke, a prince amongst news-mongers and sportsmen.

Throughout the incidents which give rise to the correspondence in this volume, Ormond's loyalty to his sovereign and devotion to the public service are conspicuous, and are seen to carry him through every discouragement and anxiety that the subterfuges of Charles II, and the intrigues of that monarch's ministers could impose upon him. At the time the correspondence opens a strenuous agitation was being carried on in the Court circle against Ormond's government of Ireland. To the demand for enquiries the King lent so far as could be seen a most ready ear, and not a word escaped him publicly to show that Ormond still retained his confidence. But fearing that the strain might prove too great even for that faithful servant, and that Ormond might desert his post, which was the last thing that would have suited the royal policy at that moment, the King took an opportunity of sending him privately in April, 1681, a letter in the following terms :—

“The impertinent and groundless report being now revived again of your being recalled, is the pure invention of your enemies and mine; there never having been the least occasion given for such a report. For I assure you I value your services there too much to think of any alteration. The bearer, Fitzpatrick, will tell you more at large, and give you a good account how all are here. And therefore I will say no more, only to assure you that you may be so much assured of my kindness to you, as I am of yours; which is all I can say. Charles Rex.*

Amongst the information to be imparted to Ormond by his brother-in-law, Fitzpatrick, not the least important point was the King's desire that the utmost secrecy should be preserved about this letter, and it was not until Fitzpatrick returned to London three months later that Ormond ventured even to acknowledge its receipt.†

Meantime the English Privy Council had begun to debate the arrangements to be made for the collection of the Irish revenue, on the expiration of a contract for its farm which had been entered into during the viceroyalty of the Earl of

* Carte's *Life of Ormond*, Appendix i, Letter cxxii.

† *Infra*, p. 104.

Essex with Sir James Shaen and others. With the approval of the King, who was constantly present at the discussions and brought forward himself a proposal for a new undertaking,* the proceedings were conducted without any reference to Ormond, who was treated as a person not worthy to be entrusted with a knowledge of the negotiations that were taking place. Ormond's feelings at that time may be gathered from the following passage in a letter which he addressed on the 28th of November in that year to Lord Arran :—

“ With a letter of the 12th from my Lord Ranelagh I received the heads of the new contract and of his papers of objections. I did not expect that I should from him have had the first information of a transaction, wherein this kingdom and myself in all my capacities, are so highly concerned ; nor can I forbear to say that no government under the Crown of England was ever so much slighted and affronted as this has been in the whole course of that affair, that is if the matter shall be finally concluded without imparting it to us whilst others less concerned and less knowing are determining our safety or destruction.”†

This allusion is further developed in a subsequent letter in which Ormond refers to “ the clerks, lawyers, and scribes ” let into the secret so carefully kept from the Irish government.‡ But at the same time he says that anyone who imagined he would think of “ quitting the government ” because he did not like any bargain the King chose to make for his own revenue, must consider him “ a very giddy old fellow and a very silly undutiful ass.”§

These proceedings regarding the revenue had a close connexion with intrigues to supplant Ormond in the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland. It was believed by Carte that the Earl of Essex was then the formidable pretender to Ormond's place,|| but others were regarded at the time as more dangerous rivals. Lord Longford, who crossed over to England from Ireland in the autumn of 1681, evidently suspected Lord Halifax, with whom he had a long interview, of still desiring to be Ormond's successor.¶ The assurance volunteered by Lord Halifax that he had never entertained such a thought gave Lord Longford good reason to doubt the sincerity of the friendship which he professed so volubly for Ormond, but an anonymous cipher letter, written evidently by some one about the Court, tends to show that Lord Halifax had then laid aside what had been at one time undoubtedly his ambition.** There was, however, beyond question an intrigue on foot to secure the viceroyalty for the Earl of Conway. It was

* *Infra*, p. 81.

† *Infra*, p. 239.

‡ *Infra*, p. 276.

§ *Infra*, p. 277.

|| *Carte's Life of Ormond*, Oxon, 1851, iv, 609.

¶ *Infra*, p. 144.

** *Infra*, p. 192.

started by persons who thought that Conway, from his interest "amongst the new English in Ireland," was likely to fill the position of viceroy with greater advantage to their interests than Ormond had done, and later on an allegation was industriously circulated that owing to advancing years, Ormond was unable to discharge his duties. As Ormond wrote, "the imputation of imbecility by reason of age" came too near the truth to be easily digested, and although at the moment suffering from one of his periodical attacks of gout, he announced his intention of proving that some degree of vigour remained to him by riding "smartly" after a pack of hounds which he had just imported from England.*

In addition to the charges against his present government of Ireland to which the intrigues for his supersession gave rise, Ormond was caused great annoyance at that time by the reflections cast upon his first viceroyalty in the historical disquisition then published by the Earl of Anglesey, as well as in the works of Whitelocke and Borlase. With respect to these criticisms, Ormond addressed towards the close of the year 1681 a remonstrance to Lord Anglesey, which was published, and became the occasion of heated passages between Anglesey and Ormond's friends. As the dispute seemed not unlikely to afford a pretext for removing Lord Anglesey, who was no longer in favour, from the charge of the privy seal, the King derived much gratification from Ormond's letter, and disconcerted Lord Anglesey not a little by saying "in his pleasant way" when his lordship called for paper at the Council table, "My Lord, you shall have none, for pen, ink and paper are dangerous tools in your hands."†

At the beginning of the year 1682 the King's attitude in regard to the affairs of Ireland still gave ground for rumours that Ormond was not likely to hold the sword in that country for long. In a private interview with Lord Longford the King professed satisfaction with Ormond's government, declaring his distrust of anyone connected with Shaftesbury or Essex, and exclaiming: "God's fish! if we do not keep them under they will ruin us;" and in the secrecy of his closet he replied to Mr. Secretary Jenkins when that statesman mentioned the Conway intrigue: "Pish! do they take me for a fool and a mad man, that I do not know and understand when I am well;"‡ but of the proceedings respecting the Irish revenue Ormond was still kept in ignorance, and the King continued to act in the Council as if his interests were not safe in Ormond's hands. Suddenly, however, in the summer of that year, one of the kaleidoscopic changes which occurred so frequently in the reign of Charles II came over the scene, and Ormond appears as the statesman whose influence was predominant at Court, and whom it was the King's delight

* *Infra*, pp. 51, 218, 311, 313.

† *Infra*, pp. 240, 255, 258, 260.

‡ *Infra*, pp. 144, 324.

to honour. The cause of this change was Ormond's arrival in London. According to Carte his journey thither was undertaken in response to a summons from the King,* but the correspondence in this volume shows that it originated in negotiations which were then being carried on for the marriage of Ormond's grandson, the Earl of Ossory, to a cousin of the Earl of Arlington.† Although the young man was then only seventeen, the question of his marriage had been for some years the subject of anxious consideration, and the Earl of Arlington, who as a brother-in-law of the young man's mother, was a principal adviser in all that concerned him, had revived an idea of this alliance which had been originally suggested by the King to the young man's father.‡ The inducement for its consummation, which however failed to tempt Ormond, was the prospect of immense wealth, and this would appear not to have been exaggerated, as a correspondent in announcing the death of the young lady's father some months later, says that she had become "one of the greatest fortunes in England, being worth at least in lands and money 150,000*l.*"§

To Ormond there had been accorded on his journey from Chester and on his entry into London, a reception which showed that his popularity in England had not been diminished by his long absence, and his enemies, perceiving that his power could not be lightly disregarded, and possibly not a little overawed by the magnificence of his equipage and the great extent of his retinue, were for the time silenced. The effect was visible the moment Ormond presented himself at Court. "I am just now come from Windsor," he writes from London a few days after his arrival to his son, "and was received there on all hands as I could wish, and that is enough to say of it."|| His surroundings in England were not calculated to cause Ormond to regard with favour an undistinguished alliance such as was proposed for his grandson by Lord Arlington, and the negotiations with respect to it were quickly broken off and others opened for the marriage of the young man to a daughter of the Duke of Newcastle.¶ But unexpectedly a new development is disclosed in the correspondence, Captain George Mathew, Ormond's step-brother and financial brains-carrier, is summoned in haste to London about settlements which are to be drawn up without loss of time, and in little more than two months after Ormond had left Ireland, his grandson was married to Lord Hyde's daughter, who had only been suggested a few weeks before as an eligible partner for the young Earl of Ossory.** This alliance, which was arranged by the young lady's uncle the Duke of York, had an important political bearing, and secured

* Carte's *Life of Ormond*, Oxon, 1851, iv, 630.

† *Infra*, pp. 310, 316, 317.

‡ *Infra*, pp. 251, 334.

§ *Infra*, p. 440.

|| *Infra*, p. 365.

¶ *Infra*, pp. 378, 379.

** *Infra*, pp. 383, 389, 392, 398, 402.

for Ormond, as his son expressed it, "the main stroke" in all government business that concerned him.* Notwithstanding a friendship that had existed for a great portion of their lives there had been much misunderstanding between Ormond and Hyde in their official relations, and when Ormond's journey to England was first announced the Court gossips had given out that Hyde's management of the Treasury would be called in question, and that Ormond was coming over "full fraught with revenge against him for his proceedings in relation to the farm."† But now all was changed: the proposals in the new contract were laid before Ormond, and when it was found that they were not considered by him advantageous, the contractors, of whom Sir James Shaen was found to be again one, "were dismissed with very severe rebukes for having departed from what they had formerly agreed unto," and "amongst all the lords none was more sharp upon them than my Lord Hyde, as having deluded him more than the rest."‡ At the same time Lord Anglesey was called upon by the Council to explain such passages in his book as seemed to reflect upon the memory of Charles I, and as he failed to do so, the privy seal was taken from him.§

It had been Ormond's intention to return to Ireland that autumn, and he was prepared to resist any pressure which the ministers might put upon him to remain in England by requiring that the expense of his son's establishment as Lord Deputy, which he was then bearing, should be defrayed by the Crown,|| but the King himself spoke, and all considerations of personal convenience were forgotten by Ormond. To Captain Mathew, in a letter dated the 15th of August, Ormond thus announces his change of plans: "This morning I had the King's command to fit myself for wintering here, and take it for granted that as much will be allowed for the support of the government in my absence as was in the like case at other times, the rest, which will be about half, I must bear;" and to his son the same day Ormond writes of the pleasure which the command had given him, a pleasure which arose from no hope of personal advantage, but from the assurance which he had received of the King's "confidence in his integrity and opinion of his capacity to serve him at a time of difficulty."¶ The King's desire for Ormond's presence in England was connected with the effort that was then being made to bring the government of the City of London into conformity with the royal policy, and arose evidently from the King's conviction that Ormond's generosity and hospitality would go far to gain his object. During the remainder of the correspondence covered by this volume Ormond appears in attendance on the King, maintaining a princely establishment, and transporting "the table" which it was his privilege to keep at his own expense

* *Infra*, pp. 405, 408.

† *Infra*, pp. 165, 224, 348.

‡ *Infra*, pp. 407, 411.

§ *Infra*, pp. 408, 437.

|| *Infra*, p. 412.

¶ *Infra*, p. 423.

as Lord Steward, to Winchester and Newmarket when the King visited those places. Some idea of the cost of serving his royal master may be gathered from the letters of the controller of Ormond's household, who accounts for the disappearance of 15,000*l.* by laconically observing that "you cannot have your cake and eat your cake,"* and from a rueful letter addressed by Ormond himself to his step-brother, George Mathew, in which he says that "the King's affairs go on well and as he is told not the worse for him, but if his own decline as fast it will be hard to repair them;" and adds, which would seem rather obvious, that the English dukedom, which was then conferred upon him, was "of no other advantage than precedency."†

Of the Earl of Arran, who is so conspicuous a figure throughout this volume, the correspondence conveys a pleasing impression. Even in the dry details of official business, with which his letters are almost entirely occupied, an affectionate admiration for his father is always perceptible, and no effort seems to have been spared by him to maintain his father's honour and promote his interests. The fatal illness of his eldest, and then his only, son in Ireland while he was in London drew out all that was best in Arran, and the following touching passage in one of the letters which he wrote at that time to his father, is specially noteworthy:—

"I saw a letter from your Grace of the 31st of the last month [May] to Mr. Secretary Jenkins, but had none from you last post, nor from anybody else, therefore I need no further assurance of my son's death, and give me leave to say this, and I shall never mention him more, that I cannot tell which reflection afflicts me most, that of the loss of an only son without the probable expectation of ever having another, or the great care and concern both my mother and you have shown and owned in your letters to have for him and me in this just correction of God Almighty, and I assure your Grace that it shall be as much my care hereafter to make my nephews worthy of the stock they come from as I thought it my duty in the case of my own son."‡

That Arran was also not without considerable talent for business is evident from a letter addressed by Archbishop Boyle to Ormond soon after he had gone to England, in which the Archbishop says: "The public affairs here go on very well; my Lord Deputy puts himself to no difficulty for the discharge of his government. He is his father's son, and does his work with as much ease as if it were natural and came to him by descent."§ But Arran's abilities and character do not bear comparison with those of his father. Either from indolence, or as he says himself, from want of skill, much information

* *Infra*, pp. 427, 438.

† *Infra*, p. 486.

‡ *Infra*, p. 81.

§ *Infra*, p. 395.

that his father wished to be sent was omitted from his letters,* and in the settlement of the Irish revenue there is indication that he was not altogether uninfluenced by the expectation of personal advantage.† His reputation for self indulgence cannot be lightly set aside, and owing apparently to extravagance on the part of his wife as well as of himself, his domestic affairs did not always run smoothly.‡ In the gay life of the Court he was a participant, rivalling the finest there in the gorgeousness of his apparel,§ and numbering amongst his friends the Duchess of Portsmouth and Nell Gwynn, who writes hoping that for her sake Arran, as Lord Deputy, will give “a speedy despatch” to the business of her pension.|| In the power of the Duchess of Portsmouth, Arran was evidently a firm believer, and it was through his influence that his father became at that time “so much a courtier” as to visit her,¶ an attention which it must have been then more than ever difficult to induce Ormond to pay, as the Duchess had apparently obstructed the negotiations for his grandson’s marriage by spreading reports as to the young man’s life at Oxford, and had delayed the presentation of a magnificent bracelet or collar which Queen Catherine gave about that time to the Duchess of Ormond.**

During the period covered by the greater portion of the correspondence in this volume the political situation was governed by the Tory reaction which set in after Oates’s plot. In the opening letters some lively accounts will be found, however, of the proceedings of the short lived Parliament—or convention, as Sir Cyril Wyche thought it ought to be called††—at Oxford. “Though I have seen the distractions and dejections of routed armies, a prospect dismal enough,” writes Colonel Cooke, “yet nothing ever equalled this day in this place at the surprising dissolution of this Parliament,”‡‡ but it is evident from a previous letter of this doughty warrior, that everyone was not unprepared, as has been generally represented, for this sudden termination of the debates.§§ The trials of Archbishop Plunkett and Edward Fitzharris, with which the prosecutions originating in Oates’s discoveries concluded, come also under notice. Amongst the witnesses called by Fitzharris was the Earl of Arran, to whom he was personally known and whose host he had been at dinner the day before his arrest, but both Ormond and Arran seem to have been convinced that his conviction was just. At the same time Ormond observes with respect to the trial of Archbishop Plunkett: “I wish for the honour of the justice of England that the evidence against Plunkett had been as convincing as that against the other was; for we must expect

* *Infra*, pp. 152, 167, 179, 273.

† *Infra*, pp. 278, 348.

‡ *Infra*, pp. 391, 444, 506.

§ *Infra*, p. 230.

|| *Infra*, p. 483.

¶ *Infra*, p. 409.

** *Infra*, pp. 289, 325, 332.

†† *Infra*, p. 21.

‡‡ *Infra*, p. 9.

§§ *Infra*, pp. 5, 7.

that Papists at home and abroad will take his trial to pieces and make malicious remarks upon every part of it, and some circumstances are liable to disadvantageous observations."* Meantime the conflict between the Court and the City of London had begun on the occasion of the presentation to the King of an address praying that a new Parliament might be summoned. The address had been carried in the Common Council only by a small majority, and the Lord Chancellor administered on the part of the King a severe reprimand to the delegates who presented it, telling them that "the smallest village in England might with as much right take the confidence to address for the sitting of Parliaments as they."† The subsequent refusal of the city juries to find bills against College, the Protestant joiner, and Lord Shaftesbury, is animadverted upon in strong terms by all Ormond's courtly correspondents, and the decision to put the laws in execution against the Dissenters and to suppress their conventicles is hailed with delight. At that time the Earl of Longford was in London, and as, in the words of Ormond, he was in writing "as copious as Arran was thrifty of his pains,"‡ there is a full and very interesting account of the various incidents. But on the great exertions made by Ormond in the following year to obtain the election of members of the Court party to the civic offices, to which Carte alludes,§ the correspondence in this volume does not throw much fresh light.

The attitude of Charles II to the Duke of York and the Duke of Montagu was the subject of constant curiosity and conjecture. During the residence of the Duke of York in Scotland there was a very circumstantial account that he had renounced the Roman Catholic religion and attended the services of the Church of England,|| and there is reference by Ormond to his taking the oaths of allegiance and supremacy there, "which, I think, are at least as full and binding as those in England," says Ormond, "and for the taking whereof I do not believe the Pope will dispense."¶ According to popular report an annuity of five thousand pounds a year settled by the Duke of York upon the Duchess of Portsmouth, who became suddenly "zealous in all his affairs," paved the way for his restoration to full favour,** but in Ormond's opinion the Duke of Monmouth's injudicious conduct was the chief cause of the breach between the Duke of Monmouth and the King, and of the recall of the Duke of York to Court.†† In the autumn of 1682 a visit paid by the Duke of Monmouth to Cheshire, ostensibly for the purpose of horse racing, created great alarm. Orders were sent to the Earl of Arran to be prepared to send troops from Ireland in case the Cheshire

* *Infra*, pp. 81, 85.

† *Infra*, pp. 62, 67.

‡ *Infra*, p. 152.

§ Carte's *Life of Ormond*, Oxon, 1851 iv, 637.

|| *Infra*, pp. 97, 98, 107.

¶ *Infra*, p. 126.

** *Infra*, pp. 229, 271.

†† *Infra*, p. 368.

militia were unable to cope with such disturbance as might arise, and a riot actually occurred in Cheshire where, as an old cavalier writes, the mayor, being "a creature" of the Duke of Monmouth, permitted bonfires "on every idle occasion" and encouraged the rabble in "their insufferable licentiousness."* To Charles II's ministers there is constant allusion in the correspondence, and especially to the first Lord of the Treasury, Viscount Hyde, who was then, "the greatest man in favour at Court," † and to the Secretaries of State, Sir Leoline Jenkins, who is said to have been slow in business, ‡ and the Earl of Conway who from his connection with Ireland seems to have frequently interfered in Irish affairs, although these were in the department of his brother secretary. Amongst other statesmen, who are mentioned as in attendance on the King, are Edward Seymour, who is represented as a man of boundless ambition, § and the Earl of Ranelagh.

Of plots and counter plots, and of conspirators and informers, the letters tell with a diffusedness that becomes at times somewhat wearisome. In a curious communication from an anonymous correspondent to Ormond there is a long list of persons whom the Earl of Essex, Lord Howard, and others are said to have designed to impeach as promoters of "a Presbyterian sham plot." || The Earl of Arran's name is in "the catalogue," but Ormond's name does not appear, although, as he remarked, this was an omission likely to be rectified in due time. ¶ Indeed a prosecution instituted by the Government in Ormond's name, under "the statute of *Scandalum Magnatum*," against the Earl of Shaftesbury's chief agent, Edward Hetherington, had already raised a great clamour against him, ** and the Earl of Essex boasted that he had a letter from Ormond which showed that he had been the first person to raise a cry against the Presbyterians. †† In connexion with the alleged "Presbyterian sham plot," one William Smith, a prisoner for debt in Dublin, alleged that he had been asked to accuse a dignitary of the Church of Ireland and a Dissenting minister of endeavouring to induce him to give evidence of the existence of a Popish plot; but Ormond had no doubt of the genesis of Smith's statements, and that his affidavit had been "principally contrived and limited" for the service of the Earl of Shaftesbury, who had shortly before been sent to the Tower. †‡ Of the witnesses who were so ready to swear informations, Ormond speaks in

* *Infra*, pp. 436, 444, 456.

† *Infra*, p. 48.

‡ *Infra*, p. 233.

§ *Infra*, p. 59. It was reported (*infra*, p. 233) that it was at Seymour's instance Dryden wrote *Absalom and Achitophel*.

|| *Infra*, p. 262.

¶ *Infra*, p. 278.

** *Infra*, pp. 120, 220 *et passim*.

†† *Infra*, p. 249.

‡‡ *Infra*, pp. 153, 203 *et passim*.

no uncertain terms in a letter to the Earl of Arran which has been already printed by Carte.*

But the main subject, of which the letters in this volume treat, is the collection and apportionment of the Irish revenue. Although the farm to Sir James Shaen and his partners had existed for five years, the accounts of a previous farm to the Earl of Ranelagh and others had never been closed, and were further complicated by the accounts of Lord Ranelagh as a Vice-Treasurer of Ireland. This position led to endless correspondence between the English Treasury and the Irish government, and in connexion with it the rival merits of a farm and of a management are discussed, especially by Chief Justice Keatinge, who was evidently an authority on finance, and the miserable system under which the army and government officials were left at the mercy of "bankrupt knaves" is laid bare. In the end it was decided to place the revenue under management, and for that purpose five commissioners were appointed, the chief being the Earl of Longford, who seems to have been excellently qualified for the post from the experience which he had gained in his domestic affairs of making a scanty income meet a lavish expenditure.

The Universities of Oxford and of Dublin engaged Ormond's care from time to time in his capacity as chancellor. A project to transfer the Dublin collegians to the hospital then being built at Kilmainham for old soldiers, and the pensioners to the halls of Trinity College, and the reasons for that proposal, make a new chapter in the history of Dublin University. The project is thus mentioned in a letter from an Irish official to Ormond:—

"Your Grace hath wished the College a better structure and situation, the latter now renders it more a sepulchre than nursery to the youths of this kingdom, who too often miscarry by the lewd neighbourhood of Lazy Hill; now if it please your Grace the College may be of sufficient reception for the soldiers, and the Hospital would make a magnificent college, and being out of town, would be free from those mischiefs that now attend it. For this change I presume ten thousand pounds would voluntarily be subscribed by the gentlemen of this kingdom, who are now beginning to send their children abroad, and it is to be feared if not soon remedied this foundation will be desolate."†

That the site of the college was then also thought insanitary would appear probable from a letter of Archbishop Boyle.‡ One of the subjects touched upon in the letters from Oxford is the fees paid to Ormond's secretaries when his signature was required. Judging from references in other letters, as well as in those, no attention was to be expected without gifts

* *Infra*, p. 230, *Carte's Life of Ormond*, Oxon, 1851, v, 164.

† *Infra*, p. 421.

‡ *Infra*, p. 323.

on the most liberal scale to his entourage, and the University began to murmur at some of the exactions.*

The constitution of the episcopal and judicial benches of Ireland in the period covered by the correspondence left much to be desired. By endeavouring to act as head of both, Archbishop Boyle failed to do justice to the great abilities which he possessed, and his reputation rests on his talent for statesmanship. Of the other bishops mentioned in this volume, Anthony Dopping and Narcissus Marsh are alone noteworthy. Of some of their brethren the less said the better. An effort was made by Ormond to raise the standard by inducing John Tillotson to accept an Irish see, but the latter, who was then Dean of Canterbury, did not wish to move, and as regarded the particular offer said: "As for the service of the Church which I acknowledge ought to prevail above all other considerations, the best years of my life are past, and I do most sensibly find the infirmities of age coming upon me, and therefore I cannot persuade myself to undertake so great a charge to which I know myself at best to be very unequal, and shall certainly be more so every day, besides the unpleasant and disagreeable thought of transplanting myself into another country, and beginning the world again when I feel myself going out of it."† Of the judges, the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, John Keatinge, and one of the justices of the King's Bench, Sir Richard Reynell, are the only striking personalities. Keatinge, who had attained to a great practice at the Irish bar, and had been promoted at an early age direct from it to the chief seat in the Common Pleas, has been held up to odium on account of his conduct while James II was in Ireland. It is, however, to be borne in mind that men of such varied views as Essex, Ormond and Clarendon were impressed by his character as much as by his abilities, and, a fact not so generally known, that it was intended to reappoint him to a seat on the Irish bench after the battle of the Boyne when his premature death intervened. Reynell, who united with professional attainments social qualities of a high order, was as well known in England as in Ireland, and during the reign of William and Mary occupied a seat in the English House of Commons while filling the position of Chief Justice of Ireland. Before this volume opens he had been created a baronet and in some of the letters there is mention of his being placed on the Privy Council—a position which had not been occupied by a puisne judge since the reign of Elizabeth. Friendship with the Ormond family played a large part in the promotion of Chief Justice Davys, Judge Lyndon and Judge Turner to the judicial bench. The last, who was a son-in-law of Colonel John Jeffreys and had succeeded his father-in-law as constable of the Castle of Dublin,

* *Infra*, pp. 426, 438, 468, 481, 515 *et passim*.

† *Infra*, p. 243.

was a dying man when his appointment took place, and only survived for two years. The value of the bishoprics in Ireland was then extremely small; the bishopric of Kildare is said to have been only worth two hundred pounds a year. The judges were equally underpaid, and as Keatinge says, it was difficult "to get any gentleman of parts or practice to change the bar for the bench."* They had to undertake "long and uncouth journeys with ill and chargeable entertainment," and were not unexposed to danger from the state of the court-houses, as appears from the following passage inserted parenthetically in an account Chief Justice Davys sends of a trial before him while holding the assizes at Cork: "but as the Court was going to call upon another evidence, it happened that a great part of the floor of the court fell down, and with that a great number of people, many of whom were severely bruised, others wounded, and one or two killed, as we are informed. The confusion, you may imagine, was very great; such as were not hurt were forced to get out of windows, and among them Mr. Baron Worth and I dropped down into the people's arms, who stood ready to receive us."†

There is frequent reference to the prosecution of the Secretary of State in Ireland, Sir John Davys, a brother of Chief Justice Davys, for complicity in "the Popish plot." The allegations against him seem to have been mainly promoted by James Morley, a gentleman of good estate in the county of Meath, who in a long statement which he made exculpating Sir John Davys from all the charges, expresses sorrow for his "precipitateness in entertaining an ill opinion of Sir John upon the misinformations of certain evil persons," and his belief that he is "a loyal subject and a true Protestant and that he never acted in anything derogatory from these characters of him."‡ With respect to Sir Richard Stephens, who was dismissed from the position of a serjeant-at-law for disloyalty to the Church of England,§ it may be remarked that he became afterwards a justice of the King's Bench in Ireland, and with respect to Mr. Herbert, who while presiding in the court of the Regalities of Tipperary, is said to have exhibited indiscretion and passion,|| it may be added, that he was Edward Herbert, afterwards well known as James II's Chief Justice of England.

The pursuit of "the Tories," who gave much trouble in the north of Ireland to the government at this time, gives occasion for letters which are very painful reading. Treachery and cruelty, especially in regard to Redmond O'Hanlon, are very manifest, and as an officer says, "very sad and great wrongs" were then done.¶ In alluding to the exertion of his neighbours, Viscount Mountjoy thus

* *Infra*, p. 469.

† *Infra*, p. 429.

‡ *Infra*, p. 346 *et passim*.

§ *Infra*, p. 430.

|| *Infra*, p. 450.

¶ *Infra*, p. 72.

writes : " There was never such a winter for country sports as the past, and I have enjoyed them in much perfection. I had very good hawks and hounds, but we have not had more success in any sport than Tory hunting ; the gentlemen of the county have been so hearty in that chase that of thirteen in the county where I live in November, the last was killed two days before I left home."* It may be imagined when an officer of high rank approached the subject in this spirit that subordinates showed little mercy.

Turning to matters that concern Ormond's domestic affairs, attention may be called to letters from the Earl of Longford, which describe statues and a fountain made under his direction for Kilkenny Castle, and iron gates designed by Grinling Gibbons, † as well as to a list of tapestry hangings sent from Kilkenny to cover the walls of Ormond's London house. ‡ Ormond's intention at one time to build a residence in Needwood Forest is also mentioned, § and there is frequent reference to Tullow in the county of Carlow as the favourite retirement of the Earl of Arran, while acting as Lord Deputy. To Ormond's hawks, horses and hounds there are many allusions, and while tied to a London house we find him solacing himself with cards, trick track and basset being the games mentioned. A weakness for salads may now be added to his well known love for a boiled leg of mutton. ||

In conclusion there should not be overlooked the information given with respect to foreign affairs, and in this connexion a letter from Sir Cyril Wyche about " the persecution of the Protestants " in France seems especially deserving of attention ; ¶ the details respecting the murder of Mr. Thynne and the trial of Count Konigsmark ; the repeated rumours of the King's intention to summon both the English and the Irish Parliament ; the precautions taken in view of the possibility of an invasion of Ireland by the French ; and the schemes to build a suitable residence for the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.**

The Editor desires to return his most grateful thanks to Mrs. Lomas, who has supplied the interpretation of the cipher used in Lord Longford's letters, and has to acknowledge, as his predecessor and lamented friend, the late Mr. Litton Falkiner, has so often done, great assistance rendered in the work of transcription by Mr. J. F. Morrissey and Mr. T. J. Morrissey of the Public Record Office of Ireland.

F. ELRINGTON BALL.

* *Infra*, p. 544.

† *Infra*, p. 279.

‡ *Infra*, p. 538.

§ *Infra*, pp. 246, 269.

|| *Infra*, p. 339.

¶ *Infra*, p. 265.

** *Infra*, *passim*.

KEY TO THE CIPHER USED IN THE LETTERS OF THE EARL OF
LONGFORD TO THE DUKE OF ORMOND.

[Letters and words about which there can be no doubt are in
roman type; those which have been inferred from their
context are in italic type.]

1 z	44 u
2 y	45 w
3 x	46 x
4 w	47 y
5 u or v	48 z
6 t	56 a
7 s	64 an
8 r	65 at
9 q	67 am
10 p	68 al or all
11 o	69 ar
12 n	70 as
13 m	73 and
14 l	80 by
15 k	81 ba
16 i	82 be
17 h	83 bi
18 g	84 bo
19 f	85 bu
20 e	92 both
21 d	93 bring
22 c	100 c
23 b	101 ch
24 a	102 cl
25 a	103 cr
26 b	104 ct
27 c	105 ca
28 d	106 ce
29 e	107 ci
30 f	108 co
31 g	109 cu
32 h	114 com
33 i	127 d
34 k	129 da
35 l	130 de
36 m	131 di
37 n	132 do
38 o	133 du
39 p	136 did
40 q	147 en or e
41 r	148 ed
42 s	151 er
43 t	152 es

153	ex	326	meet
158	end	328	must
159	esse	330	may
167	for	331	men
179	free	333	ma
182	from	334	me
183	first	335	<i>mi</i>
190	friend	336	<i>mo</i>
207	good	337	<i>mu</i>
209	great	344	n
219	he	351	now
220	ha	352	<i>new</i> ?
221	<i>hi</i>	353	nor
222	<i>ho</i>	354	not
223	hu	355	nt
224	his	357	<i>na</i>
225	her	358	ne
226	him	359	<i>ni</i>
228	here	360	no
229	<i>how</i>	361	<i>nu</i>
231	hope	367	o
232	has	370	own
233	have	371	out
234	high	373	our
246	<i>ia</i>	376	of
247	ie <i>or</i> je	380	or
248	<i>io</i>	381	ob
249	iu <i>or</i> ju	383	on
251	is	384	of
252	it	390	p
253	if	392	<i>pound</i> ?
254	in	394	presse
258	ing	399	part
268	k	403	put
271	<i>keep</i>	406	per
272	<i>known</i> ?	411	<i>par</i> ?
277	ke	433	r
284	l	444	<i>ra</i>
285	lord	445	re
286	leave	446	<i>ri</i>
288	<i>ly</i>	447	<i>ro</i>
292	less	448	ru
294	love	449	ry
295	long	455	s
301	law	459	<i>shall</i> ?
303	li <i>or</i> ly	461	serve
305	le	466	shall
314	m	468	<i>such</i>
321	much	470	<i>suddenly</i> ?
322	<i>made</i> ?	475	she
324	<i>must</i> ?	481	st

482	sa	616	between
483	se	617	<i>business</i> ?
484	si	627	being
485	so	638	capitulate
486	su	661	<i>court</i>
493	t	670	confine
498	<i>treate</i> ?	675	Dutch
499	turn	681	<i>divert</i> ?
502	their	683	declare
503	there	696	endeavour
505	those	713	<i>fanatic</i> ?
506	them	718	faction
507	<i>than</i> ?	722	fear
508	they	725	<i>Feversham</i> ?
509	that	730	general
510	this	733	<i>govern</i> ?
513	tru	747	<i>habeas corpus</i> ?
515	the	763	<i>hither</i> ?
518	ts	767	<i>imploy</i>
519	tr	768	<i>in the</i>
521	ta	769	<i>into</i>
522	<i>te</i>	771	<i>intend</i>
523	ti	772	intrigue
524	to	774	intention
525	<i>tu</i>	779	indifferent
532	would	785	knowledge
535	which	790	<i>the King</i>
543	with	800	letter
545	writ	815	[minister ? error]
546	were	827	<i>matter</i> ?
548	well	833	minister
549	who	838	necessity ?
550	will	842	neither
553	war	854	<i>oppose</i> ?
556	wa	855	<i>office</i> ?
557	<i>we</i>	858	<i>order</i>
558	wi	859	of the
559	<i>wo</i>	860	over
565	y	871	Parliament
568	year	873	Presbyterian
570	you	874	<i>probable</i> ?
571	you	881	present
577	<i>yeu</i> ?	886	person
587	<i>acquainte</i> ?	889	papist
591	<i>affair</i> ?	898	<i>Duchess of Portsmouth</i>
593	article	925	resolve
596	advise	926	<i>reason</i>
599	again	934	<i>return</i> ?
601	<i>after</i>	938	<i>remove</i> ?
605	and	942	revenge
607	a	944	s

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 947 success | 1066 <i>Duchess of York</i> |
| 954 <i>secret</i> | 1067 <i>Princess Anne</i> |
| 962 Shaftesbury | 1068 Shaftesbury |
| 971 treason | 1069 Essex |
| 975 to the | 1070 Hyde |
| 976 <i>tion</i> | 1071 Arlington (Lord Cham-
berlain) |
| 980 Temple | 1073 <i>Conway</i> |
| 990 under | 1074 Jenkins |
| 991 <i>upon</i> | 1075 <i>Ranelagh</i> |
| 1019 <i>zealous?</i> | 1082 Fitzpatrick |
| 1020 one | 1084 Halifax |
| 1021 <i>two</i> | 1086 <i>Scotland</i> |
| 1022 <i>three</i> | 1088 France |
| 1023 <i>four</i> | 1107 <i>Seymour?</i> |
| 1024 five | 1121 Coventry |
| 1038 thousand | 1132 <i>Russell?</i> <i>Montagu?</i> |
| 1061 Ormond | 1138 <i>Sheridan</i> |
| 1063 the King | 1169 [<i>Mistake for 1069 Essex</i>] |
| 1064 <i>the Queen</i> | 1443 sheriffs |
| 1065 Duke of York | |
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THE MANUSCRIPTS
OF THE
MARQUESS OF ORMONDE, K.P.

VOL. VI.

EARL OF CONWAY to ORMOND.

1681, March 25. Oxford.—I had last night the honour to receive your Grace's letters of the 12th and 14th instant, and communicated them this morning to his Majesty, with my Lord Clare's petition and the rest of the Grand Jury at Innis [Ennis] bearing date the 1st instant, with which petition and proceedings his Majesty is very much dissatisfied, conceiving the inhabitants of that kingdom are out of their sphere whenever they pretend to give counsel to his Majesty touching his affairs in England, especially to take upon them to prescribe a time for the continuance and sitting of Parliaments.

They complain of the insolence of Papists in Ireland, and mention the expectation of making greater discoveries of the Plot, and they proceed to affirm it to be the Papists' opinion that his Majesty favours Popery, and that his proclamations against them are not made with intent to be executed. To the first his Majesty desires your Grace to require them to give instances wherein the Papists are insolent, and knows upon such instances your Grace will by your own authority use effectual means to redress them, and therefore thinks it unnecessary to recommend it to you. And to the second his Majesty would have it enquired into if they can give any new evidence of the Plot, whereby his Majesty may be the better enabled to secure the public peace of the kingdom, which he will effectually prosecute. For his Majesty cannot approve of their proceedings, who, when there is a conspiracy against the peace of that kingdom, behave themselves so, as if the discovery of that conspiracy were not fit to be entrusted to his Lieutenant and Council there. But as to the last his Majesty would have my Lord Clare required to produce any one who hath dared to express any such opinion as the petition mentions, which if he cannot do he himself is to be looked upon as the author of so impudent a defamation of his Majesty's person and Government, and then the King's Attorney is to be commanded to exhibit an information against him, and to prosecute him for this offence so far as by law he may.

In the meantime, though his Majesty shall always encourage any well intended prosecution of the Plot, yet his Majesty is so far displeas'd with my Lord Clare's promoting and agitating this petition in an unjustifiable way, that his Majesty commands my Lord Clare to be put out of the Commission of the Peace and out of the Militia, and out of all other employments whatsoever, by order of the Council Board in Ireland, and the reason of it to be there entered in your books; which is all I have in command at present.

[*Endorsed*] Read at the Board, 2 April, 1681.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, March 25. Oxford.—The post does not go away from hence soon enough on Saturdays to overtake the Irish mail at London, so that I have not any thing more to say than what you had in my former letter from hence, for we have only had a petition in our House from my Lord Danby praying that he may be allowed bail, having been twenty-three months in prison; but the debate was adjourned until Monday next, and whenever it is resumed it will without doubt occasion a breach betwixt the Houses. This day the House of Commons enter upon business, and it is believed they will make very high votes upon the King's Speech, and its believed of all hands that this Parliament will not continue long. My Lord Dorset since his coming hither has had a fit of an apoplexy, which took him in the King's bedchamber. I hope to get the Secretaries to regulate the posts for Ireland in a more convenient manner, for now we lose two or three days. Col. Cooke sent me the enclosed open.

SAME to SAME.

1681, March 25. Oxford.—Mr. Sheridan, who goes from hence to-morrow, has desired my letter to you, though I writ a letter before of this day's date. He has a proposal concerning the revenue, which, if your Grace thinks practicable and of that use it seems to be of by the reasons he gives me, I am [sure] he has ability and industry enough to perform what he undertakes. He has desired me also to recommend to you his brother the Bishop, that some time or other you would translate him to a better bishopric, that which he now is in possession of being of no better value than the livings he quitted. He undertakes to make it out that his brother never did anything but what was respectful to you, only in that of obtaining the bishopric.

The House of Commons, amongst other of their votes, have ordered an impeachment to be drawn up against Fitzharris on purpose to hinder his trial the ordinary way, and my Lord Cavendish is to come up to our bar to-morrow to demand judgment against my Lord Danby, and then the business of the pardon will be debated.

VISCOUNT SHANNON to LORD LIEUTENANT and COUNCIL.

1681, March 25. Cork.—Pursuant to your commands of the 25th of February last, the High Sheriff of this county brought those persons William Henaghan named in his information to your Grace and lordships, who[m] I did examine singly to every particular information; the principal man of them is one Dermot Donworth, a man of good means and reputation among the English where he lives. He owns the knowing this Henaghan by sight, and that Molony the titular Bishop of Killaloe was in his house one day about seven years past and never before or after, and that Doctor Sliny was about that time also in his house, but utterly denies any private conversation with, or messages from, or sight of the said Bishop ever since or then, or any time before, or after it of knowing of any money he any way disposed of to any person or persons on the King of France his account, or heard a word thereof in any manner whatsoever, or of any plot against our King; and the same they declare all, only with this addition that none of them (besides this Dermot) vow they never saw or heard from this Bishop in all their life: which being the contents of their informations I thought it needless to trouble your Grace and lordships with them, but shall keep them to answer all demands.

In obedience to your Grace and lordships' commands to me of the 2nd present for bringing Manus keih* O'Keefe to his trial this last assizes in Cork, if I did not [show] good cause to the contrary, who is accused for having spoke some treasonable words, this Manus being a man of good repute in his country among the English there, and one of his accusers retracting his evidence against him upon the account, as he alleges, of some combination and malice, I shewed my Lord Chief Baron your Grace and lordships' directions to me, and he was of opinion to forbear the trial till next assizes, and to set him at liberty on extraordinary good bail to appear next assizes; for I am sure I desire neither the blood or ruin of any man, unless he appears very clearly to deserve it, for indeed swearing treason against men is now grown so common that many say they dare hardly ask for their debts, or distrain for their rents, for fear of being sworn into the Plot.

And lastly, in obedience to your Grace and lordships' commands of sending for my Lady Clancarty's gardener, John Hownine, I had him before me to-day and all Mr. Dudley FitzGerald's accusers, who seems by his own examinations herewith sent to confess most is sworn against him in the last examinations I sent your Grace and lordships, and he swearing he can say no more than is therein contained, and being a poor man that has a family, and as he says no horse nor money to carry him to Dublin, I have taken good bail for him to render himself to me on your Grace and lordships' first summons.

* The anglicised form of the Irish word caoch, purblind or having only one eye.

I received this minute a letter by an express, that last night there was three horsemen very well mounted and armed, who robbed many houses in three miles of Macroom, and that this morning early some out of Macroom town went out after them, who, with the help of the country, fell upon them, and after a long skirmish in which the robbers shot one Irishman, William Murphy, with a brace of bullets, and hurt others, they were at last overpowered and taken with their plunder. As one that helped to take them assured me, they had all pistols, and he says some of their horses are worth twenty guineas a piece. I sent according to Captain St. John's desire a party of horse to convey them here. I wish they had come three days sooner before the assizes were over, for now without a Commission of Oyer and Terminer, they must lie six months in the goal, two of their names are Daniel Keefe, Finine Sullivan. I hope your Grace and lordships will consider William Murphy, that is much wounded.

CLERK OF PELL'S CERTIFICATE of TREASURY RECEIPTS and
PAYMENTS, 1680-81.

*Receipts in his Majesty's Treasury from the 25th of December, 1680, to the
25th of March following, 1681.*

	The remain in the Vice Treasurer's hands upon the last Certificate ending the said 25th of December, 1680	11835 02 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Leinster	New Patent Rents 093 11 02 $\frac{1}{2}$ Rents upon Decrees & Certificates 006 18 03 $\frac{1}{2}$ Old Crown Rents 046 15 08 $\frac{1}{2}$ Casualties 078 18 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Munster	New Patent Rents 040 17 03 $\frac{1}{2}$ Old Crown Rents 024 03 02 $\frac{1}{2}$ Casualties 120 00 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Connaght	Old Crown Rents 013 16 08 $\frac{1}{2}$ Casualties 112 06 04 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Ulster	New Patent Rents 003 18 00 $\frac{1}{2}$ Quit Rents 000 12 10 Casualties <u>131 17 02$\frac{1}{2}$</u>	
		673 16 08 $\frac{1}{2}$
Farmers	By money paid into the Exchequer 8927 00 00 By Orders of Assignments into the Country.. 40443 04 09 $\frac{1}{2}$	
		<u>£61879 04 05$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Payments made within the said time.

Civil List	*Exchequer 1062 04 09 King's Bench 400 00 00 Chancery 108 14 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ Common Pleas 903 15 00 State Officers 143 06 08 Incidents 1603 15 00 Custom Officers 049 03 04 Creation Money 106 17 06 Perpetuities 206 16 11 Temporary Payments 169 13 09 $\frac{1}{2}$ Concordatums 2314 03 08 $\frac{1}{2}$ Lord Duras for one half year ending 25 of June, 1680 <u>1500 00 00</u>	8568 11 07 $\frac{1}{2}$
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	Brought forward ..	8568 11 07½
Military List	Officers General	1899 13 04
	Officers of the Ordnance	58 16 00
	Life Guard of horse for $\frac{3}{\text{mo.}}$ pay ending 25 June, 1680 ..	1375 10 00
	To 22 Troops of horse for $\frac{3}{\text{mo.}}$ ending 25 Decr. 1680 ..	10316 17 00
	To 80 foot Companies for the like time.. .. .	16622 00 04
	Royal Regiment of Guards for $\frac{3}{\text{mo.}}$ ending 25 Sept. 1680 ..	<u>9085 00 00</u>
	List of Pensions	39357 16 08 2210 10 00
	<i>Other Payments.</i>	
	Payments made pursuant to his Majesty's Letters of 20 June, 1679.. .. .	78 16 00
	Cheques remitted	<u>331 14 04</u>
		0410 10 04
		£50547 08 07½
	So remains in the Vice Treasurers hands	<u>11331 15 10½</u>
		61879 04 05½

Exd. p. Js. Alexander, Dept. Cler. Pell. (In Dorso) Clerk of the Pells' Certificate ending 25 March, 1681.

COL. EDWARD COOKE to ORMOND.

1681, March 25. Oxford.—This day is very critical in reference to the continuance or sudden rising of the Parliament. On Thursday last Col. Birch (who has the reversion of a good office for his son) moved that the House would appoint a day for considering of expedients in reference to a Popish successor. This so startled the more deliberate party, who designed to keep off that affair as long and as well as they could, that immediately a hot gentleman stood up and demanded to have the Bill against the Duke brought in. However, an encounter had like to have happened by the Men of Expedients and the Excluders. The heads of the former are Mr. Powle, Sir Thomas Littleton, Leigh, Col. Birch, Mr. Vaughan, Garaway, &c. The latter need not be mentioned. To prevent mischief, one moved that Saturday might be appointed to consider of the means of preserving the King's person and [the Protestant religion, which fair motion and dinner time together disposed both parties to draw off without striking a stroke. In both Houses inquiry has been made concerning the suppressing the Bill for repealing the severe law of 35th Elizabeth against Dissenters. The Clerk justifies himself by the King's command. The Commons prepare for a conference with the Lords about the evil consequences thereof. The Commons to hinder the bailing of my Lord of Danby demanded judgment against him, for which purpose it will be necessary to stay ten or twelve days for his coming down hither, and so that point will not be an occasion of embroiling the two Houses, in case of opposition made to the pardon by the Commons. My Lord Danby

was very unfortunate that his friends finished not his business the first day. But my Lord Halifax (who fears his liberty may be prejudicial to his own Ministry) had interest enough to adjourn it, to the great dissatisfaction of the Court, where the Triumvirate of Ministers consists now of Mr. Hyde, Mr. Seymour, and Sir Thomas Littleton, who are all too high-spirited to act under the last mentioned lord, as he is to admit of any equal; so that it is said he has great disposition to re-enter into the party of Confederates, in case he were sure to be received with good grace. Yesterday the Commons called for the examination of Fitzharris, which was read together with Sir William Waller's paper of his conference with Everard. The former contains a relation of the proceedings of the Catholic party many years past in order to introduce Popery, as Fitzharris received it from Dr. Goff at Paris this last year. And for his present Majesty there has hardly been any considerable action since his Restoration, but (as this false traitor says) is aimed to further Popery, a scandal which certainly will never find the least credit in any loyal breast. However, the villain deserves to be hanged for uttering it, and accordingly the King appoints a special commission for his trial. But the busy House of Commons yesterday voted an impeachment against him, in order to bring both the criminal and his crimes under their own cognizance; I hope they will give him his deserts. When these foul reflections had been read, Sir Lionel Jenkins was named to carry up the impeachment to the Lords, at which some fell a-laughing. But he not rising from his seat, others pursued the thing more seriously, urging that no member ought to think himself too good to serve the House, &c.; whereupon he stood up and spoke these words, "This had not been put upon me but with design to reflect upon my master. I know the value of my life and whatever becomes of me I will not do it." Whereupon the whole House cried to the bar, and many sharp things were said against him as a person that probably used to do ill offices to the House with his Majesty, since he dared to asperse them thus maliciously to their faces. He offered thrice to explain his words, and still made them worse. He was ordered to withdraw, and had been sent to the Tower had not Sir John Ernly stepped to him and advised him to submit, which he accordingly did, and the House accepted of his submission for the King his master's sake (as they told him); of whom also they spoke very respectful things, to remove the suspicion as if any reflection upon his Majesty had been intended. Accordingly he carried up the impeachment this day. The Spanish Ambassador has by a memorial demanded the succour of 8,000 men for Flanders according to the late Treaty. And it is said they shall be raised speedily.

Yesterday the King being in the House to entertain himself called my Lord Shaftesbury and asked him whether no other expedient could be found out instead of the Exclusion. My

lord answered no, and that the whole nation seemed to be of that opinion. His Majesty replied that he would take two more to him, and let my lord meet him with two more on his side: he doubted not but he should find out a better expedient. My Lord Shaftesbury accepted the motion and desired to know the place which the King would needs refer to him, who thereupon said that he thought no place fitter than my Lord Chamberlain's lodgings. The King asked why there above all other places, and was answered, first, that it was the most indifferent place in the world, because my Lord Chamberlain was neither good Protestant nor good Catholic; and next, because there was the best wine, which was the only good thing that could be had from their meeting. Just now the Excluding Bill was moved in the House by Sir Robert Clayton, seconded by the Lord Russell, &c., but opposed by Secretary Coventry* on pretence of expedients, the consideration of which he would recommend by the similitude of three physicians in consultation about a sick patient, who must infallibly die in case one physician should stick so to his own advice as not to consult with the rest. Mr. Swinfen shewed the defects of this resemblance, by saying that not only the advice offered by the Commons had been rejected by the Lords, but they had even refused to consult with them about it, or give them any reason for that rejection, and that it was now two years ago since the Commons first gave their advice, and that neither of the other physicians had given any at all. So that the patient might have perished long ago for all them.

Saturday, 26. The Commons fell again upon the business of the Duke. Sir Thomas Littleton argued for an expedient of reserving the Crown to the Duke, and putting the authority into the hands of the Princess of Orange. Secretary Coventry spoke for it, and said, that, as the last Bill was drawn, it might keep out a Protestant (meaning the Duke, if converted), and let in a Papist, (meaning the Duke of Monmouth, who might turn a Papist after he was in possession). But this expedient was refuted by Jones, Poultney, Capel, Winnington, Montague and others, who shewed the impossibility of separating the authority from the title. The House was in the best temper in the world, and left all the liberty that could be to the masters of expedients, who were unable to carry their point. And so the Bill was ordered to be brought in for exclusion. The impeachment of Fitzharris is rejected by the Lords. Fourteen bishops were against it besides lay lords, yet there were thirty lay lords for it. The Commons were so sensible of this proceeding that they adjourned only for an hour, vizt., from 4 to 5, and then meeting again passed several votes, which you herewith receive in print.

* Coventry was no longer Secretary of State at this date, having resigned office in February 1679 (see vol. v. pp. 271—76). But he had retained his seat for Droitwich, and had been again returned for that constituency to the Parliament which assembled at Oxford in March 1681.

In the Lords' House I hear my Lord Chancellor was so forward about hearing a private cause this afternoon, that he would hardly be kept from hearing one to which there appeared neither plaintiff nor defendant, which together with some other whispers made it probable that the Parliament will either be dissolved or prorogued on Monday. When the expedients were let fall, and the bringing in of the Bill voted, Mr. Love (of the City) moved that such as were for it might own it, and those against it disown it, because several who had voted for it in the last Parliament had, after the Parliament was ended, disowned their having been for it. Hereupon several gentlemen, as Sir Wm. Portman, Sir Ralph Dutton, and others of great note, stood up and said they had been for the Bill last Parliament, and were for it now. But my Lord Cavendish stood up and desired that this new way of declaring minds might not be suffered, but that men should forbear saying anything of that nature but yea and no, and that, too, only when the question should be put; which motion of his put an end to that way of declaring.

A letter was sent to my Lord Shaftesbury from London by some unknown person recommending the Duke of Monmouth to be the Protestant entrusted with the civil power under a Popish successor according to the King's Speech; which letter his lordship shewed the King, who said he should like very well to do good to his son, but he had a conscience, which hindered him from doing wrong to his brother. My lord answered it was the first time that a Court conscience had hindered anybody from doing a thing so much for his own interest.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, March 25. Oxford.—I had the honour of your Grace's letter of the 13th instant, for which I return my most humble thanks, as well as for your Grace's favourable acceptance of that small tribute, which I pay your Grace, which I shall never fail to do either in that particular (or any other) which your Grace thinks useful to your service.

Before this comes to your Grace's hands I presume you will receive a full account of the proceedings in Sir John Davys's affair, in which his Majesty hath fully shewed his resolution of protecting his friends, although at that critical time, just before the sitting of this Parliament, some were of the opinion it was not convenient to be done.

I sent enclosed to your Grace a copy of the King's speech on the 21st, before it could be printed, which hath had this effect, that though the angry men of the House of Commons, and especially the Presbyterian party, are very much dissatisfied, yet they cannot pick any flaw in it to arraign. There cannot yet any judgment be made how they are like to proceed, being so newly entered into business, but yesterday in the House of Lords was read a petition of the Earl of Danby's praying to be bailed, which I perceive most of their

lordships thought very ill-timed, and therefore adjourned the debate of it till Monday next.

Yesterday in the House of Commons they voted the printing their votes, and a motion was made by Sir Nicholas Carey for the bringing in the Bill for exclusion of the Duke : but Mr. Powle and some others proposing that they would take into consideration some way of securing the succession in Protestant hands, the debate was adjourned till to-morrow, at which time expedients will be proffered from hence. The post goes so inconveniently from Oxford, that I cannot give your Grace any account of this day's proceedings.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, March 28. Oxford.—The House of Commons having run so very high in their votes upon our not admitting of the impeachment against Fitzharris, I suppose was the reason that made his Majesty dissolve this Parliament very abruptly this morning, for the Lords had no summons to be in their robes. The King goes towards London this afternoon, and my Lord Chesterfield and I go from hence to-morrow. The King and Court are in such a hurry now that I cannot learn whether we shall have suddenly another Parliament or no, but it is whispered that we shall. When I come to London I shall be able to know what measures I ought to take.

COL. E. COOKE to ORMOND.

1681, March 28. Oxford.—Though I have seen the distractions and dejections of routed armies (a prospect dismal enough), yet nothing ever equalled this day in this place at the surprising dissolution of this Parliament. I may well call it surprising, for I know not any one it was not so to. The Lords by being all robeless shewed they were so. The Commons by their appointing business for the time to come gave convincing evidence they dreamt not of it. According to their rash order on Saturday, the Duke's Bill was brought in this morning, and read once, and appointed a second reading the next morning. Then Sir William Jones began to arraign the Lords for rejecting the impeachment of Fitzharris (sent up on Saturday), when the Black Rod shortened his sharp speech by a summons to the Lords' bar, where the King (only in robes) expressed angrily enough his dislike of their proceedings, who (to say truth) had behaved themselves provoking enough in waiving the consideration of the three material particulars the King had recommended to them :—That of Allies (to the endangering of all the rest of Christendom's being enslaved by France) ; that of the searching the bottom of the Plot (in which they themselves own our own safeties to be so signally concerned), and that of Tangier (so important to trade), and only falling on the single forbidden fruit of the Bill. It is true they subtly fell on the debate of all expedients that could be offered last Saturday, against which they knew they could frame objections

enough, and thence concluded the necessity of the Bill, not admitting its nakedness to be exposed by any arguments, but obviated all, by a conclusive question, begging the Queen, that if no Bill, no Protestant religion, because no safety to this King, unless the Papists were hopeless of being benefited by his death. Because I presume the week's votes (being printed) have passed or will pass the Irish seas of course, I shall enclose other divertive papers, as the bombast speech of Oxford's Orator to the Queen (I am glad it was not our Cambridge Orator), also the Oxford Recorder's speech somewhat better, after which (rather to gratify my Lord Norreys than to reward him) the King dubbed him Sir Richard Croke. I have also enclosed the reason the nineteen lords gave for their entering their protestation against the rejection of the impeachment against Fitzharris, wherein two things are very observable. First, that all along they beg the Queen that it doth necessitate a failure of justice, whereas it had been only a delay of it had they received the impeachment, the only design of it being to prevent not promote his condemnation. For that was the avowed reason of it in the House of Commons, that though he had arrantly been guilty of the extremity of treason against the King, even by his own confession, yet he could make great and material discoveries of the Plot, and they apprehended his mouth would be stopped by a halter to prevent discoveries by a speedy trial, by the legal way of Oyer and Terminer; but had their impeachment been received by the Lords, they might have delayed his prosecution as long as they pleased, and in the mean time no inferior Court durst proceed to his trial, so that they had time to pump him. This the Lords thought unreasonable, that impeachments (like the Welshman's back-sword with two edges) should cut both ways, serve to condemn who[m] they pleased, and to save who[m] they pleased; also that it was indecent in relation to the King that so scandalous a traitor should be torn from him by a stratagem; but the Commons would not consider that the evidence of an impeached person is invalid in law, and that nothing less than a pardon could make him useful, and that a pardon after impeachment is what they so strenuously disallowed in my Lord Danby's case. So that it seems the King being hopeless of this Parliament's doing any good by this dissolution antidoted their doing hurt. Be the cause what it will, the effect is dismal enough, this Parliament not living a week and no prospect of another. Thus all our allies are left to shift for themselves and Tangier also, and now the detection of the Plot falls to the King's share alone, with the help of his Privy Council, and the imprisoned Lords (Danby and all) must lie by it. One more circumstance I conceive not impertinent to be communicated to your Grace: when the Lords of the Treasury went for Oxford they thought fit to delegate the power of examining witnesses to their under officers. One

Comyn (an Irish witness) fell to the examination of one Mr. Philip Burton their solicitor, who confessing to him that one Hetherington (to gain two witnesses against your Grace) had inserted things in his affidavit in relation to your Grace unknown to him and disowned by him, of which he particularly took cognisance, and that he might not be single, sent to Justice Woreup to be with him, before whom also Comyn having owned the same thing upon oath, he hath reported it to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, where, should it die, I would go up to London on purpose to revive it, having it from Mr. Burton's own mouth ; for whilst I live I will with great greediness force myself into all opportunities that may render me, &c.

[Encloses the two following documents :—]

I.

The NINETEEN LORDS' REASONS for their PROTESTATION about FITZHARRIS.

Because that in all ages it hath been an undoubted right of the Commons to impeach before the Lords any subject for treasons, or any crime whatsoever, and the reason is because great offences that influence the Government are most effectually determined in Parliament.

We cannot reject the impeachment of the Commons, because that suit or complaint can be determined nowhere else, for if the party impeached should be indicted in the King's Bench, or in any other Court for the same offence, yet it is not the same suit : for an impeachment is at the suit of the people and they have an interest in it, but an indictment is the suit of the King ; for one and the same offence may entitle several persons to several suits. As if a murder be committed the King may indict at his suit, and the heir or the wife of the party murdered may bring an appeal, because the appeal is the suit of the party, and he hath an interest in it.

It is (as we conceive) an absolute denial of justice in regard (as it is said before) the same suit can be tried nowhere else. The House of Peers as to impeachments proceed by virtue of their judicial power, and not by their legislative, and as to that act as a Court of Record, and cannot deny suitors (especially the Commons of England) that bring legal complaints before them, no more than the Justices of Westminster Hall or other Courts can deny any suit or criminal cause that is regularly commenced before them. Our law saith in the person of the King *nulli negabimus justitiam*, we will deny justice to no single person, yet here (as we apprehend) justice is denied to the whole body of the people. And this may be interpreted an exercise of an arbitrary power, and will (as we fear) have influence upon all inferior Courts to exercise the same arbitrary power by denying the presentments of Grand Juries, for which at this time the Chief Justice stands impeached in the House of Peers.

This proceeding may misrepresent the House of Peers to the King and People, especially at this time, and the more in this particular case of Edward Fitzharris, who is publicly known to be concerned in vile and horrid treasons against his Majesty, and a great conspirator in the Popish Plot to murder the King and destroy and subvert the Protestant Religion.

Du. Monmouth.	E. Stanford.	Ld. Grey.
E. Bedford.	E. Clare.	Ld. Paget.
E. Kent.	E. Essex.	Ld. Wharton.
E. Huntingdon.	E. Shaftesbury.	Ld. Lovelace.
E. Salisbury.	E. Macclesfield.	Ld. Herbert.
E. Sunderland.	Ld. Mordaunt.	Ld. Cornwallis.
		Ld. Crew.

II.

SPEECH of the RECORDER at the RECEPTION of the KING at OXFORD.

1680, March. Oxford.—Most Gracious Sovereign, I have read in the Roman story that Marius was wont to say that he that durst speak to Caesar was ignorant of his greatness, and he that durst not speak to him was ignorant of his goodness; of the latter whereof we and all your people having had so large experience, I am emboldened to beg the stay of the wheels of your royal chariot for some few minutes, and that I may find so much favour in the sight of my Lord the King as to speak a few words in the name of your loyal subjects, the citizens of this place, which is but to let your Majesty understand the infinite joy and gladness wherewith their hearts are filled in the beholding the royal presence of yourself and our Gracious Queen in this place. I say to behold yourself (after so many wicked designs of bloody and unreasonable men against your royal person, and the many signal deliverances of you from them for which the name of God be ever praised) here at this time in the heart of your dominions reigning in glory and safety is a joy so unspeakable to all true English hearts that my tongue, nay *similis fuit centum linguæ*, if I had a hundred tongues I could not express it. And that you should for this time make this city your royal chamber, and the place of the reception of your Parliament is a grace and favour due to be recorded in the registry of time and fame, and never to be forgotten by us. And we hope that it may prove as auspicious to you for that purpose as any other place whatsoever, notwithstanding any surmises that have been made to the contrary; since there have been diverse famous and good Parliaments held here, as might be proved by our records and histories, if there were now time to do it.

But (Great Sir) we must not presume to be tedious in so great a presence (especially after your long and tedious progress this day) and therefore I shall presume to say little now, but for all the good you have done us or shall do us, *Quid retribuamus*, what can we render to you again?

Aristotle saith, *Quod diis et parentibus non possumus retribuere equalia*, that we can never render equal things to the gods and our parents. You are the blessed Father of our country, and under the shadow of your royal protection we enjoy all our rights both religious and civil. And we confess that our obligations are greater than our acknowledgments can be. And yet such as they are we beseech your gracious acceptance of them. This city having endured the brunt of war in times, *Britaniæ luctuosis*, mournful to great Britany (to say no more or worse of them at the present) are disabled from doing what they would. (Then he presented the glove.) We have one present more to make to you, which is ourselves to be ever devoted to your service, and we prostrate all the ensigns of authority which we hold under you at your royal feet, and shall become daily votaries to Heaven that our Sovereign Lord King Charles the Second may yet long (and long) happily reign over us, and may be always a terror to his foes, and to all his good and loyal subjects a tower of defence. To which let all the people say, Amen.

TO THE QUEEN at OXFORD.

Though transcendency of birth and the highest fortune, in conjunction with virtues superior to and more radiant than them, are subjects which frequently deter the pretenders to oratory, and force them perhaps by the easier methods to fly to silence as the interpreter of their admiration, yet our more pious duty shall venture to break through all these amazing obstacles and our devotion be vocal. Though the object to which it is directed transcends our noblest faculties, for since Heaven is pleased with addresses from those by whom it is impossible the excellencies of its nature should be comprehended, and commands us to adore what we must not presume to interpret. Your Majesty, by such an innumerable train of such splendid demonstrations of the highest virtues, seems even to be now above a reign on earth; and, conversant with the blessed, may perhaps pity the frailty of adoring mortals, but cannot but be pleased with the sincerity of the adoration.

Prostrate then before your feet we lay all possible demonstrations of a perfect obedience, and lowest humility by the approaches to so powerful and glorious a light seems already inspired and illuminate, which must needs happen to all those that make application to so divine a goodness, and that without any more miracle than considering that the nature of goodness is diffusiveness, and that it is like light communicable.

To be in the nearest relation to two most powerful monarchs is inimitably great, and indeed nothing could be greater but the endeavouring after a title in Heaven. This you must needs seem to the most uncharitable to have made firm to your blessed self. And amidst the large empire of

beauty and majesty, nature and grandeur, in which you are equally sovereign by pursuing a solid eternity, have collaterally purchased all that which same can bestow. Thus secured by a double immortality your sacred Majesty lives the glory now, and will hereafter the wonder of this world, and the expectation of the first and the joy of the future.

But out of an innate kindness to our own felicity we will only seem injurious in this one particular to what may advance your Majesty's glories, and that is by imploring a long procrastination to those your future triumphs, that you may to a satiety of days continue to adorn the crown you wear till you receive that which is immarcessible. And that the constant tenure of your life by which you bless the world be as free from all tumults, storms and tempests as the heaven from whence you derive your original, and to which you will triumphantly return. May the sun constantly return upon your person with an unsullen and defecate ray, and let no clouds occasioned by envy or malice ever corrupt the purities of its emanations. May every light like your sacred self be innoxious and always dispersing benign influences, and may all addresses to your Majesty be as sincere as this of ours; when the humble approachers, whatsoever other arts or sciences they may be conversant in, are perfectly strangers to those too much practised ones of flattery and dissimulation.

ERASMUS SMITH'S SCHOOLS and CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—
OPINION of SIR JOHN TEMPLE, SOLICITOR-GENERAL.

1681, Mar. 28.—In the year 1664 there was a Bill transmitted under the Great Seal of Ireland, from the Lords Justices and Council there, to the King for the settling of certain lands of Erasmus Smith, Esqr., for charitable uses; wherein, after recital that Erasmus Smith had determined to make provision out of the lands therein mentioned for erecting five grammar schools in Ireland, and endowment thereof, with liberal encouragement for schoolmasters and for exhibitions to poor scholars in Trinity College near Dublin, and for placing poor children apprentices in Ireland, and for the maintenance of other schools for the teaching of English, and for other pious and charitable uses, it was intended to be enacted that there shall be a corporation in Ireland consisting of 32 persons therein named to be called Governors of the Schools and Trusts of Erasmus Smith, and the lands in the bill mentioned were thereby to be settled on the said corporation and their successors upon the trusts following, viz.: for paying 100*li.* *per annum* thereout to Christ's Hospital in London, and for employing 50*li.* yearly in maintaining four or five schools for teaching poor children to read English in such places in Ireland as Erasmus Smith should appoint, and for employing one-fourth part of the residue of the remaining profits (during the continuance of the leases therein.

mentioned) towards placing poor men's children apprentices in Ireland, and, after the determination of the said leases, towards placing such apprentices, and the clothing of poor scholars in some of the said grammar schools, and for building or buying five convenient houses for school-houses and dwelling houses for schoolmasters in five several places in Ireland to be nominated by the said Erasmus Smith, and for paying salaries to schoolmasters and ushers in the said five grammar schools, and for employing all the residue of the said rents and profits in exhibitions to such poor scholars educated in the said schools as shall become students in Trinity College Dublin, and for want of such poor scholars to other poor scholars in the said college.

And thereby it is further declared that the said governors shall not do, or suffer to be done, any act whereby any profits of the said lands shall be transferred to any other person, or persons, contrary to the true meaning of the said Act, and that such construction shall be made thereupon as shall be most beneficial for the maintenance of the trusts therein mentioned, and for repressing and avoiding all acts and devises to be invented or put in use contrary to the true meaning thereof; and the said corporation was to allow their registrar 10*li.* a year till the revenue shall be increased and then his salary shall be augmented.

This Bill was transmitted back into Ireland under the Great Seal of England according to Poyning's Act, but did not pass in the Parliament there. In the Act of Explanation which afterwards passed in Ireland in the year 1665, there is a clause inserted in these words following:—Whereas amongst several bills certified and transmitted under the Great Seal of Ireland unto his Majesty in his High Court of Chancery in England by a certificate bearing date at Dublin, the 13th day of May in the 16th year of his Majesty's reign, a Bill is transmitted entitled an Act for settling of certain lands of Erasmus Smith for charitable uses: Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that all the lands, tenements and hereditaments in the said Bill mentioned and thereby intended to be disposed for charitable uses, and not already decreed away by the Commissioners for the execution of the former Acts, shall be continued and applied unto and preserved entirely for such pious and charitable uses."

By the certificate of the Commissioners for executing the said Act of Explanation and by his Majesty's letters patent passed upon the said certificate, both confirmed by the said Act, these lands are granted to the Bishop of Meath and other trustees of Erasmus Smith and their heirs to the charitable uses particularly expressed in the said certificate and letters patent, viz.: That until such a corporation should be erected as by the said Bill was intended the trustees should pay 100*li. per annum* thereout to Christ's Hospital, London; And that they shall employ 50*li. per annum* in maintaining five

schools in Ireland to teach children to read English, and to such other charitable uses as the said Erasmus Smith should appoint, and in default of such appointment the said 50*li. per annum* to be employed to the general uses thereby intended; And that they shall employ a fourth part of the remaining profits in binding out apprentices in Ireland; And that they shall build three convenient school-houses in Ireland for grammar schools, and shall allow each schoolmaster 66*li. 13s. 4d. per annum* a year; And shall employ all the residue of the profits in pensions for poor scholars in Trinity College near Dublin; And upon this further trust and confidence that whensoever such a Corporation shall be legally erected and settled for the maintenance and discharge of the charitable uses aforementioned as by the said Bill certified into England was intended, then the said trustees shall upon request convey the said lands to the said Corporation and their successors for ever, to the uses herein above mentioned and to such further charitable uses and trusts as shall be desired by the said Erasmus Smith and upon the erection of the said corporation shall be limited, expressed and declared.

The King afterwards by his charter, dated the 26th of March, 1679, (taking notice therein of the said Bill transmitted and the said certificate and letters patent) erected the said corporation of the governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, and grants power to the said Erasmus Smith to erect three grammar schools; And thereby declares that the lands to be conveyed to the said corporation by the trustees in pursuance of the directions by the said former letters patent shall be employed to the charitable uses in the said charter expressed, charged with a rent charge of 100*li. per annum* to Christ's Hospital, London; and that each of the three schoolmasters shall have 100 marks *per annum*. And when the rent of the said lands shall exceed 300*li. per annum*, then there shall be bestowed in repairing and beautifying the respective schools and school-houses [so much] as by the governors shall be thought convenient; and to an usher in each of the said schools 20*li. per annum*; and to an Hebrew lecturer in the college at Dublin, 30*li. per annum*; and to a registrar to attend the governors 10*li. per annum*, and with such increase of his pension when the rents shall increase as the governors shall think fit; and that the residue of all the revenues and rents which shall remain after all charges and payments aforesaid shall during the continuance of such leases as are now in force, be distributed and applied in manner following, viz.: One full moiety thereof for binding out of poor children to be apprentices under Protestant masters as the governors shall think fit, and after the expiration of such leases one moiety thereof for binding out poor children apprentices, and towards clothing poor scholars in the said three grammar schools; and the other moiety of the said revenue, as well during the said leases as after the expiration thereof, shall be applied

to such other charitable uses as the said Erasmus Smith by any deed in writing or by his last will shall appoint, and such appointment shall be of like force and effect in law as the same would have been if it had been particularly mentioned in these presents.

On the 3rd of June, 1673, Erasmus Smith and the Bishop of Meath and the other trustees have conveyed the said lands to Delawne and Holt and their heirs, in trust for the governors and their successors. The yearly rents that the said lands now doth yield amount to—*per annum* or thereabouts; out of which there is constantly paid to Christ's Hospital, London, the sum of 100*li.* *per annum* clear above all charges.

The said Erasmus Smith by his deeds of lease and release, bearing date the 20th and 21st of July, 1680, hath conveyed to the governors of the hospitals of Bridewell and St. Thomas the Apostle and their successors, one moiety of the residue and overplus of the profits of the said lands remaining after all the charges and payments limited in, and by the aforesaid Act and letters patent, or any of them, for the charitable uses therein mentioned [should be] fully made and satisfied, and also all arrears thereof from the 27th day of June, 1673, to and for the several charitable uses in London in the said deed of release mentioned.

In this case it appears:—

1. That the uses and trusts to which the said lands were intended to be settled by the Bill transmitted were all charitable uses in Ireland, except only one 100*li.* to Christ's Hospital, London.

2. That although this said Bill transmitted did never pass into an Act of Parliament, yet it hath now the effect of an Act of Parliament by the clause contained in the Act of Explanation, whereby it is enacted that the lands mentioned in the said Bill transmitted shall be contained and applied unto and preserved entirely for such pious and charitable uses—which must be intended the pious and charitable uses in the Bill transmitted.

3. That by the uses limited by the certificate of the Commissioners for executing the Act of Explanation, and by his Majesty's letter patent passed thereupon (which are confirmed by the said Act of Explanation) the whole residue of the profits of these lands, after payment of the 100*li.* *per annum* to Christ's Hospital in London, and the allowances for building and keeping schools, was by express words to be employed for the charitable uses in Ireland therein mentioned, until the corporation should be erected.

4. That by the same certificate and letters patent passed thereupon the trustees, after the corporation should be erected, were to convey the said lands to the same uses therein above mentioned. And whereas it is also therein said: To such further charitable uses and trusts as shall be desired by the said Erasmus Smith upon the erecting the said corporation:—

1st. It doth not appear that this later clause (viz. : to such further charitable uses and trusts as shall be desired by Erasmus Smith upon the erecting the said corporation) is warranted by any clause in the Bill transmitted, wherein there was no power reserved to Erasmus Smith of limiting further uses, nor by the clause in the Act of Explanation whereby the lands were to be applied to the charitable uses in the Bill transmitted, and the Commissioners had no power to limit any other uses or trusts thereupon.

2. It doth not appear how this later clause (if it were warranted) can be of any effect, as the same is inserted in the certificate and letters patent after the whole residue of the profits had been first limited to certain express uses therein formerly mentioned ; it being wholly impossible and inconsistent that the whole profits should go to the former uses therein mentioned, as they are first expressly limited, and yet that part of them should go to such further uses as should be desired by the said Erasmus Smith.

3. If that clause should be of any effect, yet it being grounded upon Acts and letters patent passed in Ireland of lands lying in Ireland, it ought to be intended of such charitable uses in Ireland as should be desired by Erasmus Smith, as the several Acts passed in England relating to charitable uses in general are to be construed only of charitable uses in England.

5. That the clause in the charter passed in 1679 that limits the moiety of the residue of the profits (after the discharge of all the payments therein mentioned) to such charitable uses as the said Erasmus Smith shall appoint, cannot warrant the said Erasmus Smith's disposal of any part of the residue of the profits to other uses than what are contained in the Bill transmitted, and the certificate of the Commissioners and letters patent passed thereupon, (all which are confirmed by the Act of Explanation)—which uses, except the 100*li. per annum* to Christ's Hospital in London are charitable uses in Ireland.

6. That Erasmus Smith had no estate in any of these lands which he could pass or convey by the deeds of lease and release made by him.

7. By the words of the said deeds of lease and release, it appears to have been Erasmus Smith's intention to convey a moiety of the residue and overplus of the profits remaining after all the charges and payments limited by the said Acts and letters patent, or any of them, for the charitable uses therein mentioned shall be satisfied, and there neither is nor can be such residue or overplus of the charitable uses mentioned in the Bill transmitted, or in the certificate and first letters patent, wherein the uses of the whole profits are expressly limited, though there may be a residue of those mentioned in the charter, whereby there is only an express

limitation of about 500*li. per annum* of the profits of those lands, which limitation or restriction is not warranted by the Bill transmitted, or by the certificate or letters patent confirmed by the Explanatory Act.

8. There being many of the charitable uses particularly expressed in the Bill transmitted and the certificate and first letters patent yet unprovided for, no exhibitions being yet allowed to any poor scholars in Trinity College Dublin, nor any money yet laid out in putting out poor men's children to be apprentices, or in clothing poor scholars in the said schools, and it being declared by the said Bill transmitted that the Governors shall not do, or suffer to be done, any Act whereby any profits of the said lands shall be transferred to any other person or persons contrary to the true meaning of the said Bill, and that such construction shall be made thereupon as shall be most beneficial for the maintenance of the trusts therein mentioned, and for repressing and avoiding all acts and devises to be invented or put in use contrary to the true meaning thereof, it would not be agreeable to the trust reposed in the present governors if (whilst there are so many charitable uses particularly expressed in the said Bill transmitted, certificate, and first letters patent, yet wholly unprovided for), they should suffer any part of the profits to go to the uses mentioned in the said deeds of lease and release which do not appear to have been either provided for, or to have been intended to [have] be[en] provided for by the Bill transmitted, certificates or first letters patent which are confirmed by the said Act of Explanation.

March 28th, 1681.

JO. TEMPLE.

Copy.

EARL OF BARRYMORE to ORMOND.

1681, March 29. Castlelyons.—I most humbly beg your Grace's pardon for this high presumption, which nothing but a matter of highest concern to me, and a confidence in your Grace's goodness, could have induced me to undertake. By the post the last night I was truly informed my unhappy son (instead of going for England as I positively commanded him and he most solemnly promised to perform) is engaged in a fierce amour to my cousin Katherine Barry, my Lord Santry's daughter, and, as Col. Lawrence tells me, without the privacy of her father or her mother, and till I am clear of those engagements I lie under to my Lord Chaworth and my Lord Campden I shall never have the least thought of giving mine. My most humble suit to your Grace is that you will be pleased to lay your command on him and Col. Lawrence to attend you, and to give him a severe lecture for neglecting his journey and embarking himself in fresh amours without my consent, since on his well marrying depends the raising or ruining of the family, which is really the truth, and to enjoin him from engaging himself on any account

till I come to Dublin. What your Grace says will (I am sure) work more on him than from any one else. I am, God willing, fully resolved to kiss your Grace's hands the latter end of the next week.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, March 29. Whitehall.—The Parliament at Oxford was dissolved yesterday. The matters they went upon and the manner of their proceedings forced the King to it. They brought in the Bill against the Duke and had given it a first reading before the Black Rod came upon them. They would not hear of any expedients with their good will, for they refused to resolve themselves into a Committee of the whole House, that they might not be embarrassed with the debate. Besides, the incident of Fitzharris was growing into flame between both Houses, as your Grace will perceive by the votes. His Majesty came to Windsor last night, and arrived here before ten this morning. The Queen reached not hither till six this evening. All is quiet in the city.

SIR CYRIL WYCHE to ORMOND.

1681, March 29. St. James' Square.—This has proved the shortest Parliament that I think has been known. It began the 21st instant, and was dissolved (yesterday morning) the 28th, and accordingly an account of the proceedings will lie in a narrow compass. Three days were spent in the preliminaries, and somewhat better, and a great part of the rest of the time taken up in things of course, constituting the Grand Committees and that of Privilege, and receiving petitions about elections. That little that remained was employed in renewing the Bill of Exclusion, which, after the debate of it on a day set apart for that purpose, was now the third time ordered to be brought in, and was yesterday read the first time and voted a second reading. The only two other things of moment were the sending to the Lords to desire that a day might be appointed for giving judgment in the case of my Lord of Danby, and the impeaching Mr. Fitzharris of high treason. That of my Lord of Danby was occasioned by his petition to their lordships to be set at liberty upon bail, or to be brought to his trial. The Commons hearing of a time hereupon appointed to consider of bailing him, and fearing (I conceive) that if they made no step in the business, though but just entered on the stage, this counsel might prevail, searched the books, and finding that a former Parliament had demanded judgment upon his plea of pardon, sent to desire a day might be set for giving judgment in that affair. The impeachment of Fitzharris was brought on by an examination of his read in the House and ordered to be printed, in which were several particulars towards the further discovery of the Popish Plot, and by a

scandalous treasonable paper brought by h[im] to Mr. Everard and interlined with his own hand, which, though read by Sir William Waller in his place, was yet for its most mischievous contents not permitted to be read at the table, that it might not be entered in the books. From these two papers it was thought evident that he must needs be privy to very damnable designs, and believed that the best way to search to the bottom of his knowledge was to have a public inquisition into the matter in Parliament. But it fell out that this thing occasioned a misunderstanding between the two Houses, for the Lords being told by Mr. Attorney General that he was preparing an indictment against Fitzharris, thought fit after the impeachment had been delivered at the bar by Mr. Secretary Jenkins, not to retain the cause before them, but dismiss it to the ordinary course of law, and this without giving the Commons any reasons at a conference for the rejection. The Commons on the other hand being informed of this proceeding, and upon search of the minutes finding it to be so, came to resolutions of this kind:—That by the Constitutions of Parliament the Commons might impeach any peer or commoner for treason, or other crimes and misdemeanours, before the Lords in Parliament. That the rejecting such impeachment sent up against Edward Fitzharris was a breach of the privilege of Parliament, and at this time tended to the hindering the further discovery of the Plot. That for any inferior Court to proceed against the said Edward Fitzharris, or any other person, impeached in Parliament for crimes of which they stand so impeached, is a breach of the privilege of Parliament.

This, my Lord, is the sum of what passed at this Convention (for I think it cannot be called Session of Parliament), some, or all, of which gave that offence to the King that yesterday morning he dissolved the Parliament. He was pleased to say no more than that, “so ill beginnings could not have a good ending,” and then commanded my Lord Chancellor to pronounce the dissolution. This resolution was so private[ly] carried, that none of the Lords had any notice to be in their robes, and the King himself came first into the House, as for some late years he has used to do, in his ordinary habit, and after a little time stepping out came suddenly in and took his seat in his robes, and then put an end to the Parliament, as I have acquainted your Grace. The King took coach within about an hour and went to Windsor, and came early to London this morning. The company began immediately to disperse; I saw great numbers leave the town in a few hours, and among the rest I set forward for the town, where I am now ready to obey your Grace’s commands.

In the conclusion of the debate about impeaching Fitzharris there happened one particular which, because there may be some judgment made by it of the temper of the Parliament, it may not be unfit to trouble your Grace with it.

After the impeachment had been voted, it remained that some member should be named to carry it up. A gentleman stood up and moved that Mr. Secretary Jenkins might be the man ; this motion, it is true, was not received by some with that seriousness that all business there ought to be managed with, but yet (being named) he was ordered to carry it up. Whereupon Mr. Secretary presently stood up and said, " This had not been put upon me but for the character I bear. I look upon it as a reflection on the King my master, and though I know how to value my life and liberty, do what you will, I will not go." This so unusual language put the House into a great heat. Some cried, *explain, explain*, others *to the bar, to the bar*, and for a good while no one could be heard. At last Mr. Secretary offered to speak, and in the sense of the House made it worse than before. This increased the noise, till after some time he [ag]ain presented himself with his hat off, and then too in the general opinion [fur]ther aggravated the affront ; and now the cry was, *withdraw, withdraw*, which having been called upon a good while, he began softly to do ; at last he thought [fi]t to accept of an interpretation, which two or three members with loud voices [and] interrupted periods, such as the noise would admit of, had endeavoured to offer [on] his behalf, and told the House that he desired to be understood not as if he ac[cus]ed the House of reflecting on the King, or as if he thought himself too good to [ob]ey any of their commands, but that it was an error in his judgment ; he thought [there] had been a reflection on the King, and if it had been such he could not have obeyed. [but] that he was ready to do as they commanded. Upon this the tumult presently ceased, and they were willing to accept this as satisfaction for such an affront as ma[n]y said was never offered in Parliament before, that the King might see they would give no occasion of offence, nor except against any Minister, if they could possibly avoid it.

VISCOUNT MASSEREENE to LORD LIEUTENANT AND COUNCIL.

1681, March 30. Antrim.—In obedience to your commands of the [] instant, I took care that Owen O'Neill should appear at the assizes at Londonderry [be]fore Mr. Herbert, the late Judge, and that the prosecutors for the King should also appear to give evidence against him pursuant to their several examinations ; and I sent all the examinations transmitted to me by your Grace and lordships. Whereupon an indictment of high treason was found against him by the Grand Jury, upon which he was arraigned, tried and acquitted. All the prosecutors appear'd, except Phelemy oge* O'Neill, who (I hear) stands himself indicted of felony, of whose evidence I sent your Grace an account in November last. And although Owen O'Neill was acquitted, the Judge thought meet to bind him to appear next assizes, and in the meantime to be of the good behaviour.

* *i.e.*, young.

The examinations taken against some of the O'Hagans about suspicious words by them spoken I sent also to the Judge, but told him I conceived the matter was not then ripe for trial, who judged it also not now ready. And, therefore, chose rather to defer it till it might be better matured (wherein I shall use my utmost diligence) than to bring it on before evidence for the King was fully prepared, for when *ignoramus* is at any time found upon indictments of that nature, or an acquittal upon trial, the guilty take encouragement.

I presume further most humbly to acquaint your Grace and lordships, that in obedience to your order of reference of the 4th instant (which I received the 14th) upon the petition of Sir Neill O'Neill to me directed to examine the matters of the said petition, and to certify I have [exa]mined the witnesses by Sir Neill produced concerning the search for arms made by John [] one of the High Constables of the barony of Massereene, which was the ground of Sir Neill's [com]plaint; the said Sir Neill before the witnesses were examined having wholly waived that part of his complaint which relates to the abuse done the child in the cradle. And afterwards I examined the said High Constable, and took the depositions of several persons who were in the house when the search was made; all which examinations are herewith sent, together with the petition, reference, copy of the warrant and copy of the letter I writ to the Justices at their meeting in the barony of Massereene concerning four swords which were taken out of Sir Neill's house, and sent from the Justices to me by the Constables, who took them, which I immediately returned to Sir Neill O'Neill by the hands of Mr. William Mo[], who was by Sir Neill sent to receive them.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, March, 31. Dublin.—Though I presume you were at Oxford at the opening of the Parliament, yet I believe you had little to write, but what you supposed I should have from others, but if everybody should think so I should be in the dark. Since you all left London Mulys sent me the enclosed petition and report, if that Comyn and Hetherington be there, it were not amiss to inquire into the matter. Hetherington is known here to be an arch rogue, and Comyn, whilst he was here was esteemed to be something betwixt a fool and a madman. So that as ridiculous as his narrative is it could not possibly be of his own composure, and nobody so like to do it for him as Hetherington. I presume the consideration of an answer to the King's Speech will take up some time, and that before the Parliament has leisure to look into what lies before them in relation to Ireland, things relating to higher things and persons must be put into some way of agreement, or this Session will not be long. What I intend

in answer to my Lord of Anglesey is near finished, but cannot come forth to be made use of this Session, unless it prove longer than it is thought it will.

I have cause to believe Sir James Shaen is much hearkened to in the Treasury, and what comes from thence looks as if some overtures were set on foot for a new farm of the revenue here. I will not say but it may be time to think of it, but I am sure if the Government here be made strangers to it till it shall be concluded the King will lose by it both in rent and in the conditions, as he did by the last. I am sensible of the straits the King is in, and it is the duty of all that serve him to give him all possible help and ease, and it is reasonable he should make advantage of this kingdom. But he had better do it above board, and with the assistance of his servants here, than by underhand projects, that cannot be concealed, and so he may be more like to make the full advantage of it that it will bear; then when needy proposers are listened to you shall do well to have an eye after this matter, till I may take more plain notice of it. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF CONWAY.

1681, March 31. Dublin.—With yours of the 8th of this month I received the petition of Sir John Parsons to his Majesty for the cornet's place yet held by his brother, who yet continues distracted. It is true he bought the place but lately, and though all that make purchases of that kind do it upon adventure, and that it would be of ill consequence to introduce a custom of making reparation upon accidents of that nature, yet if Sir John will attend the duty himself, or if he will name a proper person for it, which I take to be the greater service to him, he or who he shall name being well qualified shall immediately have a Commission. The matter of the Serjeant Porter is already by me humbly submitted to his Majesty, the pretenders to it are worthy of his Majesty's favour. *Copy.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE TO ORMOND.

1681, 31 March. Ballinrobe.—At the earnest request of the late Bishop of Killala (who died yesterday) his relict and orphans, I presume with all humility to lay their distressed condition at your Grace's feet, and to beg one favour in their behalf, it is but a little one, and they may live. He hath sate in that see one whole year and no more, so that I conclude half his first fruits unpaid, the charges of his patent, consecration and removal from Limerick to Killala, his episcopal seat, went deep into his little fortune, who was naturally addicted to that hospitality which the Apostle recommends to that order of men. His widow and younger children, five in number, young indeed, one of them being but two, another three years of age, most humbly beseech your Grace that by your interposition they may have the half year's rent, which

will grow due at Michaelmas next, and they will thereout pay what remaineth of his, and half the first fruits of his successor, so that he will not be obliged to pay before he receives the fruits of the benefice, which I do with all humility offer and submit unto your Grace's charitable consideration.

JOHN FELL, Bishop of Oxford, to ORMOND.

1681, 31 March.—I presume you have had so perfect an account of the late transactions in this place and sudden remove of all our company upon the dissolution of the Parliament, that I should be impertinent if I attempted a narrative. I shall, therefore, only mention to your Excellency what relates to your particular concern as our Chancellor and Patron. Be pleased therefore to know, that the Principal of Magdalen Hall is dangerously ill, which, being much the best of all the employments in your Excellency's disposal, probably in case of a vacancy there will be much struggling for the succession, and possibly recommendations from Court, for I find there have been earnest interpositions since the King came hither upon mean temptations. And it would be well that such competitions were superseded by your Excellency's order for the disposal immediately upon the vacancy. The year turning about, the time of the nomination of a Vice-Chancellor, to relieve the present one who has served two years with great sufficiency and diligence, will suddenly come on. Your Excellency will, therefore, be pleased to think of a successor, and truly I fear we have scarce a man in all points equal to the employment besides Dr. Thomas Marshall, Rector of Lincoln College and Dean of Gloucester. There lies I confess an objection against this, which I cannot answer. The Margaret divinity lecture in the University, an employment of good value, which is likely to be void ere long, is by statute inconsistent with a vice-chancellorship, so that if Dr. Marshall should happen to be nominated by your Excellency he will be rendered incapable of the said lecture, which else he would be sure to have. It is probable that before the Act, this affair of the lecture will come to some issue, and then it will be time enough for your Excellency to make an actual designation, and I shall not fail to lay before you a just account of the state of this place. I have at present only to add the tender of my duty to your Excellency and with my prayers for the continuance and increase of all prosperity and honour to yourself and family.

EARL OF ARRAN to DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1681, April 1. London.—I have been so often desired to recommend the bearer, Mr. Crawford, to you by my sister Ossory, that I could not refuse her, though the gentleman be unknown to me. He says he is related to you, and my sister and others who know him give him a very good character. I came hither from Oxford with my Lord Chesterfield on

Wednesday, he intends to go towards Bretby on Monday next, where he sent my niece before his journey to Oxford. As soon as I have had his Majesty's commands I will think of my journey towards Ireland, if he commands not the contrary. The clearing myself from this place will take me up some time, though I could not without shame live at a lower rate than I have done.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 2nd.—The last letter I had from your Grace was of the 12th of the last month, with the papers relating to my Lord of Clare, and since my coming from Oxford I have not anything to write of consequence relating to affairs here, neither do I hear that the Council has met since his Majesty's coming to town. He has taken physic these two or three days past for a boil he has on his cheek. Upon consideration I thought it best to say nothing of my going for Ireland until I heard from you, and I desire your commands in it, and whether you think it proper any motion should be made of a Parliament's sitting in Ireland; for I am afraid matters are so altered there since the first proposal made for the sitting of one, that the people there will not now comply with what was rationally expected from them formerly. I find both the Secretaries for it, but I am to have some discourse with my Lord Conway about it after the holidays. I heard this day that about four or five days since great search was made for Sir John Davys in several places of this town by the Murphys and that gang, but cannot learn by whose warrant. I have acquainted his Majesty and some of the Council with it, and they will examine the matter.

Major Baily was with me this day, and he resolves to go for Ireland next week, and his Majesty is willing he should not suffer, and Capt. Gilbert Talbot is so ill still that he cannot stir abroad. He has taken the Jesuit's powder (which is now thought the only cure for that kind of distemper) 58 times. The enclosed small letter is from Monsieur Durel to my Lord Chamberlain concerning the gentleman you intended to send over with my nephew. I understand he is a married man, and would rather live here with his wife than go abroad any more. My Lord Chamberlain gave me the letter when we parted at Oxford. His lordship went from thence to Euston and returns on Wednesday next. The other letter was sent me this day by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681, April 4, Euston Hall.—The day before the Parliament was dissolved I had the honour of your Grace's the 21st past with copies of two letters to you from my Lord of Longford and my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge relating to a complaint

my Lord Clare intends to make of me in Parliament, and calling to mind the earnest desire he made some time since to me for the taking off his quit rents (which, I told him, it was not in my power to obtain for him), this accusation and the desire to make himself valued for his zeal to the Protestant religion come very naturally from him, and in a world where such an accusation is like to be greedily entertained he may perhaps easily do me mischief, yet at any other time he would find it hard to prove he had written any such letter, or that I was the conveyer of it to Father Barrique, who might find a way into my office without my hand or key. When I acquainted my Lord of Arran with it, he told me he was glad of it, because it is comfortable to have companions in ill times. I hope your Grace is not of the same mind, or, if you be, it will not hinder you from sending me my hawks to solace myself with in the meantime, for yet we do not hear of the calling of a new Parliament. If the interval should continue for any time, it were worth your Grace's thought to consider whether with safety and advantage to his Majesty's service one in Ireland might be called in that interval.

When I was at Oxford I gave my Lord of Arran a letter I had received from the Dean of Windsor containing his friend or kinsman Mr. Durel's answer to the proposition of coming to serve my Lord Ossory as his governor, desiring your Grace would declare yourself as to the conditions should be made to him, whilst I had desired the Dean to get his friend to declare what he would ask; and the truth is, understanding from all hands how much fitter a man he is for that employment than any else I can find, I was unwilling to take his answer for a denial, which I might otherwise have done. I am here in the country for a few days, taking possession of my lieutenancy, of which your Grace knows the value. I wish you few such employments; instead of them an easy life with a good health.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, April 5. Whitehall.—I have only to acquaint your Grace with our affairs here at present, which are (God be thanked) very quiet, and the City here in very good order, though the Lord Bedford and Lord Salisbury have been several times with my Lord Mayor, and their business chiefly was to advise him to call a Common Council; but my Lord Mayor not being yet well enough to go abroad, and there being no precedent to be met with that any Common Council was ever held by a Deputy-Mayor nothing hath been done in it, which they say hath broken their measures, so that their discontent appears not so publicly as it did formerly.

A declaration upon the dissolution I perceive is expected abroad, but I cannot tell what is resolved upon that matter as yet. It is this day confidently said that the Duke of

Richmond is to have the Garter which became void by the late Duke of Saxony's death, and hath not been as yet desired by the present Duke.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, April 9th, Dublin.—By that time you receive this I suppose the affairs there will be put into such a way that judgment may be made of the future method. That the King found the City quiet upon the dissolution of the Parliament was very well, and that it will continue so I hope and believe, yet the surprise was too great to show what course the Confederates would hold; but that they will endeavour by any means whatsoever to keep up the mettle of their party must be expected, and I hope will be prepared for. If there follow but a tolerable calm, I suppose the condition this kingdom is in, and that it may be brought into, may be taken into consideration, for most certainly it must be of advantage or prejudice to affairs in the other two. The things next at hand relating to this place are the putting an end to my Lord Ranelagh's accounts impartially; that will not only give great satisfaction to many that want payment from him and his partners, but it will give us a more certain knowledge of the state of the revenue than can be had before those accounts are closed.

Next I suppose overtures may be made and received for a new farm of the revenue, wherein, if the present Farmers be the proposers, care should be taken that they give a good account of their performance of the last bargain before a new one be made with them, that they cover not past failings under the intricacy of a new undertaking, and in order to this their demands of defalcations ought first to be made and determined, the quantity and solvency of the arrears that they pretend to ought to be known, and the security they should give for the performance should be good and within the reach of this Government.

Then it is possible the calling of a Parliament here may be thought of. If it be, the Bills lie before them and all that was written in the defence of them may be found, but we shall no more press for a Parliament, much less enter the lists with Sir James Shaen, my Lord of Anglesey or any others. We think we have done our duty in that matter, and that it is not possible to suspect we can have any other end in being content to have leave to give the King money, but his service, and the putting the kingdom in a state of defence; if other projects and projectors be better thought of, we shall give our opinion of them, if it be commanded, or we shall be silent if we are not.

The recruiting of this Army may again be thought of and is very necessary, but I fear it will hardly be effected till the fear of being sent to Tangier be over, and nothing will

so much renew that apprehension as the return of our men sent thither. If all I have writ do yet signify nothing, there is nothing lost but my pains. *Two copies.*

WILLIAM SHERIDAN, Dean of Down, to ORMOND.

1681, April 9, Down.—I understand by my brother your Grace was pleased of yourself, without any solicitation, to name me for the bishopric of Killala, for which high favour I return my most humble and most hearty acknowledgments. He knowing my circumstances declined the honour designed me; but had I been upon the place I would have accepted it with all thankfulness, though I should have lost considerably by it; so far do I value before my profit all the expressions of your Grace's favour and good opinion, which I will endeavour to preserve by a diligent pursuit of my duty in the station I am in, till your Grace thinks fit to alter it: and my prayers shall be constant to Heaven to continue you an honour and ornament to our poor country, which (under his Majesty) your Grace alone keeps from contempt. My Lord, your favours have been so many and great to my brothers and to me (as before so), in this last instance that I cannot refrain owning it without ingratitude, nor do it thus without presumption: but what your bounty has made necessary, I hope your goodness will pardon in yours, &c.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, April 9, Whitehall.—I have the honour of four letters from your Grace to account for at this time. The two letters of the 16th and 31st past, which were from your Grace and my Lords of the Council there, together with the depositions enclosed in each of them, were read in Council on Wednesday last (the first Council-day after I had received them) and were referred to Mr. Attorney General to consider of, in order to report what he should judge material evidence in them against Plunkett, or any other in hold for the Plot. Of this report, as soon as it is made, I shall give your Grace an account. In another letter delivered me from your Grace by Sir Cyril Wyche (it was of the 16th March) there were four draughts of letters to be sent hence from his Majesty to your Grace; they are now, all of them (such are our rules here) referred to the consideration of the Lords of the Treasury. The fourth letter is of the 31st past, all writ with your Grace's own hand. His Majesty was very much moved with what you are pleased to represent of the disquiet and insecurity that most men are in for fear of being sworn into the Plot; therefore my lords do write your Grace a letter to proceed to the delivering of the gaols in all places, with some further intimations of their sense as to those proceedings that are requisite to be had at this time.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 9, London.—I had on Wednesday last your Grace's letter of the 31st of the last month with Eustace Comyn's petition and the report upon it, and it is very true that Hetherington writ his narrative and Comyn was with me at Oxford and told me that Hetherington put the wrong word upon him; his meaning by that I found to be that he had writ what he gave him no directions for, but he is such a fool and so hard to be understood that little can be made of what he says. However, I will get him examined as to that by some Justice of the Peace here. The fault was in the Post Office that you heard not sooner from me when I was at Oxford. I find by some discourse I have had with my Lord Conway and Mr. Hyde that the statesmen are more inclined now to the calling a Parliament in Ireland than they were formerly, though I have reason to conclude the latter of those two has no great inclination to it. He told me he knew nothing of any proposals for a new farm, and that you might be sure nothing of that nature should be agreed to without your approbation. This he said before I went to Oxford, and since I had your letter he has confirmed it again, but since I writ last to you I had a proposal made to me by very responsible persons, but who they are I cannot yet tell. Their undertaking is to maintain an army of 10,000 men—8,500 foot and 1,500 horse, besides the horse guards and the halbertiers, the civil list and pensions to be maintained as it now stands; to furnish his Majesty's stores with arms for 3,000 horse and 1,5000 foot, 2,000 barrels of powder with match and ball proportionable; to build forts in such place as the Chief Governor shall think fit, so as the sum exceed not 40,000*l.*; to reimburse the present Farmers their advance money, his Majesty giving them the same security. In consideration thereof they expect all the rents and payments due from the present Farmers during their farm and the whole revenue afterwards for such a time as shall be agreed upon, so that in case a Parliament be not expedient you have this fair proposal which, I believe, Sir James Shaen has no hand in. My uncle Fitzpatrick goes very soon for Ireland and he will explain this to you, and inform you that it is likely this proposition will be made another way if not approved of by you.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, April 9, Whitehall.—I have herewith enclosed his Majesty's declaration which came just now from the printer to the Secretary's office, but is not yet public. By it your Grace may guess at his Majesty's resolutions, since upon all occasions in private they are agreeable to this which he hath made public.

On Wednesday last your Grace's letter of the 22nd of the last month to Mr. Secretary Jenkins was read in Council, and

directions are given to the part relating to the trials of all such as are imprisoned upon the account of the Plot by a letter from the Board by this post, as likewise the changing of Sir John Davys' trial from the King's Bench to Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, which was not done upon the notice that was taken that Sir William Davys was the Chief Justice of that Court. Another letter of the 16th of March from your Grace and Council, as likewise that of the 25th, together with their enclosed examinations, were ordered to be delivered to the Attorney General and the rest of the King's Counsel to consider whether they were material on the trials of any persons that were sent for over hither to be tried, and upon their report your Grace will receive a further account of them.

SAME to SAME.

1681, April 12. Whitehall.—Since my last I have very little of moment to give your Grace an account of. All matters are still here in a very good and quiet posture, only the printed pamphlets still do their parts, but it is hoped a little time will curb their insolence, which is grown intolerable.

Everard hath entered into recognizance to appear at the King's Bench bar the first day of the next term and give in evidence against Mr. Fitzharris, and two messengers are gone (with warrants, in case of refusal) to bring up Sir William Waller and Smyth, who are both out of town. The Lord Chief Justice Scroggs is removed from his place in the King's Bench, and Sir Francis Pemberton is made Chief Justice in his stead, who gives great assurance of his steadiness to serve the Crown with great integrity and zeal, and as an earnest intends to begin with the trial of Fitzharris the beginning of the term.

The commission of the lieutenancy of the City of London is at present under regulation, and the few men that are (at present) disaffected are intended to be removed, as likewise the officers of the party, which are only Sir Robert Clayton and his lieutenant-colonel, all the rest being men of great integrity and good intentions to the Government.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 12. London.—All that I have to say this post is only to let your Grace know that the report being very strong about the town that his Majesty had sent for you to come over, and reasons of your being sent for variously reported, I told his Majesty yesterday what was given out about the town, and he assured me that there was nothing of it true, for he was sure you could do him more service there than here, and for removing of you from the Government it shall never enter into his thoughts.

Sir Richard Stephens goes for Ireland to-morrow. He, I am confident, is very much your friend, but his great interest is with the fanatic party, and, as George Legge tells the story, in the business of the election he has not been so ingenuous as he ought to have been.

The King intends for Windsor about the end of this month, and will stay there the greatest part of the summer. As I am informed, Prince Rupert is not like to live many days, and his employment of Constable of Windsor Castle my Lord Chesterfield is like to have.

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, April 12. Whitehall.—Just as I am putting pen to paper to pay my duty of the day to your Grace, I receive the honour of yours of the 8th current. I cannot promise to myself a moment before to-morrow morning to show it to his Majesty, he being newly come off the water, having been all this day at Woolwich. The town is wonderfully still. The promoting of Serjeant Pemberton to be Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench does more vex and fret the angry party than the turning out of Sir Robert Clayton from being colonel of a London regiment, and from being a member of the lieutenancy of the City; for the King having professed so often and so solemnly to govern by the law, they would not have him make a choice of a person that for his ability and integrity may fill that post to his Majesty's satisfaction, and the whole nation's. They have threatened his Majesty's declaration with bloody answers; if they do, there is one good way left of replying to them, which is not by reasoning but by doing well and worthily. I must crave your Grace's respite for an answer to your letter, and especially to that part of it which relates to conventicles, till next post.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, April 13. Dublin.—I have yours of the 2nd inst., to the principal part whereof you will find something in one I writ to you before I received yours. That which I shall add is that though the infection which seems to be spread all over England must have some influence upon a Parliament here, yet I am in hope it will have no further effect than the making of some abortive motions which may come from some hot and disaffected member. But that which I most apprehend is that obstruction may be given to supplies by entering into an examination of the revenue of the Crown and the disposition of it by calling in question Farmers, Commissioners, Undertakers and Officers of the Revenue for mismanagement and for oppression, and by annexing some restrictive conditions to their grant of money; all which may be done upon pretences and with expressions specious and dutiful, and possibly it may be endeavoured to make some legal provision for the establishment of a Militia which may infer the

present augmentation of the Army to be unnecessary, and perhaps in time the diminution of it convenient. These are what come now in my mind that may disturb the good success of a Parliament, but possibly I may foresee more difficulties than will be found; and if they should be interposed, yet I do not conclude them to be insuperable. In case the calling of a Parliament here shall be thought of, care must be taken how a new bargain for the farming of this revenue shall be entered upon before it meets, for from thence advantage may be taken to disappoint and lessen supplies, which I cannot encourage his Majesty to expect should be given to the Crown in perpetuity. Nor can I promise that what shall be given will accommodate affairs elsewhere, but that this kingdom may be better secured to him, and that occasional ease may be given to his revenue in England upon the use of sending men either into his fleets or to Tangier there may be good ground to hope. This is as much as is necessary to say on this subject for the present, and shall be only the business of this letter. *Two copies.*

SAME to SAME.

1681, April 13. Dublin.—I would not mix anything of private concern with the business of my other letter of this date, that you may be at liberty to expose the other entirely as occasion may require. As to your return hither, I wish it as soon as may be, the rather that though they should fix upon calling a Parliament here, I resolve not to make it my business to justify any of the bills transmitted, but leave them to the amendment of the King and his Council, and to their fortune afterwards; not but that I will endeavour to serve the King the best I can in my own way, and therein you can help me better here than there.

By all we can yet hear of Sir John Davys we guess he absconds either at London or in Wales. Why he does so he can best tell. His brother was with me yesterday come from his circuit, and having behaved himself in it with much approbation.

The discoverers of the Plot in Munster are so many and such wretched fellows, either in jail for debt or in prison for robberies and thefts, that the most zealous begin to be weary of them and afraid of their accusations for themselves or their friends, for Protestants are brought into the Plot as well as Papists. Why might not you contrive your coming along with your sister without staying long for her, for I conceive she may soon leave her children with my Lord Devonshire and hasten away?

My last Lord Clarendon borrowed divers papers of mine in order to help him in his general history, of which he has made all the use he thought fit, and now as they are properly mine so they can be serviceable to nobody else. My Lord of Anglesey's book gave me occasion to look into the transactions

of those times, of which I may perhaps find cause to give some account as far as my share comes to. I therefore desire you would call to my Lord Clarendon, that now is, for those papers and get them brought with you.

Nic. Armorer told me of an English horse for breed which I might have for sending for. I think he is George Legge's. If he can be here by the end of the next month, pray let him be carefully led to the waterside, and the charge of him and a man shall be defrayed. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1681, April 16. Dublin.—My two last letters have given some account of my thoughts concerning a Parliament here. But if I had faith to believe in the proposition mentioned in yours of the 9th inst., I should prefer the acceptance of it before any other way. But I have often observed that such taking overtures in verbal discourse, when they come to closer examination prove to have something unreasonable or impracticable at the end of them, and therefore my diffidence must be excused till I have further and more particular light, which, if Mr. Hyde keeps his word, I shall have before an agreement. It is plain the Farmers here do not pay their rent so punctually as they pretend, and I think it is certain that they have not managed their affairs to the best advantage, which may be attributed partly to the indigence of the Undertakers that are fain to draw out of the stock for their subsistence, partly to the dissension among themselves (which was all the stock that Sir James Shaen brought with him) and partly to their vain and intricate purchases of shares from one another and from partners in the Earl of Ranelagh's undertaking, so that upon the whole matter I am of opinion his Majesty may, when he will, be master of that farm. But before he seizes it it would be well considered into what management to put the revenue. The proposition which Fitzpatrick is to explain comes in fit time to keep off a Parliament, which neither the Earl of Ranelagh or Sir James Shaen are fond of, and I cannot help suspecting that one of them has a part in it. *Copy.*

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, April 16. Whitehall.—On Wednesday at Council your Grace's letter to Mr. Secretary Jenkins concerning a conventicle kept near the Council Chamber in Dublin was read, and your Grace will, I suppose, receive Mr. Secretary's answer by this post according to the order of the Board. At the same time was likewise read an account from the Deputy Governor of Berwick of great numbers of Dissenters, meeting within the limits of that garrison, which was a liberty they have lately taken, not using to do so before, upon which an order of Council is gone to the Mayor and Chief Magistrates of the Corporation of Berwick to take care to

suppress those unlawful meetings and put the law in execution by removing one Renly the preacher five miles from the town; a clause is likewise inserted in the end of the order to signify his Majesty's pleasure that in case the magistrates fail in their duty a *quo warranto* shall be brought against their charter. A petition of John Ely and several others against whom a bill of indictment was found for high treason, at the same time Sir John Davys's was, being read at the Council, an order went to Mr. Attorney General to prepare such a Privy Seal to enable him to enter a *nolle prosequi* and remove their trials into Ireland, as was in the case of Sir John Davys. Several other Irish evidences lately come over appeared at the Board yesterday: amongst the rest one, Florence Wyer, a copy of whose examination is ordered to be sent to your Grace.

Francis Smyth, the publisher of an intelligence that goes by his name, was yesterday by the Council committed to Newgate for high treason upon the oath of one Charles Wray, who deposed that he told him he would never leave printing and writing till this kingdom was brought to a free state. Mr. Serjeant Street is to be Baron of the Exchequer in the room of Baron Weston and Sir Robert Wright to be Judge in Wales in his room. Mr. Adam Loftus's wife is lately dead in France.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, April 16. Whitehall.—That letter of the 8th current it pleased your Grace to honour me with was communicated to his Majesty as soon as it came to hand. His Majesty was pleased to admit of your Grace's recommendation of a new Bishop of Killalla, and this post will bring to your Grace by the conveyance of Sir Cyril Wyche the letter requisite to that effect. Upon reading of that part of your Grace's letter that takes notice of the Dissenters and their new meeting-house in Dublin (which his Majesty ordered me to bring before the Council), my Lords did not think it needful to advise his Majesty to give your Grace any particular instruction in a matter so nearly relating to the honour and dignity as well as the peace of the Government, his Majesty and my Lords taking it for granted that you look upon it as a main part of the trust put into your hands not to suffer such a novelty as carries along with it not only a breach of the laws but a contempt of his Majesty's authority. I send your Grace by direction of the Council the informations of one Wyer of that country, which contain in them several matters more fresh and close than other informers have spoke to. You will be able, my Lord, when you have commanded them to be perused, to determine what is fit to be done in pursuance of that light which the informer gives. Your Grace will receive this post or the next a petition of one Thomas Lloyd for the payment of a great sum of money (14,000*l.* as I remember) by yearly

payments out of the revenue of Ireland. The interest in those payments is my Lord of Dumbarton's, as his Majesty was pleased to let me understand, and he commanded me to give your Grace notice of it, and to recommend it in a most especial manner to your favourable report.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 16. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's letter of the 9th, which I showed this morning to his Majesty, and he is resolved to take into his consideration the several heads you mention, and has already given directions for the forces to be sent back from Tangier into Ireland, concluding that the peace is by this time made with the Moors. I could not certainly tell you who are the persons most trusted with the management of public affairs, but I have now reason to conclude that my Lord Conway, Mr. Hyde and Mr. Seymour are the men, for his Majesty has commanded me to make my application there in the concerns of Ireland. I have already spoke with my Lord Conway, but could not find Mr. Hyde. His lordship tells me that the King has signed a letter of respite for my Lord Ranelagh in the concern of his 24,000*l.* bond until next Trinity Term, but after that time he is to expect no more favour of that kind. The business of his accounts is referred to auditors here, and when the report is made it will be sent over to you.

Eustace Comyn was yesterday brought before the Board, and there he declared that Hetherington had set him on to swear against you, and the King asking him why he swore against you, he said that Hetherington told him all he swore would do no good else. Entries are ordered to be made in the Council books of what he declared there, and I have sent to Mr. Mulys to transmit a copy of them to you. I hear all the witnesses except Oates and Dugdale are out of pension, so that you are like to have them in Ireland as soon as they have hanged the titular Primate, for without doubt the jury will find him guilty, there being so many witnesses point-blank against him, and their testimonies will be looked upon as valid.

I am desired again to put you in mind of my Lord Roche, who lies in prison here, and is a great object of charity, and also to recommend to you Col. Hublethorne's son for a colours when you are at liberty. His mother has got the King's letter for the first that falls either in the army or the regiment, which passed through my Lord Conway's office, but for the future he has promised not to procure any such.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, April 19. Whitehall.—Mr. Ellis brings me the honour of a letter from your Grace, which I acknowledge with all the humble thanks possible. I am very glad he hath so carried himself as that you are pleased to allow him some title to

your Grace's protection and favour. He will, I am persuaded, study to deserve it more and more. We are here very quiet at this time. We expect some strictures upon the King's declaration. There will be more places, I find, than the county of Middlesex that will give his Majesty thanks for it. Mr. Seymour's selling of his place to my Lord Falkland is yet (to me at least) a riddle, but these things your Grace hath from better hands. The French do, as the Bruxelles letters say, set up new pretensions in Luxemburg.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 19. London.—I had this afternoon your Grace's two letters of the 13th of the last month, and this night I had some discourse with Mr. Hyde about the contents of yours of the 9th, and do find that neither the calling of a Parliament nor the despatching my Lord Ranelagh's accounts will be much thought of unless they are pressed from thence; that of a Parliament I shall leave as it is, since I see you will not appear in justification of the bills already transmitted, and cannot now answer for their temper that are like to compose it. The delay of my Lord Ranelagh's accounts Mr. Hyde attributes to his Lordship's having been so long sick, but says he is now proceeding upon it. He owns nothing of any proposal for a new farm there, for I have not showed him the proposals that were given to me, yet I am credibly informed that Sir James Shaen is now in the country [upon] that design, or something of that nature relating to the revenue here. The next thing in your letter was concerning the men at Tangier, and that may be forgot too; but I shall be very pressing to see an order for the sending them back before I leave this place, which I shall do as soon as I possible can, for I have no great love to the place, and one cannot avoid running out here, though one lives never so frugally, especially when a wife is to share the expense. I cannot promise to be ready to go so soon as my sister Cavendish, but will endeavour to follow soon after. I hope Sir John Davys is come over by this time, else the bond I have entered into will be forfeited. When I see my Lord Clarendon I will speak to him about the papers you mention, and do not doubt but I shall have them, for he is very careful in keeping such things.

The horse Nick Armorer told you of, George Legge says was only promised when he was a cast horse, and he is not like to be so these many years; therefore there is no depending upon him this year, for I would not let him send to the Duke about such a matter.

The report is now very strong again of your being designed to be removed, but none of the great men will own anything of it, and it would be too troublesome to speak to the King any more in that matter. His Majesty dined this day with my Lord Ranelagh, where my Lady Portsmouth was also, with whom his lordship is greater than ever, and in outward appearance with his Majesty also.

PETITION of VISCOUNT CLARE to LORD LIEUTENANT and
COUNCIL.

The humble petition of Daniel Lord Viscount Clare sheweth unto your Grace that your Petitioner with the Grand Jury for the county of Clare exhibited a petition unto your Grace the scope of which petition was to inform your Grace of the insolencies of the Papists both by their actions and speeches upon the frequent dissolutions of Parliaments, they looking upon all other ways of suppressing them to be but matter of form, and thereby to discover to your Grace the real danger his Majesty's Protestant subjects in this kingdom are in by reason thereof, and [that] there might be a petition to his Majesty for the sitting of the Parliament then to meet at Oxford, which petition being read before your Grace exception was taken to some words in the said petition as reflecting on the Government, of which your petitioner being demanded, and it being your petitioner's design as well as duty not only to satisfy your Grace that as in the framing the petition there was not the least thought to reflect upon the Government so your petitioner humbly hopes that all parts of the said petition being rightfully considered together, there will be little reason for such judgment for those words in the said petition (vizt.) that they are favoured, and what orders or proclamations are issued to suppress Popery are but matters of form and not to be executed as the world has seen hitherto, and as if the magistrates were of their opinion, even those words are not alleged in the petition as if things were so, or complained of in the petition as things so done, but are alleged as the opinion and declaration of the Papists, that they have taken an opinion that they are favoured, which they have often as well in other kingdoms as these publicly declared, and by the words of the petition they are censured as unjust. And that the Papists have generally conceived that opinion themselves and would endeavour to obtrude it on others does not only appear by the scope of all Mr. Coleman, the late executed traitor's letters published by authority, but is evident to every serious and thinking man in the kingdom by their more than insolent carriage and behaviour on prorogations and dissolutions of Parliament since the discovery of the late horrid Plot. And as to those other words in the petition (vizt.) as if magistrates were of their opinion, they have relation also to the opinion of the Papists, and your Petitioners by those words had not the least thoughts of reflecting on those magistrates that made or set forth those orders and proclamations, but your petitioners intended thereby to insinuate to your Grace that by reason of those opinions of the Papists declared by them, and the not sitting of Parliament, those magistrates that were to execute those orders and proclamations against them did not put the laws in execution against them, and therefore by the prayer of the said petition that the magistrates may

be encouraged to do their duty could not possibly be extended to your Grace, but to those justices that were to execute those orders.

And therefore your petitioner humbly hopeth there being nothing in our expressions in the said petition that, favourably looked upon, can be esteemed a reflection on the Government, and your petitioner having always been and to his life's end resolves to continue a loyal, dutiful, and obedient subject to our most gracious Sovereign Lord the King, he humbly hopes that neither the petition nor the presentors of it may receive any discountenance from your Grace, but that your Grace will put such favourable construction on the said petition and so represent the same to his Majesty as your petitioner herein declares was his intent and the intent of the rest that joined with him in the presenting thereof. And your petitioner shall ever pray.

[*Endorsed* :—] Read at the Board, 22 April, 1681. *Copy.*

JOHN ROANE, Bishop of Killaloe, to ORMOND.

1681, April 23. Killaloe.—In obedience to your Grace's command I make this hasty return to your Grace's letter (which came to my hands yesterday) having the convenience of a friend going towards Dublin.

1. As to the first particular concerning the Popish school-master at Inish [Ennis] (Dr. Cargill by name), the Lord Clare spoke to me in August last that I could give way for Cargill to keep school at Inish till May next, and then he would be gone for France. I replied that if his lordship meant to license him, I should never do that for him, nor any other Papist; then he desired my connivance, &c. Capt. Purdon told me within these four days (upon his reading the Lord Clare's petition) that he had committed two Popish schoolmasters and the Lord Clare released or dismissed them.

2. As for Bishop Molony, I had certain intelligence (while one man lived, but since dead) where his haunts were, and amongst other places he was at the Lady Clare's house near Inish, and having notice he was there, I sent a party to enquire for him, but he was gone. The lord being at Inish (which was more than I knew) he was displeased and sent me the enclosed letter how ill he resented it; I cannot say that the lord himself was at any time in Molony's company.

3. As for the education of his children, I am told that all go to Mass saving one youth, who came to church about Michaelmas last past. Mr. Donogh O'Bryen, of Leminee, told me what answer he gave the Lord Clare when his lordship pressed on him to sign the petition, which he refusing, the Lord Clare told him he was Popishly affected, to which Mr. Bryen returned this smart answer :—"As for myself, I was bred a Protestant and never went to Mass, my wife is a Protestant, and my children are bred up so, and I keep not a Papist servant," implying that the Lord Clare was guilty in all

those circumstances ; some say he hath not one Protestant servant. If your Grace be pleased to examine Mr. Gore, Thomas Hickman or any of the persons now brought up, they may inform your Grace in these particulars. I have got me many enemies of the Irish for my enquiries after Bishop Molony, so that I was advised by a friend to have a care of myself, which caused me to write to my Lord Primate to befriend me for my removal when occasion offered. But I must leave your Grace to make what use you please of this information My Lord Clare said before he went publicly that he would own this petition as his own act, and I believe he brought all the rest into the square with him. I am sure Mr. Gore and Mr. Thomas Hickman resolved against the publishing it.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, April 23, London.—I have your Grace's letter of 16th, and since the report of your being to be removed from the Government the proposers for the farm have hung off, as my uncle Fitzpatrick tells me, who is the man that brought the proposal to me, which makes me think that neither Sir James Shaen nor Lord Ranelagh have anything to do in the matter, whatever trick there may be in the bottom of it. My uncle goes from hence on Monday next, and he will carry you new assurances that the King has no intention to remove you, and it will not be in my judgment proper for you to desire it at this time. I say this because my Lord Longford gave me a hint in his last letter that you had some inclination that way. My Lord Clarendon tells me that his papers are all at Cornbury, but he intends to go very soon there, and has promised to give me those you desire if he can find them.

My Lady Clancarty desires your favour in behalf of her steward, who has been a great while a prisoner, his name is Fitzgerald. She hopes that bail may be safely taken for him. Ned Vernon tells me that he hopes to be in Dublin before the end of this [month]. I have not heard yet whether you intend Mr. Cook should have the 100*l.* *per annum* that Mr. Thynne had, or design it for somebody else.

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, St. George's Day (April 23). Whitehall.—I have nothing but the return of the day that can excuse this trouble that I give your Grace. Here is no news stirring, and this troubles the restless spirits. The Duke of Monmouth, they say, is not well pleased with his party. The supplies come now but slowly on. They are weary one of another. His Majesty was graciously pleased three days ago upon some humble representations I made to him to express a full sense of your Grace's good service in that place, and of the necessity he is under to continue your Grace in that post. I was very glad to hear so gracious and frank a declaration.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, April 23. Dublin.—The last post brought me none from you, but my brother Fitzpatrick desires you may have an account of the produce of the revenue here, I suppose from the beginning of the last farm, which you receive herewith—not from Captain Stone, but from the Commissioners of Inspection, whose office it is to give an account of it. That which is incapable of certainty is the value or solvency of the arrears standing out, of which perhaps the half may be good, and that seems to me to be the best security the King has for their performance. What use may be made of it I know not, but without all doubt better management and the continuance of peace may considerably improve the revenue.

Tom Worsop is impatient to know whether his nephew may part with his land for a title. Say something to me or him upon it. *Copy.*

SAME TO SAME.

1681, 24 April. Dublin.—Yours of the 16th, which should have come with letters of the same date by the last post, I received but this morning with that of the 19th. The return of the men that went from hence to Tangier is worth the soliciting as long as there is expectation of effecting it, but besides orders you know shipping and provisions are necessary, and therefore I suppose you comprehend them in the word orders. The King's directions to you to apply in the affairs of Ireland to the three persons you mention I suppose is not exclusive to Mr. Secretary Jenkins, but that our despatches from the Board in all public matters are to be still directed to him and his Majesty's pleasure upon them to be expected through his hands. If it be otherwise I should receive signification of it, but I believe it is intended that those persons should be consulted principally with in the matters of more moment relating to Ireland. The matter of a Parliament here is well lodged, and there it shall rest for me. As to my Lord Ranelagh's accounts unless the validity of this appeal shall be one way or other determined, or undetermined by his fault I do not see how in justice further respite can be refused him, so that it rests apparently upon the Ministers there. What progress they make in it will be seen by you before you go thence, and you will be able to tell me if any further application from hence be necessary. You do well not to trouble the King upon every report that is raised concerning me, nor would I have you to be over inquisitive among the Ministers. I repose myself upon the King's repeated promises, which for my part shall never engage him to more than that I may remove from my present station upon necessary warning and upon decent circumstances. I have yet received no copy of the entry made in the Council book of Eustace Comyn's declaration before the Board, and when I

shall have them I know not well what use to make of them. Capt. Hales is just now come ashore and is in the next room.

I do not remember that you have heretofore made any mention of my Lord Roche to me or whether he be in the establishment. If he be, he will fare as others and no better unless I have particular direction in it. For young Hublethorne I will enquire after him, believing it to be very fit to encourage him, considering his father died in the King's service. There is or will be very shortly 500*l.* in James Clarke's hands to help to bring you off. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF CONWAY.

1681, April 24. Dublin.—Sir John Davys arrived here the last week and found directions were sent hither by his Majesty's command for his trial by a special commission. What the impediments are is represented by a despatch from the Board directed to Mr. Secretary Jenkins, under whose cover we received the King's directions signified by my Lords of the Council. With that letter I took the liberty to write my own sense apart upon that subject to Mr. Secretary, to both which I ask your lordship's leave to refer you. But I must take notice of what Sir John Davys brought me by way of message from your lordship, and I do it with much satisfaction and a stedfast purpose upon all occasions to make suitable returns, which without many words or further explication for the present I desire your lordship to believe. Sir John at the same time told me he had charged himself with something of the same nature from Mr. Seymour, and that he had liberty to deliver it to me from him. If I am not mistaken in him and myself we are engaged in the King's service upon the same grounds, and with the same resolutions, and that is of force enough with me to enter into a friendship and correspondence where I have [not] less inclination than I have always had towards him, whose quality, person and parts I have long valued.

We have my Lord of Clare, and the rest of those that joined with him, under examination by virtue of the King's pleasure intimated by your lordship's of the 25th of March last. At their first appearance before the Council they all seemed to disclaim the petition and desert my Lord of Clare, and desired leave that they might present their sense by a paper apart, which I thought would have amounted to a retraction and not to an explanation of their intent by the words; but it proved no more, and therefore I took time to consider of what they offered, and have in the interim ordered a Committee of the Board to call to them for some further light into the Plot and for some instances of persons guilty of those scandals cast upon his Majesty's Government and in consequence upon himself. When that is done or when they fail to do it, I shall proceed as I am directed, and as I shall find occasion.

If one Mr. John Ellis shall present himself to your lordship from me I beseech you to take notice of him as of a very honest man and very well qualified for service at home or abroad. If I had room for him I would not have been without him. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT CLARE to ORMOND.

1681, April 25.—In all the transactions of my life I endeavoured to increase the number of your servants, and of all the misfortunes of my life there is none that grieves my heart so much as that your Grace should believe I ever designed to do anything that may reflect on your Grace. I wish I may never see Heaven if ever I heard or imagined that your Grace was traduced in England, or that ever the malice of man could do it, but what I heard many years ago in vulgar report of the Earl of Orrery's fictions without knowledge of particulars, and what Papists have most maliciously contrived against your Grace by your Grace's opposition always to them which by their fall your Grace overpowered.

I heard that in the Treasurer Clifford's time that party endeavoured to have the Parliament dissolved, and that your Grace upon your knees persuaded the King against it, when his Majesty was moved thereunto by some unreasonable proceedings of the House of Commons. Let God be my witness that this is the notion I had still in my head last assizes, that your Grace was for having a Parliament, and that the people of this kingdom's voice going along with your Grace, your Grace's advice may carry the greater force. Your Grace may perceive my sincerity in this matter by my letters of the 18th of January and 11th of February last, to which I had a favourable answer from your Grace, and that you would represent my zeal to the King, which made me pursue what I hinted in my letters to your Grace. And if I erred in this I assure your Grace it was a sin of ignorance, and that my thoughts were never otherwise than to serve my King (the best of Kings) not only with the fortune he gave me but with the last drop of my blood, when I find occasion to venture it in his service. And as your Grace is the best patron of loyalty, my resolution was, and ever will be, to serve his Majesty your way as becometh, &c.

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, April 25. Dublin.—The yacht has been at Holyhead since the 20th of this month according to the desire of your former letter and there has been yet no wind to bring her back. I have by this post written to my daughter Cavendish to know certainly when and where she shall attend her. If you be ready to come with her the yacht may serve both your purposes. This post carries as exact an account as can be had of the product of the several branches of the revenue,

and though it be most infallible that peace continuing the revenue will increase considerably, yet I doubt it will not come to the proportions proposed, though better management should come into the computation. I wish anybody were able to give security for the good performance of something less than the proposition. *Copy.*

CLERK OF THE PELL'S CERTIFICATE.

Receipts in his Majesty's Treasury from the 25th of March, 1681, to Monday, the 25th of April.

The remain in the Vice Treasurer's hands upon the last certificate ended the said 25 of March 1681		11331 15 10½
Leinster	New patent rents	458 17 08
	Rents upon decrees and certificates	006 11 03½
	Old Crown rents	139 17 06
Munster	New patent rents	458 06 10½
	Custody rents	000 02 06
	Old Crown rents	158 09 08½
	Quit rents	000 10 09½
Connaught	New patent rents	027 04 06½
Ulster	New patent rents	075 13 08½
	Old Crown rents	049 15 01½
		<hr/>
		1375 09 08½
Farmers	By money paid into the Exchequer	4761 00 01
	By orders of assignments into the country	3437 19 08½
		<hr/>
		20906 05 04½

Payments made within the said time.

Civil List	Concordatums	20 00 00
Military List	Officers General	2035 07 05½
	Officers of the Ordnance	226 14 06
	King's Guard of Horse by 2 warrants for $\frac{6}{mo}$ ending 25 Decr. 1680	2649 16 06
	To two troops of horse for $\frac{8}{mo}$ ending 25 Decr. 1680	936 01 06
		<hr/>
		5847 19 11½
	Cheques remitted	0096 18 06
		<hr/>
		£5964 18 05½
So remains in the Vice Treasurer's hands		14941 06 11½
		<hr/>
		£20906 05 04½

Exd. p. Ja. Alexander, Dept. Cler. Pell.

JOHN ROANE, Bishop of Killaloe, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, April 25. Killaloe.—I received a letter on Friday last from my Lord Lieutenant wherein his Grace desired (*i.e.*, commanded) me to return him an answer to those queries his Grace proposed concerning the Lord Clare, which I did next day by a person that was going hence that day towards Dublin, otherwise I could not have done it before this post. I confess I am not willing on any account to be an informer; but though I had an honour for the Lord Clare, yet when I conceived my Lord Lieutenant's honour was laid in the same balance, I did not think fit to deliberate in the matter

but gave what information I could in answer to what his Grace proposed for satisfaction, though I foresee I must expect some censure, and some more enemies than what I have found on Bishop Molony's account insomuch as (if your Grace remember I acquainted you) that I was advised to have care of myself. But *jacta est alea*, I expect no favour from that party. I know not whether my Lord Lieutenant may communicate my letter to your Grace or not (which I expect is by this time delivered). And therein is sent also that chiding letter which the Lord Clare sent me after my servants' enquiry after Bishop Molony at his mother's house (of which I have formerly given your Grace an account, and which I should never have discovered, but that my Lord Lieutenant did command me). In my letter to my Lord Lieutenant I must correct a little mistake, which was this (*viz.*): I was told by Captain Purdon (upon his reading that famous petition) that he had sent two persons to gaol in pursuance of the late proclamation, which I supposed had been schoolmasters, but since then I have spoke with him and [he] tells me one only was a schoolmaster, and the other was the parish priest of Feacle, whose brother was out in torying, and both of them now discharged, as he thought, by the Lord Clare. However, he was the person that managed the sessions, and this mistake I desire may be rectified. I acquainted his Grace that I was told all his servants were Papists; but for this Walter Hickman (my Lord Clare's neighbour and confidant) and his brother Henry Hickman both neighbours and whose hands are at the petition, these are able, I presume, to name his servants, who if urged thereto can give a perfect account of them. The Lord Clare did publicly declare at dinner last sessions that he would own that petition at Council Board as his own handwriting, &c. I am sure he hath decoyed all the rest into the snare who otherwise had not done, and Mr. Gore and Mr. Thomas Hickman resolved never to deliver it, but that my Lord Clare and some few others with their clamour caused them to do it, but of this I have mentioned in a former letter. I was told the Lord Clare sent several copies afterwards abroad and particularly one he gave Mr. Hamilton, Capt. Hamilton's son, to carry with him into the north. I hope Mr. Gore and Mr. Thomas Hickman may find some favour who being at first convinced of their folly would fain afterwards have suppressed it. And now I must add one thing more, which is this, I hear now that Bishop Molony is gone to sea. The priest whom he ordered to be inducted into Tullagh hath left the country, and the priest Grady who was chosen by the people at first is returned to that place; but withal he acquaints me that he hears Bishop Molony hath left an excommunication on him, but as yet no order for it is come to his knowledge, but says he is certain the Bishop took shipping lately at Kilrush. I have acquainted him that if any such order, whether written

or verbal, is brought to him that he should give me notice thereof, together with the person that brought it, which I expect he will, for the priest's mother is my tenant. I shall not add further to your trouble at this time.

JOHN FELL, Bishop of Oxford, to ORMOND.

1681, April 26. There being an opportunity by this bearer (who goes hence expressly to attend your Excellency) to present my duty and service, I may not let slip the occasion; especially when your very receiving a person from hence into your service is a favour which we here ought to be very sensible of, and with due thankfulness acknowledge. I presume your Excellency will now be coming towards a resolution concerning a Vice-Chancellor for the next year, but the truth is the choice is so narrow and the employment so difficult in the present crisis of affairs, which yet renders the having a man of sufficiency and conduct of greater importance to the public (especially if the Parliament should in the winter be convened here, which wise men look upon as probable) that I dare not as yet offer anything with confidence to your Excellency. The best thing for the University and his Majesty's service would be to continue the present Vice-Chancellor a year longer, who is a man of courage, and perfectly understands his business, and who acquitted himself very well when the Court and Parliament were lately here. So that if he can be prevailed with to be patient in the office a year longer, your Excellency will be secure that all things here will be managed for your honour and satisfaction and his Majesty's service. I shall endeavour to persuade herein and will then render a speedy account. I believe there never was a time when it was of more moment that a fit man should fill the place. The Principal of Magdalen Hall seems to be upon recovery, so that the care of providing a successor will for some time be suspended. I presume my Lord Ossory improves under the double advantage of your Excellency's institution and example. This is the time that his mind is to be set to the pursuit of great and gracious things; for if he should be so unhappy as now to indulge to ease and pleasure he will not easily be prevailed with to tread in a rougher path, to which, if not his inclinations, the necessity of affairs may force him with disadvantage hereafter.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 26. London.—Since my last my Lord Clarendon is fallen so ill of a fever that he is in some danger. I delivered this day to his brother, my Lord Hyde, the proposal about a new farm in Ireland and told him the contents of your letter of the 16th. He will show it to the rest of the Commissioners, and then we shall know what resolutions will be taken. The King goes to Windsor on Thursday, but the

Commissioners of the Treasury will sit in town three days in the week. I have sent to take a lodging in Windsor, so that I intend to be sometimes there and sometimes here as occasion offers.

ANTHONY BARTLETT, Mayor of Limerick, to ORMOND.

1681, April 26. Limerick.—The Common Council of this city in a late assembly have considered the great cries of the poor in those parts by reason of the great price that corn is raised unto, which they humbly conceive to be occasioned by the great quantities the Irish merchants here have bought to be transported for France. They have advised me and the magistrates of this city to put in execution the statutes against engrossing of corn until your Grace be informed hereof (whose advice is pursued). I humbly certify your Grace that there are great granaries in this city, and daily engrossing great quantities to be transported.

PROPOSALS CONCERNING A WORKHOUSE.

1681, April 29. Ireland.—Government.—The erecting and managing a workhouse may be after this manner: A house to be built after some convenient model, to be furnished as followeth:—

Imprimis.—100 flock beds, covering and sheets, utensils for the kitchen, brewhouse, frieze for upper garments, linen for shifts, shoes and stockings; all these to clothe 300 persons and to provide all necessaries for clean and wholesome dwelling of them and those that shall oversee and instruct them in trades. 2,000*l.* stock to be put into the hands of the Undertaker and to give a lease of 21 years of the house and stock upon these terms following:

1. That he be obliged to provide able artisans for instructing children in such trades as the Lord Lieutenant and Council shall think fit.

2. All such as are taught trades shall at the age of 21 years be set at liberty with a good suit of clothes, two shirts and ten shillings in his pocket.

3. He shall receive and maintain all such as shall be sent to the house, as well aged, decrepit, blind and maimed poor, as young and lusty poor not exceeding 300.

4. At the end of the term of 21 years he shall be obliged to leave the house in good repair and 2,000*l.* stock, and for the better encouragement of the Undertaker, and to enable him to maintain the decrepit and maimed poor there shall be 100*l.* per annum annexed to this house.

[*Endorsed* :] Proposals concerning a workhouse.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, April 30. Whitehall.—Though I am to go to Windsor this evening, yet I cannot omit the duty of the day. The Bill against Fitzharris being found yesterday, and he being brought this day to be arraigned upon it, he pleaded to the jurisdiction of the Court. He was assigned Sir Francis Winington, Mr. Williams (the old Speaker), Mr. Pollexfen and Sir G. Treby for his counsel. He would have had Sir Wm. Jones, but he having left his practice the Court could not assign him. The point will be argued on Tuesday. The humour of addressing is now of our side. The City is now struggling within itself. The more substantial part, it is thought, will be for our side. We have nothing else stirring of any kind.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, April 30. London.—The King being gone to Windsor, I have little worth the troubling your Grace this post. I intend to go there next week. My Lord Hyde intending to be there then, who is the greatest man in favour at Court now. My uncle Fitzpatrick will be with you as soon as this letter, and he will inform you by word of mouth how matters go here from his own observation, and from the discourse he had with my Lord Chamberlain the night before he left this place. My Lord Chief Justice Pemberton upon a scruple raised by the Grand Jury on the trial of Fitzharris, he being impeached by the last House of Commons, declared that it was not only his opinion and the opinion of that Court that they should, notwithstanding the impeachment, proceed upon the bill of indictment, but the unanimous opinion of all the Judges of England, upon which the jury have found the bill, and they have also allowed of the *nolle prosequi* on the behalf of Quartermaster Ely and the rest in that indictment; but the bill against Plunkett was found at the same time with that of Fitzharris's. Whether it is intended he should be tried here or in Ireland I cannot yet learn; but if here, he is not like ever to see Ireland again, for there are a great many witnesses against him, and they will be believed by the juries here.

The MAYOR, ALDERMEN and BAILIFFS OF CLONMEL to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1681, April 30. Clonmel.—We did peruse (with great satisfaction) that letter of the 2nd instant which you were pleased to write unto Doctor Ladyman on his presenting unto your view the motion he then was making unto us (its copy for your honour's remembrance being here inclosed) touching the settlement of a free school in this corporation.

And we do most gratefully resent that great encouragement you therein have given us; not only by your declared approbation of that most needful work, but by your resolution

also (in his Grace's behalf) to make the rates for that place (in our thoughts pitched upon) very reasonable that no obstruction (for so your own letter doth proceed and most heartily do we thank you for it) may lie on your part to the forwarding of so good a design, and influency far beyond the boundaries of this precinct.

Nor dare we be so unthankful as once to doubt your honour's now seconding what then so kindly you did begin, but encouraged by that most obliging return you made unto the Doctor (and indeed by the great experience we have had of your readiness on all occasions to manifest your civility to this place) we here, in the name of the whole town do make it our earnest and joint request that you would be pleased to mediate unto his Grace in our behalf for a lease of ninety-nine years or longer of Counsellor Ryan's late holdings (or that part thereof which lieth east of our Lady Street) for such annual acknowledgment and fine as his Grace's known bounty (especially towards all things of this nature) may persuade him to set on that concern; for although our Corporation (as to its revenue) be so inconsiderable that it scarcely can support itself, yet are we loth that the opportunity of my Lord Bishop's expected great kindness towards a free school here should be overslipt and by any neglect of ours. Wherefore, most noble sir, we do again bespeak your interceding unto our illustrious landlord that, as at first (by fixing here a convenient proportion of his arrears) he did vouchsafe to take us all into his immediate patronage, hath accommodated and beautified this borough with such public and most useful structures as are not to be paralleled through this whole kingdom, and by a lasting fixation of several fairs within our walls and of the Regality Courts at our very doors, that as his Grace already by all these and many other sundry ways hath abundantly signalised his great respect for this place, that with the aid of your most acceptable mediation the grant of these holdings for the aforesaid purposes (and on favourable terms might be added unto all the rest). Thus honourable sir, shall you oblige us to remain what we have always been etc.

	Charles Alcock.	Fra. Rabone, Mayor.	
Tho. Williams	Richard Whithand	Richard Peckett	} Bailiffs.
Ric. Dennison	Robert Thompson	Edw. Pippin	
Ant. Lawrence	John West.		
Ralph Chadcraft.			

[Encloses the following letter :]

DR. SAMUEL LADYMAN to FRANCIS RABONE, Mayor of Clonmel.

Mr. Alcock was telling me the other day that the Lord Bishop of Waterford hath made a very bountiful proposal touching the settlement of a free school in this place, how that his lordship will find both the man to

teach it and his maintenance in case the inhabitants will be so kind unto themselves as to provide the master an habitation for himself to live in, and also for his scholars to learn in.

It is thought by several that Counsellor Ryan's late house (especially now that it is repaired) would be a most convenient place for both, considering that it hath an open air, large back-sides or gardens, is near the church and churchyard, and stands best retired from the noise and throng of the town, also (besides the fore-mentioned conveniency for the master to dwell and to teach in) that house will afford room enough for the tabling or reception of many of the scholars or children that shall learn.

Yet so much as once to make a notion for our illustrious landlord to bestow that house, indeed I think would not be ingenuous, nor savour of that gratitude which his Grace so abundantly hath deserved from Clonmel, considering how many ways (and even *ex mero motu* of his own accord) he hath been contributory to the good of this town. To request a lease for years or lives of that concern, and at an annual rent (which considering his Grace's generous propensity to all good acts, we may hope will be very reasonable), I think might be the best way, and although (with the aid of your Council) you can sufficiently advise yourselves, and tell without any prompting what will most make for the flourishing of this place, yet my earnest desire that Clonmel might thrive and prosper hath engaged me to hint thus much.

That a good school on sundry accounts must be of great advantage both to bakers, butchers, merchants, laundresses and sempsters, innkeepers, smiths, tavern[er]s, gloves, shoemakers, joiners, saddlers, in a word (besides the conveniency of this stage for the whole neighbourhood upwards of twenty miles about) a good school on the children's account, and on theirs that shall come to visit them sundry ways, I do conceive must be advantageous to all the traders of this borough. Wherefore it is my desire that yourself, your bailiffs, your brother aldermen, &c. would not lose an opportunity of doing yourselves and the place you live in good, which if now overslipt perhaps will never be offered more. Mr. Mayor, you know that I neither have sons nor hopes of any who might receive their education in this school, whereof my cordial wish of good to those among whom I have lived almost twenty-nine years must in charity be thought the chiefest motive of what is here proposed.

COL. E. COOKE to ORMOND.

1681, April 30. London, Newport House.—Thursday morning his Majesty early left us and wilfully (against the universal

opinion of all his physicians) went to Windsor, which they judge very disagreeable to his constitution, and vehemently apprehend the return of his ague. They wholly disapprove of it, especially so early in the year. That little while I have been in this place, though much at Whitehall, I never heard a succeeding Parliament so much as mentioned in any public place or discourse, yet some sage ones infer from two observations that one will begin with next winter. 1. Because all penal laws against Papists are vigorously put in execution. 2. Because both Duke and Duchess do continue under their confinement to Scotland. But as for the first, finding that word thrift so often coming out of his Majesty's mouth, and his actions so pursuant to his expressions, I conclude his necessities enforce him to leave no stone unturned that money lieth under, and he may lawfully pick up. But as to the second, I can say nothing, being well assured they are not to return, and inventing no other reason why. We daily mutter out great alterations, and because one hath succeeded easily persuade ourselves to give credit to the rest. Because we find Lord Hyde made Viscount Hyde of Killingworth (unusual for a viscountship to be annexed to a name), therefore we expect Mr. Seymour (having parted with his treasurership of the Navy upon undeserved terms to my young Lord Falkland whose great ingenuity everyone conceives too youthful for so difficult a trust) is to supplant my Lord Privy Seal, and that if his Grace the Duke of Ormond can be persuaded to return for England that Lord Conway (not Lord Halifax) shall get into that tribunal and Lord Ranelagh sit in his secretary's seat, and that Mr. Hyde's new viscountship is the first step to his sole lord treasurership. I confess these are wonders beyond my belief, because in all my observations I can discern no tendency towards them; though I cannot unriddle two mysteries—why Mr. Seymour quitted his treasurership, for it is plain he brought in my Lord Falkland himself, who could not buy it himself, nor all the friends he hath, and the King neither under any visible obligation nor indeed in a condition to purchase it for him. Some think as the one puts on the name so the other puts off the odium of that office and that a 500*li.* per annum salary is the utmost reward, others have chanced to see a late order for 5000*li.* per annum for three years on Ireland for secret service, and apply that money to this purchase. But methinks the seller should not have patience for so remote a payment. I will leave it, as I found it, a doubt. But we were all startled at Pemberton's succeeding Scroggs in his chief justiceship; and yet more at his loyal actings already (*consideratis considerandis*), for he hath showed great prudence, great loyalty and great resolution in this first handsel of his office, in the case of Fitzharris, he understanding that the Grand Jury for the London part of Middlesex (which county is divided into three hundreds as it were, and all three send juries alike) was packed by the

combination of Sheriff Bethell with a club of malcontents (for the eldest City Sheriff is, of course, the County Sheriff of Middlesex also), Sir William Roberts the foreman, and three members of the late Parliament of the same principles followed him, and all the rest of the same complexion; against custom (though in his power as Chief Justice), he delegates the trust of trials to another jury, of which one Mr. Godfrey (brother to murdered Sir Edmund Bury) was foreman, who would fain have excused himself, alleging that evidence might come in relating to his brother's death which might render him an improper jurymen, but the Judge (which was Sir Thomas Jones, he being to give the charge, the Chief Justice and the rest of the Judges had left the Bench) replied, the cause was not *tanty*, nor was it more than imaginary yet, so that he submitted and was sworn; and so sixteen more. Sir William Waller first appeared to give evidence, but scrupled taking his oath, urging for his evasion the impeachment of the House of Commons in Fitzharris's case, and that anathematizing vote which followed it, and craved the Judge's opinion whether (*rebus sic stantibus*) he could safely give evidence; who replied he sat not there to answer all unnecessary scruples, but bade him well weigh what he did and refuse at his peril; hereupon he took his oath and they took his evidence. After which Godfrey with two more started the doubt of the impeachment, and the vote, and craved the Judge's resolution on it, whether with safety they might take cognizance of the indictments considering the impeachment. Sir Thomas answered he would not resolve it of himself, but respited it till the next morning (which was Thursday last) that it might be determined in full Court; and that afternoon all the Judges had a full consult, where it was unanimously resolved that no scruple could arise either from the impeachment or vote; and consequently delivered that resolution to the inquisitive jury not only as their own sense, but also the concurrent resolution of all the rest of their brethren; and that they were on their oaths and were perjured if they did not find the bill of indictment one way or other: either *billa vera* or *ignoramus*; and that they themselves, being upon their oaths, delivered this as their judgment, for that all votes and proceedings of the House of Commons determined with every prorogation, much more on a dissolution. Whereupon the jury submitted to possess themselves of the proofs in the cases, notwithstanding it is said ten of the other jury both night and morning had advised and argued against it. I do not hear they have yet given in their verdict, but questionless, there being three unquestionable evidences, they will find the bill; for I hear the proof is very pregnant.

There was a great alarm of the Exchequer being again shut up, but on examination I find the truth to be thus:—It seems some tallies being charged on the Excise, and that fund being shrunk by the expiration of some branches of it

those bankers who for their debt were annually to receive 30,000*l.* not finding money enough to pay off their interest, arrested some of the officers of that duty. Whereupon the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury resolved to put a stop to all tallies till there should be money enough to pay them off.

And now my stock of news fails me, give me leave to fill up the rest of my paper with two remarkable stories. First, of one habited like the better sort of serving men, who, having more subtilty than honesty, viewing the plate exposed to show in a goldsmith's shop, took a note of it, which reading to the goldsmith as parcels his master (naming a doctor of physic, the goldsmith had heard of) had sent him to buy, the goldsmith undertook to furnish him to the value of between 50*l.* and 60*l.* The goldsmith and his apprentices immediately fell a furbishing up the plate, he appointing to call for it within two hours, because his master was to make a present of it that night. Accordingly he came just as it began to be dark, borrowed one of the servants to carry it, and the note of its weight and worth along with him. As soon as he came to the doctor's house he ordered the fellow to stay in a corner of the hall till he waited on his master, and immediately ascended the stairs to his closet door, and on knocking had entrance, told the doctor he had a kinsman a hopeful young man (exactly describing the goldsmith's servant's person and habit) who from the distemper of this new fever, though he had recovered his strength, yet had so impaired his senses that he frequently fell into raving fits, the warning he gave of their approach was to fall a talking of plate and money, and money for plate, and then two or three men could scarce hold him; because he had not long been so distempered he the more hoped his recovery, especially encouraged from the doctor's fame; he added he would take care to convey him to the doctor, but durst not come with him, and so left the doctor to give order for a dark room against he came and returned to the fellow for plate and note to carry to his master, who himself would weigh it, and he would immediately bring down the money. Away slips he out of the back door with his burden, and when the fellow had outstayed his patience he desired to speak with the doctor, to whom, when he approached, the doctor concluded him to be his bespoke patient, and being in the middle of a recipe bade him sit down, and he would discourse with him presently, by his bell summoning up his servants, and as soon as at leisure began to question him how long he had been ill. He, staring, replied he had not been ill. "I mean," said the doctor, "of this new fever." He answered he never had it in his life. The doctor would fain feel his pulse, the fellow struggled to prevent it, and began to say he came not for physic, but for money for his plate, or his plate again. Immediately three of his servants were commanded to seize him, and a chirurgeon

sent for to let him blood, which by mere force he did, and to take a great quantity from him, nay after sent for a barber to shave off his hair, and the more the fellow argued for his plate or money, the more madman he was accounted, and having lost his blood and hair, was clapped into a dark room, not only kept there that night, but the next day also, and the night following. The goldsmith all this while concluding his servant runaway with his plate, was determined to garet him, but a gentleman accidentally coming to the doctor and he mentioning his new patient, the gentleman's curiosity tempted him to see him, who (it seems) the fellow had seen and began to declare whose servant he was. The gentleman knew him not in that disguise, but sending for his master, the cheat came out.

The second story is of one Sir Robert Parker, grandson to Sir Thomas Parker of Sussex, the greyhound master, one of 3,000*l.* per annum, and a member of the late Parliament. He returning to town, directed his first visit to Madam Hunt, a famous bawd, who welcomed his coming with an assurance that he was the darling of all the great Court ladies, and that for twenty guineas each he should pick and choose, naming three Countesses and one Earl's daughter, and Mrs. Wall (the Duchess of Portsmouth's woman) and the Duchess of Masereene [Mazarine] all which he thought he enjoyed for twenty guineas each, only fifty for the Duchess; and though he knew them all, yet the bawd had so exactly personated them with her common ware that he believed he enjoyed the ladies themselves, but, finding this too chargeable, resolved to set up with Mrs. Wall, hoping by her means to gratify his ambition as well as lust, and to her he addresses a letter, haranguing on all the satisfactions had mutually passed between them, and proposing a time and place for meeting to establish a future constant correspondence without the interposition of chargeable Mrs. Hunt. As soon as Mrs. Wall received this letter, all writ with his own hand and name at length, in the amazing surprise shews it her Duchess, and her Grace with open mouth shews it the King, who concluded that Sir Robert had been deceived by some bawd and betrayed into this error, and proposed stifling of it without taking any notice, but because that could not obviate second addresses, Justice Duey was ordered to issue out his warrant and examine Sir Robert how he came to commit so great a rudeness, who in a deposition (I saw) confessed all this. He is retired into the country for fear of having his brains (which it seems he can ill spare) being dashed out, and she absconded, to prevent carting, who occasioned it. Some passages I pretermit for want of room.

SIMON BENNET to EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1681, May 2.—When I came home from Gloucestershire I received your lordship's letter by my cousin John Bennet. I am sorry I had the ill fortune to be away when your

lordship passed through Stony Stratford to Euston. As concerning my cousin John Bennet's business, it stands thus : My daughter Grace is more violent against him than her mother, and after she had given him five or six denials she hath ever since locked herself up whenever he came to the house ; both mother and daughter keep themselves very close from him, insomuch that he is forced to get a ladder to climb up to the window to them, but cannot see them when he hath done. Sometimes they fling out a pail of water upon his head and wet him to the skin, the difference being so high among them ; yet for all this he is not at all dismayed, but is fully resolved to stick by it, and pursue his design, although it should last yet these seven years. When I see your lordship at London I shall tell you more of it.

CAPTAIN CHARLES POYNTZ to SIR WILLIAM FLOWER.

1681, May 3. Acton.—I hold myself obliged to give you thanks for all your favours, but particularly for your friendly representation of my concern in the destruction of that grand rogue Redmond O'Hanlon ; and that you may do it with the better assurance, I think it will not be improper to give you a particular account of it. About the beginning of December last Art M'Call, alias Hanlon, (who was once a servant to my father), and at that time had no stain upon him, but what his surname brought him, came to me, and desired to be admitted into my company. I represented to him the unreasonableness of his request, and how that it would give occasion of discourse to those malicious rascals that had scandalised my father and me, as having too much kindness for the Hanlons, but withal I told him that he might do that service which would serve the King and country, oblige me and for ever make him rich, and then proposed this service, which he has now performed, as the way to bring all that to pass ; at first he boggled at it, but when I had laid down several ways to him how it might be performed (and all of them depending upon his associating himself with Redmond) he concluded to undertake it, and swore to accomplish it or die in the attempt, upon which I immediately went to Sir Hans Hamilton, gave him an account of what I had done, and desired that he would give him a pass and protection, to prevent his being killed should he meet with any soldiers ; which Sir Hans readily consented to, and having made me write it, he signed it, and I delivered it to Art's own hand, who then (with many curses on himself if he failed) renewed his promise to me to perform it, and since often, by one in whom we both confided, sent me word that he continued firm in that resolution, and that not above six days before he did the service ; how he came after to be concerned with Mr. Lucas I know not but am extremely glad that on any account the service was done. I am very far from derogating anything from the merits of Mr. Lucas's service, in which, I

am persuaded, he took much pains, for to most of his designs he made me privy, having first showed me my Lord Lieutenant's order to him; neither I hope will you think that (had the service been done only by my means) I expected any other reward for the performance of it than that my Lord Lieutenant and you and all good men should see that my endeavours were not wanting for the serving my country, in the ruin of that rogue and all such, which I hope by your means either is or may yet be brought to pass; only thus much give me leave to say for myself, that had not I on that design first sent him to associate with Redmond he had not been in a capacity to have served Mr. Lucas, or anybody else. The bearer hereof was by at my agreement with Art, and heard all that I said to him, as also a late agreement that I have made with one Fergus MacGenis who has engaged that William O'Sheale who cut off Redmond's head shall kill Laughlin and bring his head to me. He may perhaps serve me as the other fellow did; but so the service be done I care not. I hope you will pardon the trouble of this tedious letter, which I thought it my duty you should have. My father is your servant.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, May 3. London.—I received this afternoon your Grace's letters of the 23rd and 24th of the last month, with the account of the produce of the revenue the last five years, but my uncle Fitzpatrick for whose use that was sent is by this time with you; however, the account may be of use to me. On Thursday next the Council is to meet at Hampton Court and then Mr. Secretary Jenkins will give his Majesty in Council the letter relating to Sir John Davys, from whom I had a letter last post upon the same occasion. I intend to speak with the Attorney General to-morrow about him, for he has been much his friend, and I believe he will be chiefly consulted in this affair. It was reported about the town ever since the King dined with my Lord Ranelagh that he was forgiven the balance of his account, but my Lord Conway and Sir Lionel know nothing of it, neither do any of the Commissioners of the Treasury own anything of the matter. My Lord Hyde has been ill these three or four days past, which has hindered his proceeding upon the proposal I gave him for the new farming the revenue there. Some Scots officers that are very lately come from Tangier say that within a few days we may have an account that the peace is concluded with the Moors, and then the King will send shipping and all things necessary for the bringing back our men, and the detachment out of the Guards here.

I suppose your Grace means by Sir Thomas Worsop's nephew Sir Richard Parsons, to whom I was guardian. I writ twice to James Clark about that matter, but have had no answer from him. My Lord Wotton having taken the title of

Bellamont, I desire to know what title he would pitch upon in case the King should grant the matter. I return your Grace thanks for the money you intend me, but I hope you will not be my hindrance if I can get that title for Sir Richard as a mark of his Majesty's bounty to me.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, May 4. Dublin.—Though Col. Fitzpatrick arrived here the first of this month and that I have had time enough to discourse with him, yet I cannot say I am more instructed in the proposals you gave in since his coming from London than I was by your former letters; only something he mentions of the Flax Act, of which I shall make no judgment till I know whether it be intended to make advantage of the penalties already incurred or only to look forward. But if the proposals take place so far as to be entertained, I wish to have a copy of them as soon as may be to be the better prepared to give my sense of them when it shall be required. By this post I recommend to his Majesty by Mr. Secretary Jenkins the sending of a letter in the behalf of the city of Dublin. It is for the exempting their 500*li.* a year from the rule of suspension, which will be according to the intention of the first grant and a seasonable obligation laid upon the Corporation, and therefore I wish you should appear in their behalf. When Captain Hales presents me a fit person he shall have liberty to resign his company to him.

The business of the Lord of Clare's petition is near an end. The Grand Jury have retracted it, and two of the Justices of [the] Peace. A third is gone away without leave, but for his contempt is like to be brought back by a pursuit. In effect my Lord of Clare is wholly disowned and abandoned by those he drew into that snare. It was attempted to have had the like petition from the Grand Jury of the county of Limerick, but they were more honest and wise than to meddle in it.

The Recorder of this city told me that the loyal and well affected citizens had a design to make an address to his Majesty by way of humble thanks for his gracious declaration upon (not for) the dissolving of the last Parliament. Such applications out of Ireland are new—at least never practised that I remember in good times, and though the matter of such an address may be of use upon some special occasion, yet possibly it may not countervail the inconvenience of such a precedent; besides it cannot be expected but that some opposition will be given to it, and the number of the disaffected may be found to be greater than, whilst there is no discrimination, they are supposed to be. So that I have desired the Recorder not to bring the matter into debate till he shall have had order from me. So that the matter is entirely in his Majesty's hands to command in it what he shall think fit, which upon the first opportunity I desire you

would let him know and receive order from him with whom to communicate it. My Lord Conway will receive an account from the Board of the Clare petition. Till that goes I forbear to write anything to him of the subject. *Copy.*

CAPTAIN THOMAS WHITNEY to WILLIAM ELLIS.

1681, May 6. Drogheda.—Yesterday morning at Dundalk the grandfather and mother of the two Tories Laughlin O'Hanlon and Edmond bane* O'Hanlon came to me from the Fewes to get pardons for these Tories and that they would do good service. I told them, upon the terms mentioned in the enclosed, I would get Edmond his pardon. But for Laughlin, because he was charged with murder I could say nothing to it till I had spoken with my Lord Lieutenant. They answered "Get Edmond his pardon. If he does not that which you would [have] him do he will do other good service, but we are sure Laughlin could get his pardon or a lease of his life. He would do that which you would have Edmond do, and they both would keep the country ever after from any more Tories." This was our discourse. The enclosed is the copy of what I sent by them to Edmond bane. I came thus far last night to wait upon my Lord Lieutenant to give his Grace this account which I now send you, which I desire you to show to his Excellency. A stitch took me in my side last night, which occasions this express, or else I would be the messenger myself. If his Grace approve of this my way of proceeding I hope I will not be lessened by looking for a power from any other but from himself.

Encloses the following :—

Edmond bane O'Hanlon: your grandfather and mother was this morning with me to get you your pardon. Their desire for you I will obtain upon these terms—that you do set your comrades that are in rebellion with you, contrary to the law of God and the land, to your gracious King, the best of men; for me too certain and sure it is that I may come to blows with them. My promise to you here the Duke of Ormond will perform. Take hold of this opportunity and do not let it slip fearing lest you never have the like again. If you comply with this offer, I will be your friend, and will meet you upon any mountain alone and have with me my Lord Lieutenant's power to perform to you what I have promised you here. Under my hand and seal, word and honour of a gentleman, at Dundalk, the 5th day of May, 1681.

Tho. Whitney.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 7. London.—Sir Lionel Jenkins will give your Grace the King and Council's answer to your representation upon Sir John Davys's petition by which you will see that

* *i.e.* white.

order is given for the binding over the witnesses, but if Sir John Davys does not send to somebody to quicken the Attorney-General that matter may be a great while in doing.

My sister Cavendish holds her journey on Monday next and is gone this day to take her leave of the Queen. She desired me to let you know that she has reason to conclude that my Lord Derby intends if he carries his lady into Ireland at coming back to carry her to the Isle of Man; there to live, if possible, more miserably than she has done these three years past.

Fitzharris's case was very learnedly argued this day upon the plea and demurrer. The Court has taken time to give their opinions, and those who were for the plea seem to be very confident judgment will be given for allowing it. The others are as confident the other way.

My Lord Chamberlain desires you not to forget to send him a hawk this year, for he intends to divert himself much with that sport. He refers you to my sister Cavendish for an account of Mr. Bennett's further proceedings in relation to his daughter.

JOHN ELLIS to —————.

1681, May 7. London.—Fitzharris's plea came on to-day again, and was argued on both sides a long time, but the Court has not yet declared itself in the matter. Mr. Williams, who before would have got off if he could conveniently, spoke not much, and, as if on purpose, not much to the matter, for which he was interrupted by the Lord Chief Justice: for the King, the Solicitor spoke best.

The Governing Triumvirate, as some call them, because they hold all together, are Seymour, Conway and Ranelagh. They observe his Majesty so that he is never without the company of one of them. The first resolves to be in some employment greater than he is, and thinks none too big for him. Some think he aims at Ireland, others that he would be contented to be Lord Keeper, or, it may be, Privy Seal, but that certainly he has one of these three places in his eye, and no one doubts but that Ranelagh, as well known as he is, gains upon his Majesty's affection.

Lord Conway carried his waiting upon the King at Windsor with a high hand, for besides that it is a kind of right of the principal secretary, his Majesty had, not above two days before, ordered Secretary Jenkins to hire him a house there. Seymour and Conway both laboured to pacify Jenkins, but his friends look upon it as a very sad prognostic. Starkey, the Parliament man for Windsor, that uses to be chosen in opposition to his Majesty, was cast the other day into Reading Gaol for 50*l.* and no one bailed him.

JOHN FELL, Bishop of Oxford, to ORMOND.

1681, May 7.—I have, I fear, discovered much irresolution in the affair of a Vice-Chancellor for your University of Oxford

for the following year, concerning which your Excellency was pleased to command an account. But the truth is, the more I think on this concern and the difficulties we labour under at present and expect in future, the more I am persuaded of the importance that that employment should be lodged in a steady and skilful hand; and therefore considering the condition of our heads of houses which are all by some circumstance or other at this instant disabled from such a trust, I am fully of opinion that the best thing that can be done will be to continue the present Vice-Chancellor for one year longer. It will, I confess, be a pressure to him, but that I conceive is not to be put in balance with your Excellency's honour, his Majesty's service, and the good of the University. Therefore if it be your Excellency's pleasure to continue him I shall make it my business to persuade him to submit to your command. My Lord Courcy is in hopes to be by your favour put in a more manlike station than that of a student. My Lord Clancarty and Mr. Birch seem well pleased with their condition, and will, I hope, receive advantage from it. I beseech Almighty God to give all blessing to your Excellency and family.

SAME to SAME.

1681, May 9.—I wrote by the last post to signify unto your Excellency my humble opinion concerning the expediency, considering the present state of your University, to continue for a year longer the Vice-Chancellor; and I took it upon me, if your Excellency thought well of it, to persuade him to bear with patience the trouble and expense of the employment: wherein so soon as I shall know your pleasure I shall proceed. My affair at this time is only to hasten unto your Excellency the notice that upon Saturday last Dr. Hyde, the Principal of Magdalen Hall, died suddenly, seeming to have been recovered a little before, and going abroad. Your Excellency, I presume, is under engagements for the succession, and therefore I shall say nothing concerning it, but that it is much the best place in your disposal here, being valued at above 200*li.* per annum.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 10. London.—I have your Grace's letter of the 4th, and find by it the penalties incurred upon the Flax Bill are necessary to be provided against before a conclusion be made with the proposers for a new farm, but they desiring nothing more than the present Farmers have by their grant, is not there the like danger of them. But before any bargain be made the matter will be transmitted over, and in order to make the business plain the Lords of the Treasury are to send me some queries upon the heads given in to them to be given to the proposers who are unknown to me. I was by when the queries were made and helped to make some of them. I told

them that I had informed your Grace of the matter, and that you had nothing to say against it, if there were no trick at the bottom, the question being asked me whether you were made acquainted with or no.

Mr. Secretary Jenkins told me he has no letter yet in behalf of the city of Dublin concerning their pension. When any comes he has promised to give me notice, and I will solicit it with the Lords of the Treasury, to whom I know the matter will be referred. This is not so easy a matter to get it done as may be expected, but being a member of the city, I will be eager in the matter. I intend to go on Thursday next to Windsor, and then I will acquaint his Majesty with the intended address of the city of Dublin, but I can tell beforehand that his Majesty will not approve of it, for the addresses made here were not encouraged by him, though his Majesty would not show any dislike of the matter when once set on foot.

There are two persons willing to deal with Capt. Hales for his command—both of them officers in the army already. One is Mr. Forth, lieutenant to my Lord Blessington, as I take it; the other is Farley, Capt. Hales's lieutenant. I have no exceptions to make to either, but neither of them can purchase without leave to make advantage of the employments they hold. Farley is a very good officer and has been a lieutenant twenty years in the regiment, but I think he served once on the other side; the Forths, you know, have been great servants to you, and thus having done right to both, I submit the matter.

There is fallen a place in your Grace's gift at Oxford. It is [the] Principal of Maudlen Hall—one of the best promotions of any hall in Oxford. There is one Mr. Gough, who is qualified as your chaplain, is a very pretty man, an[d] intended to wait upon you in Dublin long before this fell out, but he stayed for Col. Vernon. The masters of arts of the hall have made application on behalf of one Dr. Plott. You will have a letter from me with it, not being able to avoid his importunity without it; he may be a very fit man for aught I know, but the other I am sure is a very pretty man, but somewhat young, though a master of arts.

Sir James Butler told me this day that Edmond Murphy and several other of the Irish witnesses will confess who set them on to swear against you, &c., and they will give it under their hands to their landlord for nobody else in prudence ought to appear in it. Their landlord is one Burn, whom you may remember gave in once a scandalous petition against you, and that was the reason the witnesses chose his house to be in. They were going for Ireland, intending to make the discovery there, but knowing what may be objected against that, I have put Sir James upon this way.

SAME to SAME.

1681, May 10. London.—Doctor Plott is recommended to your Grace by so many learned and worthy persons of

Maudlen Hall, as you will find by their application to your Grace, which goes along with this, that I could not refuse him mine, though I know it a great presumption in such a matter as this for me to interpose. He was the person deputed by the University to compliment your Grace when you were at Wickham in your journey to Oxford.

SAME to SAME.

1681, May 14. Windsor.—Since my last all that I have to trouble you with is that his Majesty does not approve of any such address from the city of Dublin as your Grace mentions, though he is very glad they are generally so well inclined, but the precedent of the Common Council's proceeding at London may make them factious there, for I know some notable knaves amongst them. The Judges have overruled Fitzharris's plea, and he has held up his hand at the bar and pleaded 'not guilty.'

The proposers for the farm of Ireland have promised to send their answer to those points the Lords Commissioners desired an explanation of on Monday next, and then I shall deliver it in to their lordships. If the answer be not very plain, I shall suspect there is something more than I can guess at the bottom. I was on Thursday with the Attorney General (who is very much your servant) about Sir John Davys's business, and he tells me he will serve him to the uttermost, but he must have patience a while. Lord Mulgrave lies at the same [house] with me and desires me to present his most humble service to you and my Lady Duchess.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, May 14. Whitehall.—All things have been in so dead a calm at Windsor that I had nothing to trouble your Grace with from thence, but coming yesterday to town I found great disputes and contests in the city, the Lord Mayor having been prevailed upon to call a Common Council, notwithstanding his Majesty's letter requiring him not to do it at that time. Two petitions of different natures were then offered to be presented to the King, one of thanks for the late declaration, the other for the sitting of a Parliament. The latter after a great debate was carried, and the former consequently thrown out by 14 votes, the number being 91 and 77, but it being voted by the majority the Recorder, Sir Robert Clayton, Sir Harry Tulse and one more were deputed as aldermen and four others as commoners to present it to the King. The two latter aldermen refused to go and one of the commoners, but Sir Robert Clayton, the Recorder, and the three others went this day to Windsor to present it, and two of the aldermen of the other side went from that Court before them with the other petition, it being carried by the aldermen, though rejected by the Common Council. What reception Sir Robert

Clayton hath met with I cannot give your Grace an account of, being engaged to stay here to-day. A Court of Aldermen being appointed to be called on Tuesday next, the King's friends intend to enter something by way of protestation against it, they being by much the majority in that Court. I suppose your Grace hath heard that my Lord Chancellor is lately made Earl of Nottingham.

ORMOND to JOHN FELL, Bishop of Oxford.

1681, May 15. Dublin.—The expedient proposed by your lordship's of the 7th of this month is without doubt best for the University, but if there were any other but near as good it ought to take place in consideration of the worthy person that has so well discharged the office. If it were any encouragement to him to be assured of anything that shall fall in this kingdom proper for him and worth his acceptance your lordship may engage me for as long as I have power here or credit in England. I have from my Lord Clarendon and his brother received notice of Dr. Hyde's death, with a renewed interposition in behalf of Dr. Levett, chaplain to their father; to succeed Dr. Hyde, which I have consented to, and expect that what is necessary for me to do to perfect it should be sent. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, May 15. Dublin.—I have, I think, four of your letters to own, the last, [which] I received a day or two since, was that of the 25th of March from Oxford by Mr. Sheridan, who has spent most of his time since he landed in Munster. My indisposition by a great cold kept me a week idle at Chapel Izard, which has put me in arrear to answering of letters and other affairs. Since you saw Mr. Sheridan you have delivered in your proposal touching the revenue. Till that be laid aside or prosecuted I suppose it may not be fit to enter upon any other. From the 11th of March till now I have had in my hands a letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury containing complaints of the Farmers of the Revenue of difficulties put upon them and injuries done them contrary to his Majesty's covenants with them, with observations and desires of theirs; whereof the principal, and that for which all the other parts of the letter I suppose to be calculated, is that they may draw out the sum of 24,000*l.* from their monthly payment of 20,000*l.* There were several accounts and reports required by that letter to be sent, which could not be ready till now, and now that they are so I keep them a week longer that they may be sent by Sir John Topham, who is able to expound any doubtful part of the representation I send, and to answer any objection Sir James Shaen may make if he be called upon. And this you may upon occasion let my Lord Hyde know, because I hear Sir James complains of the delay of a return when he knows the things required must take up all the time that has passed.

The citizens here at a Common Council have yesterday taken into their consideration a most scandalous libel printed a good while since in England intituled "Ireland's Sad Lamentation," and, as I am told, have fully vindicated the Government in very dutiful expressions. If I can get a copy of it before the post goes you shall have it.

I send you such a letter as Sir Richard Parsons desires. The preamble is what I cannot justify in all the parts of it. The truth is, I believe his great grandfather had rather have been of the King's side than the Parliament's, if he could have found his account in point of advantage and safety, but his fear, his just indignation against the first beginners of the Irish rebellion, and the hope of confiscations were too strong for his loyalty. Order it as you find convenient, but I think it were better to give Sir Richard's own manifested good affections for a ground of the honour to be conferred upon him than what is at the best but doubtful; but rather than delay the matter, if all things else be agreed on, it may pass as it is with other things of that kind.

It seems the city have agreed upon such a declaration as I mention, but have not yet fully worded it. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, May 17. London.—I have little to say this post. I only recommend the bearer to you, who has trailed a pike in the regiment of Guards a great while; he has been so ill advised as to get the King's letter for the first ensign's place that falls in the army or regiment of Guards after Hublethorne is provided. He is a Hamilton, and lived once with my cousin James Hamilton. His widow gives him a very good character.

SAME TO SAME.

1681, May 17. London.—I writ to your Grace this day to recommend one Hamilton to you. This is to recommend Sir Alexander Bruce, who is a very worthy and understanding gentleman. My sister Cavendish will inform your Grace more concerning him, and how his being in no better a post and posture of affairs happened by his being upon no good terms with the Duke of Lauderdale.

David Fitzgerald, as I have been informed, this day has got six of the Irish witnesses to depose that Hetherington proffered them money to swear against your Grace and others, which on Thursday next he intends to carry to the Council at Hampton Court.

I hope by the next post or soon after to send your Grace an account that the forces sent out of Ireland to Tangier will have orders for shipping to bring them back again, the King having told me when I was at Windsor that he expected every day to hear news of a peace with the Moors.

The Undertakers have not yet sent me their answer to the queries ; when they are sent me I believe the Lords of the Treasury after perusing them will transmit them to your Grace.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, May 18th. Dublin.—I have two of yours of the 10th instant. That enclosing the recommendation of the masters of arts of Magdalen Hall came too late, and would have done if it had come sooner, for I have been long engaged for the first government of that kind to my late Earl of Clarendon's desire in behalf of his chaplain Dr. Levett. Who that chaplain of mine is that pretended to it and was coming over with Vernon I cannot call to mind by your way of writing his name. It is true if the covenants with the new proposers shall be the same with those of the present Farmers, there may be danger the Flax Act may be in their power. But if a new bargain comes to be made I hope the defects in the former conditions will be mended, else we shall learn nothing by experience, though she be called the mistress of fools.

I shall not be sorry that the letter concerning the city's petition may hang a little in suspense till we see how they will carry themselves in relation to a new Conventicle house lately set up in a scandalous place and manner.

Upon discourse with Capt. Hales, we are come to agree that, if he cannot get what he thinks reasonable, he shall have one furlough more to see if his wife's constitution and inclination can be brought to brook this climate. If not, he shall have liberty to dispose of his company.

I do not remember that any of the Irish witnesses have sworn directly against me, but possibly the meaning is that they were persuaded to do it, and that they are now ready to declare by whom ; however, I think their examinations upon oath should be taken by some proper persons—I mean such as cannot be suspected to be partial to me.

I believe your sister was last night or will this night be at Chester, but we are yet uncertain what my Lord of Derby will do ; if those of contrary principles to mine have credit with him it is like they will prevent his coming. Your mother upon the change of weather took cold and was very ill of it, but I hope she is now better. *Copy.*

LIEUT. COL. ALEXANDER MONRO TO HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1681, May 20. Youghal.—The town's people of Youghal are become very insolent against our new soldiers, even so far that two of them did beat a sentinel and broke his arms before the guard could come to him. Upon complaint made to the Mayor he hath bound one of them to the Sessions—a sort of punishment that will never repair the affront done to the King in this particular. Upon another misdemeanour, address being made to the Mayor he said that he made no

equality betwixt a burgher who paid three or four hundred to the King by a year, and one of those red coats that served for eighteen pence a week, and accused him upon this before the mustermaster. He avowed it, and told that their red coats he spoke to were as good men as his lord worship when the white rod was out of his hand; for indeed they are as good gentlemen as is in Scotland. But this carriage doth discourage them. I could wish that my lord might reprove them; for my part I hinder the soldiers to have any meddling with, but to live peaceably and to do the King's duty. As to the remitting of moneys to our people of Tangier, I can say nothing to it; it must be advised with my Lord Dumbarton.

LIEUT. WILLIAM LUCAS TO SIR FRANCIS BREWSTER.

1681, May 20th. Newry.—This is to let you know that last night I brought in the head of Cormick McCarrin, who I shot myself; he has been a thief ever since he was able to crawl, and has robbed this two years past, and I do assure you he was one that pestered country mightily. He was one of Edmond bane's company. I thought to have been with you to-morrow night, but I have assurance of four heads more within this four days in the county of Monaghan and must go there. You have, I suppose, by this time had an account of William O'Sheill bringing in one Shane O'Hagan's head—one of the Tories. You may [see,] noble Colonel, how [from] the sticking of the captain of the Tories how fast all the rest follows; for this is six of them that is killed and come in by his means. I hope you have not neglected what I last wrote to you concerning Edmond bane O'Hanlon and his brother John. I pray give his Grace an account that I am not idle—neither will whilst I may have intelligence; let [me] hear from you by the next, and know what time I shall come up.

FRANCIS GWYN TO ORMOND.

1681, May 21. Windsor.—The last Council meeting at Hampton Court on Thursday last my Lord Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of London (though with very different business) according to his Majesty's command attended there. My Lord Chancellor at their first coming in, demanded of my Lord Mayor if he had any public business to present his Majesty with, to which he answered he had not; whereupon Sir Thomas Bludworth presented an address from the Lieutenantcy of London and the Tower Hamlets giving his Majesty thanks for his late declaration, and full of expressions of loyalty and duty—which being read Mr. Recorder presented another address from the Quarter Sessions at Southwark (which, as a Justice of the Peace there, he was commanded to do) in the same style with the former; after which Mr. Recorder presented the address intituled *from the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen and Common Council in Common*

Council assembled, to which title several of the aldermen present objected saying the majority of the aldermen were against it. After the address was read they were ordered to withdraw, and in a little time called in again, and according to his Majesty's command, spoken to by my Lord Chancellor. His lordship told them that the King was very much surprised to meet with an address of such a nature pretended to be presented from the aldermen and Common Council when the majority of the first sort was against it, and but fourteen of the Common Council carried it, by which his Majesty could not but take notice with what artifice and heat it was drove on. He told them that they took notice of the libels against the Parliament (which though they did not name, yet it might be imagined they intended it for that which they ought not so much as dare to think of), but mentioned nothing of the continual libels against his Majesty's person and government. He told them when the Common Council meddled with things foreign to affairs of the City they were out of their way, and that the most inconsiderable corporation—nay the smallest village in England might with as much right take the confidence to address for the sitting of Parliaments as they. This is what I can call to mind of his lordship's reprimand to them, but I suppose it is in print this night in London, though I have it not yet at this place.

Several lords to the number of twenty-four, of which were the Duke of Monmouth, Earl of Bedford, Earl of Salisbury, Earl of Shaftesbury, &c., in Council petitioned his Majesty for the pardon of the Earl of Pembroke, which his Majesty was inclinable to grant, and spoke to the Secretaries to prepare a warrant, it being ordered that the names of all the petitioners and the petition should be inserted in the pardon for a reason of the granting it.

I have by this post given Sir John Davys an account of his affair, and of Mr. Attorney General's report, which is that at this time till Plunkett's trial is over and some others that are here are disposed of it is not convenient to send the witnesses over.

My Lord of Danby petitioned that he might be tried upon the accusation of Fitzharris concerning the murder of Sir Edmund Bury Godfrey immediately before the term, but upon a long debate it was thought not convenient to appoint his trial.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, May 21. Whitehall.—On Thursday Mr. Attorney made his report in Council (at Hampton Court) about Sir John Davys's affair. It was to this effect—that the witnesses who had given evidence against him were all of them engaged in the proceedings against the titular primate and others as witnesses, and therefore cannot be spared hence till those trials, at least as many of them as are like to come on next

term, be over. These witnesses having so complicated their evidence that they appear no less necessary at the trials here than they make themselves to be at that of Sir John Davys. It was his Majesty's sense and that of the whole Board that Sir John must have patience for some short time; that is till Trinity Term be over with us. It is doubtless a great pressure upon the spirit of an honest man to be thus dealt with; but then I hope he does consider that there is no man in business but hath reason to fear what he feels.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 21. London.—I have this day yours of the 15th and was very glad to receive it, for I concluded by not having heard from your Grace for several posts, that your indisposition was greater than other letters gave it to be. I shall acquaint my Lord Hyde with the reasons your Grace gives why an account could be no sooner transmitted of that affair you mention which concerns the present Farmers. I have reason to believe the proposal I gave in will come to nothing, but I shall not mention particulars until the next post, for I sent the paper given me as an answer back to the proposers again to mend, or else I shall not give it in, or oppose it when I do.

Your Grace will have from other hands an account of what was done last Council day at Hampton Court, both upon the several addresses and the examinations of the witnesses, who do all of them now join in their evidence against Hetherington, eleven in number, and he and Denis the Friar were taken yesterday in the City and carried to Newgate. The latter I am told will own the matter, and accuse Hetherington too; and it is not unlikely but Hetherington himself will discover the whole contrivance, for I am told he was like to die for fear when he was apprehended upon a warrant for treason. Edmond Murphy I hear is this day come in against him too so that now they are a full jury.

The declaration of the City of Dublin which you mention in this letter will come very seasonably. I wish the City of London may come to the like temper, and truly many sober men are not out of hopes of it, the last address being carried by so few of the Common Council, and over-ruled by the aldermen. Next week I will try what I can do in the business of Sir Richard Parsons. I suppose that part of the preamble which relates to Sir William Parsons was put in that the title might go to Arthur Parsons upon failure of issue in Sir Richard. I conclude my Lord Longford is upon his journey hither by this time, by what he writ in his last to me. He will find his at Hatchlands.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, May 24. Whitehall.—The print enclosed will best inform your Grace of his Majesty's sense upon the address

of this City. Fitzharris hath been examined again by the Judges ; he accuses (as it is said) several great persons ; some of the firing of London ; some of a conspiracy against the King's life, and some of Sir Edmund B. Godfrey's death. Most of the parties accused are beyond the seas, but the Judges keep the examinations so close that nothing is known of what he hath said, but by his own conveyance to some of his friends.

His Majesty upon the several representations made by your Grace of the case of the City of Dublin and of Sir Robert Reading hath been pleased to refer their respective pretensions to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury ; as soon as I can get a despatch there I will be sure to give your Grace an account of it.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 24. London.—Yesterday the proposers' answer was brought me, of which I send your Grace here a copy for your private perusal, for the Lords of the Treasury have it not yet, having adjourned their meeting until Monday next but this morning I was with my Lord Hyde and told him that I knew not the men ; neither did I like the answer, for instead of making up the Army 10,000 men they proposed the taking away a great number of officers, and added a very inconsiderable number of private men, but I found him more inclined to the proposal than I expected, but it shall never go with the lessening the officers now in being, for at that rate a Chief Governor will not in ten years have the disposing of a command. I observed withal that reckoning all the officers, commissioned and others, the Army is now actually 1,000 men, and though they intend to transmit the whole matter to you I would not have it said that so ridiculous a thing as that should be sent without my making that observation, and I fancy by the manner of expression that the worthy knight had a hand in the penning the whole and that I am made a Sir Martin to play his game for him, which I shall observe to my uncle, but, if I find they will really keep up the Army as high as it is now and give but as much as the present Farmers do, and give better security, I shall forward the matter, for by the paper your Grace sent me of the whole proceed of the revenue they can be no great gainers. I acquainted my Lord Hyde with the contents of your last letter in relation to the present Farmers, and he is very well satisfied with it, and that Sir John Topham is coming over ; he seemed a little displeas'd at a grant that passed to my Lord Sunderland of the reversion of my Lord Feversham's pension without their priority ; but he would not have me take notice of it to you, they having jointly writ upon the subject in general, but this was the particular grant that gave rise to that letter. I am confident you will find him and the rest of the lords very easy to you in the affairs of your government if you do not too much

touch upon the point of Sir James Shaen, who though I do really believe [he] is at the bottom of this proposal, yet his name will never be mentioned as an undertaker.

Mr. Hetherington was bailed the next day after he was taken by one of the Justices of Peace in the City, but upon Fitzgerald's bringing one witness of a great many he had *viva voce*, he was sent to Newgate again by a warrant signed as Fitzgerald tells by seventeen Justices of the Peace. I was desired to appear for you and myself being named in the subornation but would not do it until I had advice, and I had the properest person to advise with in England and that was my Lord Chief Justice Pemberton whom I met luckily at Mr. Secretary's. He dissuaded me from it, the King and Queen being concerned in a higher action. I found he knew nothing of the matter until I informed him. He professes the greatest service for your Grace imaginable. The thing that is sworn by all the witnesses I mentioned in my last is that they received 6*l.* odd money in hand, part of ten pounds, to swear against you, my Lord Chancellor, Sir William and Sir John Davys and myself as being in a plot to bring in the French King, and thus stands that matter at present. The business about the City of Dublin's pension is referred to the Lords of the Treasury.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, May 24. Whitehall.—His Majesty and the Queen this day according to their intention came from Windsor by water, and did not all land here but went on towards Deptford, where they intend to lie on board the yacht all night and from thence to Chatham and return on Friday night to Windsor. In the mean time the Duchess of Portsmouth and some other company are gone to make a visit to the Earl of Sunderland at Althorp.

My Lord Shaftesbury hath been with my Lord Chancellor to acquaint his lordship that a person is lately come to him that can discover a great deal of the plot and the whole business of Sir Edmund Bury Godfrey's death if the King will grant him a pardon, but His Majesty refuseth it. I have enclosed my Lord Chancellor's speech upon the delivering the City petition.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 27. London.—I have your Grace's letter of the 18th inst., and find by it that you were formerly engaged for the place lately fallen in Maudlen Hall. The chaplain I mentioned spells his name as I writ it, as Ned Vernon (who I believe will be in Ireland as soon as this letter) told me. The letter about the pension for the City of Dublin shall not go forward until I hear from your Grace again though it would else be very soon despatched, for the Secretary had a

reference ready drawn to the Lords of the Treasury which he would have got the King's hand to on Sunday, but I have stopped it, and he has promised not to let it go farther until I move for it.

There was no Irish witness that swore point blank against you but Murphy swore by hearsay, and he has now put the contrary under his hand and tells the whole story how Hetherington put him upon the course he took, but that matter must be nicely handled for what he now says proves himself perjured.

I intend to-morrow for Windsor and when I come back I shall give your Grace a further account of the proposal and I hope of Sir Richard Parsons' business. My sister Cavendish I presume landed the day after the date of your letter, and I hope she will find my mother in good health the weather being so warm.

ORMOND TO SIR JAMES BUTLER.

1681, May 28. Dublin.—I have had some imperfect notice that some of the Irish witnesses now or lately at London have offered at the discovery of the practice of some others to suborn them to give evidence against the Queen, the Duke, my Lord Primate and myself and that you and another of her Majesty's Council were upon the track of the contrivance. But if it can be driven no farther than Hetherington or such infamous rascals as they are here known to be, I am in doubt whether the prosecution be worth the pains. However I desire to receive information of the whole matter from you as you shall have opportunity. My nephew Anthony Hamilton says he left an affair of his of much moment to him in your hands and desires me to put you in mind of him and it which I readily do, well knowing your readiness [to] any such near and valued relation of, &c. *Copy.*

CAPT. THOMAS WHITNEY TO ORMOND.

1681, May 29. Tanderagee.—In obedience to your commands I have gone with Edmond bane O'Hanlon to see the service, by him promised, performed. The copies of the examinations against Sir Thomas Faskie's sergeant I will bring to your Grace. As soon as Edmond bane came under protection all the Tories went to the O'Neills in Tyrone whose number is now as I am informed eighteen. My Lord there is no appearance of Tories at present either in the counties of Armagh and Down about the Newry; yet I found greater disorder in the country than when they were most numerous, especially in the natives, who never durst trust themselves with their houses nor homes since the death of the boy of fifteen or sixteen years, who was killed lately near Newry and his head sent for a Tory's head to Armagh. My Lord, I endeavoured by all the means I could to take off their

fear, and told them that your Grace would upon notice of this and the wrongs done them by those who pretend authorities from your Grace for doing service, require a relation of their injuries from Sir George Rawdon, Sir Hans Hamilton and others. My Lord, this day I saw a boy of thirteen years old come to Sir Hans Hamilton and begged upon his knees that his life might be secured, for that he was returned a Tory and that Art O'Hanlon was in search for him to cut off his head. My Lord, several poor people whose cattle and goods the Mullens of Tanderagee took and others who were like to starve I had restored. My Lord, very sad and great wrongs there is done in these parts and will be more except speedily inquired into.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, May 29. Dublin.—It was but last night I received yours of the 17th by Sir Alexander Bruce. He missed coming over with your sister by a few hours and stayed behind her as many days. When I saw the gentleman I remembered him. I know not what service can be done him here beyond a civil reception; the other is not yet come. Before I received yours yesterday I writ to Sir James Butler to let me have an account of the proceedings of David Fitzgerald and the Irish witnesses, of whom there will be a better opinion if it can be proved that they resisted so powerful a temptation as money which was very scarce with them here and their testimony in other things will be the more credible. The Tangier companies will be very welcome and their officers may well be satisfied being paid from hence as if their numbers were complete. It is so long since I received the letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury which they writ upon Sir James Shaen's application and having received a late letter from them that seems to call for a return, that I have written to their lordships by this post to let them see that a principal cause of the delay is from the Farmers not having yet done what Sir James insinuated they might and would do in four days. Besides I held it necessary to warn their lordships against the stratagem that must lie under the specious pretences of performance on their part for which that letter was calculated. In this letter I now send, my intention is to show further that if the best be made of this revenue and if it be applied to the service here, the kingdom may be kept quiet and safe and in perfect obedience to the Crown and Laws.

When your mother writ to you your child was in the state she told you, but since he is grown so much worse that I despair of his recovery; of which I never had any confidence since he first fell sick, nor in my judgment has he prospered like a healthy child ever since Christmas last. It is believed he has an impostume or ulcer in his lungs or breast. This is the account Thompson gives of him as I am writing. We are sensible of the loss, but submitting to the hand that sends it.

Copy.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, May 31. London.—I returned yesterday from Windsor and had letters out of Ireland this morning dated some the 22nd and others the 23rd. Amongst them one from my mother of the latest date which gives me some hopes the boy may recover, but for my part, considering the distemper is much like what he had formerly as Tom Fairfax tells me, I am prepared for the worst, though it will be no small affliction especially when I consider that it is more than probable that my wife's last sickness will hinder her bringing any more children or at least healthy ones.

I am ordered to-morrow morning to attend the Council at Windsor about the proposal I gave in, and another which has been given in to the King himself, but I do not know by whom neither have I yet seen it, but my business shall be to have all matters referred to the proper place after they have been made as clear on this side the water as we can get them made.

I send your Grace along with this his Majesty's hand to the transcript of the same letter you sent me over on behalf of Sir Richard Parsons which his Majesty granted on his birthday, though he refused the like favour to others in great station. James Clarke was the first proposer of the matter to me. I desire you would employ him to see conditions performed with me. Sir Richard Parsons is a man of so much honour* that I would not have his letter retarded upon that account.

Upon the examinations sent over there is an order issued for the apprehending Morley. I am told this day that Fitzharris would have me at his trial though I cannot imagine what use he can make of anything that I can say to help him in the matter he stands accused of. However I will not refuse to go if I am desired.

Since my writing this I received your Grace's of 25th, with the enclosed note from my mother which gives me some hopes of the boy's recovery, but I resign all to God Almighty knowing very well that I have deserved from him severer judgments than that, or any formerly inflicted upon me.

I find Sir Stephen Fox is dissatisfied that he has had no answer from your Grace to a letter he writ a long time since relating to my sister Ossory's concern in which he thought he had done you good service. My Lady Scroggs is very pressing about her annuity.

Col. Butler is not dead, as I told you upon a misinformation, but if you please to give leave Phelim O'Neill will deal with him for his company; and Capt. Gilbert Talbot desires the favour that he may part with his. Mr. Jepson, a nephew of my Lord Chancellor's, will deal with him for it.

JOHN FELL, BISHOP OF OXFORD to ORMOND.

1681, June 3. Oxford.—Yesterday Dr. Levett was admitted into the Principality of Magdalen Hall according to

your Excellency's nomination of him. The death of several of your delegates and the absence of others put us to some straits to get such a majority as was necessary to speed any business. To avoid the like inconvenience for the future I am to desire your Excellency would be pleased to supply the vacancies, to which end, lest the instrument of the last delegation may have not been copied, or if copied may have been mislaid, I send the form enclosed; and whereas only myself, Dr. James, Warden of All Souls, Dr. Clerk, President of Magdalen, and Dr. Bathurst, President of Trinity College, are the only persons who now survive and reside in the University, Dr. Allestone and Dr. Yate being dead, and Dr. Nicholas removed from hence, I humbly propose that your Excellency would be pleased to appoint Dr. Timothy Halton, Provost of Queen's College and your Vice Chancellor, Dr. Thomas Marshall, Rector of Lincoln College, and Dr. William Jane, Canon of Christ Church and Regius Professor in Divinity, to fill the vacant rooms. The sooner this supply comes hither it will be the better because I every day expect that some of the present delegates will take benefit of the vacation and go into the country; and then we shall be disabled to speed any business. The present Vice Chancellor Dr. Halton is well contented to serve one year longer, so that for that space your Excellency may be secure that all things will be managed to your honour, and the University's advantage, neither of which, I hope, has suffered since your departure hence. I beg your Excellency's pardon that I trouble you with this long account of our little affairs.

ANONYMOUS.

1681, June 4. London.—All endeavours have been used to get the trial of Fitzharris put off—at least for a time, and several of the City have of late been very earnest with the Lord Mayor to call a Common Council in order to the petitioning of his Majesty that the trial might be respited, because Fitzharris, if he had time to recollect himself, could discover many things not yet known concerning the burning of London. The Lord Mayor has not granted upon the consideration, as is supposed, of the Court of Aldermen's negative voice who would in all probability have been against it. The King intends to be in town on Wednesday. The trial is to be the next day.

The Earl of Shaftesbury has been very diligent in soliciting a blank pardon for a peer that can discover somewhat of the plot, which peer is said to be the Earl of Sunderland, and some say it is granted.

It is discoursed that the Duke of Monmouth has desired to be admitted to his employments again [and] that it has been denied. Some say after he had asked it he himself disliked it upon some after considerations.

The Fellows of Magdalen College in Oxford having better thought of it have quietly admitted Dr. Levett to be head of Magdalen Hall.

There is like to be a great contest on Midsummer day at Guildhall about the choice of Sheriffs, one party putting up Box and Nicholson, the others Pilkington and Chute, and are very busy in procuring voices on either hand.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, June 4. London.—I came this night from Windsor and have only time to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's letter of the 29th, which gives me a less hopeful account of my child than that of my mother's, but indeed I have had no great confidence in his being likely to prove a healthful child since his first sickness, and if the next packet should bring news of his death it will not surprise me much. I have not leisure to peruse the copy of your Grace's letter to the Lords of the Treasury nor to answer my Lord Longford's. The proposal I gave in was turned *en ridicule* at Council on Wednesday last, but I have satisfied his Majesty that it was none of mine, though some of the Council were pleased to call it so. I cannot learn what the other proposal is which the King has; I believe Ranelagh has a hand in it, and I find that my Lord Hyde inclining more to favour my proposers than the others, and I believe he knows who they are, though I do not. I am served with a subpœna out of the King's Bench to appear on Thursday next at the trial of Fitzharris, and so is the Duchess of Portsmouth and Mrs. Wall.

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, June 4. Whitehall.—I have the honour of a letter from your Grace of the 27th past, and in it the informations of Tyrrell and Brogan touching Cooper and Morley. Upon the reading of them in Council an order was made for the apprehending of Morley; and I was told yesterday there was some prospect of finding him though he now absconds. By the next post I hope to be able to give your Grace an account of Owen Callaghan; he cannot yet be heard of; being just to take coach for Windsor, I shall beg leave to end abruptly.

ORMOND TO JOHN FELL, BISHOP OF OXFORD.

1681, June 4. Dublin.—The gentleman by whom you sent yours of the 26th of April was so long on the way that it was not delivered to me till yesterday, but he is come with the soonest in regard to any preferment I can give him, or to the reception into my family, there being no vacancy there or in the church, and others standing in a reasonable expectation of the first advancement, of which one is of Oxford and I think of longer standing, so that he must have patience to attend an opportunity here or in England.

As I remember I answered a letter of your lordship's upon the subject of a Vice Chancellor for this next year and then told you all I could say by way of encouragement to the present Vice Chancellor to hold it for a year longer ; whether upon that or for reasons of a more public nature you have prevailed with him or no your lordship will inform me and give me your advice accordingly.

I cannot brag much of my grandson's improvement in anything but corporal exercises and growth. He takes no pleasure in any sort of book or exercise of mind, and yet he is not defective in comprehension but shows a proportionable improvement of that and stature. I have lately sent over for a gentleman that I may judge whether he may be fit to place over him as a governor at least to prevent his being corrupted by ill company which this place affords as well as good, and Mr. Dreincourt's profession rendering it unfit for him to go into all places and companies that may be allowed the youth. The person recommended to me is one Burnet (as I think) and is well known and spoken of by the Dean of Canterbury. It is agreed on all hands that it is time to remove my Lord Courcy from Oxford but not how to dispose of him. He is upon the matter to make a fortune ; his own being very unproportionable to the antiquity and former opulency of his family, and since he is not inclined to study or, if he were, that his rank seems to hinder his undertaking any such profession as men raise families by, there seems no aim proper for him but that of soldiery nor in that, in times of peace, any skill to be acquired but at sea, to which I would recommend him if it be not too much thwart to his inclination ; for as that way of improvement and service is most agreeable to England and encouraged by the King, so the equipage requisite for sea voyages is more suitable to his condition than that for campaigns at land. And whether his aim be at raising his fortune by preferment at Court or by a marriage by countenance at Court the course I propose seems to me the most likely introduction. I think I shall shortly see Sir Robert Southwell, and till then I desire my Lord Courcy to have patience where he is, upon this assurance that before the summer is over he shall be called from Oxford.

Copy.

ORMOND to ARRAN.

1681, June 6. Dublin.—I am glad my letter of the 29th of May put you out of hopes of your child's recovery. He is yet alive to the wonder of the physicians, except Sir Wm. Petty ; but they all agree that it is impossible he can escape. God send us all to make the right use of such an affliction and of all the assurance of mortality we see every minute. Sir William Flower, though he was with me at an entertainment the Mayor gave me but on Thursday last, the 2nd of this month, was upon the matter yesterday given over by Thompson, and possibly, or rather probably, will be dead before night,

Feilding and Billingsley will in that case rise ; but Sir William interposing for two of his nephews, for the company to one, and some advancement for the other, I cannot let him go out of the world after so long service with a denial. There will I conceive be an ensign's place void which my brother Fitzpatrick will, I believe, move to be given to one Eustace, a nephew of his, capable as he believes of a better employment, being a Protestant and having learned the trade in Holland ; if he do not I will keep it void till I hear from you.

I send you a copy of the King's letter in behalf of my Lord Sunderland for a pension, and if the Lords of the Treasury will have the order of Council observed they must take a course that the Secretaries may not send over such positive commands in breach of it, their lordships considering how hard a part I shall be put to to act in such cases when men in the station and credit that lord then was, shall obtain letters for themselves. It is not without example that several pensions granted by letters patent have been left out of new establishments when they are made, and then they are not paid, which observation I do not make that it may affect my Lord Sunderland, for if the visit lately made him was with the King's permission before, or approbation since, it may be still unsafe to displease him. That visit even at this distance works upon some and puts them to doubt his Majesty's perseverance in the resolution he seems to have taken of being served in his Court and Councils according to his own sense and directions.

Postscript. About 9 this morning your child* died and is gone whither I hope we shall follow. *Copy.*

GOVERNORS OF ERASMUS SMITH'S SCHOOLS TO ERASMUS SMITH.

1681, June 7. Dublin.—We have received a letter from you dated the 8th of September last, wherein you give us notice that you have lately made a conveyance to Christ's Hospital in London of a moiety of the overplus of the profits of the lands wherewith we are intrusted remaining after all the charitable uses and public payments already thereupon are discharged. And we have also the copy of the said conveyance which you sent over. Whereupon some doubts did arise among us concerning the validity thereof, and whether you had the power left in you to dispose of any part of the profits of those lands to any charitable uses out of this kingdom : the consideration whereof we referred to Mr. Solicitor General, who hath returned unto us the state of the whole matter under his hand, a copy whereof we herewith send you, whereby we are induced to believe that the conveyance made by you doth not oblige us to pay a moiety of those remaining

* Thomas, eldest son of Richard, Earl of Arran by his second wife, Dorothy Ferrers. The child was buried in the choir of Christ Church Cathedral on the day following.

profits to the said hospital at London. And indeed we do not apprehend how there can be any such profits of those lands now remaining after all the charitable uses and public payments thereupon are discharged as you seem thereby to have intended to convey, when there are so many of those uses for which those lands were at first settled (as yet) wholly unprovided for, the profits hitherto having not been sufficient for allowing any such exhibitions to poor scholars in the College here, or for placing out apprentices, or clothing of poor scholars in the schools erected by you, as were intended, and which we conceive ourselves entrusted to see performed. And therefore till we shall be better satisfied herein we conceive that we cannot be faithful to the trusts reposed in us, if we should consent that any of the profits of those lands should go to the uses mentioned in the conveyance. And we are confident that you will not desire it from us, when you shall have considered of the enclosed paper* and how these lands are already settled and that you will be as unwilling as we that any of the profits thereof should be diverted to other uses than you designed them for when you first so freely and charitably disposed of them. We shall add no more at present, but remain, Sir, your affectionate friends

	Longford.	Mich. Armach. C.
	Narcissus Marsh.	Hen. Midensis.
Enoch Reader.	Jos. Allen.	Lanesborough.
Treasurer.	Hie. Sankey.	Wm. Davis.
	John Coghill.	John Keatinge.
	John Smith.	Henry Hen.
		Rob. Shapcoate.
		Rich. Rennell.

[*Endorsed.*] Copy of the Governors of the Schools, letter to Alderman Smith sent with Sir John Temple's opinion touching Christ's Hospital in London.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, June 7. London.—I am informed that there came in a packet yesterday out of Ireland, but I have no letters which makes me conclude my son is dead and nobody would venture to write the news; which I much wonder at, since I have been sufficiently prepared for it.

Oliver Plunkett petitioned this day to have his trial put off for want of some of his witnesses; but it was not granted so that his trial is to be to-morrow, and Fitzharris is to be tried the next day, and there is about eleven persons of quality summoned as witnesses, but I believe my lady Portsmouth will not appear.

Sir Cyril Wyche has at length received an answer from Col. Butler which I herewith send you, and desire your commands upon it, for I know the King will leave the matter to your

* See p. 14 *supra*.

Grace. What he allegeth in his letter is very true. I am also to inform your Grace that Capt. Gilbert Talbot has agreed for the sale of his company, if you approve of it, to Sir Thomas Crosby having come to no conclusion with Mr. Jepson. Your answer is desired. I spoke formerly to your Grace on behalf of Mr. Scardeville whom I take to be a very honest man. It was for a reversion. I do now again renew my suit for he has lost much in my brother Gowran's service. The King comes to this town to-morrow to sit in Council and returns at night, though it is reported that he stays until Fitzharris be tried.

LORD KINGSALE to ORMOND.

1681, June 9. Oxford.—As your Grace hath been next under God the happy instrument of my enjoying the advantage of the true religion and education (the remembrance whereof shall never expire in me but with my breath) so I am resolved to be wholly governed by your Grace in all my concerns. Your Grace's kindness to me hath been as great as that of a father and God forbid I should not carry towards you the affectionate obedience of a dutiful son. My Lord, I am bold to make known to your Grace my very great desire of being so happy as to kiss your hand at Dublin as soon as your Grace thinks convenient. I will not be importunate though my desire be very great but submit myself to your Grace. I have oftentimes honoured myself in writing to my dearest Lord Ossory, but never was so happy in receiving any from him.

Postscript. — I desire my humble duty to my dear Lady Duchess together with my Lady Mary Cavendish.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, June 9. Dublin.—There is little in return to yours of the 31st of the last month. When the proposals for the revenue have been considered on that side I suppose they may be sent hither. I have this morning left Sir Thomas Worsop, Mr. Parsons and James Clarke together to agree upon your concerns in the matter of Sir Richard Parsons.

I must confess I have been wanting in a return to Sir Stephen Fox about my daughter Ossory's affair, wherein he has concerned himself very kindly and usefully; but his pains is all he shall lose in that affair. More I cannot say till my brother Mathew and I meet.

He must be a very bad officer that is not better than none; so that if Butler and Talbot can find any tolerable chapmen I shall consent to the traffic, though it is against rule that those who did not buy should have liberty to sell commands. The post is just going and so is Capt. Hales to see how his wife may be disposed to this country. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARLINGTON to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, June 10. Windsor Castle.—I have yours of the 31st past and give you many thanks for the assurance you give

me of my hawks. Immediately upon the receipt of it I sent to desire the worthy dean to come to me, which he could not do having just then lost [one] of his children, but sent the next day Mr. Burnet to me, who is preparing himself for his journey into that kingdom upon the conditions expressed in your letter. Mr. Mulys hath shown me what he writes to you concerning my Lady of Ossory's affairs which will run into an inconsiderable ill condition, unless by my Lord Duke of Ormond's generous usage of her in the beginning, her falling into debt be prevented by bestowing upon her such a sum of money as is there bespoken; for as to what is due to her, Lord God knows, if a penny of it be ever gotten, and if any of it be I dare say (living within the compass she does) she will apply it to the increase of her daughter's portions, whereas, if the debt she hath now incurred lie upon her, she will never be able to deliver herself from it out of her jointure, and for other resources she must never look for any. She tells me how much she is already beholding to you for your kind interposition therein. Therefore for God's sake as well as hers you must finish it, because you know how unable she is to solicit or struggle for herself, and how much you will oblige all her friends in being her advocate.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681, June 11. Whitehall.—Fitzharris being brought yesterday upon his trial, though all the art and industry was used to get him acquitted, after a very fair hearing was brought in guilty by the jury. The Sheriff, Mr. Bethel, returned upon the panel above half that were not freeholders in the county and those that were freeholders he thought were all for their turn but notwithstanding after they had put several questions to the Bench concerning the jurisdiction of the Court, and the vote of the House of Commons which the judges resolved them in, telling the jury it concerned the Bench and not them to inquire concerning the jurisdiction of the Court, and that their oath was only to inquire whether guilty or not; they went out and in half an hour returned and brought him in guilty of treason. Last night Mr. Whitacre, solicitor for Fitzharris and a very pernicious fellow to the Government, came to Mr. Secretary Jenkins to acquaint him that Fitzharris's wife and maid had told him my Lord Howard of Eserick was the author of that treasonable libel and dictated it to Fitzharris, upon which Mr. Secretary sent his warrant and took them both into custody and bound over Whitacre to prosecute. They are both now under examination. What Mr. Whitacre's end is in it I cannot yet imagine, but a good one is not likely to come from one of his principles, though it may succeed better than his intentions.

I hear there is a commission gone into Scotland for the calling a Parliament there, and the Duke is appointed

Commissioner to open it. It was issued out, as I am informed, a week ago, though I find it is known by very few people.

This day Mr. Attorney General moved the Court of King's Bench for judgment against Oliver Plunkett and Mr. Fitzharris, and the Judges have appointed Wednesday to pass sentence upon them both.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, June 11. London.—I saw a letter from your Grace of the 31st of the last month to Mr. Secretary Jenkins but had none from you that post nor from anybody else, therefore I need no farther assurance of my son's death, and give me leave to say this, and I shall never mention him more, that I cannot tell which reflection afflicts me most, that of the loss of an only son without the probable expectation of ever having another, or the great care and concern both my mother and you have shown and owned in your letters to have for him and me in this just correction of God Almighty, and I assure your Grace that it shall be as much my care hereafter to make my nephews worthy of the stock they come from as I thought it my duty in the case of my own son.

I shall now in as good composure as I can give your Grace an account of affairs here. My Lord Chamberlain desired me when he went to Windsor to let your Grace know (though the affair is managed with great secrecy) that the King has brought a proposal for the Irish revenue before the Committee for that purpose appointed, which he is very fond of, but his lordship has prevailed with the King that nothing shall be concluded in it until it be sent to you. By what I can learn from his lordship it is partly a farm and partly management and if I mistook him not, partly project. The sum proposed is 270,000*l.* a year and an advance of 80,000*l.*, 60,000*l.* of it to reimburse the present Farmers, the rest I suppose to the privy purse. This is told by way of secret. Pray be pleased to let Col. Fi[tzpatrick] know that it is to no purpose to appear farther in the other proposal; he is so far outshot, besides Sir James Shaen's finger appears too clear in the matter, by the sense of it being so obscure.

Sir James Butler will give you an account of the trials of Plunkett and Fitzharris who were both found guilty; the latter summoned me as a witness for him, but by his first question would have had me own the seeing that damnable libel the day I dined with him; but he got nothing by it, for I said indeed he would have read a libel to me but I told him I would not hear it, and that if he took such courses he would bring himself to the mischief he was now in danger of, and that I had not been long gone from him when my words proved true; for he was that night apprehended for treason; that I was very sorry a person so well born and had so honest a man for his father should bring himself to that pass, etc., to which

he made no reply, but this day I hear his wife and her maid, Mrs. Peacock, have accused my Lord Howard as the author of the libel.

I had a letter from Mr. Arthur Parsons in which he tells me there is another condition in the deed perfected by his cousin than that of the title; if so they have not dealt well with me, for I never heard of any such thing before. I have sent over another letter altered as he has desired from the title of Carlow to that of Rosse. I hope he is certain that is not disposed of too, and I shall expect performance upon the delivery of it, but I shall serve either Sir Richard or Mr. Parsons in any business I can that is fair, but what business this is that he mentions I am ignorant of. I send you his letter that you may show it to Sir Thomas Worsop. I have sent this day my daughter to Windsor to be touched for the King's evil. I intend not to go thither myself until I hear again out of Ireland.

SAME TO SAME.

1681, June 14. London.—I had on Sunday your Grace's letter of the 6th, and this day that of the 9th instant, and not to break my word I will go no more upon the subject of this my last affliction, but let him rest where we hope and all wish to be.

Will Flowers being in so unlikely a condition to recover is nothing strange; for he has been in my judgment these three last years much decayed both in body and understanding. I shall not at this distance interpose in the preferments your Grace intends. Feilding without doubt ought to be lieutenant-colonel and Billingsly major, and Will Flower could not well be denied, his services considered, the preferment of his nephew; though his nephew has risen apace and he is able to leave his nephew fortune enough.

My Lord Hyde will be well satisfied with your answer, and I believe in the next establishment will endeavour to cut off Lord L[ongford's] grant. The great Lady's journey will alarm many here, but it seems it was only a journey of pleasure with her great gallant the *Grand Prieur*.

You will hear my Lord Howard is in the Tower accused by Mrs. Fitzharris and her maid that I mentioned in my last; and Fitzharris himself will be a witness against him too, there were strange papers found about him, and as the Captain of the Guard at the Tower told me they are little inferior to the libel Fitzharris was found guilty upon.

Sir Stephen Fox will be well pleased with the answer I have to give him from you.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, June 14. Dublin.—I have yours of the 4th and 7th of this month. Those that turned the proposal you gave into a jest might have ground not to be very serious upon it unless

it was further explained than it was to me, but then I hope they will give as little countenance to any other that may be liable to the same derision. We find every day occasion to blame the disadvantage the penning of contracts and covenants puts upon the King, either through the negligence or corruption of those that should have taken greater care. If we be here made acquainted with them before the King is engaged that inconvenience may be prevented in the next agreement.

I am very sensible of Col. Butler's merit formerly and present usefulness in the King's service and shall not press either his coming over to his command or his parting with it to his prejudice, but rather dispense with his absence his case being singular, but for Capt. Talbot I shall rather admit of his stay for some time longer than accept of his surrender to Sir Thomas Crosby, or to any other of that sort of gentlemen, who have estates and must neglect their husbandry or their duty in the Army, of which kind we have too many already.

You have from other hands heard of Sir William Flower's death. He is to be buried to-morrow with all the military solemnity we can furnish. Sir Christopher Feilding and Billingsly will have their concessions as soon as he is in his grave, and though upon Sir William's dying request I promised to give his company to his nephew Tom Flower yet he is content to waive it and to take the place of captain-lieutenant leaving Dick Morrice to rise according to his degree. Another request of Sir William's was that another nephew of his may be an ensign, but first room must be made for him by the advancement of some ensign to be lieutenant, which I leave to you.

My wife was weary of this place and of Chapel Izod and went yesterday morning towards Kilkenny. Your sister goes after her the next week, and the next week after that I follow. If Sir Richard Parsons proceeds as he begins, by that time his patent for a viscount shall pass, he will not leave himself the estate of a squire. He is every day miserably gulled by the company he keeps. *Copy.*

CLERK OF THE PELLS CERTIFICATE OF TREASURY PAYMENTS
AND RECEIPTS FROM 25 APRIL TO 20 JUNE 1681.

Receipts in his Majesty's Treasury from the 25th of April
1681 to the 20th of June following excerpt.

The remain in the Vice Treasurer's hands upon the last certificate ended the said 25th April	14941 06 11½
Leinster	
New Patent rents	773 01 04½
Rents upon decrees and certificates	73 12 06½
Custody rents	05 09 06½
Old Crown rents	330 04 07½
Casualties	94 19 02½

Munster	New Patent rents	130 15 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Rents upon decrees and certifi- cates	24 07 06 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Custody rents	05 13 00	
	Old Crown rents	24 12 00 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Casualties	21 01 08	
Connaght	New Patent rents	81 05 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Old Crown rents	12 13 09 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Quit rents	00 10 01 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Casualties	03 10 00	
Ulster	New Patent rents	59 03 08	
	Custody rents	00 02 06	
	Old Crown rents	118 12 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{8}$	
	Casualties	28 09 08	
			1797 05 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Farmers	By money paid into the Exchequer	14638 09 06 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	By orders of assignments into the country	35351 15 06 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{8}$	
			<u>£66728 17 11$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Payments made within the said time.

Civil List	Court of Exchequer	1284 05 10	
	King's Bench	800 00 00	
	Chancery	60 05 00	
	Common Pleas	250 00 00	
	State officers	414 10 11	
	Incidents	38 15 00	
	Custom officers	65 16 08	
	Creation money	55 16 08	
	Perpetuities	45 06 01	
	Temporary payments	396 16 08	
	Concordatums	1123 03 06	
	To Lord Duras for half a year ending 25 December 1680 by two acquirements	1500 00 00	
			6034 16 04
Military List	Officers general	661 00 00	
	Train of Artillery	50 00 00	
	To 24 troops of horse for 3 months pay ending 25th March 1681	11238 09 06	
	To 12 companies of the Regiment of Guards for 3 months end- ing 25 December 1680 ..	4495 12 08	
	To a company of foot Guards for 6 months ending 25th Decem- ber 1680	557 14 00	
	To 75 foot companies of the Army for 3 months ending 25 March 1680	16400 13 00	
			33403 00 02
List of pensions		1054 00 00	
Other Payments	By imprest warrant to the 16 companies of the Earl of Dumbarton's Regiment for 3 months ending 25 December 1680	2725 09 00	
	To the same for 3 months ending 25 March 1681	2695 16 00	
	Cheques remitted	72 03 06	
	By bill of exchange drawn November 1678 to Robert Bridges being for his Majesty's privy purse	625 00 00	

By 4 bills dated the 7th August for his Majesty's privy purse to John Nagle	1100 00 00
By 4 bills dated 25 August to the said Nagle	1100 00 00
By 4 bills dated 28 June to the said Nagle	1320 00 00
By 1 bill dated 31 July 1680 to said Nagle	110 00 00
By 2 bills dated 28 June 1680 to the said Nagle	550 00 00
	<hr/> 10298 08 06
	50790 14 00
So remains in the Vice Treasurer's hands ..	15938 03 11½
	<hr/> <u>£66728 17 11½</u>

Exd. p. Ja. Alexander, Dept. Cler. Pell.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, June 20 and 22. Dublin.—I have yours of 11th and 14th of this month. The proposition the King has given to the Lords of the Treasury, and seems himself pleased with, I have reason to believe comes out of this kingdom, but I do not think my Lord Ranelagh or Sir James Shaen in it because I suppose by the short description you make of it that it proceeds from Mr. Sheridan and that he must have better monied men to back him than either of those two. Besides that he does not speak as if he were on good terms with either of them and most certainly he not only thinks he understands the management of the revenue better than any that are, or have been in it, but by his discourse may make others believe as much and that may gain him partners. But it need not yet be taken notice of that I take him to be the proposer. From whomsoever it comes, if his Majesty will let it be considered here he shall be sure to be no loser by it, and to what end soever he intends to employ it certainly the more he gets the better it will be.

Sir James Butler has been as good as his word to you and sent me a summary account of the trials of Fitzharris and Plunkett. I wish for the honour of the justice of England that the evidence against Plunkett had been as convincing as that against the other was ; for we must expect that Papists at home and abroad will take his trial to pieces and make malicious remarks upon every part of it, and some circumstances are liable to disadvantageous observation. For the other, though an information from a man in his condition should not have much weight and that his friends may well be suspected to combine with him in an accusation, yet considering the person he brings in question, the parts he has acted in the world, and their known commerce together, possibly something may come of the hint he (I mean Fitzharris) has given.

I have read over Sir Arthur Parson's letter to you, but by it am out of conceit with the man and begin to doubt of fair dealing in the business. He says a deed of bargain and sale was perfected by my directions and approved of by me ; neither of which is true. For I never directed the drawing much less the perfecting of any deed. Neither did I ever see it and so could not approve of it, but according to your desire put the whole management of the affair into James Clarke's hands. It is true I did approve of Tom Worsop's being trusted with anything. That the passing of another letter for Ballyscorney was part of my promise is absolutely mistaken in the substance and effect. It is true he told me with so much confidence that he had formerly put the draft of such a letter into my hands that though I remembered nothing of it I thought you had understood it. But I am now of opinion there was never any such thing. I shall send for Worsop and set the matter right if it may be or let it rest where it is. It is certain that since Sir Richard came of age he is not master of a foot of land and, if the land in the park be in those conveyances and if they bear date before the deed in deposit, it is an absolute cheat. But of all this James Clarke shall write more at large to you.

Postscript. 22 June.—Contrary winds have stayed this and give me time to tell you that while since I received from the Provost of the College his Majesty's mandamus to him and the Fellows for the admission of Mr. Bulkeley into their number with a *non obstante* to their statutes. They are ready to obey, but first desire his Majesty would consider how prejudicial such commands, if after repeated, will be to the whole society and to the end for which it was made so in the discouragement it will give to students, and in this particular case it falls out that the person that is to be put by has nothing in the world else to live upon and is a deserving man. But Mr. Bulkeley is the eldest son of his father and heir to an estate of 1,000*l.* a year. All the conveniency is that being somewhat misshapen, and his father having married a Presbyterian wife, the young man cannot live with pleasure in his father's house. Whatever, nevertheless, the King commands shall be obeyed. I send you what the Provost gave me upon this occasion. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, June 21. Whitehall.—Notwithstanding your Grace's two excellent letters, the one of the 21st May, the other of the 31st, and a third letter from your Grace and the Council in favour of Sir John Davys, his business hath not yet the issue that were to be wished for. It was debated upon those letters at the Council in Hampton Court on Thursday last, and the result was that Sir John should be disposed to have patience yet a while ; for that the Irish witnesses cannot be sent over

till the trial of Hetherington and that of some others be over. I moved heartily that Sir John might be restored to the exercise of his place, but it was thought more advisable that he should content himself to continue as he is for some short time. Sure I am that no lord that advised it wished otherwise him than perfectly well. The proceedings and resolutions relating to the revenue your Grace will receive by his Majesty's special directions from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury.

I do, my Lord, with all my heart, that is with all the concern that any servant that your Grace hath in this world [can,] condole with your Grace in the loss that my Lord the Earl of Arran hath made in his eldest son. I beseech Almighty God to repair it in his good time in proportion to the needs, I will add merits of so illustrious a family.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, June 21. London.—I had nothing worth troubling your Grace last post; besides I had that day so sprained my wrist at tennis that I could not hold a pen in my hand, and it is not very easy to me now. I have your Grace's of the 14th. Colonel Butler has been with me since I writ last, and he is very willing to sell his command; but when he hears your Grace will not impose it upon him I believe he will rather choose to continue as he is. That packet brought an account of Sir William Flower's death and I am glad his nephew is contented to be my captain-lieutenant. He shall have as much favour showed him in that employment as Dick Morrice had, and the profit is almost as great as another captain's. The person I should recommend to be lieutenant in his room is Ensign Kitson, for he is the eldest ensign and has done his duty all along very well. I am sorry to hear Sir Richard Parsons manages his business so ill. I hope time will mend him, for he does not want understanding. I delivered his petition to the Secretary this day, and there will be a reference to your Grace upon it. Fitzharris and Plunkett are to be executed to-morrow.

SAME to SAME.

1681, June 22. London.—This gentleman is Mr. Burnett who is recommended to accompany your grandchild in his travels, and he being a stranger in that country, I thought it proper to write by him, though my acquaintance is but of a day's standing with him. He is a very good scholar as appears by a book he has presented to my Lord Chamberlain.

It was expected that the bill against my Lord Howard would have been found this day, but instead of it the bill is lost, so that no further proceedings can be had against him, until the next term, this being the last day of this. My Lord Chamberlain told me last night that the King is very fond

of the new proposal, but they are enjoined great secrecy and quick despatch, but he is still promised that nothing will be concluded until you are consulted, but my Lord Ranelagh is not to be advised with, and therefore I do not take it ill that I am not. His lordship tells me my Lord Hyde is much for this proposal now and Lord Conway and Mr. Seymour against it, which makes me conclude Sir James may have got in. I am enjoined to take no notice of this here and your Grace is desired to do the like there.

SAME to SAME.

1681, June 25, London.—I have little to add to what your Grace will find in the prints, but that the person whom my Lord Shaftesbury would have had the King to pardon upon the account of making the full discovery of Sir Edmond Godfrey's murder is privately come in to discover how he was set on to accuse great ones of that murder and that Dennis and MacNamara will discover practices of the like nature; but the City has chosen yesterday such Sheriffs that no bill of indictment will ever be found against any of that party, as you may judge by the proceedings in my Lord Howard's case. The warrant for execution of Plunkett and Fitzharris is signed, and they are to be executed on Friday next.

I intend to go to Windsor on Tuesday next, and if there is little business there I will go with my wife to my Lady Longford's for three or four days.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 2. Dublin.—I have yours of the 21st and 25th of the last. Kitson shall have a commission to be lieutenant. I had at the same time one from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury importing that his Majesty had received proposals for a new farm of the revenue to commence from the first of May past, but who the proposers are, what they are to give, or what the conditions are to be is not mentioned. If this be all the notice I was told I should have before a bargain should be concluded the trust is not great. Nor can I imagine why there should be such care taken to keep such a transaction secret, if it will bear examination, as I presume it was since you say nothing of it in either of your letters. But the less I know the less I shall be answerable for any inconvenience that may follow. What is required from hence to inform the Lords Commissioners is the work of other men, and my part is only to transmit it as soon as it shall be finished, which that it may be with the speed required I have already directed them to take in hand. On Monday next I begin my journey to Kilkenny, where about ten days hence I may hope to see my Lord of Derby and his wife, who have once more changed their mind and resolve to come over. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, July 2. London.—I had on Thursday your Grace's letter of the 20th of the last month and upon discourse with my Lord Conway I find him so much against the new proposal for the Irish farm, that he believes it a cheat, but was not willing to enter into any discourse of the particulars. All letters will be full of yesterday's execution and this day's proceedings with the Earl of Shaftesbury. I shall not need to send you Plunkett's speech, for it is verbatim in the news books, and also sold by itself in print. He died as all people say with great resolution, and Fitzharris very pitifully, in the paper he left behind him he accuses the two Sheriffs of London to have set him on to swear against the Queen, etc., which we shall have in print very soon.

The King came to town this morning and sent for my Lord Shaftesbury to come before in Council in custody of a Serjeant-at-arms, and the Judges of the King's Bench being sent for, to give their opinions whether the matters sworn against him were high treason, they gave their opinions in the affirmative; upon which his lordship was sent to the Tower. I am told he cursed very much the Irish witnesses, especially MacNamara, Dennis and Haynes, for he guesses those are the persons that swore against him, but I am told there are as many English.

The Secretaries will take great care hereafter that no letters of that nature, I mean in behalf of fellowships, shall be sent hereafter, and I must confess myself a little guilty of this last on behalf of Mr. Bulkeley knowing the young man to be of honest principles and believing his father to have had somewhat hard measure.

If you are not engaged for the employment Sir William Flower was to have in the new Hospital, his Majesty would be glad Colonel Jeffreys were thought of for it, he has been lately very serviceable to his Majesty in the county where he lives. I desire you would remember Sir Thomas Butler for a command in the Army, either a company or a lieutenantancy of horse.

JOHN ELLIS TO ———.

1681, July 2. London.—On Tuesday last was taken one Haynes or O'Hane, for he is an Irishman, and very opportunely, for the next day he was to have had money furnished him by one Rouse a clerk belonging to Sir Thomas Player and intended to have gone presently beyond sea. He lodged to that purpose in the City at a fanatic's house, and being by much industry discovered was not without much difficulty taken. He ran over several houses to escape the King's messengers, and several constables that were charged to assist them had the confidence to refuse. His confession was very long, but pertinent and of weight. He charges the Earl of

Shaftesbury and Dr. Oates of several things and upon his information that Rouse aforesaid was seized on Wednesday though he was upon his guard, and the same day as an accomplice was taken one College called of late the Protestant joiner, a fellow that left his trade to bawl in coffee houses against the Government, and to disperse pamphlets, some of which of dangerous consequence were found about him. He had in his pocket a screw pistol charged with a brace of bullets, but being surprised made no resistance. He would have shuffled away his papers in the house, where he was taken, which was a coffee house in Ave Mary Lane near Ludgate, but Atterbury who took him looked so narrowly to him, that he was prevented. Those papers are said to contain matters sufficient to take away his life.

Plunkett and Fitzharris suffered yesterday, the former as a man prepared, and the latter as a man surprised. He had not the courage to speak what he intended, but read it out of a paper, that he had before given to Dr. Hawkins the chaplain of the Tower. Sheriff Bethel asked him several questions at the gallows, but his only answer was that he referred himself to the writing that he had left in the doctor's hands with order to deliver it to his wife. It is seven sheets of paper written with his own hand. The Sheriff was so importunate with the doctor to get the original into his hands, that the doctor gave him a copy of it, though that was against Fitzharris's intention. It is said in that [writing] he clears the Earl of Danby as to Sir Edmund B. Godfrey's death for ought he knows of it. Whether he died a Papist or a Protestant is uncertain. He would not declare himself positively either way. He hearkened to the doctor's discourses, and admitted him to pray with him as often as he would after his condemnation; but when the doctor pressed him to take the Sacrament after the manner of our Church, he still put it off without refusing it though, and the day before his execution told him he would receive as yesterday at six in the morning with his wife, etc., and all things were prepared for it, but when it came to, he still put it off, and died without it, so that he may rather seem to have died a Papist.

This morning early his Majesty came silently and unexpectedly to town, and by six o'clock a Serjeant-at-arms (Mr. Deerham) was sent to attach the Earl of Shaftesbury at his house in Aldersgate Street. About nine the Council was met, and about eleven the Earl was brought and several trunks of papers. He was examined, the doors shut, and the clerks of the Council put out, and continued there till near two of the clock, the Judges of the King's Bench were sent for, and these all [went] but Dolben who was in the country. He is committed to the Tower, but not quite a close prisoner, certain of his servants being allowed him. The witnesses against him were ten at least, some say fifteen. I know that a Justice of [the] Peace has received depositions of seven for high

treason. The warrant of his commitment is for conspiring the death and deposing the King and raising arms against him, the rest as usual. Oates came to see his lordship and asked him how he came into Lob's pound, those were his words, to which he answered nothing. Then Oates told him he would see [him] in the Tower, and pray with him, and sent to his chamber for a bottle of Madeira wine and ale and a couple of chickens, upon which his lordship dined in the lobby of the Council chamber, and Mr. Oates said grace. After the King had dined he went presently to Windsor. He said at dinner, that he would have the paper Fitzharris left behind him printed. One article more I am told of is, that the Sheriffs of London, the Recorder, Sir Thomas Player, and Sir R. Clayton came to him to Newgate before he was removed to the Tower, and persuaded him to cast himself upon them and trust them with his life, for the King hated him and would certainly hang him, but that if he would swear the Queen, the Duke of York, and Earl of Danby conspired Sir Edmund B. Godfrey's death, and that Lord Halifax, Lord Hyde, and certain others were pensioners of France, they would contrive it so that he should be found not guilty, which they had indeed like to have done, if one man of the same name had not been mistaken for another, viz., Cleve of St. Martin's le Grand instead of Cleve of Hammersmith. It is said much of this discovery is owing to the industry of Mr. Seymour.

On Thursday the apprentices presented their address at Hampton Court with 18,000 hands to it, when one of the young men had read it the King answered them very graciously, and told them he would stand to his declaration in all things. One of them said, we hope your Majesty will continue the succession too in the right line, that they would all fight for it, if need were, and that there were not above 4,000 Dissenters of their quality in all the City.

RICHARD MULYS TO ———.

1681, July 2.—You will find by the enclosed prints, that the two archtraitors were executed yesterday, and what they said. This morning before nine the King came to town there being (unknown to most) an extraordinary Council at ten o'clock. About eleven my Lord Shaftesbury was brought into custody of a Serjeant-at-arms and a trunk and box with his lordship's papers. The judges were ordered to attend. About twelve or one his lordship was sent to the Tower on a warrant of high treason for conspiracy to take away the life of the King and Queen, to levy war, and to alter the Government. It is said there are ten witnesses, and four to one particular treason, viz., Stephen Dugdale, Turberville, O'Haynes and Rouse.

I have your letters of 22nd of the last month. It is talked as if the Duke of Monmouth, the Earls of Essex and Salisbury, Sir Thomas Player, etc., would also be suddenly accused.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 4. Dublin.—I am this day setting forward to Kilkenny, and it is but this day that I have been able to give the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury an account of what they required by letters of the 5th of March last, but I have made it appear to them, that the delay has not been by any negligence of mine, but by the difficulty of bringing the Vice-Treasurer or his Deputy and the Farmers to an agreement in receipts and payments, wherein they do not yet fully accord. When this was near a conclusion, we are set on work again by fresh letters of the 21st of June in order to his Majesty's information towards making of a new bargain for his revenue, and these I have also put in the way prescribed upon the former directions. I have made a full return punctually answering to every part of the letter of the 5th of March not without better help than I could furnish myself with upon my own stock of understanding in things of that nature ; yet I believe it will not be very pleasing because it gives no colour to what I suppose was designed by the promoters of that letter. The King's later commands are very intelligible as to the things commanded, but somewhat obscure in the end of those commands. It is well understood to be in order to a new bargain ; but it is not comprehended why so much haste is used, and so much secrecy required ; the haste may be to answer a present occasion, but if that occasion may be better answered (whatever it is), if it were known that men might be admitted to offer, the secrecy may be a loss and I cannot imagine why it should be suspected, that in such a time as this I should be unwilling the King should help himself with his own, when I have been and am so ready to lay all I can call mine at his feet. I suppose a new bargain may draw after it a new establishment, with which I think his Majesty's servants here may usefully be consulted. In the Army there are allowed but one trumpet and one drum to each troop and company, which was an unskilful retrenchment, and they ought to be restored, when there is means for it other changes more important I have not now time to think of, which would be offered if I knew the thing were under consideration ; but as I told in another letter, the less I know and the less I am consulted, the less I shall be answerable for ; but if things go amiss, that will be but cold consolation. I have no more to say till I know more. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO LORD CONWAY.

1681, July 4. Dublin.—I presume you are not, I am sure you should not be, a stranger to the proposals for a new bargain for the revenue here, for which for all I see there may be more time of consideration allowed than the speed required for informations from hence do intimate. In matters of this nature great haste and secrecy if pressed by proposers ought

in my judgment to be suspected, and if it be not in this I must conclude that some more than ordinary reason there is why deliberation and necessary cautions and forms are laid aside. The observations required from the Attorney and Solicitor are most necessary, but the making them full and pertinent will take up more time than may be supposed, and the more in that they have no knowledge of the conditions and covenants required from his Majesty, nor of what nature the demise is to be, whether by the way of farm, or of management and farm together, or by way of such an undertaking as the Earl of Ranelagh's was, into which later way I do not think his lordship would now advise his Majesty to put his revenue, having I believe found neither the King or himself so great gainers by the undertaking he was in as was expected. If the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury will stay for the account they expect from the King's counsel, Sir John Topham will come time enough with this letter to your lordship, and as he shall be commanded to give a good account of the Farmers' payments and other things relating to the revenue proper to be considered if time be allowed for it, he has been very diligent, and will deserve his Majesty's favour and encouragement. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, July 5. Whitehall.—It is against my will that I have discontinued for the last posts to pay my duty to your Grace. It proceeded partly from my attendance at Windsor, and partly from some late incidents that required all applications possible. I am heartily sorry, that nothing is done for the relieving of Sir John Davys all this while. I have done my utmost in Council upon the presenting of your Grace's own letters, and upon those of the Council there. I do not know what would be said against the preferring of the very same bill of indictment as was here preferred at Westminster. If the witnesses should not appear Sir John would be quit, but so as to be liable still to indictments as my Lord of Tyrone was (lately) on that side certainly. That being a kingdom as well as this we cannot reasonably suppose a failure of justice in it; which yet must be supposed if Sir John Davys cannot some way or other come to an issue and put himself upon his trial.

SAME TO SAME.

1681, July 5. Whitehall.—His Majesty has declared himself most graciously in favour of Colonel John Jeffreys, as a fit person to be intrusted with the Government of the Military Hospital near Dublin. I could say a great deal of that gentleman, having known him for above forty years. He hath spent all his time and almost all his estate in the King's service, and he hath done it with a very clear reputation.

It is impossible for him to have been so long in Ireland, but that your Grace must have known him thoroughly and have seen some evidence of his deep unalterable devotion for your Grace and your family. I humbly take leave to say thus much, having observed his Majesty to be graciously compassionate of his present circumstances and even desirous to see him in a tolerable retreat after so stormy a voyage.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 9. Kilkenny.—Yours of the 2nd was brought me hither yesterday, and before I came from Dublin I sent the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury all the accounts, computations and informations concerning the revenue they thought necessary to call for, that were then ready, and with them some observations and general precautions of my own, such as could occur to me, having no more knowledge than I have of what is designed, but whoever thinks the proposals to be a cheat may perhaps find in what I have sent some help towards the clearer discovery of it. The papers are many and some of them very long, so that it was not possible to send you copies of them before I came from Dublin, but I have ordered Gascoigne to cause them to be transcribed and sent you.

The proceeding with my Lord of Shaftesbury being upon so good ground and so well warranted by law, whatever it may produce in England will certainly have good effect here, but then there must be a steady and bold uniformity in all things and towards all persons in matters of that nature, as it shall appear to be seasonable and according to the effect this beginning will have, and most certain it is that nothing but courage and good husbandry can secure the Crown, or give it the lustre without which it cannot subsist. Though my Lord of Shaftesbury is a wary man, and well understands how near the law he might steer his course ; yet without doubt he was elevated to a great degree of confidence in his popularity, and thought he was got above questioning, and this may have made him less careful of his papers, so that possibly some letters may be found sent him out of this kingdom, that may shew who were his correspondents, and what the correspondence was, which may be fit for you to mind his Majesty of, that if any such be found they may be laid aside and notice of them sent hither.

The Government of the Hospital will not want pretenders, whereof Cary Dillon is one. He needs it, carries himself extremely well, and if his having a wife such as he has will consist with the rules that shall be made, it cannot be better disposed of, especially if he will give his son the troop. Sir Richard Bulkeley's hard measure, if he had any, should not be revenged on the College, if the King will have the thing done I must be once more told so. Toby Purcell must have the first company or lieutenancy of horse. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, July 9. London.—By your Grace's of the 2nd instant I conclude this will find you at Kilkenny. I do not find by my Lord Chamberlain that there is any further progress made in the business of the Irish farm, and he is the only statesman that will acquaint me with any thing in this matter, but I am confident your Grace will be farther and better consulted than as you mention; by this day sevensnight's post from Windsor I hope to be able to inform your Grace better than I have hitherto done.

Your Grace it is likely will hear from other hands what was done yesterday at the Sessions in London, but lest you should not I shall inform you from Sir James Butler who was in court. One College, who is most known by the name of Protestant joiner, had a bill of high treason preferred against him, the treason was sworn positively to by six witnesses, and yet the Grand Jury would not find the bill, because they believed the same witnesses would swear against my Lord Shaftesbury. The witnesses were Dugdale, Smith, Bryan, Haynes, the two MacNamaras and Sir William Jennings; the Cabal Lords who were all upon the Bench were much transported when the bill was brought in *ignoramus*, and made the noise of approbation used by the Commons at our Bar, but my Lord Shaftesbury's motion for an *habeas corpus* was not granted. It is believed the King will remove the terms from this town upon this strange partiality of the Sheriffs and Juries.

Sir James Butler desires you would give leave to one Lieutenant Ralph Done to sell his command. He is now at Limerick.

JOHN ELLIS TO ———.

1681, July 9. London.—Yesterday being the last day of the Sessions at the Old Baily a bill was brought before the Grand Jury against College the joiner. Six witnesses were sworn, Smith, Dugdale, Haynes, two MacNamaras and Sir William Jennings. The five first backed one another in their evidence, that College had told them several times earnestly in discourse that the King was to be seized by force and carried into the City, and detained, till he would comply with his people in passing the bill against the Duke; that he is as great a Papist in his heart as the Duke is; that he ordered the firing of the City and the murder of Sir Edmund B. Godfrey; that 30,000 men were to be in readiness in London; that they had 1,500 barrels of powder and 100,000 arms prepared; that he showed them his arms, and asked Smith if he would have a suit of armour, and sent him one to try if it would fit him; that he dispersed libels, three of which were produced in court; [and] that the King going to Oxford he was to be seized there, and had been, if he had not run away.

This is the substance of their evidence, omitting the opprobrious terms that he used towards the King's person. Sir William Jenning's testimony was that he heard the joiner say FitzGerrald having beaten him in a quarrel and made his nose bleed, that his was the first blood that had been shed in the cause, but that a great deal more would be shed shortly. The evidence seemed so sufficient especially for a Grand Jury that it was wondered they would go from the bar. After four hours debate they brought in the bill *ignoramus*. The Lord Chief Justice asked the foreman if he did not believe the evidence. He answered he was not bound to give any reasons. The foreman was one John Wilmer, a professed fanatic, and hackney-bail for all almost that of late have been committed for treason and have had bail, particularly for one of the evidences MacNamara and for Samuel Harris. The Lord Chief Justice told the Sheriffs it was not fit that such a person should be a juryman. Bethel answered he was a stranger in the City, and therefore must take others advice. There were present to countenance the affair the Duke of Monmouth, who heard himself in the evidence called blockhead and tool, etc., the Earls of Salisbury, Essex, Clare and Macclesfield, Lords Grey of Wark and Herbert. When the Jury gave in their verdict, upon the sign given from a gallery where some were placed as on purpose to the rest of the confederacy in the court, a great shout was made twice, which extremely disturbed the Bench.

Last night Mr. Whitaker, called of late the Duke of Buckingham's solicitor, was examined before Mr. Secretary Jenkins and some others of the Privy Council and committed to the Tower for high treason. He was taken in the morning by the Secretary's warrant, but being a citizen he went and appealed to the Lord Mayor in the Court, alleging he was not bound to obey the Secretary's warrant. Mr. Recorder being asked his opinion, gave it against the Secretary's warrant, though it is the first time any such thing was done, however, after all, Whitaker was forced to submit, and it is supposed will follow the steps of his acquaintance and client Fitzharris.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 11. Kilkenny Castle.—This post carries from me only a supplement of accounts and papers concerning the revenue to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, but the most necessary information they can have from hence is behind, and that is the observations required from the Attorney and Solicitor of the clauses and omissions in former contracts prejudicial to the King, which is a work that requires more time than the rest, and will be, I doubt, at least tenderly handled by them in consideration of some who made and drew up former bargains.

I have written to Mr. Secretary Jenkins for his Majesty's

order to bring the Lord Courcy from Oxford hither. It must be directed to the bishop of the place. The youth's estate is so very small, that if half of his pension be cut off, though but by a year's suspension it will cast him far behindhand, and it were pity he should want such necessaries as might fit him for exercises and good company, and yet it is not proper for me to be the first mover in his behalf ; but I think a word from any body else when he comes to be mentioned at Council might do his business ; if it should be granted pray take pains, that effectual orders may be sent.

Almost all my deer in Carrick park are run mad and infect and kill one another in a strange manner, and my park here is not half stored, so that I make hold with yours, and have stopped your usual bounties. *Copy.*

RICHARD MULYS TO ———.

1681, July 11.—The Protestant joiner is to be tried at Oxford and it is said my Lord Shaftesbury and Howard will also be indicted there. Our great news here is from Scotland by yesterday's post, viz., that the Duke is turned Protestant, having been at prayers, and received the Sacrament, and is resolved to do every other act of a sincere convert. Pray God it hold true, and then we will sing *O be joyful, etc.*

SIR JOHN TEMPLE TO ORMOND.

1681, July 12. Dublin.—I think there will be no need of my giving your Grace any trouble about Sir Robert Southwell's business, in regard, I do not find by his agent that the Farmers make any difficulty of paying his money upon the orders that your Grace hath already signed, but that they only forbear giving out assignments for it till his coming to town, when I shall acquaint your Grace whether there be any thing further necessary to be done for him. Mr. Attorney and I have agreed upon the enclosed letter to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, which we think fit to send open to your Grace to the end, that if your Grace shall find ground for our making any alterations in it, we may have it returned to us, or otherwise Mr. Ellis may seal it, and send it over with the next packet. We expected some assistance herein from Mr. Sheridan, but he having not yet given us his paper of observations, which he promised us, we thought it not fit to delay this answer any longer in expectation of it.

I had a letter lately from Mr. Ellis, wherein he desires me to prepare a draught of a letter to be recommended by your Grace in behalf of Sir Nicholas Armorer and himself for that walk in the Phoenix Park now in Sir Nicholas's possession. I see no need of a letter from the King for that place, which is as I conceive in your Grace's disposal, but I humbly take leave to put your Grace in mind, that this is the walk about which I spoke to your Grace in your closet before your leaving

this town for myself whensoever it should fall, and I living so near, it might perhaps be a greater conveniency to me than to another, if you should be pleased to grant it me when it shall next be disposed of.

JOHN ELLIS to ———.

1681, July 12. London.—The Grand Jury's not finding the bill against College has rather done good than hurt, every body now perceiving how sovereign the juries will be at this rate; how openly these men have declared themselves of a faction and how little regard they have to the safety of the King, that would hinder as much as they could a man accused of such high treason to be brought so much as to his trial, whether he were guilty or not. The Justices of [the] Peace of Middlesex have presented an address to his Majesty complaining of the Sheriffs for not communicating to them the panels of juries as they are bound to do. The two Lords Chief Justices are to consider of the address and to report their opinion to the King. College, the joiner, and the evidences against him are sent down to Oxford this afternoon in order to his being tried there before the Judges of Assize on Thursday next.

There has been much discourse all this day of a letter come from Edinburgh written by Sir John Warden, in which he says that his Royal Highness has been four times present at the service of our Church, but I do not hear that any other letters mention any such thing. This afternoon the Lady Anne was to have gone on board the yacht, that is to carry her to Scotland but it is supposed she will not go till to-morrow at soonest.

Mr. Fanshaw, the Master of Requests, is put out of his office for talking little less than treason upon all occasions that he can. It is said that Lord Macclesfield and Lord Newport will shortly be put out of the Court too, and that the King is resolved thoroughly to purge his family from disaffected persons.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, July 12. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's letter of the 4th with the enclosed copies of yours to both Secretaries, but in the matter of the new proposal I find they are little consulted, and the Lords of the Treasury are under the same secrecy they were; but by so much as I could gather in discourse this afternoon with Sir Stephen Fox, it is a mixture of a farm, management, and undertaking, and he concludes it not unlikely, but the present Farmers may have a hand in it. My Lord Chamberlain is not in town now, but will be here on Thursday, and I intend to consult with him, whether I might take notice of this matter to the King, for if your last letters do not put a stop to the matter the bargain will be

speedily struck up. I put myself twice this morning in my Lord Hyde's way, but he took no notice to me of the matter. I am sorry you did not send me a copy of the letter you mention of the 21st of the last, and of yours to the Lords of the Treasury. I must confess it is somewhat odd having the honour to be of his Majesty's Privy Council there, that I should desire to know from thence what is done here in the concerns of that kingdom.

My wife goes to-morrow to my Lady Longford's and I intend to follow on Friday and from thence to go the day after to Windsor. The Protestant joiner I mentioned in my last is sent to Oxford to be tried there, and it is believed he will not fare so well with a jury there, as he did here.

ORMOND TO SIR HANS HAMILTON.

1681, July 14. Kilkenny Castle.—I send you the extract of a letter from Captain Annesley to the Lord Bishop of Meath concerning a considerable number of ships of war discovered by him upon the coast betwixt Carlingford and Strangford. If he be as much mistaken in the number and quality of those ships as he is when he says Carlingford is but a good day's march from Dublin, it may please God we are safe from an invasion at this time, and in that place, especially now that Oliver Plunkett who was to receive the 70,000 French is disposed of, but the good Captain being as he says troubled with melancholy vapours, all this may prove but a visionary fleet, and I hope it the more because you have taken no alarm nor given me any account of the apparition. However since it is possible he may have sent his apprehension further than to the Bishop of Meath I desire you would let the Captain and some of those he called with him to see the sight be forthwith examined and a true account of the matter sent. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, July 15. Longford.—I had not presumed to have given your Grace the trouble of a letter from hence, but that upon discourse with Lieutenant-Colonel Brampton I think it not improper to propose him to your Grace as a fit person to be Governor of the Hospital, for he is a bachelor, is one of the eldest captains now in the Army having served the King and his father upwards of forty years, and I am confident will be very grateful to the Army, he being a man so well in his affairs, that he is above the temptation of want to necessitate his shirking upon the poor men, and has hitherto through all the difficulties and hardships he has encountered in the late wars, preserved a clear reputation. And that your Grace may be convinced that he desires this employment rather for honour than advantage he will oblige himself if he enjoys the place five years to leave 500*l.* to the Hospital, which will be a fair

precedent to those who shall succeed him. And if there be any reasonable settlement made upon the Governor for his life, he will resign his company into your Grace's hands.

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, July 16. Whitehall.—I had the honour on Thursday last to produce three letters from your Grace and my Lords of the Council there before his Majesty in Council at Hampton Court.

One was an account of those passengers that going from Havre de Grace to Belfast were driven in at St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall and were stopped there for their refusing to take the oath of supremacy. His Majesty understanding the men to be Protestants, and not to be within the reach of the law in Ireland that enjoined the taking of that oath, is content that the further prosecuting of them be forborn; being it seems poor men and as they swear not conscious to themselves of any contempt.

A second was relating to the Presbyterian ministers that took upon them to indict a day of humiliation and fasting in February last, and to their missionary that preached in a Conventicle in May last. His Majesty is very well pleased with the account he meets with in your Grace's letter, that the law is prosecuted upon them; nor was his Majesty pleased to add anything by way of further and more particular direction in that matter.

The third letter from your Grace and the Council related to Sir John Davys. After the reading of it and the petition in it recommended by your Grace and the Council there to the King, the Lords were of opinion not to interpose any order of the Board to give him leave or encouragement to resume his place again, and to re-enter upon the functions of it; not but that every one of my lords were perfectly of the sentiments of your Grace and the Council there, and did assure themselves not only of the innocence of Sir John Davys and consequently of the improbability of proving that against him there, which was charged upon him here, but also of the great likelihood that those witnesses that gave evidence against him here, never intend to return again into Ireland; but that which make my lords cautious here is, that there being a bill of indictment found against him, at the King's Bench here for high treason and that indictment being by a *nolle prosequi* taken off here, but with express directions to have the like indictment preferred there against him, it would not look well, that my lords here should upon extra-judicial allegations (though never so true) pronounce him here to be clear from the charge against him, when and after they had directed him to be prosecuted upon that presumption in law, which an indictment found against him does beget. It is true, my Lord, that it was in pure modesty and self denial, or rather in respect to the

King's Majesty and to your Grace and the Government there, that he withdrew voluntarily from his functions, and if he should return to the exercise of them again I do not think that my lords here would so take notice of it as to complain of him ; but then it should purely be his own act (as his retreat was) and not by warrant hence. I must confess it is my humble opinion that he should put himself upon his trial there as soon as Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, fit to sit upon him, can be got, and that the King's Attorney should put in against him the very same indictment, that was put in here, as there is no doubt, but he will come off for want of witnesses, so he need not fear a second attack. This is but my little sentiment, but if he do re-enter upon his function with your Grace's good liking, before he put himself upon his trial, I shall be very glad of it. I see no ill consequence, but the clamour of the faction, which in many things the Government must resolve to despise.

Your Grace's letters concerning my Lord Bishop of Londonderry, and your Grace's chaplain of Trinity College, I shall lay before his Majesty this night (or to-morrow) at Windsor whither I am hastening, and I must humbly beg your Grace's directions what to do further in the case of Mr. Robert Lucas, his Majesty giving indeed its due value to your Grace's recommendation of the person, but declaring his unwillingness to pass any reversions (or indeed grants) for life. His reason is there are too many here that hold great places under him for life, and yet give all the trouble they can to him and his Government.

Though I have given your Grace this tedious trouble, yet I must beg leave to say one word in answer to your Grace's letters of the 2nd and 4th of July, concerning the farm. You might, my Lord, have most justly expected from me an account of what might come to my knowledge concerning that affair, but it pleased his Majesty to appropriate the management of that correspondence with your Grace to the Lords of the Treasury that though I had the honour to be present at the debates of that affair, yet I had no part in it, but to keep the secret, nor do I know of any progress that hath been made since about the middle of the last month.

Upon reading of a letter from your Grace to my Lord of Conway last Council day, it was referred to my Lords of the Treasury and some other lords (where I had the honour to assist) to consider of the state of my Lord Ranelagh's appeal, etc., and my lords were unanimously of opinion that the stop put upon the process in Ireland against my Lord Ranelagh and his partners should be taken off, and the law have its course against them. This will be reported to the King in Council on Thursday, and your Grace will have his Majesty's pleasure in form by the post of this day sennight.

The Prince of Orange is expected here every minute, but I do not yet hear of his landing.

RICHARD MULYS to ———.

1681, July 16.—A proposal for managing the revenue of Ireland (in which the office of Vice-Treasurer is to be left out) is set on foot here by Sir James Shaen, as it is said and is under deliberation. This day my Lord Ranelagh's accounts and balance thereupon due was considered by the Committee for Foreign Affairs, who met in the Treasury Chamber, what result I cannot hear. My Lord Privy Seal though not of the said Committee was once appointed to be present, but my Lord Ranelagh got him to be struck out. The Prince of Orange is hourly expected here, one part of his errand may be guessed at, since the French King possesseth himself of more by peace than he could do by war. Pray present my most humble service to Colonel Vernon.

ORMOND to THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 17. Kilkenny.—Yours of the 9th requires little more than owning to have received it. The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have by this time in their hands all the informations they can receive from hence touching the revenue, as far as it could be gathered from their letters what it was they would know, and I think there is enough gone to shew that the propositions for a new farm to begin from the first of May past, is unreasonable from whomsoever it is made, and if the present Farmers have a share in it a downright cheat, such as must make them for ever masters of the revenue, or if taken at any time out of their hands it must be to the King's vast loss, all this the more skilful are ready to manifest.

Something surely the King must do or else all kind of treason may be conspired against him with impunity and how he is like to reign or live in such a case is much to be feared. I am just going to church, and have more than a house full of company, among the rest my Lady Frances Keightley, who desires to have the *Swan* frigate to land her in France, but I dare not send her so far without the King's leave, and therefore I pray ask him, and let me have a warrant. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, July 18. Kilkenny.—I have your lordship's of the 15th and cannot say, but that Lieutenant-Colonel Brampston offers very fair and is very proper for the place he aims at, but there are two pretenders more and Cary Dillon being one is in hope that his having a wife will not be an obstacle. He wants such a help after all his misfortunes and disappointments, and deserves very well of the King, but before the place comes to be possessed by any his wife may die, and then I am for him against all men. In the last letters I had from Mr. Secretary Jenkins he let me know the King would be glad

Colonel Jeffreys might have it. All the competitors are worthy of it, but if the King persist there is no reason but he should be obeyed.

The *Swan* frigate is at Duncannon, and the Captain will be here within a day or two, and I hope your lordship will keep your time, that she may return to her station and thence look out for Algerines, that are said to be upon the coast. He will be able to stow you five or six horses, which is a great convenience and I wish you would not lose it. *Copy.*

RICHARD MULYS to ———.

1681, July 17. London.—Yesterday I received yours of the 13th, all you enclosed are delivered. We expect here every hour to hear the Prince of Orange is arrived into England. The winds are contrary to make this port, but from Harwich or Margate we look for the news. Last night a dreadful fire happened at Windsor and in a few hours consumed about ten houses, whereof the *Garter* inn, the *George* and *White Hart* inns are part. It was stopped before day. It began (as it is said) in the Queen's stables, in one of the said inns. I hear no more from you touching the Bishop's letter from the King.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, July 19. Hatchlands.—I had brought me hither on Saturday last your Grace's of the 9th and have been at Windsor since and showed His Majesty that part of your letter which mentioned my Lord Shaftesbury, with which he was very well pleased and told me that he was confident he had him sure enough, but finding no papers of any moment with him they were all restored. I did not think it necessary to speak with the King about the new proposal, that whole affair being managed by my Lord Hyde, who intends to go through the matter, though by all that I can learn the rest of the Council and the major part of the Lords of the Treasury are against it. I go to London to-morrow in hopes to find an opportunity of putting his lordship in mind of the *eclaircissement* we had upon your Grace's account at my arrival in this country. I shall speak home though he be never so passionate and though I believe it will do no good as to this business, for I conclude you do not fear his displeasure. My Lord Ranelagh is much concerned at this business. I had a great deal of discourse with him about it, and he has promised to write your Grace an account of what he knows of the matter. He seems much concerned for your honour in the point, but the Vice-Treasurer's place sticks most, for I learn from himself that he must part with that for 15,000*l.*, if this proposal goes on; he has had another rebuke for none of his demands are allowed, and an order will go from His Majesty, that the law should be taken against him upon his accounts as they were returned

hither, as well as upon the 24,000*l.* bond. None of his friends appeared in the least for him, but on the contrary were as forward as any to make report to His Majesty that it was necessary such orders should be given.

ORMOND to THE KING.

1681, July 23. Kilkenny.—Your Majesty's letter of the 22nd of April last by this bearer, though it had no return till now had all the effect your goodness and favour to me designed. It gave me perfect quiet and satisfaction of mind, and encouragement to proceed in your service with all the vigour time has left me, and with all the faithfulness no time can alter or take from me, and I beseech your Majesty not to believe that the assurance you are pleased to give me that my removal from this government was not in your thought is that which most affects me, but the belief you are pleased to express that I set before me the performance of my duty to your Crown with all humble and passionate affection to your person. As to the station your Majesty has put me in, it is a burden that is, or (if I may flatter myself so far as to think it is not yet) will shortly be passed my strength to bear; and it is very like your Majesty will sooner discover when it is so, than I shall; for it is one and not the least of those infirmities age brings with it to think itself capable of what it is not. When it shall come to that in my case, or whenever your Majesty shall think fit to give me a successor, I most humbly beg I may receive the first intimation of your purpose from your own hand, which has been so bountiful that nothing unwelcome or uneasy in that matter can at any time come from it to me.

This kingdom improves visibly, and is improved beyond what could have been reasonably hoped for in the space of twenty years, nor can anything but a civil war, or some other of God's national judgments stop the course of prosperity it is in, and yet our affluence is not so great as to become our disease. It is true there is no faction in any of your other kingdoms, but hath some abettors and well wishers in this, and I fear even in your service, and amongst those that live or live the better by it, but your Majesty's late conduct in your Court, councils and magistracy has evidently and advantageously influenced your affairs here. I presume not to look beyond seas or so far into foreign designs and actions as to prognosticate what dangers they may in time produce to England, my foresight being bounded by a nearer prospect, and that methinks plainly enough shews that you are put to defend and vindicate your Royal authority at home which must be effected before you can employ it abroad with any probability of success. This is a position so manifestly true that I hope God will let your people see it and dispose them to that obedience, which only can preserve them from

the slavery they seem to fear and from the confusion their leaders seem to affect. From both God protect your Majesty and your kingdoms.

Endorsed by Ormond.—Copy of my letter delivered by Colonel Fitzpatrick dated the 25th of July, 1681; in answer to His Majesty's of the 22nd of April brought me by him.
Three copies.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 23. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 12th instant, and other letters of the 16th, that inform us of the finding of the bill against the joiner at Oxford, some changes that are and are like to be at Court, and the coming over of the Prince of Orange. As to the matter of the new bargain for the revenue here I think you ought to make no more inquiry after it, for if what is written from hence will not prevail to impart the secret to us here, it will be in vain for you to struggle for it there, nor would I have it thought that I am dissatisfied with being a stranger to it, as really I am not any further than as I believe there is nothing his Majesty aims at in that affair, which he might not have attained at least as advantageously if it had been communicated to his servants here.

I expect my Lord of Longford to-night, from hence he proposed to go on Monday to Duncannon, where the *Swan* frigate stays to transport him to Bristol, but if his lady be not at Bath possibly he may change his mind. The yacht is still attending my Lord of Derby, and yet I have no certainty of his coming. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, July 23. Dublin.—I received on Thursday in the evening the honour of your Grace's of the 18th instant, being then upon my journey to this place, whither contrary to my former resolutions I was necessitated to repair having not had time to dispatch all my affairs before I went to Longford. But I shall stay here so few days, that I resolve to wait upon your Grace on Thursday, and that little time I hope will prove no inconvenience to the captain's demurrage. My Lady Derby arrived here an hour since, and intends for Kilkenny on Monday, which is no small mortification to me, since I cannot possibly then wait upon her ladyship. Though Colonel Brampton's proposition was very fair, yet I think your Grace has very good reason for your generous resolutions towards Colonel Dillon, and I hope upon your Grace's representation, his Majesty will not insist upon the person recommended by Mr. Secretary Jenkins, for I think it my duty to acquaint your Grace, that though Colonel Jeffreys is a very deserving person, yet since he is not of the present Army, it will sound very harshly to the Army to have a Governor sent out of England for that Hospital, which is built and must be

maintained out of their pay. And though their duty to his Majesty's pleasure will lead them to all submission and acquiescence to his commands, yet they will not so cheerfully contribute to so good a work, while they have a prospect that those who are not of their number are like to reap the benefit of their contribution, which they will infallibly conclude from this first example.

SIR JOHN DAVYS to ORMOND.

1681, July 23.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 18th instant, and therein received fresh testimonies of your Grace's noble consideration of me, which I shall ever most thankfully acknowledge, together with your Grace's clearest sense of my affairs, which I will most humbly and entirely conform unto. The latest packet out of England brought me intimation from my cousin Beaghan, that your Grace's and the Council's last letters relating to me were arrived at London and read at the Council, and that the resolutions taken upon them were the same with those I formerly received from him and sent your Grace, both which I have presumed to address unto your Grace no otherwise than in pursuance of your Grace's permission to me as intelligences for your Grace's information, being far from esteeming and farther from offering of them as grounds or dictates to your Grace's resolution, for such, according to a strict and regular way of proceeding and as your Grace is pleased to observe, are to come from a Secretary of State's hands or to appear by a Clerk of the Council's minutes touching matters the Council on that side think proper to entertain and give directions in. But my case (now wholly dismissed to this place) not being looked upon for the reasons given to be of that nature was in my humble opinion the occasion of it, if nothing has been transmitted in that form. And yet by what my cousin Beaghan hints to me, it seems very likely Mr. Secretary Jenkins has by the last writ something concerning this to your Grace, though he gives me cause to doubt not so fully as others have delivered it, which if he has not done I will rather attribute it to his employment in great business than to his want of good inclinations; but whatever he has sent I hope it will not alter your Grace's late concessions to me and this greatest happiness I propose deriving to myself from them of having the liberty again to wait upon your Grace hereafter as I used to do heretofore, which is passionately desired and humbly prayed by, &c., &c.

RICHARD MULYS to ———.

1681, July 23.—The Prince of Orange came post from Margate, as it is said, and this day about two or three got to Whitehall. He was entertained at Sir Stephen Fox's lodgings and about five took coach for Windsor. He looks well

and cheerful. I see nobody of quality in his company but Monsieur Bentin and Monsieur Overkirk. It is reported that Mr. Thomas Thynne is privately married to the Countess of Ogle, and that a gentleman at Richmond, who was instrumental in it, hath a reward of 10,000*l*.

ORMOND TO SIR CYRIL WYCHE.

1631, July 23. Kilkenny.—It was but [S]unday I received yours of the 9th of this month, else you should sooner have received my approbation of your French journey for the reasons you are inclined to it, not but that the new farming of the revenue and the determination upon my Lord Ranelagh's appeal from the State of his accounts upon his undertaking are matters of great importance in relation to this kingdom, but the negotiating of the first is kept a great secret, and as I am told is like to be so till a full conclusion, and to the other there is nothing more to be said from this side than lies already before his Majesty, so that the vacancy from business may well be allowed you for that time. I wish you good success in your voyage. *Copy*.

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681, July 23. Blessington.—The enclosed from my Lord Ranelagh came but yesterday to my hands, and though his lordship saith that he hath written to your Grace by the same packet, yet I hold it convenient that your Grace should see what his lordship writ to me also upon the same subject; and that I might receive your Grace's directions what return I shall make to his lordship. I suppose your Grace have already in a great measure done what his lordship adviseth in his letter; but whether your Grace will now more particularly insist thereon, upon any rise from my Lord Ranelagh's letter, is for your Grace's wisdom to determine considering the present circumstances of affairs. I can make little judgment of what his lordship insinuates concerning the supporter of Sir James Shaen's notions as if he pretended to this Government, but it doth not seem very probable to me, that a person newly got up to that degree of favour as he is should so soon seek a preferment by which he must necessarily absent himself from the King, until he hath first fixed some friends at Court to support his new gained interest and credit in his absence, which cannot be reasonably supposed in this case. But this is certain, that your Grace's employment in this kingdom is not only the envy but the design of more than one, if they knew how to compass it.

Your Grace will I presume be somewhat surprised, by what account this packet brings of the Duke's going to Church. I doubt not but your Grace have received a full relation thereof out of England; however, I thought fit to send the enclosed to your Grace, which gives a better ground for credit

than the common news letter. The enclosed pamphlet may give your Grace some entertainment when you have nothing else to do.

When your Grace was pleased to discourse to me of your inclinations to have Mr. Dallincourt [Drelincourt] succeed Mr. Dover in the cure of St. Nicholas I presumed to advise your Grace that the Lord Archbishop of Dublin might be secured in the point, for I then supposed that cure to be in his Grace's gift. But since the death of Mr. Dover, the Dean of St. Patrick's writes to me to this purpose, that St. Nicholas parish within the walls of Dublin being become void by the death of Mr. Dover and is a cure belonging to the community of St. Patrick's, it was fit for the Dean and Chapter to take care for a qualified person, that may be capable of discharging that cure, and therefore he thought fit to acquaint me therewith, and to desire my advice as to the person. I must acknowledge to your Grace that when I attended your Grace at Dublin about this matter I had clearly forgot that the Dean and Chapter had any pretensions to the disposition of that cure, and therefore presumed to advise your Grace, that the Archbishop might be secured in that matter, but I now find it otherwise; however that Mr. Dallincourt might not be disappointed of your Grace's favour towards him I upon the first notice from the Dean writ immediately unto him, that your Grace had designed Mr. Dallincourt for that Church and therefore desired him, that if the Dean and Chapter had a right to dispose thereof, he would do his endeavours to secure it for Mr. Dallincourt, and the rather because I presumed the Lord Archbishop of Dublin would be consenting thereunto, unto which the Dean made me yesterday his return, which I presume to send enclosed to your Grace that your Grace may fully see how that matter stands, for which I must beg your Grace's pardon. I must farther acquaint your Grace that there is a chaplain's place belonging to that Church which is in the gift of the parishioners, and they have already chosen at a full vestry Mr. Floyd for their chaplain, as you will find by Dean Worth's letter. I do not believe that Mr. Floyd knew any thing of your Grace's intentions for Mr. Dallincourt when he got himself to be chosen chaplain. I suppose when he doth understand what your Grace intended, he will easily decline his pretensions; but if he should not I do not think that his stipend or allowance will much interfere with Mr. Dallincourt's cure. Upon the whole matter your Grace sees that there are several pretenders to the disposition of that cure; but on all sides I take Mr. Dallincourt to be secure thereof.

I doubt not but your Grace have received several applications about the Chancellorship of Christchurch, which was likewise Mr. Dover's, and that Dr. Saule hath advised himself to your Grace about it. This my Lord is absolutely at your Grace's disposal.

I am unwilling to acquaint your Grace that there are some little misunderstandings between the Archbishop of Dublin and the Dean of St. Patrick's, who gives the occasion for them I shall not say, but for this reason I must desire your Grace not to shew Dean Worth's letter to the Archbishop, for I know not what interpretation may be put upon it. I humbly beg your Grace's pardon for this long letter.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, July 23. Windsor.—I brought Sir John Topham this morning to my Lord Hyde, with whom he had a great deal of discourse about the present Farmers, and his lordship was very well pleased with the account he gave and has ordered him to attend him at London the beginning of next week, and then he will have him and Sir James Shaen before him and the rest of the Commissioners. I had some discourse in private with his lordship about the present undertaking, which he says is a very good one, and that my Lord Ranelagh's undertaking shall be a warning to him not to let the King be cheated in this, and he told me that there will be greater checks upon them, than upon the present Farmers, and that the establishment will have no alteration, but withal that nothing shall be finally concluded in either, until your Grace has seen the whole. He observed to me, that in your answer of their letter of the 5th of March you have not satisfied them in one point, which is the transmitting the Vice-Treasurer's accounts.

Sir John Topham is gone this afternoon to London, and therefore cannot write this post, but by the next he will inform you of all that passes within his province. I took occasion to speak with my Lord Hyde about my Lord Courcy, and he would be very glad a way were found to pay him the sum due by pension, but will not break the rule of keeping the suspensions on foot until Michaelmas next. If your Grace pleases to propound any other way to me, I will get the King's order for it without your being seen in the matter.

I desire your Grace would dispose as you think fit of the deer in my park this season, and that your steward would send warrants to the keepers that I may have a fair account from them.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE to ORMOND.

1681, July 26.—I have spoke with Sir John Champante concerning the matter whereof your Grace was pleased to write both to him and me, and do find that the whole revenue to the end of this present farm will not be sufficient to pay the establishment though none of it should be diverted to any other use, as he says appears by the last state of the revenue which he gave your Grace. But if your Grace shall think fit to recommend a letter for the payment of the 1,000*l.* you

mention, I am satisfied that the fund he proposes is the best that can be found out whereon to place it, and if you please to have a letter prepared for the payment of it out of that money, I will take care to have it drawn and sent to your Grace, only I desire to know to whom it shall be made payable, and to what use and upon what consideration it shall be mentioned to be granted.

HENRY BAKER to CAPTAIN TREVOR LLOYD.

1681, July 25. Dundalk.—I thought fit to give you an account that Neill roe O'Hagan the Tory that killed poor Robin Dillon was this last week killed by his comrades near Coleraine where his head now sticks. He has not been in these parts this two months but has resided in the counties Tyrone and Derry. Not long since there was three other Tories, whereof one of the Neills were drowned in the Blackwater near Charlemont, being pursued by the country, so that now their party is grown weak and quite extinguished if Laughlin were gone. Be pleased to do me the favour to acquaint my Lord Duke that the Tory he sent me an order to protect upon the account of killing the said Hagan sent me word on Thursday last that he would set me two notable Tories that reside in the counties Longford and Cavan, whom my Lord Granard can give an account of, if he be assured his pardon ———. My Lady Dungannon has been lately very ill but is now, thank God, pretty well recovered. All friends here has their service to you. Be pleased to favour me with a line or two per first.

[Addressed] To Captain Trevor Lloyd at his quarters in Kilkenny.

JOHN ELLIS to ———

1681, July 26. London.—The farm of Ireland is said to be taken anew by certain persons who have carried it so privately that their names cannot yet be known. Sir James Shaen is the only man that appears. They are to give 60,000*l.* more than the present Farmers; it is said that Lord Conway or Lord Ranelagh are not yet made acquainted with the particulars of the contract, but have only a general notion of the thing. Some think that not so much as the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is acquainted with it as he should be, and by the privacy of it it is suspected by many that there is some trick in it.

Haynes, the evidence, is now at liberty and no longer under the custody of a messenger as he has been till within these three or four days, and he has arrested Mr. Boscawen, a member of the late Parliament, for having reported that he had formerly been arraigned for stealing a silver tankard. Some persons are already tampering with him to recant the evidence he has given in. Lewis and Zeal, both known persons, have been with the Lord Mayor to inform him that they have been dealt

with to be witnesses against the Earl of Shaftesbury, but their stories hang so ill together that no great matter can be made of them besides the showing how industrious that part is in endeavouring to invalidate the testimonies that are against the Earl. Lewis is altogether influenced by Sir Thomas Player who maintains him, and who, it is supposed, is as deep in the business as the Earl of Shaftesbury. Zeal is one that has lived in prisons for the most part these many years. Finding that the Protestant joiner is like to tread in the steps of Fitzharris and to be hanged though he should confess, as it is said he has a great inclination to it, they are now very diligent in their enquiries after his relations. and what religion they are of, resolving if he be found guilty that he is a Papist because some of his relations belike have been or are so.

The Prince of Orange was received very kindly by his Majesty, though some persons maliciously report the contrary, and they had long discourses together on Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Oates has petitioned his Majesty that he may have leave to visit the Earl of Shaftesbury in the Tower to give him spiritual consolation, as he termed it, but it was refused him. Since that Earl's confinement, and the danger that he is in himself, he is observed to be much less insolent than he was before. Turberville is now come in a witness against the Earl of Shaftesbury. College is to be tried the 17th of next month.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, July 26. Dublin.—There came to me this evening conducted by my Lord of Iveagh one McQuiggin who arrived from England last Saturday and was one of the persons that Dr. Plunkett sent for over to invalidate the testimony of Edmond Murphy and the three O'Neills against him, and his business to me was to acquaint me that while he was in London he was tempted by an offer of 100*l.* by the three O'Neills and a friar with an hard name to accuse your Grace and Sir John Davys. 20*l.* was immediately offered in a bag to him and for the payment of the rest within two months he was told he should have good City security, provided he would go to Mr. Morley and be instructed by him what to swear. The man seems to be an honest sober man, and is under great consternation and apprehension that the Murphys and their gang will murder him in the North, if they know of his discovery. He has promised, however, to be with me to-morrow morning that Cary Dillon and I may take his examinations regularly upon oath, which I shall bring with me to your Grace, but I fear it will be Friday or Saturday before I can possibly kiss your Grace's hands. The reason why Quiggin did not acquaint the Secretary of State with this in England was for fear Murphy and the rest of his comrades should have accused him of the plot which made him carry it very fair with them

while he was in London. But your Grace is beholden to Henry Farrell for his discovery, who having yesterday some discourse with him upon this subject came this morning early and told me of it. On Saturday was sennight the Farmers having seized three packets of Mr. Sheridan's, which came under a cover to Mr. Muschamps, they still detain them from him till your Grace signify your pleasure therein; they having by Mr. Gascoigne (who has sealed them up under a cover) intimated to your Grace their seizure and suspicion of them. And I find Mr. Sheridan very uneasy because if it had not been for this usage of theirs, he had before now waited upon your Grace, and he having complained to Sir John Davys, my Lord Chief Baron and me of the hardship he was under and proposing that his letters might be opened and read by us in order to the securing his person in case we found anything in them dangerous to the State, we sent for Mr. Muschamp and discoursed with him of it, but he having told us that his partners had desired Mr. Secretary Gascoigne to acquaint your Grace with it, we thought ourselves in good manners towards your Grace obliged not to intermeddle with it, and therefore proposed to Mr. Muschamp that the letters might by this night's packet be sent to your Grace, and Mr. Sheridan would thereby be at liberty to wait upon your Grace at Kilkenny, and receive his doom from yourself, which Mr. Muschamp promised he would this morning propose to his brethren.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 27. Kilkenny.—I have received yours of the 19th; by a former letter of mine you will find it was not my opinion the King should be troubled with any resentments of mine upon occasion of my being affectedly kept a stranger to a transaction that so naturally I have a title to; but I am well enough content my Lord Hyde should understand that the proceeding is not agreeable to form or to what I might have expected from one less my friend than I yet believe him to be. I received a letter on the subject from my Lord Ranelagh, wherein he seems to be content with the satisfaction he is to have for his place and with his being freed from any further question about his undertaking which latter agrees not with the orders you say are to be given upon his appeal, if there be not yet some extraordinary contrivance in the matter, but it is plain my Lord Ranelagh would inflame me to a resentment, which will make me more temperate, for I may be allowed somewhat to doubt his advices are not totally calculated for my advantage.

Your mother is ill of a feverish distemper. I hope it is no more; but am not free from fears for her, considering her age and infirmities. God's will be submitted to. *Copy.*

SIR JOSEPH WILLIAMSON to ORMOND.

1681, July 28. Edinburgh.—After so many and so particular honours received by myself and my wife from your Grace and my Lady Duchess during our stay in Ireland I cannot but think it my duty to take the first opportunity of returning my most humble acknowledgments for them, which I beseech your Grace to accept of in the rude form this takes leave to present them.

This day the Parliament here has been opened by his Royal Highness as Lord Commissioner, the Marquess of Atholl presiding in the Chancellor's place who, poor gentleman, died here the last week after a long, and tedious languishment, greatly to the loss of his Majesty's service, and the universal regret of indeed all this whole people. Hitherto I find not, as far as a stranger and stander-by may learn, but that a very good issue is hoped from it, though I perceive it is expected some little heats may fall out upon some matters, which yet are not directly of the King's concernment, at least not so principally, but those too, it is hoped will be allayed with a little patience and care. I beseech your Grace to pardon this liberty and again to accept of my humble gratitude for all your favour, as one that was ever with great veneration and must now from particular obligations remain, &c.

RICHARD MULYS to ———

1681, July 30. London.—This day twelve months was to me a day of the greatest sorrow that ever I knew (in the loss of my dear Lord) and there has scarce an hour passed this ten days but my thoughts have been ruminating on what happened from the time of his sickness to the time of his death; and though I would put those melancholy thoughts from me yet I was not able, so that I am at this time rendered fit for nothing but taking of medicines to purge melancholy. And the next week I intend to go to the waters.

The Prince of Orange was invited to dine in the City as this day and told the Sheriffs he would come, but his Highness thought fit this morning to alter his resolutions. It is generally discoursed as if it were upon some message from Windsor with design to put a neglect upon the City. His Highness has lodged this two nights at Arlington House. I saw this morning the Earl of Essex going in to wait upon him, and my Lord of Sunderland had been there before. Ever since the Prince arrived he hath been much in private with my Lord Halifax. On Monday my Lord Conway treats him at Windsor as the Duke of Albemarle did yesterday at his own house.

ORMOND to THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, July 30. Kilkenny.—I send you a copy of Mr. Secretary Jenkins' letter to me concerning my Lord Ranelagh's

accounts and appeal, and about the new farm, and likewise a copy of my answer, that you may govern yourself upon occasion suitably. By the matter and style you will see I am not much in awe of those that drive on the new bargain in a very unusual manner to say no worse of it.

Sir John Davys has thought fit to part with his place of Clerk of the Council to Matthew Barry, and I have besought his Majesty's approbation in terms that say much of the ability and honesty of Barry, upon the experience of above forty years; if there be need of it, help him, for an honest and more useful man cannot be in the employment. Your mother is much better than she was, and I think quite free of her fever, but her cough and shortness of breath are I doubt incurable. On the 15th of next month I begin my journey to Rincurran.
Copy.

MR. SECRETARY JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, July 30. Whitehall.—Having had no commands from your Grace since my last which was of this day sennight, I have the less to trouble your Grace by this ordinary. The Prince of Orange goes back for Windsor this forenoon and does not dine at my Lord Mayor's, as was expected. It is said he will be returning within a very few days. The Spaniards are as uneasy now after the voiding of Chiny as they were before, for they must quit all the towns that are walled in the province of Luxemburg except the capital of that name, or else the French will lie upon them still, under pretext that the dependencies are not rendered them. Our addresses here at home come on still very cheerfully.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, July 30. London.—I had nothing worth your Grace's trouble of Tuesday last, and now I can tell your Grace little more than I did in my last relating to the new undertaking which is privately managed by my Lord Hyde and Sir Edward Deering. All that I have learnt is that Mr. Roberts is a main engine in the business.

I came hither to attend the Prince of Orange who inquired very kindly after your Grace, and I made such compliments on your Grace's behalf as I thought you would have done had you been here. I could not inform you of his errand hither until this morning, being told then by a friend of yours of the Council that it was to endeavour a reconciliation of matters here, by persuading the King to agree with his people, but his Highness being told by the statesmen what unreasonable terms the Cabal insisted on, he had the King's leave to come to town and receive visits from them, and my Lord Essex, Lord Russell and Sir William Jones have been with him. If I can learn when I go again to Windsor what the result of their meeting is, I shall let your Grace know, but your friend is not in the deep secrets of State. One

thing it seems was not in the Prince's commission to town, and that is whether he should receive a treat or no from the City. The Lord Mayor sent the Sheriffs yesterday to invite his Highness to dine with him this day, which he promised to do, though dissuaded by my Lord Halifax, Lord Hyde and Mr. Seymour, so that this morning his Highness received the King's commands not to go, which has very much disappointed the City. He is gone this afternoon to Windsor. I shall know his Majesty's pleasure on Monday or Tuesday about the frigate for my Lady Frances Keightly.

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681, August 1. Blessington.—I presume to return to your Grace the enclosed from Sir J. Williamson, which now came to my hands. I am sorry he saith nothing of the late great news concerning the Duke, which I am very sure he would not have pretermitted if there had been any occasion for it, but God's will be done. I do not find by any of those particulars which by Sir Joseph's seem to be the business of the next sitting in Scotland, that they should signify much to take off or lessen the jealousies of England concerning the Duke, for what will the people of England be concerned whether the King's temporary revenue in Scotland will be made during his life. They are very sure that it cannot be made by them considerable enough to support any business against the stream or current of England. I rather hoped that something should have been [done] by the Duke for the establishment of the Protestant religion against all the designs and designers of Popery, that might have inclined the people of England to have trusted him in that point, which might have taken off much of the present jealousies, at least have given countenance unto others; but I do not see that Sir Joseph's letter speaks the least tittle of that matter.

Your Grace's letter to Mr. Secretary Jenkins says no more than what they on the other side the water must believe you think, and you but generously declare what you would speak if you had an opportunity of doing it with advantage to his Majesty's service; what interpretation they will put upon it I am not able to foresee, but I am very sure they will not be able to say you have outdone your duty. I have heard nothing, but by your Grace's letter, of the presentments in Munster, and therefore must be silent till I know the matter.

I gave your Grace an account of my Lord Ranelagh's being prosecuted at law, by my last to your Grace, which I find hath not yet come to your Grace's hands, but I do not see that anything can be proceeded in that affair until the next term.

I should with all my heart attend your Grace at Kilkenny without the least delay, but really, my Lord, I am in no condition for the journey. If I find that I can be capable of undertaking it by any sudden amendment, I shall not fail

with my daughter Ardglass, who is your Grace's most humble and most obliged servant, to wait upon your Grace before you begin your journey; if I cannot attempt it by that time I shall endeavour to kiss your Grace's hands as soon as possibly I can after your return.

I have now received the enclosed from one Mr. Dalton, a clergyman and a Justice of [the] Peace in the county of Waterford; your Grace will see that he apprehends himself at some loss, because the offender is the subject of a foreign Prince. I desire your Grace's pleasure what I shall return unto him concerning the informations which have been taken against the Frenchman. I heartily wish all happiness to your Grace and to all your noble family. Murrough presents this letter with the most perfect resignation to all your Grace's commands by &c.

ORMOND TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, August 1. Kilkenny.—I return your Grace the petition of the Godly which I conceive was not drawn by any friend of theirs, though the style be well enough imitated. It may not be amiss that Baron Hartstonge should know how well he is supposed to be thought of by the Brethren.

I had no intimation of any address made to the King by the Huguenots, and I doubt whether any such were made by any considerable number or persons of them, such of them as complain to their countrymen here doing it with great caution, though they seem to be very desirous to transplant themselves, but by the paper I send your Grace, which came from a great politician of that party, your Grace will judge that either [he] mistakes the constitution and posture of this kingdom, supposing it to be desolate and more dangerous for Protestants than places in the Continent, or that he would prepare for reception on easy terms, for certainly this kingdom is the safest retreat for them in Europe, hardly excepting England.

I sent your Grace, as I think, a copy of the order of Council concerning my Lord of Ranelagh. Jack Fitzpatrick was informed he was presently to give place to Commissioners to execute the Vice-Treasurer's office, but that I think depends on the conclusion of the new bargain, and how that stood when Mr. Secretary Jenkins wrote last to me your Grace knows.

By last night's post I received the originals of the enclosed copies from Sir Charles Meredith. That [one] given him by the Farmers will not I believe be justified by the letters they mention, nor what they do by the approbation of Taylor's being their treasurer, there being no mention made either in the letter or by them that he was to give me any account, much less that he was to be any check or control upon their payments. In my last letters I have given the Lords

Commissioners of the Treasury reasons why I did not take off the restriction that was laid upon their payments, and told them that I would continue it till upon consideration of those reasons I should again receive his Majesty's command to do it, which I have not yet had. The case standing thus, and they proceeding after this manner, I desire your Grace's advice how to proceed in the case ; till I receive it, the matter will rest as it is. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, August 2. London.—I was resolved to appear no more in the business of the new proposal before I had your Grace's of the 23rd of the last month, lest it might be thought that I did it more out of pique (peek) to the persons concerned in the undertaking than opinion that the undertaking is prejudicial to his Majesty's affairs there. The Prince of Orange comes to town to-morrow in order to his return into Holland, though he intended when he came to town before to stay ten days longer. The King's not allowing him to dine with my Lord Mayor is thought to be the reason of his going back so soon.

I have this last post received three letters from very good friends of mine, all putting in modestly for the Governor of the Hospital's place, Cary Dillon, Ned Vernon and Tom Fairfax. I writ formerly to acquaint your Grace that the King is very willing to gratify Colonel Jeffreys, but if your Grace is engaged to any of these before, you have it now at your dispose to oblige which of them you please, but I think the having a wife will be thought inconvenient when you come to make rules for the government of the Hospital, and I must confess that I promised my assistance to Colonel Jeffreys, not knowing these persons would be pretenders to it, and he had got the King's letter to you for it by the interest of his countryman Secretary, if I had not promised to write, or they could have told how to draw up a letter for the purpose.

Lord Hamilton Arran and my Lord Mordaunt fought this day with sword and pistol, neither hurt with shot, but both wounded with sword, Lord Arran through the thigh, the other through the arm and into the body, but, it is believed, not mortal.

JOHN ELLIS to —————

1681, August 2. London.—One Bolton a bookseller near the Old Exchange, was committed on Saturday for having said he knew of engines at work to depose the King, and that he hoped to see a Commonwealth again in England. He has moved for his *habeas corpus* and it is granted by the Lord Chief Justice Pemberton, who returned from the circuit on Saturday. Mr. Oates desired this man might not be taken by a warrant because it would, he said, be prejudicial to his reputation, and he presented him to Mr. Secretary upon demand. Some of the Irish witnesses lodged at his house

and he says he has lent and spent amongst them above 100*l.* for his share.

Mr. Oates is printing the sermon he preached before the weavers the 25th past, or else it would have been printed for him, and will yet be if he does correct anything he said there. Among the rest this passage is said to be one, that the real and personal crucifixion of our Saviour was neither necessary nor available to the salvation of mankind.

The Lord Mayor and his guests take it very ill that the Prince of Orange did not dine with them on Saturday. They had provided for his company all the Dissenting aldermen that were in town, and others of the same stamp, and sent for some out of the country on purpose, as Sir John Frederick, Sir Robert Clayton, Mr. Du Bois, Mr. Papillon, etc.

The Prince comes to-morrow from Windsor and dines at Arlington House, and goes away, as it is designed on Thursday. We hear from Scotland that the Lord Chancellor is dead, that Lord Atholl officiates in his place at present, but it is thought the seals will be given to Lord Queensberry.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, August 2. Dublin.—Your Grace will hardly believe that though I employed Sir Joshua Allen to get me bills of exchange for Bristol, yet he could not upon the Exchange find any merchant that deals there at this time, which puts such an inconvenience upon me that I shall be much to seek, for this place affords little or no English money, and guineas are not very plentiful. However, if I have no better success this evening (for this disappointment has kept me here this day) I will set forward to-morrow and hope by Mr. Rooth's means to be accommodated with bills for Bristol. Mr. Anderson, my Lord Arran's chaplain, was just now with me and told me that he understands Mr. Lloyd, your present chaplain to the regiment, expects to be preferred to St. Nicholas' parish within the walls here, which is become void by Mr. Dover's death, and presuming that if Mr. Lloyd succeeds in this he will resign his chaplain's place to the regiment. He humbly begs your Grace's favour in preferring him to the regiment alleging he has some time since had a promise of it from my Lord Arran whenever Mr. Lloyd should be preferred. I could not deny him the representing of his request to your Grace, and at the same time told him it was not improbable but both he and Mr. Lloyd would be disappointed, because I knew Mr. Sterne had engaged his friends to intercede with your Grace and my Lord Archbishop of Dublin for the living of St. Nicholas which, though in the donation of the Dean and Chapter of St. Patrick, I thought would not be denied him, if your Grace and my Lord Archbishop interposed for him; and Mr. Mathew Barry tells me he has a promise from both your Graces in behalf of his cousin Sterne.

THOMAS TAYLOR TO CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1681, August 3. Dublin.—I have received yours and have desired Mr. Yarnar to bring it unto you. This is the map of Strafford's survey of the parish of Nenagh which I had of Sir William Petty, and not remaining in my office as Deputy Surveyor General, I could not sign it so. They are a member of our office and ought to remain and be lodged in the place from whence they were taken, for he had them in former time (but sent him) to help him in the Down Survey, but instead of that he left out here and there a line to disguise the work and to make absolute and unprofitable, and Patrick Raggett the surveyor did it, as I remember, and never surveyed the land yet was paid for it. Therefore if his Grace the Duke of Ormond would be but pleased to issue out an order to Sir William Petty to deliver them into the office, they would be much to His Majesty's service, for his clerk demanded fees for the use of the map for us to draw it out by.

SIR L. JENKINS TO ORMOND.

1681, August 6. Whitehall.—The Prince went hence on Thursday and lay at New Hall that night. Our citizens and our malcontented great ones would have it so that he returns not well-satisfied with the Court, but I hope that time will show them and others the contrary, However, they have had (all that would) free access to him. The breach that some of our people would have had with France at the Prince's instigation is not like to be so sudden, for the French do now declare (Monsieur Barillon was with me just now) that provided they have the county of Chiny and its dependencies they will refer all other matters in claim or difference to the conferences at Courtray. Not that I lay any stress upon this promise, but that it sets us where the Dutch laboured to be. They pressed the Spaniards to yield Chiny; they have done it: we and they pressed the French all that was possible to refer all to the conferences at Courtray; they now say they have done it.

I am here to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's letter of the 30th past from Kilkenny. In the first part of it you are pleased to take notice of the order for taking off the stop upon proceedings against my Lord Ranelagh; in the other that it would be of service to the King that your Grace and others in His Majesty's service there should be thoroughly informed of his Majesty's intentions concerning a new bargain for his revenue there. My Lord of Conway and myself are long since entered perfectly into your Grace's sentiments, and I shall not fail, God willing, some time to-morrow to lay your Grace's letter and excellent sense before His Majesty.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, August 6. London.—I had this morning your Grace's of the 27th and 30th of the last delivered me by Sir Lionel Jenkins, and your Grace's of the 30th to him he received before me [and delivered] to my Lord Conway, who was then at his office expecting Lord Hall and Lord Hyde, and Mr. Seymour. He will show your letter to-morrow unto his Majesty, who I know will not take it ill, but I believe the Chief Lord of the Treasury will, since in the last discourse I had with him he told me no positive bargain should be made before matters were transmitted to you, but if directions are given to the Attorney General to draw up a patent that business of the new undertaking is gone farther than he owned to me as you will find in my letter from Windsor upon that subject. You find by this time that my Lord Ranelagh had no ground for what he writ, but would fain engage you of his side by endeavouring to exasperate you against the new undertaking. Since yours of the 23rd I have not enquired after the matter, neither shall I now, for if your letter works, notice will be taken of it to rise, which I shall be prepared for.

The before-mentioned Lords of the Council being met yesterday at Secretary Jenkins's office, and I passing through the garden to my sister Ossory's lodgings was called in, and my Lord Conway speaking for the rest, told me they intended to prosecute Mr. Hetherington upon your account, it being thought not so proper at this time to do it upon the Queen's or the Duke's account by reason of their religion, though the like conspiracy can be proved against them. He told me that I being upon the place they thought it proper to acquaint me with the matter and withal desired to know what I thought of it. I told them I was very unwilling to take so much upon me as to advise the doing it, having no authority from you, besides the juries were so packed now that I thought no right would be done though the proofs were never so clear, but that in a short time I might receive your commands in the matter, but my Lord Hyde said no time was to be lost so that I was in a great dilemma, having nobody to advise with and the business intended being against my own little judgment. The answer I gave at length was that I would wait upon his Majesty at Windsor to-morrow, and if he thought it for his service that this way should be proceeded on I was sure you would acquiesce in it. This answer pleased them; I know not whether it will your Grace. I believe there will be no need of my help in the business of Clerk of the Council, but if there should, I shall be ready to serve Mathew Barry.

I intend unless you contradict it to be in Ireland by Michaelmas next, and upon consideration do not purpose to bring my wife with me, though she is not unwilling to go.

I should have been much concerned for my mother's distemper had not your last letter by the same packet informed me of her being recovered of her fever. You will hear of the treat made by the prentices to the statesmen, &c.; not being commanded to go as others were I dined that day with the Prince of Orange, who immediately after dinner took coach for New Hall.

ERASMUS SMITH to the GOVERNORS OF SCHOOLS of ERASMUS SMITH.

1681, August 6. London.—Having considered of your letter of the 7th of June last and advised upon the state of the case therewith sent me as drawn by Mr. Solicitor General, though I have the greatest regard for his worth and parts, yet since my counsel here differ from him in opinion, I hope it will not be taken amiss that I now repeat my desires for the perfection of the further charity by me intended for Christ's Hospital. What my counsel here have observed upon the case results in this, that it is conceived the Bill transmitted (whereon Mr. Solicitor lays the stress of his argument) is out of doors since the corporation is erected pursuant to the certificate and letters patent which declare the particular trusts and uses, the said letters patent being by the explanatory Act effectually confirmed and discharged of all demands other than what are reserved in the same letters patent. As to that clause which seems to confirm the transmitted Bill, it can admit of no other reasonable construction (taking it together) than to secure the lands therein mentioned from some proceeding of the Court of Claims to which the lands of other adventurers were liable by the said Act. If it were otherwise and that the Bill transmitted since the passing the explanatory Act were of such force as Mr. Solicitor General would seem to have it, what needed the subsequent certificate and letters patent? I am sure it was not without advice that they were prosecuted and obtained and that at no small charge; that there is a surplussage of the revenue beyond what the certificate and letters patent provide for, is evident by the rent rolls and accounts transmitted hither, and it is as clear that the letters patent (which now have the force of an Act of Parliament) have provided for such further charitable uses and trusts as shall be by me desired without limitation of persons or place and upon erection of the corporation shall be expressed and declared. Therefore (my Lords and Gentlemen) you knowing my intentions formerly and that now it is not in my power to reverse anything that is past, it being not now my concern but the Hospital's, I once more on behalf of the Governors of Christ's Hospital and those public uses mentioned, humbly desire your concurrence therein.

Addressed to His Grace the Lord Primate and Chancellor of Ireland and the rest of the Governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, Esqre., pursuant to His Majesty's charter.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, August 6. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 23rd and 30th of the last month. As to the matter of the new undertaking it seems to be still a secret too good to be imparted, and by what Sir John Topham writes, it seems nothing in contradiction or interruption is heard with patience by some of the Lords of the Treasury, so that there must be some great and good mystery in the matter that I am content to be ignorant of, till others are content I should know it. In the meantime you will see by the enclosed copies that the present Farmers act as if they were masters as well as farmers of the revenue without any control. I do not find but that all the accounts required from hence by the Lords Commissioners letters of the 5th of March and 21st of June were sent; if amongst them the accounts of the Vice-Treasurer be wanting it must be because they were not then taken (as they are to be but once a year) or that the Vice-Treasurer has omitted to transmit a duplicate of them to the Treasury of England as he is by his instructions obliged to do; this you may tell my Lord Hyde. If the new undertaking go on, and if the revenue shall be increased I conceive it will be necessary there should be some alterations in the Establishment, the particulars whereof I shall be ready to lay before his Majesty when it shall be a proper time.

My Lady Frances Keightly has changed her mind almost as often as my Lord Longford, who is not yet here, and she will have no use of the frigate. When I meet with Sir Robert Southwell at Kinsale, which will be about the 21st of this month, we will consult how my Lord Courcy may be served.
Copy.

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1861, August 6. Blessington.—By the copy of my Lord Arran's letter, which your Grace was pleased to send me, I apprehended that the surplusage of the rent which by the new contractors is to be paid for the revenue of this kingdom was intended for his Majesty's use in England, which is now made clear by Sir John Topham's letter, which I presume to enclose to your Grace, though I doubt not but your Grace will receive an account thereof from himself. That which I most scrupled at in this matter (for doubtless we ought all to be satisfied that this kingdom is made capable of serving his Majesty under any of his occasions) is, that it seems not altogether agreeable to what your Grace was by his Majesty's letters directed to say, that the money to be raised in this country should be employed for the benefit and security of this kingdom. So that if his Majesty should have occasion

to call a parliament here, I fear it would not be to do anything considerably for the increase of his Majesty's revenue since it already affords more than is thought sufficient for the use of this kingdom. This I doubt may be the effect of the ill timing this business; whereas if the Parliament had been first called, and that they had done their work, and the materials of the present revenue had been raised afterwards it had in my humble opinion been much better. But perhaps there are no intentions of calling any Parliament here, but that this method proposed by the new contractors is thought a better way, then I confess my argument is out of doors, if they perform. I presume to trouble your Grace with the enclosed letter from Mr. Tubman, by which your Grace may see the proceedings or at least the vogue of the Court against persons supposed disaffected to the present Government in Church and State. That part of the letter which refers to your Grace immediately, is, as I suppose, what is discoursed only in some coffee houses, for I have not received the least hint thereof from any private hands.

The Lord Bishop of Derry's letter is come to him to be admitted to the Council and I have advised him to keep it by him until such time as your Grace shall think fit for swearing him. He came thus far on his journey to attend your Grace at Kilkenny, but he being not very well in his health I have advised him to take some other time for doing it.

If your Grace shall have liberty to object against the new pretended contract when the contractors have said all upon it that they can, and that the Attorney hath perfected the draft according to the covenants they themselves desire, it may perhaps be more seasonable for your Grace's review and examination than at any time before, when the animadversions might have been by them pretended to have been reserved in their own thoughts, which they intended to correct accordingly; which after it is perfected by the Attorney they will not be capable of saying.

LORD ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681, August 6. Arlington House.—It is high time for me to render your Grace my most humble service for the favour of one of your good hawks which I have sent into the country in hopes to overtake it there before the season comes in to fly her.

I did heretofore engage Monsieur de St. Helene to reserve himself from other employments to wait upon my Lord of Ossory as his governor, when it was thought he was to go presently into France, and this at the entreaty of his father at his last voyage into Holland, who was pleased to promise that the said St. Helene should have some recompense for his uncertain dependence either in money or by procuring his son some military employment in Ireland, both which failing

I have been importuned by many such kind of letters as the enclosed from the said St. Helene to which I never made answer because in truth I knew not what to say; but he having now taken care that he who gave me this his last shall call for an answer, I told him I knew not what other use to make of it than to send it [to] your Grace, who, I wish, had one hundred pounds to spare with which I might stop his mouth since the equity of his demand will in all probability keep it still open to your Grace's great trouble and mine if something of this kind be not done. I beg your pardon for the importunity on my part. I should add that the son despairing of his Irish military employment is as I am told serving now actually in Tangier.

The Prince of Orange is returned, as the discontented party says, not well satisfied with his negotiations here, but this advantage he hath had to himself that he hath clearly seen the hands of both sides playing our great game. I pray God he may make good use of it. I think the Irish farm is laid to sleep for I hear no more news of it at those few meetings to which I am called. Although I trouble your Grace seldom in this kind, yet I fail not from time to time to impart to my Lord of Arran all things that come to my knowledge which I think worth your Grace's curiosity or service.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, August 9. Kilkenny.—I begin to think it impossible but that the proposals for a new farm or undertaking must have at least some fair appearance of advantage to the King's affairs, but then it remains a mystery why it should not be exposed to examination, because that whatever the advantage is it cannot be the worse, but may be the better secured by advising with some on this side, and it may be shown that the King and the subject have suffered much in the Earl of Ranelagh's undertaking, and in the last farm, for want of communicating and wording of the covenants, but the resolution you have taken not to meddle any more in the matter unless you are called upon is now best.

As to the government of the Hospital I conceive his Majesty will think fit to leave the rules to the composure of those that shall be chosen by those that pay for the founding and endowing of it, yet so as that the rules may be subject to his Majesty's confirmation, and I doubt all the present pretenders may fall under an incapacity by the constitution that will be thought proper. First it is like married men may be barred, as I think they are in Sutton's Hospital, and that lies in the way of Cary Dillon and Ned Vernon. Next it may be reasonable that the choice of a governor may be restrained to such as have borne considerable office in the Irish army which Colonel Jeffreys has done, but then it may

be thought fit that it should also be limited to such officers as have contributed out of their pay to the building of the house and that will exclude him ; another rule may be that no man shall hold a command in the Army and the government of the Hospital together, and this reaches Tom Fairfax unless he will quit his command of the Foot Guards. However, I think it is too early for His Majesty to interpose his commands in behalf of anybody since it may discontent many and satisfy but one, and not that till at least a year to come, and this is all I can say on that subject, which you may discourse with Mr. Secretary Jenkins.

I have received two letters from his Majesty undersigned by my Lord Conway in behalf of my Lord Dunkellin, the one to make him governor of the county of Galway, the other to give him the first troop of horse that shall be void. The first may presently be done and shall be when anybody shall prosecute the taking out a commission ; for the other he must stay till the command of a troop shall fall, unless his Majesty shall think fit to dispose that of Capt. FitzGerald's to him by reason of FitzGerald's very peevish carriage and dangerous correspondence, both which are and have been apparent enough, but his Majesty for the disposing of commands in his army I think need give no other reason than his pleasure, and it will soon be known upon what that is grounded. If his Majesty shall at any time think fit to place such a mark of his displeasure where ground of suspicion is sufficiently manifest he cannot find a fitter subject than that gentleman, who has been encouraged and courted to behave himself better than he has done, as far as it lay in my power ; and the giving his command to the Lord Dunkellin in consideration of his conversion and to encourage his persistence and to bring over others to the communion of our Church may be a seasonable demonstration of the King's zeal to enlarge and secure it. If his Majesty shall think fit to bestow this correction where it is certainly merited it will be fit at the same time to remove the captain from the Council, and for that the reason may be given, that is, because that in a representation to his Majesty containing nothing but the truth he refused to subscribe to it contrary to the rules and orders of Council and to the duty of a councillor in which refusal he was single, all others present subscribing. I confess I have neglected the giving this character of Capt. FitzGerald longer perhaps than I ought to have done, partly in hope he would have seen the error of his ways and made some satisfactory application, partly for my respect to his family of which I am descended, but chiefly by my natural backwardness to do ill offices, where I can with duty and faithfulness avoid it. If his Majesty shall not think it seasonable to proceed thus with him the proposition ought to be secret. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF DERBY.

1681, August 10. Kilkenny.—I have been the less careful to give you an account of your lady's safe landing and health because I was sure she would do it herself, and if she should fail that yet others that attended her would not. I must own your lordship's kindness to her and her friends to be great in permitting her to give us a visit, but I must withal confess to your lordship that as the case stood with her I should not have importuned you for it but that I hoped your affairs would have permitted your coming with her, nor was my desire of seeing you limited to the bare satisfaction I promised myself in your conversation, though that would have been very delightful to me, but knowing myself to have reason to be more concerned for the honour and prosperity of yourself and family than most men have, and having had experience in the world that ought in some measure to supply my natural defects, I was in hope by freedom and sincerity of discourse to have said something to you that you would not have been the worse to have heard, and I beg your lordship's leave to say I cannot but fear that business and difficulties were represented to you greater than they were to prevent the interview, and that for ends differing from mine and not calculated for your lordship's true interest. This freedom your lordship may allow to my real affection and to the interest I have in your happiness.

If your lordship cannot spend a winter in this country (which shall be made as diverting to you as I can) your lady shall be sent you about the time you set her, and in all events I shall be found to be your lordship's most affectionate grandfather and most humble servant. *Copy.*

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, August 13. Kilkenny.—What is proposed for the bringing in some of the remaining Tories of Ulster upon pardon without the exception of murder and without their doing any previous service, I cannot agree to, and if pardon should be given to one murderer it can no ways be justified but by his bringing at least one other to justice and that perhaps may be done, because nothing can sooner bring quietness to the country or discourage Torying more than their betraying one another and this your Grace may be pleased to let the proposers know to be my sense.

There came hither yesterday a gentleman that came out of Scotland since the Parliament there began; he says there was great appearance of their unanimity and loyalty, that the Duke at the opening made a speech wherein he professed his readiness (or rather as I suppose the King's) to concur in all things that might secure the Protestant religion as established by law, and that his Royal Highness had taken the oaths of allegiance and supremacy which, I think, are at

least as full and binding as those in England, and for the taking whereof I do not believe the Pope will dispense, though he perhaps would in cases less honest and less in his power. As the arrear is great that the Duke's Vice-Treasurer represents the farmers to be in, so the compliments are many that I receive from the officers of the Army for want of the pay due to them in March last, no part of the June pay being paid to any and yet we are now near the middle of August. Whether this arrear and disappointment be occasioned by their taking out of the revenue the 24,000*l.* which is two parts of three of a quarter's pay to the Army I know not, nor can I foresee how or when they will come to even their reckonings with the establishment.

I have had some trouble in taking the examinations of one Patrick French, upon whose former informations about ten or twelve persons are under question at Limerick and bound over to the next assizes. He came from thence to me when the Judges were sitting and told me he had a witness of quality and credit to produce that would discover the whole Plot, but that he was under the obligation of an oath not to name him to any but to me, and not to me till I had promised he should have his pardon, which, when I had done, he named Mr. John Anketell. Thereupon I told him I would send for Anketell (who I remembered was one of those bound over upon French's or some other information) but French was very earnest that he might be the messenger, but I thought it better to send for him by the post and keep French here, who at first seemed very confident that Anketell would verify all he had said of him, but when he saw he was not permitted to go for him he said that if Anketell should deny it he had other witnesses to prove it which he had placed behind the wall of a garden where they held discourse. I required him to name the witnesses, which he did, and they were two butchers of the Sullivans his neighbours in a little market town within a mile of Anketell's house. These I sent order to the Sheriff to have brought to me to Carrick on Monday next, intending to keep French with me till then, though he was very impatient of staying and would have been gone on pretence to look to his harvest, but as I suppose to instruct his witnesses. When he saw permission would not be given him he spoke angrily, and said the King's evidence was discouraged, and the day before yesterday fairly ran away from the trooper that had him in charge, not as a prisoner, but as one who being sent with him by Sir William King I was at the charge to keep with him, and I suppose he is gone to his witnesses, suspecting I had sent for them and might examine them before he had given them their lesson, and thus I have entertained your Grace with a story which at another time would not be worth your trouble. I forgot to set down that Anketell came hither whilst French was here, denied

that ever he told him he had anything to discover, or desired he should move for his pardon, but confessed that about three years ago there was a meeting of Popish bishops in a waste house on his land for the consecration of a new bishop, at which he and many gentlemen of that persuasion were present to see the ceremony. He confessed also that hearing French was about to accuse many of that country, he desired him not to bring him to trouble since he could not truly charge him with any crime, and now I am at the end of my story and paper. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, August 13. Whitehall.—I have now the honour of no less than four of your Grace's letters before me; those by Col. Fitzpatrick and Sir Maurice Eustace require an acknowledgment of your Grace's infinite condescension towards me in recommending to me those persons I had a great ambition to be known to, especially Col. Fitzpatrick to whose figure abroad as well as his relations at home I was not a stranger, though I was to his person.

Your Grace's third letter, which is of the 30th of July I had the honour to lay before the King the beginning of this week, and to read it to him all alone. His command to me upon it was that your Grace might and ought to rest satisfied that it was his meaning and resolution too that your Grace should be acquainted with all the terms and conditions of the new farm before the bargain should be struck. This was his Majesty's answer; and though he was not pleased to descend into particulars, yet I will hope my Lord of Arran and Col. Fitzpatrick will be able to satisfy your Grace that this is intended, that all will be communicated unto you in good time, for the King is perfectly satisfied that your Grace does not pretend to it but for his better service.

Your Grace's letter of the 28th July, which was showed me but yesterday, I had not the opportunity to lay before the King, therefore I must beg your Grace's respite, as also Sir John Davys's and Mr. Lucas's till I have a moment of audience upon your Grace's overtures in their behalf.

I do not know whether your Grace will reckon it as something of a surprise that my Lord of Kinsale is (instead of going into Ireland) ordered to be removed from Oxford to Monsieur Faubert in this town, as your Grace will see by a copy of an order of Council herewith enclosed, the original whereof I send this night to my Lord Bishop of Oxford. I did humbly move that your Grace might be first heard, being a guardian to the minor, and had not without reason proposed the removing of him straight into Ireland, but his Majesty was pleased on Thursday last to over-rule it otherwise and to determine to have that young lord for some time made acquainted with the breeding of this academy. The other

order of Council relating originally and directly to the quit rents in the plantations will not be, as I suppose, unwelcome to your Grace, though it be made to reach Ireland.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, August 13. London.—It seems what I writ to your Grace in my last concerning the prosecuting Hetherington upon your account was only a sudden resolution of those lords that met at the Secretary's, for when I told his Majesty of the matter and resigned all to him, desiring that he would be so kind to you as to consider well how he exposed you, I found he was quite against the thing, so that that affair is out of doors. My uncle Fitzpatrick will give you an account of what passed betwixt him and his Majesty upon the delivery of your letter, which will be to your satisfaction, and I am very confident that what is said to you is very real. He has acquainted the King with the passage betwixt Sir Oliver St. George and you, and I have since discoursed with his Majesty upon that subject, and I am of opinion that since you have said so much to him, you ought to follow your blow; I am sure you may have the King's order for turning him out of his employments when you please, and why you should lose any time in the matter I cannot see any ground for, but your judgment is so far above mine that I shall not presume to say any more, but wait your directions in it. Next week there will go orders for shipping to bring our men from Tangier, but the plague being in those parts where money used to be returned, it is absolutely necessary that their pay should be returned in specie, therefore I hope your Grace will give timely orders about it; the ships will touch at Kinsale to carry the money. Capt. Gilbert Talbot has dealt with a nephew of his own for his company. He is a very proper gentleman, and being of that family I do not doubt but he will behave himself as he ought to do whenever occasion shall happen; therefore I desire he may have the company. He will be in Ireland next month.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, August 13. Kilkenny.—Though I have heard the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have adjourned their meetings and business till after Michaelmas, yet possibly this vacation may be fittest for the affair relating to the Revenue of Ireland. I therefore send you copies of papers, that have passed betwixt me and the Farmers upon occasion of their issuing warrants without the inspection, or subscription of the Commissioners appointed, wherein you will see my sense of their proceeding, which though it may not be agreeable to that of the Lords Commissioners, yet I held it not safe for me to forbear declaring of it, because that if hereafter it should be found that what the Farmers press for as directed by his Majesty

is of great inconvenience to him, it may be said the orders were not positive, as in truth they do not seem to me to be but conditional, that is, in case the allegations upon which the orders are founded are true ; let me but have put plain and positive directions, and then the Farmers shall have no further interruption nor the lords any further trouble upon the account in question from me, and this I would have you let the King and the Lords of the Treasury know, that it may not be believed that I affect any opposition to the Farmers or to the bargain in hand any further than my duty requires, and if they will afford leisure for it you may shew them all the papers I send you or leave copies of them in the Treasury office if it shall be required.

That they are in the arrear represented by the Duke's Vice-Treasurer and that the regiment of guards and a great part of the Army are behind of their March pay is evident, and that the reason why they are so is their taking out of money for their private occasions may reasonably be presumed, as also that they will grow more and more in arrear till the quit rent, the hearth money and the better quarters for customs shall come in. The foresight of this and the declaring of it may be of some excuse to me, but it will give me little ease when I shall be called upon and importuned for relief by all that shall be disappointed ; since I writ this I am told the Farmers have paid six companies of the regiment of Guards for the three months ending in March, but when the other six will be paid is not mentioned, much less is there any thought of satisfying the June quarter, though we are now in the middle of August towards Michaelmas quarter.

I have just now received yours of the 6th instant, and cannot be sorry my letter of the 30th to Secretary Jenkins has been shown the King, there being nothing in it I think unreasonable or disrespectful to the ministers who cannot blame me who am answerable in a great measure for this kingdom if I desire to know what bargain is about to be made for the revenue (which is the support of it) before it be concluded.

I leave Hetherington's prosecution and my part in his combination and subornation entire to his Majesty's direction, but as I think the Statute that makes it capital to conspire against the Queen's life is in the 25th of Edward III, when religion was not in the case, and if the matter of fact will not be found by a jury in her case, I doubt whether it will in mine, but all this is better known and considered there than it can be to me.

Your inclination to come over about Michaelmas and leave your wife there would seem to say you mean to return again into England, which if you intend to do in the winter season, I should rather advise your stay there unless there be some indispensable business in the case, of which I am ignorant.

Sir Richard Parsons (for he is no more yet) is in the hands and government of Mr. Adam Loftus, and he undertakes

to make void all the conveyances he made when he was in the tuition of his Cousin Parsons, and so a suit is like to ensue. In the meantime I know not whether what he past over to you will stand good or no, especially if Mr. Loftus will not suffer him to take out his patent for vice-count, but I think you are to watch that no new letter be gained which possibly may defeat you, but that he may be a vice-count upon the letter you got, or no viscount at all. I am not perfect in the case or in this learning, but I hold it fit you should know as much as I. *Copy.*

[SIR MAURICE EUSTACE TO PRIMATE BOYLE.]

1681, August 13. London.—My Lord Chancellor, who is extremely your Grace's friend, made a speech to Mr. Coppinger yesterday at the Board and told him that though the King took upon him the trouble of this cause, yet he did expect that no advantage should be made thereof for further delay, yet because Coppinger should be left without excuse, or rather because the Council adjourns next Thursday, and that the King will stay at Newmarket till near the term, the cause is by consent to be heard the beginning of the term, and we to enter into ten thousand pounds recognizance each to the King to stand to his judgment. My Lord President spoke not a word in the debate, though I pressed hard for a shorter day, which for the reasons before mentioned could not be.

I offered to admit of all his papers, and satisfied the King fully that Coppinger designed nothing now but delay, as all along he laboured to asperse your Grace and the other Judges and his Majesty by a necessary consequence. His Majesty was fully convinced of it, and was very willing to shorten the work if it could be done, but at last Coppinger told them in his impudent way that he must go for Ireland. My Lord Privy Seal who dined the day before at my Lord Conway's, and there seemed to be clear on the decree's side only whispered my Lord Chancellor, but spoke nothing openly, but my lord told me yesterday in the afternoon that I had a special friend at the Board, naming my Lord Privy Seal, and Mr. Seymour told me at Windsor that he was sure my Lord Anglesey would be against me at the Board because he was then for me, that being his usual method. Never was man more abused between jest and earnest than his lordship was by Mr. S[eymour] at dinner that day, and I am told he uses him at the same rate at Council board.

I am just now going to Windsor where the King's stay is uncertain; the new farm is yet at a stand. I am told that it seems very plausible, but yet hath some difficulties that stick. His Majesty is as well as ever I knew him, and full of resolution not to be any more hectored by the Whigs, which gives great heart to his friends. A considerable courtier showed me a letter which he lately had out of the country

that gives him a full narrative of Sir Richard Stephens's demeanour in order to his election for the Parliament at Oxford by virtue of letters from my Lord Shaftesbury, etc., and he told me that he had formerly sent my Lord Lieutenant an account of it, whereupon he hears that Sir Richard resolves to come over to clear himself, which he will find a hard task, for this person can justify every word of the letter and resolves to attack him as soon as he comes. My Lord Chancellor asked very particularly for Col. Shapcott, and truly I gave him as impartial and as just an account of him as I could. Col. Fitzpatrick intends for the Bath next week. If anything occurs worth your Grace's knowledge whilst I stay here you shall not miss of it. All things go smoothly on in Scotland, and my Lord Chancellor told me that he heard there was an address coming over from the kingdom (as he called it) of Dublin. I told him that the King and Duke had very many good friends (and some inveterate foes) in that [place] and in the kingdom of Ireland, yet he concluded with me that nothing would stick in Parliament there (in my Lord Duke's time) that was for the King's service.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, August 15. Kilkenny.—In mine of the 9th I proposed an expedient for the accommodation of my Lord Dunkellin with a troop of horse, and at the same time the making of a necessary example of his Majesty's resentment of the miscarriage of another gentleman. You know there consorted with him another privy councillor and officer of horse with whom I have of late expostulated in a friendly manner, believing him to be much the honester and more valuable man, and one that as he had a good part in the Revolution that brought in the King, so I believe his word may be taken and his professions relied on, when he shall make them, as I believe when I see him next he will. But having spoken roundly to him, and let him know that it will be my duty to represent persons in those stations to the King as I believe them to be more or less affected and steadfast to his service, especially in such times as these, it is possible he may have communicated my discourse with the other, who may from thence suspect that I have sent my thoughts of him to his Majesty, and thereupon endeavour by his friends and relations (of which one is in a good post to serve him) to avert the chastisement due to his folly and ingratitude, but if it should come to a contest, and that carried for him, his Majesty will not only lose the great advantage of letting the world see that he will not allow those that get honour and profit in his service to affect mutiny or factious popularity, but the party will triumph and grow so insolent that it will be hard afterwards for me to serve my master as I ought. Hence it is to be concluded that the thing is never to be spoken of or speedily done without hesitation.

I am assured by a gentleman of quality that since my Lord Shaftesbury's last imprisonment letters have passed betwixt him and the gentleman in question, and certain it is that he has been at Dublin to keep up the spirits of the party with assurances that the good Earl will come off in splendour. This affair may safely be communicated to Mr. Secretary Jenkins.
Copy.

EARL OF CONWAY to ORMOND.

1681, August 16. Whitehall.—His Majesty being informed of several treasonable practices of the Lord Howard of Escrick when he fled into Holland during the late war, and of corresponding then with the States, by giving them intelligence and advice, and receiving money of them, as also writing and publishing libels there against the Government here, which are all excepted out of the last Act of Oblivion hath commanded us to endeavour to get sufficient evidence hereof, and being likewise informed that one Capt. Brodnex was privy to most of my Lord Howard's actions at that time, who is now living in Ireland near Limerick, a tenant to Sir William Temple's brother, his Majesty hath commanded me to desire your Grace to endeavour with all the privacy you can to bring this Brodnex to a confession of what he knows of this matter, though I think we shall have witness enough out of Holland, and have more than enough for treasons of a later date. Yet his Majesty will not omit any circumstance to show to the world what kind of man my Lord Howard hath been from the beginning.

I have nothing more in command at present, but as to my own particular I must acknowledge myself in great arrear to your Grace, for which I hope I have reason on my side sufficient to obtain your pardon. My Lord Hyde tells me just now that the Irish establishment is finished, and hath promised me a copy of it before it be presented to the King, but at present I know not one syllable of what is in it, nor of the new contract, more than I carried in my memory when it was first read to the King, at which time I spoke my mind freely, and they know I will do so again, and I believe this hath occasioned both delay and alterations in it, for the King was upon the point of quitting it, but how he was kept up is too long to relate. Affairs in Scotland go very well, and will certainly do so whatever your Grace may hear, as we do on all sides to the contrary. The Prince of Orange went from us with great expressions of kindness, obedience and service to the King and his interests as was possible, but there are others that pretend to a great share in him likewise. I doubt not but your Grace hears from many hands that the King's affairs do mend every day, and will certainly do so while the King keeps his measures, which there is no danger of from any but the French.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, August 18. Duncannon.—Having not had the opportunity yesterday morning before Capt. Aylmer called upon me of meeting with Sir William Stewart to inform myself particularly of what Sir Oliver St. George had writ to him concerning me, I have since endeavoured to recollect what could give Sir Oliver any ground of mentioning me to him as your Grace represented it to me. And I do still affirm that since your Grace's last expostulation with him (which as I remember was at the time your Grace went first to lodge at Chapel Izod) I have been so far from having any discourse of that kind with him that I have not had any manner of conversation with him. But about a month before that as he accidentally carried me from the Castle in his coach towards my own house, he let fall some words as if he thought ill offices had been done him to your Grace, to which I answered that I believed the contrary, because I have observed your Grace treated him with the same civility you did others, and this happened to be about two days after his first application to your Grace in your closet when you parted upon good terms. And this I do assure your Grace is all that ever passed between him and me upon this subject. The wind is still so contrary that notwithstanding the full moon, I see no likelihood of its change, which makes me very uneasy. I find by discourse with the officers that the Farmers have paid the March pay to all the companies at Ross, [in] this garrison and at Waterford, and your Grace's order to the collectors in these parts has had that effect that they promise payment of what sums your Grace has directed for this place and Waterford, notwithstanding the Commissioners have sent them no assignments for it.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE to ORMOND.

1681, August 20. Palmerston.—I find by your Grace's last letter that you have done all that is either fit or necessary to be done about the Farmers' business, and that you have ordered the matter much better than it would have been if you had made use of the draft that I sent you, so that that affair may, I think, now rest as it is till your Grace shall receive an answer of your letter into England concerning it.

Your Grace will find something in one of the last gazettes or news-letters of the plagues being much at Cadiz and some other ports of Spain, and of the King of France's having given orders that all ships coming from thence into his kingdom should perform their quarantine. I humbly submit it to your Grace's consideration whether it may not be fit for your Grace to give the like orders to the officers in the several ports here, or at least to direct the Farmers to take care of it, and to send such orders to their officers. The last great plague that was here was, as I have heard, generally believed to have been brought hither out of Spain.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, August 20. Whitehall.—The only commands from your Grace that I have now upon my hands are those relating to the Clerks of the Council there, and to Mr. Lucas. I did humbly propose both the one and the other in a summary way to his Majesty, then I read your Grace's letter distinctly to him, but his Majesty was pleased in both cases to declare he must do his endeavour to reduce all the dependencies upon the Court in that kingdom, as he does every day practise it in this to a *durante bene placito*. My Lord the Earl of Arran tells me he will attempt a representation to his Majesty upon these favourable cases. I shall be glad he do succeed. My good friend Mr. Ellis comparing notes with me, I find he hath all I can say and more too, touching College's trial so that I have no more to add, but etc.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, August 20. London.—I had on Wednesday last your Grace's letters of the 6th and 9th instant with the copies of yours to the Lords of the Treasury to Sir Charles Meredith, etc., etc., all relating to the arbitrary proceedings of the present Farmers. Those copies I have left with my Lord Conway, he being very desirous to be informed in those matters. I waited that day upon my Lord Hyde about the shipping for transportation of our men from Tangier, but have not got him to fix any time, yet he approves of the money being provided for them in specie. He took no notice to me of your letter to him and the rest of the Commissioners, therefore I said nothing to him of the matter, but I find that the representation you have made has put them to a stand for Sir John Topham. After long attendance, [he] was yesterday admitted to speak with my Lord Hyde freely upon that subject, and on Monday next he and Sir James Shaen are to be heard before him. He does not write to-day, but on Tuesday next he will give your Grace an account of all that has passed.

I am of the same opinion with your Grace that neither married men nor those actually in employment in the Army should be capable of being governors of the Hospital and therefore the three former mentioned in your letter of the 9th, Cary Dillon, Ned Vernon and Fairfax will fail of their expectation, but with submission I think Col. Jeffreys very well qualified for it, for if none but such as are contributors to it are in a capacity, and none but officers contributors, then it will follow that the officer that is thought proper must part with his command, and I hope it is not intended that the employment should be made so considerable as either foot company or troop of horse.

His Majesty has been this week at sea, so that I have not spoken to him about Capt. FitzGerald, and indeed I am unwilling to speak until I have an answer to this, the person I mentioned

in my last being in my opinion the properest to lead the way, and the other having so many relations, it may be worth consideration. I am sure so little time cannot prejudice the design. My Lord Blayney was yesterday taken into the custody of a messenger for high treason as being in Plunkett's Irish plot. What the particulars are I cannot tell, but Sir John Topham tells me his name was once mentioned in Ireland upon this account.

ORMOND TO COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, August 21. Cork.—I have only time to tell you that I have received yours of the 13th of this month with great satisfaction, [and] that my Master shall never be deceived by me or by any body else if I can help it.

By what you write I must conclude that whoever deals in the new bargain have designed to have the profit of the Vice-Treasurer's place, since they pay for it, and my Lord of Ranelagh has shown them the way when he proposed my Lord Aungier out of the same place. Consider what I say and that the proposing a thing that cannot be done is loss of ground, and then call for my letters again and they shall be sent, as they should now but that I am confident that it is already too late or else there will be time enough for a return. You will see my Lord Longford at the Bath if you are gone thither. Here is all outward appearance of duty and loyalty, great crowds and great feasting, and all other demonstrations of joy. I am called to church and can write no more. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, August 21. Cork.—I have this morning received yours of the 13th inst., and you will before now have received mine concerning two councillors and officers in the Army, but you will see that I distinguish them, the one is fit to be made an example of and good for nothing else, the other has more merit to plead in the King's restitution, which I would not have forgotten unless in case of plain misdemeanour and incorrigibleness, which I cannot yet charge him with; when I can I will not spare him or anybody else.

I am well content with your exchange betwixt the Talbots; it is a name I have great kindness for and am desirous to show it when it comes in my way. Fitzpatrick's letter is abundantly satisfactory in the part that mentions the discourse the King held with him. The more I have thought of your dividing your family the less I approve of it; it will certainly be best that you stay together or come together. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, August 22. London.—I have your Grace's of the 13th, with the copies of your letters to the farmers and Mr. Taylor, and because it is harder for me to meet with my

Lord Hyde than it is for Sir John Topham, I will give them to him to show his lordship. I believe Sir John has had no further discourse with him about that business, for I hear my lord came not to town until this morning.

I intend to discharge the family I have at Dublin and put off the house, which is a great charge to me; that and the settling some other concerns, amongst other reasons which I shall inform your Grace of when I wait upon you, do induce me to go over soon, though my return hither this winter should be necessary, for when one travels single the journey is neither very dangerous nor troublesome. The very hindering Sir Richard Parsons to play me such a trick as you mention will be worth my journey, but I hope my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge who has a great interest with Mr. Loftus will set that matter to rights.

The Court comes to town on Saturday next and, as it is said, the King intends then to have the opinion of the Judges how they may try my Lord Shaftesbury, and when the Court is in town I shall have opportunity enough to speak with my Lord Hyde upon any occasion that happens. There was a Council held here this day, and my Lord Blayney was brought before them, and the things laid to his charge being so improbable (being accused for a plot seven years ago) he was discharged. I am told that the Duke of Monmouth and Sir Thomas Armstrong are sent for to appear before the Council.

The Bill for settling the militia of Scotland is passed, but Duke Hamilton and his party made great opposition to the present passing of it, and the letter says he spoke above thirty times. It was a letter Sir Allen Apsly showed me, and his correspondent says the Duke was very much troubled at a report raised that you were to be removed.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1681, August 24. Rincurran Fort.—Your lordship's of the 15th instant found me here entertained very well by Sir N. Armorer, Governor of the place, but (without derogation to his hospitality) much better with the prospect of the most useful and delightful harbour that ever I saw, and that defended by most admirable batteries, capable of three hundred guns. To the landward it will be hard, and therefore proportionably chargeable, to make it defensible against a complete army, but such armies as England and Ireland could bring into the field in the last war it may, as it is, resist till relief can come, and this was all that was at first designed.

When I see the true state of my daughter Ossory's debts and compared them with my own condition, it shall appear that I desire to put her at ease. I cannot comprehend what your cousins would do with those they are gone so far to seek, for if they could find them, as it is not like they will, unless

they be willing to be found, our young man may well stay for their return and for the effect the more conversable air of Paris may have on their humour, but I presume your lordship's care and kindness will not be limited in your inquiry to that family since any other good one will content me, though with a much less fortune rather than rest long in uncertainty.

In my way hither and here all requisite observance and duty is paid to the King's authority and yet there remains visibly some lines of my Lord of Orrery's projection, and those tracings are kept as fresh as my Lady Ranelagh his sister can by her correspondence and influence on her family, which is great, even with her brother of Cork; as for the other branches she governs them very absolutely. I shall be glad to hear from Euston that your Irish hawks prove good, especially that [one] I thought so when I sent her. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1681, August 24. Dublin.—Sir John Champante about a fortnight since wrote to me in return to one from me, that within fourteen days he would be ready with the Vice-Treasurer's account; this brought me purposely hither this day to show myself, that he might not charge any delay upon the Commissioners. I have not yet seen Sir John since my coming to town, but I have discoursed with Mr. Pilkington (the principal clerk in the auditor's office) and he tells me that Sir John hath not yet brought to them his vouchers, but he promiseth part of them within these two or three days; in preparing of which and in the engrossing of the accounts he will desire but fourteen days, which is the least time can be allowed for that work; so that your Grace may see that we are not to expect those accounts this fortnight yet. Sir John Topham in his letter of the 16th instant gives me this account in gross of the new contract—

	£
The whole sum amounts unto.	300,000
Whereof:—	
To Tangier is to be paid in provisions.	8,000
In money	53,000
The establishment to be	204,000

If this method be resolved on I cannot foresee but that Ireland must be destroyed; if 53,000*l.* must be exported in money out of this kingdom every year it will be altogether impossible that the trade of this country can be supported above two years, the cash will not be sufficient to answer such a consumption. How a Parliament in Ireland will relish this matter is not difficult to foresee; but I cannot suppose that any such thing can be intended when such dissatisfactions are made previous to such a meeting.

I do not hear that affairs in Scotland move forward as was expected. They begin already to impeach the best and

greatest men amongst them very severely; and such warm beginnings seldom conclude to the advantage of the King or country.

The enclosed from Sir Maurice Eustace,* though it signifies not much, yet in regard it refers something to your Grace concerning Sir Richard Stephens, I thought fit to transmit to your Grace. Who the courtier is that he means I cannot tell, but your Grace will not be in the dark therein, if, as Sir Maurice says, he hath writ particularly to your Grace about it. I find Sir Maurice in some mistake, as I suppose, for Sir Richard Stephens hath been in England, and is returned hither and is now upon his circuit.

When I had wrote thus far Sir John Champante came to me and he assured me that his vouchers should be all ready in the auditor's office by this day sevennight at the farthest, and he doubted not but a fortnight's time after that would perfect his work and have it in a preparedness for the Commissioners.

I find by Sir John Topham that the Lords of the Treasury are much concerned at your Grace's last letters about the Farmers. You have put the matter so home upon them that they seem to be at some loss how to extricate themselves, and therefore they are resolved (as is said) as soon as the Attorney hath prepared the contract to expose it to a debate before it pass the seal; if so, I do verily believe that notwithstanding all this great fondness of the project it will come to the same issue with his former, or come forth so much changed as to appear another creature to what it was first designed. Pardon me, I beseech your Grace, this long scribble. I am heartily ashamed of it, and earnestly entreat your Grace's forgiveness.

ORMOND to EARL OF CONWAY.

1681, August 24. Rincurran Fort.—Yours of the 16th inst. found me here where I have taken a view of the best block-house to the best and most useful harbour that I ever saw. It is not yet so defensible to the landward as it may be made, notwithstanding the irregularity and disadvantage of the ground about it, and as the King intends it, but that must cost more than I have authority to lay out upon it, and more indeed than I doubt his Majesty will have fund for without the help of his subjects. But I hope it will be considered in the new establishment that the charge belonging to what is built will be at least 500*l.* a year more than the entertainment of the Governor and soldiers. There are other additions and alterations requisite which I do not mention, nor can properly unless I knew what fund there is in prospect, and what certainty there is of that fund. I have already inquired of some gentlemen of the county of Limerick of Capt. Brodnex, but can yet meet with nobody that knows any such man.

* See *supra*, p. 131.

As soon as I hear of him I will observe his Majesty's command in the best manner I can. I was too well informed of the disturbance your lordship lay under to expect a continuance of a correspondence that could not be easy to you in such a conjuncture, wherein I took the part that belonged to, etc.
Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, August 24. Bath.—On Saturday in the evening I went on board the *Swan* frigate, and it was this morning before I could reach Bristol, from whence I arrived here half an hour since and found my wife much amended in her health, which will encourage her to continue in this place a fortnight longer; but I intend the beginning of the next week for Court in order to the execution of your Grace's commands, and as soon as that is over I will step to London to my Lady Donegal to prepare my own affairs for my wife's return from hence, being resolved to spend as little time as I can in this kingdom, and consequently to hasten back into Ireland before the term. I have been here so little a time that I have not yet learnt how the world goes, only that in Bristol the Royal party much outdoes the other, as Sir John Knight confessed to me this morning. Jack Fitzpatrick is now with me, and presents his humble service to your Grace.

ORMOND TO SIR JOHN TEMPLE.

1681, August 26. Cork.—Since I received your last, which I think was here on Monday last, I have enquired after the trade held from these parts with those of Spain that are infected, and find that the traffic is most there; but they tell me withal that care is taken in Spain to keep the inhabitants of Cales where the plague rages most, from coming out of the town, neither are any suffered to go into it, yet I think it were fit that by Act of State some provision should be made to keep all vessels that come out of Spain from landing persons or goods till after a set time of probation of health; possibly the Farmers may ask defalcations for such an interruption of trade, as they will call such a restraint, but they will more reasonably demand it if the infection should be brought and spread among us, therefore I desire you would direct Mathew Barry to look for precedents in the Council books, and if you find any, to draw thereupon what may be proper in this case, and send it me.

Here lie in prison about a dozen persons upon account of the Plot, against whom bills for treason were found by the Grand Jury the last assizes, but when they were to be arraigned the witnesses, which were but two, could never be gotten together, though at several times they both appeared, and yet the Court and the parties accused took all the pains and care they could to have them and the accused are left still in prison, the Judges not thinking fit to bail them.

These men have petitioned me for their liberty upon sufficient security, but I have not held it convenient for me to give any order in it, only I have referred it to Sir John Meade and Mr. Worth to certify me the true state of each prisoner's case. The Judges with whom I have spoken are of opinion that a special commission should be issued for the trial of those men, that they may be acquitted or condemned, according to their own desire, due time and warning being given to all parties and witnesses. I desire your opinion in the case, and that a commission may be prepared if that be a proper and safe way. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, August 27. London.—I have your Grace's of the 15th inst., and since you are of the same mind you were in yours of the 9th concerning the person who has so misbehaved himself towards his Majesty and his government there, I will acquaint his Majesty with the contents of your two letters upon that subject before next Saturday's post, Sir Lionel being of that opinion, but I have not yet discoursed the matter with my Lord Arlington, and I am willing to stay a little for my Lord Longford's coming to town, who got to the Bath the 24th and from thence writ me word that he would be soon here, though he left his lady behind him, having papers of importance from you to deliver to his Majesty; if so, it will be a very proper time then to discourse of all together. His Majesty came to town this afternoon, but he had no public Council. The Attorney was with him, and the three great lords and Mr. Seymour, and I am told they dare not venture to bring a bill against my Lord Shaftesbury before the jury now empanelled at the Old Bailey, and it is not likely they will get a better. Sir John Topham will acquaint your Grace with what has happened since I writ last before the Lords of the Treasury in reference to the present Farmers. I cannot say the Lords of the Treasury, but my Lord Hyde will believe nothing against them, and without doubt will agree with the new proposals.

SAME to SAME.

1681, August 30. London.—I have your Grace's of the 21st from Cork, and finding by it that you still persisted in that of the Captain's being removed, I showed the King that part of your letter of the 9th, which concerned that matter, and his Majesty was pleased to command me to go to the Secretary and get a letter drawn up for the putting him by both the employments, which he will accordingly do. I desired the matter should be kept secret, and thought it best to have two letters, because the one must be read at the Board, and the other matter must be to you as General. I told his Majesty withal that you were informed from good hands

that he has held correspondence with the Lord in the Tower since his commitment. His Majesty answered he did not doubt of it. I mentioned nothing at all of the other, but if he does not give you satisfaction he will be as easily laid aside, as the other.

The Lords of the Treasury with several others of the Board met this day about the new proposals and establishment, but they concluded on nothing. Some alterations were desired to be proposed to the establishment, but they not having the old one by them, nothing was done, but what they altered will be sent to you, and when they have your answer they intend to proceed upon the covenants, and my Lord Chamberlain thinks they will not be sent you until all is agreed on, but proceed upon what the King's counsel at law there have transmitted.

Doctor Oates was yesterday forbid the Court, and my Lord Mordaunt reconciled to it. Lord Conway has lately married Mrs. Stowell, a young [girl] of fifteen years old, daughter-in-law to Henry Seymour.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE TO ORMOND.

1681, August 30. Palmerston.—I send your Grace herewith a proclamation that was formerly issued upon the plague's being in the Low Countries, wherein there will be no need of any alteration, but only in the names of the places, if your Grace shall now find it necessary to set out any to the like purpose. I spoke with Capt. Stone yesterday, who tells me that it is very seldom that any ships come hither from Cales at this time of the year, and that he had a letter by the last post from Mr. Upton, the Farmers' collector at Kinsale, who had a son at Cales until upon the plague's breaking out there he removed to Seville, who lately writ to his father that the plague was very much abated at Cales, and that there had not died one person of it there in four days before he writ his letter, so that it may not perhaps be amiss to defer setting out the proclamation till we hear something further from thence, Capt. Stone having promised me that the Farmers would [send] to their officers in the several ports to hinder for some time the landing of any persons or goods out of any ships that shall come in from those ports.

The Judges of the Munster circuit have, it seems, been very wary in not either bailing or discharging any the prisoners at Limerick, leaving, as I hear, many of them in prison, where an *ignoramus* was returned upon the indictments against them, and putting it upon your Grace to order them to be bailed, to whom I think it did not so properly belong as to them. For those against whom the bills have been found, they must come to their trial, but I cannot yet advise your Grace to issue a Special Commission in order to it, unless I knew what the evidence is against them, and where the witnesses now are ;

for the witnesses were, I suppose, bound over to the assizes, and upon their not appearing the Judges might have proceeded either to have tried them or bailed them as they should have thought fit. But if your Grace should now issue a Special Commission without any witnesses being bound over to appear before the Commissioners at their sitting, it may be said that this is done on purpose to have them tried, when there will be no evidence against them, and I do not see but that such Commissioners as your Grace shall appoint will have at least as much reason as the Judges of Assize had not to proceed to the trial of them when the witnesses shall not appear, and this course of issuing such special Commissions hath been usual when the King's evidence is ready, but seldom I believe made use of, only in favour of the prisoners when the King hath no evidence to produce against them. But in the meantime it seems to me reasonable that they should be bailed till the next assizes, which yet perhaps it may not be so fit for your Grace to order, without referring it first to some of the Judges to consider of the evidence and proceedings against them and to certify your Grace whether they ought in this case to be bailed, or at least until your Grace shall next sit here in Council, where the bailing of them may be fitter to be ordered than by your Grace alone.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, September 3. London.—I arrived here last night and kissed his Majesty's hands. He was pleased with great kindness to enquire of your Grace's health, and my Lady Duchess's, and having appointed me to attend him this morning, before I went to Whitehall I consulted my Lord Arran upon that paper your Grace gave me in commission to show his Majesty; and I did it the rather because having met Sir John Ernly at Newbury in my way hither he told me the farm of the revenue there was absolutely concluded on. So that upon this information, which in a great measure was confirmed by my Lord of Arran, I thought it no purpose to communicate to his Majesty that part of your Grace's instructions which related to Sir James Shaen, and the new farm, in which opinion my Lord Arran concurring I only read to his Majesty the first part of your Grace's paper concerning the factions on foot in Munster, with which his Majesty was so affected that he commanded me to tell your Grace he will turn out of the Council and Army those whomever your Grace thinks there in the least disaffected, and he particularly named the Bishop of Meath. His Majesty is also of opinion that the relics of my Lord Orrery's party are no friends to him, so that if your Grace would have Capt. Henry Boyle discarded, your Grace may have it done very easily, his Majesty having expressed his sense that there is no dallying now, and that there ought to be made a clean sweep of such

kind of men whose principles are averse to the Government. And I can assure your Grace that the impressions which his Majesty has received of Sir Oliver St. George (of whom I mentioned not one word) have made his removal very easy if your Grace thinks fit to pursue it, for when his Majesty told me the orders he had sent your Grace concerning Robin FitzGerald, he then added he must trust none of *Shaftesbury's or Essex's faction*, saying God's fish if he did not *keep them under they would ruin him*;* and by this your Grace may take a measure of his Majesty's resolution. This morning I waited upon my Lord Halifax, who inquired of your Grace with great respect, and after I had presented your Grace's service to him, he replied that he hoped your Grace had no opinion that he would supplant your Grace in that government, for he protested he never had, nor never would, entertain a thought of it. I confess I was very much surprised at the question, but I made him this answer, that as to your Grace's continuing or not continuing in the government your Grace would most cheerfully acquiesce in his Majesty's pleasure, and whenever his Majesty should think it for his service to remove your Grace from that government I was sure your Grace had rather his lordship should be his successor than any man in England, because your Grace had not only a great opinion of his lordship's honour and worth, but also that his lordship had so signalised his integrity and courage by adhering to his Majesty's interests so firmly in this late critical conjuncture that no man who loved his Majesty (of which number I was sure his lordship thought your Grace) would grudge at any mark of favour his Majesty should place upon his lordship. His lordship concluded the discourse with great professions of respect to your Grace, repeating again he never did, nor never would, entertain any thought to your Grace's disadvantage, and affirming that he thought no man so capable of serving his Majesty in that kingdom as your Grace.

Mr. Secretary Jenkins is entirely your Grace's creature and I am sure to the utmost of his power and skill will on all occasions serve your Grace. I was this morning also to wait upon my Lord Conway, but I came just as he was going to Whitehall, so that I had no time to discourse with his lordship. Four days since his lordship was married to Harry Seymour's daughter-in-law, with whom he has a portion of 13,000*l.* My Lord Hyde went yesterday morning by four of the clock post for Scotland (as it is believed) to acquaint his Highness with his Majesty's reasons why his Highness' presence here in this conjuncture may be inconvenient to his Majesty's affairs. And his lordship is sent because his discourse and arguments may satisfy his Highness better than a letter. Your Grace will in the prints (which I know Mr. Mulys sends your Grace constantly) have an account of the proceedings at the Old Baily and Hick's Hall Sessions, in both which the Court think they have got a victory:—first,

* The words in italics are in cipher See Introduction.

by the *habeas corpus*, which was denied to my Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Howard; secondly, in preventing the indictments for subornation against the King's witnesses against my Lord Shaftesbury; and thirdly, that the Bench at Hick's Hall culled out fifteen of the forty-eight which were presented by the Sheriff in the panel for the Grand Jury. The King goes to Newmarket on Thursday next.

I find by discourse with Sir John Topham that all the pensions and temporary payments are to be paid out of what the Undertakers shall make of the revenue above 271,000*l.* per annum, which my Lord Hyde calls the latter column of the establishment now in project. Sir John Topham tells me that the King has directed my Lord Conway to prepare a letter to your Grace for the payment of his salary for the last year as Commissioner of Inspection of the Concordatums. I met George Legge this morning, with whom I had not much discourse (being interrupted by my Lord Halifax), but by what he said I find the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury will be positive in the payment of the money for the arms and ammunition sent from hence according to the rates agreed on at the Council there, notwithstanding any representation your Grace shall make from thence.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, September 3. Whitehall.—I am not able yet to give your Grace any good account of the Postmaster's affair. The Duke's Commissioners here will not meddle in the removing of him. His power that he assumes to himself is from the managers of the revenue, and the remedy must come from his Majesty and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury here. There go herewith two letters of his Majesty to your Grace, relating to Mr. FitzGerald. The third is to restore my Lord Dunkellin (according to the Act of Parliament in that behalf) to the right of presenting to the benefices in my lord's father's gift and patronage.

My Lord Hyde is on the sudden gone for Scotland, whence all men here do conclude that the Duke is not to come into England upon the closing of the Scottish Parliament as was expected. My Lord Chamberlain, I hope, will bear me witness how earnestly I moved that your Grace might be acquainted with the progress of the new farm. His Majesty and the Lords of the Treasury did promise your Grace should be acquainted with it before it passes.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, September 3. London.—My Lord Longford gives your Grace so large an account this post of matters here, that he has left me little or nothing to say. The letters for disbanding and dismissing Capt. FitzGerald go over this night, and his Majesty has told my Lord Longford as he formerly

told me that you may have whom else you please served in the same manner that are guilty of the like faults.

Mr. Roberts has been with me since I writ last to your Grace, and I find by him that he has a great hand in the new undertaking, though he disowns the having any share in the farming. He says that these present Farmers will be able to discharge their undertaking, as he engages to make appear and therefore wonders how you came to be prevailed upon to represent matters so much to the contrary, and as to the new undertaking if what he says be true it cannot prejudice Ireland, for he tells me that, though they engage to pay off the establishment of Tangier, which amounts to 60,000*l.* a year, yet they will carry out no cash, but on the contrary import every year 40,000*l.* and to avoid the prejudice done by imposts they intend to pay the Army monthly. Upon the whole matter finding my Lord Hyde so fully resolved to protect the present Farmers, and so bent upon the new proposals that without doubt upon his return out of Scotland that matter will be agreed, therefore I have not said anything lately against it nor seemed displeas'd at it, and I think your Grace has done your part, and therefore I should not advise your saying anything more upon the account of the present Farmers or the new project.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 3. Kilkenny.—I have yet said nothing to yours of the 20th and 22nd of the last month, having received the one in my journey and the other since my return hither after the post was gone. I know not how it comes to pass, but I find by an application Capt. FitzGerald made lately to my Lord Primate he is informed that there is some intention to remove him from the Council and take his command in the Army from him. Whether the discourse arises from the reasonableness of his Majesty's doing so, or from conjecture upon my desire to discourse with the other gentleman (who is certainly less faulty and more valuable than he) I know not. However it happens, since the matter is fallen under question I desire you would offer it to the King as what I take highly to import his service and the more because of his quality and relations, who are some of them such as will take warning as well as others how they carry themselves. If his Majesty shall think fit to put the matter into my management, Mr. Secretary Jenkins is to offer him a letter directing me in the point, but leaving it in another letter to me to execute or not, as I shall find the gentleman sensible of his miscarriage and ready to redeem it, which I am confident he will incline to do by any discovery he can make, as without question some he can of contrivances in this kingdom suitable to those in England. The letter from the King and the other from the Secretary may be so privately sent that the whole matter may remain a secret till it shall be time to have it none.

As to the government of the Hospital, the question about the competitors may be laid asleep at least for a year to come, for the house must be built and furnished and a stock laid in before anything be laid out for any other use, and rules must be established by his Majesty's approbation which there will be some difficulty to contrive for that the fund for all the charge belonging to the Hospital arises not from a certain rent, but from deductions that will vary as the Army shall be greater or less. But whenever a governor shall be named it will certainly be most reasonable it should be out of some of those who have contributed to the foundation, and it will without doubt be better than the pay of a captain either of horse or foot. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681, September 6. Dublin.—I am infinitely obliged by the honour of your Grace's of the 1st instant, which I received by Colonel Dillon. I cannot tell how to acknowledge your Grace's great condescension and kindness in that letter with any satisfaction to myself, your Grace's concern for me being beyond any return that I am capable to make on that occasion. But in short I am absolutely your Grace's servant by all the obligations in the world of justice and of gratitude; and though this can add nothing to your Grace, being but the same that I have ever been, yet it is as much as your Grace can expect from such a bankrupt as I am that have no more to pay.

I cannot say much of the lessening my distemper, it doth not as yet, I thank God, put me to great pain. Fountaine is very careful and hath been long acquainted with my constitution, but my conversation at present is more with the doctors than the surgeons: their business being rather to physic away the humour for prevention than to drive it away forcibly by outward applications.

I am just now informed that your Grace intends suddenly a visit to Galway, and from thence back again to Limerick; a bold (though perhaps a necessary) undertaking at this time of the year, but I know not what difficulties you cannot compass if you put your mind to it. I should gladly know how your Grace is satisfied with your Munster journey, but perhaps that may require rather a discourse than a letter.

I send your Grace here enclosed two letters. That without a subscription is the Bishop of Derry's, of which I shall give your Grace a further account when I have the satisfaction of attending you. The other I could not conceal from your Grace until that time. I do verily believe what his lordship writes. It [is] no more than what he hath professed and done when some of his brothers were on the other side. If your Grace will have me to say anything to him upon the account of that letter, I shall observe your commands, though

I have already acknowledged to his lordship the receipt of his letter and the handsome expression of his duty, which, though it was no more than was expected from him and which he had ever performed, yet his frank and voluntary declaration in such perverse times as those are, was very becoming himself and very obliging unto others. I heartily pray for your Grace and all yours.

Postscript.—Your Grace may be pleased to return me my Lord Shannon's letter, or to reserve it by you as you think fit. I must beg your Grace's pardon while I presume to mind your Grace not to promise the making of any particular Sheriffs until your Grace's coming to Dublin, for it is too evident that they have already got the trick of packing juries for their turns, who will find what they please, but not what is proved, especially in cases referring to the King as was lately in Wexford. And that your Grace may farther see the trinketting that is now practised with the justices and the jury, I send your Grace the enclosed from Mr. Tyrrell. He was lately Sheriff of that county and is an honest gentleman. If I am not mistaken there are some informations at the Council against Morley. If these be not made known in England, it is not only possible but probable that this certificate may get him the reputation of an honest man, and if so God only knows how far his testimony may be credited and what mischief it may produce. I acquainted Sir John Davys this evening with this letter, and he seems much concerned, but I have not yet seen my Lord Granard.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, September 6. London.—Since my last to your Grace, little of importance has occurred here, save only some addresses presented to his Majesty on Sunday last. The first was from Devonshire signed by 14,000 hands of the best gentlemen and freeholders in the county, except Sir William Courtenay and Colonel Samuel Rolls. The other two were from Glamorganshire, to neither of which Sir Edward Mansell signed. I hear there is also coming up an address from the city of York. That from Devonshire is the loftiest in its style and the most reflecting on the proceedings of the two last Parliaments of any I have yet seen. Yesterday there was a very hot dispute in the city about the choice of an alderman to govern that ward which was under Sir Joseph Shelden's conduct, and though my Lord Mayor and the fanatic party used all their interest and skill for Alderman Shute (a man of their own stamp) yet the choice fell upon Sir Jonathan Rayman, a very honest gentleman, who upon the poll carried it in that ward by above 100 voices. To cross this election it is believed my Lord Mayor will make use of his privilege in changing his present ward for that where Sir Jonathan is chosen, which if he do, the honest party doubt not but to choose an honest man

in his stead, though Sir Jonathan may be disappointed by my Lord Mayor's changing of his ward.

I had this morning some discourse with his Majesty about my own office, and proposed to him that in the new establishment some provision should be made for the annual expense of powder, repairing of arms, platforms and storehouses, removing of ordnance and carriage of powder, etc., which his Majesty so well approves of that he has directed me to discourse with the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury about it, and I hope to hook in some establishment for Rincurran, if your Grace will please to recommend it to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, together with a provision for the annual expense of the ordnance, referring to the particulars upon both those heads which I shall present to their lordships. For by this means your Grace will be secured that the defence of that kingdom will not be in a worse condition than now it is, and that we shall not be necessitated to truckle as we now do under the office of the ordnance here. I had yesterday some discourse with Colonel Legge about that money the office here demands for the arms and ammunition last sent over, and argued with him the unreasonableness of the rates, to which he replied that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have designed that sum for the repairing of Tilbury and Sheerness forts, and have contracted with workmen for that sum; so that if there had been no arms or ammunition sent, that sum must be paid to answer his Majesty's necessary occasions here; by which your Grace may guess to what little purpose it will be to make any representation to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury of the unreasonableness of the rates.

I perceive my Lord Arran intends for Ireland before the end of this month, but for the sake of good husbandry will leave my lady behind him. The King and Queen hold their resolution of going on Thursday for Newmarket. On Saturday night I hope to meet my wife at Hatchlands in her return from the Bath, but we shall both be in town here some time the next week.

SAME to SAME.

1681, 9 September. London.—Since the removal of the Court from hence there is little news stirring, and though I have as little to say, yet I cannot forbear paying my duty to your Grace every post while I stay here. David FitzGerald is stopped from going into Ireland, and I supposed he stays here till *the trial of Shaftesbury is over*, which will be the next term, there being now a better prospect of fair play from the *new Sheriffs* in appointing *good indifferent juries* when they come into their *office* than was formerly; and there is matter enough to do the work thoroughly, for besides those your Grace has already heard of, there are three

substantial witnesses and a letter under Shaftesbury's own hand.* Colonel Fitzpatrick (whom I find upon extraordinary good terms with the King) and Justin McCarty intend, I think on Monday comes sevensnight for Ireland, where they both will make but a short stay; and before the end of this month my Lord Arran resolves to go to Newmarket and from thence to pursue his journey to Ireland. I purpose not to leave this place till a week after the King's return from Newmarket, that I may as far as is possible settle my proposal for an addition to the establishment to answer for the future annual charge of the ordnance and the provision for Rincurran fort according to the estimate of it which Mr. Robinson gave your Grace, and I am not out of hope that his Majesty may be prevailed upon to perfect the main fort at Rincurran to secure that harbour thoroughly rather than to build four frigates there, which I understand is part of the new undertaking. For I have already had some discourse with his Majesty upon this subject, which made such an impression that he advised afterward with Colonel Legge about it, and I have given Mr. Robinson an account of some queries they both made to me about that fort that I may be prepared to give his Majesty satisfaction in them at his return. But in this affair I expect opposition from the new Undertakers, who will, if it goes on, be disappointed in the advantage they propose to themselves by building of ships. As to the addition to the establishment for the annual charge of the ordnance it is so reasonable and necessary for his Majesty's service that if your Grace please to recommend to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury the making provision for it upon the new establishment I am very confident it will be done. I have also proposed to his Majesty the selling for his advantage all those unserviceable things which now fill up the stores and are of no use, which his Majesty approves of and if your Grace thinks it necessary to have direction from hence for it, I shall at his Majesty's return procure his letter to your Grace for it. I desire to know of your Grace how Mr. Tozier's new engine succeeds in the furnishing your Grace's house with water, for if it performs in throwing up fourteen tons in an hour it does more than Sir Samuel Morland's new engine at Windsor, and consequently your Grace will save the charge of that new engine you commanded me to bespeak of Sir Samuel here. Major Baily was just now with me and desired me once more to beg your Grace's indulgence to him till Christmas next, by which time he shall have despatched all his affairs here, which will be determined the next term, otherwise he shall be undone.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 10. Kilkenny.—I have little to say to yours of the 30th of August more than that I have received it, and attend what the consultation concerning the Farmers'

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

proceedings here and about the new proposals will produce, only I would be glad it might be understood that I do not affect the character of an adversary to either. I think it my duty to inform his Majesty of the state of his affairs and of his revenue, upon which they so much depend and when that is done I can very quietly acquiesce in what shall be resolved on. I send you the last account of the Farmers' monthly payments brought me hither by Sir John Champante. I do not think it necessary to enclose it in a letter to the Lords of the Treasury having nothing else to trouble them with, but I desire you to present it to them from me.

I find Mathew Barry's affair sticks upon a resolution his Majesty has taken to dispose of offices only during pleasure, which I think so good a rule that I will never propose the breaking it where an office is in his disposal, but where there are already lives in an office I should think the change of those lives or the addition of a life for the accommodation of two deserving servants to be [no] great or direct transgression of the rule, but I shall be no further importunate in the matter than that they may know his Majesty's final pleasure in the point.

My Lady Derby goes hence on Monday next in order to return to her husband; by a late letter from him I find he is alarmed at a report that the King should ease him of his lieutenancies. When petitions went about to persuade the King to call a Parliament he opposed it where he had command and interest. I confess I have heard that when the election for Parliament men in Cheshire was in agitation he did not side with the better party, but if he be sensible of that miscarriage, and shall promise better for the future, I hope his Majesty will pass it by. You say nothing of late of your own coming or staying. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, September 10. Whitehall.—There are going out of this kingdom several persons that have given evidence for the King into Ireland, and they have been earnest suitors to his Majesty for his protection. His Majesty hath commanded me to entreat your Grace that they may want no protection that the laws allow them. I shall take leave to transmit to your Grace by the next post a list of their names. I cannot hope to do anything about the Postmaster of Dublin before my Lord Hyde do return out of Scotland. There is nothing yet said of the time that his Majesty intends to return from Newmarket. His Majesty commanded me to mind your Grace of a letter written some while since in favour of Mr. George Weld, that he might have a company of foot.

VISCOUNT MASSERENE to ORMOND.

1681, September 12. Antrim.—In obedience to your Grace's commands of the 13th of August, requiring me that the

several persons named in a letter from one Charles Bingham (an unknown person) should be by me secured and examined, I have used all the care and diligence that I could to take the said persons, but can as yet take none of them except Francis McNamee, Popish priest of Desertmartin, who came hither casually and I examined him, but found out nothing thereby. The said McNamee produced a certificate from Mathew Barry, Esq., of his being under recognizance by order of the Council Board to appear there in fourteen days after notice, but for any of the rest named in Charles Bingham's letter, or the Popish priest who sent it hither, I can find none of them, which makes me apprehend there is something in the matter more than ordinary, else so many priests would not abscond, in which opinion I am the more confirmed because I hear from some of these neighbouring counties there are many others, who being suspected to be under the same circumstances, are, I hear, also gone out of the way, who were not long since daily seen in and about the respective places of their abode.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, September 13. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's of the 3rd from Kilkenny, and suppose you have by this time his Majesty's orders concerning Capt. FitzGerald, which, though I desired it might be kept secret, I find is known by several here, the King having spoken of it himself to some who told me of it again; and though the letters to you are positive, yet if your Grace can get him to make any considerable discovery, I am sure his Majesty would be willing you should hold your hand, and, if I mistake not the gentleman, he will do that rather than lose his command. I wish the other person may prove that considerable man you take him to be, but I am afraid you have said so much to him that he will never be your friend; but of that your Grace is a better judge than I dare pretend to be; besides, I naturally incline to the merciful way. I presented Judge Renells [Reynell] to his Majesty the day before he went to Newmarket, and he was pleased to be very kind, and discoursed very freely with him; amongst other things he said the handle of the Plot was now broken. He bid him put the laws boldly in execution, and he would stick to him.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 14. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 3rd inst. and find you already discharge yourself upon my Lord of Longford for correspondence as you well may, he being as copious as you are thrifty of your pains. I have received three letters of his Majesty, two are in favour of my Lord Dunkellin, and two in displeasure to Capt. FitzGerald, and yet still they

are but three. I shall make the proper use of them and for the present proceed with nobody else. If the Bishop of Meath's bishopric could be taken from him as well as the captain's troop from him, it were not amiss, but to remove him from the Council and do no more is worth the thinking of for a while at least.

I send you a copy of a letter I received from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury and my answer to the first part of it, the other parts I do not well comprehend, and have therefore taken time to make return to it, but I conceive the directions are calculated for the new farm, of the which being ignorant I must be to seek in the meaning of what is required. For aught I see a course is taking that it shall never appear whether the Farmers will perform their undertaking or no, but nothing can be more apparent than that they have never yet performed their covenants for their monthly rent. I do not say this that you should trouble anybody with such a truth as will not be believed or will not please.

My Lord Longford says you intend to move this way before the end of this month. If that be so this letter may come too late, and therefore I will take no more pains with it. My Lady Derby is by this time at Dublin and will embark in the yacht with the first wind. If that meet with your time you are to write to the captain to stay for you. *Copy.*

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM SMITH.

1681, September 14. Dublin.—Giving an account of the discourse that passed between Father St. Lawrence and him at his chambers in the King's Marshalsea, Dublin, on or about the 7th of July, 1681. He states that St. Lawrence came to him and after many discourses offered to procure him his liberty if he would declare that two ministers Mr. Jack and Dr. Harrison had asked him to make an affidavit that there was a Popish Plot, and to say that priests and others had told him that the Duke of York was so far concerned in the Plot as that he sided with the Pope and the French King to introduce the French to invade the Kingdoms of England and Ireland and to put the King to death and to murder all Protestants in his Majesty's dominions and to bring in the Popish religion; and that St. Lawrence further asked him to declare that the ministers had asked him to say that he had divers times heard Papists declare that they would bring it about to be a Presbyterian Plot and so suborn witnesses against the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Duke of Monmouth and divers other Protestants. *Abstract.*

Endorsement—

I received this paper from Mr. Page about six of the clock this afternoon and attended his Grace the Lord Primate with it immediately. September 15th, 1681. Hen. Midensis.

Read at the Lord Primate's house 16th September, 1681, present Lord Primate, Earl of Drogheda, Lord Blesington, Lord Westmeath, Colonel Dillon, Sir Charles Meredith, Lord Chief Baron, Sir Oliver St. George, Sir John Cole, Sir Maurice Eustace.

*Also a printed copy**

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, September 15. London.—All that I have to add to the story I wrote to your Grace last post of my Lord Shaftesbury's application to his Majesty is, that in case his Majesty would think fit that Carolina should be the place of his lordship's retreat, then he proposed his Majesty should give him 3,000*l.* for the charge of transporting himself and family thither and allow him such a captain and ship as he could confide in for his safe conveyance thither. The Sheriffs of Middlesex not appearing on Wednesday last before the Justices of the Peace at the Quarter Sessions, Sir George Jefferyes fined them each in 100*l.*, not allowing it as a sufficient excuse for their absence that they were attending upon my Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, as was alleged in their behalf; and the court was adjourned till Monday without swearing the Grand Jury, and when the court meets, then, it is said, they will proceed without a Grand Jury to discharge persons bound over, etc. The next day there being a Common Council called to consider of inviting the King and Queen upon my Lord Mayor's day, after the invitation was resolved upon, and most of the honest party of the citizens gone away, the fanatic party moved that the charge of the Sheriff's defending themselves at law against the fines laid upon them by Sir George Jefferyes should be defrayed out of the public stock, and being far superior in number carried it by vote. That evening Mr. Recorder came to Whitehall according to the usual custom attended by both the Sheriffs to invite his Majesty and the Queen into the city upon my Lord Mayor's day, and after Mr. Recorder had ended his speech, the King answered that he was always glad to receive an invitation from my Lord Mayor and the City of London, and to demonstrate it, though the messengers that brought it (naming the two Sheriffs) were the most unacceptable and unwelcome to him, yet he desired Mr. Recorder to assure my Lord Mayor that he would come to his and the City's invitation. It is said that since the Sheriffs of Middlesex or London are so obstinate in their returns of packed juries it is resolved that before the Grand Jury stirs from the King's Bench bar the bill of indictment against the Earl of Shaftesbury shall with the witnesses be presented to them in open court, that the world may be witnesses of their perjury in case they do not find the bill. On Thursday one Wilson, my Lord Shaftesbury's secretary, was committed to the gatehouse for high treason, and yesterday one Clarke

* There is one in the British Museum. See William Smith's "Discovery of the Popish sham Plot in Ireland, contrived to correspond with their sham Plot in England." Lond. 1681.

a *camarade* of his was also committed to the same place for the same fault, against both of which, it is said, there is positive and home proof. Neither Morley nor Nichols have yet appeared at the Council, but the last is ordered to attend on Monday next. This day one Nicholson was examined, against whom one has sworn that he told him that he had a commission for captain to command a troop to seize the King's person at Oxford and that he had spoke to him to be one of his troop. Nicholson denied the thing and seemed very resolute, and perhaps it was the virtue of brandy (of which he smelt sufficiently) that made him so then, but his commitment and sober reflection may persuade him to a confession.

Sir George Jefferyes and a numerous train of Justices of the Peace for the county of Middlesex waited this morning upon the King, and after they had congratulated his safe return, represented to his Majesty that they had taken into their consideration, the suppressing of some meeting houses and school-houses of late erected and set up by factious Dissenters contrary to law, and that they were informed amongst his Majesty's officers of his household there were several Dissenters crept in that did not frequent the Church, whom they hoped his Majesty would take care to discard. They also acquainted his Majesty that several of the churchwardens were Dissenters, who distributed the collections for the poor to those of their own persuasion, for the prevention of which for the future they had ordered that no churchwarden hereafter should be allowed upon his accounts any money he should pay to any person whatsoever that was not found a very poor man and a frequenter of the Church. His Majesty returned them thanks and assured them he would show good example by beginning to purge his own family of any such ill officers as they had represented to him to be in his household, and recommended to their care the suppressing of conventicles and factious school-houses which were the nurseries of rebellion, and he further added that he found the fanatics were very zealous and conscientious to take oaths on purpose to qualify themselves to be of juries, but with design to perjure themselves to do him mischief. However, he was resolved to observe strictly the law, and would allow the benefit of it to his subjects, though himself was the only man in England that now could not have the benefit of the law, by the practice of the fanatic party.

This day the Lords of the Treasury and those of the Council who are joined with them in the Committee for Irish Affairs had before them the new establishment, which they have read over, and (as I am told) approved of all the project, and have only referred to be considered on Monday whether in the establishment for Tangier the forces there shall be paid twelve months in the year, as the forces here and the army in Ireland are paid, or whether they shall be allowed thirteen months as has hitherto been paid to them. The King is to be then at the Treasury Chamber when it is thought that matter

will be concluded, though my Lord Ranelagh and his friends brag that his lordship will turn the whole project into ridicule and bring in a more solid and beneficial proposal for his Majesty's service. The establishment as it is now drawn up will amount to 307,000*l.* per annum. If the King approve of it, it will be sent to your Grace by my Lord Arran for your Grace's further approbation. I cannot yet learn whether my proposal will be accepted, but I am sure whether it do or no I shall be satisfied in having done my duty. Ned Vernon, who in compliment to your Grace forbears troubling your Grace with his ill hand, desired me to acquaint your Grace that when he was at Newmarket the King desired him to write to [your] Grace for some hawks, because he found your Grace had sent good hawks to other persons, and he hoped your Grace had some to spare him. My wife presents her humble duty to your Grace and my Lady Duchess, she is the most amended in her health within this week that ever I observed anyone in the condition she was. But she is not yet well enough to write, and begs my Lady Duchess's pardon. My Lord Chamberlain will be in town on Tuesday night.

EDMOND TYRELL TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, September 15. Longwood.—Concerning the certificate in favour of Morley from the county of Meath. The writer says that on the previous day his brother Loftus had received a letter from the Bishop of Meath asking for an account of the certificate, and that the messenger told them that it was his lord's advice to them that they should search the house of the promoter or procurer of the certificate, and send such writings as they might find to the Bishop. Not knowing how far it should stand with his Grace's liking that the Bishop should have full information of that affair, Loftus had returned a civil and cautious answer to his lordship which no way did inform him. The subscribers to the certificate were for the most part Justices of the Peace and Militia Officers and one of the subscribers said that they were all a rock and that if anyone did concern himself against one of them, all of them would be concerned against him. The promoter of the certificate had told Loftus that the certificate was to be made use of in England for Morley's interest and the writer says that though the certificate had been quashed by Loftus at sessions it had come on more vigorously at the assizes which he is very confident was by the countenance of some person of greater authority than the subscribers, as his brother was pressed to sign it by some of the ablest of the county. When tendered to Loftus it was subscribed as he conceived by about thirty persons. *Abstract.*

EXAMINATION OF ELIZABETH WESTON AND HER HUSBAND.

1681, September 16. Dublin.—Elizabeth Weston says that William Smith of Wells in Somersetshire, gent, now a prisoner

in the King's Arms, sent her for St. Lawrence a priest, saying that he had business with him, and that she brought St. Lawrence to Smith and left them together.

John Weston of Kiltilly in the county of Wexford, cordwainer, says that he has seen St. Lawrence come into the King's Arms, and many of the Romish religion therein prisoners gather about him, and believes that St. Lawrence daily says mass there. The deponent further says that about the time the Earl of Shaftesbury was clapped up in the Tower these prisoners threatened him.

Sworn before Richard Ryves. *Abstract.*

EXAMINATION OF BARTHOLOMEW ST. LAWRENCE.

1681, September 17. Dublin.—Bartholomew St. Lawrence, Popish priest says that he is a native of this kingdom, that he was in Spain from 1630 to 1646, when he was a student in the college of Jago, and from 1652 to 1664, and that he now supplies the place of the Popish priest in the parish of St. Audoen's, Dublin. For four years he has resided in the house of John Barron, a pewterer and Protestant, in Cook Street, and about three quarters of a year before Dean Harrison came there to christen Barron's child but he had no discourse with him. He goeth to the Marshalsea to visit several of the prisoners and to officiate according to his function, but has never said mass there. About six weeks before the wife of one Weston, a prisoner in the Marshalsea, came to him and said that Mr. Smith sent for him. Smith told him that he was a Roman Catholic and had been so for ten years, that his father was dead, and that his mother, who had married another man and would have had Smith to settle his estate upon her second husband's children, had cast him into prison at Waterford from whence he removed himself by *habeas corpus*. Smith desired some pious books but the deponent had only a life of Christ in Spanish. At a subsequent visit Smith said he wished to communicate something privately to him and asked him to come again, but the deponent had not gone although sent for by Smith. He denies that he made any proposal to Smith, or that there was any discourse between them concerning Dean Harrison or Mr. Jack or mention made of any plot.

Taken before Hen. Midensis, Cary Dillon, and Henry Hen. *Abstract.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to EDMOND TYRELL.

1681, September 17. Dublin.—Acknowledging his letter of the 15th instant, and giving him an account of the Bishop of Meath's appearance in that business. The Primate had sent an intimation of what Tyrell had previously written to him to the Lord Lieutenant, and his Excellency, who said that Tyrell writ not only like an honest man but as an intelligent person, had spoken to Sir Theophilus Jones, who had come to

Kilkenny, of the certificate, but never gave the least hint of his intelligence having come from Tyrell. On his return home Sir Theophilus acquainted his brother the Bishop, and this was the occasion of the Bishop writing as he did. The Primate advises that the Bishop should be sent an account of the certificate and of the subscribers, but says that the Bishop must not be let know that Tyrell had written to him, and that the more Tyrell keeps himself private the better will be his intelligence. *Abstract from a copy.*

HENRY JONES, BISHOP OF MEATH, to —————.

1681, September 20. Dublin.—On my brother Sir Theophilus Jones's return from attending his Grace lately at Kilkenny, he intimated to me that there had been in Meath subscriptions to a certificate for Morley's loyalty, etc., and desired I would inquire into the proceedings of that business of which an account was to be given to his Grace. Thereupon I did immediately by an express write to Mr. Loftus, one of the justices of that county, concerning the reducing to heads the several parts of that enquiry. From him I had the enclosed, which I put into your hand for his Grace. This being short of what I expect, and all that in so short a time (as on the reading of a letter) I could yet hope for, I shall on further information give his Grace move of it shortly.

Yesterday Colonel Dillon, the Lord Chief Baron and I took the examinations of three persons who deposed their being tampered with about a year since by Florence Weyer, John McClare and John Moyer to join with them in charging his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, Sir John Davys, Sir Hans Hamilton and George Blake, with something criminal, not naming what; their proffers of money to these persons being rejected. Of this Colonel Dillon promised to give his Grace the particulars, to which I refer.

There is one Smith, an Englishman, sometime a Papist and sometime a Protestant, which at present I cannot resolve. He hath this week informed against one St. Lawrence, a Popish priest in Dublin, as dealing with him for charging some with a plot. That Smith was some years a prisoner at Waterford, whence he was removed by *habeas corpus*. We know not yet how to proceed in examining him out of the Black Dog, where he lies under two executions. But the priest is secured at Marshal Davys's prison.

About the 13th of the next, God willing, I purpose to wait on his Grace at Kilkenny, when I may give his Grace an account of all more fully. I shall not be unmindful of your commands concerning Mr. Chetwood.

Encloses—

(I) HENRY JONES, BISHOP OF MEATH, to THOMAS LOFTUS.

1681, September 14. Dublin.—Asking for particulars of the certificate importing Mr. Morley's good behaviour, which

he understands Loftus had refused to join in. He assures him that his standing is well accepted at Court and desires a full reply which he will improve to Loftus's advantage.—*Abstract from copy.*

(II) THOMAS LOFTUS to HENRY JONES, BISHOP OF MEATH.

1681, September 14. Killyon.—Acknowledging letter received by his cousin FitzGerald. As the business requires some recollection cannot give such an account as his lordship expects. The certificate was full, though in few words, importing Morley's loyalty and integrity. The messenger seemed to say that the Bishop would have him and his brother Tyrell to seize some papers in order to a discovery of the matter. It should be done if they had a warrant signed by some of the Privy Council, but without that it was not safe. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, September 20. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's of the 10th, with a copy of the state of the farm rent to the last of August, but it is not signed by the Deputy Vice-Treasurer, and that makes me pause a little upon the delivery of it, especially finding my Lord Hyde upon all occasions relating to the farm very much favouring the Farmers, and little apt to believe the representations made by Sir John Champante or what has been said by Sir John Topham here. My Lord Hyde has been in Scotland, and is expected here this night, and what his errand was is kept very secret. It is much wondered that the Vice-Treasurer's account is not made up and transmitted over. It gives occasion to some to think you and my Lord Chancellor partial to my Lord Ranelagh, and upon his account so little favourable to the present Farmers. My Lord Hyde's last discourse with me seemed to hint a little at it; I have reason to believe that until that account be sent over the new undertaking will not be perfected.

The depositions sent me by your Grace's directions by Mr. Secretary Gascoigne are lodged with Mr. Secretary Jenkins, who will communicate them to the Board if he finds anything more in them than what your Grace formerly transmitted hither. I purpose to go for Ireland the middle of next month, and before I take my leave of the King, I will once more speak about Mathew Barry's affair. I have given my mother some of the reasons that bring me over and have induced me to leave my wife behind me; if the yacht may be spared at Holyhead about the 20th of next month I will take her, else the dogger will serve my turn. I am confident my Lord Derby is alarmed without cause, but I will give my Lord Chamberlain notice of it, who is now treating his Majesty at Euston.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, September 20. Whitehall.—The persons that I should have named in my last as recommended to your Grace's

protection are Florence Weyer, John Moyne and Hugh Duffis : the first charged my Lord Blaney with treason, but my Lords of the Council have thought fit to dismiss him, the treason being spoke in '76 when that lord was but sixteen years of age.

My Lord the Earl of Arran having put into my hands some further informations, I shall produce them to-morrow in Council. Those that your Grace was pleased to send me have had that effect as that an order is gone out to take Morley once more into custody. All is quiet here at this time, and his Majesty, blessed be God, in very good health at Newmarket.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, September 20. London.—The King's being at Newmarket makes this so dull a place that it affords no matter to fill up a letter. Upon discourse the last week with Sir Edward Deering I find the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have once more recommended to your Grace the bringing my Lord Ranelagh to his account as Vice-Treasurer, the delay whereof I assure your Grace is much wondered at here, since there have been so many representations of the Farmers' accounts, and yet no notice taken of his lordship's.

Mr. Morley was yesterday with Sir Richard Reynell, who was so far from encouraging the visit, that when he sent to him in the morning a message that he desired to wait upon him, Sir Richard sent him word by his servant, who brought the message, that he desired him to spare that pains for he had no business with him. Yet notwithstanding this rough answer he came to his house as he was sitting down to his dinner, and sending in his name Sir Richard went out to him taking his servant with him to be a witness of their discourse. Sir Richard told him [that] he might well have excused himself from that trouble, since he had no business with him, and added that he was under so ill a character in the world that he did not think it convenient to have any manner of conversation with him. Upon this Morley desired to know what was objected against him, and he did not doubt to justify himself to him. Sir Richard replied he heard he had behaved himself very unhandsomely towards Sir John Davys, in not only swearing against him before the committee of the House of Commons and attesting the false copy of an order, but also in being busy in the managing of the whole evidence against him, which also accused my Lord Primate and arraigned the whole government there. He denied positively the swearing against Sir John Davys at the committee, and he said true in it (for the House of Commons cannot give an oath) nor did he intermeddle with the evidence, and said this information against him was the design of the Smiths (who accused Sir Richard at the Council table there) to reflect upon him, and did with great protestations assert his innocence. Sir Richard told him [that] he doubted those persons with whom he had been tampering to injure innocent persons, had laid open all his transactions

with them, and [that] for his part, as he had no business with him, he hoped he would pardon him if he did not, while he lay under that imputation, hold any correspondence with him, and therefore desired [that] he might have leave to go to his dinner and to some company who stayed within for him. So they parted, the other professing his innocency and saying it might be any man's case to be sworn against as well as his. Sir James Butler, who is now with me, tells me he has given order for an extent against my Lord Privy Seal's estate in Ireland, having pursued all fair ways to no purpose. Your Grace sees with what stuff I am forced to fill my letter. My Lord Hyde is expected here this night.

EARL OF DEVONSHIRE to ORMOND.

1681, September 20. Chatsworth.—I had the honour of your Grace's of the 5th by my daughter's servant, and must humbly beg your pardon that I have not often presented my humble and unfeigned respects, being not only prevented by sickness, but those discouragements I would not willingly give you the trouble of. I did not believe Will had any real intention of going into France, which he mentioned in a letter to my wife two months since, but his ague having left him, and not hearing one word of it, I believed he had laid those thoughts aside. At least I do not believe that journey necessary in order to his health, the advice of his physicians being only, as I learn, that he would go out of town for two months, both for the benefit of country air, and because the ill hours he keeps there may destroy him. I wish he would apply himself to what your Grace intimates, the providing for his family and to serve the King and country. He acquaints me not at all with his intentions, and I humbly beseech your Grace to enquire whether I have omitted anything to obtain his good opinion. I lately paid for him a debt of 1,500*l.*, most of it due to Parziter, a goldsmith, of whom he takes up jewels infinitely more than their worth to sell again, and I put the money into Chancery, and he is very angry after it was done, though it was his desire before, and he would not stir out of town to prevent being arrested, which he would certainly have been. I cannot obtain a clear list of his debts, what he received and upon what terms, having already paid more than he gave in. I am sure his ill behaviour towards me gives me greater grief and trouble than my infirmities can bear. Though I am sorry my daughter and her husband should be at so great a distance, yet I cannot deny her the satisfaction of being with her best friends, nor my Lady Duchess that of her company. I wish Will could be brought to wait upon your Grace, I should very willingly excuse his faults to me. I am so weak that though my business require my going to town I know not how I can get thither. The children, God be thanked, are what I can wish them ;

I should not willingly part with them but to your Grace, though I doubt their being with me may prejudice them as to their education. I wish your Grace all the happiness you are worthy of.

MURTAGH MAGENIS to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1681, September 24. Green Castle.—The great favour you were pleased to do me last year in recommending me to the shrievalty of our county of Down having proved ineffectual makes me at present presume to give you this trouble. The reason I was then put off, Mr. Gascoigne, and Mr. Ellis told me, was that my Lord Lieutenant was by his promise to Sir Robert Colville pre-engaged to continue Captain Lesley High Sheriff for this year last past. But now I presume there is no pre-engagement on his Grace, and my Lord Chief Baron has promised to return me on the lists as Sheriff for this county for this next ensuing year, and if I may speak one truth for myself, I am sure his Grace cannot place or employ a more faithful subject and grateful friend, or perhaps one more acceptable to the country. Honoured sir, I cannot enough beg your pardon for my boldness with you. I would not give you this second trouble, nor ever desire to be Sheriff (for the game is not so considerable) but that I understand by Mr. Bagenal he is desirous I should be so. Concerning which I shall never presume to give you any further trouble. But I must now give you an account what I found out here lately, which I hope may be serviceable to his Grace; as soon as the rumour went about that some of the north country witnesses in London did pretend that they had not encouragement from his Grace and did begin to say some other things against him, I made it my business to enquire what they were, and how they came to say such villainies and falsities. I found the aforesaid informers to be all along profligate wicked rogues, and of late I found good substantial evidence that can clearly make out private conspiracies and confederacies entered into by those rogues to do his Grace harm, as that they tampered with others to suborn them against his Grace. I can likewise get people to make out their tamperings, subornations and conspiracies against Sir John Davys. If this may do his Grace any service, I shall be ready to do my endeavours in it; and in order thereunto when I receive your commands and the favour of your answer to this, I will take such course herein as you will direct me, either by sending the said evidence to Dublin, or to some Privy Councillor here that they may give in their evidence against the said informers. In the meantime God preserve his Grace and give you long life and happiness.

Postscript.—I am sorry my worthy friend Mr. Dudley Bagenal is not now in the kingdom. There is none alive wishes him more happiness than I do.

HENRY JONES, BISHOP OF MEATH ———.

1681, September 24. Dublin.—Sending further letter from Mr. Loftus and the names of the Grand Jury by all of whom except Mr. Loftus the certificate was signed. He suggests that the papers of William Howard, one of the jury and the principal agitator, should be searched for a copy of the certificate and list of subscribers. *Abstract.*

Encloses—

(I) THOMAS LOFTUS to HENRY JONES, BISHOP OF MEATH.

1681, September 21. Killyon.—Pursuant to his promise in his last he has made it his business to inform himself further in the matter of the certificate and went the previous day to the Fair of Trim expecting to meet at so great a concourse of people some of the persons concerned in the affair, but could only meet with one or two of them, and though he talked at a distance of the business, they smoked the matter and were very cautious in it. The certificate had gone to England but he remembers perfectly well its terms to have been—“We whose names are underwritten do hereby certify that we have known James Morley these twenty years past and always knew him to be a very honest loyal faithful subject to his Majesty and a great encourager of all those who are such, and on the contrary a great discourager of all those who were otherwise inclined.” It was signed by near forty persons the 27th of August last, which was the last day of the assizes. Loftus adds that at the last sessions of the peace which he was managing, William Howard of Galtrim who was Morley’s agent tendered him, Capt. Lightburne, and Capt. Wesley a large and reflecting certificate to sign for Morley, which having read he did with some disdain refuse, but the next day Howard came with another drawn after this form which he likewise refused and with all the arguments his reason or experience could dictate dissuaded the thing, and Capt. Lightburne from signing it. At the assizes he was vigorously pressed by Capt. Wesley and Capt. Lightburne to sign it, which he declined to do. It was signed first by Capt. Wesley, then by Capt. Lightburne, then by the Portrieve of Trim, Tom Ash, and by most of the Justices of the Peace, and by many of the Militia and best quality of the county, Mr. Wade, Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Bull, Capt. Parry, Mr. Bligh, Capt. Stopford, both the Pratts, and a great many others. *Abstract from original and copy.*

(II) THE GRAND JURY AT THE ASSIZES HELD AT TRIM,
25th AUGUST, 1681 :—

Garrett Wesley, Esqr.
Charles Meredith, Esqr.
Thomas Loftus, Esqr.
James Stopford, Esqr.
Stafford Lightburne, Esqr.

Samuel Bull, Esqr.
 Joseph Pratt, Esqr.
 Darcy Wentworth, Esqr.
 Thomas Loftus, Esqr.
 Thomas Tandy, Esqr.
 Henry Gwythers, Esqr.
 John Shelly, gent.
 Benjamin Pratt, gent.
 William Howard, gent.
 Lancelot Dowdall, Esqr.
 William Alcock, gent.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 24. Kilkenny. My Lord of Longford's letter of the 10th inst. says you intend by the end of this month to take your leave of the King at Newmarket and then come forward towards Ireland, but yours of the 13th saying nothing of it I know not when to expect you or provide for your transportation.

Capt. FitzGerald is dismissed from his military employment and shall be from the Council as soon as it meets. The troop is given to my Lord Dunkellin, which it were fit for him to look after, his lieutenant, Sir John Peyton, being absent, and I think a stranger to horse command.

I am very glad you presented Sir R. Reynell to the King and that he was so favourably received; he is a man fit for his Majesty's service in his profession. Your mother is in better health than she has been this twelve month, and I hope she will continue so since she resolves to winter here. *Copy.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, September 24. Kilkenny.—The last I had from your lordship was of 10th instant; others had letters of the 13th and 17th, but I suppose the Court being at Newmarket and most of quality in the country, there is little matter to entertain a correspondence.

I shall be glad your lordship may obtain full provision for the dependency of your office in the new establishment and should be as well pleased his Majesty would cause Fort Charles to be perfected to the full extent of the largest design (for that is it, I suppose you mean) if there could be any reasonable expectation of finding money to finish it, or if out of this little Army it were not impossible to man it when finished, and there appears to me little appearance of increasing the Army, so that though I am ignorant what the new proposals are, yet I am sure four frigates as they may be employed will be more for the service of the King and both kingdoms than a fort that will not probably be erected in seven years, nor then sufficiently manned, considering also that the batteries already

finished do, or may when furnished with guns, secure the harbour to the seaward, and that the lesser design when complete will be defensible against any home or foreign forces till we may bring it to a trial who shall be master of the field, for whoever is that, and can keep himself so, will in a short time be master of Ireland. These are my conceptions on the subject, which as occasion serves may be imparted to whom you think fit, but I must put your lordship in mind that it is not like a week or a fortnight's time, after the King's return to Whitehall, will settle the new farm or undertaking or the new establishment. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, September 24. London.—All that I have this post worth your Grace's trouble, having had none from you since the 10th, is to inform you that my Lord Ranelagh has given in to my Lord Hyde and [the] Commissioners a copy of the same state of the farm rent [which] your Grace sent me with your last, which I think was properest for him to give, especially since I have often declared with your permission that you would interpose no more in that affair, and though I confess you have had no great reason to think well of Sir James Shaen, yet I think it is not prudent at this time to exasperate him, for he does influence the affairs of that country as to what relates to the revenue more than you can imagine, though he does not yet own [that] he is concerned in the new undertaking. My Lord Hyde upon my telling him that I was sure you were no enemy to him was much freer with me than before, and I am confident you will be used hereafter with more decency than you have been. A farther account of this matter I hope to give your Grace by the next post. Doctor Tongue's papers were this day brought to the Council, wherein they say strange practices will be discovered. If I forget not your Grace had some papers relating to him when FitzGerald *alias* Egan was sent over, which may be of use if transmitted hither.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, September 24. London.—My Lord Arran having prevented me in giving your Grace an account of some things I intended to have written, I shall only acquaint your Grace that the coffee houses in this town are full of the discourses of a Parliament to be soon called there, for which I know as little reason and ground as for their confidence that a Parliament will be called here soon after Christmas, in expectation of which in Kent, Berkshire and some other counties they are already making voices. The project is that (as they say in Scotland) all bygones should be bygones, and that they should after an Act of Indemnity begin upon a new score, and damn all the witnesses on both sides. Thus

our politicians in the city design to govern the world ; but this morning *Secretary Jenkins* assured me *the King has no such intention*. It is now confidently believed that Sir John Moore will carry his election of Lord Mayor, notwithstanding all the opposition the fanatic party make against him ; in which, if he have success, it will be no small point gained. My Lord Hyde's return has not yet opened the Treasury and consequently the project for the new [farm] lies asleep, but it will certainly awake, and without doubt your Grace will not be kept such a stranger to it, as now you are, before it be closed. If your Grace will but please to recommend to the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury the making provision for the annual expense of the ordnance, repairs of carriages, storehouses and platforms, together with the new establishment for Rincurran, which your Grace once thought necessary, all this will not cost above 2,000*l.* per annum, and will be provided for upon the establishment if your Grace please to interpose in it, and then the concordatum money will be left free to answer other contingencies of the Government. *The King and Duke of York* have so effectually recommended *Colonel Fitzpatrick* to *Lord Hyde*,* that he now is upon as good terms as his heart can wish, having received large promises from all of them, and when he arrives in Ireland your Grace will be better satisfied by his own story.

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, September 27. *Kilkenny*.—Yours of the 20th has for a time freed us from the care of your transportation and a second intimation will be expected before it be resumed.

The information of the Duke's coming hither came out of Scotland to me, but without giving me the least alarm. If he thinks fit to see this country, his reception shall be as good as I can make it in what capacity soever I shall be.

Black Dog Nichols was here so lately that I could not imagine he was gotten so soon to London. When he was here I had a great deal of better company to entertain, and neither then or at any other time had any private discourse with him, and yet if he pleases he may swear we lay together, which is as true as what he reports of our conference about the Parliament and the two lords. I wish it could be proved that he reported of me what you write.

Now at length my Lord of Ranelagh is in effect superseded and Mr. Taylor is to execute the office of paymaster. How long it will last so I know as little as I do of the new bargain and new establishment. On the 24th of the next month I take my journey toward Dublin to meet the news and the directions that probably will be then sent. *Copy*.

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, September 27. London.—I have this night your Grace's of the 14th with the enclosed copies of letters that have passed lately between the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury and your Grace, but before I observe anything upon them I must desire your Grace to believe that if my letters are not for the most part so long as you expect them, or indeed as they ought to be, that it is not to spare my pains or that I affect a short style, but because I have not skill to write otherwise, for I am confident if I went about to write more copiously my letters would not be intelligible.

I have not met with my Lord Hyde since I writ my last, but I thought it for your service to meet with Sir James Shaen, he having made advances to me, and this I did with the advice of your friends here now, and had my Lord Chamberlain's advice for it before he left this town. He made the greatest professions of service to your Grace in the world, and professed he never publicly or privately endeavoured to do you any prejudice, though he thought you had been very severe upon him, and as for the new undertaking he swore he was not the first proposer nor is in it now, but has made it much more for the advantage of that kingdom than was at first given in, and he is sure that when you see it knowing you so much inclined to serve his Majesty in the improvement of his revenue you would be for it, and he said he told his Majesty that whatever prejudice you might have to him you would promote this when you see it so advantageous to his Majesty. It is in my judgment not prudent for you to write any more so sharply against the present Farmers, for the Lords of the Treasury are fully satisfied that they will perform their undertaking, and that this proposal whatever it is is very advantageous to his Majesty in both kingdoms. That part of the Lords of the Treasury's letter to you which is so hard to be understood is, I believe, penned so obscurely on purpose, but I have reason to believe their design is that all moneys should be paid to Taylor, and no more to the Vice-Treasurer, whom they intend speedily to lay aside and choose this way until you have forced him to account, the doing which they press again in this letter. Your Grace may be pleased to write still to me until you hear from myself when I leave this place.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 27. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 20th, which got hither in five days, the account I sent you was the copy of one in my hands signed by Sir John Champante. Whether what I represent have credit and value, or whether they have not I shall not forbear them, being my duty upon such transactions as I hear are in hand to send the best

information I can. It is news indeed that I am suspected of partiality to my Lord of Ranelagh, and the grounds for it are very slender, as will appear to you if you can get a sight of my letter to the Lords of the Treasury, there being at this time no leisure to send you a copy. Morley accused by the depositions sent you, has obtained a certificate of his loyalty and other good qualities from many Justices of [the] Peace and others in the county of Meath. I am not yet fully informed how or by whose solicitation it was obtained, but it is a greater argument of the subscribers' dissatisfaction than of his honesty. I shall know more in time.

The yacht shall be at Holyhead the 20th of the next month, but if you should not hold your day as you seldom do, send the captain notice that he may not stay for you. Perhaps it has done my Lord of Derby no hurt to be alarmed.
Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, September 27. London.—This packet brings your Grace the surprising news of the King of France's proceedings, which arrived here yesterday. He has besieged Strasburg, whither he has gone in person with an expectation to be master of that strong place and the Rhine within fifteen days. He is also in possession of Casall, which alarms Italy, and has also possessed a strong place near Geneva, which he now bridles by it, and has sent a threatening message to the Switzers to dare them into an observation of the peace with him. It is said he has also invested Philipsburg, and having by his instruments in Strasburg prevailed with the burghers not to admit of an imperial garrison which was offered them for their security. It is believed his conquest of that place will be very easy, since in so short a time as he hopes to be master of it, no league can be formed time enough for the relief of it. Last week the Count D'Avana, his ambassador at the Hague, told the States that he was commanded by his master to acquaint them that he was no stranger to the league they were forming, in which if they persisted he would look upon it as a rupture with him. Thus whilst he is hectoring the Christians, his Admiral, Monsieur Du Caine, being in pursuit of seven Tripolins who sheltered themselves under the protection of the Grand Seignior's fort at Chioz, he not only fired the Tripolins, but also battered the fort, which so exasperated the Grand Seignior that he commanded the Grand Vizier to seize on the French ambassador, the consul, and the effects of all the French merchants in his dominions, of which the consul having some intimation, he made his escape in a boat and Du Caine, having notice of it, he sailed up with his frigates and galleys to the port of Constantinople, from whence he demanded his Master's ambassador, otherwise threaten[ed] a retaliation to all the Grand Seignior's subjects that should come within his

reach. Just now I received your Grace's of the 14th instant, and am very glad your [Grace] is so well pleased with my conduct in that part of your Grace's commands I communicated to his Majesty. I am sure in whatever particulars I have the honour to receive your Grace's commands I shall do my duty with all faithfulness imaginable, and shall acquiesce in any measures your Grace shall please to take.

I suppose your Grace will be no longer a stranger to the intended new establishment than till my Lord Arran's arrival, who, I am confident, will carry it for your Grace's perusal, and if your Grace finds room to make provision for the annual expense of the ordnance I hope your Grace will think it essential and necessary for his Majesty's service to represent it. For my own part I shall have no other advantage by it than the satisfaction of having the Government freed from those reproaches ill and disaffected men made while his Majesty's stores there were in so ill a condition, which I confess I would be glad to have in a better posture while I have the honour to serve his Majesty in my present station. I know your Grace will have larger and other hints from my Lord Arran and Colonel Fitzpatrick, which makes me give your Grace no further trouble at this time. My Lord Hyde and Lord Halifax went yesterday together to Newmarket.

ORMOND to the EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, September 27. Kilkenny.—I left a great part of your lordship's of the 10th unanswered by the haste I was in to go a hawking, but his Majesty being still at Newmarket, and the Lords of the Treasury, I suppose, dispersed, I believe it may yet come time enough.

I told your lordship in a former letter that not being consulted with in the new establishment I would not speak or write of any part of it, which is not out of sullenness, but because a man cannot propose pertinently in part unless he have the whole before him. I have intimated to one of the Secretaries, I think to my Lord Conway, that there are several things amiss in the establishment now on foot that ought in my judgment to be amended in the next, but those may occur to those that have the composure of it, or may not be agreeable to the main scope of it.

I approve of your lordship's obtaining warrant for the sale of the useless and incumbering lumber in the stores. Tozier says his engine will [do] that your lordship says Sir Samuel Morland's will not, so that the expense of a new device may be spared.

Your lordship was long enough Vice-Treasurer to know that you were exempted from being called to account by the Chief Governor, that others had power to call you to, and take your accounts, and that it was both your duties not only to do it once . . . but to transmit duplicates to the Treasury

in England, so that of all things relating to the government the Governor had least to do with the Vice-Treasurer's accounts, and it seems to have been affected by the policy of England that the revenue and the chief minister of it should have as little dependence as was possible on the Chief Governor.

Your lordship I think might also remember that as soon as I received directions for it I sent orders pursuant thereunto to the Vice-Treasurer and the Commissioners of his accounts, which if they have not obeyed, or not so soon as was expected, it was not in my power to compel them or to punish them now, nor have I, that I know of, sent anything relating to the Farmers that was not required from me or pertinent to what was required, and sure this is the first time that any man was reproached for his obedience or that the Treasury of England have complained of too much information. *Copy.*

JOHN FELL, BISHOP OF OXFORD to ORMOND.

1681, September 29.—The time now draws on when your Vice-Chancellor is to enter upon his office for the following year. It had been with some advantage if it had been done by our Excellency's immediate designation, but I hope the affair will be so ordered that it shall be to general satisfaction. In a time of faction and disturbance the being quiet is, I think, the best account that can be given, which thanks be to God, is the condition of this place, and your Excellency will not be displeased, if instead of a long account of news, I assure you that we have none at all. I understand that your Excellency has spent several months in progress, and hope have received thereby advantage in your health, for the continuance whereof, with the accession of all other blessings, your Excellency will ever have the prayers of, etc.

ORMOND to COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, September 29. Kilkenny.—Since Mr. Burnet went hence I am informed out of England that he is in full orders, that is a priest, and that my Lord of Canterbury and some others of the prelates are not satisfied that he neglects the function and betakes himself to secular employments. I suppose this was not known (if it be so) to the Dean of Canterbury or that he thought it no impediment. But I think the attendance upon a youth of that quality and nature may engage him in company and conversations not altogether agreeable to his other character. I pray discourse with his Grace of Canterbury and Mr. Dean upon the subject, who are most capable of advising Mr. Burnet and me in the case that I may accordingly either call him over to his charge or provide myself elsewhere, still considering Mr. Burnet for his pains and charge. *Copy.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, September 30. Kilkenny.—My brother Fitzpatrick having written a letter to my wife recommending to me to be easy to the Ministers and that being so, I should be easy in my government, I have made him an answer describing my thoughts and temper in that matter which he will show you. I have said nothing of Sir James Shaen particularly, but my Lord Hyde may be assured that it is impossible for that knight to make me angry or incline me to do him hurt, and I think it very possible a man so fruitful of invention may light upon very useful notions, and wherever I find he proposes anything of that kind I shall never decline it, because it comes from him, as on the other hand I do not think it safe to conclude that because he hits right in one or two things that therefore he can fail in none.

I send you the copy of a late letter I writ to Mr. Secretary Jenkins upon occasion of the arrival of two of the King's frigates at Kinsale with money and orders for Tangier. I wish to know how it came to pass that two officers should be commanded from their duty here to such a voyage and no notice given to me of it. There must certainly be some mistake or omission in the matter. *Copy.*

ORMOND to COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, September 30. Kilkenny. I writ to you yesterday and have since seen your letter to my wife mentioning that you had received none of mine since you writ two to me. The reason may be that I was in Ormond taking some order for the better improvement of Nenagh and making it a security for an English plantation which the Gazetteer thinks worth a place in his intelligence.

I am always ready to receive the advice of my friends and to follow it when they give it upon knowledge of the true state of the thing they advise in, nor have I ever affected opposition to Ministers for opposition's sake. On the other hand, I will never forbear giving my master true information in relation to what I am trusted with, whomever it may displease or whatever it may cost me, but I will do the best I can that my representations shall be seasonable, true, pertinent and for the manner dispassionate and respective. I am in no degree impatient to know the new proposals or establishment; if they are sent me before they are concluded I will give my opinion of them for the King's service to the best of my understanding without animosity or partiality. If they shall be concluded on before I am made acquainted with them, I take it to be my duty to make the best of what the King has done and rather justify than find fault with what is past recalling. If this disposition and temper will satisfy I shall be at the ease you mention, and if it will not, it will yet be hard to disquiet me who have seen so many traverses in affairs and felt some of them myself.

It is my desire to be easy to all I have to do withal, and it is my interest to be easy to Ministers, so that the only questions are how and wherein, and therein I am prepared to receive instruction. If after all this, men will believe that I am in mutiny because I am not consulted with in all things and that I am partial to my Lord of Ranelagh, for which the world knows I have no reason, and discountenancing the Farmers, for which I have as little reasons, I cannot help it otherwise than by professing the contrary. This letter must at this time serve my Lord Longford, Arran, and you. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1681, October 1. Dublin.—I humbly beg your Grace's pardon (as I must do that lady's who writ it) that I presume to send your Grace the enclosed; it is from Baron Worth's wife to Denny Muschamp, her husband being in no condition to write by reason of his sister's death. The recordership of Cork is doubtless inconsiderable in itself, yet the consequence of that place may be much otherwise. I do not know this Evans (though perhaps I may have seen him) whom your Grace has recommended thereunto. Nor have I heard anything to his advantage which I must have done in the Chancery if he had been anything considerable in his profession, but this I know, that his father hath been ever esteemed one of the most remarkablest rough fanatics in the whole kingdom, so that I much doubt whether the King's interest in that city will be held together, or the fanatic party discreetly managed if such a raw young person, who must of necessity be influenced by his father, for he hath a great estate, should be admitted there Recorder. When I have thus acquainted your Grace with what I think was my duty to let you know, if your Grace will be pleased to let me receive your pleasure therein, I doubt not but Mr. Baron Worth will observe it to the utmost of his abilities.

SAME to SAME.

1681, October 1. Dublin.—I am in a handsome forwardness of being both lame and blind, the doctors have made a shift to translate my distemper from my leg to my eyes, and yet not to that degree but that I am lame still, and either the same humour or some other hath so fallen upon my eyes that I am not well able to see. I must therefore beg your Grace's pardon if I do not give your Grace as full an account of the several particulars of your Grace's letters as I intended.

I shall begin with your Grace's of the 29th of September, which I received last night by Dean Lesley, wherein you were pleased to send me a copy of your letter to the Lords of the Treasury in England, which I herewith return to your Grace with those others that accompanied it. My Lord Chief Justice

Keatinge being my neighbour upon the receipt of your Grace's, I desired to speak with him and I showed him your Grace's letter to the Lords of the Treasury, and we are at a loss how to understand this clause in that letter—"In what state that remains will appear to your lordships by the copy of a letter upon that subject sent me by the Commissioners of the Vice-Treasurer's Accounts." We cannot recollect what letter you refer to, which was sent to your Grace by the Commissioners of Accounts. We do not know of any of that nature since the taking of Sir John's accounts, but what I herewith send your Grace signed by all the Commissioners. I very well remember that I gave your Grace a private account of what then appeared unto me, but in the same letter I presumed to refer your Grace to a more authentic account which I hoped to send your Grace by this night's post, wherein Sir John Champante seems to come to some little better terms than formerly; as his prefixing of a time for bringing in his accounts until the end of April, into which he would not be brought into before. Upon this consideration, I shall presume to make a stay of your Grace's letter to the Lords of the Treasury, if I can retrieve it out of the post house, until I hear again from your Grace, for perhaps your Grace may think fit to make some alterations in that letter upon this certificate from the Commissioners of the Account. We are both of opinion that your Grace should have the King's particular orders for the payment of the moneys to Mr. Taylor, which we presume may be had time enough without any prejudice to their present intended method; for Sir John Champante and the Muster Master General find that matter so perplexed and so difficult to be adjusted by reason of some payments and deductions which have been already made to particular persons (as Sir John saith) that there is no great likelihood but that your Grace's authority from the King may come to you before any moneys shall be ready to be paid to Mr. Taylor. And in my humble opinion your Grace ought to be more than ordinarily concerned in this authority, because the Vice-Treasurer's patent lies out against that payment to Mr. Taylor; and I know not how far that may be enforced to your Grace's prejudice hereafter.

I have now received the honour of your Grace's of the 30th of September. Your Grace's directions shall be observed about transmitting the books of accounts; at our last meeting we acquainted Sir John Champante that it was the particular duty of the Vice-Treasurer to transmit a duplicate of his accounts every year.

The witnesses which were to be examined upon the account, I answered your Grace in my last letter, were gone out of town but I hear that they are now returned again, and the managers of that business intend to carry them before my Lord Mayor to be examined, who doubtless will return their examinations unto your Grace or Council if he finds them considerable.

And this in my humble opinion is a clearer way than to have it done by any of the Council (since the Committee of the Council refuse to do it) forwarding to my confirmation. The Government is likely to be touched and particularly your Grace by some part of the information ; and, if so, it is I think much better that the information should come from my Lord Mayor than from any of the Council, who may be looked upon as parties, but that informers are such prostituted villians that there is no reliance upon anything they say or swear.

To your Grace's commands by the 27th of September the Commissioners have called upon Sir John Champante for a true state of the Farmers' monthly accounts as they stand at the end of this last month. And Sir John told me that he would bring me such a state this day, but I do not yet hear of it, and I doubt by what was discoursed when I spoke to Sir John that the Farmers and he will not readily agree upon it. However, as soon as I receive it I will call upon the Farmers to consider it, and to object what they can against it. I shall likewise bring Sir John and the Farmers together to agree the state if I can ; for thus your Grace has directed me ; but I doubt this work will take up some time. It will be no easy matter, as I supposed, to make them agree in the point. I shall also call upon Sir John Champante, the Muster Master General and upon the Deputy Auditor to prepare a true state of the arrears due to the establishment as it was the 29th of September, 1681. I spoke to them altogether ; and they tell me that it requires some time to peruse their several books and papers but that they will endeavour to prepare such a one, and to have it by this day sevensnight in readiness.

I think there is nothing more that lies upon my hands to answer of your Grace's letters ; but am mightily confounded at the supply of the Tangier by moneys from this kingdom. The consequences may be dreadful. This country will be drained dry of money. The establishment I doubt will not be well paid. The soldiers may be disordered for want of their pay. The whole country unsatisfied to send their moneys into another kingdom, no expectation of a Parliament that will recruit us, and what seems much worse than anything that can arise from thence to our present sufference, I very much doubt that when the Parliament of England shall see that the King hath been able to supply Tangier out of his revenue of this kingdom, they will hardly be prevailed with to raise him any moneys there for the support of that place, but will endeavour to leave it always upon this kingdom which is not able to bear it, and so the King by this mistaken advice may run an extreme hazard of undoing not only Tangier but Ireland also. By what discourse I have had lately with Sir John Topham, I have reason to believe that those pieces of eight, which were shipped by Sir James Shaen in England in this vessel that now rides at Kinsale, are to [be] paid likewise in this kingdom by the Farmers, besides that 5,000*l.* they are to

send away by Thistlethwaite, for Sir John tells me that some persons in England who were to advance this money came to him to enquire whether the bills which Sir James is to draw upon the Farmers here (for which he is to pay 7l. per cent. as I suppose) were to [be] depended on for good performance. I presume I have by this time tired your Grace with my long letter. I could not help it and beg your pardon.

I cannot find any letter of your Grace's directed to the Lords of the Treasury; but I found one directed to Mr. Mulys which was sent by Dean Lesley, and possibly it may be enclosed in that, and therefore I keep that in my hands until I received your Grace's pleasure how to dispose of it. Here is one of your Grace's to Mr. Secretary Jenkins; but I suppose it is not in that.

I suppose that the Bishop of Meath will attend your Grace this week at Kilkenny. He is now gone into the county of Meath upon his visitation, and I doubt not but he will learn the full progress of Morley's certificate, for he seems to be very full of it, and zealous to compass it as an acceptable service. I have therewith sent your Grace the names of the Grand Jury as I am informed; a very extraordinary number of extraordinary persons, most of them being Justices of [the] Peace, unless upon very extraordinary business, and I can learn nothing of moment but Morley's certificate. I have acquainted my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge herewith, and he tells me that one Wesley, who is the first that signed the certificate, is a relation of his and an honest man, though he hath miscarried in this particular; and he hopes by his means to get the original certificate, for it is not yet sent away.

Since my writing this letter Sir John Champante hath brought me the state of the Farmers' monthly payments. I would have sent your Grace a copy of it but he saith that he sends a duplicate thereof unto your Grace by this night's post. I shall show this to the Farmers upon Monday next.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, Oct. 1. London.—My Lord Hyde having been all this week at Newmarket has hindered any further progress in the new undertaking since the last post, but I am told by one in the Treasury Office that he will be in town this night, and that the beginning of next week the Lords of the Treasury with the Lord Chancellor, Lord President and others of the Council are to meet about the Irish affairs, and then it is likely they will come to some conclusion about the new bargain and establishment. The latter will be sent your Grace as I am told, and by it you will easily comprehend what the undertaking is. My Lady Barnewall is come to town and has brought me your Grace's letter. I shall not be wanting to her all the service I can in her business, which though I know by the method the establishment is to be in, I shall hardly

be able to get anything by way of preference done for her, yet I gather by her discourse that she will not be satisfied and says it was by your advice that she came over, when by your own letter I find you neither advised her to it nor dissuaded her from it.

Major Baily finds he must be forced to spend so much time here that he cannot attend his command, and therefore has desired me to procure your Grace's leave that he may sell his company. I told him I believe your Grace would not refuse his request.

SIR OLIVER ST. GEORGE TO ORMOND.

1681, October 1. Dublin.—I account myself unfortunate that my name is so often made use of to your Grace with so much injury and disadvantage to me. I am told that your Grace is informed that Capt. Henry Nichols should in London report that your Grace told him that the Parliament of late at Oxford was worse than that of forty one, and for the confirmation of this story he vouches me for having told him that I also heard your Grace say so. I have not seen Capt. Nichols, as near as I remember, for more than this three years past but in your Grace's company when I was last in Kilkenny, where there was no discourse of that kind nor anything like it that I heard. I did not see Capt. Nichols that night longer than he was in your Grace's company. The next morning, which was Sunday, Capt. Nichols lying near my lodging came into my chamber before I was out of my bed. He was booted, and stayed for his horses to carry him out of town. He stayed not near a quarter of an hour with me, where I am sure there was no mention of your Grace's name, all that he discoursed of was of the nature of the addresses made to the King and of the petitions that were to the King for calling a Parliament. I do assure your Grace, on the faith of a Christian, I never heard Capt. Nichols say that you told him so, nor could I with truth tell him that I heard your Grace say so, nor did I ever exchange a letter with him in my life that I know of. Though lying be the sin of that age, if I may want religion to protect me against that ungentlemanlike sin, yet I have vanity enough to scorn knowingly to tell a lie, or to make so ungrateful a return to your Grace in Kilkenny, at the instant where I was so liberally obliged by your favour and kindness. I must be evermore an humble suitor to your Grace that you will protect me from liars and whisperers such as murder men with wind guns; I shall not then doubt I may peaceably live in the esteem of your Grace as, &c.

SAME TO SAME.

1681, October 1.—Since writing the above Sir William Stewart had acquainted him with the allegation that he

refused to join Colonel Dillon in taking William Smith's second examination. He complains that as Smith made it a condition that he was to be protected from arrests and suits, he did not think himself warranted to undertake the matter. It had been arranged that an informal meeting of Privy Councillors should be held to advise how to manage this affair with most advantage for the King's service, but finding this meeting had been given up, he thought that he had sufficiently done his part and had not left room for the most jealous and most malicious to accuse him. *Abstract.*

SIR WILLIAM STEWART to ORMOND.

1681, October 1.—Acknowledging letter from his Grace, which he had shown to Sir Oliver St. George. In his heart he thinks Sir Oliver never made application to Lord Shaftesbury in the time of his greatness. *Abstract.*

THOMAS FAIRFAX to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 2. Kilkenny.—This is only, my good Lord, to tell you with what impatience I wait your lordship's coming over, which I have great hopes of since I hear your lordship has ordered the yacht to meet you the 20th instant, by which time, or two or three days after, we may happily be at Dublin. My Lady Duchess continues firm in her resolution of staying here all winter which she looks upon as better for her health, also to avoid the many visits which, though out of kindness and respect they are paid her, they are not without their inconveniences. Your lordship's deeds concerning the lands in the park are made an end on as Capt. Mathew told me yesterday at dinner drinking your health, so that that may prove a good snip when you come over. Pray forget not the lute and Nicolas' new books and some strings, for here is none to be got. God bless your lordship and send you safe to your own faithful poor Thomas.

ORMOND to COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, Oct. 3. Kilkenny.—Referring to you what I have written to my son Arran concerning Mr. FitzGerald and to what I have lately writ to yourself, I have little to say to yours of the 27th of the last month though it contains matter of great information and importance of which I am too busy and shallow to make reflections. I hope England will consider what the French are doing, how they hector and awe Christian and Infidel Emperors, the Turk, the Pope and all Europe at once, whilst we are squalling about mayors, sheriffs, justices of [the] peace, jurymen, and shall be about burgesses and knights of the shire if the proclamation you mention come forth. I fit myself as well as I can to remove at short warning

to Dublin but unless I am called thither my purpose is not to remove till the 24th of this month. *Copy.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 3. Kilkenny.—About a week after Mr. FitzGerald received notice of his dismissal from his command in the Army he came hither, which by the way he had till then forborne during the three months I have been here, though others came much faster and many of them such as had no other dependence than that of subject upon the Government. The substance of his discourse to me was the great affliction he was in for being fallen into the King's displeasure, great professions of his loyalty and absolute ignorance of anything he had done to deserve such a mark of his Majesty's disfavour. I told him that though I could give no particular reasons for his Majesty's proceeding with him, yet I would not so far dissemble with him as not to own that his conduct hath been such as I could not approve of. That for his professions of duty and loyalty, though I hoped they were more real, yet they were no more in words than had been made by some that had suffered for treason and by others to whom perhaps the King gave as little credit. This morning he is gone as he says for Dublin and thence into England in order whereunto he desired he might have a licence under the great seal, a thing necessary for a patent officer departing the kingdom. I thought it not proper for me to refuse him, lest it might be thought hard and [false] in me for fear of what he could say or do there, so that when he calls for it he shall have it. I hope I need not mind his Majesty how to carry himself, or how fatal it may be to his service if he should be prevailed upon to recall any of his proposed and declared pleasure concerning him, at least till his affairs are better settled than yet they are. Then I shall in compassion to his numerous family and in consideration of his quality as soon interpose in his behalf as any man shall think it reasonable, and though it should fall out that his place of Controller of the Musters might be taken from him or rendered unprofitable to him, yet I should not propose it because it is I think a considerable part of his subsistence. But it may be fit the execution of it should be put into the hands of some person to be approved for by the Government. This is all I have to say on this or any other subject at this time. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1681, October 3. Kilkenny.—Soon after I had ended my other of this date I received yours of the 27th of the last, and one from my brother Fitzpatrick in which he advises the delay of executing the King's command concerning Capt. FitzGerald. You may show him my letter on that subject and that will serve for answer to so much of his letter.

I find no fault with the shortness of your style but I doubt there may be particulars you omit that might be useful for me to know. I think you did well to entertain discourse with Sir James Shaen, who may be sure I will approve of nothing relating to the King's affairs that I do not really think to be for his service, nor disapprove of any proposal that I believe to be for the advantage of it from whomsoever it comes. Nor do I know or remember any severe expressions I have used on him since upon occasion of the bills transmitted in order to the calling of a Parliament he arraigned me and the whole Council with me and turned us *en ridicule*. Let him keep fair quarter and he shall have it.

The Lords of the Treasury having sent for several accounts, I hope they are not angry that they are remitted to them, and unless true representations be called sharpness I know not wherein I have used any towards the Farmers.

Possibly such truths may not be seasonable in regard to what is in agitation. But if I am ignorant of what that is I may be pardoned the error. The Lords may be satisfied that the Farmers have punctually performed and will do so to the end ; I cannot help having other apprehensions ; but having declared my sense and given my reasons I can for the future hold my peace unless I am called upon and then truth must out. I have, upon their lordships' signification of the King's pleasure, issued orders for payments to be made by Mr. Taylor whilst my Lord of Ranelagh's patent is still in being. But I hope I shall have better warrant for it as my learned friend's advise is necessary for me, and I have passed over the scruple that restiness or the disappointment of the King's service may not be laid to my charge, though I am utterly in the dark and cannot guess what is designed.

The Vice-Treasurer's accounts to the 20th of March last are closed and I think by this time transmitted. The accounts from that time to the 1st of May are in preparation, and it is undertaken they shall be ready within ten days after the 29th of the last month. I gave order for them as soon as I received direction for it, but if it were known or remembered that my commission bars me from calling the Treasurer or Vice-Treasurer to account, it would not be expected that I could compel either of them to it, and those whom the King has authorized to take those accounts have as good and as independent a commission for that purpose as I have for the Government, and ought when they find any backwardness or affected delay to represent it. At the furthest I shall God willing be at Dublin on the 29th of this month. *Copy.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, October 3. Kilkenny.—Having written pretty largely to my son Arran and so lately and fully to your Lordship concerning the establishment and your share in it as you are

Master of the Ordnance, I have scarce matter enough to justify my writing to you now anything but to own my receiving yours of the 27th of the last month this morning. If the projected establishment be sent me, you may be sure I will for the King's, your ease, and my own, propose fitting provision for the office of the ordnance. In the mean time, all the money I gave order for saved out of pensions suffers a stop, by reason of the directions I have received out of England to call in all warrants for money grown due, or for which warrants are issued since the last of April last, in which I doubt those payments are comprehended. And so the repair of forts, storehouses, and all other works depending on those payments will I fear be at a stand. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, October 4. Whitehall.—I have the honour of one from your Grace of the 14th past, to acknowledge which I do with all humble thanks. The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury are all out of town at this time, it will be in vain to attempt the remedying that which your Grace complains of in the Post House, till they do sit again, and then it may be (such is the prevalency of the Farmers) little or nothing of redress is to be had. However I shall not be wanting on my part to lay it fully before his Majesty and their lordships as soon as they sit down to any business.

Just now, as I am writing at nine at night, comes Sir Robert Clayton to me, much to my wonderment. His business happens to be to show and leave with me several letters and papers sent him last post out of Ireland; they contain the information of one William Smith, prisoner in the Marshalsea at Dublin for debt, who informs that one St. Lawrence a priest would have suborned him to swear against Jaques and Dr. Harris or Harrison, ministers in Dublin, &c. These papers being to be showed to the Council to-morrow will, I suppose, be transmitted to your Grace, though it be insinuated that there is little justice to be had in Ireland against Romish priests, so that I need not anticipate what your Grace is to gather from the papers themselves when they come. Sir Robert asked me one question which surprised me, it was whether a Parliament be not to be called, and to sit on the 28th of the next month. I could truly answer him as I did that I knew nothing of it. This report was hot upon the Exchange this day, and it arises probably from the present motions of the French. Our Holland letters say that Monsieur Van Beuninghen will be here in very few days, that he is to land at Harwich and go straight to Newmarket.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 4. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's of the 24th of the last month, and by it I find Capt. FitzGerald

is put out of his military employment of captain of horse, of which I acquainted my Lord Dunkellin, who will make what haste he can over to take possession of the command his Majesty has given him, and if I find his Majesty inclinable I think it may not be amiss that he should succeed him in his Privy Councillor's place. I am told the Lords of the Treasury will not meet upon any business until the King's return from Newmarket. My Lord Hyde is at his country house, where he intends to stay till then, I shall not go to Newmarket, but stay until his Majesty comes to town, which they say will be the middle of next week, and then he will find the new undertaking and establishment so prepared for him that nothing on this side will be altered or so much as debated. Your Grace will be desired to keep the establishment secret, which I believe you will very willingly do to avoid the troublesome solicitations of pensioners, etc. I believe I shall carry it over with me, but I desire you would say nothing of it, for which I shall give you my reasons when we meet. I have had another meeting with Sir James Shaen, and what has passed is fitter for a discourse than a letter.

Major Baily tells me that he has sent order to deliver a cast of the Isles of Arran hawks to Tom Flower for my use. If your Grace likes them and wants any, I beg that you would take them.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 7. Kilkenny.—I send you the copy of my letter to Mr. Secretary Jenkins upon occasion of the death of the Bishop of Derry. What I propose was offered to my consideration by my Lord Primate, if it take room will thereby be made to provide for some of the inferior clergy that deserve encouragement. You know [that] it is not convenient that I should pass by all the clergy of Ireland in my recommendation, and yet if a very eminent man should be sent out of England, I should very cheerfully submit to it, though I thereby lose the advantage of preferring very worthy men that are my chaplains, for it will be the addition of one able person to those we have. I am no otherwise acquainted with Dr. Tillotson than by having heard some of his sermons, and by reading all I could get of his preaching and writing, which together with his reputation are arguments to me of his virtue and capacity and particularly for the bishopric of Derry. It is the best in this kingdom next to the primacy and Dublin, and I think all things considered it is not worse than the latter. If he will be content to be transplanted so much further from the sun to a place where he may do God and the Church and the King great service, I shall be very glad his Majesty would send him. But if he shall decline it I wish it may not be known any such overture came from me, that I may not at once lose my design and some part of the good opinion this clergy have of me. *Copy.*

LUDOWICK JACKSON to ORMOND.

1681, October 8. Youghal.—Announcing the arrival of a small bark from St. Martino with forty-eight persons, who fled, as they say, from persecution. They are very poor and accept of the charity of well-disposed persons. He took Lieutenant Hamilton, one of the Scotch officers, to his assistance in an examination which he encloses. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 8. London.—The information of one Smith a prisoner in the Marshalsea in Dublin is printed and makes a great noise here at this time, it is called by the name of the Irish sham plot. Your Grace will by this, or the next post, have directions from the board here to examine that matter farther, and in order to it all the papers that were given in by Sir Robert Clayton will be transmitted to you. There are some letters without names to them, which were sent Sir Robert at the same time with the examination, that reflect very much as I am told upon the government there. There is a report likewise here that my Lord Shaftesbury has petitioned the King to be favourable to him and he does engage never to meddle in business any more, and this petition was delivered to his Majesty by my Lord Chamberlain. My Lord Longford is my informer, and therefore I may very properly refer your Grace to him, but it is very certain that he has petitioned, and that his own party do now wish him ill.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, October 8. Whitehall.—I have received a command from the Council to transmit those papers I mentioned in my last (as having received them from Sir Robert Clayton) to your Grace. They are already, as I am told, in print here, therefore they are no secret. My Lord Shaftesbury hath offered at some sort of address to the King for his liberty upon condition to retire into the country, but the King answering that he will have the law to have its course against his lordship, he is endeavouring to persuade his party that his end was not to cry *peccavi*, but to purge himself of a charge laid upon him that he hath a particular malice against the King's person. The Court will be here on Wednesday next (the 12th). Monsieur Van Beuninghen is not yet come.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

1681, October 8.—His Grace the Lord Primate, when I waited on him last shewed me in a list some gentlemen of the county of Meath's names, who had signed a certificate of Mr. James Morley's loyalty, integrity, and what not. Mr. Gerald Wesley's name being in the front of them. I sent to speak with him being my near relation, and began to enquire of him

concerning the certificate. I found by him, that he and divers who had signed it had done so of course, as they sign certificates of fires to procure briefs or for poor widows to excuse them from the hearth money, without consideration, but being made sensible of the consequences of such inconsiderate actings, he assured me he would get the certificate signed as it was into his hands, and in order thereunto took horse forthwith and returned yesterday bringing me instead thereof the enclosed letter. I am told that some names, and in particular Mr. Charles Meredith's and Captain Stopford's are put to it, though they refused to sign. In my poor judgment this unusual way that Mr. Morley hath taken argues strongly his diffidence of his honesty, but is according [to] the method of the late agitators of whom he was a notorious firebrand. If your Grace shall upon consideration think it worth your Grace's commands (which I confess I do not) you may have a certificate from the gentlemen who signed the first how they were surprised in what they did. I hope the next week the Vice-Treasurer's accounts until the last of April last inclusive will be finished, and that it shall most evidently appear, that your Grace's part relating to the revenue hath been performed with so much care and as little loss of time as ever affair of that nature was. This being to no other purpose I humbly beg your Grace's pardon for the trouble of this.

Encloses.

ROBERT LIGHTBURNE and OTHERS to LORD CHIEF JUSTICE
KEATINGE.

1681, October 6. Navan.—Representing that they were taken by surprise when asked to sign the certificate in favour of Mr. Morley, being at the time full of assize business, and that they were informed and apprehended that Mr. Morley was only at law with one Mr. Smith and not as since they were informed impeached for high treason. *Abstract.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 9.—Your Grace's of the 24th of September, I received on the 5th instant at my return from Surrey, where I spent a week, and where I was for some days, a fortnight before, which occasioned my omissions in writing so constantly to your Grace as otherwise I should have done. I have not yet given in my proposal to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury about the annual expense of the ordnance, nor do I intend to do it, till the King returns, because I hope his Majesty will recommend it to their lordships, who I am confident will reserve room for that and for other matters, which your Grace shall think necessary for his Majesty's service to be inserted in the new establishment, a sight whereof your Grace will have before it is closed here. And therefore

when I have given in my proposal I shall not stay here to wait the issue of it, for if the reason of it will not carry it through, I shall acquiesce in having discharged my duty. As for the building of the larger fort near Kinsale, I shall press it no further, being fully convinced with your Grace's reasons.

The discourse here is that my Lord Shaftesbury has by my Lord Chamberlain's introduction in most submissive terms petitioned the King for his liberty, to which his Majesty has given no positive answer. His friends say that no advantage can be taken against his lordship for any words upon the late Act for preservation of his Majesty's person, because the time limited by that Act for proceeding against him upon words is elapsed, so that if he be brought to his trial now, it must be for some overt treasonable acts. This week the Grand Jury of Westminster was presented by the Sheriff at the Quarter Sessions, where Sir George Jefferyes was chairman who excepted to several of the jury, and would have made a new foreman instead of Mr. Charleton, but the Sheriff positively refused to make any alteration of the panel returned, upon which Sir George put off the swearing of the jury till next Monday, intending (as is supposed) in the meantime, to consult the judges about it. It is verily believed *Shaftesbury will have his habeas corpus there not being matter sufficient against him*, the truth of which will appear now in a few days. It is also said *the Presbyterian party endeavour to capitulate with the King for a Parliament and that Halifax presses it*, but it is certain *the hope of success in this much elevates the Presbyterians*.* Captain FitzGerald's relations here much exclaim at his being removed from his command and the Council Board, without being heard to acquit himself of what was to be objected against him, and they say he intends to come over hither to justify himself to the King, and they say his hardship is the greater because he bought his command. My Lord Hyde seems surprised much at it, having this day talked with Sir Robert Hamilton about it.

There is a warrant out for apprehending of Harry Nichols for treasonable words spoke by him to three or four persons as he was coming from Chester to this town in the stage-coach, which persons have been examined upon oath against him. My Lord Arran tells me he has give your Grace an account of the noise is made here of Smith's confession against St. Lawrence the priest, which saves me the writing further to your Grace upon that subject. Mr. Morley is to appear next Council upon the treasonable words sworn against him by Brogan and Tyrrell. But as to his conspiracy or subornation against your Grace, my Lord Chancellor and Sir John Davys, the Lords of the Council seem not here to credit it as your Grace will find by their order to your Grace upon it, which yesterday morning I desired Mr. Secretary Jenkins

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

to move their lordships to recall, because your Grace's intentions in sending those examinations was only to let their lordships see what a dangerous and busy man Morley was. Besides their lordships' order seemed to me impracticable, the law not permitting your Grace to question Morley there for his practices here, which Mr. Secretary promised me to represent to their lordships. My wife presents her humble duty to your Grace and my Lady Duchess, whose pardon she humbly begs for not acknowledging the honour of her Grace's last letter, which her want of health will not allow her to do, for she is not yet fully recovered of a fever, she lately had, which has brought her so low and weak, that I shall be necessitated to leave her here this winter.

ORMOND to LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE.

1681, October 10. Kilkenny.—I have your lordship's of the 8th instant with the enclosed letter to you from some of the gentlemen of the county of Meath of whom I do not remember I know one. I confess I wondered to find Mr. Wesley's name in the head of those that had signed a certificate in favour of so detected a fellow as Morley. I thought so ancient a gentleman had not been of that gang. For them now to certify that they knew not the man was under an accusation for foul practices would signify little. All the hurt their certificate can do is done, unless it be to themselves, who will rather be suspected to be such men as Morley is, than persuade any that he is an honest man. I have hitherto laid great weight on the certificates of Justices of the Peace and Grand Juries, but I shall hereafter doubt more of their value especially when they come out of Meath. They own they were surprised, but they do not say how or by whom, which it were good to know. In the mean time it will be worth the considering whether men subject to such surprises are fit to bear office for which there will be time enough. *Copy.*

WILLIAM SMITH to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, October 10. Dublin.—Concerning the information made by him, a prisoner for debt in the Marshalsea of the Four Courts, against one St. Lawrence, a popish priest; he prays that some person or persons may be deputed to examine him and others. *Written from The King's Arms in Corn-market. Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 10. Kilkenny.—When I writ to Mr. Secretary Jenkins and you upon occasion of the death of the Bishop of Derry, I had but just then received notice of it, and made haste to prevent applications to his Majesty, by persons less fit for so important a charge as the bishopric of Derry is, and

so omitted to mention Dr. Marsh, Bishop of Kilmore, as a man fit to come into the election and to be offered to his Majesty's choice either for Derry or Raphoe, which latter is a better bishopric than Kilmore. Marsh is unquestionless a very worthy man, and as I am told, well known and esteemed by my Lord Hyde. However, [tell] the King of those I have now and formerly named an ill choice cannot be made. Sheridan declined the bishopric of Killala as being at more ease where he is, and I cannot think him so fit in all respects for Derry, as any of the other. It is at present worth 1,800*l.* a year, and will be much better in some years, which made me think it worth the English Dean's acceptance. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 11. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 1st and 4th of this month, but none of either date from my Lord Longford, which makes me believe he was out of town or fear he was not well. The yacht will be at Holyhead about the 20th of this month, and stay there for your coming or dismissal. Your mother continues in better health than I durst hope ever to see her, which makes me willing to allow of her staying here all the winter. This day fortnight I purpose, God willing, to set forth towards Dublin and hope about that time to meet you there. I thank you for your hawks, but know not how I shall like them till [I] see them fly. Major Baily if he find a fit man shall have leave to sell his troop. My Lord Dunkellin may I hope make a good captain of horse, and a good councillor as long as he holds his peace. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, October 11. Kilkenny.—I have your of the 1st instant, and have either to my Lord Longford or my son Arran said enough upon the subject of my Lord Ranelagh's accounts to show that I have done at least as much as I was directed, and as much as belonged to me to get them brought in, but I am sorry and amazed to find I can be suspected of partiality to his lordship or indeed to anybody else, when the King's service requires the contrary, and I am bold to say whoever suspects me, neither knows me nor understands our affairs, but I know my duty and will do it in all things, let it anger whom it will. I thought Captain Nichols had been there when you writ me word what he had given out of my discourse with him, but it seems he was not, but arrived there since, and is making haste back again. What his so frequent posting backward and forward may mean I know not, nor well how to learn considering the company he most keeps, but I should think there can be no great depth or danger in a design managed by him. This day fortnight I return to Dublin, by that time the King will have been about a week at Whitehall. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 11. London.—All that I have to say worth your Grace's trouble, the King not being yet come to town (but will be here before he breaks fast to-morrow) is that Captain FitzGerald's friends intend to make a great business of his being turned out of his employments and have already advised him to come over. My Lord Hyde being gone for Scotland, when the King sent his commands for his dismissal, his lordship enquired of the Secretary how that matter came about, and he by mistake said you had writ to him about it, when as really it was upon your letters to me. I had the good luck to meet his lordship this morning, and after I had told him that I intended soon for Ireland, and his answering, that the business now on foot would be soon ready for me to carry over, we fell upon the discourse of Capt. FitzGerald. I told him that he had carried himself very ill as to the King's interest in this conjuncture, and that you had often endeavoured to bring him to his duty; but not being able to prevail with him you thought it your duty to acquaint the King how he had behaved himself, upon which the King ordered his being turned out. I observed to him that the King had put out of employment several great men in this kingdom without giving his reasons for it, and therefore I hoped he would not do himself that prejudice as to condescend to it in this case, though there is enough to be laid to the captain's charge, and what I now told his lordship was for his satisfaction only, but I was resolved when any other person should ask me the question, I would only say it was the King's pleasure to turn him out. His lordship said I was in the right and did not seem much concerned for him, but I hear my Lord Burlington, who is lately come to town, rails mightily at this proceeding. I intend to make his lordship a visit, and if he speaks to me of this matter, I hope I shall behave myself as I ought to do. I shall speak with the King to-morrow upon this subject.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 11. London.—By the last packet I gave your Grace a hint of my Lord Chamberlain's, presenting my Lord Shaftesbury's petition to the King at Newmarket, which for your Grace's further information in that particular, I think fit to explain. My Lord Shaftesbury in his letter to my Lord Arlington took notice, that he understood the King was informed he was too high in his humour to make any submission to his Majesty and scorned to petition for his liberty, but would rather choose the next term to secure himself by the law in contempt of his Majesty, and the next term resolved to move for his *habeas corpus*. This he told his lordship was the mere suggestion of his enemies, for he was not such a fool as not to know his duty, and the great distance that was between so great a Prince and so mean a

subject as himself, and he was so far from having any contempt of his Majesty, that no subject whatsoever had a greater veneration, greater affection, or more deference for his Majesty's person than himself, or should outdo him in duty or loyalty, and as an evidence of it, though he knew himself innocent of those crimes he was accused of, yet he besought his lordship as his particular friend to present the enclosed petition to his Majesty with this condition (relying upon his lordship's honour to perform it) that if his Majesty was not graciously pleased to grant the prayer of his petition that it should be immediately returned to him again. The petition was in very submissive language, as is said, and the prayer of it was that he might have his liberty and leave to retire into the country, where he resolved to retire the rest of his days and never more intermeddle in public business. When his Majesty read the petition he said he would consider of it and give an answer in four or five days, upon which my Lord Chamberlain telling his Majesty that by the condition expressed in the letter he was in honour obliged to return the petition immediately in case his Majesty was not graciously pleased to grant the prayer of the petition, the King returned the petition to my Lord Chamberlain, and said he would leave him to the law; upon which it is said Mr. Cooling was immediately sent up hither by my Lord Chamberlain. The politicians of the coffee-houses discourse variously of this matter *and those [who] love [my] Lord Chamberlain fear this may be his ruin, and will subject him to the revenge of the Duke of York and Ministers, without whose knowledge he did it.** The sub-sheriff of Middlesex yesterday adhering to his resolution of not altering the panel nor allowing of any other foreman than Mr. Charleton, Sir George Jefferyes, has again put off the swearing of the Grand Jury till to-morrow, and this day the Sheriffs were ordered to attend the Court to satisfy the Court whether they were of the same mind.

Harry Nichols is returned hither again, and swears he was with your Grace at Kilkenny about three weeks since. There are warrants out against him for treasonable words, which three witnesses have sworn he spoke in the stage-coach as he was coming from Chester hither about three months since. The Spanish ambassador has acquainted the King that the King of France has renewed his proposition for an exchange of Flanders for Catalonia, with which he fears his Majesty will be necessitated to comply, unless his Majesty finds means to preserve Flanders, the King of Spain being not able to defend it against so powerful a Prince. The King comes to town to-morrow, and then while I stay here I shall be able to give your Grace a more particular account of affairs. My wife is now entered into a course of gentle physic, by which she already finds great benefit, and had she begun it instead of

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

going to the Bath, I believe she might have accompanied me into Ireland with perfect health. Colonel Fitzpatrick was this morning with my Lord Hyde, who treated him with great freedom and kindness and made great professions of friendship and service to your Grace. My Lord Burlington is the man that encourages Captain FitzGerald to come hither and justify himself to the King. Since the writing of this I have spoke with Mr. Secretary Jenkins, who showed me the affidavit against Harry Nichols, in which I do not find anything will amount to high treason. The words which he spoke were in the Taunton coach as he came last out of Ireland, which were that it was against law for the King to borrow money upon any branch of his revenue after the vote passed in Parliament against his borrowing; that the late declaration after the dissolution of the Parliament at Oxford was lame, because the great seal was not to it, and that the Lord Chancellor said he might hereafter have use of Parliament; that the King was not advised by his Privy Council, but by only three or four of them; and [that] there had been ever a jesuitical council. He was this day at Mr. Secretary's office to justify himself, but not finding him there, is resolved to appear before the Council to-morrow. The person who accuses him is one Dymocke, a goldsmith, who names two gentlemen more who heard him speak the words in the coach. Morley has not yet appeared, but Mr. Secretary expects he will to-morrow before the Council. My Lord Ranelagh last week made a fierce attack upon the King, complaining of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury's letter for his suspension, to which the King answered that he had no reason to complain since he was to have so large a compensation as 15,000*l.*, which he knew was ready for him, but he must first make up his accounts as Vice-Treasurer before he could expect to receive it.

EXAMINATIONS OF WILLIAM SMITH, FRANCIS EDGECOMBE,
AND SIR ROBERT HANNA, BART.

1681, October 12. Dublin.—William Smith, of Wells, in the County of Somerset, says that his information of the 14th of September is true, that the discourse therein mentioned was made to him by St. Lawrence the first time that he saw him, and that St. Lawrence told him that he had heard sufficiently of him, and that the witnesses that went over out of this kingdom were scandalous to their religion as being Irish witnesses, but that he (the deponent) being an Englishman would be credited. He further says that he came to Ireland with one Mr. John Hicks, of Kinsale, and landed at Cork; that he stayed with Hicks at Cork and Kinsale, and afterwards went to Clonmel to one Mr. Alexander Reade, who wrote on his behalf to Mr. Thistlethwaite, and from thence to Waterford where he met one Captain Carroll with whom he had been acquainted in the West Indies, and where he contracted the

debts for which he was arrested; and that before coming to Ireland he had been for a year and a half with Mr. Thomas Yeomans, an attorney at Bristol, for nine months in the Island of Nevis in the West Indies, in London, at Wells with his mother, and at Bristol.

Francis Edgecombe says that he knows Father St. Lawrence, a Popish priest, that he has often seen him in the Marshalsea of the Four Courts where he (the deponent), for about these nine months past, has been a prisoner, and that he was informed by Captain John Hayes, Matthew Bodkin, a merchant, and five other Roman Catholics who lay in the room with him, that St. Lawrence said Mass to them and others in the Marshalsea. He further says that Smith one Sunday morning about two months since, told him and one William Macglenachan who had promised secrecy, that St. Lawrence would have persuaded him to swear against one Doctor Harrison and a person called Jack; that he (Smith) had casually lost a paper in which he had drawn the whole discourse, and if it should fall into Roman Catholic hands it would much prejudice the Protestants and their interests; and that St. Lawrence had sworn him to secrecy before he made any overture to him.

Sir Robert Hanna says that he saw St. Lawrence about four months since go into Smith's chamber in the Marshalsea, and that Smith and St. Lawrence were locked up together at that time about two hours, the cause of his (the deponent's) knowledge being that he continued walking near Smith's chamber until he saw St. Lawrence go out.

Sworn before Richard Ryves, Recorder of Dublin, Sir Joshua Allen, and Alderman Enoch Reader. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681, October 15. Euston.—Ever since my coming into the country I have been troubled with a defluction in my right hand and arm, which most call a return of the gout, but I do not so, because I am unwilling to discredit the milk diet to a strict use of which I have been constrained to confine myself during this my infirmity, and am, I thank God, pretty well delivered of it, but yet not so as to use my own hand more than to sign this letter. With this I ought to tell your Grace that your hawk does wonders, but yet not such as would make the King take him from me instead of a Muscovy tassel of which he is now master infinitely excelling any of his own. His Majesty being now returned to London it is my duty to follow him with what speed I can, which I shall, God willing, do on Tuesday next, though not without some regret to leave my house here and go again into a busy part of the world which is troublesome, though I have little share in it, for which reason I hope your Grace will forgive me, if I refer myself to your other correspondents for all the news of it. My Lady of

Ossory with all her family return with us, and I think I may say without flattery as unwillingly as we who have the satisfaction to see them carry back a better health than they brought hither. My Lord of Derby is likewise with us, and has spent some of his Newmarket days here. He would fain persuade my Lady of Ossory to go to Lancashire and to help his lady to lie in, but I think we shall compound the matter by promising she shall meet my Lady Derby here the next spring. At our return to London I suppose we shall meet my young cousin Bennet returned from France, his young wife and his old father and mother-in-law, from whom I shall be able to learn I hope quickly how worthy the younger daughter may be of your Grace's acceptance for my Lord of Ossory.

Here goes enclosed a letter from my brother Carr, who is likewise here with his family, to your Grace, which he hath shewn to me and calling upon me to be witness what part he hath heretofore had in serving you and your family in that grant from the King. I should do him wrong if I should not tell you I never saw any man bestir himself better than he did in endeavouring to make them a permanent and useful being in that lieutenancy. For which reason he hopes your Grace will interpret well the difficulty he now makes in moving his Majesty to make an additional term therein of thirty years instead of putting in my Lord of Ossory's life in the place of his father. When I have said this your Grace will give [me] leave to add without offence what I have heard myself the King say relating to this matter more than once when some principal persons of Staffordshire have complained of Colonel Vernon, viz. : that his Majesty would send to you to desire and conjure you to take the matter of Needwood Forest out of Colonel Vernon's hand and keep it in your own, and if I do not misremember I think I heard my Lord of Arran particularly commanded by the King to write to your Grace about it in the presence of my Lord Chesterfield, my Lord Ferrers and some others, and this I had not mentioned to you now if I had not been encouraged to it by the discourse I had with Sir Robert Carr, when he read to me the enclosed letter and desired me to transmit it to your Grace. So I have nothing to add to this long one, but my good wishes for the continuance of your health and happiness, and my compliments in the same kind to my Lady Duchess of Ormond.

JOHN FELL, BISHOP OF OXFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 15.—My Lady Clancarty going expressly from hence to Ireland, I can not forbear to present my duty by her hand, though I did it very lately by the Dean of Christchurch. She receives I hope satisfaction in her son, and that neither your Excellency nor her honour will have cause to repent of your disposal of him. The Vice-Chancellor is now

entered upon the third year of his employment, which I doubt not but he will manage with the same sufficiency and diligence he did the former. Your Excellency's letter came very opportunely for the settlement of the affair. This will I hope find your Excellency returned to Dublin in perfect health, with all the advantages of exercise and country air, which that you may retain with the accession of all other blessings is the earnest prayer of &c.

ANONYMOUS.

1681, October 15. London.—I am most ashamed to have been all this while indebted to your Grace for the honour of yours of the 10th August, which I found here at my arrival from my northern journey. But the paying my duty at Newmarket, besides a turn or two I was forced to make to my country business, must plead my excuse. *Having heard the report received . . . while I was in Scotland, that Ormond was to be removed*, I took leave to speak of it to the Duke, who assured me there was no such thing. I said what was fit on the subject and prayed the consequences might be well thought on for both his own sake and his brother's the . . . The same I repeated at my *taking leave of the Duke* and had the same assurances given me with greatest marks and expressions possible of the *King's* being most resolved in the point. I find by some of the *Earl of Halifax's* particular friends that *he is quite off the thought of it*.

In Scotland, Dalrymple, the President of the Sessions as he is called, or Chief Justice, is turned out, and Haddo, of the surname of Gourdon, one of the Lords of the Sessions, is put in his place. Argyle is also out of the Council and Treasury, and Queensberry in his place. The Clerk Registrar, Sir Thomas Murray is also out, and Sir George MacKenny, of Tarbott, in his place. Who [is] to be Chancellor is not said, most think the Marquess of Atholl. It is said *Hatton sits* very loose. Dalrymple is arrived here to give up his employment, but having left Edinburgh without taking leave of the Duke the King refuses to see him.*

Endorsed.—An anonymous counterfeit hand.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, October 15. Whitehall.—I stand accountable to your Grace for the command I have from you about the Post Office on that side, I have not had an opportunity to my mind to lay the consequences of that affair before his Majesty,

* The words printed in italics are a partial interpretation of the following cipher—553 . 184 . 254 . 278 . 258 . 75 . . . 261 . 360 . . . 274 . 359 . 2001 . 514 . 1051 . . . 452 . 345 . 173 . . . 399 . 286 . 272 . 153 . 529 . 1055 . . . 115 . 32 . 520 . 62 . 37 . . . 517 . 278 . 304 . . . 359 . 153 . 1055 . . . 399 . 911 . 1053 . 13 . . . 150 . 584 . 399 . 1074 . . . 553 . 126 . 240 . . . 391 . 583 . 520 . 500 . 36 . . . 241 . 12 . 83 . 398 . 490 . 60 . 37. See Introduction.

and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, it must be done with a full representation of the inconveniences. The Lords of the Treasury went over the establishment of Ireland as it is intended in the new farm this day, they are to meet again on Monday, and then the draft of the contract will be considered. Your Grace will hear there is a principal establishment and an additional one. This last I wish may not prove a reducing, as it will do if the improvement proposed in the new farm do not hold out. His Majesty was pleased to declare on Thursday last that it was his pleasure that the Lord Bishop of Raphoe should be translated to Londonderry, now vacant. My Lord President had the news of it by express. It was his lordship, that recommended him to the King and was extremely earnest (indeed displeased) with me that the letter from his Majesty to your Grace does not go this post. I will humbly take leave to lay hold on this occasion to tell your Grace that I have his Majesty's command, delivered me by my Lord of London, so to represent Dean Murray (a Scotchman) that he may stand in your Grace's eye as recommended by his Majesty upon his knowledge of him, for some good preferment suitable to the good esteem that his Majesty hath of his talent. There is in this city one Sir Edmond Wiseman a citizen full of duty to the King, that hath a brother named Mr. (or Dr.) Capel Wiseman that is Dean either of Raphoe or else of Derry ; he will, I foresee upon this vacancy there, be powerfully recommended by his Majesty.

Monsieur Van Beuninghen is here and hath made very long harangues, but no proposition in writing. He shows a kind of general league, that the Dutch have made with Sweden for the preserving of the general peace. It is without specifying any particular subsidies or quotas. This, he says, is to be done hereafter, when more princes do come in to this league. He invites his Majesty by word of mouth. What answer his Majesty will give a little time will show.

We have juries in Middlesex and London, the most strange that ever were upon a panel of fifty, scarce were four that went at any time to Church. They are so obscure (most of them) as never to have been in the freeholders' book, so that the King cannot hope to have justice from them in his own courts.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 15. London.—I had the opportunity of speaking with his Majesty about Capt. FitzGerald the night he came to town, and I find him so steady to his resolutions of showing marks of his displeasure to those who do not serve him to his mind, that the captain will not find his journey will avail him any thing, if he should be prevailed upon by his friends to come over hither, but on the contrary the King will have the rest of the Munster lord's relations turned out, if

they make a business of this. I was to wait upon my Lord Burlington since I writ last, but his lordship took no notice of his nephew's being turned out and used me with great civility. He desired me to put you in mind of your promise to him, when he was at Kilkenny, that the Scotts' companies and officers should be removed from this town of Youghal.

The Committee for Irish Affairs met this day upon the establishment, but have not done anything in it yet, his Majesty not being present; on Monday next they are to meet upon the covenants of their bargain, both which I believe I shall carry over, but I am afraid there will be no great latitude left you to make additions or alterations, though my Lord Hyde makes the greatest professions, of kindness and service to you imaginable, as my uncle Fitzpatrick will inform you with whom he has discoursed upon that subject later than with me. The King is grown a great lover of hawking, and when he was at Newmarket, he saw a hawk of my Lord Frescheville's fly so well which you gave him, that the King hopes you will make him a present of a cast.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 15. Kilkenny.—I write one to you because I believe you will stay to see some conclusion of the Irish affairs, and that possibly the English and foreign business will not suffer them to have the dispatch you expected. If I were not afraid unfit persons would be obtruded on the Church I could heartily wish I had nothing to do with preferments or promotions in it, and my next wish is that the bishopric of Derry were disposed of, for till it be I shall have no rest. Few men are fit for that bishopric, considering how it is seated, and yet there are I dare say, a hundred that think they are, and of those but one can have it, the rest will be discontented and in the first place with me. I am put in great fear of the Archbishop of Dublin's being near his end. But the clergy can by report kill men that stand in their way as well as officers of the Army, and I hope he is not in the danger that is given out and perhaps wished. When I get to Dublin I shall be better informed. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1681, October 15. Dublin.—Since my last to your Grace, I have made more particular inquiries into Smith's information, and I find that upon the first advertisement thereof, we caused St. Lawrence, the priest, to be apprehended, and one Page (who exhibited this information in the behalf of Smith and is himself one of Dr. Harrison's church) told us that there was one Weston (in prison on execution but for a small debt) who was able to say much in this matter. I paid the debt myself (it was indeed but a little one) and released him out

of the Marshalsea, and caused him to be examined, whose examinations are herewith sent to your Grace; so that Sir Robert Clayton's charge of our over favour to the Romish priests was ill applied to this particular. I herewith send your Grace copies of all the examinations, that have been taken upon that information, not only those which were taken at the first bringing in of this complaint, but also those farther examinations which have been taken since my receipt of your Grace's of the 11th instant, so that Mr. Secretary Jenkins will plainly see, that there hath been no neglect in that matter whatever hath been suggested to the contrary. And indeed I do not well know what possibly could have been done more than was done; for St. Lawrence the priest was presently taken and committed, and lies still in restraint to attend such a trial as the King's Counsel shall advise to have him called unto, but if the private malicious letters of every snivelling informer of this kingdom shall be sufficient to raise jealousies of this Government, and to arraign their proceedings without any hazard of punishment unto themselves, we must never hope for any ease or quiet.

Since my receipt of your Grace's of the 13th instant, which I received late last night, I have made some enquiry who those were that were for the most part Smith's visitants in prison, and I am told that Mr. Ware hath been most conversant with him, and hath continued with him private for some hours together, and that he took his examinations and sent them for England, and that Mr. Smith hath said unto others, that Mr. Ware had secured Sir Robert Clayton to be his friend. How far this is true and how much more of the same roguery may be found out I cannot yet say, but I hope by your Grace's return hither I shall be able to give you a better account of this contrivance, for to deal clearly with your Grace I as yet look upon this whole business to be nothing else.

As to my health though not worthy your Grace's enquiry, much less your esteem, I thank God I am much better than I was. I have been able to attend Sir John Champante's accounts at the Council table all this afternoon until seven o'clock, and I hope I am nothing the worse for it. I shall not trouble your Grace with a needless repetition of what was done in that business, having by this same post given your Grace an account thereof under the hands of all the Commissioners that were present.

I herewith send your Grace, Sir John Champante's state of the farm rent ending the 30th of September last, which is agreed to by the Farmers themselves within 15^l. When I was ill and could not stir abroad, I desired the Chancellor of the Exchequer and my Lord Chief Justice Davys (for my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge was then out of town) to call upon the Farmers and Sir John Champante together to agree upon the state; which with much endeavour they compassed, and they were pleased this day to return the enclosed report unto me,

which ought to have been made to your Grace, but I presumed that your Grace would rather pardon the mistake of the ceremony than to delay it this post. To conclude your Grace's trouble of this letter I present your Grace with a new London ballad ; they say it is of a pleasant tune, but I have no skill at counting.

SIR JAMES BUTLER to ORMOND.

1681, October 17.—Your Grace will receive of Mr. Bennet a book in folio, which Sir William Dugdale presents your Grace, and begs the honour and favour that the Catalogue of the Nobility and Bishops, &c., of Ireland, which I put into my Lord Arran's hands to be conveyed to your Grace, be carefully perused and exactly corrected and remitted with what convenient speed may be.

INFORMATION OF JOHN COOPER.

1681, October 15.—The Neills told Mr. Nulty and him that there were four persons, of whom William Hetherington was one, employed to suborn witnesses against the Duke, &c., that the four were supplied with money from nine eminent persons in London, and that Rouse was the man that received the money from the nine and paid it to the four. They told him that they had something to say against Mr. Morley, and one other gentleman whom he understood to be Sir Robert Clayton, and that these were likewise concerned in the subornation. The reason they gave him for not discovering all at their examination, was that John Brogan the night before left word at the gaoler's that the Lord of Coloony had forbid him to let the Neill's speak with Cooper or anyone else, that Sir John Davys, whose clerk was in their company with Cooper, would take advantage of any discovery they would give, and that they would not get out of gaol till the next assizes without Brogan's consent. Cooper says that if the Neills be discharged it will be a great hindrance to their giving full examinations, and that they will undoubtedly be released by gentlemen of the county of Meath, if they hear that they, the Neill's, intend to discover what they know of Mr. Morley. The Neill's also told Mr. Nulty and him that Sir Robert Clayton on their coming out of England expressed sorrow at their leaving it, and fear lest they would be knocked on the head in Ireland, and desired to know how they did live or if they were put to any trouble.

Endorsed.—Mr. Cooper's private information concerning Henry O'Neill given me by the Bishop of Meath. *Abstract.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 18. London.—Yesterday in the afternoon the Lords of the Treasury, and the Committee for the Affairs of Ireland met upon the new farm. The first thing in debate was the business of Tangier, which I mentioned in my last,

the determining of which his Majesty being then present reserved to himself. Then the matter of the new contract was taken into consideration. But before they entered upon it my Lord Hyde acquainted their lordships, that he heard it was reported abroad this new farm or undertaking was his project, and that he endeavoured to keep it in huggermugger. He protested for his own part he designed nothing but his Majesty's service, which was the only reason prevailed with him to countenance it. And therefore he desired the matter might be publicly scanned and exposed, and that my Lord Ranelagh and Mr. Sheridan might have a full and free view of it. Upon which his Majesty telling them my Lord Ranelagh was without, his lordship was called in, and they entered upon the contract, the preamble whereof was so long and my Lord Ranelagh's discourses upon it took up so much time that there was no further progress in it. And the further consideration of it is referred till Thursday next. My Lord Hyde this day desired my Lord Arran to be then present. And I hear myself, Sir Richard Reynell, Sir Robert Hamilton and Mr. Sheridan, will be also summoned to attend. I am absolutely a stranger to every article of the undertaking, but what I have picked up by common discourse. And though I have heard something of the new intended establishment I know little or nothing of their covenants. However, if I am summoned I shall according to the best of my skill, do my duty. I know *Lord Ranelagh and Sheridan** have shaken hands upon the point, and they both make use of your Grace's name in the opposition they give. And though I know not what authority they have from your Grace for so doing, yet I think myself obliged in duty to your Grace to acquaint your Grace with it. My proposition for the ordnance is laid aside, for because there was never any such provision made upon the establishment, it is thought now unreasonable in me to press it. However my Lord Hyde told me yesterday that there will be an addition made to the concordatums for things of that kind. And so that provision be made any way for the King's service, I am satisfied with any method is most agreeable to their lordships.

The Judges at the Old Bailey met yesterday, to which Sessions that of Hicks Hall being adjourned for the determining the dispute about the Grand Jury, it was thought reasonable by the Judges to adjourn it thither back again; where Sir George Jefferyes nor the Sheriffs not appearing, the Justices thought the matter too hard for them; and therefore broke up the Sessions resolving at the term to complain of the Sheriff's contempt in the King's Bench. When the panel for the Grand Jury at the Old Bailey was read it was observed to the court, that there were two fanatics in it, which frequented conventicles and went not to Church; which the Judges

* In cipher. See Introduction.

desiring the Sheriffs to strike out, Mr. Sheriff Pilkington answered they were very worthy men, and to his knowledge, very good Protestants. Upon this affidavit was made of their frequenting conventicles, and their being indicted for it. My Lord Chief Justice observed to the Sheriffs, that this was a lawful objection to which Mr. Pilkington replied, if that was made a qualification, then there could not a Grand Jury be found in London, which answer was derided by most present. Then Mr. Pilkington said no drunkard or whoremaster could be of a Jury. My Lord Chief Justice replied that if any were indicted for being so, it was a legal objection against them; but no man of that sort was so impudent as to brag of it as a virtue, and where men out of conscience pretended to religion and upon that score to absent themselves from the religious exercises established by law, they were certainly not fit to be of a Grand Jury by whom presentments of that kind were to be made in order to their being punished as breakers of the law. Then he observed that in the time of Mr. Bethel's being Sheriff not one Dissenter, though a Papist had been, [was] presented, which during the time of Plot, when all Protestants were so alarmed, was a greater advance to Popery, than the Papists themselves could have designed and hoped for, and one great matter of Grand Juries being to inquire after recusants and to present them, it was reasonable and necessary to have such Juries as would present recusants. Then he desired the statute of the 3rd of Henry the VIIIth to be read, that gave authority to the Justices to alter Juries as they thought fit, upon which Mr. Pilkington answered that if his brother Sheriff would consent, he was willing to alter those two against which exception was made. Mr. Shute (the other Sheriff) said it was a matter of great consequence and therefore desired time to advise with their counsel, upon which my Lord Chief Justice North replied, it was a sign that they had little reverence for the ten Judges then present, who were the expositors of the law (and who had all in their turn declared their opinions positively in the point for law) when they desired time to consult with two or three counsel in private. In conclusion the Judges requiring their contempt to be recorded, the Sheriffs retracted, and consenting to the striking out the names of those two persons, the Jury was sworn, by which it is believed the King has gained a great point in order to the Juries which are to be the next term. What has been done this day I have not had leisure to learn, but it was resolved to taste the temper of this Jury by preferring an indictment against Rouse, in which if there were success, it was believed the bill against my Lord Shaftesbury was to follow, and if it were found, *several great persons were to be confined*.* More of my Lord Lauderdale's friends in Scotland are laid aside.

* In cipher. See Introduction.

JOHN ELLIS to ———.

1681, October 18. London.—Concerning the proceedings at the Old Bailey; he says that the Grand Jury were all of them Dissenters more or less, but that with two exceptions, they brought vouchers of their frequenting church and divine service, being “such as go to church to salve appearances and to conventicles out of devotion.” This morning a bill was preferred against Mr. Rouse, who was carried from the Tower to Newgate to be indicted, to the Grand Jury. The witnesses against him, six in all, two of them substantial citizens of London, were examined in open court, although the Jury would have had them in private, and to unbiassed men seemed very full and satisfactory. The Jury put several captious questions to the witnesses, and the witnesses accused some of the Jury of knowing the truth of the things alleged against Rouse as he had spoken them in their presence. The examination lasted long, and when about four in the afternoon, the Jury withdrew and the court adjourned to dinner, the auditors thought the Jury would not find the bill inasmuch as some of them were interested in the matters to be found, all of them had probably contributed to the maintenance of witnesses for the Popish Plot, and finding a bill on the evidence given, would force them to find more bills, especially in the proceedings against the Earl of Shaftesbury and Lord Howard. About seven o'clock at night the verdict *ignoramus* was brought in. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 15. London.—The Lords of the Treasury met yesterday, the King [being] present, about the covenants of the new bargain, but they proceeded no farther than reading over the preamble. Thursday next is appointed for a farther debate upon that subject, and I believe I shall then be present. What I observe upon that day's transaction your Grace shall have from me by the next post, but I have reason to believe, that it will not pass so current as it was thought when I writ last, though I am told the Undertakers are as much assured of the thing as if they were in possession.

There is lately a person come over hither sent by the Bishop of Raphoe, who came by the way of Whitehaven, that brings news that the Bishop of Derry is dead, and Mr. Sheridan hearing of it, and believing by discourse he has had with you, that his brother would be more acceptable to you than Bishop Hopkins applied himself to the King for that bishopric for his brother, but I find the King is pre-engaged to my Lord President for the other. There being now five packets due out of Ireland, the news may be true, but I am confident your recommendation will take place if it be, and I guess it will be for neither.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 18. Kilkenny.—Colonel Hungerford having lately been in Scotland, and meeting my Lord Hyde there, recommended to him the restoring of the pay in the last establishment deducted from the troop of Guards a thing in itself most reasonable and indeed necessary considering the duty they are upon, the frequent marches they are subject to with me and the dearness of Dublin their constant garrison. But at the same time that he writes of this to the Quarter-master Harman he speaks of 500*l.* to be given by the troop to some body in consideration of the twelve pence to be restored and with this bargain or offer the Quarter-master has acquainted the troop, which is so open and scandalous a way of traffic, that I wonder what can be the meaning of it. I cannot suspect that Hungerford would cheat the men of their money, on the other hand I cannot imagine, who he would bribe. But if I am to have any hand in the establishment, I will free myself and those about me from the suspicion of it, and will know what the mystery is. I desire you would speak with Hungerford concerning this matter if he be there, if not let me know whether you have heard anything of it or no. *Copy.*

SAME TO SAME.

1681, October 18. Kilkenny.—Since I writ to you this morning concerning Colonel Hungerford's letter to Quarter-master Harman, I have received yours of the 8th and 11th of this month, and a dispatch from Mr. Secretary Jenkins, containing all the papers delivered to him by Sir Robert Clayton. The matter was under examination at Dublin, and the Popish priest committed as he still is, but it is much to be suspected that the whole matter was contrived and timed for my Lord of Shaftesbury's service and copies of the information sent over in haste to come forth in print before his lordship's trial. I have sent all the papers before me to Dublin, that against I come there a full narrative of the matter may be in a readiness. One Page, a professed Nonconformist, in whose house Dr. Harrison lies has a great part in the affair, and your landlord Ware has been some hours shut up with Smith the informer, but before a true representation can be sent my Lord of Shaftesbury's business is like to be over one way or other, and he will have had all the benefit the noise could give him. You have taken the matter of FitzGerald very right in discourse with my Lord Hyde and certainly he that at least approved of that way of conduct in England, cannot reasonably condemn it here. I do not wonder at my Lord Burlington's concern for his favourite nephew, but I should think it might be as necessary for him to justify himself as him. I know not what use is to be made of the catalogue Sir James Butler put into your hands, when it shall be rectified

as it will easily be by some of the proper officers. My Lord of Longford's two letters consist of pertinent informations, but require no return but my thanks and my wishes for his lady's health, which are as cordial as theirs that may lose by her death. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681, October 18. Dublin.—By some letters which I have received out of England by these last packets, I find that it is the opinion of some that all the present differences between the King and any of his subjects are attempting to be pieced up by way of accommodation, and that several propositions have been made to his Majesty for that purpose, and that the Lord Shaftesbury should continue a prisoner until the terms agreed upon be secured to be performed. This way is put forward by some, others oppose it as an unpracticable expedient, and only set up to avoid those disadvantages, which must be brought upon the great Dissenting party, by the trial of the Lord Shaftesbury and Lord Howard. It is very hard to make any judgment upon such conjectural proposals, but your Grace and I do very well remember that in the first Presbyterian rebellion, about the year 1640, what that party could not obtain by their arms, they compassed by an accommodation, but I hope that precedent hath so well instructed us, that we shall not be easily drawn into the like snares, though doubtless nothing can more gloriously conduce to his Majesty's honour, than to quiet the minds and affections of his people without blood.

I find by some discourse with the Bishop of Kildare that he would be much pleased, if your Grace would make him your Vice-Chancellor for this University. And indeed I think he may be a fit person to receive that honour from your Grace, if your Grace have not otherwise resolved it. His education hath been much academic, and the charge of his bishopric lying so near Dublin doth much adapt him for that employment; but this is only to your Grace, and not to interfere with the least of your Grace's thoughts in the disposal thereof. I know nothing of your Grace's intentions as to the deanery of Down, in case that Dean should be advanced to Raphoe, but upon some discourse which I had this day with the Dean [of] Down, if what he tells me be true, it is without doubt the best deanery in all Ireland. I hold myself obliged to duty to give your Grace this advertisement, that you may know the value of what you give. I wish your Grace all happiness in the world, and a safe return to Dublin as soon as your conveniences will permit you.

Postscript.—Sir John Champante came to me this afternoon, and desired me to give him a copy of the letter to your Grace from the Lords of the Treasury of —. I told him that

I had seen a copy of that letter, but it was from your Grace ; and without your Grace's permission, I would not give it unto any one. I think he told me, that my Lord Ranelagh could not procure it in England. I must cry *peccavi* to your Grace for what I formerly writ to your Grace of Sir John Champante's promise of making up the account of the undertaking ; when I lately questioned him for it and urged him upon his promise, he said that he never intended that account, but only the account of the Vice-Treasurer. So that it is my opinion that he intends not to give the Lords of the Treasury any such account, and I am apt to believe that his employers in England have forbid him.

One Colonel O'Berne, as he calls himself, but in plain English, Colonel Berne, hath lately landed here, and was with me this day with several of his officers. His business is to recruit his regiment for the Spanish service, and hath our King's letter to your Grace, to countenance him therein. He desired me to let him know when your Grace intends to be here, that he might accordingly dispose of himself either to attend your Grace at Kilkenny, or await until your Grace's return to Dublin. I told him that I supposed your Grace was purposed to leave Kilkenny upon Monday next, and to be here some few days after, which I presume will prevent your Grace, the trouble of a visit by himself and his officers at Kilkenny.

ORMOND TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, October 18. Kilkenny.—After I had written my other letters of this day's date, I received a packet (by an express post from Dublin) from Mr. Secretary Jenkins, containing the papers sent to Sir Robert Clayton out of Ireland, and by him delivered to the Secretary. I have read but some of them, before I send them, and not compared them with others, or with the copies your Grace sent me by the last post, supposing you will be able to make better use of them than I can at this distance. The order of Council only directs a proceeding on this side according to law, but perhaps it may be fit to frame a narrative of that whole business, that it may be sent and published, if the King shall think it fit.

I find he that sends them out of Ireland prepares the best he can, not only against any evidence that may be brought to confute Smith's information, but against his own retraction, if it should happen, and represents the Popish party here powerful enough to suppress all truths and to prove any lie, but we know who is meant by the Popish party, and what Protestants they are that are dejected at Colledge's execution, and that thereupon quit the kingdom. God deliver us from such Protestants.

Postscript.—Kilkenny, 19 October, '81, being by God's mercy this day 71 years old. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1681, October 19. Kilkenny.—In the same packet that brought me the report of the Commissioners of the Vice-Treasurer's accounts and the informations concerning Smith the prisoner, and St. Lawrence the Popish priest, I had the enclosed letter to my Lord Chief Justice from Mr. Villiers, and the copy of an address to the French King, but I do not understand to what part of the business of that dispatch to apply either of those papers, and therefore I return them to your Grace, supposing they may have gotten into the packet by mistake.

I much suspect that the business of Smith's information is principally contrived and limited for my Lord Shaftesbury's service, and that it may have the effect aimed at before their can [be] any detection of the design be sent from hence, for in all probability he will receive his trial or liberty soon after the beginning of the term, which in England will be on Monday next. Mr. Ware's secret conferences with Smith and Sir Robert Clayton's handing the information to Mr. Secretary Jenkins in England, and Page's part in it here induce me to be of that opinion, and the calumny hinted by Sir Robert Clayton against this Government, is to excuse the transmission of copies of the information whilst they were in the proper way of proceeding here, and at the worst they will be content to incur the penalty of a misdemeanour or contempt towards the Government to assist so great a patron of the cause as the Earl of Shaftesbury being under capital questions. However your Grace could do no more than is done and doing to discover truth.

Since your Grace has been as far as the Council Chamber, and received no prejudice by it, I hope to find you able with as little danger to your health to come to the castle. I have returned an answer in form to your Grace's and the rest of the Commissioners of Accounts' letter of the 15th of this month. It seems to me that no account of the Vice-Treasurer's can ever be finally closed whilst he is in authority to receive and pay, unless it be to a certain day, because he may be, and likely is, receiving and paying even whilst his accounts is transcribing.

Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, October 18. London.—Your Grace's of the 27th and 30th of September, as also that of the 3rd instant, I received together on the 19th, and have seen your Grace's to my Lord Arran and Colonel Fitzpatrick. What your Grace mentions to me of my knowledge, that the Vice-Treasurer's accounts or your Grace's superintendency over the Vice-Treasurer was excepted out of your patent for the lieutenancy of that kingdom, is very true, and it is as true that I have asserted it, and have been laughed at for my pains, nor have I been wanting

in my duty to your Grace, in representing your Grace's immediate issuing your orders to the Commissioners of Accounts, and to the Vice-Treasurer, after receipt of the letters from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. And yet your Grace in your letters to the Lords of the Treasury, mentioning little or nothing of my Lord Ranelagh's accounts, and in every [one] of them representing still something against the Farmers, I suppose is the occasion of those discourses I acquainted your Grace with. But all these apprehensions are now blown over by my Lord Ranelagh passing his accounts, and the prudent use Colonel Fitzpatrick has made of your Grace's last letter (an account whereof I doubt not but he gives your Grace himself) has turned extremely to your Grace's advantage here. I intend not [to] trouble your Grace with the transactions in the Treasury Chamber upon the new undertaking, because my Lord Arran has said all that is yet observable upon that subject. Only I must say that I am of opinion all my Lord Ranelagh's rhetoric will neither save himself nor divert the resolutions already taken in that matter. For the conveniency and ease the maintaining of Tangier out of Ireland will out-balance all other considerations, and the Ministers here are already too far engaged to recede from their determinations.

My proposal about the ordnance is totally laid aside, because there was never any such provision made for the ordnance in any establishment. But my Lord Hyde told me there would be an addition made to the concordatums for things of that kind. I am sorry the stop in the payments ordered since May will hinder the reparations your Grace designed in the several forts, for after the new undertaking is perfected, I foresee that money will not only be never retrieved, but that the arms and stores will suffer much this winter for want of repairing the storehouses. Upon the promotion of these new bishops, I presume to put your Grace in mind of your Grace's promise to me concerning my chaplain, Mr. Lloyd, who really is a very deserving man. And this is the first request of this kind I have ever troubled your Grace with. On Thursday morning my Lord Huntington was introduced by my Lord Halifax into the bed-chamber, into which as soon as his lordship entered, he threw himself upon his knees and begged his Majesty's pardon for his late errors, telling his Majesty, he was deluded and misled by the specious pretences of some lords whom he thought truly loyal and zealous for the good of the kingdom, but having of late found by their actions, that they intended nothing less, he did in all humility cast himself at his Majesty's feet begging his Majesty's pardon, and assuring his Majesty, that his future actions should make amends for his past errors. His Majesty replied that though he would never capitulate with his subjects; yet when he saw their eyes opened, and found they were convinced of their faults, he knew how to show mercy, and gave him his hand to kiss. By Tuesday's packet I hope to be able to give your

Grace an account of my motion from hence, which will be before my Lord Arran can leave this place, because my business in the term requires my hastening into Ireland.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 22. London.—On Thursday last I had seven letters from your Grace, three of them dated the 3rd instant, the others 27th of the last month, 7th, 10th, and 11th, of this. That of the 7th which related to the Dean in this country, did not come to my hands so soon as the others, so that the King had consented to give the bishopric of Derry to the Bishop of Raphoe before I had that letter, therefore I shall make no mention of it to any body for the reasons your Grace hinted, and indeed if it were not to obey your commands, I should scarce appear on behalf of William Sheridan, though I would be glad to serve his brother, for I have no great reverence for the Dean, and my mother I am sure has as little, but according to your desires in your letter of the 10th, the Bishop of Kilmore will be translated to Raphoe, and the Dean preferred to the bishopric of Kilmore, which his brother here is well satisfied with, since he cannot get that of Derry for his other brother, for whom he seems to be most concerned, and pretends he had your Grace's promise for a translation to a more beneficial bishopric, than that he now holds. And now I am upon this subject I must put you in mind of a promise you made to prefer one Mr. Lloyd, chaplain to my Lord Longford.

I was at the Treasury Chamber at the reading of the covenants for the new undertaking on Thursday last, and this morning, and though the Lords of the Treasury and others of the Council sat above four hours each time, they have read but two thirds of it. On Tuesday next in the afternoon, they will go through the rest. My Lord Ranelagh will make exceptions to many clauses in it, when it is read out, and when he has time to peruse it. I shall not trouble your Grace with my sense of the matter, until I have heard over the whole, for perhaps there may be some restrictions in what remains, that may solve matters, but as it yet appears to me, the King will set up new enquiries, and give the Undertakers the benefit of such lands as they shall discover, which will be very vexatious to us all that have estates, and is a thing that your Grace and a full Council have made a representation against by letter to the Secretary, which letter I desired might be brought next meeting. Another thing which seems to be granted to them is of as general ill consequence as that, and that is the reliefs, most of, if not all, the estates in Ireland since the taking away the Court of Wards being held in common socage. But Sir James Shaen with whom I am now upon very good terms will give me a private meeting after the business is read over, and he says he will satisfy me in those

doubts, and will recede from any thing that may but seem grievous to the subject. This is all that occurs to me of moment in this matter, but my Lord Ranelagh will with great eloquence make many objections, which I shall not concern myself in, because it is his own particular concern, for he is not only turned out, but he is farmed by the new Undertakers. I had like to forget one material thing, and that is that the Army of Ireland is like as the covenants are now penned to be six months in arrear until the end of the farm. My Lord Hyde told me this morning, that Mr. Sheridan was yesterday with him, and pretended, authority from the Duke and from your Grace to move for a Parliament, which I wondered at having had no intimation of it from you, and your former letters to me mention the contrary. I told his lordship that he had brought me no credentials from you, and therefore I believe he had no authority for what he said. I gave that answer because I know it goes against the grain with his lordship, and the King is not inclined to it at this time. My Lord Hyde showed your letters to him upon account of the Vice-Treasurer, he is very kind and civil to me, and makes great professions of his kindness to you. I have writ to the captain of the yacht not to stay for me, and when I want her I shall write a post or two before I take my journey. I had a letter from my cousin George Mathew upon the same subject you writ, and I will send his letter to the Lieutenant of the Tower to show my Lord Arundel of Wardour.

JOHN LUTHER, MAYOR OF YOUGHAL to ORMOND.

1681, October 25. Youghal.—Concerning his Grace's commands of the 12th instant, he craves leave to represent that there lately arrived in this port a French vessel with forty three Protestants from Rochelle, and the Ile of Re or thereabouts, whence they had fled on account of the persecution against those of that religion, and also in a vessel belonging to Youghal one Daniel Penegant, his wife and two children, who declare that they are Protestants, and fled from their habitation at the Ile of Re upon the like account. Notwithstanding the great decay of their trade by means of the "Act for prohibiting transportation of cattle," the chief support of their town, they have not been wanting to contribute towards the relief of these poor strangers. *Abstract.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, October 25. Whitehall.—I deferred to give your Grace an account on Saturday of his Majesty's most ready consenting to the translating of my Lord Bishop of Raphoe to Derry, in hopes to be able with the same conveyance to give your Grace his Majesty's pleasure upon my Lord the Earl of Arran's proposal to have the Bishop of Kilmore translated to

Raphoe and Dean Sheridan to Kilmore. This my Lord of Arran tells me is your Grace's last thought, for you are pleased in yours of the 7th October, to me to mention Dean Sheridan as fit for Raphoe. Having had no other answer on Saturday from his Majesty, but that he would have a good man to succeed at Raphoe, which I hoped his Majesty would determine of (and that Bishop Marsh should be the man) before this night I come to be disappointed, for that his Majesty went away yesterday very early in the morning for Windsor to see his Chapel, which is newly finished there, and Sir Samuel Morland's waterworks. On Saturday I hope to give your Grace an account of your commands in this and in some other things.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 25. London.—I have your Grace's letter of the 15th, and two of the 18th, and find by Mr. Secretary Jenkins, that nothing is yet farther done about the Irish bishops than the making Hopkins Bishop of Derry, and this stop is occasioned by Mr. Sheridan's making an interest with my Lord Conway, to get the Bishop of Cloyne, his brother, translated to the bishopric of Raphoe. I shall not interpose farther in the matter, having spoke to the King already, and told him your sense, for I had rather the Bishop of Cloyne should be preferred without your recommendation than the Dean of Down with it. Letters of the latest date from Dublin speak of my Lord Primate's being very ill, as also the Archbishop of Dublin. The Dean you mention in your former letters, would I believe be glad to have either of those.

I shall unfold to your Grace that business, which Hungerford writ to Harman about, when he came out of Scotland, he told me that he would make an interest with the Knight concerned in this new undertaking for 500 guineas to get an increase to his and the commission officers' pay, and the 12d. per diem restored to the troop. I told him I thought it was a very good bargain and encouraged him in it, but did not think he would go that way to work as he has done. I would not have your Grace discover this because I am now upon good terms with that Knight, but I am confident he has promised more than he can perform, for I believe he has not the interest to make such an alteration in the establishment. This business was told me by Hungerford in great secrecy, and he having had no discourse with Sir James himself, but the business being carried on by a third hand it may easily be denied.

This afternoon the remaining books of the new covenants were read over at the Treasury, they being in all nine in number, and all of them pretty large ones. My Lord Ranelagh was not there, but is in waiting with his Majesty at Windsor; he is on Monday next to make all his objections in writing or else their lordships will proceed without him.

I heard the other day that Captain FitzGerald was come to town, but if he is he keeps very private. The King does not return from Windsor this night, so that the business of the bishops will not be concluded before next post.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 25. London.—I have very little to trouble your Grace with at this time, because my Lord Arran charges himself with giving your Grace an account of the proceedings in the Treasury chamber; and Colonel Fitzpatrick will tell your Grace what has passed between him and Dr. Tillotson. I was last night with Mr. Attorney General, who speaks with much diffidence of the Grand Jury's finding the bills of indictment against my Lord Shaftesbury and the other prisoners, though the evidence is very positive and clear against them. For while such factious Grand Juries are returned by the Sheriffs (which is a mischief the present law cannot remedy) there is little hope, that any bills will be found, and the King will have no expedient left to bring that party to reason, but *to put the laws in execution against fanatics and confine their ministers* which I perceive to be resolved on in case the refractory humour continue. My Lord Shaftesbury and the rest petitioned yesterday for their *habeas corpus*, and the rule given was that, if there were no indictments brought against them by the end of the term, they should have their liberty according to law. Because the Quarter Sessions at Oxford was not held so early this year as the last it was believed there was an intention to bring on the bills of indictment there; but upon discourse with Mr. Attorney, I find all his lordship's transactions were in the City. Upon my Lord Huntingdon's submission, the King spoke to my Lord Denbeigh to resign up to his lordship the Custos Rotulorum's place of Leicestershire, which had always been in the Huntingdon family and was lately taken from the present Lord, and given to my Lord Denbeigh, who very readily complied with his Majesty's commands, in return whereof the King has promised to make him Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire, when it is vacant by the death of my Lord Northampton, who has been long languishing. I hear Mr. Thynne, Colonel Booth, and several other considerable persons of that gang are now becoming converts, which will make a considerable breach in that party.

The King having answered Van Beunighen, that his present condition being such, that he was not able without the assistance of a Parliament to engage in a war; and the humour of the people being at present so factious, that if he called a Parliament, he could not hope for any assistance from men of their choosing, he desired to be excused from declaring war against France. However, if they pleased to declare war he was ready to afford them that assistance he was obliged unto by the Treaty at Numigen, whereof he was guarantee. With

this answer Van Beunighen is not pleased ; and therefore as I am told intends to propose, that if his Majesty will please to join with them in the declaration of war they will be contented with only such assistance as his Majesty was able to give them. *This he is advised to do by the Earl of Essex, Sunderland, Sidney, and* — in hope that a declaration of war will infallibly in the end necessitate the meeting of a Parliament.* I have drawn this letter into a greater length, than I at first intended which I hope your Grace will pardon. This day sennight I intend to set out for Ireland. Since the writing of this, I am told, that upon a project now on foot, that the Secondary of the Counter may without the Sheriffs make return of a Grand Jury in London, a Commission of Oyer and Terminer will be issued for the trial of my Lord Shaftesbury, which I cannot tell your Grace to be authentic, because Mr. Attorney said nothing to me of it, which I fancy he would not have concealed, if there had been any such intention.

JOHN ELLIS to ———.

1681, October 25. London.—Concerning the application to the King's Bench, made by the two lords and two commoners in the tower, Mr. Williams and Mr. Wallop moved for the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Mr. Darnell for Lord Howard. Two printers of seditious pamphlets, Janeway and Baldwyn, were called before the court and at first committed, but afterwards suffered to enter into recognisances. Yesterday the King went to Windsor to see, as it is said, the new rooms in the Castle which are very finely painted by Monsieur Verrico. The Committee for the Affairs of Ireland sat for three hours this afternoon, going through the new propositions for the farm, and it is said the Commissioners for Disposing of Ecclesiastical Benefices in the King's gift are debating whether those in Ireland are not within their disposal. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, October 27. Grangebeg.—At Carlow in my way hither, I received your lordship's of the 15th and 18th instant, and immediately sent them to my wife, because they comprehended more material advertisements, and observations than all the other letters sent me, this account I choose to give your lordship from hence suspecting that when I come to Dublin, I shall be much taken up with the ceremonies of welcomes and visits for a day or two.

The only information that requires answer as I remember, was of my Lord of Ranelagh's and Mr. Sheridan's declaring my aversion to the new proposals for a farm or some other contract for the revenue of Ireland, but I believe they were misunderstood by those, that reported it from them, however,

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. The figures uninterpreted are 1132. See Introduction.

I am sure I was misunderstood by them, if from any discourse of mine they collected and affirmed, that I disapproved of that or any other bargain without knowing who the Undertakers were, what the undertaking is, or what the security for performance would be. It is true I may have said to Mr. Sheridan and others, that I was very suspicious of proposals in relation to the revenue, when care was taken to conceal all the material parts of them, and especially from those that should be presumed to understand the condition of Ireland, and were like to have some part in supervising the execution of what should be agreed upon, and I shall continue in the same doubt till I know more than yet I do. I question whether this letter may find you at London, but send it presuming, that when you come away, you will leave order how your letters shall be disposed of.

Postscript. October 29. Dublin.—Last night at Osbaldstowne, I received your lordship's of the 21st instant, and have got time to own the receipt of it. I cannot comprehend where the jest lay, that made men so merry when your lordship observed to them that the Vice-Treasurer was not in the number of those the Lieutenant had power to bring to account, but the matter being over let them laugh on. I do not know what preferments in the Church will be void upon the removal of bishops, the deanery of Down is one of the best in the kingdom, and your lordship will think it reasonable I should gratify one of the most eminent of my own chaplains with it, but when you arrive I doubt not but to satisfy your lordship that I am much prepared to help your chaplain to a living proper for him. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, October 29. London.—This day his Majesty and the Queen with the Lords of the Council and the Judges have been treated most splendidly at Guildhall. On Monday his Majesty goes for Newmarket to see two races and will return hither as soon as they are over. On Monday my Lord Ranelagh is to give in his objections to the new undertaking in writing, which together with the answers to them will be considered by the Lords of the Treasury and presented to his Majesty at his return for his final resolution. Without doubt a new proposition will be made by my Lord Ranelagh's party. But by what I can collect it will come too late. For it is believed, that if the present proposers will abate some of their extravagant clauses (which I have reason to believe they will) they will be preferred. My Lord Ranelagh has acted his part with such passion, that he has said if he can stave off this contract and stand his ground but two years, he doubts not but these Ministers, who manage his Majesty's affairs now will be turned out, and then he shall have a new world before

him, which being told them, has exasperated them to the last degree, and more particularly *Hyde*.*

Since my Lord Shaftesbury's petition, there has been no proceeding against him in the King's Bench, the Grand Jury's being such, that there is no hope they will find the bill of indictment against his lordship. For which reason other expedients have been thought of, and are now under consideration. One I told your Grace in my last, and that which is now upon the anvil, and which the Judges have before them, is whether if there should be a special Commission of Oyer and Terminer for trying of him and the rest of his gang in the Tower, whether the Bailiff of Westminster or his Deputy may not legally return the Grand and Petty Juries. The resolution of which query depends upon the Charters granted by King John, both to the Abbot of Westminster and the City of London, which have since been confirmed by the succeeding Kings to both. The Judges both yesterday morning and last night met upon this affair, but their determination (if they have come to any) is yet kept private. It is said that Van Beunighen despairing of success in his errand returns home the next week, and the last Flanders' letters say, that the Duke of Parma is for the present freed from his apprehensions of the French King's seizing upon the country of Alost. I fear our friend Nash will the next week fall into some tribulation, being accused by some of the libellers in print for furnishing them with materials for their scribbling.

This next week I resolve to leave this place, though I foresee I cannot set out on Tuesday. His Majesty has signed two letters, one for the Bishop of Kilmore to be Bishop of Raphoe, and the other for the Dean of Down to be Bishop of Kilmore, but when he signed them, directed Mr. Secretary Jenkins, not to send them away till he had spoken with Mr. Sheridan, to whom his Majesty had promised the bishopric of Londonderry, for his brother the Bishop of Cloyne; but upon your Grace's and my Lord President's recommendation, preferred the Bishop of Raphoe to it, and now to make Mr. Sheridan amends would content him in the promotion of his brother. When that of Londonderry was gone, Mr. Sheridan proposed (after he had agreed with my Lord Arran and me, that the Bishop of Kilmore might have Raphoe and his brother, the Dean, Kilmore) that his brother Cloyne might have Raphoe, and his brother the Dean have Cloyne with his deanery; in which my Lord Conway had his Majesty's directions to write to your Grace, but Sir Maurice Eustace happening to be present when my Lord Conway told Mr. Sheridan of it, he dissuaded him from it as an imposition, which your Grace would not be pleased with, and he then seemed to wave it. But whether he has changed his mind since I know not, having not met with Mr. Secretary Jenkins this busy day. My Lord Arran

* In cipher. See Introduction.

being now with me commands me to tell your Grace that he has nothing to add to what I have now written, and hopes your Grace will excuse him till Tuesday, when he shall be able to give your Grace an account of Monday's transactions at the Treasury Chamber.

Colonel Vernon being just now come from the show and attending (as was the duty of his place) very near his Majesty, heard his Majesty speak to my Lord Mayor and the citizens with kindness and great resolution, saying that whilst the honest men of the City stuck to him, and the law being on his side, he did not doubt but to be too hard for all those who endeavoured to divide them, and though he should always have his arms open to receive any that should repent of their follies, yet he would not give sixpence for those who did not. The King was received with great acclamations throughout the City as well as in Guildhall, and there was great appearance of loyalty. And it was observable that the Sheriffs were not knighted, nor did the King take any notice of them. Sir James Smith's regiment appeared very fine all in their buff coats, of which the King took so much notice, that he said they might compare with any in Europe, adding that by the assistance of them and the honest part of the City (for he believed all honest and rich men would be of his side) he did not doubt but to be too hard for those who were factious only for faction sake, and would perjure themselves only to mischief him, who was willing to afford the benefit of the law to all his subjects, though he was the only man in England could not have it himself. After the King's health was drunk with great acclamations, and the King drank my Lord Mayor's health and prosperity to the City, the Duke's health was drank by the aldermen, Sir Robert Clayton saying he would pledge it with all his heart.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, October 29. London. My Lord Longford has made a shift to write a letter to your Grace this post of three sides, when I confess I pumped very hard for three lines, and being able to go no farther, I was fain to desire him to make my excuse, for there being no room in the King's coaches, and not being invited by the Lord Mayor, I was not at the feast myself, and I would not do him the prejudice to take Ned Vernon's relation from him, nor be so unkind to the news-writers as to forestall them, for I am sure on Monday, the whole matter will be in print.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, October 29. Dublin.—I received yours of the 15th, 18th, and 22nd of this month on the way from Kilkenny hither, where I arrived this afternoon. It is true I did promise my Lord of Cork to remove the Scotch companies from

Youghal, but since that promise great complaints have been made by them against the town, and by the town against them, and though the differences betwixt them are well composed, yet I do not think it fit to remove the companies, lest it should be thought to be done upon the desire of the town, and I shall have an ill time of it, if I cannot make any companies of the Army to live peaceably in any garrison. When they shall for some time longer agree well together, as they hitherto do, my lord shall have his desire. When I have hawks I think worth the sending, the King shall have a cast, but let Will Chiffinch send me notice at what time his Majesty would have them, this to yours of the 15th.

Yours of the 18th and 22nd come next. I well remember Mr. Sheridan was desirous his brother the Bishop should be translated to a better bishopric, but his never residing in that he has, though there be at Youghal a considerable congregation worth his looking after, is so great a neglect, that I cannot recommend him to another till he has passed some time of probation where his duty lies. He has obtained the Duke's recommendation to me, but I confess that is of greater force with me in all other things than in the choice of clergymen, and I hope he would not be angry with me if he knew it. I am told the Bishop of Kilmore will not change his station for Raphoe, but will leave it to Dean Sheridan. I believe I may have talked with Mr. Sheridan of a Parliament in this kingdom, but I am sure it was never my meaning that he should turn my discourse into a proposal for it to the King or Duke. The matter is of more moment than to be set on foot and transacted by slight messages, for as there may be some advantages to be expected by a Parliament, so some inconveniences may as well be apprehended, and it will take time and consideration to balance them. My letter to my Lord Longford will let you see my answer to another suggestion in the matter of the new proposal, of which I shall say nothing till I know more. But if I durst I would represent, that the Army is now completely seven months in arrear, and that I see no probability, but that it will come to nine months before three will be paid, though the half year's quit-rent is or will shortly be received. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, November 1. London.—Yesterday his Majesty was present in the Treasury Chamber, where my Lord Ranelagh harangued very eloquently. His lordship told his Majesty that being straitened in time, and the new contract being of great length and the clauses of it very intricate, he was not able in so short a space of time to make his objections so full and so clear as the nature of that matter required, but if his Majesty would please to allow him till this day sennight he did undertake to prove these four particulars:—first, that

whereas the present proposers did pretend to pay annually 300,000*l.* the clauses were so penned that if they pleased they might pay no more annually than 240,000*l.*; secondly, whereas they pretend immediately from May last to advance to his Majesty for Tangier and the shipping 96,000*l.* per annum, he would make it appear that in consideration of that his Majesty did not only remit to them the 60,000*l.* which they were to pay after the determination of their present farm, but also that they got by it 40,000*l.* more; thirdly, that in the grant as it was now penned his Majesty gave them at least 300,000*l.* to the oppression and ruin of the whole kingdom; and fourthly, that his Majesty lost 200,000*l.* which he might receive with the ease and satisfaction of the whole kingdom (which last was believed to be by a Parliament). Upon these heads he undertook to convince his Majesty of the great cheat designed to be put upon his Majesty in this undertaking and because his Majesty might be satisfied it was purely for his service that he engaged in this opposition against this new undertaking, he affirmed that as to the balance of his former undertaking he might have been very safe, because the present proposers had offered to discharge him and save him harmless from any demand from his Majesty upon that score. But his zeal for his Majesty's service was such that he absolutely wavered, and if he did not this day sennight clearly prove every syllable, that he objected against this new contract, he was so far from expecting his Majesty's favour hereafter that he deserved to be banished his presence and kicked out of the Court. Your Grace may please to remember that upon the occasion of his lordship's former undertaking at the Council Board here he did with the same confidence affirm, with pardon to the expression, that he scorned to beg his Majesty's favour and indulgence, he was so assured of his performing it. As to the point of time for bringing in his objections accompanied with those circumstances his lordship undertakes to make out, it was thought so reasonable that it was granted him. But my Lord Hyde desired his Majesty that notwithstanding what my Lord Ranelagh averred, his Majesty would please to suspend his judgment and not think the worse of the proposers, till his lordship had fully proved what he averred. His lordship replied that he hoped his Majesty would not think the better of them for anything his lordship said in their behalf, and that if he demonstrated what he had undertaken, he hoped his Majesty would be so far from allowing them the favour of mending their proposals, that he would rather put a mark of infamy upon them, by declaring such persons, who had endeavoured to put so gross a cheat upon him, for ever incapable of making any other proposal or of having any further trust in the management of the revenue. This is as near as my memory will serve (for I collected it from several of the lords then present) the particular account of what passed and in the Treasury Chamber. And if my intelligence do not fail me

all this hurly-burly is but grimace, for *the King* has long since been acquainted with these objections and *the Earl of Essex* had then in his pocket the answers to them. But they are willing to let his lordship have rope enough ; and before this affair is ended all his lordship's cheats in the former undertaking will be laid open.

On Saturday last the Duke of Monmouth, my Lord Grey and Lord Herbert came to my Lord Huntingdon, and told his lordship they had observed in Mr. Thompson's Gazette in print a speech which his lordship had made to his Majesty upon his kissing the King's hand, wherein there were reflections upon the loyalty of those lords with whom he was in friendship and conjunction before, of which number they esteeming themselves and to be concerned in the reflections in print, they came to know of his lordship, whether he had made that speech, or given direction for the printing of it. His lordship denied both, to which their lordships replied as to their own private satisfaction they could not desire more than his lordship's denying of it ; and they believed his lordship so much a man of honour, that they were confident of the truth of what he said : but because the reflections against them were in print, it was necessary for them to have that declaration under his hand, that they might print it for their public vindication. To this my Lord Huntingdon replied the giving a thing under his hand was of another nature and might be subject to misconstruction, and therefore desired time till yesterday to give his answer. And this day I find in print that Thompson has made his submission to my Lord Huntingdon and asked his pardon for making bold with his name without his leave or direction, which print I doubt not but Mr. Mulys sends your Grace. It is said *Lord Huntingdon acquainted the King of the affair* which was accommodated as aforesaid *by his order*. It is also said that the *Sheriffs relent*, and that *they will return a grand jury of Justices of the Peace of Middlesex* the latter end of this week which will do *Shaftesbury's business*.*

The weather is so very bad, and Sir Richard Reynell not resolving to move towards Ireland till his son, who fell ill the last week of a fever, is recovered, are arguments that I doubt will prevail with me to stay here till the beginning of the next week. I understand my Lord Ranelagh intends to give your Grace himself an exact narrative of yesterday's proceedings, which if I had known soon should have saved me the labour of writing the two former sides. One argument his lordship urged to obtain time till this day sennight was that he was sure he should save his Majesty 20,000*l.* for every day he desired to prepare his objections. His lordship also observed, that though the proposers were to have all due from himself to his Majesty, as also all that was due from the kingdom to his

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

undertaking (yet uncollected) as also the balance due from the Forths, yet they were obliged to pay no other remains upon his undertaking than what arrears are due to the establishment, which would deprive my Lord Chamberlain and several others of their pretensions, nay cut off the Army from what arrears were due to them by his contract. Since the writing of this I understand the Duke of Monmouth and the other two lords are not satisfied with what Thompson has this day published in print, and therefore have acquainted my Lord Huntingdon, that they are resolved to put a narrative in print of the discourse they had with his lordship for their own vindication.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 1. London.—Yesterday being the day appointed for my Lord Ranelagh to bring in his objections in writing to the Lords of the Treasury against the new contract I desired his Majesty to be present, which he accordingly was, but upon his lordship's alleging that he had not time enough allowed, the contract containing above five hundred sheets of paper he had given him until this day sevensnight. His lordship said that he did not desire this enlargement of time out of desire to delay the matter, for he could have no end in that, his own employment being already sequestered, but he did it purely for his Majesty's service, that he might make it appear more clearly how extravagant the present contract and covenants are, and that it might not be thought an assertion of his only, he would name the text now that he intended then to enlarge upon, and desired their lordships to take in writing the particular heads, for he would make them out or else he was so far from desiring his Majesty's protection, that he owned he deserved to be kicked out of his presence or some expressions to that purpose. His lordship told me before he began to speak, that he intended to name his text only then, and desired my attention, though he intended to write to your Grace at large himself upon the subject, but lest he should not, and lest my Lord Longford should mistake, who I know will write at large upon what I informed him last night at our rising, I will inform your Grace of the substance of his text :— first, he affirmed that as the contract and covenants are now penned instead of his Majesty's gaining as the contractors pretend, 90,000*l.* for the remaining part of this present farm his Majesty will lose 100,000*l.*; secondly, that instead of 30,000*l.* a year which they pretend to increase the revenue to, as the covenants are drawn his Majesty will receive little more than he would do at the present rent and covenants the present farmers are under; thirdly, that his Majesty gives away to them at least 300,000*l.* the consequence of which will be near the ruin of Ireland; and lastly, that he will lose 200,000*l.* which he might receive. Several flourishes his lordship made, which I cannot remember, but one of them was that he was sure

they would not repent if the time was given him, for he would save the King at least 20,000*l.* a day until then. My Lord Hyde desired his Majesty not to have the worse opinion yet of the proposition for what my Lord Ranelagh had said for there was nothing yet proved, and spoke a little in favour of the contract. My Lord Ranelagh desired the like favour, that his Majesty would not have the better opinion of it for what my Lord Hyde said. This is all that I can remember that is material upon that transaction. I shall only observe, that I find my Lord Ranelagh has very much exasperated my Lord Hyde and Lord Halifax with a jest he made which has been told them again, and that was he said he was sure to last two years yet in spite of them, and he was sure as they ordered their business it was impossible for them to continue ministers of state so long.

ORDER OF THE KING IN COUNCIL.

1681, November 2. Whitehall.—Referring to a petition from divers gentlemen in Ireland who were awaiting trial on a charge of high treason made on the testimony of Murtagh Downing, Maurice FitzGerald, John Arthur, and Owen Callaghan, and who could not be brought to trial by reason of the said witnesses continuance in England, and to a report from the Attorney General that the said witnesses are of no use to his Majesty's service upon any trials then depending in England on account of the Popish Plot or otherwise, and ordering that Thomas Seawell, one of the messengers of his Majesty's Chamber in ordinary, do take into his care and custody the said persons and see them safe landed in Ireland and delivered into the care of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland with all convenient speed. *Abstract.*

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, November 5. London.—As long as Sir Richard Reynell stays here I am secure my affair in Chancery cannot move, and therefore I hope your Grace will not wonder that I avoid travelling in so bad weather as we have here ; but this satisfaction I shall not enjoy longer than this next week, when I must be jogging homewards. The enclosed print will shew your Grace what manner of vindication the Duke of Monmouth, etc., have carved out for themselves against Thompson's supposed printed speech for my Lord Huntingdon. The Middlesex Grand Juries prove not so good as were expected for Mr Montague and Mr Thynne of Ten Thousand were returned of them, the former appeared not, but the latter answered to his name and withdrawing himself before he was sworn was fined in 10*l.*

Sir Maurice Eustace's cause was yesterday heard in Council, where the learned of the long robe took up three hours in

their arguments, and after they were withdrawn the Council spent about half an hour in debate and the question being put, it was carried by one voice besides the King's in affirmation of the decree granted there in Chancery for Sir Maurice. We have great expectations of my Lord Ranelagh's objections against the new contract on Tuesday next, and for aught appears yet to me I am still of the same opinion I formerly hinted to your Grace notwithstanding his lordship's rhetorical flourishes. But in the meantime I think myself obliged to tell your Grace, that whilst my Lord Ranelagh intends to fight your Grace's battle in opposing the new contract and makes high professions of service to your Grace, he is at the same time intriguing to *remove you and government and to bring Conway into it.* *The Duchess of Portsmouth hath been upon her knees to the King to save Ranelagh whose employment she would have for her son and make Ranelagh secretary.** But that nail will not drive. The King and Council have thought fit to ease themselves of some of the Irish witnesses, who are gone away in state attended by a messenger who is to leave them safe in Ireland.

SIR MAURICE EUSTACE to ORMOND.

1681, November 5. London.—Nothing hath occurred since my arrival here worth the troubling your Grace withal that you have not had from many other hands which made me silent. Nor should I now give your Grace this trouble, but that I am confident you are no less pleased at my success against my adversary than you are to see that the King, who hath not only exercised his justice, but also an extraordinary care and concern in this affair, is resolved to stand by his friends and servants, against the greatest opposition in their performance of their duty. I shall not trouble your Grace with the particulars of proceedings in this case because my Lord Primate will give your Grace an account, though his is not so full as it might be were it convenient to write all the transactions. I think to stay here to see the new project have the same fate that Coppinger's old and clamorous pretension hath had, which next week we shall in some measure see, for on Tuesday my Lord Ranelagh brings in his objections which he tells me will demonstrate a cheat in every line of the large contract, where it is visible, as he says, that they get 500,000*l.* and yet in effect pay no more or but very little more than the present farm yields. This and the large power of oppressing the people slyly, or rather apparently, foisted amongst their voluminous articles will, it is believed, make the King weary of Farmers and think of some better way and more easy to the subject for the future.

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

REV. HUMPHREY PRIDEAUX to WILLIAM ELLIS.

1681, November 7. Oxford.—On his late return from Norfolk he had found a letter from Ellis dated about two months before. He acknowledges Ellis's favour in thinking him worthy of such respect, and refers to the friendship which Ellis's brother had shown him and to his desire to be of service to another brother who was at Oxford. Dr. Lamphire, the head of Hart Hall, who had lately fallen mad, was not expected to survive the night, and by his death the Principality of that Hall worth about 60*l.* per annum would fall into the Lord Lieutenant's gift. None could recommend himself with more worth than Mr. Guise, lately fellow of All Souls. Notwithstanding that he was a gentleman of a good family in Gloucestershire, and as his father's eldest son heir to an estate of about 600*l.* per annum, he had devoted himself with more industry to his studies than any person in the University and by taking orders had solely devoted himself to its service. He was as well skilled in Oriental languages as Dr. Pococke himself, and was looked on as one of the most eminent persons the University had bred of late. Being married he had left his fellowship, but in order to have the use of the library and the conversation of that place still resided in Oxford. Dr. Marsh and Dr. Loftus were very well acquainted with the eminency of his merit and would solicit the Lord Lieutenant's favour on his behalf. He would be able to defend his office against Exeter College which was resolved to reserve their antiquated right and put in a Principal whenever Dr. Lamphire died. *Abstract.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, November 8. London.—Your Grace will not wonder that I am here still when you consider how hard a matter it is to leave a good wife behind me, and how much harder it is to deal with those I have to do with. Yet if Sir Richard Reynell staying here with me, without whose presence in Chancery my affair there would be at a stand though I were present, were not a full justification, I durst not have adventured to have tarried here so long. Besides there has been an overture for an accommodation made to me, which will make my condition more safe and somewhat easier; and if I can dispose all the parties concerned on my side to hearken to it, I shall think a few days more well spent.

The meeting which was appointed this day at the Treasury Chamber is put off till Thursday. My Lord Ranelagh's pretence for it is that the briefs of the new contract which ought to have been delivered some days sooner to the Lords of the Committee in order to their full information of the contract, were finished no sooner than last night, and it being reasonable their lordships should peruse them before he delivered in his objections he has gained two days more. He

made some queries upon the contract which were delivered to the Solicitor General, who has had the drawing of the contract, to answer. And his lordship complains that Mr. Solicitor's explanation has rendered the matter more abstruse.

As I told your Grace in my last, I find still that the Grand Juries of Middlesex returned by the Sheriffs do not please which is a surprise at Court, because they were put into expectation of better. However something will be done towards my Lord Shaftesbury's trial but whether the expedients resolved on will prove effectual is too hard for me who do not pretend to understand the law, to undertake. I suppose by that time this reaches your Grace's hands the three Irish witnesses, Callaghan, Murtagh Downing, and Arthur will be arrived there. They were sent over to appear as evidence against some persons now in gaol whom they accused, *but the true reason is thus tampering with Shaftesbury to divert the King's envy against him ; there are, as I am told by a good hand, some sent after them by Shaftesbury's friends to observe how they are treated there, and if possible to inveigle them back again privately.* Therefore it will concern Ormond to have them well watched. On Thursday last Hetherington was arrested in an action of 10,000*l.* at your Grace's suit upon the statute of *scandalum magnatum* of which my Lord Arran having a blind notice from anonymous on Friday morning he immediately went to Mr. Secretary Jenkins to know whether any order had been given for it, who seemed wholly ignorant of it. And my lord meeting after with my Lord Hyde his lordship also denied any knowledge of it, and because we saw it in print in Thompson's Gazette we did not believe it. But Ned Vernon going this day into the City inquired after him at the Counter where he found him and left him still committed for he has not yet got bail, and for want of bail there he is like to lie. Ned Vernon says he thinks he has found out the intrigue of this affair, but being under an obligation to communicate it to nobody but my Lord Arran he would impart no more of this matter to me reserving the rest for my Lord Arran to tell your Grace. *Shaftesbury's friends clamour much against you for this.**

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 8. London.—Two packets came in since I have heard from your Grace, which makes me conclude that you were then at Grangebeg in order to your return to Dublin. I had nothing to trouble you with last post and have very little to say this, though I expected to have given you an account this night of my Lord Ranelagh's sermon that he promised to preach before the Lords of the Treasury this day, but that business is put off until Thursday next, the briefs not being ready for the Lords of the Treasury, without which the contract

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being so very long their lordships declared last meeting they could not tell how to advise his Majesty. My Lord Ranelagh seems very confident that he will overthrow the undertaking, and Sir James Shaen is as confident on the other hand that notwithstanding all his objections the business will go.

Reading Thompson's Intelligence this morning and finding in it that Will Hetherington is taken in an action of *scandalum magnatum* against your Grace, I sent Ned Vernon to enquire of the truth of the matter and he has just now brought me word that it is very true and that he has been in the Counter every since Thursday last, upon an action in your Grace's name of 10,000*l.*, which I wondered at since I concluded the thoughts of it had been given over, as you may find by a letter I long since writ to your Grace. It is so late that I can learn no more of this matter to-night but by the next post you shall have a precise account of it, but it seems the action is so great that he has not yet found bail.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, November 8. Whitehall.—I humbly take leave to acquaint your Grace with the answer that his Majesty was pleased this day to give the Dutch Ministers. They are exceedingly joyed at it, and say that if the penning of the answer had been left to themselves, they would not have drawn it up more to the mind of their masters the States General. I am still in your Grace's debt about the Postmaster of Dublin and touching Wyborn and Dering they are put in a way, as my Lord Hyde tells me, that will quickly put them to a capacity to live.

REV. WILLIAM ASSHETON to ORMOND.

1681, November 10.—May it please your Grace to permit your poor chaplain to give this following account of his late disappointment at Westminster. Immediately upon the King's return from Newmarket, my Lord Chancellor did attend him, and amongst other passages did so fully enforce the grant made to your Grace that his Majesty did assure him your chaplain should be the man. But the next morning my Lord Halifax with four of the Commissioners (Mr. Seymour was absent) were so importunate that they would not leave the King till, in their presence, a warrant was signed for the Bishop of London's chaplain.

There are three things I take the boldness to plead :—first, that your Grace being Lord Steward of the King's household ought, as such, to have one chaplain in England, to attend such of your family as may be occasionally here ; secondly, it is very fitting that this chaplain should have some mark of favour answerable to that character he hath the honour to bear ; thirdly, that as to Dr. A., he hath had the promise of this prebend above seven years since, and it hath usually so happened that

every year some or other of the prebends have been so sickly as to occasion his attendance at Court, which attendance hath been so chargeable that, modestly computed, he hath spent more of his own money than would have purchased an annuity for his life equal to the value of a prebend of Westminster. I have urged these things as far as modestly I can, and I hope I have not been indecent in any of my applications.

I must confess, my Lord, these frequent disappointments did at first some little deject me ; but am now, I bless God, very well composed, whilst I consider that this affliction, which I have most righteously deserved, is very small if compared with those far greater troubles which much better men have groaned under.

If Westminster, which I have so long vainly courted, will not be obtained, I must then, in prudence, seek for something else, and I cannot fix better nor in any instance where I can more rationally hope for encouragement than at the Temple. There are two lecturers worth 80*l.* per annum, and one of them is very old. If your Grace therefore would but please so far to own your poor chaplain as to write to my Lord Chancellor to use his interest with that society in my behalf, the thing were certainly done. His lordship hath appeared so signally for me that I do again most humbly beg your Grace to return him thanks. God Almighty bless and preserve your Grace, my good Lady Duchess and your whole family is the constant hearty prayer of, etc.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, November 12. London.—On Thursday the Committee met in the Treasury Chamber to receive my Lord Ranelagh's objections against the new contract in writing ; but the King being gone that day to dine on board my Lord Mordaunt's ship though the Lords had met on purpose for that business, and sat there three hours, my Lord Ranelagh would not vouchsafe to afford their lordships his presence (though he was all that while above stairs) till the King returned about half an hour past six, before which time my Lord Chancellor and my Lord President went home, having no longer patience. With the King my Lord Ranelagh came into the Treasury Chamber and delivered in his papers, which being read my Lord Hyde said that now he had heard my lord's objections he found so little weight in them that he had a better opinion of the new contract since his lordship was able to say no more against it, for he himself was able to give a full answer to them. However he proposed to his Majesty that a copy of the objections might be given to the proposers and time allowed them till Monday to answer them, which was granted. My Lord Ranelagh made no rhetorical flourishes, and my Lord Chamberlain told me that he thought his objections in writing were far short of what he undertook to make out against the new contract and consequently that he will be foiled in it.

These three days past the whole discourse in this place has been of my Lady Ogle who on Wednesday morning made her escape out of Northumberland House met Mr. Henry Sidney and my Lady Temple at the Old Exchange, from whence she was by them conveyed on shipboard for Holland. She was so wanting of money for her voyage that Mr. Sidney lent her 100 guineas, sent his own steward, butler, cook and servants to attend her ladyship at his own house in the Hague, and for her support furnished her with a bill of exchange for 1,000*l*. It is reported she was married to Mr. Thynne in July last being given by my Lord Powerscourt ; my Lady Orrery, Lady Powerscourt, Lady Catherine Brett her sister, and several other persons present. But her grandmother was not present though she gave her consent and had her share in the contrivance of the match. This old lady for decency, because Lady Ogle's year of mourning was not out, would not be satisfied till she had obliged them not to bed till the year was expired, and it is said Mr. Thynne being not then in a good condition of health easily consented to it to gain time for his cure. And during this interval the lady's aversion to him has grown to that degree that she resolves never to cohabit with him, and some say it will be endeavoured to dissolve this marriage by proving his former contract with Mrs. Trevor. On Thursday Mr. Richard Brett asked the King's pardon for having often assured his Majesty that my Lady Ogle had not been married to Mr. Thynne averring they were married since July, and she being now withdrawn hoped his Majesty would concern himself to have her found out. The King replied he thanked him, for he having played the knave he would have him play the fool. It is said Mr. Thynne resolves to take possession of Northumberland House and of her estate in which he will find the less difficulty because most of the persons concerned in the management of it he has gained of his side at a rate dear enough. However, while this work is cut out for the lawyers and civilians and my lady and Mr. Thynne are kept at this distance, my Lord of Essex who is said to be consenting to the marriage has a fair prospect of the reversion of this great estate. Mr. Sidney went not with my Lady Ogle further than to see her on board.

COL. E. COOKE to ORMOND.

1681, November 12, London.—But the second day since his arrival ; he has been hurried thither by the importunity of others' business, particularly young Lord Rochester's, who although scarce ten years old is of parts beyond twenty, and of whose life Dr. Radcliffe is hopeless.

The annual commission of Oyer and Terminer is granted out and differs from others in that it has come forth some days sooner than is usual and in the number and quality of the commissioners. Thursday sevennight the commission is to be opened "and then let my old false friend, who would have

represented me so to the best friend I have in this world, pray for an *ignoramus* jury which we all believe is ready cut and dried for him, who will now disown his own maxims at my Lord Stafford's trial : that there was but one single point to invalidate any one's testimony, and that was conviction of perjury, all other objections against life and conversation, though never so true and never so scandalous were but discourses, not legal arguments to detect an evidence. Nay, and even in that case too, the sovereignty of the King's pardon was of validity enough to expunge all and restore the witness *rectus in curia*. But I suppose all this, and much more, was cased with this reservation provided it was against a Popish lord, not a dissenting Protestant one."

The next point he has to report is the King's satisfactory answer to the foreign Ministers who pressed his Majesty to enter into the alliance with Sweden and Holland enforced with his argument that the Emperor and all the German Princes were embarking in the same bottom. "His Majesty answered them that as soon as those Princes had so declared he would too and in case any attempt should be made on Flanders he would apply a vigorous opposition, and if need required it he would call a Parliament on purpose to support the alliance. I hope I say truth for I am convinced this is so from good hands else I would not have wrapped it up in this sheet thus directed."

He refers to Lady Ogle's escape and to his being on the wing to fly into the country again where their chases are more agreeable. The gentlemen of Devonshire grievously complain of the destruction of that considerable game, the red deer. His grandchild Jack Rolle, who married Lord Aylesbury's daughter, hath been given by Lord Bath a deputation for the territory of Dartmoor, and the same thing is sued for the same person in Exmoor, which, as Lord Bath informs him, is in his Grace's district. *Abstract*.

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, November 12. Dublin.—There are in your later letters but two particulars that you could expect answers unto, the one concerning my Lord Hyde, the other Sir Stephen Fox, at least I remember no more. I never had so much doubt of my Lord Hyde's friendship to me as to put him to any new professions of it ; nor do I know any ground I have given to any man to suggest that I had the least suspicion of it. If they will needs conclude it because that possibly I may not have the same opinion of persons and things that he has, the mistake is in their part and they may be out in the whole, for it is not only probable but almost certain that if we knew one another's thoughts and reasons we should agree in the way as I am sure we do in the end. I have written to Sir Stephen Fox whose friendship with me is of longer date and upon better grounds than to be shaken for want of a letter.

We know not where we are or shall be till an end be one way or other put to the contest about the new proposals, but we hope our fate will not depend upon the success of either of the combatants, but that having employments and stakes here we shall in due time be heard for ourselves. I do not write to my Lord Longford but expect his arrival with the first fair wind. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO SIR STEPHEN FOX.

1681, November 12. Dublin.—I delayed making a return to your last received a good while since, not that I was either insensible of your care of my daughter Ossory's concerns or of the great kindness of the offer you make to set us all at ease and rest, but being told of 10,000*l.* bonds I had entered into with my daughter, and that it was necessary in order to my being freed from these bonds that some account or inventory should be given in somewhere, I stayed to have some return made, not that I intended that either plate or household stuff should be taken from her or employed to pay her debts, so that I acknowledge the obligation of your offer and will enter into engagement that you shall lose nothing but the pains you are so willing to take. My desire was and still is only to see to the bottom of what I am to pay, and that there be no after reckonings, those that have been heretofore brought in being I must needs say uncertain and extravagant. I would be glad also to know when and how the bonds of 10,000*l.* may be taken up. Upon notice from you of what I am to do for your security it shall be done. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1681, November 12. London.—On Thursday last though the King came very late from aboard my Lord Mordaunt's ship, his Majesty was in the Treasury Chamber and my Lord Ranelagh gave in his objections against the new proposals but did not branch upon them as was expected. He brought and read himself four several papers to make out his assertions upon the heads I mentioned in my last upon this subject, the two first were altogether computations and figures which I confess with his lordship's barely reading over I do not comprehend and I believe it is the case of most of the lords that heard them; but they are to be answered in writing by the Undertakers and either on Monday next, which is the day appointed for their answer, or some day next week, the persons engaged in the undertaking will appear themselves, for Mr. Seymour saying that there were great powers given to the Commissioners and Trustees and therefore it were necessary to know who they were. My Lord Hyde replied that they were of so good credit and repute that they were not ashamed to show their faces. There was also a brisk repartee or two betwixt my Lord Hyde and my Lord Ranelagh, so that open war is begun betwixt

them two, but I have reason to believe that the former will get the better of the other though he flatters himself that the King will support him in this matter.

The other two papers were to prove that the King gave away 300,000*l.*, etc. ; what he brought in to prove that assertion was in substance thus : he averred that at a moderate computation the concealed lands would amount to 20,000*l.* per annum, and the mean profits of those for twenty years would amount to more than that sum, the raising which and the vexation it must put the subject to would go near to ruin that kingdom. The other paper was short and the substance of it was that this undertaking would hinder his Majesty from receiving 20,000*l.* which a Parliament would give him. I put his Majesty in mind of another inconvenience, as great I thought as any my Lord Ranelagh mentioned, which he had omitted, and that was the penalty upon the flax bill which I suppose the Undertakers will answer amongst the other objections. Having received your Grace's letter of the 29th of the last month on that day I told my Lord Hyde what arrear the Army was in and desired his lordship to send some directions about their being paid. He told me that in the last letter the Lords of the Treasury writ to you they desired you to give warrants for the paying the Army to Mr. Taylor by way of imprest, but I told his lordship that the method of paying being now put out of the usual channel they must write some farther directions in that point, which he has accordingly promised to do and send your Grace this post but if I understand this new undertaking well that order must break their measures.

Mr. Hetherington will be very vigorously prosecuted and there are very good and substantial witnesses to prove the fact and not all of them Irish witnesses neither, which, God be thanked, have and are like to have little credit here. The bill against my Lord Shaftesbury will be brought in this term and I am credibly informed that if the Grand Jury find an *ignoramus* he will be tried by special commission in the verge of court there being several precedents for it, but this is by way of secret.

Nich. Baily has sold his company to one Mr. Bushe whom I desire your Grace to accept of for two reasons though he has never bore arms before, and his whole business hitherto has been towards the pen, the first is that I think your Grace had better take one that has a mind to learn than keep one who has forgot, the other is that out of the money he sells his company for I shall be paid 200*l.* of my rent due from Nich. Baily.

ORMOND to THOMAS SHERIDAN.

1681, November 14, Dublin.—Your first letters that came to my hands since we parted were last received, and if they had come sooner I had little more than thanks to send in return. I find by letters from other hands that you proposed to the King as from me the calling of a Parliament in this kingdom,

but by your last letter I should think your words were mistaken and that what you proposed was the effect of your own sense and observation, for if I had thought it seasonable to give such advice I should have accompanied my opinion with some reasons and addressed them to the King, to be considered of and adjusted to the affairs of the other kingdoms upon which a Parliament here might in consequence have had more influence than I was able to judge of. It was also written to me that you declared my sense against the proposals now on foot, which I am confident you did not, having had no directions so to do, and knowing as you did that I was, as I am still, an utter stranger to all the conditions of the undertaking, and to the security for performance, and it is not my custom to judge of, much less to oppose, what I do not know, however I may have great suspicion of the good intentions of such a bargain as is concealed from those next to the King most concerned and who must understand the state and revenue of this kingdom if they are worthy to continue in the places they hold.

I must deal plainly with you as to the further promotion of your brother of Cloyne and tell you that I shall never propose it till he shall give better attendance on the charge he has already taken upon him. When he had a good deanery he never looked after it though it had a cure, and since he was made bishop he has spent his time here or further from it, whilst his diocese and a considerable cure at Youghal are totally neglected, as long as he does thus if he were my brother I should never move for him, yet I desire you to believe that I am, etc. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, November 14. Dublin.—Though I had nothing to say to yours of the 25th of the last and 1st of this month yet I confess it an omission that I have not all this while owned the receiving them. It is believed that the Bishop of Meath is on his death-bed and that he will not live many days, therefore to prevent the pretensions of Mr. Sheridan for his brother the Bishop of Cloyne, and of the Bishop of London for one Dean Murray, I have written to Mr. Secretary Jenkins as you will see by the copies of my letters to him which is the shortest and fullest way of informing you of my sense. In a letter to Tom Sheridan I have written plainly on the subject and upon his assuming my name and directions to propose the calling of a Parliament here and to oppose the new proposals for either of which he had no commission. If the Bishop of Kildare shall be advanced to Meath upon Dr. Tillotson's waiving it that poor bishopric will do well being joined to the good deanery of Christ Church in Dr. Moreton, though the two Archbishops will be against it for what reason I know not. He of Dublin is not likely to live long, which may induce the acceptance of Meath by the Dean of Canterbury. *Copy.*

ORMOND to SIR L. JENKINS.

1681, November 14. Dublin.—The physicians here say that the Bishop of Meath is not like to live many days, he is above eighty years of age, and has been drooping a good while. His bishopric is next in degree to the Archbishop's, and the revenue of it better than either of two of them, that is than Cashel or Tuam. It is worth 1,000*l.* a year by the estimation of those that pretend to it, and they seldom over-value preferments they aim at; from Meath commonly the primacy or the archbishopric of Dublin is supplied upon a vacancy, and for the most part the Bishop of Meath is a Privy Councillor. If the Dean of Canterbury can be persuaded to transplant himself upon such an invitation I should presume to beseech his Majesty to send him to us. He may be allowed time till the spring to fit himself for the voyage, and for his reception here. In case he shall decline the offer then the Bishop of Kildare, who is next in place to the Bishop of Meath, and has a bishopric worth but about 200*l.* a year, and is a very worthy man may most reasonably expect to be promoted to Meath. Two there are that may be put in for it, Sheridan the present Bishop of Cloyne and Murray so much esteemed by my Lord Bishop of London, but for what reason I am extremely to seek. Of him I have spoken and that but sparingly in my other letter of this date, and I must now say of the Bishop of Cloyne that he was not recommended by me to that see, though I had inclination to help his advancement, because that having before a good deanery with cure he never attended the duty of it, nor since he was made bishop has he never been in his diocese longer than till he could see what he might make of it. I am unwilling to make complaints of this nature, but I will rather do it than suffer his Majesty to be deceived in his choice of bishops. For the bishopric of Kildare if it should become vacant there will be so few and so slow pretenders to it that there will be time enough to consider how to dispose of it after his Majesty shall disposed of Meath if it fall. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, November 15. London.—The proposers for the new contract have taken time till Thursday next to bring in their answers to my Lord Ranelagh's five papers and they have taken the longer time because they will show his lordship's unskillfulness in his computations upon which he so much values himself, as well as confute the errors he is guilty of in his objections, most of which I am told by a very good hand they say are fallacious. They are very crank and think their game now sure. But those particulars in the contract which bear hard upon the Government there they were resolved to waive before my Lord Ranelagh made any objections, and their insisting upon the concealment is only to prevent the courtiers here from begging of them to the ruin of the persons in Ireland

concerned in them. On the 24th of this month my Lord Shaftesbury, etc., will be brought so far upon the stage as that a Commission of Oyer and Terminer will then sit in order to their being indicted in London. I cannot find yet that there are any great hopes of a good Grand Jury. However to let the world see that the King had reason for his lordship's commitment it is resolved that the evidence against his lordship shall be exposed and if the Jury will not find the bill the King is resolved his lordship shall go off with a bottle at his tail, as his Majesty is pleased to express it. The Dissenters are prosecuted in several counties, but I have not heard that any of the conventicles in this City have been disturbed. By the care is now taken to have good Sheriffs most conclude there may be a Parliament in the spring. My Lord Arran, I suppose, gives your Grace an account how much he is still in the dark about Hetherington's arrest and proceedings against him. My Lord Tyrone was yesterday bailed in the King's Bench and my Lord Privy Seal, myself, Sir Ralph Freeman, and Mr. Kennedy, Sir Richard's eldest son were his bail. There is a narrative in print by Wilkinson declaring the endeavours [which] were used by some persons to suborn him to accuse my Lord Shaftesbury, wherein are severe reflections upon my Lord Chancellor, my Lord Halifax and my Lord Hyde, and it is believed to be now printed with a design to prepare the intended Grand Jury for another *ignoramus* return upon the bill of indictment against my Lord Shaftesbury. *The Duchess of Portsmouth declares now for Duke of York's interests and is known to Hyde, Feversham and Seymour from whence it is believed the Duke of York will be here in the spring.** My Lord Chief Justice told me this evening that he yesterday issued the precept to the Sheriffs of London for returning a jury upon the Commission of Oyer and Terminer which sits on Thursday come sennight.

Mr. Thynne sent one of his name with a challenge on Sunday in the evening to Mr. Sidney who told him it being a very light evening he was ready to meet him and end the dispute presently, which being told to Mr. Thynne he replied the next morning was a more convenient time and he should then hear further from him, in expectation of which Mr. Sidney stayed in his chamber till past three in the afternoon, and not hearing from him sent his friend to him to put him in mind of his promise. But Mr. Thynne replied he had since better considered of it, and thought it not proper upon that account to quarrel and fight with him so near a relation of his lady's, and therefore was so far from designing to fight with him that he desired his friendship.

I can give your Grace no account of the jollity at Whitehall this night, being the Queen's birthnight, for having sent

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

away my clothes and my stay being short, I thought it not worth while the making a new fine suit.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 15. London.—The parties concerned in the new undertaking were not ready yesterday with their answer against my Lord Ranelagh's objections, so that the meeting of the Lords of the Treasury about that business is put off until Thursday next.

I can learn no more concerning the committal of Hethrington since I writ last, though I have been inquisitive enough about it, than that ever since the meeting of the Parliament at Oxford there was a writ taken out by the Attorney General's directions, who had orders for it from the Ministers to arrest him at your suit, and he was then taken but made his escape; since that time he never appearing and no orders being given for the stopping proceedings against him he was taken upon the old arrest. I have ordered Mr. Mulys to inform himself more particularly in the matter and if I find his Majesty does not command the contrary I will disown your having any hand in the matter, as I justly may, for it is reported this is purely done to hinder Hetherington's doing service to my Lord Shaftesbury upon his trial, and his Majesty remembers not that ever he gave any directions at all for the first apprehending him. I will act in this with my Lord Chamberlain's advice and by Saturday's post your Grace shall have an account how this whole matter stands. I am going to a play at Court.

RICHARD MULYS to ———.

1681, November 15. London.—This being the Queen's birthday, everybody at Court appears extreme fine in apparel, and in my opinion my Lord Arran is equal to the finest. Nothing of novelty will this post bring you; our expectations are upon the Jury in London, to whom the bill against my Lord Shaftesbury is to be brought; that matter got well over we may in all likelihood come to our wits again. My Lord Ranelagh at his last hearing at the Treasury did not give the Board that satisfaction as was expected in the matters objected against Sir James Shaen's undertaking. Yet he tells the King if he would keep himself free for seven or eight days longer his Majesty should get 20,000*l.* a day by it. Alexander the Great is acted this night at Court by his Majesty's servants.

ORMOND to the EARL of ARRAN.

1681, November 17. Dublin.—By the protraction mentioned in yours of the 8th of this month I conclude that I shall have time enough to take the country air for a week at Grangebegg which for my health I prefer before physic. All the business here belongs to the term and the judges, and at

Council there is little more to do than to hear witnesses some come out of England, and some producing themselves here, and all of them I doubt forswearing themselves. Those that went out of Ireland with bad English and worse clothes are returned well bred gentlemen, well cravated, periwigged and clothed. Brogues and leather straps are converted to fashionable shoes and glittering buckles, which next to the zeal Tories, thieves and friars have for the Protestant religion, is a main inducement to bring in a shoal of informers. But we have erected Alderman Ryder to the dignity of being our Justice Warcup and send them all to him. The worst is they are so miserably poor that we are fain to give them some allowance and they find it more honourable and safe to be the King's evidence than a cow-stealer though that be their natural profession. But seriously it is vexatious and uneasy to be in awe of such a set of rogues. Now that they are discarded by the zealous suborners of the City they would fain invent and swear what might recommend them to another party, but as they have not the honesty to swear truth so they have not the wit to invent probably. It is for want of something else to say that I fall upon this character of an Irish witness. The Bishop of Meath is yet alive but I think his friends do not hope he will ever come down stairs. The Archbishop of Dublin continues very ill and is much apprehended by his friends.

Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, November 19. London.—On Thursday the proposers for the new contract not being ready with their answers to my Lord Ranelagh's objections and papers, that matter is put off till Monday in the afternoon, at which time it is supposed some end will be put to that affair. The delay now on their side occasions various discourses and conjectures, as if they were not able to answer the calculations made by his lordship, wherein they pretended there were great mistakes. For my own part I never saw my Lord Ranelagh's objections, nor do I know yet who are the proposers, but some who pretend to converse with them say they are still very confident of carrying their point and baffling his lordship, and a little time now will discover the truth.

In my last I told your Grace that my Lord Tyrone was bailed, and now I must acquaint your Grace that he was this day committed again; for Mr. Browne, the clerk of the Lords' House, observing in the printed Gazette that the reason which induced the Judges of the King's Bench to bail his lordship was a certificate which his deputy signed that having made search into the records of the Parliament he found no impeachment there against his lordship, and remembering that my Lord Dursley had brought up from the House of Commons a message to the Lords' House that the Commons had voted an impeachment against my Lord Tyrone and that they would

in convenient time and with what speed they could send up to their lordships the articles of the impeachment, he made a stricter search into the journals and finding an entry there made of this, he acquainted the Bench with it this morning, whereupon the Judges immediately sent their tipstaff for my Lord, directing him to bring his lordship into court and as soon as he appeared they recalled his bail, vacated all the recognizances entered into for his appearing the first day of the next term and returned him back again prisoner to the Gatehouse, where he now stands committed upon the first order of the Lords' House.

One Mr. Parker, a brisk young gentleman, observing in Peter's coffee house in Covent Garden that printed paper posted up which was signed by the Duke of Monmouth, my Lord Grey, and Lord Herbert, with an addition at the bottom in writing and signed by my Lord Herbert that if any person whatsoever should dare to take it down, if he were a peasant his lordship would have him cudgelled and if he were one of quality sufficient he would fight him and shoot him through the head. The said Parker immediately tore it down saying he would fain see any man that would shoot him through the head. Upon this my Lord Herbert sent Lieutenant Colonel Godfrey with a challenge to Mr. Parker desiring that since his lordship was lame of a leg he would fight him on horseback, to which Mr. Parker consented and agreed to meet my Lord this morning by eight o'clock in Tuttlefields. But the matter taking air, and some of the Guards being sent out early their meeting was prevented, and this afternoon his lordship was secured by Mr. Griffin. The same day Kennett Hastings and his brother (who had before taken down the first paper in the same coffee house) came in immediately after Parker had taken down this second paper declaring their intent of coming thither was to have taken it down, in which since they were prevented by Mr. Parker, for their own vindication they thought themselves obliged to say that whoever said they had asked pardon of the lords for pulling down the first paper were sons of whores, liars and rascals, which they would justify with their swords in their hands. Now I have not heard what *brouillerie* this last has yet made, but it is expected it will be resented highly by the parties concerned.

The action in your Grace's name against Hetherington is removed from the Counter into the King's Bench, where by order of the Council it is to be briskly prosecuted, and Ned Vernon tells me there is sufficient proof against him. It is publicly said that Sir Samuel Barnardiston is to be foreman of my Lord Shaftesbury's jury and that Sir Robert Clayton, Sir Patience Ward, Mr. Papillon and many more of that gang will be of it, and then your Grace may judge what verdict is like to be found. Wilkinson will be also indicted notwithstanding his narrative. Within a few days I shall have despatched my business and hope soon to kiss your Grace's

hands in Ireland. I never was so foolish as to expect the deanery of Down for my chaplain, but hoped that in these new promotions amongst the clergy your Grace might have had a tolerable living in the country to prefer him to, and it will be a charity to him as well as an ease and obligation to me whensoever your Grace will please to have him in your Grace's thoughts.

RICHARD MULYS to ———.

1681, November 19. London.—This day I have sent by the way of Mr. Anderson a small box with a quart bottle of syrup of figs from Mr. Edmund Waller to her Grace; in the same box also is a book of Mr. Flatman's humbly dedicated to his Grace, which Mr. Flatman and Mr. Knowles pray you to present, and apologise in Mr. Flatman's behalf for the presumption of his dedication without first having his Grace's permission. I also here send you Mr. Dryden's poem Absalom and Achitophel wherein is honourable mention of my Lord Lieutenant and also of my late Lord. This piece was writ as I am credibly informed at the instance of our great Minister, Mr. Seymour, but that is a secret to yourself. Pray help forward the enclosed to my brother.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 19. London.—I have this day your Grace's of the 14th inst. and find by it that since yours of the 29th of the last you had nothing material to write. The business of the new farm is put off again until Monday, the proposers not being ready with their answer to my Lord Ranelagh's objections which makes some of the Lords who were in appearance for the undertaking begin to suspect the objections are too weighty to be answered. As to Mr. Hetherington I find the business to be as I told your grace in my last. The Lords of the Secret Junto, for I know not what other name to give them, give directions long since to have Mr. Hetherington prosecuted at your suit in an action of scandal, thinking it proper for that juncture, and upon that old order he is now taken when the present state of his Majesty's affairs does not so much require it, but since he is in they have given directions to the King's Counsel to prosecute him and they say there is evidence enough against him, but what it is I cannot learn; though my Lord Hyde told me the managers of that matter had orders to attend me.

Mr. Secretary Jenkins is very slow in business and therefore I read to Secretary Cook the copy of your letter to him and he will be watchful in the matter of the bishops. Mr. Sheridan will be much surprised at your letter for he would fain pass here for one intrusted by your Grace in all things, but not to deject him too much I will own that you are willing he should be hearkened to as to what relates to his Majesty's

revenue there. I never heard he pretended authority from your Grace to oppose the present undertaking nor that he had spoken to the King from you about a Parliament's meeting in Ireland, that information you had from somebody else, but I informed your Grace that he discoursed with my Lord Hyde to that purpose. It is expected my Lord Ranelagh's bond of 24,000*l.* should be recovered against him this term, for my Lord Hyde asked me several times what was done in it, thinking the term began as soon there as here.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, November 19. Whitehall.—I have the honour of two letters by this post from your Grace: the one of the 2nd the other of the 14th current. They are both upon the prospect of a vacancy in the see of Meath; and a scheme of what your Grace thinks best in point of removes upon the vacancies that may happen. His Majesty was pleased to be very attentive all the while I had the honour this morning to read your Grace's letters before him. He is pleased to own a long experience of your Grace's care to promote good men in that Church; and his Majesty is very sensible that the doing so is of great importance to the Crown. His Majesty approves of the design that your Grace hath upon the Dean of Canterbury, and hath commanded me to wait on him and to deal so frankly with him as to show him that part of your Grace's letter; and if he should not accept of Meath his Majesty gives in to your recommendation of the Bishop of Kildare. I perceive plainly his Majesty hath no concern at all for Dean Murray; and truly, my Lord, I have observed him to be so keen in a lawsuit here that gave him a pretence to stay and follow the great men of this Court that I could have wished for the order's sake he had not meddled in it; so visible it was that he took it up for a colour. Mr. Sheridan, the Bishop of Cloyne's brother, is a person that hath access to his Majesty and pretends a promise made to him at Newmarket in favour of that brother, as I take it, to be translated to Londonderry, however, his Majesty is fully possessed of his character, and I hope will think of a fitter man, for certainly a clergyman that is guilty of such gross non-residences doth neither consult the good estate of his conscience nor the honour of the Church, the non-residency of the clergy in Ireland being matter of perpetual declamation among our schismatics here. If the Bishop of Kilmore will not remove to Raphoe your Grace will please to direct who should be put up. I do confess it was not in your direction to me that the Bishop of Kilmore should be translated to Raphoe; but I understood from the Earl of Arran that it was your Grace's desire, and I thought I could do no better than serve you in it. Since the Dutch Ministers here have received the answer we hear not a syllable from them. The French will certainly starve Luxemburg.

SIR WILLIAM BOREMAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 21. Whitehall.—Reminding Ormond of a play which had been presented before him about eleven or twelve years previously in Trinity College Cambridge, and of the commendation which Ormond had bestowed on the writer's kinsman Hugh Goodwin for his acting in it. Within two years after that ingenious youth had died of the smallpox, but the writer asks Ormond's favour for his brother Thomas Goodwin, who is a demy of Magdalen College in Oxford and stands fair for a fellowship of that college about to be vacated by Mr. Hough whom his Grace had lately made his chaplain. He speaks of his scholarship and says that he is capable of a fellowship by the founder's statutes being born in Hampshire and a minister's orphan there. *Abstract.*

EARL OF CASTLEHAVEN to CAPT. GEORGE MATHEW.

1681, November 22. London.—I have received yours of the 1st of October, and had answered sooner were it not that I have been in great disorder for some months, since I have lost my command in Flanders and am now to seek a new fortune. As to the 100*l.* my Lady Duchess sent me which I received from Sir Robert Viner I cannot tell whether it be repaid or no for it is long since that I gave Mr. Clarke an order to be paid by Robert Childe out of my rents in the county of Cork. You may be pleased to enquire after it, and if it hath been neglected I shall send new orders that it may be paid out of the rents of those lands.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, Nov. 22. London.—I have very little to say to your Grace by this packet, because my Lord Arran gives your Grace so exact an account of yesterday's proceedings in the Treasury Chamber that I have nothing to add to it. By all the observations I have been able to make I find no reason yet to alter the opinion I have formerly given your Grace, that the new contract will go on. For though my Lord Ranelagh was too hard for Mr. Roberts (who appeared agent for the new contractors whose names are still concealed) yesterday in speaking, yet I am, from some of the Lords of the Treasury, told that the gentlemen behind the curtain are too hard for him in writing. And therefore to clear the points in controversy the matter of calculation is referred to one of the auditors, and my Lord Hyde was somewhat severe on Lord Ranelagh in the matter of his own accounts; which being arrived late last night may end that part of the controversy of the postponing the monthly payments to the Army for five months, concerning the state of which it was resolved a letter should have been written this night to your Grace. But if the accounts come over will clear that, I am told, they will here make use of the auditor to despatch that controversy and lose no more time.

It was this day the common discourse that a supersedeas would be issued to the Commission of Oyer and Terminer, but I find it reported without ground, and that the Commission will go on, though from the prospect of the panel of the jury there are no better hopes than of an *ignoramus* return. There has been this day great expectations of a duel between my Lord Colechester and Sir Thomas Armstrong of the one side, and the two Hastings on the other, and because my Lord Herbert treated those of the Guards, who came to secure him, so rudely as to call them banditti. It is believed when any more of them are sent out on the same errand they will not be very industrious to prevent mischief. I will not any more name a day for my leaving this place, though I resolve to spend as little more of my time here as I can, my wishes as well as real intentions being to have the honour of speedily kissing your Grace's hand there.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 22. London.—I had last night your Grace's letter of the 17th giving an exact character of an Irish witness published in England. They have so little credit now in this place that nobody fears them much, but if they should witness again the other way they may be brought again into reputation. The answer to my Lord Ranelagh's objections was given in yesterday and his lordship did often harangue upon the subject with his usual eloquence. Mr. Roberts appeared as agent for the Undertakers and after a long dispute about six months' pay which seems not to be provided for, a letter is ordered to be sent you to require the Commissioner of Accounts to send over the state of the present farm, that they may know what is due to the civil and military list and what is due from the Farmers. Monday next the Lords are appointed to meet again upon this business, but I believe nothing will be farther done in that until your answer comes back. Mr. Dryden's late poem will divert you [by] characters he gives of the worthies here.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, November 26. London.—The loyal Protestant Intelligence gives your Grace so good an account of the proceedings on Thursday last at the Old Bailey, that I shall not trouble your Grace with the transactions at law in that affair. There were present to observe matters, the Duke of Monmouth, my Lord Essex, my Lord Russell, Mr. Montague, Sir Thomas Armstrong and many more of that party, and there were a great rabble who were very rude in hissing when the witnesses were examined and whooping and hollowing after the Jury brought in their *ignoramus*, and when my Lord Chief Justice several times endeavoured to have spoken they as often whooped and hollowed. They were also very rude to Mr. Secretary Jenkins when he was examined, and

when Mr. Gwynn upon oath gave in his evidence upon the paper, that he found it, as is mentioned in the print, the Jury asked him how it came there and who writ it. The rabble treated the witnesses, who were retired to an eating house to refresh themselves while the Court adjourned, so rudely that the Sheriff was forced to send a guard to bring them safe again into court, upon the knowledge of which my Lord Chief Justice when the business was over, told the Sheriff that it concerned him to see the King's evidence safe out of the City and to protect them from the tumults of the rabble to what place of safety they desired, for if any of them suffered an hair of their heads he should answer it, and therefore his lordship required him to look to them. And my lord over-hearing one standing by to say that the best way of securing them was to send them to Newgate, his lordship immediately sent that man thither for his unseasonable wit; and his lordship also observing another in the crowd very tumultuous showed him to Mr. Sheriff and commanded him to apprehend him, which being not done it is believed the Sheriff will hear of it in another place. The witnesses went back in two coaches attended by a good guard of the Sheriff's, and it was but necessary, for a rabble of above six hundred men followed them very tumultuously, and with very ill language, as far as the Savoy where they alighted and would have been in danger of being torn in pieces if the doors had not been shut and well guarded.

As coaches passed by the bonfires the rabble about them demanded money to drink my Lord Shaftesbury's health and where they were refused it the coachmen and footmen were lustily mauled, and this happened to Mr. Hamilton's servants as he returned that night from dancing in the City. This usage has highly displeased his Majesty who is resolved to omit nothing the law will contribute to repress these tumultuous riots, and I am told the Dissenters are like to feel the first smart of it by having the laws let loose upon them. It is believed my Lord Shaftesbury will be bailed on Monday, but whether there are other rods against him in store I cannot yet learn. The proceedings at the Old Bailey will be more authentically in print on Monday and the paper annexed to it, which Mr. Mulys will take care to send your Grace on Tuesday.

The Commissioners of the Treasury have appointed on Monday in the afternoon to make some further progress in the disputes between my Lord Ranelagh and the new proposers, but I presume no final resolution will be taken till their lordships hear from your Grace in answer to their last letter. On Monday I hope to have a perfect conclusion of all my business here and shall in a few days after set out for Ireland. My Lord Arran who is now with me says I have robbed him of all he had to say, and therefore he hopes your Grace will excuse him this packet.

SIR C. WYCHE to ORMOND.

1681, November 26. St. James's Square.—Having by your Grace's great indulgence despatched that business I had in France, I am returned again to London to attend your service in all things in which you shall please to honour me with your commands. I find the chief thing now in agitation in relation to Ireland is the proposition in order to a new farm, in which Sir James Shaen and the rest of them have it seems had the good luck so far to engage some of the chiefest Ministers to their side, that all my Lord Ranelagh's arguments either from the experience of the tardy performance of the same men while they are now under a less rent than they pretend shall be paid hereafter, or from the many faults of the proposition itself, in the management of which too his own great interest, which will be totally swallowed up, must needs with reason make him the more attentive, seem yet to have made but little impression. There is only this obtained that some respite is given till your Grace shall have made your return upon a point referred to you, of which you have an account from the Board. If you shall please to honour me with your instructions in anything I shall act according to your commands.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, November 26, Whitehall.—It so falls out that Dr. Tillotson was gone to Canterbury there to remain for three weeks before I had the honour to receive your Grace's of the 14th current touching the vacancy then expected of the bishopric of Meath. I writ to Mr. Dean and gave him an account of your Grace's advantageous opinion of him; as soon as I have his answer I will be sure to transmit it to your Grace. I did not presume to mingle in the question that was sent your Grace about the payment of the establishment because the conveyance was otherwise directed.

The insolence and the riot was so great on Thursday and the bonfires were so many not only on Thursday but on Friday, that is last night, that his Majesty is resolved to fall upon the City charter for this misgovernment, as our statutes term it, and to try how far a *quo warranto* will work upon their charter. I may give your Grace a fuller account by the next.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, November 27 and 28. Kilkenny.—Some private affairs and the setting out work to be done in the spring brought me hither from Grangebegg. By the end of the week I purpose, God willing, to be at Dublin. Here the last night I received all together yours of the 12th, 15th and 19th of this month with many more of the same dates from other hands. Among the rest I have one from the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury intimating that Sir James Shaen had undertaken to write to his partners to pay three of the nine months that will

be due to the Army this day month, but before that assignments were issued for what was due in June, but how those assignments are answered I cannot yet tell, but this I know that my own entertainment for Michaelmas was in no part paid on Tuesday last, which I do not mention by way of complaint for I can bear the delay, but it may be presumed they would not suffer the Chief Governor to be in arrear if they had wherewith to satisfy him. There are other things in the letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury I think much mistaken, which from Dublin I shall take the liberty to lay before them. I cannot yet comprehend what good or hurt Hetherington's prosecution will do anybody for sure his being under arrest will neither hinder or invalidate his testimony. If a Jury will not find him guilty though they have clear evidence to lead them to it, or having found will bring in such damages as will presently be laid down for him, I know no advantage the prosecution will bring but to aggravate the partiality of juries which already is and I doubt will be evident enough. I have two letters from Mr. Sheridan which I have not time now to answer or read. They are apologies as I think for his being said to use my name in the matter of the Parliament and opposition to the proposals and for his interposition for the promotion of his brother the Bishop. I am fully satisfied with what he says but can never betray the King or the Church so much as to advise his having a better bishopric, till he shall have given a better account of this he has. As soon as I received order for the prosecution of the Lord Ranelagh's bond I sent it to the Attorney who I believe proceeds in the methods required by law, but I doubt devices may be found to protract judgment longer than this term.

I confess I expected more from my Lord of Ranelagh than I can collect from the account you give of his objections. They seem to me to be founded upon uncertain and loose computations such as may be averred or denied with equal confidence and probability; but I am in no degree satisfied with what I am told by way of salve to the giving the new contractors power to vex the kingdom namely that it is done to prevent courtiers and projectors from obtaining grants to the ruin of it, for if it be once in their power they will either do it or make the King pay for their forbearance at the end of their undertaking.

Postscript. 28 November.—With a letter of the 12th from my Lord Ranelagh I received the heads of the new contract and of his papers of objections. I did not expect that I should from him have had the first information of a transaction wherein this kingdom and myself in all my capacities are so highly concerned. Nor can I forbear to say that no Government under the Crown of England was ever so much slighted and affronted as this has been in the whole course of that affair, that is, if the matter shall be finally

concluded without imparting it to us whilst others less concerned and less knowing are determining our safety or destruction. You will now, or by the next post, receive the copy of a letter I thought fit to send my Lord Privy Seal upon occasion of his shitten book. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, November 29. London.—The last post my Lord Longford gave your Grace so full an account of the proceedings against my Lord Shaftesbury, which was all then worth the writing, that he prevented me, and since the witnesses have already proved to have so little credit given them I shall not consent to the proceeding farther against Mr. Hetherington, the witnesses against him being but Irish ones, as if it should come to that question as I believe it may who set this business on foot for the apprehending him I must beg the Ministers' pardon if I disown your having given any directions for it, or my consenting to it. Yesterday we met in the Treasury Chamber upon the business of the new undertaking, and the two first papers of objections being postponed until a return be made out of Ireland pursuant to a letter writ to your Grace upon the result of the last day's meeting, they proceeded to the third which was the only one of consequence left to be debated upon. My Lord Ranelagh made no reply in writing and therefore the several objections were then resolved upon to be debated, and the first that was under debate was that of Tangier. My Lord Ranelagh affirmed that the revenue of that place was given to them so absolutely that though there was a civil government there maintained at the King's charge, the whole revenue being granted to the Undertakers they might if they please take the whole and by consequence alter the constitution of the Government there and branched much upon the dangerous consequence that would be of; the resolution upon that head was that inquiry should be made what the establishment amounted to, and what might be made of his Majesty's revenue there, my Lord Ranelagh having undertaken to give his Majesty 2,500*l.* per annum for it.

The second head was that of relief, and to that after some debate, Mr. Roberts consented that the same restrictions should be upon these Undertakers as are upon the present Farmers. The third, which was that these Farmers were to have four shillings in the pound for collecting all aids or supplies, etc., to be given his Majesty by Parliament, that was waived and the sum for collecting left to his Majesty. The fourth, which was that of all concealments and the arrears, mean profits, etc., he condescended to have after no other manner than the present Farmers. The fifth being the forfeitures upon the penal statutes wherein that of the flax is comprehended, he consented to be debarred from taking the penalty as to the time past, but expected that they should

have it for the time to come if the Act was not complied with, but upon my informing that I believed the kingdom could scarce be brought to it, there is this restriction that the Act shall not be put in execution without the approbation of the Lord Lieutenant and Council.

The last head was a grant of the balance due to his Majesty from all farmers receivers and undertakers and upon this my Lord Ranelagh spoke above an hour. He showed how by this he gave away the balance due from his former Vice-Treasurers, Sir George Carteret and Lord Anglesey, the balance due from the Forths, and lastly his own, but he made the last so intricate that it was a long while before that matter could be understood, but at last the question was put whether they expected the balance due from my Lord Ranelagh to the King or no, and if they did whether or no they would not pay the debts due from his lordship to the military and civil list upon his undertaking, to which question Mr. Roberts fumbled very much in his answer, but had taken time to consult the Undertakers in it, a copy of the minutes upon this and the other heads being ordered him. After all this Mr. Roberts made a speech or rather a sermon in commendation of the present undertaking and begged a speedy dispatch of this matter because that upon the hopes given them that this should go on they have furnished his Majesty with money for Tangier and have laid in considerable stores of provision for Tangier. He farther said that the present Farmers have right to defalcation to the value of 80,000*l.* which his Majesty will be freed from if this go on, which startled his Majesty and has occasioned a letter to be writ upon that subject to your Grace. I conclude upon the whole matter that notwithstanding all the cooking of this business that it will not go on, for my Lord Hyde was very calm upon the whole day's debate, though he was provoked enough, and when Mr. Seymour took hold of that part of Roberts' discourse where he looked upon the matter as granted and desired dispatch, he observed great miscarriage in giving such private assurances and looked all the while upon his lordship. Instead of answering Mr. Seymour he fell severely upon Mr. Roberts. I am informed that one if not two of the puiſne judges are like to die in Ireland. If so I desire your Grace to think upon Mr. Lyndon for whose honesty I dare answer.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, November 29. London.—My Lord Arran tells me he has given your Grace so full an account of what passed yesterday in the Treasury Chamber that he has served me in this particular as I did him the last packet, and therefore I hope your Grace will pardon me if I only say that now we begin to see clear day, and that it is possible the Ministers may be convinced that they are not so clear-sighted and infallible here but that they may be misled into errors by specious pretences

since my Lord Hyde did reproach Mr. Roberts for want of ingenuity and seemed more cool the last day for the new undertaking than he appeared formerly to be. All I apprehend is, that if the present new contract be laid aside my Lord Ranelagh will introduce another to plague and torment Ireland once more and perhaps worse than he did before, since if he can gain credit to overthrow the present Undertakers he will grow in power, and your Grace knows with what little moderation he is used to exercise it.

My Lord Shaftesbury was yesterday bailed with my Lord Howard, Mr. Wilmore and Mr. Whittaker. He demanded to be discharged, to which Mr. Attorney not consenting, my Lord Chief Justice refused him. His lordship began to value himself in his discourse upon the *ignoramus* and would have reflected upon the Irish witnesses, but my Lord Chief Justice took him up short and told him he must not permit him to reflect upon the King's evidence, adding that his lordship had not so much reason to put so much weight upon the *ignoramus* return in London, since upon a occasion after an *ignoramus* was found in London, in another county a *billa vera* was found and the person tried and executed upon it; upon which his lordship submitted and named my Lord Russell, Mr. Montague, Sir William Cooper and Mr. Charleton for his bail and after privately retired to my Lord Paget's house where he dined. There was no tumult nor any whooping and hollowing, nor were there any bonfires in the City, his Majesty having the night before sent for my Lord Mayor and given him order to observe the proclamation, which was strictly executed, the militia being appointed to be in arms in the City to prevent it. This day I hear my Lord Shaftesbury has entered actions of 80,000*l.* against Mr. Graham, the Solicitor to the Treasury, Mr. Marriott, the Queen's Solicitor, and Mr. David Fitzgerald for suborning witnesses against him, but I suppose when they are arrested the King's Bench will reduce their security to 500*l.* as they have done Mr. Hetherington's in your Grace's case which is parallel with this.

My Lord Tyrone was yesterday refused bail upon his *habeas corpus*, the Court telling him they wondered he would trouble himself and the Court, who had upon his recommitment so positively declared their opinion. Mr. Attorney General just now told me that not only all the Dissenters throughout the kingdom would be prosecuted, but also that the charter of the City would be questioned, and that the Sheriff Pilkington has informations put in against him.

EARL OF ARLINGTON TO ORMOND.

1681, November 29. Whitehall.—My cousins Bennets came over some days since from their long peregrination. The father and the mother accompanied the young man to his house, near Bourne-bridge in the way to Newmarket, but when they came thither the father and mother, by her ill humoured

persuasion, went and lodged in a little ale house near the young man's dwelling house and from thence went onward on their way the next day towards their own in Buckinghamshire. I am obliged to tell your Grace this, otherwise unnecessary, story, thus distinctly, that you may see, though the marriage be completed and allowed of, that the mother is not yet so appeased as to be quiet upon it, neither have they yet declared what portion the young man shall have with his wife whom I have seen to-day in his own mother's house. They tell me whilst I was there that Mr. Charleton came from them to visit me as he hath been before, yet I have not seen him. I fear when I do that he will have little to say to me. I am told also that the father after he had carried his wife home is also come to town and that he purposes to give me a visit. When I have seen them both if there be anything worth your Grace's knowledge I will not fail to write it by the first post.

I collect by a letter from your Grace to Col. Fitzpatrick enquiring whether Mr. Burnet were in orders and by other discourses that your Grace may not think him so proper as a lay man to accompany my Lord of Ossory in his travels as his governor, which I should not wonder at though otherwise I have a great esteem for the man. For this reason I have by second hands enquired after Mr. Durel whom I formerly mentioned to your Grace for the wonders he hath wrought upon my Lord Lansdowne, my Lord of Bath's son, and measuring myself by the offers you formerly bid me make to Monsieur Faubert, I have made him be told that I would endeavour to procure for him from your Grace 200*l.* a year pension whilst he shall travel with my Lord of Ossory, and 100*l.* pension for his life after his return if a good sum equivalent to it be not obtained for him. Upon this he will come to see me. I would be glad to hear from you by the first whether I may close with him upon this proposition if he accepts it.

JOHN TILLOTSON, DEAN OF CANTERBURY, to SIR L.
JENKINS.

1681, November 29. Canterbury.—I received yours of the 26th instant in which you are pleased to acquaint me with my Lord Lieutenant of Ireland's kind intentions towards me with great demonstration of your own respect and good will to me; to which after due consideration of the thing proposed and my most humble thanks both to his Grace and yourself I do humbly return this answer! that by his Majesty's gracious favour and bounty to me I am already in so good circumstances that I have no reason to desire a change and if it were offered me here in England I should, upon my own account, choose to decline it. As for the service of the Church, which I acknowledge ought to prevail above all other considerations the best years of my life are past, and I do most sensibly find the infirmities of age coming upon me and therefore I cannot persuade myself to undertake so great a charge

to which I know myself at best to be very unequal, and shall certainly be more so every day, besides the unpleasant and disagreeable thought of transplanting myself into another country and beginning the world again when I feel myself going out of it. This I entreat you to represent to my Lord Lieutenant with my most grateful acknowledgments of this great honour and favour done me by his Grace. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, December 3. London.—I was on Saturday prevented from writing to your Grace by company and my wife's illness, for she had another fit of weakness occasioned by taking too strong a vomit, which much disordered her till yesterday; since which she begins so well to mend that I have now a fair prospect of her recovery, the progress whereof I expect will be but slow yet awhile. On Saturday his Majesty signed the warrants for Col. Legge to be Master of the Ordnance and Sir Christopher Musgrave to be Lieutenant of the Ordnance, and they are both now with Mr. Attorney to prepare patents as also the Duke of Richmond's to be Master of the Horse, but during his minority that office is to be executed by trustees. I hear Sir Thomas Chicheley is to have 1,000*l.* per annum pension; Sir John, his son, as much with the title of one of the Commissioners of the Navy, and in Sir William Hickman's room my Lord Windsor is to have 800*l.* per annum pension.

Yesterday and this day they have talked much of a Parliament to meet at Oxford in March. The King being informed that the Duke of Monmouth and my Lord Sunderland supped at Mrs. Croft's lodgings at Court and were very merry drinking of healths, upon which his Majesty has forbid them coming any more into the Court, and my Lady Duchess of Portsmouth since has refused to see my Lord Sunderland, or to receive any message from him for fear of displeasing the King. The *quo warranto* will be prosecuted very vigorously, and his Majesty designs that no more elections of the Lord Mayor, Recorder or Sheriffs shall be in the Common Hall, but in the Common Council and Court of Aldermen, reserving the approbation to himself, to which the honest party in the City disagree, for by this means the government of this City will be totally taken out of the hands of the fanatic party, who will yet be more humbled, for the Justices of the Peace have issued out their warrants drawn by the advice of the best counsel in England to the Constables for suppressing of all conventicles, and this method will be observed throughout the kingdom. The prosecution in Scotland against the Earl of Argyle since his escape your Grace will find in the prints. He made his escape holding up the Lady Sophia Lindsay's train in a page's livery, whilst his lady and the page of his own stature stayed behind in his lodging, and when they were come to the outmost gate whence the passage was through a low and

narrow wicket, the Lady Sophia observing the sentry at the gate look hard at him, she putting back her hand pulled her train out of his hand, [and] let it fall calling him blockheaded fool for holding up her train no better, upon which he stooping passed through the wicket with his face so down that the sentry could not observe him.

The desire I have to see my wife a little better confirmed in her health occasions my not mentioning my day of leaving this place. I take it for granted my Lord Arran gives your Grace an exact account of proceedings in the Treasury Chamber and therefore I forbear troubling your Grace with repetitions, or the reflections are made here upon your Grace's last letter to the Commissioners of the Treasury.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, December 3. Whitehall.—I am now to account to your Grace for several letters I have had the honour to receive from you since your return to Dublin.

I have already acknowledged those of the 2nd and 14th past; but Mr. Dean of Canterbury being not to be personally treated with, because of his being now upon his residence at Canterbury, I had not an answer to the letter I writ to him by his Majesty's direction till Wednesday last. His Majesty commanded me that I should not acquaint Mr Dean that I had showed him your Grace's letter, but lay the proposition before him as it moved from your Grace. I did as I was commanded, and I take leave to lay before you his answer, I may call it his excuse, as I received it, by giving your Grace a transcript of his letter.*

I have that perfect veneration for your zeal and for your discerning for the good of that Church that I should reckon it a piece of unsufferable presumption in me if I should name any person for any of the vacancies that you have now in your eye, but since I perceive that your Grace hath thoughts of stocking that church with some choice plants out of this, it is my humble opinion that Dr. Francis Turner, late Master of St. John's in Cambridge, and Dr. Kem, or Ken, a chaplain to the Princess of Orange, are such men that your Grace could descend to hearken after, they being persons whose lives, learning and discretion are very recommendable. But in this matter I have gone too far and therefore humbly beg your Grace's pardon.

Capt. Wyborn and Capt. Dering are men that have their instructions so far as I understand, not from the Commissioners of the Admiralty, as all his Majesty's commanders at sea have for aught I know, but from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. Sure I am that I countersigned a parcel of instructions signed by his Majesty himself; and my Lord Hyde upon my showing him that paragraph in your Grace's

* See *supra*, p. 243.

letter that related to those men, told me that those ships were destined for a particular employment, that could be of good service to his Majesty, and would be ere long in a capacity, the captains I mean, to deserve encouragement, but for a further explanation he took a note of that paragraph that related to those gentlemen, and promised me a distinct answer upon it, which happens not to be yet done, though I must confess it is partly my fault, for I have not above three or four times called upon his lordship for it. But for the other clause relating to an agent on that side that had taken upon him to send orders to some of the officers of the Army &c. without any application to your Grace, I remember well his Majesty gave his particular approbation to what your Grace had done in that matter.

I have not yet had an opportunity to take his Majesty's directions, it is proper to be done in Council, how your Grace should dispose of the four persons that Seawell, the messenger, conducted hence unto that kingdom. I shall transmit the King's pleasure to your Grace as soon as I can learn it.

I have the honour of a letter from your Grace and the Lords of the Council there of the 21st past relating to one Hawkins, Hanvey, Duffy, and Farrell. I produced it at Council and it was read; there was not time for reading the eight papers relating to that affair only I had provided an abstract of them which was read, and the order of Council upon it was that this affair should be committed to the Lords' Committees of the Irish Affairs. So was another letter that I had the honour to receive from your Grace and the Council referred to the same Lords' Committees. The letter was touching a certificate that had been surreptitiously got in favour of one Morley, well known to the Board. Whenever my Lords do meet, which I shall not fail to solicit, they will, I doubt not, give some directions in the one and the other cases which I shall convey with the soonest I can to your Grace.

ORMOND TO SIR ROBERT CARR.

1681, December 3. Dublin.—The crossness of the winds was such that about the time yours of the 12th of October should have been here there came four posts at a time, and those not till the last of the month, from which till this very day, I have been in motion and in troublesome, though not very great business, which is offered as the best excuse I can make for letting so obliging a letter as that of yours lie so long unanswered in my hands. As to the affair of Needwood you were truly informed both by Col. Vernon and I think by myself, that I had a firm purpose to build where the old house or castle stood, and was in treaty with some for the purchase of contiguous parcels of land of which they had gotten estates, and without which the habitation could not have been tolerably convenient, but I was scarce settled in this government when the Popish plot was discovered and produced such

disorders in England and here that whoever was intrusted with public affairs had his hands and his head full of other matters than thoughts of building. What not long after befell me and my family in the loss of my son I am sure you had and have a friendly sense of, and will easily believe it gave me less pleasing reflections than those of preparing for diverting improvements and accommodations.

In this condition both of public and domestic consternation I thought it not reasonable that Col. Vernon who laid out the purchase money to my Lord Chesterfield, and is still out of it, should be at loss by my means, and so to repair him the proposition you justly except against came to you, but since his Majesty has already been pleased to dispense with rules and pass unusual grants in favour to me and my family, I will by no means press further upon him, but take order for Vernon's satisfaction and as things grow towards quietness and as my occasions will permit pursue my first intentions.

Copy.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 3. London.—When I writ my last letter to your Grace I concluded, and with reason enough, that my Lord Ranelagh had got so much ground upon the new proposers that he would baffle the contract, but on Thursday last we had another meeting in the Treasury Chamber upon his fourth and fifth paper of objections, and he made his whole argument to run upon the necessity of calling a Parliament in Ireland to settle his Majesty's subjects there in their possessions and secure the Protestant religion. He made many fine and eloquent flourishes upon that subject to show the necessity of a Parliament and how the intended contract and it could not consist. He said he hoped that his Majesty would believe his Lord Lieutenant and Council who thought it for his Majesty's service to call one rather than Sir James Shaen and Mr Roberts who thought the contrary, upon which I thought myself obliged to say something, and the substance of what I said was that I did not expect that matter would be debated then, and therefore was not prepared to say anything to it, that I thought myself as much concerned as my Lord Ranelagh to stand up for the honour of the Lord Lieutenant and the Board. However, I thanked his lordship, he being able to do it with so much eloquence, but I said that that was not the case now, for though I was of opinion myself about two years since for the calling of a Parliament, matters may be so altered now that if I were upon the place perhaps I might change my opinion, and I believed the case might be so with your Grace, therefore if his Majesty did intend to bring that upon the carpet I hoped he would take time to consult your Grace and Council again in that point, and this put a stop to the further debate of that matter, to my Lord Ranelagh's great grief. But that which put his lordship to such a stand as

he never was at before, at least since he came into business, was a question asked him by my Lord President, and that was whether a Parliament might be called during the present farm without those ill consequences which he mentioned, and he answered there might; then he asked why one might not be called during this contract, Mr Roberts having submitted to the same covenants the present Farmers have; he fumbled so much in his answer to this question that it was out of his and his friend Mr Seymour's power to bring him off. Thus the matter stands now, and Monday next is appointed for another meeting.

There is a strong report that a Parliament will soon be called here to meet at Oxford, and though the Lords of the most private Committee acknowledge nothing of the matter yet I think I have it from good hands that it is intended, but I must get into Ireland before it meets, though I were forced to return again.

ORMOND TO COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, December 5. Dublin.—When my wife and I are not together, I have leave to open her letters and she some of mine, so that I have seen yours of the 22nd of the last month to her and was surprised to find you complain that I had written nothing to you upon the subject of my Lord Hyde's discourse with you concerning the continuance of his friendship to me, when I thought I had said enough to show my confidence that the professions he made were very real, and that I never had the least doubt of it, and to have said more had been as if a friendship derived from his father and long since established had been now to begin. I confess the carriage of the affair of the new farm or undertaking may have given lookers-on occasion to talk as if I had not been treated with all the trust and regard that my course of life and even my station might challenge. But I lay aside punctilios when my Master's service is concerned, especially in such cloudy times as these are, and am ready to impute any neglect of me rather to the difficulty and multiplicity of affairs than to a design to give me cause of complaint or discontent. I cannot say but I have work enough given me, but I must say I have been kept a greater stranger to what must advance or prejudice the King's service than I think I should have been, when fellows that have less title to the secret and less honesty in the belief of the world and less to loose, are let into it. But this is no season for expostulations, nor do I intend any by what I have writ. My Lord of Shaftesbury's going off will raise the spirits of his faction here, but it shall in no degree lessen my watchfulness over them, or gain them better countenance.

It is necessary my grandson should have somebody to attend him with the name of governor and Mr Burnett is a discreet and sober man. Yet if what establishment he may

have in England be more valuable in itself or in regard of certainty and duration, I will by no means keep him from it, and therefore I desire you to inform yourself more particularly and let me hear from you. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, December 6. London.—My wife falling ill this day sennight of a fever occasioned by a cold she took by visiting at Court, I have not only been by this accident necessitated to delay my journey into Ireland till I see her pretty well recovered, in which, I thank God, she is now in a very fair way, but I was on Saturday last diverted from paying my duty to your Grace, for which I shall now make your Grace an apt satisfaction in the account I now give your Grace of the present posture of affairs here and what we have in prospect. One who came to me this day out of the City tells me that the report is very warm there that a *quo warranto* will speedily issue out against the City charter, an hint whereof I gave your Grace in my last, grounded then upon pretty good authority. The King went early yesterday morning for Windsor, from whence he is expected in town to-morrow night. His business thither is to see Sir Samuel Morland's water engine for the use of the Castle perfected. There went with his Majesty only the Duke of Albermarle and my Lord Ranelagh, the latter of which keeps very close to his Majesty and has been very assiduous in his attendance since he has undertaken the war against the new contractors. This journey has put off the meeting of the Lords upon the Irish farm (which should have been yesterday) till Thursday morning. But I suppose till their lordships have your Grace's answer to their last letter concerning the state of the present Farmers' rent to the 1st of May last there will no positive determination be taken in that affair.

The Duke of Richmond is made Master of the Horse, and Captain Oglethorpe, who married Mrs. Wall, is Gentleman of the Horse and to manage the stables. The Duchess of Portsmouth has put off her journey into France till April. I hear the King has resolved of calling a Parliament, but the time of its meeting is not yet ascertained, though it is believed it will be in March. But before it meets the Duke will be recalled from Scotland and will stand the brunt of the Parliament, and *the King resolves to stand by him and the ministers.* And in order to put an end to the Popish plot the King will have the lords in the Tower tried, judging it very severe they should be detained so long prisoners without trial. It is said that after their trials a general Act of Indemnity will be granted by his Majesty to quiet people's minds. I hear it whispered that when the Parliament meets the great grievance to be complained of will be the endeavours to make a Presbyterian plot and the suborning of witnesses to prove it. As to the first *the Earl of Essex will make the Duke of Ormond the*

*first author and will prove it by a letter you writ Secretary Coventry at the beginning of the Papist plot, wherein this expression was that you wished it did not end in a Presbyterian one.** And the late confinement of Hawkin's gives that party great occasion of discourse and reflection.

My Lord Shaftesbury is very quiet since he was bailed and Mr Graham upon the discourse of his lordship's entering an action of 20,000*l.* against him sent his lordship a defiance, saying let his lordship begin with him when he pleased, he was ready to answer, justify himself and prove whatever he had at any time said against his lordship since his commitment. Yesterday Mr Sheridan showed me your Grace's to him, as also his answer, wherein he gives your Grace an account of the reports here of the advantages my Lord Arran, Col. Fitzpatrick and myself are to have by joining with the new contractors. All I shall say for myself is that I know not yet who are the contractors, and then your Grace may judge how likely it is for me to join with them or to reap any advantage by them. But be they who they will, provided the contract be for his Majesty's service and the good of that kingdom, I shall not be sorry, and the rather if they put out my Lord Ranelagh's hand. As for Mr Sheridan's part of the story it is too long for a letter, and therefore I will reserve that to entertain your Grace when I have the honour of kissing your Grace's hands in Ireland. My chaplain, I suppose, may by this time be in Ireland, and I hope when an opportunity offers your Grace will please to have him in your thoughts for some reasonable preferment in the Church.

ORMOND TO THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, December 6. Dublin.—The account required from hence mentioned in yours of the 26th of the last is in preparation and will be with their lordships as soon as it can be had, and wind will serve. One of the principal witnesses against Plunkett, Friar John Moyer by name, is fallen in some degree under the danger of the law, for advising some whom he himself has accused of high treason, to depart the kingdom, which some say is suspicion of treason, others but a great misdemeanour, however he is in custody and will be kept there till he gives good security for his forthcoming. I have written to the Secretary about it, but have not told him that it seems plain to me that this fellow and others of his gang set up for the government of the Popish clergy in the north at least, and I believe them as ready to contrive and execute mischief against the English and Protestants as anybody they have so accused, but God be praised they have neither sober heads nor stout hearts or hands to command, else we should soon hear of them. *Copy.*

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

ORMOND to SIR CYRIL WYCHE.

1681, December 6. Dublin.—[Up to] the present I am an utter stranger to the fundamentals of the new propositions for this revenue saving some informations I have had from my Lord of Ranelagh very lately, yet I am glad you are so well returned out of France because it is possible that one time or other it may come to our turn who serve the King on this side to be demanded some questions, and to be heard in a matter we ought in some measure to understand, and then there may be great use of your being there upon the place.

Whilst you were in France the persecution of the Protestants there was I suppose at the hottest. Many of them are escaped hither and tell such dismal stories of the inhumanities exercised upon them that it is scarce credible; not but that fiery Popish zeal may be capable of such cruelties, but because I should think it wisdom as well as justice and humanity in the French King to restrain su[ch] effects of zeal; and sure he wants not policy or good advice. I wish to have some of your observations in that matter. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 6. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's of the 27th of the last from Kilkenny with the copy of your Grace's letter to my Lord Privy Seal, and one of my Lord Primate's to your Grace. Sir Robert Reading had given your letter to my Lord Privy Seal before the copy came to me, and on Sunday last his lordship told me that he had received a letter from you which he told me was *dulche picante*, but I cannot upon perusal find anything of the former in it. I have given a copy to Ned Vernon, for though I am not for printing it yet I think it ought to [be] made as public as may be. I am sure the King will be well pleased with it.

My Lord Ranelagh being gone to Windsor with the King the meeting in the Treasury Chamber about the new contract is put off until Thursday next. I am unwilling now to take any notice of your being so justly dissatisfied with your not being made acquainted with the particulars of the contract, because I know it will be sent your Grace before any conclusion is made. My [Lord] Ranelagh is to be thanked for it, but now to insist upon it were to play his game. My Lady Longford is fallen so ill again that I much fear her [death].

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681, December 7. Whitehall.—On this day sennight I wrote to your Grace giving an account of my having seen my young cousin Bennet, and of my hopes of seeing the father before he left the town, to whom I opened the affair of my Lord of Ossory again as from myself without exposing you again in it. He gave me as good an answer in it as I could expect but reserved himself for a better, when he had spoken

again with his wife and should return to town next term, and yet such is his and his wife's humour that I expect little good from them, it being impossible for them to say yes, though to the best proposition that can be made to them. Therefore besides both before my seeing and since, I have also spoken with the two men who have most credit with him and whom he most trusts in his business, and they have promised they will use all their interest for us as I have promised them I will come to conditions under hand and seal to gratify them well for their pains, but such knaves they have the reputation to be that I am bid not to doubt but they have promised my Lords of Salisbury and Manchester as much, and that what I am more to fear is that the longer the old gentleman is undetermined as to any match for this second daughter so long they shall have the government of him and of his estate, which is a very comfortable one. The man I am most governed by in this method and who seconds it most cordially in his warm way is Mr. Charleton who I am persuaded is very sincere in it, and yet does so abominate all sort of gratification for his pains that I was afraid I had displeased him with pressing too far upon that point. He tells me he makes no doubt but your Grace will get for portion 10,000*l.* The agents say he may well give 30,000*l.*, so you be content to be obliged to bind yourself to purchase a competent English estate that may be a jointure for the young maid. Now if it should be the first or the second sum your Grace must be content to allow me to dispose of 5,000*l.* at least, if I see cause, amongst the crows that live upon the carcass, but with this reservation, "no — no velvet" as you will remember the proverb. If I did not tell it you in my last your Grace must know that the child will be completely twelve years old in the next October.

I should end here if it were not to bespeak your Grace's *parabien* for the Duke of Grafton's promise of Col. Russell's regiment of Guards which the King will give him and the old Colonel 5,000*l.* with which he resigns it contentedly. The young Duke of Richmond hath the place of Master of the Horse which put together are no small mortifications for the Duke of Monmouth. Nothing is more to hand that that we shall quickly have a Parliament. God send it be a good one.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 7. London.—There has been no meeting in the Treasury Chamber about the new contract since I writ last, the auditors not agreeing in the report required from them upon the calculations, as I am told is the reason, but I rather believe that your Grace's last representation of the state of the present farm has occasioned it. There is new talk of a Parliament to meet in March next, which together with the delay of the Irish business puts me to great

uncertainty as to my staying or going over before it meets, but the worst part of the winter being over the danger in all probability will not be great.

I am desired by my Lord Conway, Mr. Gwynn, and others to recommend to your Grace one Mr. Jones, a minister now in this town. He has not been above three years in orders, though a very learned man, and that is the reason he has no preferment. If anything that Dean Sheridan parts with is not disposed of, which is above the value of 100*l.* per annum he would be glad to go over and will very well deserve that and better preferment. I have no return of what I writ concerning Mr. Lyndon—and I hear Judge Cusack is not like to recover—he is a very honest man, and a better lawyer than Mr. Beckett for whom I am afraid my Lord Chancellor will solicit your Grace.

If your Grace is not engaged for the next recommendation to Sutton's Hospital that falls to your turn you could do an act of great charity to recommend Mrs. Williamson's son—my daughter Charlotte's nurse.

DON DIONISIO O'BERNE to ORMOND.

1681, Received 9 December.—Though before my coming on this expedition it was in my choice to fix on an employment or post of much more ease and self-profit, yet ambition of joining my endeavours with the desire I knew my King and country had of preserving the right of Flanders, as well as that King and country I serve, biassed me to this undertaking, and hoped rather for a general well-wish and encouragement to it than that it should create me that envy and prejudice I have reason, though whence I know not, to suspect, since, beside other interruptions I met with, my letters have been intercepted and consequently disappointed of those supplies I reckoned upon from Flanders, which will certainly overturn the hopes I had of giving testimonies of my zeal to what his Sacred Majesty was pleased so much to countenance and obliging my countrymen, unless it be prevented. For I find that what money myself and officers have brought into this kingdom is near exhausted, having had four hundred and fifty men here at great expense much longer than I thought of, and that I have but slender hopes of that timely supply I stand in need of, by means of my correspondences being obstructed that when I cannot longer supply them with those necessaries that has hitherto kept them together, it will be impossible for me to hinder them from dispersing, and making further progress in my levies which will not only frustrate my general's great expectations but also be an evident breach of mine and the other gentlemen concerned's credits and fortune, in which distress I know not where to address myself with any confidence of relief in this kingdom but to your Grace, which trouble I would not venture to give but that necessity, which commonly is as void of modesty as law, compels me, though

it is encouragement enough that I know your Grace's ever generous dispositions and how ready on all occasions to forward any just and commendable undertaking, specially where your King's desire, your countrymen's fortunes and the hopes of those good princes I serve under are all engaged.

And as your Grace has been hitherto the only espouser of our cause, for which I render you infinite thanks, so I humbly beg your continuance of your favours without which all my industry will be of no use, and as an addition to the obligations your Grace has placed on the King of Spain, Prince of Parma and me their unworthy servant, I beseech the favour of your lending me 100*l.* in money that I may immediately send away what men I have here, and I do upon the faith and word of a gentleman engage that it shall in eight days after mine, or first part of my men's arrival in Flanders be repaid your Grace's orders with the just acknowledgments of my masters for such kindness, and that in mean time what little patrimony I have in this kingdom shall lie engaged for your Grace's further insurance. So humbly begging your Grace's pardon for this trouble I am unavoidably forced to give, because I conceive it unfit I should own these incapacities I lie under to any so properly as your Grace, I remain, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 10. London.—All that I could observe from last Thursday's meeting in the Treasury Chamber was that my Lord Ranelagh has been the occasion of mending several very unreasonable covenants in this new contract, but I begin to think that, though he will have the honour of making good his assertions, for the contractors have either waived or mended almost every clause he objected against, yet he has not interest enough to break the contract, and the mending it though it were never so advantageous to the King and that kingdom, will be his inevitable ruin. The only considerable point that remains depends upon the answer that will be made to the letter the Lords of the Treasury writ which your Grace mentions in your last. On Monday next we are to meet again to have the contractors consent to what Mr. Roberts yielded to last meeting. My Lord Hyde had been informed some time since that I was agreed with my Lord Ranelagh in the opposing this contract, and that your Grace declared you would not stay in the government if this contract went on. His lordship would not tell me his author, but I guess it came from Ranelagh himself or some of his friends by his instigation, but my carriage has been such since this business has been in agitation that his lordship is so much convinced to the contrary that I am very much in his favour, for though I appeared against many of the clauses, yet it was perceived that I did it for the good of the kingdom and not to serve my Lord Ranelagh. For this reason though this business has not been fairly carried towards you, I am unwilling to show any resentment of it,

especially since he makes upon all occasions great professions of service to you. I gave the King a copy of your letter to my Lord Privy Seal which his Majesty is very well pleased with. He told me after Council was up yesterday that my Lord Privy Seal calling for paper, he said paper was a dangerous thing in his hands.

I brought Sir Richard Reynell last night to take his leave of the King, who was very kind to him. I find he would be very glad to be a Privy Councillor in Ireland. I know the King would presently grant it but I will not venture until I hear from your Grace because I do not know of what ill consequence the precedent may be, but this I am sure of, that you want such a man. If I may have but your leave to move as from myself I will take the business upon me.

SIR ROBERT READING to ORMOND.

1681, December 10. London.—Although I have so lately troubled your Grace with my lines, yet I humbly beg leave to inform your Grace that I find at my return out of Surrey great alterations in my Lord Privy Seal's expressions since I saw him last, which are occasioned by your Grace's letter to him being made so public. I could have wished your Grace had first had his lordship's second letter, wherein his lordship had prepared to do your Grace that justice that all good men owe you. What his lordship will now do I am as far from knowing as I am from justifying. The King in his pleasant way told his lordship last night in the Council chamber that he was told that pen, ink and paper were dangerous things in his hands, which occasioned those answers and justifications that I was in hopes never to have heard more of from his lordship. Whatever measures your Grace shall take hereupon I shall continue under the protection of your Grace's leave and good construction to give your Grace an account of what occurreth herein to &c.

ORMOND to [SIR ROBERT SOUTHWELL].

1681, December 12. Dublin.—I have yours of the 3rd instant and have signed to one part of the account betwixt you and my Lord Courcy as I shall to an order for the payment of what rests due to you when Mr Tisdall shall call for it; I have ordered 100*l* to be sent to my Lord Courcy, which I conceive Mr Faubert should know that what may be necessary in the first place to be taken out of it may be demanded. As soon as I hear out of the country from his lordship's steward I suppose another 100*l*. may be transmitted.

I believe my Lord Chamberlain's address to his cousin is no secret, but what their intentions are is yet a great one to me, and possibly they are not perfectly well acquainted with their own resolutions. I can well enough allow this winter to see an end of the negotiation, but towards the spring I shall desire to be at a point.

The ground that my Lord Ranelagh seemed to have lost at the last debate was upon a collateral point which he forced in to sustain his other reasons against the new proposals, and therein would needs suppose that because we on this side were for calling of a Parliament here three or four years ago, therefore we were so still as if nothing had happened since or been done by the King to change our opinions, but after all my Lord of Ranelagh's mistake in that point is no ground of triumph to the other side nor does it make their proposals a hair the better. There is an argument that must weigh strongly in the proposers side, and that is if their money have been touched and refunding expected, to which any expedient may be preferred. All I shall say to that matter is that the support of the Government of Ireland is preferable even before the security of Tangier, if they can be both provided for well and good, but if one must be abandoned the choice is easy. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, December 12. Dublin.—There is no place in Ireland that for many reasons requires a steady and active governor so much as Londonderry which made me think it to be for the King's service to treat with Col. Cecil for it who though he is a very honest gentleman is not so well fitted for that government as Mr. George Phillips, who besides his ability and interests in those parts has more than ordinary title to his Majesty's favour and bounty by the faithful service and extraordinary sufferings of his father and family when within my remembrance and knowledge the father was abandoned by the Scots, amongst whom his habitation was, to the fury of the Irish rebels because he would not take the covenant or swerve to either hand from his loyalty. By this means and other disappointments the estate of the family, which was a good one was sunk past recovery, which made me venture to take up 1,000*l.* to purchase Col. Cecil out of the government and place Phillips in it, and for the repayment of this money my brothers Fitzpatrick and Mathew and myself stand bound, or rather I alone for I am to discharge them. My hope is that his Majesty will be pleased to approve of a bounty so well placed and so useful to his service, and have therefore taken the liberty to send the draught of a letter for that sum which is taken out of a fund that has been saved and affects not the establishment directly, though whilst the rent shall not answer it, all payments may be said to affect it. I desire that this letter may be hastened and that his Majesty would direct the despatch of it at the Treasury. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1681, December 12. Dublin.—Your lordship's of the 29th of the last month I know not how was kept from me a few days after I had received other letters of the same date. The

account you are pleased to give of the conduct of your two cousins in the case of their elder daughter looks as if they did not so perfectly know their own minds as that anybody else should take it ill to be ignorant of it. Yet in our condition as little time would be lost as might be. It is no less extraordinary that Mr. Charleton should at the same time be bail for my Lord of Shaftesbury and give himself the trouble of soliciting such an affair for me. Your lordship in your own time will say when it is to be given over. Concerning Mr. Burnet and Mr. Durel, my brother Fitzpatrick will discourse with your lordship if you please to call upon him for the letters or parts of letters I have written to him on the subject. In the meantime if Mr. Burnet may be discharged with credit and satisfaction, your lordship may engage me to Mr. Durel upon the conditions mentioned. On Friday last a better hawk than that I sent you killed herself against a tree at an eager whooping. I will not say I meant her [for] your lordship.
Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, December 13. London.—I must now retract the opinion I gave your Grace in my last of the meeting of the Parliament soon after Christmas, the discourse of which was raised from the conjectures are made upon the King's care in making choice of very good Sheriffs this year, and in the strict directions have been given to the Judges and Justices of the Peace for the prosecution of the Papists, which are thought forerunners of the Parliament, and the Ministers too encourage the opinion in their discourses to some friends with design to have it published and believed to be their advice. But I must now give your Grace my own opinion, *which is that neither King nor Ministers intend a Parliament unless they are necessitated to it by a war with France.* And it is most certain that whenever a Parliament does meet they will not give a penny *if the King [does] not part with these Ministers,* and this they very well know, and therefore your Grace may judge whether it is probable *they will advise the meeting of a Parliament against which [they] declare freely to whom they dare trust.** On Thursday last the Committee for the Irish affairs met, where the contractors, or Mr Roberts in their behalf, consented to some further amendments to my Lord Ranelagh's great dissatisfaction; yet that matter will not be absolutely determined till they have your Grace's answer to their letter about the state of the present Farmers' rent from December to the 1st of May last. On Monday next the auditor is to bring before their lordships what observations he has made upon my Lord Ranelagh's computations and the contractors' answers to it. I have still reason to believe the City charter will be questioned, for on Wednesday last Mr Attorney owned it to me the second time. In the meantime he has put in an

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

information against Sheriff Pilkington for encouraging the rabble to shout when my Lord Chief Justice commanded him from his seat to go out and quiet the tumult, to prove which Mr. Attorney has four good witnesses who both saw and heard Mr. Pilkington.

My wife, I thank God, is now past all danger, for her fever is quite over, but she is still very weak and gains strength but slowly. Mr. St. Leger is very diligent in coming to her chamber-door every day, and takes it very ill that he is not admitted to see her. I hope by Thursday's packet to be able to give your Grace an account of the day I shall leave this place.

SAME to SAME.

1681, December 13. London.—My wife's illness, which I thank God now begins to wear off, has made me almost this week a prisoner to my lodging and consequently has rendered me the less capable of giving your Grace so exact an account of affairs here as otherwise I should be able to do. However being at Whitehall at church on Sunday, I think myself obliged to acquaint your Grace that my Lord Privy Seal came to me and complained that your Grace had dealt unkindly by him by publishing your Grace's letter to him which Sir Robert Reading brought. I replied I was sure your Grace was as much a stranger to it as himself was. He said the letter he was sure was public because not only the King but half a dozen of the Lords of the Council had reproached him with some passages in it, which could not have been unless your Grace had sent over a copy of it. I answered his lordship that your Grace usually sent to my Lord Arran copies of most of the letters your Grace writ, that it was not improbable my Lord Arran had a copy of that letter and would give his lordship good reason for his publishing of it, if he had done it. Upon this his lordship fell upon the discourse of your Grace's dissatisfaction with him. I told his lordship he had very unnecessarily and unfriendly, as well as unjustly, provoked your Grace by the observations he had published in print upon my Lord Castlehaven's Memoirs. He replied he had heard so, and upon that score had thrice read over that book on purpose to find out what could give your Grace a distaste, and protested he could not find it out and would thank any one that would instance in one particular. I answered his lordship that was very strange, since the latter part of it was stuffed with nothing else but reflections upon your Grace's government at that time, and his lordship had brought them in so abruptly, and unprovoked on your Grace's part, that the book seemed to be writ merely for that intent and purpose.

Upon this my Lord Arran and Sir Robert Reading coming in, his lordship again pressed me to instance in one particular. I told his lordship it was several months since I had read the book and could not charge my memory with all the particulars, but one I did remember very well wherein his lordship was

grossly mistaken in matter of fact, which was his averring that your Grace's new acquisitions upon the new settlement were thrice as much as your old estate, which was so great an error that I did positively aver to him your new acquisitions did not amount unto above 3,600*l.* per annum. His lordship seemed much surprised at this and said he had copies of your Grace's old rent rolls, had copies of your claims and the decrees of the Commissioners of the Court of Claims, and from them he made his calculations. I assured his lordship whatever copies he had, had misled him, for I did not speak without book having been employed by your Grace in taking your Grace's accounts for several years which gave me a clear prospect of your Grace's revenue, and therefore I was certain of the truth of what I averred, and as to other particulars I told his lordship his friend Sir Robert Reading might if he pleased recollect himself, for your Grace had not been nice in your discourse to him about them. Sir Robert then instanced in the reflections upon the Cessation and the Peaces, to which I added that his lordship was mistaken in some of the persons whom he mentioned to be against them, and I instanced in my Lord Cork who was one of the Commissioners who treated, and told several were not in the kingdom, and perhaps it would be found that some were dead before, so that upon a strict scrutiny it would appear his lordship's assertions were not only groundless but full of errors and mistakes, and therefore I gave his lordship caution not to publish his general history lest his mistakes might be disproved by those authentic instruments and papers which were now in your Grace's hands.

My Lord Arran upon this taxing his lordship with saying your Grace had offered to serve the Parliament, my lord replied it was true and that Sir Paul Davys was authorised by your Grace to make proposals to the Parliament either that you would go to London and live there, or go beyond seas, or serve in Ireland as the Parliament pleased, and surrender up Dublin, and that he had a copy of Sir Paul Davys's instructions in that particular by him. My Lord Arran answered his lordship that he would be hanged if your Grace ever made a proposition barely of serving the Parliament without some condition that might give you the opportunity of keeping the army together to serve the King when a fair occasion offered. His lordship replied he had the paper to produce. I told his lordship that let his lordship have what paper he pleased, I was confident your Grace had a duplicate of whatever instructions you had given to Sir Paul Davys in that particular, and by that your Grace's actions must be judged and not by his lordship's papers. By this time the King was going to the chapel which ended our further discourse, only my lord once more desired me to acquaint him with the particulars of your Grace's exceptions, with which I am now furnished against our next meeting having read over the book and refreshed my memory. But I as little hope to convert

his lordship, or make him sensible of his error, as his lordship believes his disguised logic will bring me over to his opinion. However I resolve to attack him, because he complains he has desired all your Grace's friends to instance in any particular and nobody has yet obliged in so reasonable a request, and I resolve to take away that cause of his complaint.

As to the proceedings in the Treasury Chamber upon the new contract I must leave it to my Lord Arran to inform your Grace of particulars. All that I know is that the contractors have still leave to mend where the objections are thought reasonable by the Committee. Last night they had a meeting about it, and this day, I hear, and to-morrow some time will be spent in it. But there will be no final determination till their lordships have your Grace's answer to their letter I have so often mentioned. There is now some *intrigue between the Ministers and Presbyterians** the particulars of which I hope to learn by Saturday's packet. I had almost forgot to tell your Grace that in the 229th page of Whitelocke's Memoirs, a book newly come out of the transactions from the beginning of King Charles the First's reign to his Majesty's Restoration, there is mention made of your Grace's proposing to serve the Parliament in the very same words my Lord Privy Seal discoursed to us on Sunday, which makes me suspect his lordship caused it to be there inserted. That which nettled his lordship was the King's saying to him on Friday last in Council when his lordship called for paper, "My Lord, you shall have none, for pen, ink and paper are dangerous tools in your hands."

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, December 13. Dublin.—The packet boat has been stayed some days that it might carry over those accounts required by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury; they will not come to their hands so soon as they would have had them, but the reasons will appear in the letters whereof you have copies. You will find they are informed of more than they required, or perhaps we shall have thanks for, but we are concerned in duty and interest to lay our thoughts and knowledge before his Majesty when for aught we know his service, and the prosperity or prejudice of the kingdom is ready to be determined. It is one part of our misfortune that when anything of great moment concerning this kingdom falls under debate and hath been formerly taken into consideration, at the resuming all that we had formerly written upon the subject and all circumstances relating to it are forgotten. And so it fell out in the matter of a Parliament here, made use of by my Lord of Ranelagh to obstruct the passage of the new proposals for the revenue of this kingdom. It was forgotten, or rather perhaps it was never known to all the present Ministers, that it was never thought of or undertaken

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

from hence to bring the revenue of this kingdom to 300,000*l.* a year. It was indeed required from England and we were ordered to transmit bills that might bring it to that, and in pure obedience we sent such as we thought would come nearest to it and the increase was placed upon such things as would best bear it, but for doing what we were commanded we were exposed to the cavils and saucy observations of Sir James Shaen.

It was also forgotten that by his Majesty's command I declared to the Council and made it public that he was content that what should be given should be appropriated to his service in this kingdom, and yet soon after the Scotch regiment (sixteen companies of it) and four English companies were sent to Tangier and have been ever since paid out of this revenue. All which and much more that might be added were good reasons for you to say that in four years' time, and by intervening accidents, our minds on this side concerning a Parliament might well be changed, and yet for all this the representations sent over of the new proposals are so frightful to all people, that I do not know but that to be freed from them they might be content to give more than ever I doubt the King will get by a new contract such as we have figured to ourselves that in hand to be. But possibly Mr. Roberts' departing from the most grievous of the things first desired (if his waiving them be owned by his employers) may alter the countenance of the affair. If my Lord Longford shall complain of want of answers of his letters to me he must excuse me upon his putting me in daily expectation of his coming from London. When you are sure of a Parliament there perhaps it may be too late for you to make a journey hither and to be at the opening of it. Your mother enquires frequently after your motions and intentions and is in great care for your making a winter voyage upon every storm. You shall do well at times to give her some account of yourself. I am gotten into good favour with your little girl and the truth is she is not of difficult approach. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 13. London.—I had last night your Grace's letter of the 6th and I acquainted one of the Lords of the Treasury this day that the answer to their letter, upon which the whole matter of difficulty in the new contract now rests, will be with their lordships very soon, the wind serving, for the unreasonable clauses in the undertaking are mended as fast as my Lord Ranelagh objects against them, and at yesterday's meeting his lordship's objections were wholly against the great powers given by the covenants to the trustees, who were not to be made by his Majesty without the approbation of the contractors, nor to be removed at his Majesty's pleasure, but the whole matter is submitted to his Majesty, and I find they will do the like in all other points now remaining, and

I am told by a very good author that my Lord Hyde and my Lady P[ortsmouth] are now upon very good terms which if true Lord Ranelagh is in an ill condition, for she was his only support, and if I have not of late much mistaken his Majesty, the countenance he has showed him seemed not to come very naturally from him. I am to dine to-morrow with my Lord Hyde at my Lord Mayor's.

My Lord Privy Seal has writ your Grace such an answer to your letter, which he showed me, that there will be no room for any accommodation, for I doubt not but he will make his answer public, and though he is a man meanly thought of by all parties, yet it will be matter of great rejoicing to your enemies that you should engage in a paper quarrel with him, therefore I hope your Grace will calmly consider what is most prudent to be done farther in this matter, for he is a wretch not worth your anger.

There is a book lately come out of the late transactions written by Whitelocke wherein there is a passage that give as hint that your Grace would have served the Parliament if they would have allowed you to keep the sword. It is not so full as I mention in his book, but my Lord Privy Seal says it is true, and that he has papers to show that you gave instructions to Sir Paul Davys and others to treat for you with the Parliament to that purpose. I am ill read in your story if you have not refused very advantageous conditions rather than serve them. Pray call to mind what papers he intends to make use of to this purpose that I may be armed what to say if anybody should discourse of that passage in Whitelocke's book, for what is written by the other if he puts his name to it nobody will believe it. It is generally known that the night before my Lord Stafford was condemned, he solemnly protested he would not hang a dog upon the testimony he had heard against him, and yet he found him guilty and did the like as to the Bill of Exclusion.

ANONYMOUS to ORMOND.

1681, December 14. London.—The Earl of Essex, my Lord Howard, Sir Patience Ward, the two late Sheriffs and several others have and are taking informations daily against those that promoted the Presbyterian sham plot, which they intend to prove in Parliament by undeniable witnesses. They say that they will prove several consults held at my Lord Clarendon's apartment in Somerset House, at St. James', at the Portugal Ambassador's, at Clifford's Inn, at Secretary Jenkins', at Sir James Butler's, at Lincoln's Inn, at Wild House, at the house my Lord Powys lived in in Lincoln's Inn Fields; the grand design being to involve the Protestants in general, at least they hoped by putting things in disorder [they] might prevail with the Parliament to pass an Act of Oblivion. The persons whom they design to impeach in Parliament take their names as follow, vizt.,

The Queen and her favourites.
 Earl of Clarendon.
 Count Castle Meliore.
 Sir James Butler.
 Mr. Merriott.

—
 The Duke of York and his
 favourites.
 Marquis of Worcester.
 Earl of Peterborough.
 Earl of Feversham.
 Lord Hyde.
 Mrs. Wall *alias* Oglethorpe.

—
 Promoters of the Presbyterian
 Plot.
 Earl Halifax.
 Sir Lionel Jenkins.
 Mr. Seymour.
 Sir William Scroggs.
 Sir Francis Pemberton.
 Sir Francis North.
 Judge Jones.
 Mr. Attorney General.
 Sir George Jefferyes.
 Sir Francis Withins.

—
 Justice Warcop.
 Justice Parry.
 Justice Withins.
 Justice Foster.
 Mr. Graham.
 Mr. Button.
 Mr. Bolstrid.
 Mr. Castleton.
 Mr. Squibb.

All suborners of the English
 evidence.

—
 David FitzGerald.
 Managed by the Earl of
 Arran and Sir John
 Davys.

—
 Other Suborners.
 Marquis of Worcester's
 steward—Mr. Price.
 Earl of Powys' steward.
 Earl of Castlemaine's steward.
 Lord Arundel's steward.

Here followeth the names
 of the witnesses tam-
 pered with, some
 suborned, vizt.,

Dugdale.
 Smith.
 Turberville.
 Booth.
 Haynes.
 Dennis.
 Two Macnamaras.
 Haynes and wife.
 Jenny.
 Cotter.
 Byrne.
 Wray.
 Berry.
 Povy.
 Mr. Peacock.
 Two Murphys.
 Samson.
 Burke.
 Callagan.
 Comyn.
 Manby.
 Wilkinson.
 Zell.
 Lewis.
 Boldron.
 Moubray.
 Cooper, Dr. Tongues' servant.
 Young Tongue.
 Dr. Oates.
 Maurice Fitz Gerald.
 Jennison.
 Wyat.
 Mrs. Fitzharris.
 A Frenchman.
 Francisco de Ferio.
 Capt. Bedlow's two brothers.
 I can assure that many
 of these are not yet
 tampered with by the
 fanatic party. Some
 are suborned, others de-
 signed to be tampered
 and suborned, which
 the King may easily
 find out if things be
 managed with indiff-
 erent discretion.

[The following flying reports are spread to seduce the people, vizt., with Marshall, Corker, Bull, condemned priests in Newgate who absolved several Irish evidences on condition to swear against the Earl of S[hrewsbury], [there have been seen] College and others; Smith, Turberville and Dugdale, swore to be Papists, secretly design still to throw off Godfrey's murder on himself or the Protestants. My Lord, if your Grace enquire into the parts aforesaid all will appear to be true, else they should not be sent by your Grace's most humble servant.

R. P.

London, 14th December, '81.

Directed: To his Grace the Duke of Ormond present.

Entitled—The substance or measure of what the country party endeavours against the court at present.

Endorsed—Copy of a letter from a hand unknown; the original sent my Lord of Arran.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, December 17. London.—While I stay here I cannot forbear scribbling and giving your Grace such an account of affairs here as occur to me. On Wednesday last my Lord Mayor being ordered to attend the Council my Lord Chancellor by the King's command acquainted his lordship with the insolence of one Mr. Vincent, a Nonconformist minister in Southwark, who being in the pulpit and some officers coming into the conventicle and commanding him in [his] Majesty's name to forbear preaching, answered that he would not for he had his commission to preach from the King of Kings, and upon this occasion my Lord Mayor was directed to put the laws in execution against all the Dissenters and to suppress the conventicles; and since I heard my Lord Mayor had an order for putting down the several conventicle houses within the city and the liberties of it. But I understand that yesterday this last order was superseded as being a high strain of the law to pull down people's houses, but the suppression of the meetings is still pursued. The Attorney General has his order for bringing a *quo warranto* against the City charter, and he is now considering in what method to do it the most effectually, and before the next term he will do it. Mr. Secretary Jenkins told me two days since that they have lately discovered that the morning my Lord Shaftesbury's jury were empanelled, an hour before they went to court, Mr. Sampson went to Sir Patience Ward and upon oath confessed that endeavours had been used to suborn him and that he had money offered him to accuse my Lord Shaftesbury upon oath, which, being communicated to the jury, it is thought contributed to their *ignoramus*. There has been no further proceeding in the new contract since my Lord Arran's last to your Grace, and I believe that affair will be at a stand till the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury

have a return from your Grace of their last letter. In the meantime my Lord Ranelagh despairs of doing any good for himself and therefore now begins to talk of retiring, and he has some reason, for I have it from good hands that my Lady Duchess of Portsmouth will fight no more of his battles which I forgot to acquaint your Grace in my last.

Sir Robert Reading was with me this day and tells me that infallibly my Lord Privy Seal has under Sir Paul Davys' hand your Grace's instructions to propose to the Parliament your serving them, which I suspect he may have shown yesterday to the King with whom he was in private very near an hour. His lordship is enraged to the last degree at the publishing your Grace's letter to him, and in return of it your Grace is to expect all his malice can do to reflect upon you. Therefore I humbly offer it to your Grace whether it may not in this conjuncture be absolutely necessary for your Grace fully to instruct my Lord Arran in that particular of Sir Paul Davys' proposal, to allay those reflections my Lord Privy Seal and Whitelocke's Memoirs in several places cast upon your Grace. My wife, I thank God, mends, but she was reduced so low and weak by this last fit of sickness that her recovery of strength will be but slow, and therefore I cannot yet fix my day of leaving this place, which I shall do as soon as with decency to my wife I can. The post boy coming from Harwich was set upon, his mail taken away and opened, and only the Dutch letters taken out of it, so that we have no news from thence. This has furnished us with many surmises in the coffee houses. Some think it was a trick of the Secretary's, others of the French ambassador's to discover the intrigue of our new alliances. But most believe it may be done to intercept some diamonds of value which the Jews commonly send in letters. My Lord Northampton is dead; and my Lady Suffolk and her [daughter] died this week within twenty-four hours of one another, and are both to lie in state together, and be interred in the same grave.

SIR C. WYCHE to ORMOND.

1681, December 17. St. James's Square.—It is true that, as your Grace has said in yours of the 6th instant, which I received, the persecution of the Protestants in France was then very hot when I was there, but it being not equally violent over all the country, and those parts where I was faring some of the best, I am not able of my own knowledge to acquaint your Grace with matter of fact, but only of what I have heard there from credible persons, who among other things told me that in many places according to the different pretended zeal of the several governors they are in a manner prohibited all sort of getting a livelihood, being scarce suffered to practice any trade or vocation; that their ministers are seized upon pretence of having spoken against the religion of the country, their children taken from them

at seven years old and upwards, upon the bare allegation of any Papist that they expressed a desire of being Roman Catholics, and from thence forward bred up so, being taken from their parents, and yet they forced to maintain them at the discretion of those who have taken them away; that every little circumstance, though upon force, is construed to be a turning Catholic, and then their after behaving themselves as Huguenots is called apostacy, and they treated as relapsed heretics; that those who finding themselves, thus and many other ways, uneasy endeavour to sell what they have and withdraw, are as far as it is possible prohibited both, and if taken, secured and used severely. These and other things of this kind I heard from several people of worth whom I could have no reason to mistrust and are set forth in the several petitions to his Majesty of France, in which they offer, at the peril of his favour and the redress they beg for from his justice, to prove undeniably all they allege as the grounds of their complaints. These, my Lord, will give your Grace a clear insight into the severities the poor people there lie under, and if you have not met with them I will transmit them.

But now how it should come about that he whose other affairs are conducted with so much prudence and art should suffer these to be carried on after so different a manner, as it seems to be, is what I do not well comprehend; and yet if I may have your pardon, will give my rude guesses. I conceive there are two ends driven at in this business, one by the King and another, a very different one, by the Jesuits who are the authors of the counsel. The King has had several disputes with the Pope upon several occasions, some of them are still depending and may perhaps increase, has given several occasions of jealousy to that see and, as his designs upon Italy may ripen, others are likely to arise by which he may justly apprehend the utmost opposition that chair can give him. He has learned by the example of some former powerful princes what great mischief the arms that church has made use of have been able to do them both at home and abroad, and methinks this course is taken by way of precaution against such an exigent, that by it all the zealots may see that whatever quarrels he has with the Pope he has none with Popery, that his contests are about civil temporal rights, but as to spirituals there can be no doubt as to his being a good son of that church. It is therefore perhaps hoped that this zeal for extinguishing heresy may in great measure render any attempts against him from home ineffectual whenever the interest of the Papacy shall oblige him that possesses the chair to make use of them, besides his increase of power at home, if it be capable of any, by unity, and the glory it will be to him to root out a heresy, as they call it, which has so long and so far spread in the kingdom, nor could that sort of men who promote these things

there be terrified with the difficulties or mischiefs of the attempt who, as Coleman declared at his trial, think it an easy thing to do it here in England.

This or something like this, it is likely may be what the Jesuits give to the King as a reason for this persecution, but in the meantime they, who as I understand are the sole authors and managers of this affair, whereas all the civil Ministers disown and speak against it, they I say seem to me to have another secret end for which they vigorously prosecute this method, and that is the weakening that very power which they would seem to advance, or at least the heightening the Pope's authority by the same proportion, for either the design succeeds or not. If it does the Church, as they love to speak, will be rid of a dangerous adversary, will be generally then spread over the whole country, and in consequence the power of the Pope by the same degrees increased while at the same time the King will have actually lost a great many of his most useful subjects and such as would have stuck close to him as in other occasions, so especially in any occasion that should offer itself against Rome, and become at least so much the less able to give the Church a jealousy, and the rest will be more at the Pope's devotion, having now no other party to balance or oppose them. If the design should not succeed there is hope that it may raise such commotions in the kingdom as may if managed by jesuitical dexterity render the French power serviceable instead of being dangerous to the Church. By these arts of balancing the power of Christendom, of stirring up seasonable wars and then watching the opportunities of prevailing upon them, has that see in a great measure come to that height and by these arts it must keep it.

But I hope your Grace will pardon the folly of my imagination, and much more that of presuming to trouble yourself with them. It is a fault I neither am often guilty of, nor had been now, had I not been led to it by the commands of giving you my observations in this matter.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, December 17. Whitehall.—I had not the opportunity to acquaint his Majesty in Council with the letter your Grace did me the honour to write to me of the 6th current, till yesterday, having not been able to attend for some Council-days by reason of a little indisposition that hung upon me.

The paragraph in your Grace's letter touching the Friar John McMoyer, together with the papers relating to it, particularly his letter to Cusack and his owning of it before your Grace and the Council, being read and considered, his Majesty was pleased to approve of what you had done in ordering McMoyer to be taken into custody till he should find security to answer for what he had done, nor did his

Majesty direct anything more than that the misdemeanour of this Friar be prosecuted by a due course of law and that the papers relating to him be laid up in the Council chest.

What your Grace foretells of the humour there upon my Lord Shaftesbury's being acquitted hath been most industriously endeavoured to be made out here, but not with so much success as ostentation. My Lord Shaftesbury hath arrested several but they have been bailed out of hand, among others he had arrested one Craddock, a mercer in Paternoster Row, upon an action of *scandalum magnatum*, of 4,000*l.*, the action being laid in the city. There was a trial to be this day, but my Lord Shaftesbury thought it his best course to be non-suited; which is the party's great mortification, especially joined with that which was on Wednesday last given in charge to my Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and to the Justices of [the] P[ea]ce of Middlesex all attending in Council, to put the laws against conventicles in execution.

We have no letters since the 7th old style of the condition of Luxemburg. It was then blocked up, and so was Namur. The general talk in the Court of France is that there must be a war next summer. Something straitened that Crown is of late in its finances if the computation we have be true; that may retard a rupture, but conquests will go on by way of reprisals.

My Lord, his Majesty was pleased to write a letter to your Grace of the 5th of January last, desiring your Grace to direct certain trustees appointed by one Erasmus Smith of London, now dead, for the managing of a yearly revenue of certain lands in Ireland, which were bequeathed by the said Smith to a foundation of schoolboys lately erected here by his Majesty in Christ Church Hospital, London, for advancing the art of navigation, to exhibit their accounts into the Chancery or the Exchequer in Ireland, and that copies of the same should be transmitted hither. This hath not been done, but my Lord Primate and Chancellor of Ireland, being one of the Trustees, will without doubt, if his Grace be minded of it, promote the bringing of those that have had the management of that revenue to an account, there having been none given in, either of the estate itself or of the mean profits since the year 1673. This I humbly take leave to lay before your Grace at the earnest request of my good brethren the Governors of Christ Church Hospital.

Since my last I have laid before his Majesty the great offence that Dowling, the master of the Post-office of Dublin, doth in a manner continually give your Grace, and how unsafe you do conceive it to be to the public, I mean to the Government, to have his Majesty's business pass through the hands of that man. His Majesty resented the thing very heartily and promised effectual redress: so did my Lord Hyde say the Farmers must and would turn him out and charged himself to speak to the Farmers of the Irish revenue,

for they hold the Post-office from the Duke. If the new contract do hold, it will be the best way of proceeding for your Grace's satisfaction, to have a clause in the contract between the King and them that shall be very penal if your Grace's despatches going or coming be not duly conveyed and delivered, and so for the great men's letters of that kingdom, for I suppose they will give any rate for the Post-office since they choose to hold it, though they are losers 400*l.* or 500*l.* a year by their present contract with his Royal Highness.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 17. London.—I have little worth your Grace's trouble this post, neither do I believe that my Lord Longford can furnish you with anything that is new. We have had no meeting in the Treasury Chamber since I writ last, though there was one appointed last Thursday. I hear my Lord Ranelagh declares to his friends that he has yet such things to object against the new proposals that he is sure to break it, his friend Mr. Seymour is in the country and intends as I am informed to continue there some time, and it is reported that he is discontented, but I am not sure that news is authentic.

Ned Vernon showed me a long letter he has writ to your Grace about Needwood. He is in great trouble about your letter to him upon that subject, but I keep up his spirits and have made my Lord Arlington his friend.

DON DIONISIO O'BERNE to ORMOND.

1681, December 18.—Applying for loan of 100*l.* in addition to the one already made to him; had given the Prince of Parma and Don Pedro Ronquilo, the Spanish Ambassador, such an account of Ormond's favours as would soon bring their acknowledgments; the wind like to serve and no block in his way but the discharge of his credit. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of the TREASURY.

1681, December 19. Dublin Castle.—When I received your lordship's of the 15th of November I was in the country, and soon after I returned thither I received that of the which required more diligence in the return than the former and therefore I applied myself first to it and now that the best account I could get is transmitted, and I hope by this time received, I ask your lordships' leave to inform you in answer to yours of the 15th that though all these precedents for recalling, altering and dividing of warrants and paying the army by imprest are true, and have upon several occasions been practised besides those mentioned, yet it cannot be instanced that upon the real alteration or division warrants for full pay, by way of imprest, have

at any time been directed to any, but to the Vice-Treasurer or to Commissioners of the Treasury authorised under the great seal, much less have such warrants been ever till now directed to any person having no authority from the Crown nor being under any obligation to it faithfully to discharge the trust of disposing of all the revenue thereof, and that without any inspection or control, but what he will voluntarily undergo, but since I presume this course will not be long continued I shall forbear to trouble your lordships with particularising the inconveniences that might follow if it should.

Since your lordships' said letter of the 15th of November the Army have been paid a good part of the three months pay due in June last, and if it was in compliance with Sir James Shaen's letters to his partners here I shall humbly desire your lordships to require him to send another to hasten the payment of that of September, since within this week there will be six months due to the whole establishment besides what remains unpaid for the three months ending in June, as I know some part does.

I am glad your lordships are of opinion that his Majesty's letter of the 26th of June, 1680, is sufficient authority for me to take off the restriction imposed upon the Farmers in obedience to former letters from him. My scruple did rise from allegations of theirs taken notice of in the said letter of the 26th of June and in your lordships of the 1st of September, with the truth of which allegations of theirs I neither was nor am yet satisfied, for I think it hath not yet been judicially determined that it was contrary to their covenants to impose upon them the inspection and restriction they complained of and for want thereof it cannot be known whether they have misapplied his Majesty's revenue or no, but it is reasonably to be suspected they have misapplied or diverted it, since the civil and military lists are so much and so long in arrear. And I am sure the other principal ground of taking off the restriction mentioned in your lordship's letter of the 1st of September, namely, that they had punctually for five years and more complied with their undertaking is much mistaken, for it is apparent that they have never done so at the end of any one month in about four years since my coming to the Government, but on the contrary by a reasonable computation and medium have been always above 30,000*l.* in arrear of their rent, allowing them their days of grace which I now observe to your lordships to prevent any inconvenience that may happen to his Majesty's service if at the end of their farm they should be in the like or in greater arrear, as it is probable they will and have 60,000*l.* more to pay in consideration of the 60,000*l.* they paid short in the first year of their farm. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, December 20. London.—My wife's weakness makes my journey into Ireland still uncertain. She had a shivering

fit upon Sunday which frightened me with the apprehension of an ague to prevent which she has these two days past taken the Jesuit's powder, which has hitherto had good success, for she has not only missed the second fit which I expected she would have had this day, but she is also much better and cheerfuler, and has eaten flesh of which till now she had not tasted a morsel this month past. My care of her gives me little opportunity of going around to learn how the world goes, and therefore my correspondence is at present very dull. On Sunday Mr. Gwynn told me there was not one syllable of truth in the story I gave your Grace in my last of the Dutch packet, yet not only the coffee houses were full of it, but also Sir Gabriel Silvius reported it.

I leave my Lord Arran to give your Grace an account of the new contract and the proceedings in it this day, for that is properly his province, and he is best able to perform it, being a witness to all the transactions concerning it in the Treasury Chamber. My Lord Ranelagh has parted with his house at Chiswick, and is now without any friend to support him but his own ingenuity. I am confident *the King* has no thought of a Parliament, and I have it from a pretty good hand that *it is probable the Duke of York may be here soon, for five thousand pounds a year which has been settled on the Duchess of Portsmouth by him has made her zealous in all his affairs.** Several of the Nonconformist ministers on Sunday last forbore keeping their conventicles, but Mr. Vincent held his in Southwark and having his spies abroad intelligence was brought him that three Justices of the Peace, with the constables and several officers were advancing to beat up his quarters, upon which he at the entreaty of his disciples withdrew; so the Justices finding him fled and the congregation singing of a psalm, they only took the names of some of the most considerable of them.

George Legge has sold his Government of Portsmouth to my Lord North for 5,000*l.* The Earl of Argyle is found guilty of treason, and leasing making according to the dialect of that country. It was carried amongst his jury but by one voice, but the sentence was not pronounced, the King having reserved that to himself, his case is thought very hard here because his crime was taking the test with an explanation, but it was before the Privy Council made their explanation.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, December 20. Whitehall.—Your Grace will see by the letters, or warrants, enclosed that I have not been wanting to execute your commands of the 7th current. Your Grace's letter of the 13th I had the honour to read last night, as soon as I received it, to his Majesty and he was pleased to

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

give his reflections upon every paragraph of it. Upon the vacancies of Meath and Dublin, or either of them, his Majesty will, I doubt not, whenever they happen, show a just regard to your Grace's recommendation, for I did not perceive upon the account I gave his Majesty of the Dean of Canterbury's refusal, for so it was, that he was pleased to look further or to concern himself otherwise than to leave it to your Grace to take care for a supply.

Those witnesses that the King's messenger (Mr. Seawell) brought over his Majesty sees no cause for their restraint, and concurs absolutely with your Grace that those fellows may do him wrong but never will be able to do him right or honest service, therefore his Majesty would have them cease to be a burden to himself and a trouble to your Grace as soon as can be possibly. His Majesty leaves it wholly to your Grace to rid your hands of them as you shall resolve to be the most convenient way, and as you do in such cases. His Majesty sees there was a design and a malice to the Government in what Hawkins did: it is true the forms obliged your Grace to let him out upon bail, but his Majesty hopes you will search that matter to the very bottom. He was set on work on this side, as his Majesty believes.

The great paragraph in your Grace's letter was concerning the new proposals and the new establishment that must be fitted to it; as also concerning the present good condition of that country, and the good disposition of the bulk of that people to support the Crown when they are once assured that their subsidies are employed to that end. As for the new proposals they are battered all to pieces, yet as long as the projectors, for so I call these contractors, do consent, to the new modelling of their contract, as they do, no man can say their project is baffled. The scheme indeed is quite changed, and especially upon this night's reading of the report from your Grace and the proper officers your Grace had appointed to answer the queries of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. But as to a reform in the Army on that side which your Grace is pleased to take notice of as a thing that every officer in the Army thought himself concerned in, his Majesty hath commanded me to assure your Grace that he hath no such thought, and that your Grace did well and agreeably to his Majesty's sentiment to assure the soldiery that there is not a thought entertained on this side to that effect.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 21. London.—Though the packet came in yesterday yet I did not receive your Grace's letters of the 12th and 13th until this afternoon as I was going to the Treasury Chamber when the business of calculations was appointed for the work of the day, but your letter in Council coming to the Lords of the Treasury, with the report that was first

fallen upon, and by the way I thought my Lord Hyde was much displeas'd at the letter, though he said nothing of it to me. All that the report produced, for nothing was observed upon the letter, was that the new proposers will from the 1st of May pay at the rate of 300,000*l.* per annum, so that they be not engag'd to pay any arrear, for the contractors do say that there is an arrear of at least 76,000*l.* notwithstanding the account given by Sir John Champante mentions but 9,300*l.*, and whatever does prove to be in arrear, or shall be thought fit to be allowed for defalcations, his Majesty must pay if it ought not to fall when rightly examined either upon my Lord Ranelagh or the present Farmers, though this was a long while argued or rather wrangled between my Lord Ranelagh and Mr. Roberts. This was in short the substance of what was agreed on.

As to the other matters of calculation which took up a great deal of time, for I am but just come from the Treasury and it is past nine, I am not skilful enough to give your Grace an account of what passed between my Lord Ranelagh and the auditors who were appointed for that purpose, but if I were and had time it is not material, for he made use of that only to show that his assertions were right when he made them, though the calculations will not hold now the contract is mended. I could have wish'd that part of the letter had been left out that mentions, "it may so fall out that the Farmers might have anticipated the revenue" etc.: that being no part of the report, for I am sure it will be interpreted by the Lords of the Treasury as intended only to prejudice the Farmers since that was not required, when on the other hand you are often call'd upon to give an account of what is done against my Lord Ranelagh and no return is made.

When I see a proper time I will move the King about the letter your Grace sent me on behalf of Mr. Phillips, for I am sure if I should move it now my Lord Hyde would refuse it, and I am unwilling to bring it to that pass that the King must either disoblige you or him in that point. I am glad my little daughter does divert your Grace that sight I shall be glad to see, but had I not many other reasons to go over I should not take a journey in the winter, but my intentions in this particular I will reserve for a letter to my mother next post, having no time this so much as to peruse what I have now writ.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, December 24.—Since my last the *quo warranto* has been issued and deliver'd to Mr. Sheriff Pilkington upon Wednesday last and his own misdemeanours mention'd in it. This has startl'd much the fanatic party of the city, but much more the new election of Common Council men, out of which number in Sir Robert Clayton's ward eight of the late *ignoramus* Jury, who were then of the Common Council,

are excluded and two men of them were left out in other wards. The majority of the Common Council are upon this choice honest men and from hence it is hoped the government of this City will be for the future very quiet and loyal; insomuch that it is expected their first action will appear in a dutiful and loyal address to his Majesty.

It is said, for I am yet but a small Rambler from home, that where the elections have been mutinous and carried by the factors' party in a tumultuous poll, the King has directed my Lord Mayor to make a new choice, and it is affirmed that his lordship will prosecute it, and if in those choices good men are preferred the fanatics will be quite routed here. They are generally pursued by the penal laws throughout the kingdom, and they will not have quarter given them here. For it is resolved that not one man of them shall be employed either in the navy or in any branch of the revenue, and even Whitehall will be purged of all the Whiggish party, so that if the King proceeds with this mettle in all probability there will be soon a new scene of affairs throughout the kingdom; and the moderate sort of people will come into their wits again.

This is so apprehended by the anti-court party that several of them are endeavouring to come in upon terms. *Essex, Temple, and Townsend* and others are attempting to make fair weather, for without [it] not only they but *Shaftesbury* begin to apprehend a Parliament while the King is in this resolution, lest if one meets the King should direct the Attorney General to bring in articles of high treason against them, in which case they must be confined, and if upon disagreement between the King and the Parliament there should happen to be a prorogation or dissolution, they must lie by it and keep company with first &c. It is said the ministers do not agree. *Halifax* is for the present meeting of a Parliament and for the Duke of York's stay in Scotland, both which *Hyde* opposes, and it is certain the Duke of York has writ by the last post that from hence he is made to believe he shall soon have leave to come.*

Your Grace's and the Council's last letter has not given any satisfaction in the Treasury Chamber, of which I suppose my Lord Arran gives your Grace an account. My Lord Ranelagh hopes to spin out his objections so fine as to make the new contractors weary of their new bargain. And finding the King so inclined to a reformation amongst the ministers of his revenue, his lordship has to the King painted out Mr. Roberts to the life in all his fanatic colours. My wife presents her humble duty to your Grace, and is so well recovered that I hope on Monday sennight I shall be at liberty to set out for Ireland, of which by next Saturday's packet your Grace shall have a more certain account. I wish your Grace a merrier Christmas than I am like to have here.

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

I understand my Lord Arran has writ to your Grace about your consent for Sir Richard Reynell to be one of the Privy Council. But his lordship forgot to tell your Grace that my Lord Burlington offered to him [that] my Lord Hyde should speak to the King for it, but he declined it, thinking himself obliged not to expect such a favour from his Majesty unless your Grace thought fit to recommend him as a person proper for it. And I am sure your Grace knows his qualifications too well to be instructed by me in them; and I hope he will not fare the worse for his modesty and respect to your Grace.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1681, December 24. Dublin.—Your lordship's of the 7th inst. got not hither till last night, and this ought to be a day of preparation for the work of to-morrow. But I hope I may borrow so much time as to tell you that I will not stint you in the gratifications you shall think fit to make to those that shall effectually help us in the pursuit we are upon, since it is probable the rivals your lordship mentions will bid largely and since Mr. Charleton will not hear of gratification in any shape, at least for the present. I have written him a letter of acknowledgment to be delivered or not as your lordship shall think fit, and as for a purchase to be made for a jointure in England I shall be content that two parts of three of the portion, whatever it shall be, should be so employed. I very really congratulate the Duke of Grafton for his command and more for the King's kindness. God send you a healthful and a quiet Christmas. *Copy.*

ORMOND to MR. CHARLETON.

1681; December 24. Dublin.—I have been often informed of the obliging part you have taken in what is now the greatest concern of my family—the disposing of my grandson with advantage. It has at no time come into my way in anything to serve you, which makes your endeavours the more generous on your part and the more obliging on mine, nor shall I be at ease till I have found some way to let you see how sensible I am of your friendship and how really I am, &c. *Copy.*

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681, December 24. Dublin.—I have yours of the 6th, 10th, and 13th, and from other hands letters of the 17th, to which this day you are to expect but short answers nor any thing to what my Lord of Anglesey or the other Lord in cipher has said or writ, there will be time for justification or there will be no room for any though never so rational and just.

I have writ a letter to Mr. Charleton and enclosed it in mine to my Lord Chamberlain to be disposed of as he thinks fit. I do not yet know at what rate I have set my prize wines or

what to ask for them, as soon as some few of the holidays are over I will send you an account of it. The King's Farmers are also mine for that duty, and whoever shall farm the revenue will find their account in taking that for the same time. It is hard for me to set a price upon my steward's place, to value it as it is now worth would come to little, setting aside the honour and privileges belonging to it, and to rate it as it was before the retrenchment and suspensions the purchaser might think too much. You know since the retrenchment how bed-chamber places have been sold and what Mr. Russell had for his place, and sure mine is much more valuable as the case stands now. Upon the whole matter, if I may know what will be offered my answer shall be soon made, always provided that the King's approbation go along. I am in no degree weary of Mr. Burnet and will speak freely to him of his own concerns in due time. I must by no means allow there can be any reason of doubt of either side betwixt my Lord Hyde and me or any need of explanations or endeavours to bring us to a good understanding, for I take that to be firmly established, and so I hope does he, and will continue to be of that opinion till I give him cause to suspect the contrary.

I know not from what, or from whom, you collect that I so much dislike the new undertaking. I am sure I never declared so much to anybody, nor could not reasonably find fault with what I did not know. I was of opinion it was no good sign of fair intentions in the proposers or undertakers, who they are I know not, to effect to have their propositions kept secret from the King's servants here. If they are good the approbation of the Government here would not have made them worse, and if there had been any mistakes prejudicial to the King and kingdom in the matter or words, and such have happened in former farms and undertakings, remarks upon them would have done no hurt for still the King is judge and master. This and not the subject matter of the proposals is what I did not like or think to be for the King's service. The persons in the meanwhile let into the secret so carefully kept from us, and intended by me are Sir James Shaen, Mr. Roberts, and anybody else of their level whether clerks, lawyers, or scribes, and so you have my full meaning in this matter. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1681, December 24. Dublin.—Last night I received together yours of the 6th, 10th, 13th and 17th of this month. In all there are but few things needful at this time to make returns to, the rather that you say before a final conclusion I shall yet know what the new bargain imports, wherein I suppose must be intended some knowledge of the new establishment, if there be any such. I cannot help suspecting that the new

proposers departing so readily from everything objected against, is because they had rather take a new farm upon any terms than the old should come to be accounted for and consequently at least some of the present Farmers must have a part in it, whoever is come in besides. Whoever knows that I am an utter stranger to the proposals, more than I have of late collected from the index and papers passed betwixt my Lord Ranelagh and the proposers, cannot believe I have declared against things I do not know, but he must at the same time believe me to be a very giddy old fellow and a very silly undutiful ass, if I should think of quitting the government because I do not like a bargain the King makes for his revenue. Men would needs persuade me that there needs some explanations and declarations to make a good understanding betwixt my Lord Hyde and me and would have me fall into it, but I think our friendship so ancient, and so well established, that it were disparagement to it to begin now with protestations as if it were a thing to be begun or renewed upon some misunderstanding or unkindness taken which I profess against for my own part, and so I have not followed any overture to that purpose. I have as good an opinion of Sir Richard Reynell as anybody, and wish he were in a post that might entitle him to a place at the board, but till he be I think it would be inconvenient to bring him thither. But when I have thought a little more of it you shall hear from me. In the meantime there can be no scruple of getting a letter for the swearing Sir Christopher Feilding of the Council.

I have received my Lord of Anglesey's two letters, one of the 3rd and the other of the 7th of this month. Of that of the 3rd I give you a copy, being but short. It should not seem by that that he was preparing so severe an answer as the other at once reading seems to be, and by one from Sir Robert Reading he seems to have been provoked to it by the making mine public. If he makes his so, as insignificant as he is in this age, his names of Privy Seal and Anglesey in another may gain credit with those who knew him not, but I will be hasty in nothing in this matter. I would be glad you had sent me Whitelocke's book or the passage that concerned me in it. What I offered the Parliament was no secret, but is in print with Mr. Arthur Annesley's, Sir Robert King's and one Beale's comment upon it. I shall find out a copy of it and if Sir Paul Davys or anybody else offered more from me, it was without my knowledge, much more without my order. I send you the copy of my later letter to the Lords of the Treasury, which shows that they have very wrong information of things here to which they give credit too soon. I know not how to avoid giving a true account of the state of the revenue here, the not doing it may be hereafter laid to my charge and the want of information may be said to be the cause of any error in the contract in hand, and if I do give right information I am charged with being against the

proposals and playing my Lord of Ranelagh's game. The military list is now complete six months in arrear and the civil a quarter gone past their time of a half-year's payment, and it is plain they have not wherewith to satisfy but out of the growing revenue or out of some old arrears standing out in the country of which they have already got in the most solvent, which came but to about 30,000*l.* in six months time of gathering with all possible diligence and severity. In what state will they probably be then, when at the end of their farm they shall come to pay 60,000*l.* and have no growing revenue to receive? Nothing but a new bargain can cover their want of performing their part of the old. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1681, December 24. Dublin.—Among the many letters I received at once by four posts I saw one written in a strange hand, such as come sometimes from Quakers and sometimes from rogues in gaol that would gain pardons and liberty for swearing anything against anybody, and as some such trivial thing I laid it aside unread till I had done with all my other letters and answered as many as I can by this post, and then taking it up I find to my thinking that the hand is counterfeit but that the writer may be a man of sense, and that has opportunity of considerable observation. I cannot guess who it should be or why he sends his information so far about as to me, whereby so much time must be lost if he has not given the same intimation to some of the Ministers there; if he has his intents is only to oblige me with a duplicate. However I send you the original that you may show it the King and receive his command how to dispose of it.* I do not find myself in the catalogue, but if it goes on I need not despair of a place in due time. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, Christmas Eve. London.—Your Grace had not been troubled with a letter from me this post, had I not met with Mr. Secretary Jenkins by chance on Thursday last just as he was coming from reading a letter of yours to his Majesty, of which your Grace neither gave me, nor gave directions to your secretary to give me any intimation, which makes me a little apprehensive that Mr. Sheridan's letter to you might have persuaded you that I am partial in the business now on foot, wherein he tells you that it was reported that I was to have the salary of Knight Marshal in present which I have now only in reversion, to befriend the present undertaking. I hope whatever others may think your Grace will never have that ill opinion of me as to believe it possible that I should be bribed to suffer anything to pass unopposed that might in the least prejudice his Majesty or his subjects in that kingdom,

* See supra, p. 262.

and therefore I shall content myself with saying the report is not true, and when I tell your Grace I could gain nothing by its being so there needs no further justification, for whether this bargain goes on or no I had assurance that provision would be made for me in that point.

The reason why I say so much upon this subject is because, in the last paragraph of your letter to the Secretary, you mention that all people are in great consternation there upon the representations made of this new farm; and make no mention of the account I gave your Grace how that from time to time all the clauses vexatious or that seemed to be grievous to the subject were mended as they went along, and how that I assured your Grace that the contract would not be perfected until it be sent over to your Grace. The reflection I make upon this is that your Grace would not send me a copy of the letter lest I should advise the Secretary to stifle it, as it is reported (as Mr. Sheridan says) I have done many of your letters upon the subject I now write of. I must confess as to that point I have not shown all your letters to the King, for that was left by your Grace to my discretion, yet I had my Lord Chamberlain's advice all along in the matter; but I do not wonder that my Lord Ranelagh, who without doubt is now caught in the same noose that he caught my Lord Longford, should leave no stone unturned to save himself, though it were by making you and the chief Ministers fall out; and I must confess as the covenants were penned he had a fair opportunity given of representing the business as a very extravagant one, but I believe the matter will be delayed a little longer, though my Lord Ranelagh looks upon himself as gone, for he was to be heard on Monday again upon his calculations, but he has taken occasion to be sick. Mr. Secretary Jenkins thought my Lord Ranelagh was empowered by you to say all that he said upon this matter until I undeceived him.

My uncle Fitzpatrick is a little concerned lest you should think hardly of him upon what was reported of him in the same letter which is as false as the rest in it. I should be sorry your Grace should conclude by this that I think Mr. Sheridan the author. If I remember well the letter, for he showed it me before he sent it, he makes use of that report to show how people might be traduced. To conclude this letter which I did not think to make half so long when I sat down to write, I am [to] tell your Grace that I was to wait upon my Lord Hyde this morning, and he has given me new assurances that the contract and the establishment shall be sent over before any conclusion be made. There is no more discourse of a Parliament.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681, December 24. London.—Referring to iron work and figures about to be cast for his Grace. The importunity of

the statuary had been so great that for a quiet life he had been necessitated to sign his articles. Most of the sixteen boys are already cast and the statuary resolves to fall immediately upon casting the two women, but will forbear the men till he has further commands. He has not signed any articles with the smith about the iron gate because his Grace had not signified his choice of the two drafts; if his Grace fixes upon Mr. Gibbons' draft it will cost 80*l.*, whereas the other will be done for 60*l.* He hopes his Grace will not put up the Triton in the fountain until he waits upon him, because he has variety of pipes for waterworks fitted to the same socket which is to be fastened in the Triton's shell which issues out of his mouth, and he doubts that it will be difficult to fasten it well after the figure is set upon the pedestal. *Abstract.*

Encloses—

AGREEMENT between JOHN BONNIER and EARL OF LONGFORD.

1681, December 23.—Concerning the making and casting of four large statues and sixteen smaller statues for the Duke of Ormond. The agreement provides that before March 31 next ensuing John Bonnier shall, well and workmanlike and after his best art and skill of founding, mould off and cast of good and sufficient fines and thickness, in hard metal or hardened lead, these following figures, viz. :—Diana, the Sabine Woman, Hercules, Commodus and Antoninus, which shall be full as large as those figures so called in his Majesty's privy garden, upon which figures John Bonnier shall take off his moulds for the more exact casting the aforesaid figures; also that he will cast upon certain parts of the last mentioned figures which he is to make, a pair of drapery or other ornament in case the Duke and Duchess of Ormond approve of it. The agreement further provides for casting the sixteen smaller statues, to be two feet and a half in height, with a due proportion of bigness, and for the price viz. : for each of the large statues upon plinths ready to be put up 40*l.*, and for each of the lesser statues 5*l.* *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December 27. London.—My Lord Ranelagh happened to be well enough to meet yesterday in the Treasury Chamber, where he made some few objections more, but the time was chiefly spent upon the business of the last meeting and Mr. Roberts produced a paper and engaged to prove it, that notwithstanding the account sent over that certifies the arrear to be but 9,100*l.* there is an arrear of 72,000*l.*, upon which my Lord Ranelagh took occasion to stand up for your honour and the honour of the board, and

upon all occasions he is a mighty champion for you, but I observed to the King and the Lords that your letter did not concern that arrear but left that to the proper officers, and referred to the account sent over, but indeed I owned you made your conjectures what arrears the Farmers might run into by the determination of their lease. I shall not trouble your Grace with other particulars for the contractors desire to have all the objections together and upon the minutes taken of them they will give their answers in writing. On Thursday we are to meet again, and then my Lord Ranelagh says he hopes to make an end of all his objections, which are now only concerning the clauses of defalcation, and he desired that Mr. Sheridan might be there. Copies of the minutes and the contractors' answers when they come in I believe I may have, and those I will send your Grace, and they will inform you better than anybody can.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681, December 27. London —I know not whether by the way of Scotland your Grace may have heard of the Earl of Argyle's escape this day sennight out of the Castle of Edinburgh, where he was not kept as a strict and close prisoner, but by order of Council had liberty, as frequently prisoners have, to walk out of his chamber upon the leads. The manner of his escape is not certainly known here. But as the story is told I give it to your Grace. On Monday he pretended to be much troubled with the toothache and seemed much out of order with the pain of it. The next day he said his pain was not so violent, and in the afternoon my Lord Lorne, his son, and the Lady Sophia Lindsay, my Lord Balcarres' sister, visited him and stayed till near nine of the clock. It happened that Mr. Drummond, the Earl of Perth's brother and Deputy Governor under the Duke of Lauderdale, having some occasion to go out of the Castle that morning and foreseeing he could not return till late that night, gave strict orders before his going out that my Lord Argyle should be well looked to, for he had the day before an intimation that he would endeavour to make his escape.

My Lord Lorne went out of the Castle a little before nine, with one in livery behind him carrying his cloak upon his arm, and soon after followed the Lady Sophia with one in livery carrying up her train. At ten o'clock the Governor returning, went to my lord's chamber, as was his custom, to see whether his prisoner was safe and finding not him there, went up to the leads where he usually walked, and missing him there too, made a strict search all over the Castle, but finding the bird flown examined the officers and soldiers who came in and went out that day and had visited his lordship, and upon this examination they guess he made his escape in the disguise of a livery by either carrying his son's cloak or

carrying up the Lady Sophia's train. But we know not here whether he made his escape before the King's order for his reprieve after sentence to be pronounced against him was arrived there. This advantage it is said he has by shifting out of the way, that the sentence cannot by the law of Scotland be pronounced against him in his absence. Nor can there be a forfeiture of his estate, notwithstanding the verdict of treason found against him, in his absence unless he had been guilty of bearing arms and levying war against the King. This accident it is thought has much altered the Duke's measures and that it will occasion *his stay there longer than he intended.**

The new choice of Common Council men which I mentioned in my last is only intended and directed in Fleet Street and Holborn Ward, where Sheriff Pilkington is alderman and governed the election very arbitrarily and denied the poll to very honest men who were candidates for the election. The history of what was done at the Treasury Chamber yesterday in the Irish farm I leave to my Lord Arran's narrative, in which I know his lordship will be very particular.

The French troops have entered into the Pays de Liege, upon pretence of restoring the Bishop to his authority. It is said Prince William of Furstenberg has treated some bargain between the King of France and the Bishop, and that by this means the King will cut off all communication between Germany and Flanders. Upon this alarm the Spanish Ambassador and Van Beunighen are very importunate with the King, and the latter presses openly his Majesty to call a Parliament, without which not only Flanders will be lost but they must also submit to the French and take such terms as they will please to give them, unless his Majesty will vouchsafe with his vigorous assistance to stop this violent torrent. What resolution his Majesty has taken upon this, I know not. But it [is] said they sat in the junto late last night upon it. By Saturday's packet it is probable I may beg the favour of your Grace to send the yacht to meet me at Holyhead, if accident in the interim in my wife's health do not divert me.

SAME to SAME.

1681, December 27. London.—Acknowledging receipt of his Grace's letter of the 3rd inst., which he had received no sooner than the previous evening. As concerning the proportion of the piers he went immediately to consult Mr. May, who is not of opinion to make any alteration in the draft and intends to consult Sir Christopher Wren. He had also spoken to the statuary and given him his Grace's directions about the sixteen boys and to make his draft of those emblems by which he designs to express the twelve signs and four seasons. The smith is not to be found, having taken the usual liberty of

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

workmen in the holidays. As Sir Samuel Morland is now at Windsor about the King's water engine there, he cannot discourse with him about such a man as his Grace wishes sent over and doubts it will be difficult. Sir Samuel keeps the business of waterworks a great mystery and has performed great wonders at it for the King at Windsor, having brought the water from the river on which his engine is placed to the top of the castle with great facility and plenty of water, his engine being wrought by the river. He is very glad Mr. du Keizar has performed so well about the fountain and is sure it will exceed all works of that kind in this kingdom.

Abstract.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681, December 27. Whitehall.—Having had your Grace's commands touching Mrs. Warren's pension in a particular letter of the 14th current, I moved my Lord Hyde about it. He told me he knew of no intention to change the establishment, so that I did not upon this assurance move his Majesty upon the matter, but will do it if I see the least cause.

The letter I had the honour to receive from your Grace and the Council of the 19th hath not been yet produced ; but shall be on Friday which will be a Council-day. Mr. Sheridan is very pressing here to have his brother, the Dean of Down as I take it, promoted to the see of Raphoe since my Lord Bishop of Kilmore is not willing to remove, though he hath his Majesty's letter for it. I humbly beg to know of your Grace what you think fit to propose, and recommend to his Majesty ; but this at your Grace's best leisure.

The French are willing to wink at the entering in of fifty carton waggon loads of provision into Luxemburg ; but it must be without any convoy ; nay, it must not be out of any country but that which is subject to the King of Spain ; and this pitiful amusement—while the French are taking in Liege and Cologne or anything else that is for their *bienséance*, as the Chamber of Metz have now lately found the Mayerie of Boldue, which belongs to the United Provinces, to be—they would have taken for a respect and a concession yielded to upon the interceding of the King our master : whereas it is one of their old artifices to pretend great intrigue with the King upon such little gratifications that have no other signification or effect but to render his subjects and his allies jealous of him.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681, December the last. London.—The King met in the Treasury upon the new contract on Thursday last, and then my Lord Ranelagh made an end of his objections ; he began with desiring that the certificate sent over by the Commissioners of Inspection and your Grace's letter that accompanied it, writ since I had any from your Grace, should be read, which was accordingly done ; there was no debate upon either,

but my Lord Ranelagh at his desire had a copy granted him of your letter. This day my Lord Ranelagh, Mr. Roberts, and the Solicitor-General met by order to review the minutes taken upon the several debates which are to be presented to his Majesty in the Treasury Chamber on Tuesday next. Mr. Sheridan was called in the last meeting, but he said nothing. What effect your Grace's letter will have I cannot tell, nor what use my Lord Ranelagh will make of it when he sums up all matters, but I am very sorry matters are so ill with the Farmers, for I am sure the poor Army will suffer by their non-performance whether the new contract goes on or no. I have not yet spoke in the business of Mr. Phillips for the reasons I gave in my answer to your Grace's letter upon that subject, and the reason holds stronger now, but when I hear from you again upon that subject if you would have me appear in it, I will do it very eagerly. My Lady Longford was pretty well recovered, but she is fallen ill again, which makes me apprehend she will scarce live to the season of going into France.

SAME to SAME.

1681-2, January 3. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's two letters of the 24th inst. with the enclosed papers, that relating to the prospect and present posture of the farm in being I heard read before, as I told your Grace in my last, and am far from thinking that your Grace has done ill in making that representation since I take it for granted you have full proof of matter of fact. Nay, I think—if you will allow me to be so bold—that you had not done your duty if you had not given that account, since the Lords of the Treasury's last letter gave you a rise for it, but my Lord Ranelagh upon account of the first clause in it, boasts much of your favour and will without doubt be a greater stickler than ever for you and the Board. The meeting about the new contract is put off, and the letter from Mr. Guy which gives me that notice appoints no other day for meeting.

I will get one of Whitelocke's books to be sent you by the first opportunity for it is a large volume, but my Lord Longford told me last night that he has sent your Grace the passage *verbatim*. The letter with an unknown hand I showed his Majesty last night and he ordered me to leave it with Mr. Secretary, which accordingly I have done.

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681-2, January 7. Dublin.—I have yours of the 24th of the last month, but I do by no means understand why my giving an account of what is required from me should be called writing against the Farmers, and if it were not required from me I think I should fail in my duty if I did not represent the state of their payments and arrears when the Army and the whole establishment is so much behind and like to become

more so, and this I conceive I am bound to do whether I ever be made acquainted with the contract or no. Otherwise if any inconvenience befall the King's service by their failure of performance it may be imputed to the want of timely intimation from me.

I desire you would return my thanks to my Lord Hyde for his favour in the particular I mentioned to you, but most of all for the expressions that accompanied his promise in it, and you may assure him I have long since been taught what credit to give to my Lord of Ranelagh's assertions and professions, nor have I found any cause to change my esteem of him or them. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1681-2, January 7. Dublin.—Yesterday arrived four packets—in them yours of the 20th, 24th, 27th and 31st of the last month. I shall say nothing of the new proposals because I am again assured by you and my brother Fitzpatrick that I may be heard upon them and the establishment before they shall be finally accepted of. But I find you do not fully converse with one another, for in a letter of his he writes that my Lord Hyde is ready to advance the sending of the letter I desire to indemnify me for the money I borrowed to get Mr. Phillips the government of Culmore near Derry. If it cannot be obtained I must pay the money myself and the time of payment draws near, so that I would be glad to know the best and the worst of that affair which you may put into Mr. Secretary Jenkins' hand, as also the letter, or the copy of the letter, I writ to you on the subject which shows the merit and distress of a very loyal family that may be useful to the Crown if preserved from ruin. I wonder to hear it again objected that whilst I seek and lay hold of all opportunities to represent the failures of the Farmers I take no notice of my Lord of Ranelagh or his accounts. It seems to be forgotten that, whilst his affair was in agitation, I used all the industry and took all the pains I possibly could to discover all the breaches I could of the contract on his part; that at length his accounts were closed by the proper Commissioners, and he found in a huge arrear; that he appealed to the King against the state made by the Commissioners; that his appeal lies on that side and has done about two years as I think; and that he and his partners are now under prosecution in the Exchequer here for the balance due from him and for 24,000*l.* he borrowed of the King. And if this be the account intended what can be more done on this side, and if it be meant of the account to the 1st of May last that has been transmitted and has lain a good while on that side, must I needs play my Lord Ranelagh's game because I am of the same opinion with him in some things, or possibly may be when I think he speaks reason and for the King and kingdom's advantage, and as it seems he has done, and the

proposers have been fain to retract many parts of their propositions? And why must I play his game and not those Lords that approved of his objections? This is enough on this point though more might be said.

I do not believe you would be bribed to the King or country's disservice to hold your peace when you had opportunity to speak in vindication of either. But I do not understand what the matter is concerning your having the salary of the Marshal in present or how you can have it but that it must be an addition to the establishment, and give some colour to the report, especially if the proposals shall take, and whoever shall be put out of the establishment will interpret to be to make room for you, and if there should be a reform of officers which has been much apprehended here it would be worse. But Mr. Secretary writes there is no thought of it and that he had it from the King's mouth, which I shall take care to have made known. I forgot to tell you that it is true you sometimes writ to me that the contract would be sent me before it should be concluded, but it is as true that in other letters you said you thought it would be concluded and as I understood it without that ceremony. I was well aware of my Lord Ranelagh's design to engage me in his quarrel and to displease the Ministers, which I have avoided as far as I could, but if representing a true state of the revenue, as fair as I can gather it, must be to side with my Lord Ranelagh and offend the Ministers, it is hard. *Copy.*

MR. SECRETARY JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 7. Whitehall.—His Majesty was pleased upon the reading of the letter I had the honour to receive from your Grace and his Majesty's Privy Council there of the 19th of the last month (relating to Owen Murphy's depositions therein enclosed) to direct that the depositions should be laid up in the Council chest, his Majesty observing that though the deponent himself was not a person that deserved much credit, especially in those things wherein he was single, yet his Majesty could and did call to mind some collateral circumstances and concurrent evidences that made out what he swore in some particulars. I dare not be positive that it was this that put into his Majesty's thoughts, but something it was, to command me to desire your Grace to send a copy hither once more, for his Majesty does remember one sent in the Earl of Sunderland's time, of a letter taken in the pocket of O'Hanlon, the very great Tory, when he was killed, whereby he was promised encouragement if he made out the Irish Plot.

The answer from France upon the joint memorial is merely dilatory. M. de Croissy hath told Messrs. Staremberg and Savile that his Master will not give audience to several ambassadors at one and the same time, therefore he would

receive no joint memorials. His Majesty will send an express to-morrow to have the memorials given in with the soonest though separately. Till the answer upon it be given we shall know nothing certain of a Parliament.

JAMES CLARKE to the DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1681-2, January 7.—The executors of Sir Peter Lely have written to him again about 60*l.* due for the copy of his lord's picture given to Lord Wharton, and 20*l.* for the picture Lady Cavendish had of his Grace more than was paid; they sent the catalogue of the pictures and their sizes, and without doubt do not want for price. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681-2, January 8. Dublin.—Mr. Attorney has promised me to bring me the state of the proceedings in the Exchequer against my Lord Ranelagh and his partners, both for the balance that lies upon them and the 24,000*l.* they borrowed of the King. If it comes before the post bark goes off it shall go with this, if not by the next. My brother Fitzpatrick in his of the 24th of the last month writes that the next week after he would begin his journey hither. If his purpose hold, my answer to his letter will not find him there. I have therefore enclosed mine to him with yours that if he be come away you may open it and make what use you think fit of it in relation to my Lord Hyde, and that you may the better judge I send you my brother's letter to me.

I have writ to Mr. Secretary in recommendation of Mr. Turner for the judge's place in the Common Pleas. He, I am sure, stands in need of it, and is certainly a very honest loyal man. If you call to Mr. Secretary he will show you the designation of promotions and translations upon the death of the Archbishop and Bishop of Meath. The latter died so miserably poor that I was fain to venture 100*l.* to bury him out of the concordatum money, which is already so overcharged that I may come to pay the money myself but I was willing to run the hazard to give some proof that God be praised, I can forgive enemies, at least when they can do me no more hurt; and that is all the kindness my Lord Ranelagh is ever to expect at my hands, however we may for differing ends happen in some things to be of one opinion.
Copy.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 9. London.—I have little to write to your Grace by this packet because I leave to my Lord Arran to give your Grace an account of this day's transactions at the Treasury Chamber, where I hear my Lord Ranelagh has gained ground of the proposers. The answer which the King of France has given to the joint memorial of our King, the

King of Spain, and the Hollanders is that he was much surprised to see matters of that kind proceeded in in that method, it being unusual to have confederate memorials given in and he thought it very improper to have confederacies and leagues made against him in Paris, but if the several parties instead of a joint would give in a separate and particular memorial he would then give a particular answer to each, upon which it is resolved to proceed in that method. But it is believed he will not quit his pretensions to old Ghent and the country of Alost unless he may have Luxemburg in exchange of them. The Marquis of Brandenburg has declared he will not enter into a league against France, and the King of Denmark proposes that before he declare he may have his arrears of supplies due to him for the late war from the Hollanders first paid, and a way secured for the future for such subsidies to be punctually paid as shall be agreed on, and he further proposes that the King of England may first declare.

I have all your Grace's recommendations for the bishops complied with, and the letters go away this night. I hope upon these removes your Grace may find some provision for my chaplain who is now in Ireland expecting the happy minute of his preferment by your Grace's favour, wherein your Grace will oblige me as much as him. My wife's recovery is now so much past dispute, or doubt, that I hope in a few days to give your Grace an account of my motion from hence.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 10. London.—This afternoon there was a meeting in the Treasury Chamber, and all the minutes taken upon the several debates about the new contract were read with the amendments to them which were such as Mr. Roberts thought the contractors would agree to. Their answer to the several particulars objected to by my Lord Ranelagh was also brought in and read, but in many material points they have not agreed with their agent as in that of the concealments, and that of the flax. But in the close of their answer they desire his Majesty would give order to have the contract and covenants drawn to his own liking and they will endeavour to comply with his Majesty. But the resolution taken upon the whole day's debate was that my Lord Ranelagh should have a copy of the minutes and answer, to which he is to reply in writing with what convenient speed he can. He seems to be well pleased with this day's work. He told me that by the next post he will send your Grace a copy of them, they are somewhat long for they consist of nine and thirty particulars, and to some of them the answers are pretty long and not very clear. At the rising my Lord Ranelagh took notice of your Grace's last letter and informed his Majesty that whilst this business is in agitation the Army will starve if directions are not given for their payment. My Lord Hyde

said the Farmers were preparing an answer to the charge, and that he and the rest of the Lords of the Treasury would do their duty in it, and with some heat told him he had nothing to do with it.

Cornet King came to town last night from Whitehaven where he was driven by a violent storm, and delivered your letter and recommendations to Mr. Secretary Jenkins, who I suppose will himself give your Grace an account that the letters are signed according to your desire, as also one for the swearing Sir Charles Feilding of the Council there. I am desired by Mr. Sheridan to move you that his brother may have the bishopric of Kilmore rather than that of Raphoe, though the latter be of more value, and he will pay for both letters, and believes that the Bishop of Killala will like it as well. However, I think you are under some obligations to do a kindness to Tom Sheridan.

The Queen showed me last night a present she intends to send by me to my mother. It is a bracelet with the King's picture and her's set about with diamonds. It cost her 2,300*l.*, but of this I will give her an account myself, though I have very little time left.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1681-2, January 10. Grangebeg.—I am compelled to make a winter journey to Kilkenny where I am to settle some things that must be done whilst my wife and I are both alive, besides I have taken up the humour of planting and building which are the ordinary divertisements of old men, though it be a little preposterous that men should make provisions for the pleasures and conveniencies of life when they are so near leaving it. Whatever I affirm in my letters as certain and of my own knowledge, I take the best care I can not to be deceived in. I am sure I have no design to mislead others. I am afraid the good Attorney has not used all the diligence and skill he ought in the prosecution of my Lord Ranelagh and his partners, but his slackness or any other failure ought not to be imputed to me, who sent him orders as soon as the King withdrew his commands, which for a long time hindered the proceedings. Yet before I came from Dublin I put him so in mind of his duty that I believe the next term the matter will go on as fast as justice and forms will permit. But I must say in his excuse and my own that till the last term the King's commands to suspend prosecution lay upon us.
Copy.

ORMOND to COL. JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681-2, January 10. Grangebeg.—Being gotten thus far in my way to Kilkenny, where I have some domestic affairs that cannot be despatched but by my wife and I together, I received yours of the 3rd of this month, but have not about me the means of deciphering part of your letter, and the

business you treat of is so far domestic that my wife must be consulted in it. My last letter to my son gives an account of the state of the prosecution against my Lord Ranelagh and his partners; whether the King's Attorney or the Court of Exchequer have performed their duty or no I am not yet able to judge, their forms being unknown to me, but I am apt to suspect all the diligence that might be has not been used, but as I came out of town yesterday I put both the King's Counsel and Judges in mind of that affair in such a manner as I believe will quicken them. The truth is my Lord of Ranelagh's opposition to the treaty in hand about the revenue has gained him more friends and better credit than he had, such apprehensions generally all people had of that affair as destructive to the kingdom, but I assure you I am none of the number his zeal for the public has converted.

Copy.

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 13. Whitehall.—Your Grace hath not been of late troubled with any letter from me. My last as I remember contained the effect of my discourse with my old cousin Bennet and that your Grace's of the 24th past acknowledges wherein was one enclosed to Mr. Charleton, which I sent to him and have since seen him some days before he went into the country and because he was going by Northampton, and meant to see the old gentleman as well as his confidants, we agreed together what course he should steer, the success whereof at his return I shall learn from him which will be about the beginning of the term. My principal instruction was to press a conclusion that your Grace might the sooner determine whether this or some other must be entertained by you.

I owe your Grace the acknowledgment likewise of two former letters of the 3rd and 12th past. Sir Robert Lane will, I suppose, in the enclosed give you a good account of yours to him. As for Mr. Durel I never had any occasion of making use of the power you were pleased to give me to close with him, for to this day I think I never saw him. I hear he is married to Monsieur Toulon's daughter, and not the merrier man for it, so I wish there may be a final end of that matter, and that your Grace may find your entire satisfaction in Mr. Burnet, who is certainly a most extraordinary ingenious man if to his other good parts that of being a good governor be joined.

Your Grace means I should join in lamenting the death of your hawk, and I will do so upon condition I may have a cast of sore ones when I shall send for them, for I have an able falconer, by the confession of those who can best judge in that profession, and the truth is I fear he hath now too many of mine upon his hands, but we of the neighbourhood of Newmarket have one advantage above other places if any of us have a very good hawk the King will be sure to ease us of him.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 14. London.—Yesterday came three or four packets out of Ireland, and in them I had your Grace's letter of the 7th and 8th inst. with the enclosed letter from Col. Fitzpatrick to your Grace, and yours to him which I sent him last night without opening, he having changed his resolution of going into Ireland. I converse often enough with him but I do not remember that he ever told me he had spoke with my Lord Hyde about Mr. Phillips' business, but I have lately told his lordship of it, and have got a reference to him and the rest of the Lords of the Treasury upon the letter you sent over for his Majesty to sign, having left your letter to me to guide the Secretary in drawing the reference and as soon as the business of the bishops and judge is over I will take it out and present to their lordships, who I hope will comply with your Grace in it, for at present the Secretary has his hands full, the King having commanded a letter to be drawn for Sheridan to be Bishop of Kilmore, though the letter was signed for Killala to be translated there, and I thought sent over last post. This has made the matter more intricate to the Secretary, your Grace's scheme being altered by it, and Tom Sheridan has showed himself like his brothers by his proceeding in this matter, for when I writ upon this subject at his desire last post he told me he would not stop the other letters or desire anything for himself or brothers, but without your leave and recommendation. Yet he has got the King to do this upon a false information that Raphoe is of more value than Kilmore, and I am told it is so far short of it that it is doubtful whether the Bishop of Killala will remove thither, however I have advised Mr. King to take out his letter, for the delay of those matters are very troublesome.

For your other recommendations I suppose the Secretary will give your Grace an account that the King has consented to them in your own way and that there may be no more alterations. I desired him this morning to get them despatched this night, which he has promised to do. As to the judge's place, though I recommended Mr. Lyndon to you at the desire of my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge, I am very well satisfied that Mr. Turner should be preferred before him, for I am better acquainted with him, and know him also to be a very honest gentleman, and for their skill at law they are much at one scantling. I am informed from thence that the Farmers endeavoured to get my Lord Hyde to interpose for Mr. Sprigg, and I partly believe it by some discourse I had with his lordship, whom I met by chance last night in the Stone Gallery, for he told me Mr. Lyndon was represented to him as an ill man. I informed him your Grace had recommended Mr. Turner. He answered your Grace knew best who ought to be preferred and said he never would interpose in such matters.

And now I have mentioned the Farmers I shall inform you that I took occasion to tell his lordship that he would find the representation made by you of the state of the farm to be very true, but I did not know how far that might affect the present undertaking. He said he believed it might be true, but thought the Farmers a little severely dealt with not to be heard to those matters before they were represented. What my uncle Fitzpatrick has writ was without consulting me. I suppose he will answer for himself, but I will know next time I meet my Lord Hyde whether he ever gave him a promise about the 1,000*l*. I am sure what I writ about playing my Lord Ranelagh's game was out of information rather than any weight I set upon it, for if I forget not I told your Grace it was so talked only, but since I am misunderstood after I have cleared my meaning in that part of my letter relating to the Field Marshal, I shall trouble your Grace as little upon this subject as my duty to you and to his Majesty will permit. My meaning was, and I thought I had so expressed it, that the revenue being like to be set to these proposers or some others who will advance the revenue, I might be provided for in present, if this bargain goes on at the expiration of the farm in being if any other, and that without any reducing the revenue, yielding much more than the establishment whoever farms it.

As I had ended the enclosed my uncle Fitzpatrick came to me and showed me your Grace's letter to him, which I have advised him to show my Lord Hyde. He tells me my [Lord] Hyde did promise him that the business of Kilmore should be complied with. The beginning of next week I will try him. My Lord Ranelagh will bring in his reply on Tuesday next.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 14. London.—I suppose by this night's packet your Grace will receive his Majesty's acceptance of all those recommendations your Grace has made both in the Church and Law, though as to the latter Sir Maurice Eustace engaged my Lord Conway and Lord Ranelagh to join with him in opposing Mr. Turner, and himself and Lord Ranelagh did it with great violence and reflection upon Mr. Turner. However his Majesty prefers your Grace's opinion to all others and the letter is sent away this night. Mr. Sheridan sent me this evening his letter to your Grace to peruse because he named me in it, and I must confess I did contribute to the translation of my Lord Kilmore from thence to Raphoe, because I thought the latter was much the better bishopric, and I have always heard it reputed so. He was really passive in the matter, but yet he has misrepresented some particulars of which he never made mention in his discourse to me before the former letters were signed. And I am as confident he has not been as passive now, as he is pleased to represent it to your Grace, in getting the letter for his brother

to be Bishop of Kilmore, for I have good proof that he has solicited it even this very morning with great earnestness, as I am told by one who was present with him in his Majesty's bed-chamber, and I do not give your Grace this intimation upon any other ground than that your Grace should be truly informed by what steps matters are carried here.

There is a book lately come out written by one Nalson which detects Mr. Rushworth of very great partiality and untruths in his last collections. I have read but very little of it, but by that progress I have made in it I find it an excellent style and judiciously writ, and it touches upon the Rebellion of Scotland and Ireland, and I believe is well worth your Grace's perusal. For my Lord of Anglesey has with great industry as well as malice attacked your Grace and gives out copies of his last letter to your Grace, and since that, besides what formerly I told your Grace of the instructions to Sir Paul Davys about the serving the Parliament, there is a report spread about the town since that your Grace gave my Lord Chancellor authority to treat for you with Cromwell when he was in Ireland. Though this is a great and notorious falsehood yet it is caught up greedily by your enemies and improved as much as they can to your disadvantage. My Lord Ranelagh says he will be ready with his new materials against the new contractors by Tuesday next. My wife has not yet any symptom of a relapse but mends daily in her health, which I hope will soon leave me at liberty to wait upon your Grace in Ireland.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 14. Whitehall.—I have the honour of four of your Grace's letters now before me. The recommendations in that of the 2nd current met with no manner of difficulty with his Majesty, but he was pleased forthwith to order the letters to be prepared for his hand.

This letter coming so late on Monday night by Capt. King, so I take his name to be, who had so ill a passage that he was thrown ashore in Cumberland, I had not the opportunity to lay it before his Majesty on Tuesday till it was too late in the day to have the letters upon it entered in the Signet Office to go away that night with the post. I heard no more of them till this morning that his Majesty sent for me to his closet, where I found the Earl of Halifax and my Lord Hyde. His Majesty was pleased to tell me he had promised Mr. Sheridan, that is now in town, a good bishopric for his brother, and sent me to speak with him, waiting then in the bed-chamber, to know of him what it was he desired for his brother. He proposed to have both his brothers preferred, but his Majesty not thinking fit to yield to that, especially taking notice of what was said by me by way of doubt of their

morals, Mr. Sheridan upon my being sent to him a second time, made it his humble suit to his Majesty that his brother the Dean might be removed to Kilmore.

This his Majesty granted, and commanded that a letter should be prepared forthwith that it may go off, as without doubt it does for it was signed by the King at noon and there was time enough to enter it at the Signet Office this night. Mr. Sheridan is confident, and my Lord the Earl of Arran is persuaded, that Raphoe will be readily accepted by my Lord of Killala, but it is an affliction to me that your Grace's recommendations have not their full effect, for I know your Grace never recommends but with a perfect discerning as well as with an upright heart full of care and zeal for the good of the Church and the honour and service of the King. However we have a good Lord Archbishop of Dublin that none durst rival, that is one comfort; and your Grace recommends Dean Sheridan, though not to this high preferment, that is another; and if the Bishop of Killala be content to go to Raphoe, Dr. Tennison is served as your Grace intended him, and so all is well.

Your Grace's letter of the 7th which I had the honour to receive yesterday and to lay before the King as soon as I received it met with a full approbation from his Majesty, with this eulogy from his Majesty's own mouth: "My Lord of Ormond is a very good judge of men." Those two letters for my Lords of Meath and Kildare have their despatch this night. I doubt not your Grace's letter in favour of Mr. Arthur Turner was read and approved of at the same time but not with the same success for which I am heartily sorry, for the King having directed a letter to your Grace to be prepared in favour of Mr. Turner for his hand and having signed it this day at noon, after I had possessed him with the good opinion that the Earls of Arran and Longford have of that gentleman, he was pleased to command me after nine this night to be sure to stop the letter for Mr. Turner. His Majesty sending for me so late to give me this in charge he commanded me that in case the letter were gone to the post house I should give order to stop it there, and in case it could not be met with there under the cover of Mr. Mulys, or otherwise, that then I should write to your Grace to be sure not to do anything for the executing of that letter till you have his Majesty's further orders. The charge, it seems, against him is that he is a great Whig, that two or three of the most knowing men in the affairs of Ireland have given his Majesty that account of him. Who they are I do not know nor can guess.

The letter from your Grace and the Council together with the informations of the three O'Neills was read last night in Council. Those fellows are so profligate that nothing was thought fit to order upon their information only the papers to lie in the Council chest. I have Mr. Turner's letter back again. The enclosed is with all duty from Col. Jeffreys.

EARL OF CONWAY to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 14. Whitehall.—Since there may now be opportunities by the decease of the Archbishop of Dublin and the late Bishop of Derry to prefer other clergymen of lower degree, I have taken the freedom to recommend to your Grace's favour one Mr. Joseph Wilkins, who hath continued many years at Lisburn upon too small a living if I had not augmented it; and he is so modest that he will neither move for himself nor accept of any plurality, therefore if your Grace please to prefer him to the deanery of Down like to be vacant by the promotion of the present Dean to the bishopric of Dromore, it will be a good service to God and the Church by placing a person of that piety, learning and charity constantly to preach, and catechise at Down, the county town, according to his accustomed manner, and I shall acknowledge it as a very great obligation upon, &c.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 17. London.—By the last packet I gave your Grace an account that Mr. Turner's letter was sent away that night and I thought I had good authority for it, it being not only signed by the King and entered at the Signet Office but also delivered out of the Secretary's office to be sent by the packet. But after the King rose from supper he was attacked afresh concerning him, and being positively informed that he was a fanatic and held a club with Sir Richard Stephens and Col. Shapcott, the King sent for Mr. Secretary Jenkins, and commanded him to stop the letter though he had sent it to the post office till his further order upon it. The next day my Lord Arran being acquainted with this and thinking it some reflection upon your Grace with his Majesty that you should recommend a fanatic, waited upon the King and undeceived him so far in the misrepresentation was made to him of Mr. Turner that he gave him his commands to Mr. Secretary to withdraw the stop, so I presume this night it goes away without further contradiction. When I have the honour to wait upon your Grace I shall acquaint your Grace with the managers of this intrigue, if your Grace shall think it worth your concern to know it.

Within these two hours a very knowing person was with me, and told me for a certain truth that *the Duke of York has leave to come in the ship* that a fortnight since went hence with some of *his servants*. This is a great secret for no longer than yesterday *Halifax* being asked the question by a friend with whom he uses freedom, positively affirmed he knew nothing of it, and he had reason to believe if any such thing were intended he should not be made a stranger to it, with which passage I acquainting my friend he said it was very true that person knew nothing of the matter for but very few were acquainted with it, and when he did know it it was

expected he would take that and some other measures now taken, which my friend^e would not tell me, so ill that upon it *his lordship would retire from the Court.** How true this will prove I know not, but I am sure my intelligencer is both an honest and a very knowing person. For the Irish affairs in the Treasury Chamber I must refer your Grace to my Lord Arran, only I am told this day there was a brisk attack intended against Lord Ranelagh for the success of which I will not undertake, being no ways concerned in it. We begin now afresh to talk of the meeting of a Parliament sometime before Easter. But if the intelligence I have given your Grace be true, I cannot believe this will be the consequence of it.

I find Col. Fitzpatrick a little out of countenance, that a kinsman of his one Mr. Eustace, whom about a year since he recommended to your Grace for a small command in the Army is not yet provided for; and that which touches him most in this affair is the construction will be made that he has but little credit with your Grace since several commands have fallen since he had your Grace's promise for his kinsman. I once more beg your Grace's pardon for reminding your Grace of my chaplain Mr. Lloyd now in Dublin, for whom I hope your Grace may now find some preferment amongst those several removes that happen to be in your Grace's dispose in the Church. My wife has with taking the air got a very severe cold which I fear will occasion my demurrage here a few days longer than I intended. I thank God I do not yet find any great change in her recovery by it, but her constitution is so tender and nice that every little accident frightens me, though her doctor makes nothing of it. I hear just now the yacht that went for Scotland is arrived there safe on Wednesday last, notwithstanding the great storms which gave us no small apprehension of Sir Charles Littleton and Mr. Graham and his lady who went in it. Ned Vernon, who is your Grace's humble servant, just now came in and brought me the enclosed ballad with a confirmation of the other news.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 20. London.—I have your Grace's of the 10th from Grangebeg and by your command Mr. Gascoigne has sent me the state of proceedings against my Lord Ranelagh and partners in the Exchequer, which I left yesterday with my Lord Hyde before we went upon the business of the new contract, and Mr. Secretary Jenkins had your Grace's letter in Council read also, before they entered upon that business, relating to several poor people. My Lord Ranelagh has not paid upon his undertaking, though he has their debentures and allowance upon his accounts, it occasioned a resolution

* The words printed in italics are in cipher. See Introduction.

when we came to that point, that the Undertakers should either let his balance alone or pay what he ought to have paid. I understand by my Lord Ranelagh that he has sent your Grace all the minutes with the Undertakers' answers, and his reply or objections to them, and therefore I shall not trouble your Grace with what I had perhaps imperfectly taken; the concealed lands, &c., and the penalties upon the flax bill are denied the contractors, but they have gained the point that the farm should commence at May, by which they will gain one whole year's hearth money, wine and aquavitæ licences, and considerably by the ale licences, provided they come up to the other parts of their undertaking. This is in sum what was done in this matter that meeting. I left with the Lords of the Treasury a reference upon the letter you desire should be signed for Mr. Phillips and on Monday next, which is the day appointed for another meeting upon the contract, I shall have an answer to it.

Not knowing your Grace intended for Kilkenny and having no other business than that of Mr. Turner's to write of, I gave my Lord Chief Justice an account to show your Grace, how his letter was stopped after it was signed and delivered to Mr. Mulys upon the suggestion of his being a fanatic, but I quickly removed that obstacle and got the letter sent. I am very well assured that Sir Maurice Eustace was the chief person in this matter, though he knew you had solely recommended Mr. Turner, for I told him so before he had notice any other way of Cusack's death, but I find my Lord Longford has been large enough upon this subject. The Recorder's place of Kilkenny being void, I should be glad you would, if not engaged, take Mr. Dickson to supply that place. My Lord Chief Justice Keatinge I am sure will join in this; and for that of the Constable of the Castle I think it very proper for Tom Fairfax.

JAMES HAMILTON to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 20.—His Majesty was pleased before my father's death to promise him to prefer Mr. Hamilton, now Dean of Raphoe, to a bishopric. My mother and myself having been since extremely obliged to him I have now moved his Majesty for his promotion and desired him to signify his pleasure to your Grace, which I send here enclosed. And beg the favour that when your Grace doth recommend him, that my mother or myself may be made acquainted with it, that we may take care here that the importunities of other pretenders may not deprive us of this mark of his Majesty's goodness for us and your Grace's favour and concern for, &c.

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 21. London.—Since my last, little has occurred here worth your Grace's knowledge, besides what

has passed in the Treasury Chamber, the account whereof I leave to my Lord Arran. Yesterday, with the King's allowance, the Morocco Ambassador returned to the Duke of Monmouth a visit which his Grace had made him, of which the Duke having some notice beforehand he had a rendezvous of most of his friends that were persons of quality, except my Lord Shaftesbury, to receive the Ambassador whom his Grace presented to the Ambassador, saying they were persons of quality and men of good interest in England, though his Excellency did not see their faces in Court. The Ambassador saluted them, being about eighteen Protestant lords as they are styled, and told the Duke that he hoped soon to see both his Grace and their lordships in Court, for he was so true a lover of the King that he could not but wish well to his Grace for his sake, whom his Grace resembled, and he was so true a friend to his Grace that he could not but advise him with all speed to reconcile himself to his Father if he expected a blessing in this world. The Duke turned the discourse to hunting, with which sport he promised to entertain the Ambassador, which he readily consented to.

This week there was a trial at skill in Guildhall for the choice of a judge in the Common Council; the candidates were Sir Thomas Hanmer, the Queen's Attorney; Serjeant Goodfellow and one Thompson, a noted Whig. The dispute happened at first to be between the first and last, both of whom outnumbered the second, and when the fanatic party found that Sir Thomas Hanmer's friends were much the majority in voices they quitted Thompson and joined with Serjeant Goodfellow's party, and by that shifting carried it for Serjeant Goodfellow, by which trial it is evident the fanatic party cannot carry anything by their own strength in the Common Council, for Serjeant Goodfellow's friends were honest Churchmen, and so is the Serjeant himself. My friend this day again confirmed to me the Duke's coming from Scotland which is now become the common discourse, though the Ministers and the Duke's servant here will not own to know anything of it. It is believed the King is inclined to show mercy to my Lord Argyle but will pare off all his regalities and hereditary offices in the Highlands. However it is thought the Duke will [gain] the credit of having it done at his intercession.

Mr. Dixon, a kinsman of my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge's, is an humble suitor to your Grace that your Grace will please to recommend him to be Recorder of Kilkenny. As for his talent in the law I am no judge, but I know him to be a very honest gentleman and a true servant to your Grace and family.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 21. Whitehall.—I have several letters that I have had the honour to receive from your Grace, and

his Majesty's Privy Council on that side, of which I shall endeavour to give your Grace some account. Your Grace's letter of the 9th current relating to the balance of my Lord Ranelagh's account and partners was first read to his Majesty alone: then it was produced and read again, as his Majesty had directed, together with the petition of the creditors therein enclosed before his Majesty and the Lords that attended him on Thursday last in the Treasury Chamber. It was there ordered that I should leave the originals with Mr. Guy, and that I should acquaint your Grace that the subject matter of that letter having been already debated several times at that Board, it should be taken again into consideration, as it deserves, before that point comes to be finally settled. It was added that your Grace may please to expect from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury a further answer to yourself upon that letter.

Your Grace's letter and the Council's, of the 9th, as the former was, relating to the Lord Brittas was read before his Majesty in Council last night, together with the Lord Brittas's petition enclosed in it; and his Majesty was pleased to approve of your Grace's proceedings in directing good security to be taken for his lordship's appearance at the place where the matters of fact charged against him are properly cognizable. His Majesty upon the reading of my Lord Brittas's petition was pleased to declare that it was not his intention that the Lord Brittas should be sent for over to receive his trial in England, but to leave him to stand or fall according to the merits of his cause in that country, where there can be no dispute imaginable raised about the competency of the jurisdiction of that court where your Grace hath bound him over to answer. A third letter from your Grace and the Council of the same date relating to the titular Dean of Armagh, Bryan MacGuirke, was at the same time read before his Majesty in Council. The direction that I had upon it, seeing he was now in hold so as to answer the law, was in a very few syllables *currat lex*.

I have a particular letter from your Grace touching Mr. Kearney that is charged here with high treason. His counsel hath been with me already to desire I would communicate it to him, together with the petition and certificates relating to it; but I have not yet had the opportunity to ask his Majesty's leave, which I think is proper to be done in Council, to do it. The embargo that was laid upon his Majesty's letter to your Grace was soon taken off upon the sole credit and testimony of my Lord the Earl of Arran, his Majesty commanding me to put it into Col. Jeffrey's hands to be sent forward by the Tuesday post, though I was not able that night to accompany it with the signification of his Majesty's pleasure and my duty to your Grace.

Your Grace will find a petition of Sir Robert Howard's referred to you upon a suit between him and my Lord

Dungannon. His Majesty hath commanded me to let your Grace know that Sir Robert Howard is no more but a trustee for the Earl of Burford and that his Majesty intends all favour that the law can afford to that Earl. I should not have presumed to offer the letters for the translations to Raphoe and Killala without your Grace's express directions but that my Lord of Arran did warrant me that your Grace would approve of it as the choice you had designed. On the 15th of October I had the honour to lay before your Grace Dr. Capel Wiseman as a person that Sir Edmund Wiseman, a citizen here of note, would get to be recommended very powerfully upon these several vacancies of bishoprics. My Lord of London came to me from the King with this charge that I should recommend him to your Grace for the next bishopric ; he is Dean of Raphoe.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 24. London.—Yesterday at the Treasury Chamber the remaining part of the contractors' answer and my Lord of Ranelagh's objections were read over, and such alterations made as the contractors must submit to or else go without the farm, but lest there should be mistakes in taking the minutes of what was resolved upon, Thursday next is appointed to go over the whole again, and then it will be given the contractors ; and it is believed they will accept of it with those alterations, though Mr. Roberts told me they wish they had given 10,000*l.* at first rather than have meddled with it. The main matter that was debated yesterday and that they were very long upon was the clause of defalcation, whether a year of peace for a year of war, or the like clause the Forths had, and it was concluded for the latter, the Chief Governor and Council to be judges in the matter, though I find upon all occasions some of the lords very unwilling that government should be entrusted with anything that they think can be done without it, that of the wine licences for the Privy Council is to be reduced saving the allowance to the Lord Lieutenant himself, which is so settled by Act of Parliament that it cannot be taken away. The rest of the Privy Council as the Solicitor says, are now at the Lord Lieutenant's pleasure.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 28. Whitehall.—His Highness Prince Rupert moved the King to bestow a captain of foot's place on that side now vacant upon one Mr. Hughes. It was the company of one Captain Mason lately dead of the smallpox and transferred to him by Captain Butler, upon a valuable consideration, not long since. His Majesty was pleased to command me to write to your Grace to know if you were under any engagement for that place ; if not, his Majesty was willing to gratify Mr. Hughes. The Prince hath

commanded me to recommend this affair from himself to your Grace. We have yet no answer to Mr. Savile's memorial, but here is a proposition delivered in by Monsieur Barillon, that the Spanish and Dutch Ministers here would have understood for a flat refusal upon the King's offices. However, his Majesty hath sent the proposition to the States, and will make no step, till he knows their resolutions upon it. He is resolved not to make one step but hand in hand with the States.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, January 28. London.—I thought that the meeting on Thursday last in the Treasury Chamber would have gone near a conclusion of the new contract, for all the particulars were debated over again and amended and orders given that they should be sent with those amendments to the Undertakers to take or leave, but upon Mr. Seymour's desiring to know of his Majesty, whether or no he was resolved they should have it if they agreed, for if he was he would speak against it then, the King answering that he was not resolved they should, for the business of the computations he was told was a matter of great consequence; upon which my Lord Hyde was a little nettled, and said he thought it was not very fair after all the charge they had been at, and all the time that was taken in making amendments, that they should be refused if they consented to what was altered by his Majesty. But the conclusion was that Mr. Sheridan should make a computation of how much these proposers will have given them more than the present Farmers have before the minutes are sent to the proposers, and when that is compared with the advance they make of the revenue, his Majesty will in the same place conclude the matter one way or other. Mr. Sheridan, [who] is now the only man to oppose for my Lord Ranelagh, says he will say no more in the matter.

Mr. Mason who bought Colonel Butler's company and was never in possession of it yet, is lately dead, and Sir John Ernly spoke to me on behalf of his nephew, who since gave me the petition, which I send your Grace, though I do not think his desires reasonable, yet perhaps some consideration may be thought fit to give him, but this company having belonged formerly to a Butler, I think your Grace could not choose better than one of that name, and that is Sir Thomas Butler.

The house I lived in was so small that there was no room for the child my wife goes of. Her reckoning being out, I have this day removed to Colonel Churchill's house in Jermain Street. I send your Grace a letter from Colonel Hungerford, which contains as unreasonable a request as that of Mr. Ernly's.

SAME to SAME.

1681-2, January 31. London.—This afternoon Mr. Sheridan was to attend the Lords of the Treasury about the

Irish contract, but I cannot tell whether he was there or no. I suppose he will give your Grace an account himself of what was done if they met. I just now had a letter from the Lords of the Treasury desiring me to call upon them any morning that they sit to speak with me about the paper I gave in concerning the governor of Londonderry, so that by the next post your Grace may expect a full account of that matter. My Lord Longford, though he is not very well, will write to your Grace this post, and send you a great deal of news from his correspondent, who though in town by reason of a distemper [which] he has had a long time upon him, can converse no other way than by letter. I really believe there is something of truth in what he writes, though my information is from the party's enemies. Mr. Secretary Jenkins told me that by order from his Majesty [he had] recommended to your Grace one Captain Hughes to have Mr. Mason's company, but I must inform you that the King did it upon Prince Rupert's importunity and sets no stress upon it, therefore I hope you will be engaged otherways.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681-2, January 31. London.—This day sennight there fell so violent a defluction of rheum upon my left eye and that side of my neck and face, as not only rendered me incapable of writing, but also tied me to my bed till yesterday, which is the reason your Grace heard not from me these two former packets. And I am yet so little recovered, that I do now write with pain. However, I cannot omit my duty any longer, and the rather because I received the enclosed last night from our friend Mr. Nash, whom I have not seen these two months at least, and having about three weeks since an alarm much to this purpose from other hands, I thought myself obliged not to conceal this intimation any longer from your Grace. The person mentioned in the enclosed to be so busy in intriguing against your Grace has lately to me voluntarily, without any occasion given him by me, made professions much to the contrary of what is written. But I know, however, that he is much fallen in with the great minister mentioned, yet on what design I know not. My Lord Hyde is much dissatisfied with his way of proceeding, and if his credit with the Duke can prevail the other will have little with his Royal Highness; and I know others of the Duke's servants are labouring the same thing, though they will not tell me their reasons and provocations.

The meeting of the Parliament in Scotland, which was to have been in March, is now put off to the 17th of April. It is said by my Lord Argyle's friends that the King is not only inclined to pardon his lordship, but also to restore to him most of his regalities, and all his estate, notwithstanding the severe representations have been made from thence to the contrary. And I was told from a very good hand that lately

a representation was made from thence to his Majesty for pardoning one who has been a notorious Whig and is forfeited there by Act of Parliament, to which the King will by no means consent. These particulars I thought it fit for your Grace to know, for I am confident they are very true. I was yesterday informed by the same person, who gave me the first intimation of it, that the Duke will be here a fortnight hence, and though this is now the common discourse of the town, yet neither any of the Ministers nor any of his Royal Highness's servants will own it.

The King of France in his answer to the memorials both of our Envoy and the States General Ambassador, insists to have Luxemburg and the country of Alost delivered up to him in exchange for the pretensions he makes in Flanders and Fountaravie, which has so enraged the Spanish Minister and Van Beunighen here that they declare publicly, unless his Majesty will immediately call a Parliament, and declare war against the French King to reduce him to reason they must give up the cudgels and accept of such conditions as his Most Christian Majesty will please to give them. And then let his Majesty consider what quarter he is like to have after they are sacrificed. The miserable and not to be paralleled inundations, which have lately happened in the States' Dominions and Flanders have reduced those countries into so deplorable a condition, that they are less able now to cope with France, than when he was with his victorious army near the gates of Amsterdam. And it is said their losses in two days by this last inundation have exceeded all those of the last war. Thus everything conspires to the greatness of France, which is now arrived at that height, that nothing in human probability can stop this torrent, which is like to overrun Europe. And we by our unhappy divisions amongst ourselves are less able to oppose it than ever. My Lord Arran I suppose gives your Grace an account of affairs in the Treasury Chamber.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE TO ORMOND.

1681-2, January 31.—When your Grace first designed Mr. Turner to be a judge, you were pleased as I remember to say something to me, as if you should want one to succeed him in his employment at Clonmel, and I then told your Grace that I knew one that I durst venture to recommend to you, if you should not be soon provided of a person that you liked. I have not since heard whether your Grace hath get disposed of that place, but if you have not I humbly desire your leave to acquaint you with the person's name, whom I had then in my thoughts: it is one Mr. Henry Echlin, who is a gentleman of our profession, of whom I have had so much knowledge and experience as to be confident that your Grace would not find your favour ill placed if you should be pleased to make choice of him, and having spoke with my Lord Chief Justice

Keatinge concerning him I find that he is of the same opinion ; but if your Grace hath any thoughts of disposing the place otherwise I am, and always shall be, very far from importuning your Grace either in this or any other matter. I hope your Grace finds your Kilkenny gout not too very uneasy, and that it may not long hinder your return hither, though I know of no business that may require your hastening of it sooner than it may stand with your own ease and convenience.

Postscript.—Just as I had ended this letter I received from your Grace the several papers lately sent over to your Grace by my Lord Ranelagh, which I have not time to-night to read over, but do believe that the paper I lately sent your Grace concerning the clauses for defalcations, desired by the contractors would be an answer to most of the matters, that by his letters he would have me consider of, if your Grace should think fit to send him a copy of it ; but hereof I hope to be able to give your Grace a further account by the next packet.

ORMOND to SIR L. JENKINS.

1681-2, February 1. Kilkenny.—Coming hither about three weeks since about my domestic affairs, I am here arrested by the gout so particularly in my right hand that I am not able to write to you myself and fear I shall be scarce able to sign this letter after it is written. On the 30th your letters of the 7th, 14th, and 21st came to my hands, the other letters of the 10th and 17th arrived here at the same time, and the 24th, the day after. As soon as I shall be able to go to Dublin I will cause search to be made for the paper you mention to be found in O'Hanlon's pocket, when he was killed. I remember to have sent over some papers written by his friends in order to procure him a pardon, but those were found in the custody of O'Hanlon's mother, which I believe are those his Majesty would have sent, as soon as they can be found. I return you my thanks for your care of the dispatch of the letters I sent in the behalf of the several bishops, and though there be an alteration as to the recommendations between the Bishop of Killala and Dean Sheridan as to the bishopric of Kilmore, and though Raphoe be beneath the other in profit, yet I believe the Bishop of Killala will willingly enough accept of the bishopric of Raphoe. The letter concerning Mr. Turner being arrived here there needs no more to be said in that matter. I have not yet received the reference upon the petition of Sir Robert Howard, when it comes I shall take the best care I can in it by advising with the King's counsel upon it as to matter of law. Dean Wiseman, the present Dean of Raphoe, is a stranger to me having never seen him that I remember but once, and that was to take his leave of me a good while ago, when he desired licence to go for England, and I conceive him to be almost as great a stranger to his deanery (where I am sure the Bishop has need of his assistance) as he is to me, and

I never recommend any person to his Majesty's favour for employments, that I do not very well know or that I am not very well satisfied in the character given me of him by persons I dare trust, and I wish people of merit may be otherwise gratified than to bishoprics here, where they are not very well known, and where there are many worthy persons bred in this University that expect and deserve promotion; however, his Majesty's pleasure shall be punctually obeyed upon any such occasion, when it shall be signified unto me.

Here arrived some months since one Colonel O'Berne to make levies here for the service of the King of Spain; he also brought with him authority from his Majesty to raise and transport the number prescribed. The poor gentleman and the rest of his officers have been very diligent to perform their undertaking, but the winds have been so contrary and tempestuous, that they have been several times put back after they were embarked, and even before they were embarked the winds were so long contrary, that after they had raised and brought their men to Dublin, their money and credit failed them, and rather than the men should again be dispersed in the country, where in all probability they would turn Tories and do much mischief, and rather than the Spanish service should be utterly disappointed after so much money laid out I lent the Colonel near upon 250*l.*, and when I thought that they were gone and had performed their voyage, I am now informed that a ship with two hundred and fifty of them is again put into Dublin harbour where they must starve or be dispersed, unless more money be advanced them, which I shall venture upon presuming on his Majesty's approbation not without some expectation, but that either the Spanish Ambassador in England or the Governor of Flanders will see his Majesty reimbursed, as the Colonel has undertaken, and herein I desire a signification of his Majesty's pleasure, with what convenient speed may be. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, February 1. Kilkenny.—I have received your letters of the 7th, 10th, 14th, 17th, 21st and 24th of the last month, and have nothing to return in answer to them though I were able to write. I suppose the meeting you mentioned in your last letter to be in the Treasury Chamber on the Thursday then following held accordingly and by your next I hope to hear something from it. I hear nothing from you of the draft of the letter sent for repayment of the 1,000*l.* I lent Mr. Phillips for his purchasing the government of Culmore, which I was told was to be referred to the Lords of the Treasury. You may tell my brother Fitzpatrick that having inquired how my prize wines are let I find them now to be set at 2,000*l.* a year, and since the farm in general is offered to be advanced considerably

I hope mine of the prize wines may be so in proportion.* My Lord of Drogheda having presented me with a reference from his Majesty on his petition for relief as to his crown rent I have made a report, which I believe will be shown you, before it is delivered to the Secretary, wherein I desire you to assist his lordship in what you may pursuant to the report. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 4. Whitehall.—I remember the Earl of Arran told me five or six months ago that your Grace's name was made use of in an action against one Hetherington (a famed manager of Irish witnesses this side) but that his lordship did not know by whose directions this was done. Justice Warcop brought me some days ago the warrant enclosed telling me that your Grace is now satisfied that what hath been done in this matter was for the King's as well as your Grace's service. I submit it perfectly to your Grace's pleasure as having nothing in command from his Majesty, nor knowing what cause of action your Grace may have against the fellow.

Encloses—

APPOINTMENT OF PHILIP BURTON and ANOTHER.

1681, September 1.—I do hereby appoint Philip Burton gent. and John Lilly gent. or either of them to prosecute William Hetherington at my suit in the Sheriffs' Court of London, Court of King's Bench, and Court of Common Pleas at Westminster, or in either of the said Courts, as they or either of them shall think fit, in an action of *scandalum magnatum* at my suit as Earl of Brecknock to my damage of 1,000*l.* or what other sum they or either of them shall think fit, and for their or either of their so doing this shall be to them and either of them as my attorney or attorneys a sufficient warrant and discharge. Witness my hand and seal this first day of September Anno Domini 1681. Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

EARL of CONWAY to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 4. Whitehall.—I was lately informed that Mr. Kirke had begged of his Majesty his lands about Charlemont and upon farther inquiry I found that Mr. Secretary Jenkins not knowing the importance of it to his Majesty or my concerns therein had procured a reference to your Grace upon his petition. I thought it safe enough when it was lodged in your hands, but to prevent such like contrivances,

* There are two copies of this letter. The differences between them are: (1) instead of "which I was told &c." the other has "which you told me was to be referred to the Lords of the Treasury." (2) After the words "to be set at £2,000 a year" the other copy runs "he thought they were let at £1,800 and had overtures of advancing that matter to 2,000*l.* now since the farm in general &c." (3) The other ends at "may be so in proportion."

having an opportunity last night by waiting upon his Majesty in the company of my Lord Chancellor, Lord Halifax, Lord Hyde and one or two more, I gave his Majesty an account of the importance of the place, and the reasons which moved your Grace to advise his Majesty to purchase it, and what was now in agitation about it ; but before I had told half my story the King and all the Lords did so fall upon it, that Mr. Secretary was commanded to write to your Grace this post to lay it aside and to assure your Grace he had no thoughts of parting with it. This brings to my remembrance your Grace's promise of removing Lieutenant Cope to some other company and of granting me Captain Wilkinson to be my Lieutenant and Deputy Governor, which I shall take as a very great favour, if your Grace thinks fit to do it.

I suppose my Lord Arran, who hath constantly attended his Majesty at the Treasury about the Irish farm, hath given your Grace an account of the proceedings and present posture of it. For my own part I never durst do it, they were so jealous of me from the beginning because I always told the King it was a great cheat, and prevailed with the King to give such strict injunctions of secrecy, which I said was another cheat, that if I had spoke or writ of it to any man I am confident the whole miscarriage had been charged upon me. But now that his Majesty is more cold towards the proposal, I think I may write my thoughts to your Grace about his Majesty's revenue in Ireland. The King is very fond of having Tangier provided for upon the Irish establishment, and nothing I think can be more advantageous to Ireland, especially if we have peace with the Moors and freedom of trade, as I believe we shall. This also must be attended with shipping for transportation and convoys, the only thing we want, and was all pretended to be provided for in this new project, but extremely to their gain and the King's loss. I do not think anybody will give 282,000*l.* a year for those branches now in farm, nor they neither. I do hear that 260,000*l.* a year would be offered for it, and if a Parliament were called in Ireland I am of opinion they would give additional duties to raise it up to 300,000*l.*, which would maintain Tangier, shipping and an army in Ireland of ten thousand horse and foot without polling the country or disturbing any man in his possessions. Much more may be said upon this subject, and when I know your Grace's opinion and judgment I am sure it will sway much with the King and I shall pursue it.

Our great affairs here at present are to satisfy his Majesty's allies, that we do all things possible for us to preserve them against the power of France. If I should give your Grace the history and particulars of these transactions it would require a volume. They have been infinitely importunate to get a Parliament called here to support them in case of war, and now they are as importunate to have one called to support

them in a treaty of accomodation. But I think they are now somewhat remiss upon that subject also. The loss in Holland and Flanders by the late inundation of water is judged to be six times as much as the loss and charges of the late French war, which is sufficient to cool their courage. I humbly beg your Grace's pardon for this trouble.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 7. London.—I had nothing worth putting in a letter last post, having not spoke with the Lords of the Treasury then about the business of Culmore fort, though I attended twice, but this morning I was called in, and they acquainted me with the report they intend to make, which I hope will please your Grace ; it is to this effect, that what money was due out of the fund mentioned in the letter [of] the last of April shall be for the use your Grace desires. The reason why they do not comply as to the other clause, (which orders, if that shall not hold out, it shall be taken out of what shall accrue after that time), is because the new contract is to take place from thence, but if that shall not go on upon your Grace's farther intimation, if the sum due at that time is not sufficient they will obey your commands. There has been no meeting since I writ last about the new contract, and it is believed there will be none, until a packet comes out of Ireland with an answer from the Farmers there to the letter your Grace writ last about them. Lieutenant Clarke who had a furlough from your Grace, went last week away from hence, but his father dying suddenly here this morning at the request of his mother I have sent for him back. I desire your Grace to give him a new furlough.

VISCOUNT BLESSINGTON to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 7. Dublin.—Concerning a meeting held on the previous day about the complaints of French Protestants ; in effect these appeared to be nothing but folly and malice. Of the writers of the two letters, Amonett upon examination was found to have made it his whole business to injure his poor countrymen and confuse those employed for them. The very day on which he wrote the letter 116*l.* had been distributed amongst them. His design, the Committee thought, might have been mere vain hopes of fingering the money. The writer of the other letter was found a man of more honesty and discretion, who freely confessed his fault and begged pardon of the Committee. *Abstract.*

AGREEMENT between EARL of ARLINGTON and SIMON BENNET.

1681-2, February 9.—Several discourses being passed betwixt the Right Honourable Henry Earl of Arlington, Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household, and Simon

Bennet, Esqre., concerning a marriage to be made betwixt the Right Honourable James Earl of Ossory, grandchild to his Grace James Duke of Ormond and Frances Bennet youngest daughter of the said Simon Bennet, the abovenamed parties so discoursing have come at last to this conclusion, viz. : That in case his Grace the Duke of Ormond shall settle upon his abovenamed grandchild such an estate as shall be to the liking and satisfaction of Mr. Simon Bennet, and he the said Mr. Bennet shall give such a portion in moneys to the liking of the said Duke, and that the parties to be married shall like each other, and in the usual form at the age required in law declare the same ; then the said marriage shall be consummated, and in the mean time persons fully empowered shall treat and conclude with what convenient speed they can all the conditions requisite thereunto. Witnesses, Robert Chapman, Michael Bebington.

Endorsed. This is a true copy of the original remaining in my hands, Arlington.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 11. London.—With the six packets that came hither on Wednesday last I had only one letter from your Grace, dated the 14th of the last month, there being five packets then due from hence and your Grace's being indisposed with the gout is I suppose the reason I had no more. I had also the observations upon the clauses for defalcations in this intended contract ; but I shall hardly have occasion to make use of them, for the last meeting in the Treasury Chamber upon that subject rectified the unreasonableness of the clauses therein mentioned, but I believe after all the contract will not go on, for my Lord Hyde told me yesterday that he was weary of the business, and me-thoughts his Majesty seemed cold in the matter last meeting or rather inclined the other way, yet I am told Sir James looks upon himself as sure of the farm yet. My uncle Fitzpatrick never acquainted me with his having writ to your Grace about the steward's place, which I do a little wonder at since we have of late made a league. I will wait a day or two to see whether he will take notice or no of it to me, and if he does not, I will to him.

I acquainted your Grace in my last with the death of one Clarke, father to Lieutenant Clarke, formerly my wife's page. He was page of the back stairs to the Queen, and had a little employment in the household and that was in the poultry. He gave 400*l.* for that of the back stairs, and has undone his family by it. They are known so generally to be very good people and I know the widow to be so in particular, that I prevailed with Sir Stephen Fox not to dispose of the place in the poultry until I had heard from your Grace. She has a second son about seventeen years old, whom I desire your

Grace to bestow it on. Sir Stephen says the place is worth about 30*l.* a year, and that will but just keep one alive as the reducements are.

I leave my Lord Longford or my uncle Fitzpatrick to acquaint your Grace with their correspondent's news, for I look upon his intelligence as no more authentic than Gompson's or Langley Curtis's. I am told the King intends for Newmarket on the 5th of next month, and about that time I intend to take my journey over. I had a letter from Sir Francis Brewster this post, who desired me to recommend him to your Grace. I know not the business, but he says your Grace does. If I may have your leave I will serve him on this side the water, for he has been a very faithful servant to you and says the business must be done here. Tom Butler of Killconnel brought me the enclosed from Count de Grammont.

EARL of ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 11. Whitehall.—At the end of the term before Christmas I told your Grace how I had passed with my cousin Simon Bennet, and that he had promised to see me again this following one with a clearer answer to my proposition. It is not at all necessary to tell your Grace by what steps we came to the enclosed conclusion,* which I thought fit should [be] put in writing by reason of the irresolution of the poor man; and I take it to be a good beginning to bring us more steadily to the end. Our next business here must be to see how high we can screw him as to the portion and your Grace's must be to bethink yourself how you will have the marriage treated which is not a small affair, nor fit to be trusted but to well chosen people; but if your Grace will give me leave to choose my bolt quickly I should think it near worth your pains to come and see it done here yourself, the pretence for your journey will be a very specious one, and the journey itself serve you well to other good purposes as well as this in order to the King's service as well as your own satisfaction, and if I may pass for a tolerable almanac maker this next summer will probably pass as the last did; upon which measure I think you may reckon, and from this time begin to cast about how you will bring your journey to pass in the good weather, in case you fall into my opinion.

ORMOND to EARL of LONGFORD.

1681-2, February 11. Kilkenny.—I am sorry for the distemper that occasioned the interruption of the informations you are pleased to take the pains to give me so largely and so usefully. I do not believe that all the intelligence Mr Nash sent your lordship for my use was invention from top to bottom, but I do think a great deal was what he thought

* See *supra*, p. 308

might [be] rather than what was really said concerning me. Of all which I can worst digest is the imputation of imbecility by reason of age because it comes too near truth, and because it is a fault I cannot mend and yet I fear other arguments more than that. However I have a pack of hounds landed I sent for into England, and if I like my horse and the ground I mean God willing to ride smartly after them.

From your lordship and others I have been informed that my Lord of Anglesey's letter in answer to one of mine has been made public. In it he justifies all that he writ and printed upon my Lord of Castlehaven's Memories to be true, and calls for a confutation, a thing most easy in most of the things he desires [and] believes positively for truths, but when he shall be detected of falsehood, he will have the confidence to deny the most authentic convictions, and there will be no end of his cavillings or of any man's work that shall undertake a contest of that nature with him, so that I know not what to do against so slippery and incorporeal an antagonist. I am told he gives out that he has proof in his hands that I made offer to serve the Parliament, at least that he has it under or in Sir Paul Davys' hand, that I authorised him when he was sent into England to make the offer. I had, and yet have, so good an opinion of Sir Paul that I verily believe his lordship belies him, and durst be concluded in the point by anything that can be shown in his handwriting. That I offered to serve against the Irish rebels (if the Parliament would enable me) after those rebels had perfidiously broken the peace and all the obligations that Christians or good moral heathens could tie themselves by is most true, but that I ever offered to take commission from the Parliament or act [in] any other than the King's is most false, and this is in a great degree evident, for if I would have served under the Parliament upon their terms and in my Lord of Anglesey's sense, that is if I could have taken their covenant, their commissions and been their servant, how came I to be rejected, when my Lord of Inchiquin and many others of less quality, consideration and interest than he or I were joyfully received. In short, Sir Paul Davys must be a knave or my Lord of Anglesey a liar. Consult my friends if your lordship please in these things and give me advice. Your lordship says nothing of your lady, therefore I hope she is well, nor of your lawsuits, and so I hope they are well. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, February 11.—This is the first letter [I have] undertaken to write in my own hand this month, so long I have been in the gout. I thank God without any considerable pain, but disabled in my knees, feet, and right hand. I am now creeping out of this fit and I hope shall shortly be able to return to Dublin from whence I did not intend to be so long.

I have given my Lord of Longford some part of my sense upon the intelligence his correspondent gave him, wherein the most probable means to effect what he says is aimed at is left out. I believe you may have heard that the person for whom it is said the intrigue is carried on offered once to become Farmer of the place, and to pay at least half the profit of it to one then in more credit than now, if the same offer shall be made again to one of the same rank and proximity nobody can answer how it may work, if it shall be made a parting request, though I think the same reasons that disappointed the attempt then are at least as strong as now.

I send you a co[py of Mr. Attorn]ey's letter to me giving an account of the proceedings in the Exchequer against my Lord Ranelagh and partners to be given to my Lord Hyde, that if the King's counsel at law there can direct how a more quick way may be taken it may be followed.

I send you also copies of the state of the farm payments since Mr. Taylor came to be employed, who being chosen by the Farmers and doubtless recompensed by them for his pains, I suppose he will not be suspected to have done them wrong.

The King when he suffered Mr. Secretary Jenkins to recommend others for a company fallen, or the next that should fall, forgot that in a letter in his own hand he commanded me to give Sir James Graham the first that should fall, which I obeyed and gave him that of Captain Mason as soon as I heard he was dead. *Copy.*

ORMOND to COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681-2, February 13. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 4th of this month, mine of the 10th of January last was the last I was able to write in my own hand from the second day I arrived here till a month after, so long I have been disabled by the gout especially in my right hand, which yet will not endure much writing. I can say little to Mr. Sheridan's calculations or propositions being as much a stranger to them as to those set on foot by Sir James Shaen; nor have I heard anything of his discourses and endeavours concerning me more than the intelligence my Lord Longford sent me from a hand I cannot give absolute credit to without good corroboration, and I confess I am loath upon such information to conclude Mr. Sheridan to be so bad and false a man as he must be, if he endeavours or discourses anything to my disadvantage. If I am deceived in him or by him I know how to bear it, having met with disappointments of the like nature often in my life, but I would be glad to know the bottom and substance of what is laid to his charge. *Copy.*

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1661-2, February 14. London.—I have discoursed with my uncle Fitzpatrick about that business I mentioned in my last, but found that notwithstanding our strict league, if

I had not mentioned it first, I had been kept in ignorance by him. I am confident he had no ground in the world to believe the thing would take, but all he has done in this was to make himself thought to be employed betwixt great men, a vanity he cannot part with, but setting that aside I assure your Grace he does you very good service here.

The murder of Mr. Thomas Thynne, who was killed on Sunday last, makes a great noise in town, and does somewhat reflect upon my Lady Ogle, because Count Konigsmark is in those parts where she is. I believe my Lord Longford will give your Grace a full narrative of the manner of the assassination, and the examinations and confessions of the parties taken, but lest he should not I have left my letter to my sister Cavendish open, that your Grace may be informed of the truth, as I had it from the King. I cannot advise my nephew to it now, but I have ground to believe he might have my Lady Ogle, and might have had her at first had she not been in the old Lady Northumberland's hands.

EARL OF LONGFORD TO ORMOND.

1681-2, February 14. London.—The enclosed I received just now from our friend Nash, and I am apt to believe what he says of Mr. Sheridan's intrigues to be true, because the last week he did highly magnify to Dr. Turner, the Duke's chaplain, my Lord Conway's interest amongst the new English in Ireland, and said your Grace's interest was only amongst the old Protestants who were but few and inconsiderable. This day was the first of my stirring abroad these three weeks past, and the sharpness of the weather would not allow of my going to Whitehall, so that your Grace cannot expect much news from me. My friend this day tells me the Duke's coming from Scotland is again countermanded.

On Sunday in the evening Mr. Thomas Thynne was barbarously murdered in his coach by three horsemen, who were all apprehended on Monday and are now in Newgate. The chief man in it is a Swede and a captain in Count Konigsmark's regiment in Pomerania; and when he was before the Council [he] was so far from being abashed, that he owned his contriving it, and that if it were to do again he would do it. He said the man who shot him was his servant and Polisher, and did shoot him by mistake, for he bid him only stop the coach that he might pistol him himself, but instead of stopping the coach he shot him with five bullets. And the reason he gave for designing his death, he said, was because as Count Konigsmark and he were this last summer coming in a coach from Richmond, Mr. Thynne had employed six troopers to murder them, upon which Count Konigsmark sent Thynne a challenge, which he refused, that he himself challenged him often, but he still refused fighting with him. And therefore he took that course with him. Others say the Captain only said that Mr. Thynne had employed some

highwaymen in France to murder him, who attempted it and wounded him, of which hurts he still lies ill; and that in revenge he thought himself obliged to treat Mr. Thynne after the same manner. Thus your Grace has the story as it is variously reported, but it is certain this Captain had been formerly Count Konigsmark's valet de chambre. My Lord Arran gives your Grace an account of the Irish farm.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681, February 16. Kilkenny.—The death of Sir Hans Hamilton, which is a public and to me a particular loss, furnishes me with an opportunity to acknowledge my having received your Grace's of the 14th inst. I could not believe your Grace, though to serve your friend, would affirm any thing for truth that you knew not to be exactly true, and therefore it was that I sent you Sir Richard Stephens' letter to me, of which you may expostulate with him, when and how you please. I shall be ready to constitute the Bishop of Meath Vice-Chancellor as soon as the instrument shall be sent me.

Sir M. Eustace by letter has given me the same account he gave your Grace of the improbability that the project for the new undertaking for this revenue will take place, and of the King's inclination to put it into management, but this intimation in a time and matter so subject to change I conceive is not sufficient ground for me as yet to take any notice of transactions there, the keeping me ignorant all this while seeming to have been designed and affected; but before it be long it will be our duty to make some representation of the state of the revenue in this kingdom as it is and as it may happen to be at the end of this farm, and by that time such a representation may be seasonable, I hope I may be at Dublin, having already made a shift to get on horseback and ride two or three hours without much inconvenience. I thank your Grace for your verses, but neither remember the hand or style. *Copy.*

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 18. London.—I suppose my Lord of Arran in his last gave your Grace an account how the scene is changed as to the new farm. On Tuesday last there was a meeting in the Treasury upon it, and the King showing a dislike to the present proposals, it was moved by some of the Lords of the Treasury that the proposers might have leave to withdraw their proposition since his Majesty seemed inclined to have a general bidding for the farm as is usual. But that was not consented unto. However as preparatory to a new bidding for it, the King directed Mr. Sheridan to be called in, and directed him to prepare a scheme in order to it and appointed him this day to bring it to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, which he accordingly did, a

copy whereof I send your Grace enclosed from him, who is now so full of business that he has not time to write to your Grace, and begs your Grace's pardon for his omission this post, being unwilling, to use his own expression, to trouble you Grace with so many letters. He could not tell me whether the Commissioners of the Treasury approve of his scheme, nor is he certain they will proceed in his method in the setting of the farm: because my Lord Ranelagh being sent for this day as well as he, the minutes which were taken upon the contest between his lordship and the proposers were read to see whether they were taken according to the amendments agreed on by the Committee, which are now to be offered to the proposers, and if they will not take the farm according to those amendments then the door will be opened for all mankind that please to bring their proposals, and six weeks time will be allowed that those of Ireland that please may put in for their share if they have a mind to be concerned. This is the state of this matter: but by the way I must observe to your Grace that if I had not pressed Mr. Sheridan to it, your Grace had not had this night the enclosed copy of his scheme.

Mr. Thynne's murder is now traced home to Count Konigsmark, who was three weeks in town private before the work was done. And the Polander and the other German who assisted in it have confessed that being sent for by the Count out of Germany, when they arrived here and came to the Count he directed them to go to Captain Vratz who would give them order what they were to do. It is said that the Count made his escape on Monday morning in the same sloop, which brought him out of Holland hither to do this worthy act. For the sloop which rid before for three weeks at Deptford is not to be found, though strict inquiry has been made after it and all the yachts and ships between this place and Dover, which have been wind bound have been strictly searched for the Count, which account Mr. Adderby gave this morning having been sent by order of the Council to search for him. The discourse of the town is with great reflection upon my Lady Ogle whom they represent to have had great intimacy with the Count in Holland, before he came over thither.

The Princes in Italy are so alarmed with the King of France's design upon Genoa, that the Duke of Florence is making new fortifications at Leghorn. And the great preparations the French make by sea as well as land render him so formidable in Italy, that our merchants there write that he will certainly be master of that Commonwealth very soon. He has sent a fleet to treat with the Algerines, and the merchants write that he will accept of a peace at any rate to be the more at leisure to attend his conquests in Italy. And it is said that after all the Spaniard will be necessitated to submit to such terms as he will give them in Flanders, which much discomposes the Prince of Orange and the States.

I perceive the Duke has no thought of meeting the King at Newmarket, for I saw it under his own hand, that he was so often put in hope of his return hither and as often disappointed, that he would not now believe any such thing till he had better ground for it than any he had yet. I do not hear that his Majesty has yet taken any resolution upon the letter he received from the Council of Scotland for the disposition of my Lord Argyle's estate.

ORMOND to EARL of ARLINGTON.

1681-2, February 18. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 11th of this month and a copy of the paper signed by your lordship and Mr. Bennet, which is as fair an introduction to a further treaty as could be expected, and the difficulty of finding fit persons to proceed in it is so great, that your lordship's opinion for my own going over joined to the care I have of my grandson, who must appear there if the overture shall go on, disposes me very much to undertake the voyage provided the King will give me leave and approve of it, and I undertake it with the greater confidence of success in the matter of marriage, because I know I can fully satisfy Mr. Bennet in the point of settling an estate, and that any objection to the country it is in may be removed by my consenting that such a part of the portion as shall be thought fit or even desired may be laid out upon the purchase of land in England. My son Arran proposes to be on his way hither the beginning of the next month, but I hope your lordship will first have had time to discourse with him both of the treaty and of my going over. I have had the gout in my right hand and am but just able to write a short letter in my own hand. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, February 18. Kilkenny.—I have yours of the 7th and 11th of this month, but that you had but one letter from me in the six packets you may attribute as well to my having little to say as to the gout, which took me spitefully in the right hand. I have been for some days well enough to take the air in a coach and once I have been a horseback to try how I could bear a journey to Dublin the next week. I hope this may come to your hands before you begin your journey hither, that you may discourse with my Lord Chamberlain about the treaty of marriage betwixt my grandson and Mr. Bennet's daughter and of my passing into England upon that and other occasions. I would be glad to have some knowledge of the portion before the affair be far engaged in, for besides portion there are few other inducements to make it desirable; my Lord Chamberlain is not to be told that neither the quality or qualifications of the father and mother are great attractives. I am willing Lieutenant Clarke should have a new furlough and his brother the place you mention. I

do not understand what letter of mine it is that the Farmers here must answer before the Lords of the Treasury can put an end to the treaty about the revenue, if it be that where I say that they never in four years punctually paid their monthly rent but that by a just computation and medium they were always, take one month with another, at least 30,000*l.* in arrear the assertion will certainly be made good though in some one month it should happen that they were little or nothing behind. Sure I am that the September pay of the Army is unpaid this 18th of February, which is I think sufficient proof that they have not paid their rent.

I have obeyed his Majesty's commands in behalf of Lieutenant Pim and given him Sir Hans Hamilton's company though Sir Han's brothers has served long as lieutenant. His Majesty's care of Pim was very well placed, but I wish such letters under the signet might be less frequent, especially in favour of such as have not served in this Army where there are divers old and good officers that serve in inferior places. If there be no expectation of having our companies at Tangier returned to us, I could wish the five Scotch companies remaining here might be sent thither and the four English companies commanded back. Propose it if you find a fit opportunity.

Copy.

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, February 20. Dublin.—I cannot say that since my last I have brought myself to a fixed resolution of passing some part of this summer in England, but I am so near it that I wish to have it in my power and I have written the enclosed to his Majesty for his permission in the necessary forms, which always comes in such cases with a designation of the person or persons to be trusted with the Government, which though I do not name to the King in my letter, yet I have desired my Lord Chamberlain to know whether your being Deputy would be acceptable to him. If his Majesty shall approve of it, you are then to cause search to be made in the Signet Office for the entry of the letters that were sent when your brother in my absence supplied the same place, and having gotten them changed and signed to bring them with you. In those letters there was I think a clause that left it to my discretion to judge whether it would be for the King's service that I should make use of the permission, and accordingly either to stay or go. If there was not it is necessary such a clause should be inserted in the letter now to be sent. Your quarter table and attendance will be in the Castle, where all necessary provisions are laid in: the greatest difficulty will be to leave you equipage of coaches, but especially horses, mine for the street being almost worn out, but shift shall be made one way or other. If his Majesty shall not cheerfully approve of your being Deputy, I shall let the whole design fall. I know not how this will agree with what your design

for yours and your family's residence, but I think it is of moment to make them accord. My Lord Longford on an occasion like this offered me the use of his house and furniture in Surrey, if his wife goes into France and if he be not engaged to his mother-in-law. I would be glad to have it for a retreat for your mother, who will go with me. You may be free with my Lord Chamberlain in this affair. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARLINGTON.

1681-2, February 20. Kilkenny.—Since my last I have brought myself to be so far of your lordship's opinion that I wish to have it in my power to pass into England so as to be there by the end of April that I may have time to spend there and return in July. In his Majesty's letters of permission he that is to supply my place in my absence is to be named. It is not fit for me to name my son Arran to the King, or to say I take him to be the fittest man for that trust of any in this kingdom of quality proper for it, though I do really think it for a short time. It is not worth any man's coming out of England nor will any body here take it for a favour, my son's being chosen shall cost the King nothing, for I shall leave him my table equipage and servants to support the honour of the sword. Your lordship will oblige me by letting me have his Majesty's sense in this particular and you will be pleased to bring your cousin Bennet [so near as] certainty is possible. I shall come furnished with what may satisfy him and his lawyers, and my wife if she be able will make the voyage because she must join in any deeds or assurances and that all parties may be pleased. Two months is the extremest time I can spend at London, and in that time if Mr Bennet and I should not agree I must find some other match. There will be two terms within that time and they bring most men of business to town. *Copy.*

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 21. London.—Last night I had the honour of your Grace's of the 11th instant, which is the only one I have had these two months past from your Grace, and though your Grace does not believe all Mr. Nash has informed, yet I perceive your Grace gives credit to some part of it. I assure your Grace I do believe the whole intrigue he insinuates; and I am confirmed in it every day by the best observations I am able to make myself or collect from others. For the gentleman he mentions to be the active instrument makes all the court he can to Lord Conway, from whence your Grace may guess the rest. But if your Grace pursue the humour of hunting, as your Grace seems resolved, it will obviate the objection of old age in a great measure; and I am confident the rest will fall to the ground. As to that of my Lord Privy Seal, I dare not upon so short warning to give

your Grace advice, but between this and Saturday I shall consult friends and give your Grace both their and my own opinion in the case. In the meantime I can only say that your Grace has a very difficult task in encountering such a sort of adversary, who will never be out of countenance, nor silenced by any detection can be made of any falsehoods he publishes though never so authentically proved.

Mr. Thynne's murder has so entertained us these ten days past, that little else has been talked of. And now Count Königsmark's being taken I suppose within a few days well put an end to that noise. He was yesterday morning early brought prisoner to Whitehall, having been apprehended the night before between seven and eight of the clock in the evening just after his landing at Gravesend. The manner thus: he had two days before taken a lodging at a Swedish master's of a ship in Ereffe, to whom he pretended that having served a person of quality, who entrusted him with his cash, he had the misfortune to be seduced into play, and losing a greater sum of his master's money than he was able to reimburse, he was necessitated for his own security not only to absent himself from his service, but also to return into his own country, and having in order to that supplied himself with his master's coin, he proposed to the master a considerable reward for carrying him into his own country which the tarpaulin accepted of, but his wife being more nice endeavoured to dissuade her husband from the bargain, suggesting her opinion that she believed him to be the person mentioned in the Gazette to have procured Mr. Thynne's murder, to which her husband not listening she talked of it to one of the Duke's watermen, describing to him the disguise he was under, and telling him the sculler's name whom he had made use of from the time he had come to her house, and informing him of the hour he intended to be at Gravesend. The waterman communicated all this to one Gibbons, the Duke of Monmouth's footman, and they two with the assistance of Mr. Thynne's huntsman seized upon him before he was aware of them and consequently could not make use of his naked sword, which he had concealed under his coat. Being carried before the Mayor, and demanded who he was, he owned himself to be Count Königsmark.

He was yesterday in the evening carried before the Council and examined, but confessed nothing of his contriving Mr. Thynne's murder or appointing it to be done. He alleged in excuse for his coming into England, and lying concealed, that he came hither to be cured of an ill disease that he could not be rid of, and that the German doctor was his physician, and for his endeavouring to escape said he did it to avoid the fury of the rabble, who he thought would have torn him in pieces, for he knew he was in the Gazette and that 200*l.* was offered to any that should apprehend and discover him. Upon this he was sent to my Lord Chief Justice, who having

spent in his examination near two hours without any confession from him, told him he must send his lordship to Newgate, with which the Count was much dissatisfied and desired he might be committed to any other prison, for the reproach of being sent to so infamous a place was worse to him than death. My lord told him that he had not other prison within his authority, and that it was the proper place for that crime he was suspected to be guilty of. His lordship begged leave that he might have leave to write to the King, that he might be sent to any other place, but my Lord Chief Justice told him it was then too late to disturb or trouble his Majesty, it being then past eleven o'clock. Besides if he were committed to any other place he must be brought to Newgate the night before his indictment, and since he was to be indicted on Wednesday and tried on Friday, his lordship would suffer no great inconvenience by being sent a day before to Newgate, where he must be committed by the course of law till his trial was over, so his lordship submitted. He did not yesterday before commitment seem in the least dismayed or concerned, but carried himself very undauntedly. I hear this day he writ to the King to have his trial put off, but I cannot learn he has any success in this request. And application has been made that the Polander may have a promise of his pardon upon his confession with as little success.

I leave it to my Lord Arran to give your Grace an account of the proceedings in the Treasury Chamber this afternoon upon the new farm. The circumstances are so violent against Count Konigsmark that it is believed the jury will find him guilty, and in that case it is said the King if he should be condemned cannot otherwise dispense with the sentence against him of hanging than by a reprieve or pardon, either of which it is thought will prove very inconvenient in this conjuncture for his Majesty to grant.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 21. London.—I had yesterday which I was very glad of, a letter from your Grace dated the 11th written with your own hand, and the enclosed that which concerned my Lord Ranelagh's accounts I gave yesternight to my Lord Hyde; but those papers that concerned the Farmers I did not deliver to him, not knowing by your letter whether or no it was your Grace's pleasure I should: but at the meeting this day in the Treasury there arising a debate upon my Lord Conway's saying the Farmers were above 20,000*l.* in arrear, and finding that the Lords of the Treasury had not the state sent over to them, I gave in the papers you sent me, which were read, and that matter was soon laid aside to take up again the business of the new contract which everybody concluded was laid aside, but it seems Mr. Sheridan having made a proposal to give his Majesty 260,000*l.* a year at the determination of the present farm and 110,000*l.* in money

for the clauses the Undertakers were to have, upon computing which was best, it was carried that the contractors are to have it, and the scheme which Mr. Sheridan had given in is laid aside, and the contractors will carry the business, if they consent to the minute that is taken to-day, and that is that, so much of the farm as from May last being expired, they are to pay by Christmas next the whole twenty months at the rate of 23,000*l.* a month ; but the bargain is much worse for Ireland than it was, for upon some of the Lords doubting that they would not be able to perform, Roberts proffered to advance in money 150,000*l.*, which my Lord Ranelagh advised the King to take, as well as all the Lords that sat with his Majesty, to employ upon his occasions here, so that the interest of that money must fall heavy upon us and cause a reducement of the establishment. I have time only to observe, that my Lord Ranelagh, who has hitherto appeared so great a champion for that kingdom in opposing the unreasonable clauses in the new contract, appeared for Mr. Sheridan's having a farm with those clauses, and for his Majesty's taking so much advance money here to be paid out of his revenue in that kingdom.

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681-2, February 21. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of yesterday's date. As to the discontented gentleman I shall say no more but this, that I am assured from a person that was present at the conventicle upon Sunday last, that the said gentleman was not only there to countenance those unlawful assemblies, but that he took notes and writ the sermon openly in the face of that congregation, and I am informed from an officer of that meeting that it is [his] usual and almost constant course every Sunday.

I heartily wish your Grace all success imaginable in your journey for England. The provision for your grandson is certainly a business of the greatest concern for your family, and your own insight into a matter of that nature is very necessary, since the success thereof must be of the first consequence to the future satisfaction of your whole life. I must not forget on this occasion to let your Grace know, that what was proposed as from myself to my Lady Clancarty about the young Lady . . . and the Lord Kildare was (as it seemed to me) very heartily and cheerfully embraced by her ladyship, and that after the breaking of the treaty which was then on foot on that lord's behalf with a lady in the west of England, she had great expectation and hope that my motion might prove effectual, but this last week she was informed from England, that the young nobleman had broke loose from his confinement, and had strayed out of his pasture about four or five days before he could be retrieved and brought home, and that which put his lordship upon that gallantry was love. This

they say he hath acknowledged, and it is whispered that the lady unto whom he devotes these his early services is a daughter of my Lady Hyde's. Thus your Grace have all that I understand of that affair. I told my lady that what I had moved in that matter was that which appeared to me very convenient, but since the young lad hath otherwise disposed his inclinations, I had no farther to say therein.

If your Grace intend your journey for England in a short time, and that the sickness and distempers of this place may keep your Grace at Kilkenny for any long time, it will be necessary that some disposition be made in some particular things, which are now vacant and without incumbent ministers to discharge some cures principally in Drogheda, which must be suddenly provided for being a considerable town and garrison, though to avoid any complaint or clamour I have at present appointed one Mr. Pullen, the late Archbishop of Tuam's nephew, a very ingenious and very prudent person, to attend that cure. I rather pitched upon him than on any other person, because I know he is a learned and honest gentleman and is the person whom I intended to present to your Grace for that living. The now Bishop of Killaloe had the deanery of Clogher conferred upon him as his encouragement to undertake the great cure of Drogheda, and when your Grace was upon the first modelizing of livings that would be vacant upon the promotion of these bishops, your Grace did not think it amiss that he that undertook the charge of Drogheda should have as good encouragement as Dean Tenison, but I humbly offer to your Grace's consideration whether this deanery of Clogher might not be conferred to Wilkins, the gentleman that was recommended to your Grace by my Lord Conway, for it would not I think be inconvenient that your Grace should oblige my Lord Conway in that particular request before your Grace's going for England, and indeed in my opinion Mr. Wilkins would be very fit for that deanery, for it is a great cure and very full of Quakers and fanatics, and the temper of this gentleman and his charity might perhaps be very instrumental for the good of that place. That deanery is worth about 200*l.* a year. If your Grace approves this proposal, I will take care to see Mr. Pullen provided for out of some other livings that Dean Tenison had, or out of some other in the diocese of Armagh, that may raise a handsome subsistence for the support of that great cure of Drogheda. I foresee no objection to this but what may be made by Dr. Sall, because he hath it not, but first I do not think that a fit promotion for Dr. Sall, it being so great a cure, and he no way able to attend it, secondly if your Grace remove Dean Phipps either unto Down or by exchange unto Derry, as your Grace was partly resolved when you left Dublin, your Grace may give Dean Phipps' deanery of Ferns unto Dr. Sall, which may be more convenient for him than Clogher, and which with those livings he already hath would make him

up a pretty handsome competency, I cannot say a satisfaction, for I know nothing of that amongst very many of us : but I shall not at present trouble your Grace any further with affairs of this nature, but refer them to your Grace's return hither, if your Grace thinks fit.

I cannot say that the fevers and distempers of this town are extraordinary. The death of several scholars in the College by the smallpox, and as some say by unusual fever makes the greatest noise amongst us. However I presume your [Grace] holds it advisable, as most prudent, to leave your grandson behind you at Kilkenny, if you intend in any short time to Dublin. He may be subjected to some hazards here, which in all probability may be avoided at Kilkenny.

Your Grace cannot possibly fix upon a more agreeable person for the government in your absence than my Lord Arran. Times are uncertain and interests are yet unknown : but whatsoever will happen your Grace is secure of your own son. And no man can put any misconstruction upon your placing him single in the Government. I will give your Grace the best account I can of my northern visitation. They seem to be a perverse generation of people that I am to deal with, and therefore I dare not adventure to promise for others : but I shall engage in my own behalf, that I shall endeavour all that I can not to deceive your Grace's expectation. But it is now time to deliver your Grace from this paper persecution.

Postscript.—I shall not take notice to anybody of your Grace's intentions for England, until your directions come from thence, or that I am licensed by your Grace.

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 25. London.—In obedience to your Grace's commands I have advised with your Grace's friends here about the matter of my Lord Privy Seal ; and all agree in your Grace's not engaging personally in a paper quarrel with his lordship, for the reasons which yourself gives. But my Lord Chamberlain, though he thinks it not fit for your own hand, yet since your Grace has received so severe a blow for his lordship's untrue assertions, is of opinion your Grace should employ another hand to answer his lordship, lest his assertions pass for truths in the opinion of the world. And if no man contradict it, it will be construed giving up the cause. And he who is to answer it must in his preamble take notice of his lordship's imposing of falsehoods upon the world, and [say that] having for so long a time waited for an answer to it from others and finding none engaged in it, he thought fit to enter into the lists purely for the vindication of truth and for the justification of your Grace, whose loyalty and sufferings for the Crown have been so eminent and great, that no subject now living can pretend to an equal merit with you ; and [that] therefore he being sensible of the oppression [which] was intended to

loyalty itself in the unjust aspersions [which] were endeavoured in that print to be cast upon your Grace, thought himself in duty bound as a good subject to undeceive the world in those false suggestions [which] were obtruded by that pamphlet upon them. And it is my lord's further opinion that your Grace must not be nice in a just mention of your own loyalty and services to the Crown, that the world may not believe this answer to be written by yourself.

And that your Grace may be convinced, that it is necessary something of this kind should be done, if your Grace has not heard it already, I am to tell your Grace that by my Lord Anglesey's instigation Dr. Borlase, who writ the History of the Irish Rebellion, has made a second answer to my Lord Castlehaven's Memoirs and in it has fallen so foul upon the Cessation and the Peaces in 1646 and 1648, that he avers they were more destructive to the Protestants and English interest in that kingdom than either the first massacre or the whole rebellion, and all this is cast upon your Grace. The book I have not seen, but am promised it on Monday next. Besides in a pamphlet lately come out, called "The Third Part of [the] No Protestant Plot," there are most malicious reflections upon your Grace; and you must expect to be treated still at this rate while such bold lies pass uncontradicted. I find my Lord Anglesey's observations are lately reprinted by the same man who printed Whitelocke's Memoirs.

This morning being in the bed-chamber, where my Lord Castlehaven entertained the King after his usual way of talking, the King said my Lord Anglesey was like a madman, for he fell foul upon his friends as well as enemies, having in his observations treated your Grace very ill. Mr. Secretary Jenkins told me this morning that upon the hint he had from Mr. Nash of the intrigues on foot to remove your Grace from the Government, he presumed to acquaint the King with it, to which his Majesty replied: "Pish do they take me for a fool and a mad man, that I do not know and understand when I am well." And he also presumed to write to the Duke about it, who in answer to him protested he never heard of any such thing, and when he did he would oppose it with all the credit he had, for he was sure no man could serve his Majesty so well and so usefully in that station as your Grace. Therefore if these busy men design any attack of that kind they will be disappointed. I presume to offer it to your Grace whether it were not proper to give Mr. Secretary a compliment upon this occasion for his kind and zealous concern for your Grace.

I suppose my Lord Arran by the last packet gave your Grace an account of the result in the Treasury Chamber upon the new contract. All I can tell your Grace since is, that the proposition goes on and the farm will be accepted by the proposers upon the terms it is offered. And if it be not resolved this night, before the King goes to Newmarket my Lord Ranelagh's removal from his Vice-Treasurer's office will be

determined. Sir James Shaen owns himself your Grace's vassal and says whatever your Grace has a mind to shall be done in relation to Ireland, where he hopes Lord Conway shall never be Governor. The proposers are to advance 150,000*l.*, 80,000*l.* whereof will be applied to pay off the present farmers their advance money. And Sir James says if he knew how your Grace would have any part of the 70,000*l.* applied he would work it to your satisfaction. I perceive my Lord Arran's seasonable contradiction to Sir Standish Hartstonge's letter, wherein he averred the farmers to be now 200,000*l.* in arrear, has gained Sir James Shaen's and his partners' hearts to that degree that they will live and die your Grace's slaves, though my lord's design in it was not to oblige them, but to clear your Grace from remissness in your government.

On Tuesday next it is said the Count Konigsmark and the murderers of Mr. Thynne will be brought upon their trial. And if they are found guilty, as it is ten to one they will, they will find no mercy from the court, let what intercessions soever be made for them. Colonel Legge, upon my Lord Arran's undertaking that your Grace would not take it ill, has without the formality of application to your Grace procured his Majesty's letter for making his town of Dunleer a borough, which presumption he hopes your Grace will pardon to one so much and so cordially your servant. My wife is so well, that she intends soon for France, whither her mother accompanies her. And as for our law suit, I suppose it is at an end if Sir John Cole has that disposition to an accommodation which he pretends to have, in which I shall be authorised to act on our part.

ORMOND TO COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681-2, February 25. Kilkenny.—It is but just now that I received your letters of the 14th and 18th of this month, and I make all the haste I can to put you at rest concerning the argument raised by the worthy person to frustrate my Lord Chamberlain's endeavours. Soon after the young man's coming from Oxford into this kingdom it was written from England that he had engaged himself to the daughter of one that was an officer to the College he was of. Monsieur Drelinecourt owned that he sometimes went to the house and was entertained with collations, but it fell out that the officer whose name and office I forget had no daughter, but one that was then married and had children. It is also true that a player wench either came to Oxford, or stayed there after her company was gone, and was visited by many of the youth there perhaps by our young man amongst the rest, but the Bishop or Vice Chancellor or both warned her out of town under the pain of whipping or carting and away she went and this is all of that matter. If there had been more sure something would have been heard of it in all this time. In the meantime a less scandalous and injurious way might have

been found to have put an end to our pretension. It had been but to have told us who it was that desired it, and the thing had been done, but I believe his part is as perfect an invention as the other. *Copy.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 25.—Being designed to go this Lenten circuit with his Majesty's Commission of Assize and Gaol Delivery into the province of Munster, I was in hopes to have had the directions of your Grace and the Council, what I was to do with the great number of gentlemen and others of inferior degree, who have lain in close confinement at Cork, Limerick and Ennis, some since the last Assizes and others since this time was twelve months, on suspicion of their being guilty of the late horrid Popish plot. The Grand Juries have found bills against some of them this time was twelvemonths and against others the last Assizes, but they have not been brought to trial by the reason that the King's evidence did not appear. Your Grace hath here enclosed a list of their names. Now, my Lord, this being a matter of state it were in my poor judgment fitting that the now Judges for that province should have the direction of the Government therein. And though I design to pay my duty to your Grace at Kilkenny before I sit at Waterford: yet I presume to give your Grace this trouble thus long before I set out, that your Grace may, if you shall so think fit, call such of the Council as are now at Kilkenny to consider of this matter, for I had much rather take the whole unto myself, and proceed as the law prescribes in such cases, and with what wariness I can in relation to it as a matter of state, than put it on your Grace's single directions, for as on the one hand it will be unreasonably hard to keep such a number of his Majesty's subjects in close restraint after two Assizes, because the evidence for the King will not appear, though under recognizance so to do, so possibly it will be prudent to expect bail from them. And your Grace and the Board have heretofore been pleased to give the Judges of Assize directions in like cases.

My Lord, I am now to beg your Grace's favour in the behalf of a most humble servant of your Grace's, Mr. Herbert, who finding his practise in Ireland not likely to answer his expectations hath during his last being to England resolved to settle at Westminster Hall, for which he hath encouragement from some grantees there, and Colonel Churchill hath written him word from Scotland, that his Royal Highness will take him into his service, if he were recommended from hence where his practice of the law hath been. Mr. Herbert doth with justice and reason acknowledge all he hath and is, and relieth on your Grace's favour for much of what he proposeth to himself, and hath desired me to beg of your Grace that you would recommend him to his Royal Highness, so

far as to your Grace shall seem meet, that he may be admitted of his counsel at law when there shall be a vacancy. I beg your Grace's pardon.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 28. London.—I have your Grace's letters of the 18th and 20th with the enclosed to his Majesty and my Lord Arlington, and have had some discourse with his lordship upon the contents of them, and because he was to speak with his Majesty in private this night I gave him your letter to the King, thinking it as proper for him to deliver as for me, since I am like to be concerned in the discourse. I submit to his judgment as to your coming over, though I am not in the least ambitious of the employment you intend me, besides I know my own incapacity to discharge so great a trust, though but for the small time your Grace intends to be absent. The King intends for Newmarket on Saturday next, and by that day's post your Grace will have an answer. If my Lord Chamberlain had gone with the King to Newmarket, I had deferred the speaking to the King till then, that my Lady Portsmouth might be gone for France. The Duke will be at Newmarket sometime next week, which made me resolve to take that in my way for Ireland before I had this day's letters; and I believe it will be reported if the King consents to your Grace's journey that you come over on purpose to meet him; and I must take the freedom to say I take it to be a much better errand than the marrying your grandchild to Bennet's daughter: but I dare not say so much to my Lord Arlington, for he is so concerned in the matter, and does really believe he does you great service in it, that in manners I hold my tongue. Besides by what he told me this day, I have reason to believe Bennet is to either will marry his daughter to the Duke of Richmond, if this match should break off as I hope it will. There is a daughter of the Duke of Newcastle's, who is very pretty and will be a very great fortune, and the relations your grandchild will have by that match will not make him or your Grace ashamed to own them.

My Lady Longford and her mother go into France the beginning of next week, so that I believe you may depend upon his house: but I will not speak to him about it, until I know the King's pleasure in the other matter. I have a summons to meet in the Treasury Chamber on Thursday morning upon the new contract; and then it will be known, what the issue will be of that affair, that has taken up so much time and given so great trouble.

Not being very certain yesterday whether the Duke was to come soon over or no, and having an opportunity to speak in private with the King, I told his Majesty I intended for Ireland before his return from Newmarket, but if the Duke were to be there I would wait upon him first, upon which his Majesty told me he had sent for him. I took that occasion

to take notice of a discourse about your removal, which he told me was so groundless, that he never was farther from the thoughts of it, neither has he had any application about it. I had not taken notice to the King of this after so many assurances, if my Lord Longford had not discoursed with the King upon the report.

FRANCIS GWYN to ORMOND.

1681-2, February 28. Whitehall.—Though I do not trouble your Grace so often as formerly with my letters, yet I shall take the confidence when any thing comes to my hands worth your Grace's knowledge to give you an account of it: the occasion of this being that Mr. William Legge this morning was sent an express to the Duke from the King to give him leave to meet him at Newmarket, where he will accompany his Majesty during his stay there, and return with him to London, which is intended to be the week after Easter. Another particular which hath made great discourse here was this day ended, which was the trial of those concerned in the murder of Mr. Thynne. The Swedish Captain, the Lieutenant and the Polander were found guilty: but Count Konigsmark acquitted, though all imaginable art was used to involve him in it, and the rather because had he been condemned his Majesty must either have refused the solicitation of all the Princes on this side Europe, which, they knew, were coming in his behalf, or given an occasion to the party to make severe reflexions upon his pardoning so black a crime.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1681-2, February. Dublin.—The two elected Bishops of Raphoe and Killaloe are now going to attend your Grace at Kilkenny, and humbly to acknowledge the great honour of your Grace's favours. They have desired my letter to bring them into your Grace's presence and to present them to the honour of kissing your Grace's hands, which I the more readily presume to do, and to hope for your Grace's pardon, they being persons of such known integrity and prudence, that it may be reasonably presumed they will very industriously concern themselves in the discharge of that duty and great trust, for which your Grace has been pleased to name them and to recommend them to his Majesty. They with all humility lay themselves at your Grace's feet. I heartily pray for your Grace's health.

ORMOND to EARL of LONGFORD.

1681-2, March 1. Kilkenny.—I have your lordship's of the 21st of the last, but by my knowledge of all the persons mentioned by your intelligencer and of him also, and having met with so much treachery among that sort and level of people and some of higher name, I know not what or what not

to believe, only I can rest myself with much quietness upon my own foundation and expect what it shall please God to send. Yesterday was the first day I hunted, and I was five or six hours at the sport finding myself rather better than worse for the exercise. Your lordship's intentions in relation to your own and your lady's motions have appeared to me as variable as the success of Sir James Shaen's proposals, and yet knowing my late inability to write, and that when I am best I am apt to take a slight occasion to be dispensed with, your lordship seems to complain of having received no letter from me in two months. Be your lordship more certain and you shall not want letters from me. I have desired to have it in my power to pass into England for a few months; but if it be granted it is not certain I shall make use of it. My resolution in this point shall be as soon known to your lordship as I can impart it to you. *Copy.*

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 1. London.—Since my last I have advised with Mr. Coventry about your Grace's circumstances with my Lord Privy Seal and he is of the same opinion with my Lord Chamberlain. So that now your Grace has the sense of your best friends here, who I think are most capable of advising your Grace in the case. This day William Legge, Groom of the Bedchamber, went post for Scotland with a letter from his Majesty to the Duke to invite him to meet him at Newmarket. But I do not hear that the Duchess is to come, nor is it said the Duke will stay and not return to Scotland again.

The Governor of Flanders having declared his resolutions of relieving Luxemburg and to force his way thither in case of opposition, the King of France has given his directions to Marechal D'Umiers, in case he invades any of his territory in his way to Luxemburg, immediately to enter with his forces into Flanders. And some of those towns and countries, which the French have seized as appendencies upon his new conquests, so interpose between Flanders and Luxemburg, that it is impossible for the Duke of Parma to march thither without going through them, which the French will interpret the invading of his territories, so that if the Spaniards persist a war will suddenly be declared. In these circumstances the Spanish and States' Ministers here press the King for the calling a Parliament, that he may by their assistance be the better enabled to perform the conditions of his alliance with them in opposition to the French. But I do not perceive that his Majesty will take his measures for calling a Parliament from foreign States and Ministers.

The three men who killed Mr. Thynne were this day tried at Old Bailey found guilty and condemned. Count Konigsmark was also tried having on Tuesday had the bill of indictment

found against him as accessory. All the three acquitted him of knowing anything of their intention to murder Mr. Thynne or giving any direction for it. He behaved himself with great courage, modesty and prudence, and defended himself so well in his pertinent and quick answers, that the auditors were generally very favourably inclined to him before the jury brought in their verdict of not guilty. He answered that his journey into England and lying private was to take physic and be cured of a disease, which was very inconvenient to him, and for proof of it his doctor swore that from the time he first sent for him, which he believed was the day of his arrival, till he withdrew himself, he had every day given him physic more or less, was with him every day and never saw him all that while any otherwise dressed than in his nightgown. To the objection of disguising himself for his escape, he said he was told he was suspected, and though he knew himself innocent he could not blame anyone for suspecting him, and being informed that the fury of the rabble was risen against him, to avoid their rage he thought it prudent to withdraw himself out of the kingdom, till he could get a more seasonable occasion of vindicating his innocence. A scullion boy was produced as evidence against him, who swore that he asked him that morning whether it was usual for men to ride on horseback on Sundays. To this he answered first that it was not likely one of his education would converse with a scullion boy, and secondly it was more unlikely that he should ask that question, because he had himself rode on horseback here forty times on Sundays. When the jury was read he told the Judges though by the law he was to have half of his jury foreigners, yet he would rather have them all English, because he knew the English nation to be men of honour and integrity. But he desired that none of Mr. Thynne's relations or friends should be of it, because they would not be indifferent to him, nor did he desire any Papists to be of it, because they hated his family, who had been Protestants since the Reformation. And as to foreigners he desired there might be no Danes, Polanders, or Wallooners of it, because they hated his family, his father and grandfather having always fought against them. Then when the jury was read Sir Henry Ingoldsby, who was the foreman, he excepted against, but allowed of Sir William Roberts who was the next man, and in conclusion called out nineteen zealous Whigs who were returned of the jury. To the objection of his seeing the Captain the morning before he committed the murder and the night after he had done it, he answered that the Captain had always been bred in his family and had freedom of access to him, that he could not divine in the morning what design he had in his heart, and when he had done that ill fact he was heartily sorry for it, but could not prevent his coming to him. In fine his behaviour was such that when the jury brought in their verdict not guilty, the rabble shouted with joy.

On Thursday next the King has appointed to receive the new proposers' acceptance of the farm upon the minutes sent them by the Lords of the Treasury. The revocation of my Lord Ranelagh's patent as Vice-Treasurer is resolved on and will be speedily executed.

I had almost forgot another circumstance against Count Konigsmark, which is this: it was proved that when one told him this act would be a great stain upon his honour, that he should answer that lodging once upon a counterscarp would wipe it off; to this he replied, that it was very true a gentleman told him, when he was in Newgate, that the noise this made in the world would stain him, and that he replied one brave action would wipe it off, for though he was satisfied in his own innocency, yet he thought the being committed to so common a gaol as Newgate, the being arraigned as a felon and tried for his life for so foul an action was a stain upon his honour, which he said would be wiped off after his innocence was cleared by his lodging upon the counterscarp or doing some brave action. His brother's governor being examined about the question he had asked Monsieur Lyenburg, said that when Count Konigsmark was last in England, he of himself officiously, without any direction from the Count, one day waiting upon Monsieur Lyenburg asked him whether if the Count should fight Mr. Thynne and kill him he might by the law of England marry his widow and enjoy her estate, but he averred he never mentioned to him that he was desired by the Count to ask him that question. The Duchess of Portsmouth goes on Saturday for France, and the King and Court for Newmarket.

ORMOND TO EARL OF CONWAY.

1681-2, March 1. Kilkenny.—I was not willing to make any return to your lordship's letters in any hand but my own, and till very lately have been unable to use a pen, else yours of the 4th and 7th of the last month had been sooner answered. I presume Mr. Kirke has desisted from his pretension to the lands about the fort of Charlemont, the truth is they are too little even to beg, but much too little for the fort. The draft of a letter in favour of Sir James Edwards I shall humbly ask leave to give my opinion of, when I return to Dublin and may know what Sir Maurice Eustace can object against it. I conceive he is in possession of the mills desired by Sir James, by what title shall be reported to his Majesty that he may give his further commands with the justice and equity he proceeds with in all other cases. Till your lordship's present officer of foot can be advanced, it would be some hard measure towards him to put him into a lower command, but I will lay hold of the first opportunity to accommodate that affair to your satisfaction and it is like to fall out that you will oblige two officers, instead of disobliging one for the advantage of the other.

The settling of the revenue of Ireland before the expiration of the present farm (a thing most necessary to be done) has found so many difficulties and undergone so many changes, that I have forborne to interpose any opinion of mine in the matter, having no sufficient light to guide my judgment. Only I have from time to time sent over such accounts as were called for, and whatever else I thought might contribute to the making the best bargain for the King. Till the last letters out of England the proposals set on foot by Sir James Shaen and supported as I hear by Mr. Roberts as trusted for the Undertakers, were understood as wholly laid aside, but by letters of the 21st of the last month we are assured those proposals are agreed to in case the takers shall submit to some conditions taken in minutes in the Treasury Chamber. If this last resolution hold your lordship will judge there remains nothing for me to do, but to acquiesce in his Majesty's pleasure and to serve him his own way the best I can. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, March 1. Kilkenny.—At the same time I received yours of the 21st of the last month, I received one of the same date from Colonel Fitzpatrick; most of it was upon the subject of the treaty of marriage set on foot by my Lord Chamberlain's kindness with his cousin Mr. Bennet [having been] endeavoured to be obstructed by a she friend of yours, who has the picture you intended for your mother, but it was endeavoured in so vile and scandalous a manner as would make one angry that could not despise the author as well as the thing. If Fitzpatrick has said nothing to you of the matter you may or may not speak to him of it as you think good.

If the new bargain for this revenue be with such men as are like to perform, or to answer the King for the damage of non-performance, I have nothing to object against it; for though the interest of so great an advance to be paid out of this revenue be a great surcharge, yet the improvement of the rent, if well paid, will more than answer it, and for the repayment of the principal nine years hence, if peace continue improvement will and the Kingdom will be able to bear it, if not the revenue must break for more than that. This is all that I can say on that subject in the light I stand. I long to hear of mine of the 20th of February. *Copy.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 4. Whitehall.—It hath pleased his Majesty to sign a letter containing leave for your Grace to come over into England as soon as your occasions shall require, and to constitute my Lord of Arran Deputy during your Grace's absence. It is matter of most unfeigned joy to me that your Grace will have an opportunity by that means to wait on his Majesty, where I am sure you will be heard to the full.

ORMOND to EARL of LONGFORD.

1681-2, March 4. Kilkenny.—According to your advice in your lordship's of the 25th of February something shall be prepared in answer to my Lord of Anglesey and other later libellers misguided by him and other false intelligencers, when what is in hand shall be perfected it shall be left to the correction and disposal of friends. If I go into England I shall take it with me, if not it shall be sent. Mr. Secretary Jenkins shall know that I take myself to be much obliged by him.

All I yet know of the setting of the Irish revenue is what the last post but one brought me from my son Arran and your lordship's now before me. It has always been my practice, as it is my duty, to make the best of anything determined by the King as far as my power extends, and Sir James Shaen may be sure I shall not vary from that custom and resolution in the present case. If I knew how much of the advance money is to be applied to the service of Ireland, and that my opinion were required I should soon offer it with all due submission to his Majesty's pleasure. I am no ways unsatisfied with the honour Colonel G. Legge has obtained from his Majesty, yet I wish that upon applications of the same kind his Majesty would take time to consider, whether there are not already too many boroughs in Ireland, and that it is uncertain into what hands they may fall by descent sale or barter. Captain R. FitzGerald has got the King's leave to appear before him, and the writing upon his petition for it, undersigned by my Lord Conway, mentions that it is to make his defence, which he will soon do having that I know of no accuser. But if the consequence be his restitution to his command and place in Council, it would be considered whether his Majesty thereby does not give an inconvenient precedent, whereby he will seem to be obliged hereafter to assign reasons for all removes of that nature. I have not time to write any more letters this night having spent too much in the field, and being sleepy and weary, and therefore I desire you to acquaint Secretary Jenkins and my son Arran with this last part of my letter. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, March 4. Kilkenny.—You will find all the letters I shall write to you dated from this place, till I have received a return from you to mine of the 20th of the last month, the term being ended I have little to do at Dublin, and if I should resolve to go into England I have many orders to leave behind me relating to my fortune, which will best be done here. I have writ to my Lord Longford in answer to one from him of the 25th of the last month, and thought to have written no more letters this night having none of yours to answer, but the more I consider of Captain FitzGerald's petition and the

order upon it, which I have I know not how mislaid, the more I wonder how the King could be so surprised. My Lord Longford will tell you the substance and my sense of it. I shall only add that I have not heard the King has given any reasons for all the removes he has made from his Council and other employments in England, and that though it be true that Captain FitzGerald bought his troop, yet it was no part of his conditions with the King that he should hold it however he carried himself, and besides he sold his lieutenant's place, which he had for nothing, to buy his troop. However the King shall make up his loss in the bargain I shall not oppose it, but for the example's sake I should be sorry to see him restored to any command in the Army or to his place in Council, at least till all things are accommodated to the King's content. *Copy.*

EARL of ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 4. Arlington House.—This morning the King, Queen and the whole Court are gone to Newmarket. My late indispositions and the fear of the cold weather there have kept me behind, until I find them both a little more mended. Two days since I had the honour of two of your Grace's together of the 18th and 20th past and my Lord of Arran thinking it best for my doing so, I charged myself likewise with the delivery of yours to his Majesty of the same date. The King having read his own letter, I desired him to read mine, which he did whilst he permitted me to read his, both which being over I told him by what means I became the occasion of this your Grace's overture for your coming over, and withal showed him the paper signed betwixt me and my cousin Simon Bennet, but withal told him, if he, his Majesty, had any thoughts of having the child disposed otherwise of, I durst boldly answer that you who had so frankly hazarded your life and your fortune for him, and were ready to do it again, would not dispute this point one moment with him. He seemed to understand me though not without some unwillingness, for I named no persons, but protested withal he had no thought of it, and should be loath any body could think he would do so unkind a thing to my Lord of Ormond, especially having with his own mouth recommended the affair to the father.

From this I passed to the point of your son Arran's having the deputation of the Government there in the short time you should be away, and particularly showed him how it would cost money to have it put into any other hands and so left him, finding no difficulty at all in him to consent to your journey and with that circumstance too of my Lord of Arran; but on the contrary professing it would be of great satisfaction to him in many respects to see you. Of all this I presently gave his lordship an account and advised him to lose no time

in acquainting my Lord Hyde with it for fear it should give him any umbrage. I have been more particular in my narrative of this matter than perhaps was necessary, that your Grace might the better understand how it passed: and I make no doubt but my Lord of Arran takes what care he could in this hurry of the King's departure of the necessary dispatches. The Duchess of Portsmouth embarked yesterday for France, so you may perhaps lose the opportunity of seeing her, but you will be recompensed by finding his Royal Highness here who is expected at Newmarket the end of the next week.

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 4. London.—The King went early this morning for Newmarket, and last night concluded with the proposers about the Irish farm, the particulars whereof I doubt not but my Lord Arran gives your Grace at large. I know not whether the letter for annulling my Lord Ranelagh's patent, and for revoking the letter his lordship surreptitiously procured for his fees since last May, was signed but I am sure it was drawn, and I know the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, without whose privity it was obtained, are sufficiently nettled at it, and will with all their credit, if it be not already done, endeavour the revocation of it. Three days since my Lord Arran acquainted me with your Grace's sudden resolutions for England. I doubt not but your Grace has taken them upon due consideration, but it will happen in an unlucky conjuncture, and will open the mouths of the Whigs with all the malice imaginable against your Grace: against which though your Grace's courage is full proofs, yet it is impossible to stop the torrent of their reflections. My poor cabin in Surrey is at your Grace's service, whilst your Grace shall please to content yourself with so homely a retirement.

The Duchess of Portsmouth went on board last night, and this day her farewell has been cried and sung about the streets. Count Konigsmark is said to have accompanied her, which will more open the mouths of the rabble against her. My Lord Arran intends Monday sennight for Newmarket, where I resolve to attend him, as also in his journey for Ireland. My Lord Ranelagh in the Treasury Chamber before the King reproached Mr. Roberts for his being auditor to Cromwell, to which Roberts replied that if it were fit for him in that assembly to make his lordship an answer, he could tell him that he was beholding to the famous Milton for all his learning, he being his tutor.

The prints will tell your Grace of the several addresses [which] have been made to his Majesty from the Artillery Company and the Lieutenantcy of this City. The same is intended to be set on foot in the Common Council, which is to be held on Friday next, and the honest party doubt not of carrying is

for an abhorreny against the association. But the prudent party of them apprehend that the opposite party will promote a petition for the settling of a Parliament, and ground it upon the King's declaration for frequent Parliaments, in which they fear many moderate men, who will join with them in the first, will leave them in their opposition to the latter. So that it is like to be a trial of skill between both parties. And those who wish well to the King hope the first will not be pressed, lest if it be accompanied with the latter it may produce an ill precedent, and ferment that humour again throughout the Kingdom; and therefore conclude it best, that neither be stirred at the Common Council, which it is hoped will be the result, for the Whiggish party are now so damped that they will be contented to compound the matter. The Spaniards, after all their brags, will be necessitated to quit Luxemburg to the French. I suppose now your Grace resolves so soon for England, the frame of the new establishment will be reserved for your Grace's approbation. My Lord Castlehaven having told me that he had sent your Grace one of Borlase's last pamphlets, I forbear to send your Grace one of them.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 4. London.—My Lord Chamberlain having desired me that he should alone give your Grace an account of what passed betwixt his Majesty and him, upon his delivering your letter about your Grace's having permission to come over hither and about your leaving me Deputy in your absence, his Majesty consenting to both, I shall only inform your Grace how I have proceeded. I sent Mr. Mulys to make inquiry after the letter your Grace mentions in yours of the 20th, but he could find no entry either in the Secretary's books or the Signet Office: but yesterday in the Paper Office of which Sir Joseph Williamson is Keeper he found a copy and by that I got one drawn, which I hope will serve the turn, if your Grace shall hold your resolution of coming over. The only alterations that I made from the other letter, for I had not time to consult any body but Mr. Cook, were these: whereas in the preamble of the former letter his Majesty says, or words to that purpose, that for urgent affairs of state and to have you near his person etc. he would have you come over, in this letter he takes notice of your Grace's desires to him to come about your own concerns and to give his Majesty an account of the state of that kingdom.

Another alteration I made was in that letter leave is given to your Grace to name a Deputy, but in this letter his Majesty names me to be Deputy in your absence. This I confess was vanity in me that it might appear upon record what honour the King intended me in case you altered your intentions of coming over, the letter being of course to be entered at the Signet. His Majesty signed the letter last

night, and went out of town for Newmarket at five this morning. My Lord Hyde being very much my friend I told him early of this matter, which he seemed to be very well satisfied with. It is so publicly known now that everybody takes notice to me of it, and I expect it will be in the news-books on Monday, with this mistake that I am made Lord Lieutenant, so little do they know the affairs of that kingdom here, for I have had joy given me by that title from several that I met in the Mall this morning, both Whigs and Tories. The former will certainly give out that it is a concerted thing for the Duke and you to meet. My Lord Hyde told me as a friend, that he believed his Royal Highness would not stay here long after Easter.

My Lord Longford will spare his house in the country, if my mother shall want it, and my Lord Feversham desires you would make use of his house in St. James' Square, which will be empty from the 1st of May next until Michaelmas, but I suppose if your Grace comes at all you will come as early as you mention in your letter to my Lord Chamberlain if not sooner. I intend at farthest to leave this town on Monday sennight and stay one day at Newmarket and so strait to Holyhead; therefore I desire the yacht may be there by the 18th of this month. The reason why I stay so long is to see my wife lie down and take the opportunity of my Lord Chesterfield's coach so far as Newmarket. The contractors have yesterday agreed to take the farm with all amendments, so that my Lord Ranelagh is to turn out, and methinks I never saw so sudden a dejection in any man's countenance in my life. The Bishop of Down's wife being fallen very sick, he desires another licence for three months to stay here.

ORMOND TO COLONEL JOHN FITZPATRICK.

1681-2, March 6. Kilkenny.—I have just now received yours of the 28th of the last and [have] but little to say in return to it, if I had more time than is allowed me. I am glad to find more conscience and truth in a player wench than in your countrywoman. I received his Majesty's letter, and one from James Hamilton, concerning a Churchman of that name in this place, where I have no opportunity to inquire after his fitness to be a bishop: but not long since he came hither himself with good attestations from bishops under whom he has exercised his function. I find the man rational in his discourse and modest in his expectation of preferment, and it would be too high a leap from archdeacon to be a bishop, but I have assured him that when some of my present engagements were over I would advance him to some better employment than that he holds. When I come to Dublin the King and my nephew shall receive a further account of the matter.

Copy.

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, March 6. Kilkenny.—I received yours of the 28th of the last this morning, and an express going to Dublin, I hasten to tell you so. Let the conveniences of the match proposed and prosecuted by my Lord Chamberlain be never so great, yet I have too much duty to rival the King if he engages another way, and yet it is so necessary that James should be engaged that if I have permission I shall make the voyage, and since the Duke is to be there I shall not be sorry to be there at the same time, let the reports or suspicions be what they will.

I am sorry my Lord Longford troubled the King upon the report of my removal, which for aught yet appears to me, springs originally and only from an intelligencer irritated and at the best uncertain. I thought it had been past question that the proposals for the Irish revenue would be accepted, the proposers complying with all that was required from them. I forgot in my last to tell you Lieut.-Colonel Monro was dead. I pretend not to dispose of commands in that regiment, but with the approbation of my Lord Dunbarton I suppose there is no doubt but that Sir James Hacket will be lieut.-colonel, and for the company there are three pretenders. Monro before he died would have had his son, who is but a youth though his ensign, to have it. One Lieutenant Carr a man of birth sent me the enclosed paper for his pretensions. One Hamilton who has been lieutenant for seven years, if the Lieut.-Colonel's son have it not, thinks his pretence to it reasonable and seems to be a sober soldier-like man. The persons and pretences are best known to my Lord Dunbarton, and therefore I shall do nothing, till I have the King's pleasure, or till I hear from my Lord Dunbarton. *Copy.*

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 7. London.—This place is very dull and little news stirring since the Court removed to Newmarket. I misinformed your Grace in my last when I told your Grace Count Konigsmark went on board the yacht with the Duchess of Portsmouth, for in truth he went in another yacht which was sent to fetch Colonel Sidney out of Holland, and Captain Oglethorpe's going on board with him was the occasion of that report. It is said that he left directions with a friend here to signify to any that should enquire after him, that he would stay about Ostend or Newporte for three weeks, in one of which places he would be found by any persons that had a mind to fight with him. For just before he went he understood that my Lord Mordaunt had been several times at Sir Nathaniel Johnson's, where he lodged after he was quitted at the Old Bailey, to bring him a challenge from my Lord Cavendish, but having never met with him, for he was still denied to be within, he offers them now fair play where he may fight upon equal terms.

The occasions of your Grace's coming soon over hither are variously reported here, for both the Court and Whiggish party make their conjectures. When I have the honour to kiss your Grace's hands I shall explain all to your Grace. In the meantime I will only say that your Grace will come hither in a very critical time and have use of all your politics. Sir Joseph Williamson offers your Grace with great frankness the use of his house in St. James' Square with all his furniture while your Grace stays in London, and my Lord Feversham and Ned Villiers, the Knight Marshal, offer theirs. But I presume your Grace will make use of the first, because though it is not altogether so large as my Lord Feversham's, yet it is much the finer finished and better furnished of the three and will cost your Grace nothing, but if your Grace choose either of the other two you will be necessitated to hire furniture for them. I have directed my gardener in Surrey to provide salads for your Grace; and if the gout will give your Grace leave to walk, your Grace will find variety of walks in the shade at all hours of the day to divert you. And if your Grace should rather choose hunting several of my neighbours have packs of hounds to entertain your Grace with that sport, and your Grace already knows how proper that country is for it.

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1681-2, March 7. Blessington.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 4th instant. I do not at all wonder at Sir James Shaen's pretensions for your service, for whatever his inclinations be it must be his business to have the favour and assistance of the Government, without which it will be impossible for him or for anybody to make the best advantage of the revenue of this kingdom, and I will do Sir James Shaen this right, that at his going into England he assured me that he would not engage in any contract for this farm but with the expectation and hope of your Grace's countenance, but how far he intended what he said I am not able to judge, but he then appeared to me as very real in that point.

I presume your Grace have heard from the Mayor of Youghal of some disorders in that town upon Shrove Tuesday last, and that they fell most sorely upon the quarters of Lieutenant Hamilton. What the occasion was, and whether any mischief hath been done, my cousin Boyle, who wrote to me of it, was not then able to give any account, but I presume the Magistrate of that place hath sent your Grace a full relation of the whole business. I doubt not but your Grace will give such directions to the next going Judges of Assize into that province, so to examine and punish it as to discourage all such tumultuous risings in the future. They have not hitherto been customary in this kingdom and a brisk proceeding therein at this first beginning may deter them and others from any such wild attempts hereafter.

I herewith send your Grace the copy of some examinations taken by Sir George Acheson from a Tory now in the confinement in the gaol of Armagh, or rather his voluntary discoveries, which he now pretends to make to save his own life. They were directed to Dr. Coghill by Sir George Acheson, which is likewise herewith enclosed to your Grace. I intend to put the originals into Sir Richard Reynell's hands, who is going that circuit, to inquire farther into that matter and to take the best account thereof he can. This way I have observed your Grace to take in things of that nature, and I presume your Grace would have done the same now if you had been upon the place, but in case your Grace have any farther commands or any other directions to be given therein I shall be able to send them after Sir Richard before he enters upon his circuit, if I may understand your Grace's pleasure therein.

I am heartily glad that your new dogs prove so well as to please you, nor shall I be dissuaded by anybody's capriciousness to say so as well as think so. It is your health which must make you capable to serve God and the King, and while innocent diversions are conducible thereunto it is no less grave to consult them than your physicians. I thought in your Grace's absence to have spent some little time here in the country, not only for recreation but for a little physic; but the weather proves so sharp that it is fit for neither. I am therefore in very few days upon my return to my old quarters, and there to expect some warmer season to draw me forth again, where I shall be ready upon the place to receive the honour of your Grace's commands, and shall observe them with all the satisfaction imaginable.

EARL OF ARRAN TO DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1681-2, March 7. London.—I had your Grace's of the 18th of the last soon enough to answer last post, but the giving my Lord Lieutenant an account of my proceedings upon his commands about his coming over hither took up all of my time that night. His desires are fully complied with and neither you nor he can want accommodation either in the town or country, if you hold your resolution of coming over. My Lord Feversham, Sir Cyril Wyche and Sir Joseph Williamson will have their houses empty in St. James's Square and would be all of them glad to lend my lord their house. My wife holds out still and will I believe until full moon. I intend for Ireland the beginning of next week, but it is likely because I go by Newmarket that I shall be ten days on the way. My niece Betty Stanhope is very much cleared up as your Grace will find when you come over; the disposing of her is much her father's care, and he has had good proffers made about her, but he will not hearken to any until your Grace comes or that he hears you put off the journey.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 7. London.—I have little worth your Grace's trouble this post, but a captain of the Army in Ireland being dead since the last packet went away, I thought it my duty to acquaint you with it. It is Frank Jones, if I mistake not once a servant in your family. Sir John Peyton having lost his captain of horse upon whose account he parted with his foot company, he desires again to change his lieutenant of horse's place for this company, with which I promised him to acquaint your Grace. Mr. Cook having given me this day his Majesty's letter for my being Deputy in your Grace's absence, being entered at the Signet Office and having the rough draft by which it was drawn by him, I got it from him and send it enclosed to your Grace. The letter itself I will carry with me on Tuesday, my Lord Chesterfield having put off his journey a day longer because he sends my niece Betty and his other children into Derbyshire that day.

DRURY WRAY to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 10.—Concerning Mortagh Downey who this winter came out of England and is one of the informers against Sir John FitzGerald and others about a plot. He says that, in an inn at Castletown, Downey stated that he, and Hetherington, and a third person whom he named not, were hired in London to have killed the King; that Hetherington was first to attempt it whilst he (Downey) was presenting a petition to his Majesty. *Abstract.*

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 11. London.—All I can say to your Grace is that the Duke landed yesterday at Yarmouth, and we believe is this night at Newmarket. My Lord Hyde went away this morning for Newmarket and so has my Lord Ranelagh. If they agree no better there than they have done here, perhaps his Majesty may lose some part of his divertisement there, for he was tired with the dispute here, and for a quiet life made an end of it before he left the town. My Lord Conway and Mr Seymour as good courtiers have applauded his Majesty's conclusion with the proposers, and have promised their parts in supporting of their contract. This I give your Grace by way of preparation, that you may know how dexterous courtiers we are here. My wife I hope is this day landed at Dieppe, which I presume to acquaint your Grace with because your Grace has formerly reproached me for not mentioning her, for she has had a very fair wind and fairer weather since she went on board.

The Common Council met yesterday, but nothing was done, for as I told your Grace in my last both parties were upon their guard, and neither of them had courage to adventure

the first attack because they have not either of them yet measured their strength. I suppose my Lord Arran gives your Grace an account of himself and of his motion from hence.

Since your Grace intends for England, where I am sure your Grace will use your accustomed hospitality, I have this day met with an honest merchant, who has newly arrived here very good Cahors wine, of which I have bespoke a proportion for your Grace. This gentleman is Mr. Bourke, Mr. Arthur's correspondent, and one who has the same duty and devotion for your Grace that Mr. Arthur has, and when your Grace pleases to make trial of his duty to your Grace, you will find the same respect has been shown your Grace by his correspondent.

SAME TO SAME.

1681-2, March 14. London.—Last night I had the honour of your Grace's of the 1st and 4th instant, and this morning I communicated both to my Lord Arran and Mr. Secretary Jenkins that part which mentioned Captain Fitzgerald's petition and leave from hence upon it to make his defence. This night Mr. Secretary is resolved to give his Majesty his sense upon this subject, and my Lord Arran will second it upon his arrival at Newmarket on Saturday, when I resolve to be also there and shall cast my fool's bolt too. My Lord Arran had gone thither on Thursday, had not my Lord Hyde's coming then to town diverted it; for it is necessary for your Grace's service, that he pay all ceremonies to his lordship before he leaves this kingdom, which he could not with any decency have done by an accidental salute upon the road. The Duke was received by his Majesty with all imaginable affection and tenderness, which make some conclude here that his Highness will not return soon to Scotland. And it is certain her Royal Highness has leave to come, the only difficulty is the safest manner of bringing her, because she is but a fortnight quick. Some advise the bringing her all the way in a sedan, because a coach will jog her too much and may endanger her miscarriage. Others think the most convenient way will be by sea, because she endures that element better than most of her sex. Thus the learned differ in their opinions, and as yet I cannot learn what certain resolution is, or will be, taken in this matter.

I have acquainted Sir James Shaen with your Grace's acquiescence in his Majesty's resolution about the Irish farm, with which he is so transported that he vows with all protestations imaginable to live and die your Grace's slave. And as soon as I can meet my Lord Hyde I shall acquaint him with it also; for the last time I discoursed with him his lordship seemed to apprehend that your Grace was not satisfied with this conclusion about the revenue, in which I shall undeceive

him. I am heartily glad your Grace has taken a resolution that some answer shall be given to my Lord Privy Seal's libels, for his printing both your Grace's letter to him and his own answer to it has raised many scandalous reproaches upon your Grace.

My wife landed safe and well at Dieppe on Saturday morning and by next Saturday will be in Paris. I do not find my own constitution so proper now for riding post, and therefore am not able to bear my Lord Arran company in his journey, but I shall soon follow him intending on Monday sennight to set forward and consequently hope to overtake your Grace in Ireland. I just now received a letter from my wife from Dieppe giving a very good account of her health and quick voyage, which she performed so well that she declines the advice of her physicians here in taking physic at Rouen for three or four days, and resolves to be in Paris on Thursday.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1661-2, March 14. London.—I had yesterday your Grace's letters of the 1st, 4th and 6th instant, and as to what your Grace mentions of the intelligence my uncle Fitzpatrick gave you by my Lord Chamberlain's directions, I had notice of it before and did think it not worth the taking notice of so as to make a business of it, considering who the lady is, and withal believing that the matter of fact was not true in all the circumstances as it was related to your Grace.

I knew nothing of the petition and order upon it on behalf of Capt. FitzGerald, until I saw your Grace's letters to my Lord Longford, and indeed I am somewhat surprised at the manner of proceedings in that case, but I believe when the Captain hears that your Grace intends so soon for England he will scarce venture to come over, however when I am at Newmarket I will speak with the King upon that subject. I intended to go there on Thursday, but because my Lord Hyde will come to town from Newmarket on that day and not having taken my leave of him yet, I think it necessary to stay for him, and I know in this very business of FitzGerald he will advise the King not to hear anything by way of excuse, or allow of any expostulation.

On Saturday next I at farthest intend to be at Newmarket, though my wife should not be brought to bed, and the Monday following will make what haste I can to the sea side, and by your Grace's letters I conclude I may be at Dublin before your Grace can have ordered your business at Kilkenny to be ready for your journey, and have a fortnight's time at Dublin to stay for the season of the year and prepare instructions for me, for I am conscious to myself that I shall want them in a greater measure than others have done, who have had the honour to serve his Majesty in that or the like post before me.

I showed my Lord Dunbarton the enclosed from your Grace upon the death of Lieut. Colonel Monro, and he will lay the whole matter before you with reasons why he recommends others. I suppose it will be no news to tell your Grace that the Duke came to Newmarket on Saturday last about five in the evening with a great many of the Scots' nobility.

ORMOND TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681-2, March 15. Kilkenny.—I have your Grace's of the 10th by Sir Francis Brewster and one of the 13th by the post, the papers enclosed with the latter are returned. What John Fitzpatrick writes of the alteration of countenances towards my Lord Ranelagh is confirmed to me with this addition, that it produces apparent defection in his lordship, an infirmity that pleases enemies and is often avoided by men of [steady] principles and suitable practice. I send your Grace the best account I received of the posture the farm was in the 4th of this month, if it be not absolutely concluded those that opposed the proposals may hope for support from the Duke. The question of his Royal Highness coming being carried as he would have it, it is like the other concerning his stay or return to Scotland may have the same success. Men that mean the Crown and him well may very [possibly] differ in opinion in it. I hope it will be determined before I get to Court for, though I should say nothing in it, I shall be sure to bear a share in the counsel, especially if it prove not the best.

I hope all that is said of Messandier is not true, but I fear there is truth enough against him to do his business. I have often reproved him for that humour that has brought him into the sad condition he is in, and warned him against it when I gave him the employment he is in, with the assurance that if he fell into any such misfortune I would leave him to the law and justice of the kingdom. I will keep my word better than he has done his with me. I [in]tend to stay here till my son Arran's arrival which I shall expect every day after Sunday next. *Copy.*

STATEMENT OF JAMES MORLEY CONCERNING SIR JOHN DAVYS.

1681-2, March 15.—Whereas upon some informations made unto me by Hubert Tirrell and Henry O'Neill of the manner of the deportment of Sir John Davys Knt., his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State in Ireland, towards them upon their being examined before the said Sir John touching some persons alleged by them to be concerned in the Popish Plot, I was induced to believe that Sir John had much discouraged them in giving their testimony, and consequently by such his supposed demcanour other persons might be deterred from

exposing themselves in the further discovery of the said Plot; and on my coming for England, having a paper in my custody importing the substance of a discovery which the said Hubert Tirrell offered to swear the truth of, and for that purpose had got drawn by some other person into the form of an examination and brought ready to me in order to go along with him to some of the Privy Council there to be sworn to, I did upon my being examined before the Committee of the late House of Commons of the Parliament that last sat at Westminster touching the Popish Plot, both inform of the said pretended discouragement, and produce the said paper of Tirrell's to prove the matters which he had formerly informed me of about meeting of several of the Popish gentry and clergy of Ulster in two consults in the county of Cavan to send an agent for France to carry on the said Plot &c.; which paper I did then believe was the substance of the discovery that the said Tirrell had made before the said Sir John Davys, for that not only he and the said O'Neill had told me they had given in the same information to Sir John that they had done before to me, but that the said paper was signed by John Cooper, whom I had sent to the Clerk of the Council's Office on purpose to inquire what information or discovery the said Tirrell and O'Neill had made upon their examinations aforesaid, as taken out of the Clerk of the Council's Office. And being under that belief I did offer the said paper to the Committee as that which I gave credit to, and I thought might be the information that Sir John might have taken from the said Tirrell who, as he told me, knew not whether Sir John drew what he had said into writing or no. I was also drawn to believe from the information given me by the said Tirrell and O'Neill, that Sir John Davys had examined them alone without any other being joined with him, which rendered the hard usage they pretended to have received from Sir John upon their examination the more credible. But since I am satisfied by persons of unquestionable repute that the Lord Viscount Granard was joined with him the said Sir John in, and was present at the said Tirrell's and O'Neill's examination, and do now believe neither he was or would have been guilty of, or the Lord Granard have permitted, any such carriage to be used to those that came to witness on the King's behalf; I am also satisfied that the evidence which the said Tirrell and O'Neill gave in before the Lord Granard and Sir John was taken in writing and that the paper which I produced before the Committee as aforesaid was not the same or any true copy of that they or either of them had sworn to on their said examinations; upon all which together with the certain knowledge I have since had of the many falsehoods sworn by the said Tirrell (and others by his means) against myself with other notorious crimes he is guilty of, and the report I have had of the like ill carriage of the said O'Neill, I am fully satisfied that Sir John was belied and scandalized by them in the matters they complained of and informed against him,

and (as is but reasonable and Christianlike) do own and am sorry for my precipitateness in entertaining an ill opinion of Sir John upon the misinformations of those evil persons, and in my appearing as I did thereupon at the said Committee and to the Grand Jury of Middlesex afterwards against him whom by more certain and very clear information, which I received since concerning him, I believe to be a loyal subject and a true Protestant and that he never acted in anything derogatory from these characters of him, and am likewise sorry if anything I have said upon the account of the misinformations aforesaid have made impression in any person to Sir John Davys' prejudice, and shall use my utmost endeavours to remove the same which Sir John may rest assured of, as I am confident of his reciprocal and generous justice in endeavouring to remove all those misunderstandings and prejudices that I lie under from the false oaths of them and their confederates, from whose malice I desire to be blest but as certainly as it is true that there is not one word of truth they have sworn against me.

Witnesses: Henry Davys, William Wetherell. A true copy examined by us James Morley, William Wetherell.

Endorsed, March 15th, 1681.—A true copy of the instrument sent over from Ireland by Sir John Davys to be signed by Mr. Morley, wherewith Sir John declared himself fully satisfied and so signed by Mr. Morley accordingly.

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 16. London.—My Lord Arran has stayed here to good purpose, for he had the satisfaction this morning of seeing his lady brought to bed of a son. By Lord Chamberlain's advice he has delayed his journey for a day or two, in hopes that he may receive a letter from your Grace to understand your Grace's resolution and the time of moving from thence. Last night my Lady Ogle and Mr. Sidney arrived here and the latter says the States are resolved to enter into a war with France in case the French will not withdraw their forces from before Luxemburg. And in order to this they will not only supply the Spaniards with the eight thousand men they are obliged by their alliance to furnish them with, but the Prince of Orange is also resolved to be upon the frontiers with an army of thirty thousand men to second the Spaniards in their relief of Luxemburg, for which the Marquis de Grana has positive orders from Spain. The French on the other side seem as resolute to make good their ground, are drawing together their forces and it is said the King himself will be at the head of them. If matters should proceed to a rupture the great expectation is what measures our King will take; the Whigs hope he may by this means be necessitated to call a Parliament.

I waited this day upon my Lord Hyde and showed him that part of your Grace's letter to me of the 4th instant, wherein your Grace made mention of Sir James Shaen and your acquiescence in his Majesty's determination in the farm of the revenue of Ireland, with which his lordship seemed extremely well satisfied, and made great professions of service to your Grace, not doubting but your Grace would continue the same friendship you had always been pleased to favour him with. I suppose my Lord Arran will tell your Grace more upon this subject, for he was with him this morning.

It is become now uncertain again whether the Duke will continue here. Many of our statesmen are for his return to Scotland, and the Duchess's coming is as uncertain. In this fluctuation no man can be sure of any intimation he sends your Grace from hence; and if I give your Grace the best hints I can by one post, I hope your Grace will not be surprised if I contradict it by the next. On Friday in the Court of Aldermen a motion was made for a Committee to be sent from them to Newmarket to congratulate the Duke upon his return into England. And though ten were for it and but four against it, yet that small party wrangled so hard that they stand off the court from coming then to any resolution. So the debate was adjourned till Monday, when it will be resumed again, and if both parties then muster up all their forces, the Whigs at most cannot be more than nine, and the other party may be, if all meet fifteen. And yet I will not answer for the success of it.

I had almost forgot to tell your Grace, that I fear all the money which is to be advanced by the new Farmers will be applied to his Majesty's affairs here; for my Lord Hyde told me, when we discoursed upon that subject that he did not find his Majesty had yet resolved how to apply that money; nor did he apprehend if the present farm went on, and they performed, how there would be any occasion for any part of that money in Ireland. So that I foresee Sir James Shaen's offer in that particular was at random.

The States have given a memorial to the French Ambassador acquainting him with their resolution to send the eight thousand men to the Spaniards, which the King of France ought not to look upon as a breach of the Peace of Numigen, because in their so doing they performed only what they were obliged to by their treaty with the Spaniards. And therefore for prevention of the breach of the Peace they desired his Majesty would withdraw his forces, that blocked up Luxemburg. And that all occasions of a future war might be taken away they proposed as an expedient to his Majesty, that there might be a general treaty for ascertaining all limits and bounds in dispute, and for the clearing of those articles in the Treaty of Numigen which were so ambiguously penned as to afford matter for the present disputes, that are like now to arise.

And some believe the King of France will be persuaded to hearken to this, because not only the Spaniards and States are positively resolved to declare war in case he refuses it, but also because they have settled their alliances with [the] Emperor and the Princes of Germany, who have at the Diet at Ratisbon agreed upon an Army of seventy thousand men, and that each Prince will maintain his quota for three years to come.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 16. London—I intended as your Grace will find by my last to leave the town this day, but my wife falling in labour last night I have deferred my journey till Monday next. She was brought to bed about seven o'clock this morning of a son and is pretty well, and the boy seems to be so likewise, but I shall not depend much upon any of my children's lives. I have taken my leave this morning of my Lord Hyde, to whom I am infinitely obliged, and I am very confident you will find him as true a friend as ever you had any. The whole discourse we had at parting I reserve until I wait upon your Grace there; this part I shall only tell you now, that I have promised you will be his friend, and that your errand over is not what he tells me is reported at Newmarket, which is that your Grace comes over full fraught with revenge against him for his proceedings in relation to the farm. I hope I shall have an answer to mine of the 4th instant before Monday.

THE LAST SPEECH OF HENRY O'NEILL.

1681-2, March 18. Mullingar.—Concerning information given by him about the alleged Popish Plot. When about to be executed at Mullingar for a robbery, he declares upon the words of a dying man that whatever he did swear to discover a Popish Plot was suggested to him in Dublin above three years since by Hubert Tirrell before he was examined by Sir John Davys. Afterwards he was brought into England by Owen Murphy, who made him great promises, and to relieve himself being then in a very needy condition and to free his son out of Mullingar gaol, he promised to discover a Plot. In the sight of God he never knew anything of it but what he was taught by those mentioned, and by Mr. William Hetherington, John McClane, McMeyer, Friar Duffy, Florence Weyer, Hugh Hanlon and others both here and in England. In Bosom's Inn in London he was desired by McClane, who said he would take the sin of it on himself, to swear the Plot against Primate Plunkett, but never gave any evidence against the Primate and hopes he is innocent of the blood of that good man although it was his misfortune to be in the company of those that accused him. He protests also that his information against Bishop Tirrell, Vicar Brady and others of the Irish clergy

was all false, and that he never knew anything but what McClane instructed him. As to the robbery for which he is sentenced he is innocent of it, and his sons are innocent of it and of all other robberies so far as he knows. He hopes for mercy by the benefit of Christ's death communicated to him by the participation of his sacraments in the Roman Catholic Church, in the bosom of which he dies. As to the evidence Captain Morley desired him to give against Sir John Davys, he declares that he had no ground to make it and was induced to do it by Mr. Morley, who said he would make him great friends in the House of Lords and in London and recommended him to those who maintained him there. He was told by Mr. Morley that notice of his discovery to Sir John must have been sent to the North by Sir John himself, but replied that it might have been sent by Hubert Tirrell. He often heard the other informers threatening to accuse the Duke of Ormond, the Lord Chancellor, Sir William Davys and Sir John Davys; and Hetherington, George Murphy, both the MacNamares, Mr. Ivy and Friar Bernard Dennis said that the Duke of Ormond was building a new fortification near Dublin to command the city and that he would bring in the French. All this he would have discovered to the Lord Lieutenant when he was removed from Trim to Dublin by a *habeas corpus* had not John Cooper, an attorney living in Corn Market, next door to the Black Dog, obstructed him. *Abstract from copy.*

SIR JOSEPH WILLIAMSON to EARL of ARRAN.

1681-2, March 20. St. James' Square.—I hope your lordship knows by your people that I have not been wanting to my duty in attempting twenty times since I saw you last to congratulate the happiness all your servants have to see you succeed in the Government of that kingdom that hath been so long and honourably administered by your father and your brother. I wish all increase of honour and dignity to your lordship and your house with all my heart, and that your young son, whom I congratulate you the good fortune of, may live one day to fill the same dignities in the world as worthily as his ancestors have done and do. I rely on your lordship to make out my compliment to my Lord Duke and my Lady Duchess as to my house; it is most humbly at their service and without the least inconvenience to us, and I beg you will please to think me most serious in this humble offer where I owe so much.

Postscript.—I am forced for a day or two to go to Cobham, but hope to return early enough to wait on you before you begin your journey.

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 21. Newmarket.—I came hither last night, where I met surprising news; first that at the request of the

King, the King of France had retired all his forces from before Luxemburg, having commanded Marechal Crecqui and Marechal D'Humiers to withdraw immediately all his troops from before it; and in his letter to our King said he did it barely upon his Majesty's request, which he would not have done if all the Kings and Princes in Europe had petitioned him to have done it. And he did not intend to free only Luxemburg, but he would also refer all matters of difference between him and Spain concerning the limits of their frontiers to his Majesty's sole arbitration. And if his Majesty in his judgment was of opinion, that any of those territories he had possessed himself of as appendices, or any of those small castles which he had fortified, were inconvenient to the Spaniards or were in his Majesty's opinion a breach of the Treaty of Numigen, he would upon his Majesty's arbitration restore them and dismantle those small fortifications, which should give him umbrage or be thought inconvenient.

This sudden and generous condescension has not only surprised us, but much more the Spaniard and the States, who were resolved to have pushed for the relief of Luxemburg, though a war had ensued, they having concluded their alliances in Germany and engaged them not only to supply them with the assistance of a great army, but also to continue it for three years. And if matters had proceeded to a rupture they doubted not to have necessitated his Majesty to have entered into the war with them and to have called a Parliament. But this sudden turn has now broken all their measures, for the King of France by this method of proceeding will put the rupture upon the Spaniard if a war ensue, and then neither our King nor the States can honourably interpose their assistance. In the meantime the French King pursues his raising of thirty thousand new men, and it is thought will prosecute his design against Genoa, in which case the Spaniard will be hard put to it to defend them and secure Milan and Naples, which are not comprehended in the Treaty of Numigen and consequently no obligation upon our King and the States to assist them. But the Spaniards are not the only men surprised at this retreat of the King of France's forces from before Luxemburg. For our Whigs now are as much to seek as they, having by this means lost their hope of necessitating the King to call a Parliament soon.

The Duke of Monmouth gave the Marquis de Grana a visit in London the day he arrived, and was assured by the Marquis that he had orders from the King of Spain immediately to proceed to a rupture, and to make the relief of Luxemburg the ground of it. And it is thought here that the Duke of Monmouth dissuaded him from coming to visit the King here, which was the reason he went away the next day so suddenly from London, and would not stay for a yacht to carry him over to Ostend, but went in an ordinary vessel, which part of the Duke's is very ill resented here, the effects

whereof they were once in a resolution to have shown, but have since retracted them or rather laid them aside for the present.

It is not yet certainly known whether the Duke returns soon for Scotland, but I have reason to believe his Highness will go to London before his return to Scotland if that be resolved on. There have been and still are great crowds to compliment him, insomuch that it is very difficult to get a bed here. I expect my Lord Arran here this night, but know not yet where I shall get a lodging for him, though I have spoke with and pressed Harbinger to provide one for him.

The next surprising news I have to tell your Grace is, that my Lord Ranelagh has played his own game most dexterously, for he went up yesterday to London with a belief to receive within three days 16,000*l.* as a compensation for his Vice-Treasurer's place and with orders to receive all the fees from May last to May next. And he is to be discharged from the balance of his undertaking. And all this my Lord Conway told me the King has not only ordered, but my Lord Hyde has promised, from whence (and some other hints have been given me from very knowing and observing men) it is not unreasonable to conclude that all the outward show and appearance of opposition and dispute between Ran[elagh] and Sir James Shaen has been a sham all along. For my Lord Ranelagh is now in a better condition than if he held his Vice-Treasurer's place.

The King has determined at last the affair of my Lord Argyle. There is granted to his eldest son and his children 1,300*l.* per annum of the Lowland estate and to the younger children 700*l.* per annum. All the Highland estate is to be divided amongst the creditors, and if it do not amount to give them satisfaction then both the eldest son and the younger children must abate of their proportions. The King reserves to himself all the royalties, and I do not hear that the honour is yet resolved on to be restored to the family, nor is there any mention made of the father. The Duke declines intermeddling in any business and so has answered both the public ministers and those who have applied to him in their private concerns and pretensions.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 21. Whitehall.—The Earl of Arran being blessed with the accession of an heir male to his house two or three days ago, is gone this morning for Newmarket in his way for Ireland. Your Grace is expected here to the joy of all good men, and it is so much the more a joy that it mortifies all the faction to a very great degree.

I take leave to enclose herewith all the grounds we have for the removing of the blockade from before Luxemburg.

The news of it gives great ease to his Majesty's thoughts, which were very anxious in this conjuncture, and so much the more that he found not himself fairly dealt with by those from whom he might have expected better things. The deference that is made to his Majesty's arbitration is too invidious a thing in his Majesty's present circumstances, however it is more tolerable than the being hurried and drawn by head and shoulders into a war would have been. Besides it may be reasonably hoped that the Dutch may and will be admitted into this arbitration.

The letter from your Grace and the Council in favour of the City of Dublin for their sword-money is still before the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, where I first produced it by his Majesty's special command. I moved twice upon it before his Majesty and all the Lords that attended his Majesty about the Irish farm. My Lord of Arran is able to bear me witness. I was promised that all right should be done that loyal city. The like was moved and the like was promised in favour of the Society of Londonderry for the 4,000*l.* due from his Majesty for the customs that that Society made over to him.

EZECHIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681-2, March 21. Londonderry.—Concerning the prosecution of Mr. Rule at the assizes. He says that Mr. Rule came off upon an *ignoramus*, for it was no way fit that since great London hath of late had so many, little London should not have so much as one. The Grand Jurors satisfied their consciences, as he verily believes, that Captain Phillips their Governor, infringing the privileges of this city by taking upon him to bind Mr. Rule over to the assizes when the Mayor was present, for they say that no man hath power to take recognisances within their liberties but the Mayor or some of the Aldermen who are Justices of the Peace by their charter. Concerning Phillips' dealing with him he had formerly informed his Grace and wishes heartily that either Phillips had never begun or else more successfully finished this business. *Abstract.*

SIR RICHARD REYNELL to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1681-2, March 24. Lifford.—Concerning the prosecution referred to in the preceding letter. His lordship having so particularly instructed him with the paper relating to Mr. Rule, he holds himself obliged to give him an account of that affair. Because it was somewhat new he caused the indictments to be drawn before he came forth from town and they were fitted as well as easily may be for a jury in that county, but Rule was son-in-law to the Mayor, their brother in commission, practises physic, and is so very obliging that way, besides his spiritual influence, that the bill was returned.

They sent for the jury in open court and informed them of the dangerous consequences of such a seditious offence, and were plainly told by the jury that four were for finding a bill and eleven against it. They admonished Rule of this seditious doctrine, and Reynell's brother judge told him it was very unagreeable to St. Paul's doctrine and that if he looked on Romans xiii. 1, he might learn better himself and teach others. He believes that they have frightened him and that he will walk more warily and must say he is one of the most moderate men amongst them. *Abstract.*

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1681-2, March 25. Whitehall.—The Earl of Arran took his leave yesterday of his Majesty at Newmarket, so that I hope he will be with your Grace before this come to hand. The City is at this time very quiet, the restless spirits, which, blessed be God for it, are not near so many as they would be thought to be, are indeed working to unsettle men's minds in order to disturb the peace, but the wealthier sort among them know when they are well. What I writ your Grace last of removing the blockade from before Luxemburg is confirmed by the Flanders' letters.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, March 25. Dublin.—According to your Grace's directions by yours of the 18th instant I have showed the anonymous book or rather libel, which your Grace sent me unto Sir John Davys and unto Mr. Solicitor General. Barry hath orders to provide materials for the confutation of those most abominable untruths, which that author hath put upon the Government of this kingdom, and they are already in a preparedness for your Grace's farther commands at your coming hither. I have desired Sir John Davys to draw up something in order thereunto for your Grace's farther consideration.

By a letter from the Bishop of Derry, which I herewith send your Grace, you will see the ill success of the business about Mr. Rule. Where the fault lies I am able to judge no otherwise than by the Bishop's letter, but I very much apprehend that a few of such trials will make that kind of people as imposing in this kingdom as they are elsewhere. I send your Grace also a letter from Mr. Blennerhasset out of Kerry; if your Grace have any commands for him in answer to what he writes, I shall remit them to him as your Grace shall think fit.

Your Grace will receive herewith the trial of Aubery in the county of Roscommon, who was indicted and arraigned for high treason, against whom there appears very strong proofs, as the prosecutors had ordered the matter, but the

jury would not find him guilty upon the credibility of those witnesses. Such difference there is between a trial in a foreign and a native country, where the witnesses are known and they are credited accordingly.

I was this week to see the new Hospital. There is a great deal of work yet to be done, though much be already done. I do not believe that 4,000*l.* will finish it, and above 8,000*l.* hath been received already. Mr. Robinson is very earnest for the Commissioners to take his accounts upon his disbursements for the King's Castle, &c.; upon which he pretends that there is 600*l.* due to him. I have promised him to give the Commissioners a meeting about it this next week, but yet we shall not allow them until your Grace be acquainted therewith.

EARL of LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1682, March 28. London.—I am just now returned from Newmarket, from whence my Lord Arran went early on Saturday morning, and if his lordship finds that accommodation of post horses and is able to ride those stages he proposed to himself at parting, his lordship must be this night at Conway and possibly will be with your Grace before this can overtake him. And therefore I leave the account of affairs as they stood when he parted to his lordship's relation. The Duke will come with the King hither on Saturday sennight, and hopes to see your Grace before his return to Scotland.

And the King also told me he expected to see your Grace soon here. So that I am become uncertain in my resolutions for my journey into Ireland, till I know from your Grace the time of your motion. For though the Lords of the Treasury were pleased to reject the proposition I formerly made to them for the annual expense of the ordnance, &c., yet I find my Lord Hyde more favourable towards it. And when the establishment is settled, which is deferred till your Grace's arrival, the King and my Lord Hyde both assured me that provision should be made for it upon the establishment. But your Grace is not to expect any assistance from the money which is to be advanced by the new Farmers towards the repairs of fortifications and store houses &c., for my Lord Hyde told me he saw no reason but the fund already set apart for it should be continued, though the contract goes on, viz., half the pensions and part of the temporary payments as was resolved in Council here the last summer, by which I collect the whole advance money will be applied to his Majesty's affairs here. But your Grace owes to my Lord Arran the disposition they are in here to make provision upon the establishment for the annual expense of the ordnance, for he spoke so effectually to the King and my Lord Hyde in that particular that they are both now convinced, that it is of absolute necessity.

The King has taken so much pains in reading over my Lord Privy Seal's observations upon my Lord Castlehaven's Memoirs, that he has the whole treatise at his fingers' ends, and is so full of it, that he discoursed yesterday morning in his bed-chamber very freely of it, and has made several notable reflections upon it, with which he resolves to attack my Lord Anglesey the next time he sees him, and myself and Colonel Vernon happening to be then present we furnished him with some new remarks, of which he was very glad, and resolves to charge his lordship with them, and particularly with his being a Commissioner for the Parliament in Ulster, where he refused to give any relief to my Lord Donegal and some other Protestant officers and soldiers there, because they would not take the Covenant. His Majesty justified your Grace for making the Cessation and both the Peaces with the Irish, and when I told his Majesty that his lordship's last printed queries in answer to your Grace's letter were an arraignment of himself and his father, he concurred with me in opinion and is in so good a disposition to justify your Grace in all your proceedings, that when your Grace comes over I am confident his Majesty will do you any reason your Grace shall desire in this particular.

But in the meantime all your Grace's friends are of opinion that a smart answer should be given to his lordship's last letter and queries which he has printed, to undeceive the world, who will be apt to take his lordship's false assertions for truth if they see no contradiction given to it. And if your Grace designs it to be published as drawn by another hand than your own, in that case your Grace must not be nice or modest, but permit the writer to give a just elogium to you merit and sufferings for and services to the Crown.

When I was at Newmarket I was told by one of the Bed-chamber that Mr. Sidney is to be an Earl to qualify him the better to marry a great fortune in Holland, where he is to succeed in all my Lord Ossory's commands; that my Lady Ogle is to marry my Lord Northumberland, who is to be advanced to a dukedom, and that Mr. Temple, Sir William's son, is to be Master of the Robes.

The Gazettes tell your Grace the proceedings of the French King with all Europe. And when I have the honour to kiss your Grace's hands I shall impart some things to your Grace, which I do not think fit to commit to paper.

ORMOND to SIR L. JENKINS.

1682, April 1. Kilkenny.—I have two of yours to own, but having packed up my papers for Dublin do not perfectly remember the dates though I cannot forget the obligation. In the first you were pleased to send me copies of letters from the French King and his Ministers touching the remove of

that King's forces from blocking up Luxemburg, in the other you are pleased to give me your observation that the factious party in the City do rather lose than get ground of the well affected, which is to us of more importance than anything done abroad.

As soon as I shall get to Dublin all my business will be to prepare for my voyage into England and to leave affairs here in the best state I can for the King's service, and I go with much satisfaction in the hope I have personally to assure you that as I am sensible of all your good offices, so I am with all truth and reality, &c. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF CONWAY.

1682, April 1. Kilkenny.—Sir John Champante believes a just account of his carriage from me since my last coming to this Government may be of use to him. I wish it may, being able to say that to the best of my observation he has discharged the employment he is yet in with good ability, and for anything that has appeared to me with integrity, and without doubt he understands the revenue of this kingdom perfectly well. I confess I did not come over prepared with so good an opinion of him, nor have I any particular private reason yet to say more of him than I believe. *Copy.*

EARL OF LONGFORD to ORMOND.

1682, April 2. London.—As I doubt not but my Lord Arran is with your Grace before this can kiss your Grace's hands, so I as little question but he has given your Grace a full account how his lordship left matters here. I have given his lordship in the enclosed what reports have been raised here since he left Newmarket, and though I think them very groundless, yet I think it is fit your Grace should know them. The tide seems to run very high against my Lord Lauderdale, whose Duchess is said to have received 20,000*l.* from the City of Edinburgh for the continuing of the Lords Provost and doing some other jobs for that city, which are now accounted prejudicial to his Majesty's service, and it is said some angry words which her Grace has spoken with reflection upon the Duke's proceedings in Scotland are taken ill. On Wednesday they who writ the letters, which Thompson printed, of Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey's murdering himself, are on Wednesday next to appear before the Council to make good their assertion, and it is said very confidently they will make it out. If they do not I believe they will be severely handled, for the very undertaking of it makes a great noise with much reflection upon the Duke.

My Lady Danby having by an overturn of her coach in a gravel-pit broke her arm in two places and bruised herself so dangerously that the surgeons began to despair of her life,

my Lord Danby moved the Council for leave, under what guard they pleased, to go for half a day to Wimbledon to speak with his dying wife about some very important concerns of his lordship. The Council asked the opinion of the King's learned counsel; the Attorney and Solicitor were both of opinion that the King could not legally do it, and my Lord Danby fearing by their demur that favour would not be granted him, sent a petition to the King to Newmarket, which was referred to the Council, my Lord Chancellor, my Lord President and my Lord Halifax being present, which is taken to be the first precedent of that kind for making a quorum of the Council; and there happening to be but just of the Council a sufficient number to make a Council whereof my Lord Bishop of London was one, it happened so unfortunately for my Lord Danby, that my Lord Bishop fell suddenly ill and was forced to withdraw from Council, and by this accident the Council rose without any resolution upon the reference.

SIR ROBERT READING to CAPTAIN RICHARD COOTE.

1682, April 4. London.—By yours of the 25th March I understand you will come over and shall never cease to wish and endeavour your journey may be a good one to you. In my last I told you my house at Weybridge was both much larger and half the distance that my Lord Lieutenant's was, and that there was another house yet nearer by half a mile, of Mr. Daniel Sheldon's, nephew and heir to the late Bishop of Canterbury, furnished but not used, and seven miles may be easily gone and returned in a day when the other is twelve and fourteen is easier than twenty-four. Let me know his Grace's mind and I will get hay and oats. I have the river to friend for all wine and provisions, my lord must send all to his house by land ten times as dear. Pray do you improve this, for I have no end but my Lord Lieutenant's accomodation. . . . The Duke intends not to leave his brother any more and we shall soon see what course they take; pray God direct them. The Duchess of Portsmouth lives at a vast rate in Paris and [is] greatly complimented there; the people flock about her coaches there as we do about the Morocco Ambassador.

SIR L. JENKINS to ORMOND.

1682, April 8. Whitehall.—Though I have reason to believe that your Grace will be this side of the sea before this script can reach Dublin, yet I think it my duty to let it take its risk rather than not endeavour to let your Grace know with the soonest I can that his Majesty and his Royal Highness arrived here in perfect health about three o'clock this afternoon, to the great comfort of all honest men, expressed by the usual signs of ringing and bonfires. It is said that his Majesty will remove

hence to Windsor on Monday fortnight. When the Duke goes for Scotland is not yet said. But it is certain he will go as soon as the men-of-war intended to bring home the Duchess can be got ready. We have nothing new since my last, from beyond seas. The Dutch offer themselves to come into the mediation or arbitration that the King is invited to, and his Majesty would most gladly have them for his partners.

FRANCIS MARSH, Archbishop of Dublin, to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, April 15. Belturbet.—I esteem myself unhappy to be absent when all the shore congratulated your lordship's happy arrival and must now, which is the best I can do, compensate that misfortune by the tender of my most humble service and my portion of joy that since it is necessary my Lord Lieutenant leaves us for a time, we shall refer to so honourable a branch of that family which I have resolved ever to serve with all the capacities I can pretend to. It is his Grace's indulgence to allow me some time to fix my station, which favour I humbly beg may be continued for the same reasons till I can surmount that trouble and render myself wholly my most honoured Lord, &c.

HENRY HAYWARD to GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, April 18. Galway.—Concerning his right of fishing. He is troubled by one Thomas Rivett, the deputy mayor in Colonel Russell's absence, and since the Colonel's coming home by the Colonel who hath by violence taken from him the fish taken with a spear at the bridge pretending a right to a part thereof, which has never been demanded before either from himself or Sir George Preston. If a check be not put to it they will claim the whole fishing. *Abstract.*

VISCOUNTESS MASSEREENE to DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1682, April 25. Antrim.—Concerning resentment which the Lord Lieutenant had shown towards her son Massereene, and which she believes to be grounded upon her son's being present at worship in her family, where she enjoys the benefit of serving God as her age and infirmities have confined her to her bed and chair these many years. She refers to herself as one of her Grace's most ancient servants, and to the duty and faithfulness with which her dearest lord and her son endeavoured to serve her Grace's most ancient family. The most worthy Lord of Ossory, whose commands her son frequently attended in England, would have given a testimony whence the Lord Lieutenant might have found cause to support her family rather than to expose them to the least prejudice, much less to his Majesty's displeasure. In the morning every Lord's Day she has a sermon in the house at which her son is

present and some of their tenants, which is ended so soon as it is time to go to church where her son and others of the family go, and about noon whilst their family is at dinner there is preaching in a house near but out of the town, where many of the parish resort, but her son never goes. The time is managed, although with difficulty to her to stir so early, as not to interfere with the public worship in the church. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 2. Dublin.—As soon as I got hither from on board the yacht on Sunday last where I left your Grace, I had fresh intelligence that the prentices were to rise next day to turn out the French Protestants, upon which notice I sent my major to my Lord Mayor to acquaint him with it, and he immediately sent strict orders to the constables of every ward to be very watchful that night; and I gave directions to have both the guards of horse and foot enforced and the horse to patrol about the suburbs, which was accordingly done, but notwithstanding all that care they got into a body of about three hundred yesterday morning about nine o'clock near the new Hospital, which when I was informed of I sent to speak with my Lord Mayor, and he not thinking himself safe enough with his constables and their assistants, I sent Lieut.-Colonel Brien along with him with a squadron of the Guards to assist him in case his lordship could not reduce them. The rabble who had no other arms than staves and some few swords, allowed my Lord Mayor to parley with them, but as soon [as] they saw the Guards, whom I had ordered to march without sound of trumpet on the bowling green side of the water, they made as fast towards Kilmainham Bridge as they could and as Lieut.-Colonel Brien thought with desire to justify the bridge against him, which must have forced him to kill many of them if effected, but he got over the bridge before they could come to it and then they all ran away, and he without killing any of them took some ten or twelve prisoners, who are now in my Lord Mayor's custody to be proceeded against according to law, and we are now very quiet and had been so yesterday but for the advantage they had of a May Day.

I conclude your Grace may be landed at Neston this day, and therefore I intend to be sworn Deputy to-morrow in the afternoon, and in that capacity I will transmit if material the examinations of the prisoners, and I hope his Majesty and your Grace will approve of my proceedings in the station I now hold of Governor of this City. I doubt not but many stories will be made of this business, but this is the truth of what has happened. I have given Mr. Secretary a brief account of this transaction, concluding that your Grace cannot reach London so soon as my letter to him.

SPEECH of PRIMATE BOYLE to EARL OF ARRAN

1682, 3 May.—My Lord, his Majesty hath been graciously pleased by these his letters patent to constitute your lordship his Deputy for the Government of this his kingdom of Ireland, an employment of as much trust as a King can well confer upon a subject, but withal an employment which requires as much duty, care and circumspection as a subject can well pay to his Prince, for when the concerns of a whole nation centre in one man's person the weight must not only be heavy but burdensome, but I shall not detain your Excellency with an unnecessary harangue upon that subject. Many things which would be difficult to others will not appear such unto your Excellency. You have been so long and so well acquainted with the whole series of the affairs of this kingdom that for the greatest part of what you will have to do, will in all likelihood be but a kind of a repetition of what you have already done. There will be but little new unto your lordship only your change of station. You are now to act as Governor what you before advised as a councillor.

Nor shall I entertain your lordship with the unpleasant prospect of those different and jarring interests which of late years make up the being and composition of this kingdom. God be praised the swellings and animosities which they begot are in a great degree lessened and abated amongst us, at least they seem to be so, our distinguishing and separating names, which set us at so great a distance, being so far laid aside that we can now live together and correspond together like Christians and subjects. And what is yet more we seem to be grown to such a compliance of understanding one with another as to prefer as our choice the certain steady, though indifferent, benefits of peace before any airy, volatile and extravagant imaginations that can be hoped for or fancied upon any troubles and disorders. And this hath been fairly evidenced to the peculiar honour of this kingdom beyond all other places in those his Majesty's western dominion by a late and great experience, for while our neighbour nations have been haunted by conspiracies and rebellion, wrapped up in clouds of jealousies and confusions, we breathed in a clear air and suffered nothing under the force of such enchantments.

The mists were dispersed and broke before they reached our Ireland. We have no enthusiastic insurrections to give us inquietudes. We had no signal ribbons to distinguish and increase partisans. We had no barbarous assassinations to promote the pretence of religion, but in truth fanaticism. All here was peace and quietness. And what is further observable, all things prospered in our land. Merchandise increased, trades thrived, artificers were encouraged; the King's revenue, which is a demonstration of all the former, considerably augmented and the whole country improved to a very sensible advantage; and all this at the same time when

others were preparing for a state of war and when we ourselves of this kingdom were represented to our friends abroad as a desperate, miserable, forlorn people, and exposed as a prey to the common enemy. In short, my Lord, it was in those times, those peevish and angry times, that we enjoyed those great darlings of mankind our liberty and our property, our goods and our estates ; we lived safe and were at ease, and all this under no other power but the strength of protection of his Majesty's laws and your great father governed us.

Nor can we expect less prosperity and quiet under your Excellency's wise and good conduct for the time to come who have contributed so large a share to those felicities we have already enjoyed. My business at present is to attend your Excellency with these oaths, which are to be previous to your entrance upon this administration, and to wish your Excellency as much honour, happiness and success in the discharge thereof as—permit me, my Lord, to propose to your lordship the noblest precedents—your great father and your most illustrious brother, the immortal Ossory, have acquired before you. Be pleased to take the oaths and then the chair.

Endorsed.—"A speech made by the Lord Primate and Lord Chancellor of Ireland upon the swearing his Excellency Richard Earl of Arran, his Majesty's Lord Deputy of his kingdom of Ireland the 3rd of May, 1682."

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 6. Dublin.—I had an account on Thursday night last that your Grace was landed the Monday before at the beerhouse, which I was very glad to hear, for as the wind stood with us, we all judged you could not land before the afternoon tide the next day. I was sworn on Wednesday last, and my Lord Chancellor surprised me with a very complimentary speech not only to your Grace and the memory of my brother, but to myself, which I acknowledged as well as I could upon the sudden. As soon as the company was withdrawn and just as I was going to Council I received a letter by his Majesty's command from the Lords of the Treasury directed to me in your absence. It was concerning Sir William Petty's business with the Farmers: the substance of it your Grace will see by the enclosed copy of my letter in answer to their lordships. What is done upon it shall be transmitted to your Grace who I suppose will be at London before this letter, for I conclude you will reach Northampton this day.

All things have been very quiet here since my last, and I have reason to believe the prentices have no great stomach to rise any more, for my Lord Chief Justice will punish the offenders we have taken as far as the law will go. I find by the account Mathew Barry gives me of the concordatums, that these anticipated upon the June quarter 225*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*, so that if your

Grace does not get allowance elsewhere for the money disbursed upon the account of the Plot since the 12th of January, 1680, his Majesty is not like to be bountiful in my time. My cousin Corbett has just now brought me your Grace's letter from Chester of the 3rd and what you command on his behalf shall be obeyed, as also your directions about the unfortunate cornet.

The town of Kilkenny have this day sent up an address and were unanimous in it, which in justice to them, at Captain Baxter's desire, I think myself bound to let your Grace know. I have one from the county of Tipperary, but it mentioning the concurrence of the Grand Jury, whereas the major part of them would not sign it, I thought fit to keep it by me, and though I will take no notice of those that refused to sign it, young Moore, who is at present Mayor of Clonmel, being the chief, I will take care upon renewing of the commissions of the peace to leave him out.

FRANCIS GWYN to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 9. Windsor.—In obedience to your lordship's commands given me at Newmarket, I thought it my duty to give your lordship an account of anything that happens considerable here, though I must have the misfortune to begin with ill news. This evening by an express from Hull sent by Captain Coply, the unfortunate news came that the Gloucester frigate on which the Duke was on board was cast away upon a sand called the Lemon Ore, sixteen leagues off Hull. The Duke, God be thanked, and all the company are safe and went on board one of the yachts and so onwards towards Scotland. The ship was at least ten hours bulging before she sunk, by which means all the Duke's attendants were saved, at least we hear of none that miscarried. About six o'clock on Friday night she struck, but went not under water till the Saturday morning. I am very glad to give your lordship an account that the end of so ill an accident was no worse. His Grace my Lord of Ormond is expected to-morrow night in London. I hope to have the honour to kiss his hands at Hampton Court on Thursday.

EARL OF DERBY to ORMOND.

1682, May 12. Knowsley.—The gentleman who gives this letter to your Grace will present you with the address I spoke to your Grace of; his name is Kenion, he will observe your commands in waiting upon the King at such time as your Grace thinks fit. I think it shows as much respect as any I have seen, therefore I hope it will receive your approbation. There are more hands to it than I expected there would have been, considering the diversity of opinions the gentlemen are of in this country. I hope this will find your Grace and

my Lady Duchess in perfect health, and well recovered of a troublesome and long journey, for I fear the weather and the ways were never worse at this time of year than what you found them.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, May 13. Dublin.—I presume your Grace has by this time overcome a very long and a very troublesome journey ; so that I may hope for your Grace's pardon for any unreasonableness in this letter. I doubt not but my Lord Deputy hath given your Grace a full account of the foolish insulence of some apprentices here the next day after your Grace's leaving us, so that I shall say nothing to your Grace upon that subject, but shall pass it over with this observation : that they thought they might attempt anything when your Grace was not here to oppose them. But really, my Lord, my Lord Deputy did so prudently, and yet so seeming unconcernedly, behave himself in that affair that he suddenly dispersed those vain fellows without any making any show that he apprehended them worthy his consideration.

Your Grace will receive an address from the county and city of Cork subscribed by a multitude of hands. I must confess that I do not well approve of everything in it ; yet I am very sure that the generality of the subscribers did intend nothing by an expression therein than a perfect declaration of their loyalties. Your Grace will likewise receive an address from Limerick which indeed seems to me very hearty and clear. The names are writ in one character, but the reason was they thought the seal sufficient, and they have kept the original with all the particular subscriptions thereunto.

I presume you are by this time made acquainted with the particulars of the new farm. Give me leave humbly to mind your Grace to have a clause inserted therein to this purpose : that they shall not make any collectors or any other considerable officer in any of the great towns or seaports in this kingdom but such as are of the Church of England, or such as shall be approved by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor of this kingdom, for I am informed that Upton the Collector of Kinsale though he be a good officer yet he is a very dangerous fanatic, and gives great countenance to the conventicles there and supports all those meetings in that place, and perhaps it may be so in several other places. I hear that the Collector of Cork is much discoursed of for his inclinations that way, but the most that I apprehend of that kind is from the North.

We are all here very quiet and peaceable ; little to give us any disturbance or business, so that I have nothing more to add at present to your Grace's trouble. I must beseech your Grace's pardon while I presume upon my Lord Kingston's humble desire to mind your Grace that he may suffer nothing as to his pension in the new establishment.

SIR CYRIL WYCHE to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 13. St. James's Square, London.—My Lord Lieutenant and my Lady Duchess, after a tedious journey through worse ways than ever were known at this time of the year, came well to town on Wednesday night. They found it necessary to rest two days before they went to Windsor, whither they are now going. My Lord Duke commands me to let you know that his not having yet been there to wait on the King is the reason he does not write this post; but as soon as he has, your Excellency shall have an account of affairs from himself.

My Lord, the honour I have of serving his Grace, and your goodness, gives me that of serving your Excellency too, to whom I have always been by inclination, as well as now by duty bound, and I most humbly beg that I may have your commands in what matters you shall think fit to transmit that fall within the compass of my service, and I shall endeavour still from time to time to give you such account of all of them as may let you see that I am in no kind wanting of that care and duty which ought justly to be required from, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 14. Dublin.—Though I hear out of England that the ways were very bad and the weather ill, yet I hope your Grace has reached London before the date of this. Nothing has happened here worth the troubling your Grace with since my last, only my Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench has the depositions concerning the last uproar of the prentices, and tells me that they were so ill taken that he has ordered Alderman Rider to take them anew, but believes nothing will come home to above three of them, but they are all in prison still. The courts are all so full of business this term, and there is so little left to do at the Council, that I have ordered meeting but once a week, and that will be too often if something does not arise from thence, for we have a numerous company of witnesses that call themselves the King's evidences petitioning for money, and your Grace knows how the concordatum fund is anticipated. I had a letter from the lieutenant of my Lord of Roscommon's troop in which he informs me that all the pay of that troop for December was impressed by my late Lord of Orrery, save 48*l*., so that he died in debt to the troops above 400*l*., which will bring a great clamour from the inhabitants that they owe money to, if they should be removed to Trim, as your Grace has promised to my Lord Roscommon they should, and therefore I have suspended that until I hear from your Grace.

DUCHESS OF ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 16.—My last letter to you was writ from London, being then ready to go to Windsor, and this day [we] are upon

our return back in order unto our continuance here for so long as my lord intends to stay, finding it more convenient in all respects to be where the King is and to keep one house than to divide our family. I had just now a letter from you dated the 10th of this month that gives me an account of Sir Laurence Esmonde's ill success in his affairs in having a judgment given against him, and some fear of the like in the concern of my Lord of Clanricarde, both which I am very sorry for, though satisfied that all was done in the first case that warrantably could be in favour of him, and shall believe the like will be in the second also, whatever the success be, so as to such misfortunes as are not in the party's own power nor that of their friends' endeavours to prevent, must be by them and others submitted unto,

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 16. St. James Square.—I am just now come from Windsor and was received there on all hands as I could wish, and that is enough to say of it. At Court this morning I received a box with many addresses in it and the draft of a letter for easing the concordatums of the money laid out upon the Plot. The addresses are sent to Mr. Secretary Jenkins and the letter I will take with me to Windsor on Saturday. I am yet no further edified in the new contract than I was, but am told that betwixt Mr. Solicitor and Mr. Roberts I shall not only be instructed but fully satisfied. I always thought the county of Tipperary the worst affected of the kingdom, and since young Moore sets up for the head of that party all occasions must be taken to humble him and them. The Ministers seem to be well satisfied in the improvement of the King's affairs, and all men say they are much mended, whence I conclude they were very bad. I have yet made no step towards the disposing of James. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 20. Dublin.—The last letters from London bearing date the 13th brought me news of your Grace's safe arrival at London and the great entry you made. By the next I hope I shall have an account from yourself how you found matters both there and at Windsor. I conclude my Lord Longford has left London ere this, for I am sure his presence is very necessary here in relation to his own concerns.

Yesterday at Council I had a petition from the King's evidences, nine in number, none of them demanding less than 20*l.*, but to be rid of them I was forced to give a concordatum of 40*l.* amongst them all, part of it to defray their charge at the inn where they lay, the rest to carry them home, where I doubt not but they will follow their other trade and come to the gallows that way.

Your Grace may be pleased to inform my Lord Hyde that the Attorney General has moved in arrest of judgment in the business betwixt Sir William Petty and the Farmers, which the court has allowed of, and that by Tuesday's post I am promised the Attorney's and Mr. Solicitor's opinions apart upon the whole case, which shall be transmitted then to your Grace, if they keep their words. As to the prentices my Lord Chief Justice informs me that all that were in prison upon the riot were brought to the bar and indicted, but contrary to his expectation, they all submitted and would not traverse the indictment, so that I find all that can be done to them will be imposing a small fine and their giving security for the good behaviour; they have suffered three weeks' imprisonment already and have been pretty hardly used there.

Ellis sends over a state of my Lady Glenawley's case relating to her estate in Sweden, which I desire your Grace to befriend her in, if his Majesty has interposed in matters of that nature. If the business of the shipping to attend this coast go on I desire you would be mindful of Capt. Rooth.

DR. J. BUTLER to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, May 20. The Fleet.—Concerning his being met by the Lord Chancellor's tipstaff as he came on Thursday night last from under the barber's hands, and conveyed away prisoner to the Fleet, where he is now like to be until either a Parliament sits or they have a new Lord Chancellor. There is abundantly a loud outcry against the Court of Chancery. He refers to papers which he had left for the Duke of Ormond, and which he dedicates into his Grace's hands to be disposed as he thinks meet, and if he thinks fit to print to be printed in whose name he pleases. His thoughts were to have printed them with a dedication to the Lord of Ossory but now his comb is cut. If it please God in time to remember the tear of the oppressed and to vindicate him in his sufferance for his Church, he hopes to see his Grace again. He has strong grounds for conjecturing that the discontented lords and citizens will between then and Michaelmas break out into an open rebellion. In such a case he doubts his Grace and family lodge in a place a little too apt to be a prey unto such. His Grace's lodging at Whitehall would be much safer being within call of the guards. *Abstract.*

GEORGE MAYO to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, 21 May. Kilkenny.—I received your commands and accordingly the gray mare was covered by the barb this evening, and the others, when they come, shall be served as your Honour commands. There is in Carrick park in all nineteen horses; six pads and hunters of his Grace's, two hunters of my

Lord Ossory's, seven colts, three mares with foal, and one pad of the Gentleman of the Horses; and I will leave at Kilkenny but ten of his Grace's horses besides the stud and colts, and if your Honour thinks that number too great, whatever your commands are, shall be readily obeyed by, &c.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 22. St. James Square.—There being a Council to meet early to-morrow at Hampton Court, I write now by advance lest I should be tempted to stay late at Putney. Finding that at last that my opinion is like to be called for before a full conclusion of the new contract, I desired I might have an exact breviate of the conditions, which was undertaken to be prepared for me by Mr. Solicitor and by Mr. Roberts; the former is taken up with term business and the other says that the whole draft is sent over to the Farmers with intention to impart it to you. My Lord Hyde knew nothing of the transmission, and desired that he and I and Roberts might talk of the matter together. This morning we met, and Roberts stood to what he had twice affirmed to me the first time he spoke of it. I am still confident I had reason to believe he meant that I should understand it was sent by order from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, however he now explains himself. If the Farmers shall bring it to you his explanation may pass, and though you have no direction to take it into your consideration, yet I know not why you may not put it into the hands of my Lord Primate, one or two of the Judges properest for the work, and Mr. Solicitor to make such observations as may be for the King's advantage when any such shall happen to be called for, lest it should be laid to your charge if delay should be effected by the Undertakers till it be too late to deal with any others. If you hear nothing of this let me know it with the first opportunity.

I conceive the interposition in Sir William Petty's case was obtained at the instance of the new contractors, and it yet seems reason and justice here that the highest quit-rent should be taken for the lands in Kerry or defalcations made to Farmers at that rate. It will be fit to hasten over a perfect state of that case and a deduction of the proceedings in it from first to last. I found my Lord Hyde having prosecuted one of his allies with severity, was willing to oblige the family he is married into with making Mr. Robert FitzGerald's peace upon terms of submission and renewed protestations of serving the King in his own way and method. I came just now from them both and am to present my cousin to his Majesty when I go next to Windsor; he is to be re-admitted to the Council but must stay for a troop till occasion offers, and thus that matter is taken up.

Others will write the passage betwixt the Lord Duke of Monmouth and my Lord Halifax, it was an unadvised, or ill advised action, and I believe will more exasperate the King than the message, though it were owned. The letter for ease of the concordatum money must undergo a reference to and a report from the Treasury Chamber, all things of expense are there ill entertained, if that will not pass we must be hard hearted and refuse all pretenders till we can get upon even ground. I shall repeat nothing to my Lord Primate that I have writ to you, and then I have nothing to say to him but that I have received his letter of the 13th inst., which you will let him know. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, May 22. London.—By what I have writ to my son Arran, your Grace will find I did not mean to trouble you with a letter this post, and next to none a short one will be best. When the new bargain shall be nearer a conclusion and when I am so instructed in the conditions as is promised, I shall be able to judge whether I may safely propose such a clause as your Grace mentions concerning collectors. I mean whether it may not be interpreted as a difficulty interposed to frustrate or retard the conclusion of a bargain the Ministers are, and have reason to be, careful of in case the performance prove as probable as the advantage is great. I think I said in my last to your Grace that I was told there would be no alteration in the establishment. If that prove true and that my Lord of Kingston's pension is upon it I conceive he is safe ; if it be not I see no hope of getting him or anybody else into it. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1682, May 23. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's from Windsor of the 16th instant, and very heartily rejoice at your Grace's kind reception by his Majesty, and this not only upon your Grace's own account, unto whom I wish all the honour imaginable, but for the advantage of his Majesty's service, which can never suffer for want of a just information of the state of his kingdoms, and of a faithful adviser of what is to be insisted on for that safety and improvement of his interest, while it hath the assistance of your Grace's great understanding, undoubted loyalty and long experience.

I thank God I can send your Grace no news from hence. All things continue as you left us, peaceable and quiet ; and we cannot be better. We have but little business at Council besides the impudent applications of those troublesome witnesses you left us. The courts of justice have employ enough. The humour now seems to incline that way. Men must have some outlets to spend their moneys and to exercise

their passions, especially when they grow high and wanton, which is the present state of this kingdom; and the laws are a much safer physic for such gross humours than phlebotomy.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 23. Dublin.—I had your Grace's letter of the 16th on Sunday last, and am glad to hear your reception was such on all hands as I informed you at my coming hither I believed it would be. The particulars I desire to know when your Grace has leisure to write them (in cipher if the matter requires it) or else to give your directions to my Lord Longford, who I hear is not come from London, though the persons who are bound for him in great sums of money have this morning made such sad complaints to me that I am exceedingly troubled at it, and his brother who is engaged for him is so generous that I believe he will be in the Black Dog very soon, his military capacity not being justly able to protect him against the bonds and judgments he has entered into. As soon as this term is over when Mr. Herbert and your other judge of the county palatine have more leisure we will have a meeting about a new commission for Justices of the Peace for that county and I intend to have Moore . . . and others left out, but as to their capacity in the Militia I shall do nothing until I hear from your Grace.

I am desired to mind your Grace of Mr. Barry's concern. I need say little upon that subject, for your Grace recommended that business to me when I was at London; the particulars Secretary Gascoigne carried over with him. I send your Grace a petition of Mr. Neavers, who tells me you promised to befriend in that business before you left this place. The Attorney and Solicitor have not yet sent me their opinions upon the case between Sir William Petty and the Farmers, though I have often sent to them and had their promises I should have them this day. This, if your Grace pleases, may be told the Lords of the Treasury lest I may be though negligent in that matter. Pray be mindful of the clearing the concordatums, for I am eaten up with beggars and have no money to give them.

ORMOND to EARL of DERBY.

1862, May 24. London.—Sooner than yesterday I could not find a fit opportunity to bring this gentleman, the bearer, to present the address he brought from your lordship to his Majesty, and then it was at Hampton Court, when he was risen from a Council held there and when he was in haste to go to dinner and return to Windsor. To deal freely with your lordship, I did not find that the address gave him that satisfaction he took in many others. I will not take upon me to say what parts or expressions in it were displeasing, but it was easy to observe it had not the entertainment others have

had. If I had seen it before it was signed by so many hands I might have ventured my opinion. As the case stands I have no more to say but that I am, &c. *Copy.*

JAMES MORLEY to COLONEL FRANCIS CARR.

1682, May 24.—Concerning his having been ill represented to and misunderstood by the Duke of Ormond. Even in the midst of his greatest troubles he had expressed the honour he bore to his Grace and his family, particularly to the late Lord Ossory, whom he found to be always his friend, and had not seldom since his coming for England manifested his sense of his Grace's and the Council's great justice in vindicating him from the false calumnies and aspersions cast upon him by John and Michael O'Gowan *alias* Smith. He had like to have lost his life once in doing his Grace only a common respect when one O'Leary, an Irishman, then of Gray's Inn, drew upon him at the Rose Tavern in Covent Garden for refusing to pledge him a glass to his Grace's confusion. His Grace had received an opinion that he had some hand in writing the book called "The Third Part of the No Protestant Plot" from which he is as innocent as any man alive. He desires his Grace may be acquainted with the sufferings and services of his father, uncles, brother and cousins for their loyalty and with his own conversation these twenty-two years and more that the addressee had known him. *Abstract.*

VISCOUNT MASSEREENE to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 27. Antrim.—Having on Thursday last received a letter from one of the Justices of the Peace in the county of Londonderry, to which speedy answer was desired, I presume in all humility to transmit copies of the same to your Excellency, the rather because Sir George Rawdon and I had orders divers times the last summer from his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to take Bryan McGuiрке, the Popish Vicar General, with other regulars, supposed to abscond in that part of this province of Ulster, and I conclude what the said Vicar General affirmed, was impudent and false, whereupon I gave such an answer, which with my humble address for your Excellency's direction and command is with all due observance submitted by &c.

Postscript.—I earnestly desired my Lord Lanesborough to beg pardon that I had not yet performed my duty to your Excellency. *Copy.*

Encloses the two following letters :—

(I.) HUGH ROWLEY to VISCOUNT MASSEREENE.

1682, May 24. Culmore.—This day Bryan McGuiрке and three priests came here to acquaint me that McGuiрке, who is styled Vicar General of the Irish Papist clergy in Ulster, had

appointed a meeting of his clergy at an ale-house near my house upon Friday next, and McGuike told me that my Lord Lieutenant allowed them so to meet in order to the governing of their clergy but directed them to apply themselves to the next Justice to acquaint him of such meeting when he might send some to see and observe their carriage &c. Whether this be true or no I know not and no such meetings ever was here before this, and your lordship being a Privy Councillor and Governor of this county of Londonderry, I think it my duty to acquaint you thereof and to receive your command and directions how I shall govern myself in this affair This McGuike was taken by Capt. Colt, and sent to Dungannon and Armagh assizes and acquit upon bail.

Culmore, 12 o'clock at night on Wednesday 24th May, 1682.
Copy.

(II.) VISCOUNT MASSEREENE to HUGH ROWLEY.

1682, May 25. Antrim. . . . My advice is that you send for the said Bryan McGuike and require him first to show any order he hath or may pretend to have from the Government of this kingdom ; next that you demand of him what discharge he hath upon his last trial at Armagh assizes ; next demand of him what certificate he hath of good and sufficient bail entered into by him for further appearance to answer as there may be occasion, and who are his bail and what is the condition of the recognisance, and if you find authentic and good certificates of these then you need take none new ; otherwise I desire you require sufficient new bail of the said Bryan McGuike and send me the names of all both regular and secular priests that may be at the meeting you speak of, and do not let the regulars go till you have good bail. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, May 27.—Enclosing account of rents and disbursements upon the pious uses of Alderman Smith. He reminds his Grace that it is in answer to a letter from Mr. Secretary Jenkins directed to his Grace when Jenkins supposed the founder Mr. Smith was dead. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 28. Dublin.—I thought I should have had nothing worth the writing this post, but this morning, before I went to church, I had your Grace's of the 22nd, which I showed to my Lord Chancellor, and he gave me the reading of a short one of the same date from your Grace to him.

The contract was sent over here and I was made acquainted with it by the person that brought it over soon after his landing, and Captain Stone brought it to me about two or three days after, and informed me that he had leave so to do from the

contractors, but withal desired in their names that I should not let anybody else have a sight at it, and being pretty well acquainted with the particulars by reason of my being admitted in England to the debates concerning it, I kept it not twenty-four hours, but returned it again to him. The chief reason of sending it over, as the Captain informed me, was to inform the partners here who, it seems, had not been well instructed in the undertaking they were to engage in. Within two or three days I understand they intend to send it over again, and therefore I thought it not proper to move for their giving a sight of it to anybody lest delay might be imputed to me; besides I find my Lord Primate not very willing that I should, upon the account of delay

The reason given me last Council day by the Attorney and Solicitor General why they had not sent me as required the state of Sir William Petty's case, was that they thought there was not great haste, because upon their motion judgment was stopped, but I shall send again to hasten it. The business betwixt the Duke of Monmouth and my Lord Halifax seems very odd to me, sure his Majesty will be very inquisitive to find out who should inform the Duke of Monmouth of matters done in the private Committee, and highly resent it when he has found it out.

Mr. Gorges, the Recorder of Kilkenny, desired me to put your Grace in mind of getting a letter for his being made one of the King's counsel at law, and having been informed that Mr. Herbert when he goes for England intends to return here no more, I got one to sound Sir John Meade about your chief judge's place in Tipperary, and do find that he will willingly accept of it, and that will bring your courts there into credit again, for I am afraid they have suffered some prejudice by the want of experience in the present judges. I shall be very wary how I give anything out of the concordatums hereafter.

SAMUEL GORGES to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, May 28. Dublin.—Concerning his admission as a King's counsel. As Mr. Justice Turner goeth this next week to England there may be room for him to go as a circuit judge for this summer assize. He sends his service to Mr. Controller, Mrs. Low, Mrs. Carter and all he knows in the family. Lady Mildmay was well at Chapelizod a few days ago. Lady Hastings is landed in this kingdom and is well at Kilkenny but not in Captain Baxter's house (Colonel Meade having supplanted the writer) but he thinks she has taken that which was the Castle Tavern. *Abstract.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, May 28. Dublin.—I this day received the honour of your Grace's of the 22nd instant. My Lord Deputy was

likewise pleased to show me one of your Grace's unto him of the same date ; wherein you write something about the new contract as if it had been here for some time, and that you desired some information upon it. As to my part I never yet saw it, nor never heard that it was in this kingdom. My Lord Deputy tells me that it was for some little time left in his hands by Capt. Stone ; but under an obligation of not acquainting anybody therewith, and was returned by himself to Capt. Stone. It may not, for aught I see, be convenient for my Lord Deputy to call for it out of Capt. Stone's [hand] upon this hint from your Grace ; for since the Farmers have kept it private and would not consent that my Lord Deputy should communicate it unto any, it cannot be expected that your Grace should speak to it off hand and the delay will lie wholly upon themselves if your Grace shall think fit to object it. However if I mistake not some pieces of that contract were by your Grace delivered to my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge and to Mr. Solicitor. I shall in all probability see them to-morrow, and I shall desire them if they have made any observations upon any parts thereof that may be proper for your Grace's information, they may be prepared to be transmitted to your Grace as soon as they can.

I can make no satisfying judgment upon what your Grace writes, that the obtaining a clause concerning collectors in the new conditions, that they may be such persons as may be staunch and such as the Government shall trust, may be interpreted a difficulty upon the contractors. This seems to argue that we are not yet resolved what to do, and that we are to act precariously. God help us ; and God bless your Grace.

FRANCIS SOMNER to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, May 28.—About nine this morning letters came from the post office. I shall enquire in Mr. Dyson's business the next time I go towards Bride's Street. Mr. Higginbottom who I gave you an account was wounded by Mr. Kyrle, is now dead and Mr. Kyrle next term comes on to trial. It will be of no danger to Mr. Kyrle, as I apprehend by some of the Guard who are to appear in evidence on the King's part, and the Marshal of the Guard who had the gentleman in custody went with him to the wounded gentleman, and in the presence of several asked him if he did charge Mr. Kyrle with the fact ; he said he could not, neither knew he how he was wounded, but heartily forgave him and the person that did it. They were in drink, and the quarrel happened by the means of Mrs. Roberts, the sutler, between Higginbottom and another who had appointed to meet next morning to engage, and Mr. Kyrle as a mediator went with him down stairs to dissuade him from that purpose, telling him it would be too great a reflection upon the gentlemen of the troop to have quarrels made in their drink when they were upon duty ; but the other

being *non compos*, or heated with passion as well as in drink, took his advice in ill part, and Mr. Kyrle was obliged to draw in his own safety, the other having made a sudden pass at him and touched him slightly, and what with reeling and anger ran himself upon the other's sword, who petitioned to be tried this term but it was denied him.

Yesterday Lieutenant Lucas and I took coach to the gallows with a reprieve for Shaw, one of Capt. Morris's corporals in the regiment. The man was brought back in a coach. Four were to die but the corporal being saved gave his coffin to his fellow prisoner who was executed, the other two having coffins of their own, Hanlon Ward and one Stillingfleet, an elderly man of Yorkshire; the two former died Papists. I am glad I shall see my mother; God reward you for your charities. I doubt not but if she were here and after some time settled in the country but that at times I could by your encouragement send her many necessaries and cows, sheep &c. The Dean of Connor, Mr. Ward, boggles at the six months fee for his licence of absence. The rest have complied, and so shall he, or be reduced to three months, and in order to it a new warrant shall be prepared. My aunt is much better since her being at Chapelizod, and has thoughts to continue there for some time without coming to town as she now doth for three nights in the week.

Postscript.—The report on the behalf of Mr. Taylor who killed Ensign Ardneale is returned into the office from Mr. Justice Herbert and Mr. Justice Gorges who have reported very favourably, and by the next packet I believe we shall send [a] warrant for his Grace to sign as Lord of the Regalities of Tipperary to pardon the burning in the hand, and with it I will send the month's account. Your letter that came to-day bears date the 17th inst.

EARL OF ARRAN to VISCOUNT MASSEREENE.

1682, May 30. Dublin.—I have your lordship's letter of the 27th and have perused the enclosed letter from Mr. Hugh Rowley to you and your lordship's answer to him, and find by them that he is a Justice of the Peace, but withal that he has not acted as the duty of his place required, for he knows or ought to know that there is a proclamation for apprehending all regular priests and a reward promised those that shall bring in any, and I hope that gentleman is not so ignorant but he knows that a Vicar General is one; therefore if he does not secure that Bryan McGuirke mentioned in his letter who he says told him my Lord Lieutenant allowed him to have a meeting in order to the governing their clergy, I will look upon him as an asperser of the Government and will proceed with him accordingly, and of this I shall expect a speedy account from your lordship. I do not altogether approve of your letter in answer to his, for you require him to send you

the names of such regular and secular priests as may be at the meeting, and not to let the regulars go until they give good bail, whereas I am sure your lordship knows that bail ought not to be taken for such contemners of his Majesty's authority as do stay here contrary to that proclamation mentioned.
Copy.

SIR JOHN PERCEVAL to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 30. Kinsale.—I cannot omit acquainting your Excellency with our safe arrival here this day after a two days' voyage, the trouble of which was very supportable with the conveniences of the *Swan* frigate which your Excellency so readily afforded us.

I am now come into this country to settle at my own habitation and shall be glad of all opportunities of expressing the respects I have for the family of your Excellency, to which I reckon myself born under all the obligations of duty and service, for the many favours we have already received by the protection and patronage of the house of Ormond. The utmost of my ambition is that I may be thought to have a grateful sense of them, and I particularly beg your Excellency to believe I always am &c.

Postscript.—The enclosed is from Sir Robert Southwell who charged me to present his best service to your Excellency.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, May 30. Dublin.—I send your Grace along with this a copy of my Lord Massereene's letter to me, and of those he sent me with it,* and you will find them of the same stamp with some you transmitted to me when I was last in England. By my letter to him your Grace will see how I understand his proceedings in the matter, and if upon the return he makes, he does not deal plainly with me I will correct his friend Mr. Rowley who by creditable information I have reason to believe an arrant knave, and I hope your Grace will on that side the water so resent the matter as to get his Majesty to turn out of all employments the Peer himself, for though he seems to be very zealous to suppress such unlawful meetings as he mentions, yet he goes constantly to others as dangerous.

My Lord Primate, who I believe is gone this day to Blessington, showed me a letter from Mr. John Jephson to him complaining of such extravagant and barbarous proceedings of Capt. Estland in his quarters at Mallow, that if proved when they come regularly before me, there is no avoiding his being cashiered with ignominy, but your Grace having most of the chief officers of the army with you, I know not what sort of court martial to appoint for his trial, and therefore I desire your commands in the matter.

* See *supra*, p. 370.

FRANCIS GWYN to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 30. Whitehall.—I have my most humble thanks to pay for the honour of your lordship's of the 15th instant, which I had answered with an account of their Royal Highnesses' safe landing on Saturday, but that I knew your lordship would receive from many other hands. I am very glad that by the first post that I have an opportunity to acquaint your lordship with his Majesty's being indisposed, I can at the same time say that, God be thanked, he is well again. He came to London on Saturday to meet their Royal Highnesses, and after walking in Arlington Garden and over the Park in a very hot day, he took boat about five o'clock, opened all the windows of the barge and fell asleep. This is supposed was the occasion, for the next morning at Windsor he was a little stomach-sick and vomited, but went to St. George's Chapel, and about eleven o'clock, while the sermon was, he was taken with a shivering, and went immediately to his bed-chamber and into bed. He continued feverish till the evening and all that night, but yesterday morning was let blood, after which he was extremely relieved, and in the afternoon took a clyster and continued very well ever since. I came from thence at six o'clock this morning and his Majesty had slept very well all night and was very well, and by an express since of twelve o'clock he continued so. The fever was very gentle, but it was apprehended that it might be some return of his former ague, but the physicians now believe that it may go off without any further disturbance.

I suppose your lordship had likewise an account of the overture made by the Duke of Monmouth to reconcile himself to his Majesty and his Grace's success in it, with the quarrel between him and my Lord Halifax occasioned by it, and the order of Council which ensued forbidding any of his Majesty's servants to have any communication with him hereafter. His Majesty was very angry at it, and particularly with Sir Robert Holmes who brought the message. The whole matter was brought before the Cabinet Council at Hampton Court where my Lord Duke of Ormond was present. The Duchess of Monmouth last night arrived out of France and I hear is to-day gone to the Court at Windsor.

Amongst many other of your lordship's favours I have this late one which I must particularly give your lordship my most humble thanks for, that is the great charity and kindness to Mr. Jones, who with all grateful acknowledgment gives me thanks for the happiness he enjoys by being in your lordship's family and being so kindly used in it. I left my Lord Duke of Ormond very well at Windsor last night.

Postscript.—I do not find that the Irish receivers make any great progress in the farm since your lordship left us. Since my writing this I am told by my Lord Hyde who came from

Windsor at four o'clock that his Majesty continued perfectly well without any symptoms of a fit.

ORMOND TO PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, May 30. Windsor.—The first part of your Grace's of the 23rd of this month is the effect of much kindness and must not be so far abused by me as to make me think better of myself than consists with much imperfection.

The King's affairs here do visibly improve as men by degrees discover the abuse of their credulity, and lay aside passion and the shame of having been deceived into wrong courses. But it must be allowed that the better and more cheerful side is turned to the view of the Court, and that therefore caution and industry are not yet—if ever—to be laid aside. I do not see that but business is put into a steady track. There is, ever was, and ever will be courtiers and ministers that envy and heave at one another. Nor is the faction on the other hand free from the same disunions. The new contract is at a stand, staying as it is said for the return of an express sent with it to the Farmers there. I shall neither seek nor refuse any part the king shall command me to take in it. The Earl of Essex sent me a civil message by Sir C. Wyche importing that he would have made me a visit if he had thought the conjuncture seasonable for it; my return was civilly dry, This I forgot to write to my son Arran. I make all the haste I can towards my return and in order to have it made an overture for a wife for my grandson. God send us a happy meeting here and in a better place. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, May 30. Windsor.—I received yours of the 23rd yesterday, the triumph whereof was interrupted by a distemper which seized the King the day before and made him go from chapel in the midst of the sermon. He is, God be praised, in the way of being delivered of that indisposition occasioned by a cold he took, as appears by an outward soreness all over him. This is the third day since he felt himself ill, and if it pass without any new indication of an ague, the physicians conclude a day or two will restore him to his perfect health. God grant it.

I am extremely troubled at my Lord of Longford's ill condition and that it happens at a time when all possible frugality will be little enough to keep the balance even betwixt his Majesty's revenue and expense, and that no ordinary place of profit is able as I fear to redeem him. He will be here this night, and then I shall consult how to serve him. I found the Ministers here were much alarmed at the number of Irish I brought with me, supposing some of them would at least prove beggars, but I have satisfied them that they shall receive no disquiet from me upon that account. All the use I shall

be able to make of the arguments Sir John Davys, by my desire, sent me in his own behalf will extend no further than to keep him in the state he is, which I desire you to assure him I shall improve to the end the best I can if there shall be need. It is plain that what can be saved out of the revenue of Ireland is accounted as so much gained to that of England, in which case it is well if we can preserve necessary support for necessary officers and provide for the army's continuance as it is.

I am quite off with Bennet and an overture will soon be made from me by my Lord of Devonshire to the Duke of Newcastle for a daughter of his. As it proceeds you shall hear of it. You sent—at least I can find—no petition enclosed with yours of the 23rd. The Duke concerns himself that Capt. Carr should have the company that was old Buchanan's, so that my godson must stay another turn. I have yet nothing to say that requires cipher. *Copy.*

EARL OF DEVONSHIRE to [SIR THOMAS WHARTON].

1682, June 2. Chatsworth.—I received your letter of May 30th this post, which in effect being a repetition of what was in your former the same answer will serve for both. Though I have kept no copy of my letter to my Lord Duke of Newcastle, yet I am sure I committed no mistake, having transcribed the words of your letter, than which there could be nothing more obliging, adding nothing of my own but the wishes of so much happiness as I was sure this would be to his family. The answer I had from my Lord Duke of Newcastle was to this purpose: that he was infinitely sensible of the favour my lord does him by wishing a marriage between my Lord Ossory and his daughter Catherine, who, he says, deserves as well of her parents as a child can do, but he doubts it will not be a marriage, because he is resolved to give no money in present, and he believes my Lord Duke of Ormond may expect 20,000*l.* as he gave with the Duke of Albemarle, which he is resolved not to do, intending his daughters [no] more than that portion. He further acquaints me that he is 5,000*l.* in debt and how he has smarted with marrying his daughter Albemarle and his only son, and will not put himself in want, expecting to die every year. The portion with his daughter is 20,000*l.* at his death, whether he have a son or no.

This answer of my Lord Duke of Newcastle did not so much satisfy me but that I writ another letter to my lord to desire him to think better of it, since [he] could never hope to marry a daughter so happily in all respects, and though I believed my Lord Duke of Ormond might expect part in ready money, yet there was nothing of conditions expressed, but only a treaty in general desired. His answer I received just now is to this purpose: that he is extremely sensible of the worth, honour and wisdom of my Lord Duke of Ormond and my Lady Duchess, and that my Lord Ossory is a most

deserving person, but he must consider his own condition, and if he should enter into a treaty with his Grace before he knew he was contented with the portion he could give, he were a very unworthy man; that he ever thought plain dealing was best in a business of this nature: that he thought his Grace would not think his daughter a fit marriage for my Lord Ossory, because he heard he asked 50,000*l.* with Mr. Bennet's daughter, and that this is not the first time he had given the same answer to others, and would admit of no treaty without they expected no present money.

I am sorry I can give no better account. You know if my Lord Duke die without a son, his daughters will be co-heirs, which at last will be considerable. I wish the business may not end here, and if my lord have other commands for me I shall improve them to the utmost of my power. I wish we were both in town for expediting this affair, but I have great discouragements.

DR. TIMOTHY HALTON to DUKE of ORMOND.

1682, June 4. Queen's College, Oxford.—This comes to beg your Grace's favour in behalf of several persons mentioned in the enclosed. The dispensations are but ordinary, and such as with your Grace's concurrence to which the Convocation will easily give their assent. I am afraid I shall have occasion too often, betwixt this and the Act, to give your Grace trouble upon this or the like account and so I humbly desire to know to whom I must apply myself.

Encloses the following draft.

1682, June 6.—Mr. Vice-Chancellor and Gentlemen, Whereas Mr. Mathew Curtois, fellow of Corpus Christi College, is nine years standing master of arts and by the statutes of the House obliged to take the degree of bachelor of divinity this term, but having been for some time employed in his Majesty's service in the quality of chaplain to one of his Majesty's ships, is thereby rendered incapable of having an opportunity to proceed regularly to the said degree, he therefore requests that by the favour of the University it may be conferred on him though absent upon paying of all fees, that so he may not suffer in the interest of his college whilst he is serving those of the public. To this his request I readily give my consent, as having been certified of his exemplary behaviour and great diligence during all the time of his being in that service under the hands of the commander and officers of the said ship, and doubt not of your concurrence with,

Mr. Vice-Chancellor and gentlemen,

Your very affectionate servant,

Endorsed.—"Draft of a letter to Oxford. Windsor."

EARL OF DEVONSHIRE to [SIR THOMAS WHARTON].

1682, June 8. Chatsworth.—There being no answer from

Windsor of the letter I writ to you this day sennight, there is little for me to write, only to acquaint you that having received a letter last post from the Duke of Ormond, I thought fit to acquaint my Lord Duke of Newcastle with his kind thoughts of the family and how much he valued this alliance before any other, wherein if it proceeded he desired all the expedition that may be possible with other obliging expressions not necessary to repeat to you. I writ my own thoughts to my Lord of Newcastle that I will not yet despair of a happy success, and that if his way possibly would not take, which he himself seemed to make a doubt of, that he would think of something to comply with the desires of others, and since he could have no greater aim than the happy disposing of his children, that he would take the likeliest means to effect it, wherein, as it may be considered, the difference will not be considerable between the way proposed by himself and what may be desired by others, and that I should still be ready to give him a meeting, having at present an indisposition of the gout upon me. I am afraid he will not be easily moved from the resolution he has taken.

I shall add one word concerning my own business, that I hear this post that my Lord Duke of Ormond is resolved to take up 6,000*l.* for Will's debts, which I will never suffer to be paid by any but myself, and humbly beg my lord not to assist him till he make an entire submission and pay me thanks for what I have done already, and renew his last engagement, which is the least I can expect from him. And this he will certainly be brought to, if he be not assisted by my lord, or if he be not brought to it he is unworthy of my lord's assistance. I take this so much to heart, I pray press it on my Lord Duke.

VISCOUNT CLARE to ORMOND.

1682, June 10. Dublin.—As your Grace may with justice expect from me the most faithful service of my life, so you ought to give me leave in all my misfortunes to address myself still to you, and now, your Grace being in the King's presence, a mediator for sinners, to obtain his gracious pardon for me. My sin was a sin of ignorance, and the first that ever I committed against his Majesty. I believed there was a plot and consequently that his Majesty and your Grace would have it found out, and having received particular injuries from the Popish party, put me upon the motion of suppressing them as well as the discovery of it. This is true, and I am so great a friend of truth that I never did anything in my lifetime I would deny or excuse, but as I meant it.

I never thought of siding with any commonwealth or anti-monarchical party. It never was my humour to like such formal sour faces in manners and religion. Neither is it my interest to have such as descended for many ages from nobility

brought even with the cobbler, so that if my words be doubted, I must be looked upon as a madman if I go against my interest, my inclinations and my duty. Wherefore I hope your Grace will get me a pardon for one fault from a King that has pardoned thousands to thousands of men, since none of those he pardoned will ever be as forward to sacrifice a [life] in his Majesty's service, or wishes so much for an occasion to venture it in his service, and &c.

WILLIAM ELLIS to ORMOND.

1682, June 11. Dublin Castle.—Informing his Grace that it is generally the desire of the Army that he should undertake the agency of it. His attendance in the station his Grace is pleased to allow him capacitates him particularly for it. He is far from designing any particular persons a prejudice, and has caused a clause to be inserted in the draft of a letter authorising him and a brother of his to that purpose, providing that the present agents shall enjoy the powers by which they now act. The inconveniences which daily happen to the Army by other persons being indifferently employed are obvious. The late Earl of Orrery's troop is ruined by the agents allowing 500*l.* of the troop's money to be impressed by the officers. In another troop the whole pay has been impressed. His father left nine children, who have been maintained by his Grace's favour to his father in obtaining for him a very good living. The chief care of his father's family now lies on him. *Abstract.*

TIMOTHY HALTON, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, to ORMOND.

1682, June 11. Queen's College, Oxford.—I entreat your lordship that a letter may pass in behalf of John Randolph, bachelor of arts of St. Alban's Hall, who is of full standing for the degree of master of arts the next Act, and hath performed all exercise in order to that degree, but by reason of an employment in the country, hath not kept such residence as the statutes require and so humbly desireth the favour to be dispensed with for the absence of three terms in order to proceed master of arts.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, June 12. Brussels.—This day Mr. Howard is gone for Ostend, expecting to find a yacht there for his transportation; he was treated by the Marquis Val Parysse two days since at the most splendid dinner that hath been seen here, to which the principal persons of quality in town were invited.

[For the remainder of this letter, addressed to Mr. Secretary Jenkins and endorsed "News," see *S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53, in the Public Record Office.*]

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, June 13. Dublin.—The two last packets out of England having brought me no letters from your Grace, I had nothing the last post worth your information. This day Capt. Stone brought me the enclosed state of the monthly payments signed by Mr. Taylor, the accounts ending the last of April and last of May were made up since your Grace's leaving the place, and lest you should have mislaid that ending the last of March, I have sent a copy of that also. Sir John Champante not being here, nor anybody that I can hear of empowered in the Vice-Treasurer's office, is the reason that I send these just as they were brought me. Your Grace will observe that in the last month's accounts they discharge themselves of 20,000*l.* by so much money passed in England for the use of Tangier. I need make no comment upon it. Capt. Stone told me he had orders from Sir James Shaen so to state the accounts; he having seen the 20,000*l.* laid on board the frigate commanded by Capt. Deering. The reason why I make no observations upon it is, that I am sure your Grace is by this time so well versed in the new contract that with the assistance you will have there of the Vice-Treasurer, and his Deputy and many able Privy Councillors of this kingdom, you will find out better than I can what is to be objected against the account.

I have information of five companies that have not received their December pay upon the assignments which Capt. Stone has promised to redress, and assures me that within three days the assignments for March pay will be ready. He attributes some failings to Mr. Taylor's distemper; he is so very ill of the jaundice and dropsy that he cannot live long. I send herewith proposals concerning a general agency, which seems to me to be a very useful employment, and if it be so thought by your Grace and approved of by his Majesty, I humbly recommend Mr. Ellis as the properest and most grateful person to the officers of the Army for that employment.

I must now recommend a business of my own to your Grace which I send along with this and desire it may be put into Mr. Cook's hands, and he will see it pass the forms. It is what your Grace should have got done many years ago, and therefore I hope you will appear in it, though the concern be now mine. It is what the new contractors will not oppose, and what I am confident the Lords of the Treasury will consent to. The business is, your Grace enclosed as a park several lands without having liberty of free warren, and enclosed about three hundred acres of land that was not in your patent. It is so coarse that it is scarce worth passing the patent for, but I should be loath to be forced to pull down so much of the pale upon any malicious informers discovering of it. These lands thus managed your Grace has settled upon me. My

Lord Chief Justice Davys is to be married within a day or two unto my Lady Clancarty.

EDWARD WETENHALL, BISHOP OF CORK AND ROSS, to LADY MILDMAY.

1682, June 13. Cork.—I could not forbear excusing what was my unhappiness more than my fault, going out of town before I had kissed your ladyship's hands. But I have hopes that, as the world goes, you will think it a very pardonable offence to make haste home to a man's own fireside; and so dare be confident your ladyship's goodness has already passed my dispensation. In Mr. Secretary's absence I am bold to address his next self and to beseech your ladyship to send for his deputy, and to enquire whether any letter passed from his Grace the Duke of date April 22nd last past directed to me, recommending one Mr. Pierce Butler for several livings in my diocese as then vacant, which were not in truth vacant till about a fortnight after. The letter brought to me seems to be of several handwritings, and the person who brought it is a man very scandalous, which makes me give very little credit to it. However I intend to return a most dutiful answer to his Grace. If the gentleman whom Mr. Secretary Gascoigne employs knows nothing of it, I would entreat he would inquire in Mr. Ellis's office, for I am almost confident the whole is a trick. Your ladyship will excuse this trouble and command some answer be returned to me. My wife and cousin Steel, who has told me this day I shall not long call her so, give their most humble service to your ladyship, so does, &c.

Postscript.—It grows so dark I can scarce see to read this and am alone in my study at Bishop's Court, Cork.

SIR WILLIAM DOMVILLE to ORMOND.

1682, June 19.—Enclosing draft of a letter for his Majesty's signature granting to Sir John Temple, his Majesty's Solicitor General, and his heirs the lands belonging to his Majesty, which now lie within the walls of the Phoenix Park and which upon making the new wall, as undertaken by Sir John Temple, will be excluded thereout. Transmits also copy of the state of the case depending in his Majesty's Court of Exchequer between his Majesty and John Marshall touching the quit-rents in Kerry, and copy of the opinions thereon of Mr. Solicitor and himself severally and apartly which the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury in England had required to be sent over. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, June 19. Dublin.—I had on Sunday night last your Grace's letter dated partly the 10th and partly the 13th inst., and one enclosed to my uncle Mathew which I send him this post, and believe he will be surprised at your so sudden

summoning him over, and be as much to seek, as I am yet, who the party should be your Grace is in treaty with, but when you have met with your cipher I shall know

The copy of my letter to my Lord Massereene and all that related to that business of McGuiрке, Ellis tells me he sent over with my letter of the 30th of the last, and enclosed them to Sir Cyril Wyche, so that by this time I doubt not but your Grace has them. My Lord Massereene was alarmed at my letter, for he got his brother Sir Oliver to make excuses for him and declare his integrity in the proceedings, and I find he will lay all the fault upon that Mr. Rowley mentioned in my letter. The whole matter I brought last Council day to the Board, the business drawing into so much length I thought that properer than to trouble your Grace all this time with it, when I believe you are full of business in relation to the Irish farm; however a copy of the last examination shall be sent with this, in the taking of which his lordship has thought fit to take Sir George Rawdon to his assistance.

The Attorney General and Mr. Solicitor have at length brought me their state and report upon Sir William Petty's and Marshall's case, which I should have sent this post but that at the Farmers' desire I have given them a sight of the reports before I transmit them. I hear Col. Roscarick has recovered his health in a great measure, though not his memory or perfect understanding.

My cousin Villers has lately made earnest application to have the government of the County of Waterford expecting favour upon the account of his relation to me, but though I do not find the government of the county given to any body yet I will do nothing in it till I have heard from your Grace.

VISCOUNT MASSEREENE to [COL. E: COOKE].

1682, June 19. Antrim.—Concerning the proceedings about Bryan McGuiрке of Termonmaguirk in the county of Tyrone, a Popish priest. He acknowledges a letter from his friend giving a fresh demonstration of his memorable regards to an absent and old servant by the concernment he had for him in a discourse with the Duke of Ormond. An occasion has arisen whereby to his utmost he has manifested that not the least tendency of blemish to the spotless name of the Lord Lieutenant shall pass without a due resentment and just representation as well as punishment. He relates the circumstances respecting McGuiрке, and says that he got him immediately secured and had kept him in safe custody. In his examination of McGuiрке he had bestowed himself with all diligence and exactness he could, and had sent McGuiрке to be examined also by Sir George Rawdon. At the last Lent assizes McGuiрке was in the gaol and tried for extolling foreign jurisdiction, but was acquitted and discharged by the judge at Armagh, and stood upon bail to the following assizes. Nevertheless he

considered that McGuirke ought to be secured, and so did the Lord Deputy who was pleased to blame the Justices of the Peace for not doing it. As soon as he could get McGuirke he did it, but he was twenty long miles off and the Justices seeing McGuirke's discharge by order of the Judges durst not secure him. He will transcribe McGuirke's words before he closes the letter. In conclusion he beseeches his friend to continue to do him good offices with his Grace, and refers to his great losses and sufferings by Lord Antrim's restoration. He hopes by Sir Miles Cooke's interposition and care some good issue will be put to his languishing affairs. *Abstract.*

[There follows part of Bryan McGuirke's examination on June 14, 1682, taken before Lord Massereene and Sir George Rawdon :—]

Who being examined why he did not upon the proclamation against all regular priests and friars leave the kingdom, says he is not intended in the same; that when Luke Plunket the former superintendent of the priests in the diocese of Londonderry, who was also Vicar General, was transported upon the said proclamation the priests of that place desired the examinee to come to them and oversee them and be their superintendent or arbiter; but that the examinee is no regular nor was ever in any regular order; that he is no friar but hath some veneration from the rest of the priests of the diocese of Londonderry. He says he knew Mr. Black's house in the county of Armagh and that he was several times with Oliver Plunkett who used to meet there and at Kinard about five or six years ago. Being examined if he the examinee were titular Dean of Armagh, saith that he was tried and examined before about that and was acquitted and will not answer more to that matter.

Being demanded how they had the confidence to go to the Justices and acquaint them of their meetings, saith that he (the examinee) hath been a priest these twenty-two years, and that he knows it is always the custom for priests upon their meetings to send notice to the next Justices thereof. And being demanded what he said before Mr. Rowley the first time he came to him saith that he (the examinee) told Mr. Rowley that he desired to see three or four priests that were thereabouts and if it were not displeasing to him that the examinee would meet them there at an ale-house near Mr. Rowley's house; and saith that one of the chief reasons why he said so to Mr. Rowley was that he was afraid that some of the priests might falsely inform against him (the examinee) if there were no Protestants among them at their meeting to hear what they said. And further saith that he spoke to Mr. Rowley to this purpose, that there is nothing contrary to the proclamation in this business, and that if his worship saw there were anything against law in it that he (the examinee) would give

it over ; that Mr. Rowley said, how can that be, but it is against the Proclamation. Then the examinee answered that he was a superior or superintendent of the priests' making, and that it was told the examinee that his Grace the Lord Lieutenant upon a doubt or petition proposed to his Grace, whether those superiors or superintendents made by the priests are under the lash of the Proclamation or not, his Grace answered that they were not, as Doctor Cusack told this examinee, and saith that it was this in substance that the examinee said before Mr. Rowley. The examinee further saith that Doctor Cusack also told him that my Lord Lieutenant was of the opinion it was better that the Popish priests of every diocese should make one of themselves superior over them than to have none at all ; that the said Doctor is of the county of Meath, a secular priest, and that it was at Drogheda about two years ago and more that the examinee heard it from the said Doctor. The examinee further saith that he the examinee hath not the English tongue well and if anything have dropped from his mouth before Mr. Rowley or now, he being not able to express his mind fitly in English, he hopes that no advantage on that account will be taken against him, and saith that he came to Mr. Rowley immediately upon his sending a letter to him, who together with Mr. Henderson sent the examinee before the Lord Massereene upon his lordship's warrant.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, June 29. London.—It was midnight last night when I came to my lodging and found there your Grace's of the 13th inst. relating only to marginal notes upon the book you mention. When that book was read to me I thought it would produce such remarks and would have had those assertions either mended or omitted ; as the case stands the letting it rest as it is, is the best course. But I conceive it is absolutely necessary that Sir William Talbot should be plainly dealt with and told that if the concourse to his Mass-house be not forborn a course must be taken to suppress it, and that if his master were not considered in the case the thing would have been in another manner. I have written to my son to this effect, and am content what should be said and done may be owned to be by my direction.

I am unluckily engaged in a Commission of Adjuncts in a case of importance relating to a marriage. It takes up all my afternoons and other men's business my mornings. The best is I have little to write or answer. *Copy.*

EARL OF DEVONSHIRE to ORMOND.

1682, June 20. Hardwick.—This morning I had the honour of your Grace's letter of the 17th. The design I had to be more fully informed and to promote the business as far as it was

in my power brought me hither. I was yesterday at Welbeck and found my Lord Duke of Newcastle, and his lady too, extremely sensible of your kindness, and fully possessed of the greatness and honour of the match. But I find my lord fully fixed, and not in the least to be moved from the measures he has taken, he having more daughters to dispose of, inso-much that it is impossible for him to part with ready money, not excluding himself from the hopes or possibility of an heir male, which if your own occasions do not require, I humbly offer to your consideration whether upon the whole this be not as fair a match as any you can have in prospect, considering the expectation which may make his daughters very considerable fortunes. If your Grace be induced to think further of it, I beseech you let me receive your commands as soon as you can lest my Lord Duke of Newcastle should be engaged in another treaty. I should be extreme happy to see my Lord Ossory here upon this happy occasion, or if not should take it for an honour if he were to hunt the buck here, and I hope my son would wait upon him. I have nothing to add but that as to my Lord Duke's unwillingness to part with his daughter when he could not hope to see her, I told him he might be assured he could never part with her into better hands. . . . I expect my Lord Duke of Newcastle to-day at dinner though I believe I shall have no more to present to your Grace than what I have done already. I am sorry to hear your Grace has thoughts of going into Ireland so soon. I hope you will always be assured of my being, &c.

Postscript.—I present my most humble service to my Lady Duchess. I have acquainted my Lord Duke of Newcastle with the effect of your letter who continues of the same mind to give no ready money but with his eldest daughter unmarried.

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, June 20. London.—I have yours of the 3rd, 6th and 13th inst. With the last I received the state of the Farmers' payments such as they thought fit to bring in, and which nobody can contradict, but I believe their putting the 20,000*l.* for Tangier upon the account of payments in Ireland will not be well understood here when it was expected it should be out of their advance money, or out of the increase upon their new contract. It is now suspected by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury that they affect delay as having overbid themselves or designing to spend time till it be too late to deal with any others, they have therefore positively ordered them to bring in this day their assent or refusal to the amendments resolved on, whereof they have had minutes long in their hands.

Sir William Petty has petitioned his Majesty about the stop put to judgment in the Exchequer. The petition is referred to me in order to a reference to the Treasury, but

I know not whether I can well make any report till what is required from the Attorney and Solicitor be sent, if that be not soon, Sir William will be impatient and importunate.

I could not find amongst the papers you sent me concerning Rowley and McGuirke, the priest, a copy of yours to my Lord Massereene, but it is necessary that the priest should be compelled to produce anything he pretends to have had from me to authorise, or so much as to encourage, the assembling of any number of the Popish clergy to any end, or for what reason soever, since I am very sure I never gave any such. If he fail his pretending to have had connivance for it is an aggravation of his presumption in convoking such an assembly. I have sent for my brother George Mathew to help me in making up a match I am now upon for James, the parties are not yet to be named because it may possibly come to nothing, in which case it will be best on all hands that no notice should be taken of it.

That which makes most discourse is whether [there is to be] a war or peace betwixt the Empire and France and their allies, and that depends upon the conclusion of a truce betwixt the Emperor and the Turk, if it happen to be war the Whigs conclude England first or last must be brought into it and consequently a Parliament called; they do me the honour to give out I am for a Parliament either to induce me to be so, or to give some addition of reputation to their party.

I have not had time to consider what you writ of your own and Ellis's pretension. The first will be easy. How the other can be contrived without imposing on the Army is the question. I think you ought to send for Sir William Talbot and to let him know what offence is taken at the public resort to a Mass-house near him and understood to be of his setting up or countenancing, letting him know that you expect he should cause it to be forborn or that you must be compelled to order it to be suppressed. You may say you have my directions for it. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, June 21. Dublin.—Your Grace left me two particulars to discourse with Sir Richard Reynell and to return an account of them unto your Grace. One was whether the King can by his particular authority add anything that may give more force to those Acts of Parliament that we have in Ireland for the suppression of conventicles; to which he saith that the laws against them being by Act of Parliament he knows nothing that can be desired to make them more forcible than his Majesty's directions to put those laws in execution; the other was about your Grace's procuring for him his Majesty's letter to put him into the Council; to which he saith that he looks upon himself as no way deserving such a particular favour, and that it will expose him to the envy of his brethren

who may have as fair a pretence to it as he ; and therefore his judgment doth not much lead him thereunto. However, if your Grace may hold him capable of serving the King and your Grace under that, or what capacity soever, he wholly lays himself at your Grace's feet for his disposal, so that I find that his acceptance will be conformable to your Grace's pleasure.

Upon this occasion give me leave to propose to your Grace and for the advantage of his Majesty's service in this kingdom that, in case Sir Richard Stephens doth not return again into this kingdom under the qualification of his Majesty's Second Serjeant, which I presume he will not do, that your Grace will be pleased that Mr. William Beckett may be appointed for that place, who is one we dare trust for the discharge of that office let the times prove as rough as may be feared, or if your Grace have an eye upon that employment for Mr. Herbert that then your Grace will be pleased to appoint Mr. Beckett to be the Third Serjeant.

CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW TO ORMOND.

1682, June 21, Carusa.—Your Grace's of the 10th came to my hands, which much surprises me at the inconsiderable portion that is offered, so that it is difficult to resolve which of the offers is to be accepted in the state of your Grace's condition that is best known to yourself, for to match suitable to your quality with so little a fortune is to add a greater charge to what you are at for the maintenance of your grandson, besides the future, and to match below your quality without money to better your condition would be the worse choice, and to dwell there longer upon that affair I think would be too great an expense, so that the best course that occurs to me is that your Grace hastens over with your grandson for this year, where he will be more secure than elsewhere, and to put him into fit exercise, for certainly as experienced, he may do as well in this country as abroad, and by your expeditious return the world will conclude your waiting on the King and Duke and State affairs has been the chief occasion of your journey, and certainly you will receive overtures and perhaps better than if it were observed your stay to be there upon demur on that occasion, and your Grace may as effectually carry on a treaty by your friends as otherwise ; and I am of opinion that your Grace has done my Lord Ossory a great deal of right by his having been observed so much altered to the better, beyond what any there that saw him before could imagine.

I pray God direct your Grace in this great affair. I came hither to enter your hounds with great success for they ran down a brace of deer and they take as kindly to buck as to the hare. Doctor Hierome is not to be spoken with, being fallen very sick. He has begun great and costly works which in my judgment cannot be finished for less than 1,000*l.* or 1,500*l.*, besides the kennel.

SIR WILLIAM DOMVILLE to DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1682, June 23. Dublin.—Referring to the case sent him by Mr. Mathew concerning Colonel Richard Butler's outlawry and attainder. The Clerk of the Crown could not find any outlawry in the county of Tipperary against Richard Butler, but found amongst the records returned out of the county of Cork that Richard Butler had been indicted upon account of the Rebellion but not outlawed. There was nothing of what was surmised that can hinder Mr. Butler and the heirs male of his body from enjoying the remainder limited to him and them by the quadripartite deed. It was a great mistake to state that Mr. Butler was outlawed and attainted, which is nothing so. *Abstract.*

Encloses :—

CERTIFICATE OF THE CLERK OF THE CROWN.

Search being made among the pleas of the Crown in his Majesty's Court of Chief Place, Ireland, I find that Richard Butler of Kilcash in the county of Tipperary Esquire was indicted, but not outlawed, of treason against his late Majesty King Charles the First of blessed memory on account of the Rebellion begun in this kingdom the 23rd day of October, 1641, at the Sessions held at the Court house or Town Hall of the town of Youghal in the county of Cork the 2nd day of August, 1642. I likewise find that the said Richard Butler was indicted, but not outlawed, of treason, upon the same account at the Sessions held at Cappoquin in the county of Waterford the 10th day of August, 1642, which indictments were amongst other indictments returned into his Majesty's Court of King's Bench, Ireland, and now remain there of record which is certified June 22, 1682, by James Tisdall.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, June 23.—Detailing foreign news. [*See S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53, in the Public Record Office.*]

SIR JOHN TEMPLE to ORMOND.

1682, June 24. Dublin.—Having already performed a great part of my undertaking about building the Park wall, your Grace, I am sure, will not think it unreasonable for me to begin to think of securing to myself the land that was designed to be granted to me towards the charge of it, and I have therefore desired Mr. Attorney to prepare a draft of a letter for passing to me a patent of that land, which he tells me he sent to your Grace by the last post together with a copy of the order of Council, which I thought fit to send over to the end it may appear how reasonable on my part the contract is if any question should be made about passing

the letter. I do not doubt but that I shall have fully performed what I have undertaken before the time will be expired for it, and I hope your Grace will be pleased to do me the favour to procure the letter to be signed by the King, about which I have writ to Mr. Gascoigne and desired him to put your Grace in mind of it. This being the only occasion of my giving your Grace this trouble, I shall not presume any further to increase it than only by assuring your Grace of, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to the DUCHESS OF ORMOND.

1682, June 24. Dublin.—I have your Grace's letter from Windsor dated the 15th and by the same packet had several letters from others, but none from my Lord Lieutenant, though I hear he is engaged at Council against my Lord Privy Seal. I do not doubt but he will get the victory and am only sorry that he has so inconsiderable a person to contend with. I conclude by a letter I had from Mr. Secretary Jenkins that the Ministers of State there advised his Grace to that manner of proceeding, and should have been glad if he had writ something of the matter himself, or ordered his secretary to give me an account of it. I am the more concerned that I did not hear from him last post because he promised in his last letter to inform me who it was that he is now in treaty with for my nephew, he having without doubt his cipher by him, and I am the more desirous to know because he told me the matter required writing in cipher; and I confess I cannot guess where it should be he is now dealing.

I am much concerned that your Grace should take so much pains to persuade my wife to come over to me. I have writ upon that subject in a former letter, and therefore must beg your pardon if I only say by way of answer to the last part of your letter that in case my Lord Lieutenant comes over hither before winter, I would have her stay where she is, and if he should stay there all the winter, I am in doubt whether I should send for her or no, but should be glad with the earliest to know what your intentions are. I dare not let my pen loose to tell what is in my heart concerning her because I have now the spleen in a great degree.

My Lady Clancarty and my Lord Chief Justice seem hitherto the happiest couple in the world, she seems to be much concerned to know what your opinion is of her match, and I ventured to say I did not doubt but you would approve of it, and was so much a courtier as to extol much her husband's parts and integrity; but not to detract from him he does really behave himself very well in the employment he holds, and truly my Lord Chancellor's behaviour towards me since I have had the honour to hold the sword here has been so friendly, so civil and kind that I should be glad if my Lord Lieutenant would in one of his letters to him let him know how well I take his manner of proceeding.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1682, June 27. Dublin.—I have your Grace's of the 20th with a copy of the paper given in by your Grace against my Lord Privy Seal, but I hear from other hands that his lordship has or will pretend to have the gout when he should appear before the Board. The Farmers here have not yet issued out the March assignments, though they have often promised to have them ready before this.

I sent your Grace last post the opinions of the Attorney and Solicitor General upon Sir William Petty's case. I am afraid they are so intricate and differ so much from one another that you will not have much help from them in making your report to the Lords of the Treasury. The business concerning McGuirke, by advice of the Council, I have referred to the next going Judges of Assize, who have order to examine the matter thoroughly. All that McGuirke has spoken, as your Grace will see by the examinations lately sent you, he deposeth to have heard said about two years since by one Doctor Cusack whom I hear is as discreet a man as any of that profession, and is one you are acquainted with, therefore I would not proceed so severely as I intended until I have heard farther from your Grace upon this subject.

My uncle Mathew came to town this morning and intends to go to sea this night if he meets with any vessel bound for Chester, if not he goes to-morrow with the packet, and I believe will be with your Grace soon after it for he designs to ride post.

I send your Grace with this the state of the concordatums given me some days since by the Clerk of the Council and notwithstanding they were so overcharged, I could not avoid granting one of above 200*l.* yesterday at the Board to keep the poor old unserviceable soldiers alive, because I am informed your Grace would not have any of the Hospital fund go that way yet, and if a new establishment be made, either upon the contract on foot or any other, I think these following allowances ought not to be charged upon the concordatums: the Storekeepers of Cork, Waterford and Londonderry 60*l.*, the rent of the Parliament House 180*l.*, and the Commissaries of the Musters 80*l.*

There goes over this post a letter from me and the Board with my Lord Brittas's petition, and really his case is very hard as you may see by our sense upon it. If the matter should draw into length upon the question whether a pardon should be granted, or a trial by his peers ordered, he will be undone by reason of his being now in custody, therefore if orders were sent to my Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench to take bail of him it would solve the matter for the present.

I had spoke with Sir William Talbot about the meeting your Grace mentions before I received your letter, and he assured me then that there was no such thing at his house, as my

first information was, nor any where else by his appointment or encouragement, and he assured me this day that since I spoke to him he has not had private Mass for his own family.

SIR R. BELLINGS to the COUNTESS OF FINGAL.

1682, June 27. Paris.—Pere Maimbourg's works in great print are all bought up, and the stationer who sold them has not one volume left nor could he direct me where I might find any, therefore if his Grace be set upon having them, pray let me know it that I may endeavour to pick them up and persuade private persons to part with them. My wife, besides many humble thanks which she is to make to your ladyship for the concern you have for her, intends when she is able to make great acknowledgements upon other accounts, but at present she is far from being in a condition to write, for besides that there continues a defluxion on one of her eyes all the strength we can brag of is that she sits up some part of the day. She begs your ladyship will be pleased to present her most humble duty to the Queen, and I that you will make the same expression on behalf of, &c.

VISCOUNT MASSEREENE to ORMOND.

1682, June 29. Antrim.—Since my affairs did not permit me this summer to wait upon your Grace at Court, I desired Sir Miles Cooke, with your Grace's pardon, to mention my dependences on your favour there, which might as I presumed not only yield an assistance to some of my languishing concerns but a support—upon which application I am somewhat amazed to find contrary and harsh effects grounded, either upon faults of my own or misinformation from others whereof I am alike ignorant, so that, my Lord, it is not without a sort of astonishment that I receive the tidings of that displeasure and roughness wherewith those addresses upon your old servant's behalf were so lately entertained, in a place too where I did, it seems, too confidently take protection and sanctuary. This, may it please your Grace, sounds so uneasy with one of an unshaken allegiance to his Prince, and uninterrupted loyalty and devotedness to your service and the King's, that it is the more surprising, especially at a time when I was sincerely endeavouring all I could, according to that undoubted, constant and affectionate disposition which I bear to your Grace's honour and unspotted name, and agreeable with my station, to restrain and punish the impudence and falsehood of some who by unadvised words I thought were guilty of a crime no less heinous than that of offering violence unto and reflecting on the Government, which when I first heard I acquainted his Excellency my Lord Deputy, sent him the examinations, imprisoned the person and had his Excellency's and the Council's orders to govern my further proceedings, of which the enclosed is a

copy. I writ also to Col. Cooke an abstract thereof, from whom, upon some discourse had lately with your Grace, I received the favourable intimation and assurance of kinder treatment.

These clouds, my Lord, arise as I hear upon an apprehension of my not attending the public established worship, which if so the informers are mistaken (and then the weather will grow more calm I hope) it being indeed otherwise, since the minister died here about three years ago and another very conformable and unexceptionable churchman in this place by the Bishop instituted and inducted, who hath a curate here also of the same coat in all conformable circumstances. But whether I had gone up to the temple to prayer with either of the two men in the parable, the one a Pharisee the other a Publican, my concerns upon earth might as I humbly thou[ght] have fared alike. It is very true that I told your Grace some years since, when you were pleased to urge such an om[ission], that some personal indignities and affronts from the former minister to whom I gave this living, then in the gift of this family, but not now, made me the seldomer hear him, not out of any other dislike but as above said, but ever since my diligent attendance upon the established and common service of the church here, and elsewhere as it was also then, has not left room for the most malicious informer to asperse me, nor shall ever prove the ground of a just accusation. As for such as are unjust and come from men of debauched principles and lives, who may of late have attempted to do me some ill offices, I am not concerned, nor shall any temptation draw me to the least ill action or omission which may, and no other I am sure can, make a change in your Grace's countenance towards me. If enemies should so far prevail as thus to abuse your Grace's ears, I am more unfortunate than criminal. But till I am deservedly faulty I dare not anticipate your Grace's justice so far as rashly to pass judgment on myself, nor be doomed to so fatal a stroke of despair but that I may still have the honour to be reckoned, as indeed I am, &c.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, July 1. Dublin.—Mr. Cuff and Mr. Carr being by your Grace's favour actually upon the list of pensions, they are very importunate that I should recommend them to your Grace that they might not suffer by the next establishment. They tell me that my Lord Deputy hath engaged to them to solicit with your Grace in their behalf, and if so I am very sensible that my applications can signify but very little and therefore was very willing to decline them, not only as unnecessary, but as somewhat unmannerly, but importunity is so prevalent that I could not withstand their earnestness and the rather because your Grace knows them both to be honest and worthy gentlemen, and whose circumstances may

stand in need of your Grace's favour. Sir John Topham presseth me likewise to name him to your Grace lest the crowd of your other many and great occasions should thrust him out of your memory. Thus your Grace sees what troubles of all sorts you must expect while you continue in England, and which your servants here cannot prevent.

The public affairs here go on very well; my Lord Deputy puts himself to no difficulty for the discharge of his Government. He is his father's son, and does his work with as much ease as if it were natural and came to him by descent. The terms are now drawing to an end, and in a very short time after I am upon a journey into the North, where if I may receive your Grace's directions and commands how I shall proceed with the dissenting and separating preachers, I shall punctually observe your Grace's orders, but whether I receive anything new from your Grace or no upon that occasion, I shall take a punctual account of their condition that so your Grace may be prepared for that work whensoever his Majesty's affairs shall be agreeable thereto. I pray God bless your Grace and all yours.

REPORT OF FARMERS OF THE IRISH REVENUE TO COURT
OF EXCHEQUER.

Some particulars humbly offered by the Farmers of his Majesty's Revenue to the consideration of the Right Honourable the Chancellor, Lord Chief Baron and the rest of the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer concerning their accounting to the 1st of July, 1682.

May it please your lordships there are great sums of money paid and assignments issued by Mr. Thomas Taylor as Treasurer to the Farmers, and as supplying the place of the Deputy Vice-Treasurer, by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in England, viz:—

Paid by Mr. Taylor	..	..	32,435	11	07 $\frac{3}{4}$
Assignments issued	..	..	128,595	11	01 $\frac{3}{8}$
In all	..	..	161,031	02	09 $\frac{1}{4}$

The said Farmers do humbly desire to know what way the Court will please to direct that they may have sufficient vouchers for the said sums.

There are some vouchers that must come into this account which the Farmers expect from England, viz., for above 4,000*l.* paid to the officers at the Ordnance there, and also for all the money that hath been paid there to be sent for Tangier, and for all the provisions delivered to his Majesty's ships at Kinsale, all which was done by the directions of the Lord Commissioners of the Treasury on account of the farm rent. The Farmers have sent to England for such vouchers to be sent them for the said money as the Court of Exchequer will admit of.

The Farmers are directed to bring into this account all their demands for defalcation.

They do humbly conceive that they have many considerable demands to make upon his Majesty's grant, but because they would not insist upon any but what shall be well warranted by his Majesty's said grant, they are advising with able counsel in England whose opinion thereon they do suddenly expect, and until they hear from thence they cannot make their demands as to defalcations, and besides the counsel which they intend to make use of here for their help in this matter are not in Dublin, and though the Farmers have writ to them to come, yet their necessary occasions are such in the country that they cannot be in Dublin until it be near the term.

The Farmers are directed also to account to the first of July last.

The account being so great as for six years and a half it cannot be well supposed that they should be in such readiness as to be able to pass it in so short a time, but in obedience to the orders they have received and seen from his Excellency the Lord Deputy they are preparing all their materials for the forming and passing their account, all which is humbly submitted to your lordships' consideration.

Law. Stanyan. Wm. Muschamp. Stan. Mill.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, July 2. Dublin.—There being this day two packets due out [of] England I shall only this post send your Grace over the enclosed at Sir John Davys's desire, who has reason to be alarmed at the escape of any Irish witness, and I think it not improper that the McLaine therein mentioned should be laid out for, and if apprehended sent back to us here, but because I know your Grace does not love to have very short letters from me, I desire you would with the advice of the brethren of the gown and the sword resolve us as soon as may be a case of precedency at the Board here, which is like to come upon the carpet upon the addition of Sir Richard Reynell, puisne judge and baronet. Every puisne judge by King James's rules takes place of viscounts' and barons' younger sons, and of baronets. A Privy Councillor that is but a squire takes place of all those, and of the judges too, if they are not Privy Councillors. The question is now what place Sir Richard Reynell shall take, whether above those that are elder baronets than he or no. There being no precedent of a puisne judge's being of the Privy Council here makes the case more difficult, but in my judgment I think he ought to take place only as the antiquity of his baronetship, and (my reason for it is that his being a Privy Councillor gives him more place than he had before) the other baronets of ancients creation have place of him at the Board, but though this be my opinion I shall not declare it at the Board but do in that case as we

do at court martials, let them take their seats *sans consequence* until I have directions in it.

Next Friday we are to meet again in Council, and then I believe we shall have no farther meetings at the Board until the middle of next month, for the Judges are going their circuits, my Lord Primate his visitation, and I intend within a fortnight to go to my park for as long a time as I shall like the sport there, and have no business to call me back hither. I doubt not but my Uncle Mathew is with you by this time for he had a very fair and brisk gale on Thursday last. He has promised to be my friend and solicitor in some private concerns of mine.

EARL OF LANESBOROUGH TO HENRY [GASCOIGNE].

1632, July 3. Dublin.—Good Harry.—Though I received yours of the 20th of the last on the 26th of that month, yet I could not till now return you my thanks for sending me the copy of the paper given by my lord to his Majesty concerning the Earl of Anglesey's book, which is excellently well penned, and my lord's taking that course before the publishing of his answer is much approved of by all his friends to whom I showed it, and that was to a good many. You may remember you writ me word that my Lord Chancellor's speech would be very acceptable there, which made me endeavour to procure it as I did by my Lord Blessington's means from his Grace and sent it enclosed in a letter to my lord of which I have not heard a word, which makes me fear it miscarried. I pray enquire after it and let me know whether it did or no. I also desire you to present my most humble duty to both their Graces. I am now, I praise God, so well that I dare venture on a journey to-morrow to wait upon my Lady Orrery at Cork with my wife, and I hope in God I may be as well recovered by that journey as I was when I ventured to wait upon my lord to Kilkenny presently after the death of my dear Lord of Ossory. Now I desire you will take the pains to read these adjoined papers as they are figured, and enquire all you can of Wadding therein mentioned. You may remember I purchased a release from Wadding who was tenant in tail and claimant for the Waddings' estate, which was Judge Cooke's and granted to me, and paid him the money for it in England when you were with me there in 1664, or 1665, though I had a grant of it from his Majesty confirmed by Act of Parliament. And if I should buy out tenants in tail to a thousand generations, I think I should not be at quiet as long as a soul of them lived. I do not value whatever this Wadding can do. However, it will oblige me if you will enquire into his actions, and I dare swear he had no such encouragement from my lord to go over with him as is pretended, yet there is a noise and expectations raised upon that false rumour. I pray tell my son from me that I little expected he would neglect observing my commands of writing to me by every post, though he had no more to write

but that he had nothing to say, which is an excuse I cannot expect from a person of his supposed ingenuity, and be sure to tell him I command him to wait often upon my good friend Capt. Mathew who desires to be acquainted with him.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, July 6. Dublin.—I have this day your Grace's letter of the 1st of this month, and having received none from you since the 20th of the last until that came to my hands, your Grace will find by the letter I writ yesterday to Ned Vernon that I began to mutiny. Without being a witch a body may tell by the description your Grace gives me who the lady is you design for my nephew. I shall be very secret in the matter, and have showed to my Lord Primate all your letter except what related to this particular. I remember before your Grace left this kingdom that I recommended to your kindness and friendship the chief person you are to treat with upon this occasion, but did not then think there would be so near an alliance betwixt you. I shall not for two reasons give my opinion in this matter, the first is because you make excuses for the forwardness of the young lady and from thence I conclude the business is resolved upon already, the other is that being so great an enemy to matrimony in general as I am, I do not look upon myself as a competent adviser in those affairs.

Your Grace has been as much edified with Sir James Shaen's discourse of two hours as ever I was with what he said to me upon that subject when I was in England, and as to his professions of kindness and sincerity to your Grace they will hold good as long as he thinks it for his interest, and whilst you have more power to do him good than he to do you harm.

I shall endeavour to get Major Deane to come to me, but my Lord Chancellor tells me there [are] many writs out against [him] so that I must either send for him by night or with a protection, It is a fine posture his Majesty's affairs are in here when none but bankrupt knaves have the name of dealing for the whole revenue of this kingdom, and this character I give them puts me in mind of a report I hear that my Lord Ranelagh is become your great favourite and is never from you, but I can scarce believe it true because if it were I am sure my Lord Longford would have given his pen a loose upon that subject, and I have no letter from his lordship this last packet.

I left Sir Francis Brewster's proposals with my Lord Primate and I will appoint a meeting with Sir Francis upon that subject; so far as I understand it I do not like it and do fear he has projectors engaged with him that are not more responsible than the persons above mentioned, though perhaps of better repute, by the next if I can meet with Brewster your Grace shall have an account of that matter. I must put your Grace in mind once more of getting the money laid out upon the

account of the Plot taken off from the concordatums or else I shall have no pleasant time of it at the Board, having many poor petitioners; but instead of money before your Grace went away you took cognizance of the cause of a pauper against one Costello which puzzled us much last Council day, but as I should have opposed the meddling with the matter at the Board if I had been upon the place, so I have dismissed it though the parties were before us at their own desires.

What I writ concerning Sir Richard Reynell's precedency need not be stirred in for I find the baronets do yield the matter of place to him. Not knowing by whose advice, or upon what new inducements, your Grace put in your complaint against my Lord Privy Seal, I cannot give my opinion whether or no a submission, though penned with Cary's eloquence, would be justification enough to your Grace, but which way soever you think fit to order it, I hope we shall not loose the benefit of your treatise being printed.

I am desired by your old acquaintance and mine, Sir Thomas Worsop, that you would be mindful of him, either upon this new contract or any other if it may be done for him, his being many years in employment in relation to the revenue having rendered him very capable in such a matter. I should be glad to know what is become of Hetherington whom I left in prison upon an action of scandal laid in your Grace's name.

I have no answer yet to what I writ concerning Sir John Meade's being your judge in the county palatine in Mr. Herbert's room, who for certain goes from this country for good and all after the circuit, nor whether Tom Fairfax should have succeeded Col. Roscarick if he had died. The judges that go the circuit where McLardiere is to be tried are Hartstonge and Beckett, both merciful judges, but if his Majesty does not send me order to reprieve him if he should be found guilty, of which my Lord Chesterfield writ McLardiere word he had a promise from the King, he will without doubt suffer.

I guess by one paragraph of your letter that your Grace does not intend to be very great with my Lady Portsmouth, but I hope you will be kind to Mrs. Roach and Mrs. Oglethorpe, who were both born in your county palatine of Tipperary. The present Mayor of Clonmel was chosen again for this ensuing year but I have refused to confirm that election though we shall not mend ourselves much in that town.

I am desired to recommend Dean Pooly for a thing I am in my judgment against, but I will inform your Grace what the inducements are I have for recommending him: it is for your letter to Oxford for his having a doctor's degree; the inducement [is that] his brother the painter, who is now also in England, has a mind to marry Mrs. Low and your letter for the Dean will facilitate that intrigue and I am sure will oblige my mother.

SAME to SAME.

1682, July 9.—Mine of the 6th not going out as I expected the day I writ it, a packet of the 4th of this month came in, but brought me none from your Grace, and though I hear from other hands the new contract will certainly go on, yet having met with Major Ryan as you commanded me in your last, and he having this morning sent me the enclosed proposals, I thought it my duty to send them over to your Grace. You will find by his letter to me that he desires the names of the parties that are to be engaged should not be known, in case the proposal does not take. Your commands signified to me by Mr. Gascoigne concerning the employments in the Scots' regiment shall be observed. My Lord Shannon's report concerning Estland's misdemeanour has been favourable to him, so that he will not by me be put upon a court martial, but the complainant has liberty to take his remedy at law in pursuance of that report.

I am glad to hear your Grace is resolved to come over before the winter overtakes you, and I believe my wife is as well pleased with it as I am. I hear from Ned Vernon that the Army is to be regimented, and that the officers gone over with your Grace are like to be provided for, but hope if such a thing should be found practicable, considering the post I am to leave, I may be thought upon for the small salary of Marshal, or else they that went over with you will have a better time of it than I shall have had here.

COL. E. COOKE to ORMOND.

1682, July 10. Highnam.—Recommending a hopeful son of a worthy father—one Mr. Vernon, an excellent preacher, good liver, and good writer, of the neighbourhood of Gloucester—for a place at the Charterhouse. He asks also for a warrant of Will Chiffinch for a buck or doe out of the Forest of Dean. *Abstract.*

SIR FRANCIS BREWSTER to ORMOND.

1682, July 11. Dublin.—Concerning proposals for the Castle. He says that he found before the Lord Deputy and the Primate two proposals one for 9,000*l.* and his own. The former put the Primate in a passion. To his proposal the Primate objects that it is not enough to do the work, and is entirely against raising money on the civil list. There being no immediate necessity for filling the Hospital the fund will be 28,000*l.*, enough to build a magnificent palace and court house, all materials for buildings being very low. *Abstract.*

KING'S LETTER CONCERNING THE PHENIX PARK, DUBLIN.

1682, July 15.—Granting certain lands to Sir John Temple in consideration of the erection of a boundary wall. The

recital is as follows :—Whereas the highway leading from Dublin to Chapelizod through our Park commonly called the Phoenix Park near Dublin hath been found to be very inconvenient for the said park, and that whilst the said highway continues therein the deer cannot be preserved, but do daily in great numbers go out of the Park and trespass upon the lands thereunto adjoining, by means whereof many of them are every year lost and destroyed ; And whereas the greatest part of the lands lying on the south side of the said highway that are now enclosed within the park doth not belong to us, and sixty four acres of the residue thereof that doth belong to us hath been by our former letters set apart to be granted to the new Hospital that is now building thereupon, so that our land lying on the south side of the said highway besides the said sixty-four acres contains but a small quantity lying in several parcels ; And whereas we have thought fit for the better security of the said park and for the preservation of the deer therein that the said highway and the lands lying on the south side thereof should be excluded out of the said Park, and that a wall should be made of lime and stone on the north side of the said highway from the park gate next Chapelizod ; And whereas Sir John Temple, Knight, our Solicitor General of our said kingdom, having his lands adjoining to the said park and to the lands that will be left out of it upon building the said wall and having for many years received much damage in his lands by the deer of the said park, hath made a proposal to our Lieutenant and Council of our said kingdom at his own charge to build the said wall of lime and stone eight foot high from the foundation from the entrance of the park next Dublin to Chapelizod, and to finish the same in one year's time from the first day of May last, leaving out of the said Park a parcel of land adjoining to the town of Chapelizod on the north side the highway, as was lately designed by a Committee of our Council in Ireland upon view of the place where the said wall is designed to run, the said wall containing in length five hundred [and] twenty-seven perches as it hath been measured by William Robinson Esq., Surveyor of our buildings in our said kingdom, which at the rate of three shillings nine pence per perch being the lowest rate for which any one did offer to build the said wall doth amount to about eight hundred pounds, besides the charge of digging the foundation, and making the gates therein ; In consideration whereof he did humbly desire that he might have two hundred pounds paid him towards his said charge out of our Treasury there by concordatum in one year's time, and might also have a grant from us to him and his heirs of the said parcel of land that shall be left out of the said park on the north side the highway next to Chapelizod, and also of what else belongs to us that is now within the said park and when the said wall shall be built will be left out of it, and that neither the House of Chapelizod, nor the courts, yards or

gardens thereunto belonging, nor the bleaching yard there, nor the mills or weirs of Kilmainham or the wash house there, nor the sixty four acres of land by our letters set apart for the new hospital there, be contained in such grant and that the gatekeeper's lodge at Dublin and Chapelizod gates be also excepted out of such grant, unless the same or either of them shall be found inconvenient for the gates as they shall be placed in the new wall, and that in such case if he may have those lodges he will build new lodges for the gatekeepers in such places where the gates shall be set, and where they shall be found to be more convenient, and that in lieu of the gatekeeper's lodge on the road to Kilmainham he will build a new lodge for a gatekeeper at the Phoenix where a gate will be necessary; And whereas our Lieutenant and Council by their order bearing date the twenty-sixth day of April last finding the said proposal to be the best offer for us that had been made to them for building the said wall, have accepted thereof and agreed thereunto, and have ordered the said William Robinson Esq., our Surveyor of our buildings to set out the said wall as he shall find it most convenient to place the same, and to take care that the same be well and sufficiently built of lime and stone, and that the land to be left out on the north side the highway near the town of Chapelizod do not exceed five acres &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, July 18. Dublin.—I had yesterday your Grace's letter of the 11th and, as I expected, find by it that the match is concluded between my nephew and my Lord Hyde's daughter, and that the portion is more considerable than I thought it would be. I wish they may always live happy and be long a comfort to their parents.

In my Lord Longford's two last letters he gave me some account of the new design, or rather malicious project against me of regimenting the Army by reducing four hundred men out of the regiment of Guards to make room for the salaries of the field and general officers besides five hundred out of the Army. I hope your Grace will consider what a reflection such a reducement would be to me who have had the honour to command that regiment above twenty years. And when your interest at Court was not so great as it is now my most cunning adversaries, who were then in favour, could procure a reducement but of eighty men, and this reduces four hundred more. I shall leave this whole matter to your Grace's consideration and hope you will consider it well, for I do really look upon the affront done me if the project go on to be greater, if possible, than the honour conferred upon me of being his Majesty's Deputy here, though the King should give me six times the salary of Field Marshal, for it would look hereafter as if I consented for profit's sake to so considerable a reducement of the Army as nine hundred men. I wish that imputation may

not lie justly against some officers you carried over and found there. I writ last post some part of my sense upon this subject both to my Lord Longford and Sir William Stewart, but I did not then know so much of the project as I do now. I am going this morning towards my park and I have at this time such a number of troublesome people in the gallery (who according to their usual custom take such a time as this for business) as your Grace must make my excuse to my Lord Longford that I do not answer his letter, though indeed this is an answer to it, for the main matter in it is an account of this fine project.

I am glad of what your Grace tells me concerning my Lord Privy Seal. I long to hear the thing is done. Doctor Hierome's nephew shall have the living of Carrick which he looks upon with the unions as a good preferment, they being worth as I am informed above 100*l.* per annum.

FARMERS OF THE REVENUE to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, July 22. Dublin.—Among the assignments drawn by us for the last March pay which was lately issued Capt. Charles Murray being assigned on Mr. Lodowick Jackson of Youghal for his three months pay, required an absolute acceptance to be paid at the very day, which the collector not being satisfied to do otherwise than usually, he hath by a public notary protested the assignment—which is the first assignment that hath been protested by any officer of the Army since we have been Farmers; for the Army could never expect to be paid as bills of exchange are paid by merchants and we think [it] the first protest of that kind that ever was done in Ireland. We do not usually draw on any officer but when he hath or ought to have money in his hands, and if in any case, which is very rare, we draw upon an officer that hath not effects it is because we are necessitated so to do by reason of the quartering of such troops and companies near him, which rather than we will send to remote places for their money we choose to supply those persons otherwise on whom we draw such assignments. It hath always hitherto been admitted by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant and his predecessors as good pay if they have been paid within fourteen days or thereabouts after the fifteen days were expired, and we humbly presume that your Excellency is of the same opinion. There is no rule upon us, neither by the Government nor by our contract, to give assignments at fifteen days sight, but they might be done at twenty one or thirty one days sight, but to accommodate the Army with convenient pay and to keep up our officers the more strictly to their payment we have hitherto thought fit to do it, and generally the officers have been well satisfied. What encouragement hath been given to the officers of the Army of late to take this course we do not yet well understand, but we hope your Excellency

will be pleased to enquire into it, especially considering that upon the state of our payments to the last day of June, 1682, it appeared that the King was in our debt, and we not in the King's debt and it must be so still, there being but 20,000*l.* more due for one month since, and 23,000*l.* or thereabouts since issued. The state of the last month's payments we endeavoured to prepare for your Excellency, but Mr. Thomas Taylor is now so weak that he can neither examine it nor sign it. We have made bold to lay this matter thus far before your Excellency at present and at your Excellency's return to Dublin we shall give your Excellency further satisfaction that the officers ought not to be encouraged to quarrel with their late manner of payments, for such reflections on the Farmers may prejudice them and retard his Majesty's service which we assure ourselves your Excellency did never design and will prevent being the humble prayer of &c.

JAMES MORLEY to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, July 22.—Concerning his condition and desire to be rightly presented to the Duke of Ormond. The honour which he has to be Gascoigne's countryman gives him confidence that Gascoigne will do him any act of kindness that his relation to his Grace may capacitate him to perform. No family in England of this quality hath suffered more for their loyalty than the writer's father and all his relations. He has lost no less than 6,000*l.* of his estate since June, 1677, by the perjury of the Smiths *alias* Gowans and their accomplices. No man has more endeavoured than himself to serve his Majesty as Mr. Bernard Grenville and sundry others can attest. *Abstract.*

LORDS OF THE TREASURY to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, July 24. Treasury Chambers, Whitehall.—The Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs having informed us that several ships laden with tobacco, and other the enumerated commodities, at his Majesty's plantations in America have either not given bond at all as the law directs before the loading thereof, or have given bond to return with their loadings to England or Ireland &c., in which case the rates and duties imposed by the Act for better securing the plantation trade made in the twenty-fifth year of his Majesty's reign are payable to the Collectors of his Majesty's Customs in the respective plantations where such goods were shipped and put on board, and that such ships and vessels have by several frauds and artifices evaded the payment of the said duty and carried the said goods directly to Ireland, and there landed the same to the great prejudice of his Majesty's Customs and the trade and navigation of this kingdom; we are further informed from the said Commissioners of the Customs that great frauds are frequently committed in the shipping of coals lead and tin

from England to Ireland ; for remedy whereof and to prevent the like evil practices for the future the said Commissioners have appointed Mr. Charles Horne to inspect and look after the plantation trade driven and carried on the kingdom of Ireland, and Mr. Silvanus Stirrup is in like manner directed by them to examine the quantities of coals, lead and tin that shall from time to time be landed in the several ports of Ireland from England or Wales. And in order to the promoting of his Majesty's service in these matters and for the better enabling the said persons to the performance of their duties we desire your Grace will please to give order that from time to time as occasion offers the said Charles Horne and Silvanus Stirrup may have the sight and perusal of the Custom books in the respective ports of Ireland, so far as may be necessary to enable them to perform the trust committed to them as aforesaid, and that all the officers of the Customs and others concerned may give them all due encouragement and assistance as they shall need it for his Majesty's service.

EARL OF BURLINGTON TO ORMOND.

1682, July 26. Londesburgh.—I receive so great a contentment in the honour of this alliance that your Grace will, I hope, pardon me if upon the consummation thereof I now presume to express it, and to wish that it may be accompanied with all the advantage and happiness that can be desired. The Duke of York has been always most obliging to me and mine, a greater evidence of which he could not give us than in propounding and making of this marriage which, besides my own inclinations to it, ties me in the strictest manner to the service and interest of your Grace and family, the concerns of which I shall always, if I may be so bold as to use that expression, consider equally [with] if not above my own, and will hope that your Grace's occasions may keep you so long in this kingdom that I may have the satisfaction to pay your Grace the duty of my attendance at London before you leave it, and there assure your Grace what I now do here that I am &c.

FRANCIS SOMNER TO HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, July 29.—Yours of the 11th instant on Monday about four in the evening I received. I shall take care to observe your directions as to the Earl of Cork's fees. Yesterday about nine his Excellency left Dublin and dined at Osbaldstowne, and as some of the family informs me returns hither on Saturday sennight. We hear the Lady Glenawley's daughter, Mr. Ellis's Mrs., is dead of the small pox, which are fatal here and generally attended with a virulent fever. Dean Wiseman's warrant for his absence is signed for six months from the date of it, viz., the 18th instant. We have lost the fees of ten months absence from him by saying in one of his warrants from the date thereof instead of hereof, for it seems when the warrant

saith from the date thereof it intimates from the time the Lord Chancellor gives directions to the Hanaper to ingross the licence for the seal, and when our warrant gives six or more months time they do not apply themselves to the Lord Chancellor till a considerable time be spent, so they gain time in our wrong by not saying from the date hereof; but hereafter that mistake may be mended by granting always any person's first warrant for absence from the date hereof, and then if they desire any more leave, as Dean Wiseman has six times by your books, all the subsequent ones may commence from the determination still of the former licence, and then by our own books we may be able to satisfy the Chief Governor without running to the Rolls or Hanaper, which before we could not do, and they care not for those troubles which bring them no profit.

I told Mr. Aykin what you commanded me as to [the] Scotch Regiment, he told me he would discourse with Mr. Alexander about it and by this return give you an account. Mr. Alexander keeps private in his own house, though the report runs that he is gone further afield upon my [Lord] Longford's account. I have been several times at Mr. Hunt's house, but could not meet him. I left the letter with his clerk, who promised to put his master in mind to write to you, and to bring it to the office to be enclosed to you.

PAUL LAVIGNE TO HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, July 29. Covent Garden.—Desiring him to stand his friend to get the Duke of Ormond's consent that he may enjoy the purveyor's place of grocery wares to his Majesty, vacant by the death of his master. He is willing to give for his acknowledgment to his grace as much as his master gave, namely, 100 guineas. *Abstract.*

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1682, July 29. Dublin.—I am just now returned from visiting as much of the North as with conveniency I could compass. In some places I found things much better than I expected, and in others much worse than I could suppose, but in all places that I have gone I find the gentry very forward in their professions both for the King and Church, and it is the general opinion of most of them that the residence of the clergy upon their benefices, and the discountenance of the presbyters, though but according to those laws which are now in force with us, would soon abate the pride and number of the fanatics, and make them of very little consideration for disturbances. I shall not fail to prepare for your Grace such a particular account of the present state of affairs in that province as shall give your Grace a reasonable clear prospect of the whole condition of that country. This I presume shall be in a readiness for you at your Grace's arrival into this kingdom,

and in the meantime I shall give your Grace no further trouble upon that subject.

I am humbly to acknowledge the honour of your Grace's of the 11th instant which came to my hands at Armagh. I heartily wish your Grace and my Lady Duchess all imaginable happiness in the marriage of my Lord of Ossory. I hope there are many blessings yet in store to perpetuate the memory of you and yours as long as this world lasts and to enlarge them to eternity in the next. The fever increaseth much in this town and the smallpox continues also.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, July 29. Windsor.—Harry Gascoigne not being yet come from London, I have not my papers by me, yet I think I well remember that the last I had from you was of the 18th of this month. I am sure the most important part of it was concerning the new project of modelling the Army by reductions that I cannot believe ought to be made to obtain all the advantages proposed; if it could be done without the loss of a thousand men there is no question but that dragoons, firelocks and granadiers would be very useful. What might make the proposers think it reasonable is that the companies of the regiment of Guards here consist but of sixty private men, and the other regiments and loose companies but of fifty. However, I do not think it advisable to make any such change in that, nor shall consent to it but take time to consider of the matter till I have been in Ireland.

Yesterday Sir James Shaen, Mr. Roberts and the King's Solicitor appeared before the Lords of the Treasury at Whitehall and then brought in the last resolution of the Undertakers, with which my Lord Hyde tells me this morning he is not satisfied, for as I remember he told me they insisted first upon four months longer time to make the payments they had undertaken; secondly, to have the Vice-Treasurer's fees and in effect the receiving and issuing of all the revenue without inspection or control; in the last place it appears not how the interest of the pretended advance money shall be paid, if out of their rent the establishment must be retrenched or run in arrear so far as 18,000*l.* a year will make it. Upon the whole matter my opinion is that without visible and considerable gain they are not able to raise the advance money, and that they have no security but the King's revenue to offer you which he might raise money upon at [at] least as good terms as they, and I am afraid it will be found that all the delays on their part have been that there might be no time to treat and conclude with others. Of this my Lord Hyde is so sensible that he has gotten the King to appoint a meeting here tomorrow of all that are of the Irish Committee, and that the Solicitor, Sir James Shaen and Mr. Roberts do attend. What shall be then done you shall know by Tuesday's post.

I think the whole Council were on Thursday last very little satisfied with the account my Lord Privy Seal gave of himself and his book. He is allowed time till Thursday next to produce some expressions in the Acts of Settlement to justify those that reflect upon the late King and his book; but I think the true reason of that respite that it is not yet resolved how his place shall be disposed of, there being competitors for it who are not to be disobliged.

The Earl of Sunderland was yesterday admitted to kiss the King's hand upon what terms seems to be unknown to all but apprehended by many, who agree in their fears of the consequence though in other things they are not still in one mind.

The noise of the increase and mortality of the smallpox at Dublin has made us resolve to take our passage from Milford Haven to Waterford and we design to be at Harford West at the furthest by the 5th or 6th of September when there will be full moon; by that time or before the yacht may be ordered to be there, as also the frigate that has her station at Kinsale; if I can get leave sooner you shall have advertisement and instructions in other things. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, July 29. Tullow.—I have your Grace's letter of the 18th and had several letters yesterday of the 22nd with the news of my nephew's being married, which I was sure could not be kept so secret but that you would have the attendants you mention. I shall say nothing to your Grace about the regimenting project because my Lord Longford assures me and seems to have authority from your Grace so to do, that it will not go on in the method proposed and as to the new farm or any other undertaking, certainly upon this alliance you will have the main stroke and therefore I hope you will get the establishment made to the advantage of the military list, and rather get an addition to than allow of a reducement of the Army as it is now established. I am sorry that the letters of the 22nd have not brought news that my Lord Privy Seal is turned out, for delays in such a matter may be of very ill consequence.

I did not like the proposals I sent your Grace from Major Deane, but those you sent me about the Castle I like much worse, and my Lord Chancellor was of my opinion though Sir John Topham proves to be the chief undertaker. I hope your Grace will retrieve the papers I sent for easing the concordatums of the money laid out upon account of the Plot, for I shall have a very uncomfortable time of it at the Board if that be not granted. The letter I sent over about my own concerns I have no account of. I like the park and the sport I have there so well that I must desire you to concern yourself in that matter. My uncle Mathew promised to be my solicitor

in it. Sir John Meade will be very well pleased with what your Grace writes concerning him, which he shall be told of before his return from the circuit, and when I am sure that Mr. Herbert will quit, as I am credibly informed he will as soon as he returns, you shall have transmitted such drafts of warrants as are necessary if your Grace returns not hither before that time. There is but one thing more that I can remember that I thought of consequence, and have had no answer from your Grace in and that was concerning my Lord Massereene and the priests &c.

I am glad you desired the battle-axes for the person you mention, for he is a good friend of mine and a very warm solicitor of my concerns, and though Roscarick is got upon his legs again he will not outlive this winter in all probability.

I am very glad I have prevailed with you to be so much a courtier as to visit my Lady Portsmouth. I hope you will go through with it and be kind to her attendants, your county palatine subjects. My Lord Longford writing me word that he intended to leave London this week, though I do not believe he will, I take that rise for not answering his letter. Since the business of the agency on behalf of Mr. Ellis does not go on, I desire your Grace to stand his friend in the matter of the reversions of the ports, he having had your recommendation and his Majesty's approbation before the resolution of granting no reversions.

ORMOND to LORD PRIMATE.

1682, July 29. London.—The day before I left London to attend his Majesty at a Council at Hampton Court and then hither, I had notice that my Lord Blessington and his lady were got to town. I had waited upon her, but that the morning was appointed for the Council to meet, what passed then, and since here, and where my Lord Anglesey's affair rests, will best be made known to your Grace by the enclosed copy of my letter to my son Arran. You see into what straits the King is brought in relation to his affair in Ireland which depend upon his revenue by giving too much and too long credit to incompetent projectors and undertakers, and so little to those that may justly challenge more belief and a greater share in the management of such an affair; but as most certainly those who have countenanced the propositions from the beginning had real intentions to serve the King, so it is my inclinations and all our duties to look forward and to make the best use we can of the little time that is left for so great a work and of the means that lie before us. I suppose your Grace may be returned from the visitations by that time this gets to Dublin, when you shall soon have the result of to-morrow's meeting here. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 1. Dublin.—I heard when I was in the country, and find it confirmed since my return this night, that the Archbishop of Cashel is so weak and ill that it is impossible he should live many days, and though I know my recommendation will not signify much, yet I think myself bound in the station I am to offer my opinion. In the province of Munster if your Grace thinks it proper to translate a bishop, the fittest are the Bishops of Cork, Waterford or Limerick; the latter, I believe, will not accept it willingly, his bishopric being near as good as the archbishopric, this being worth at most 1200*l.* per annum; but however your pleasure and his Majesty's is for that promotion I think no man fitter to be a bishop amongst the clergy here than Dean Jones of Kilkenny, your Grace's chaplain, now Dean of Lismore, and out of his livings I can prefer a chaplain of mine of the same name, and one who was recommended to my care by his Majesty and some others, if the livings he holds are as good as I am informed they are. I give your Grace this timely notice lest we may be imposed upon to the discredit of the Church. I am sure it will be none according to this scheme.

LORDS OF TREASURY to ORMOND.

1682, August 1. Treasury Chamber.—His Majesty having been pleased to declare that the contract which was designed for a new farm of the revenue of Ireland shall be no further proceeded in but quite laid aside, we are commanded to acquaint you Excellency, that whereas by our letter of the 1st of September last we signified his Majesty's pleasure to his Grace the Duke of Ormond that the order of 22nd March, 1677, and all other orders for laying restraints upon the Farmers should be recalled, it is now his Majesty's pleasure that the Commission of Inspection be proceeded on anew, and that the Commissioners do act for his Majesty's security as they were directed to do before the said restraints were taken off.

We are also to desire your Excellency to take care that the Farmers be forthwith called upon to pay up their rent according to their covenants, and to give an account how their present payments stand, and that their accounts be made up to the 1st day of July last, and to make forthwith their demands of defalcations, if any there be, to the end they may be determined in such manner as is provided by his Majesty's covenants with them in that behalf, and that your Excellency will give direction to the Barons of the Exchequer to proceed with all expedition, though out of term, on what is regularly to come before them in relation to the said defalcations. His Majesty hath further commanded us to signify his pleasure that your Excellency do forthwith send to the several collectors of the Farmers to give you an account of what assignments they have now in their hands, and what of them

are paid, and what unpaid, and in case there be variety of assignments unsatisfied in any of the respective collector's hands, that your Excellency give positive directions for those of the civil and military lists to be first paid with preference to any others.

And whereas there was a further clause in our said letter of the 1st of September desiring his Grace for what should be requisite upon account of the pay of the Army, the concordatum money, or any other special or necessary service, his Grace would give order to Mr. Thomas Taylor to pay them by way of imprest, until his Grace should receive his Majesty's further directions. This is also to signify his Majesty's pleasure that from the receipt of this all warrants and orders be directed to the Vice-Treasurer or his Deputy as hath been usual and particularly those for June pay, and that the Vice-Treasurer be called upon to bring in his account to the 20th of March last.

His Majesty is also pleased that your Excellency should give immediate orders for drawing the assignments for the money which is due to the Countess Dowager of Ossory upon her late lord's pension of 2,000*l.* per annum, she having administered to his estate.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, August 1. Windsor.—Sunday last, at a Committee composed of Lords of the Council and Commissioners of the Treasury, Sir James Shaen and Mr. Roberts were dismissed with very severe rebukes for having departed from what they had formerly agreed unto as to the time of completing their advance money, and another point I have forgot, but either my Lord Longford or Fitzpatrick will inform you. Amongst all the Lords none was more sharp upon them than my Lord Hyde as having deluded him more than the rest. In this displeasure orders were given to the Lords of the Treasury by this post to dispatch orders to you to restore the Commissioners of Inspection to their function and to do all other things that may prevent the misapplication of the revenue during the time the present farm lasts. What those things are will appear to you by the orders you will receive, which I suppose will find you returned from Tullow or hasten you to Dublin.

Since I writ the former part of my letter I am told that Sir James Shaen and Roberts will in a petition wave the two points they insisted on and take the bargain on the King's own terms. Whether the submission may not come too late will be determined together with my Lord Anglesey's affair on Thursday next at Hampton Court. But it being supposed that there is an end of their treaty several propositions are in preparation, of which the most reasonable and advantageous I have seen or heard of will come from Sir Robert Reading and Sir William Petty. Discourses there are

of putting the revenue into management and the speculation is joined to that of calling a Parliament. By a management it is supposed his Majesty may arrive at the knowledge of what his revenue is worth, and from a Parliament it is hoped it may be improved or at least a sum of money granted to be spent in and for the advantage of Ireland. It was proposed that bills should be immediately set up to invite all bidders to come in by the 1st of September. I offered against it that possibly the King would in a few days have better offers made him, than when so much time is given for contrivance and combination, yet all I could obtain was that that resolution should be deferred till Thursday. By that time I doubt not but that several propositions will be brought in, but if they shall not provide for the ease of the revenue here in proportion to the first proposition or near it and if Sir James shows any reasonable probability of performance, I am of opinion his party will carry it. I find I shall be importuned to stay to see a settlement of the revenue and that many reasons will be given why I should. I hope the King will not be prevailed upon to command my stay, and that it is not designed to protract the settlement till it be too late for me to make the voyage with such company as I am to carry with me. I will defend myself as well as I can, and at last plainly tell the Lords of the Treasury that having no further business of my own here and a great deal in Ireland, that must suffer in my absence if I be forced to stay, the charge of the Government must be in the mean time borne by the King and this I hope will gain my liberty. *Copy.*

EARL OF CLANRICARDE to ORMOND.

1682, August 1. Dublin.—Though I judge it very unreasonable to trouble your Grace with a letter when during your Grace's stay in England I am sensible your Grace cannot but be otherwise taken up and employed in very weighty affairs, yet lest by the endeavours of some who make it their practice to render me odious to my best friends, I may any way suffer in your Grace's opinion, I could not now forbear giving your Grace this trouble. It is occasioned by the misfortunes of my son Dunkellin in whose behalf your Grace was pleased to lay your commands upon me, which prevailed so far as to oblige a father most justly incensed against an undutiful son to allow him such a maintenance out of my estate as was consistent with my other incumbrances, and during that time have laboured with very great expense to keep of the weight of that dreadful and most unhappy debt of the Lady Muskerry's. But now I am sorry I must acquaint your Grace that after a very tedious troublesome law suit with that lady and her husband, I most sensibly feel the smart of my son's unhappy marriage being forced to submit to a decree in Chancery for 25,500*l.*, for the discharge whereof my whole estate is to be

extended. And this I can assure your Grace that upon the prospect I now have of the settlement of my estate in order to pay off that great incumbrance, I see no possibility of receiving thereout full 300*l.* a year for many years to come for my own and family's maintenance, yet I find my son and his wife have so little consideration of the low condition I am at present reduced into that they now demand a continuance of the allowance I punctually paid while my fortune could bear with that charge, which in effect is to expect that I should part with the little means left me to a son who is known to be the author of all my troubles. This I humbly hope your Grace will never think reasonable, my present hard circumstances forcing me to retrench my son's and many other allowances. And I do assure your Grace I am the more particularly concerned to be at this time rendered unable of complying with what your Grace has been heretofore pleased, in the behalf of my son, to recommend to, may it please your Grace, your &c.

LE COMTE DE GRAMMONT to ORMOND.

1682, August 2. Paris.—Mouscri ma dit que vous series bien ayse Monsieur d'avoir des pillules pour la goutte, ie me suis informé de Mr. le duc Daumon, du marechal d'Humieres et de plusieurs autres s'ils s'en trouvent bien affin de ne vous envoyer pas une chose qui peut vous faire du mal, ils m'ont tous assuré quils navoient pas eu de goutte depuis quils en prenoit, et que cestoit une chose si innoçente qui ne pouvoit iamais vous faire du mal, il n'en faut pas prendre dans le grand chaut, iay escrit a celluy qui les fait pour vous en envoyer pour six mois elles sont bonnes iusques a ce tems la, ie vous promets quan quelque endroit que vous soyés en aures — Monsieur vostre provision iauray toujours soing de la santé de mon oncle qui est cogneu par tout le monde pour le plus parfait, le plus galant, et le plus honneste homme du monde.

Le Comte de Grammont ie ordonne a Mouscri de vous demander pour moy deus bons chevaux. Depuis la reprimande que vous me fites que iecrivois mal ie fait la depance dun secretaire.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, August 3. Dublin.—My Lord Deputy hath been pleased to acquaint me with a letter, which hath been lately procured from his Majesty to make one Mr. Mallery, who at present is but a bachelor of arts of one year's standing or thereabouts as I am informed, a Senior Fellow of the College of Dublin in the next vacancy ; when this vacancy may fall is at some distance to conjecture, but the good Provost is

* The orthography of the original is followed in this transcript. The last paragraph is in a different handwriting from the remainder of the letter.

much afflicted that such an unexemplary promotion should be introduced in his time. And indeed I must acknowledge to your Grace that I do not at all remember any precedent of the like condition. It not only superinduceth a bachelor of arts over the heads of all the Junior Fellows, and perhaps of his own Tutor also, who are daily expectants to succeed in those preferments when they become void, and therefore must be much discontented by such a disappointment, but it must very much discourage the industry of the students in general and of their parents also, who make those advancements the great ambition of theirs and their sons apprenticeships. My Lord Deputy resents this as he ought. And when I have presumed to give your Grace this my sense thereof I humbly submit it and myself to your Grace's better judgment.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, August 4. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news.
[See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders*, Vol. 53, in the Public Record Office.]

GILBERT TALBOT to ORMOND.

1682, August 5. Laiex.—Although I have ever esteemed your Grace so strongly fortified with all the principles of honour, loyalty and integrity, that the devil himself could never find a weak place in the whole circumstances of your life to lay his batteries of slander against; yet, my Lord, since your Grace hath lately been assaulted by a deeper malice and greater dexterity in calumination of the late, (I hope not long), Lord Privy Seal, and given him as clear a defeat as that which was given by the hand of heaven to the Earl of Meath and his six butchers in St. George's Channel, I cannot forbear to salute your Grace with this weak expression of the joy of my heart for your so entire a victory and triumph over the stratagems of your subtle and venomous adversary. I hope his Majesty will hereby discover upon what a false prop he hath trusted the weight of many of his affairs of State especially in Parliamentary debates. For let Machiavill teach what he will, it is impossible for a man that is not honest at the bottom ever to be a good servant to his Prince.

My Lord I have one thing more to congratulate with your Grace, which is your grandson's, my Lord Ossory's, marriage with my Lord Hyde's daughter, wherein your Grace will find great satisfaction and comfort, for his lordship is a man after your Grace's own heart, well principled towards his Prince and a generous friend. I confess I am not a little obliged by his lordship's extraordinary expressions and promises of kindness to me to give him this character, for unsolicited and friendly of his own accord, he told me, when I last waited upon his Majesty at Windsor, that he would be my friend and bade me depend upon it, and it would be a high recommendation

of me to his lordship's favour if your Grace would be pleased to let him know that you give me leave to write myself, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 6. Dublin.—I had none from your Grace last post, neither have from other hands but the news-writers, any account of the proceedings in Council in your contest with my Lord Privy Seal; the particulars I hope to have soon for I am told there is a packet in the bay, and I believe my uncle Mathew is with it; however I would not stop the packet here from going out as was intended by the time I return from church. The enclosed states of the monthly accounts of the Farmers' payments and balance were brought me yesterday by the Farmers. Your Grace will find that Mr. Taylor's state, which he would have signed if he had not died, and that taken out of the Farmers' books do differ about 3,000*l.*, for Mr. Taylor's state from the last of June to the last of July makes the balance due from the Farmers 13,559*l.* odd money and the Farmers but 10,640*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, and I think myself bound to inform your Grace that many of the last March assignments will not be accepted by the respective collectors they are drawn upon, having no effects in their hands, and some of them declare and say they will justify it to the Farmers' faces that they knew these assignments could not be answered but out of the Michaelmas quit-rents. I have been so civil to the Farmers as to send my Secretary to them to show them the several letters writ from the officers of the Army upon that subject, what their answer will be shall be transmitted.

As to the livings of Carrick I find upon inquiry that the presentation is in your Grace as patron and am informed that Monsieur Hierome has a nephew and a son in law; the former I am told understands no English and the latter is a blockhead in all languages. The widow's condition whose petition I send over requires commiseration; Mr. Christian whom I formerly recommended for that cure is a person very fit for the place, as may appear by the certificates of several bishops, and he would part with something that he holds now to have the honour of being placed there.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, August 7. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news.
[See Foreign Office Papers, Flanders, in the Public Record Office.]

JOHN NALSON to ORMOND.

1682, August 7. Doddington.—I have searched all my papers, an abstract of which I here send enclosed by which your Grace will see how indifferently the Paper Office is furnished with materials towards giving any tolerable account of the Irish affairs. If therefore your Grace think it con-

venient that I should interweave the historical account of Ireland with that of England, that so the world may have a true account of those transactions and that I may not be misled either by the malice or ignorance of other writers, I must humbly crave your Grace's assistance in such papers and matters of fact as must certainly be the best known to your Grace, and if in my low sphere I can be capable of serving your Grace in this or any other matter, I shall esteem it the glory of my life by receiving your Grace's commands to have the honour of being, etc.

Encloses the following :—

Papers concerning Ireland taken out of the Paper Office at Whitehall.

1640-1.—A Commission under the Great Seal of England intended for the continuance of the Parliament in Ireland not arriving there until after the 26th day of January to which day the Parliament was by a former command prorogued, an Order for the determination of that Parliament and the calling a new Parliament.

1641.—A letter from his Majesty's Attorney General in Ireland to the Lord Keeper Littleton concerning certain queries proposed to the judges by the House of Commons, as also concerning the bishops' revenues. Dated Dublin, August 19, 1641.

A copy of those queries and the answers given to them by the judges.

A copy of the same queries propounded and voted in the Commons' House in Ireland and their own declarations of law upon them.

1645.—A letter from his Majesty to the Lord Marquess of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to conclude a peace there upon former instructions sent by Colonel Willoughby. Dated June 19, 1645.

Another letter to the same effect dated from Oxford, December 2, 1645.

1646.—Articles of agreement between the Lord Marquess of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Commissioner for his Majesty, and Richard Lord Viscount Mountgarret and others Commissioners for the Confederate Catholics in Ireland, which agreement was afterwards broken by the said Confederates at the importunity of the Nuntio.

1649.—Two letters between Colonel Monk and Owen O'Neill concerning a Cessation of Arms &c., April 25, 1649.

Besides I have :—The History of the Irish Rebellion fol. printed by R. Clavel, 1680. A Prospect of the State of Ireland from 1556 to 1652 by Peter Walsh. An extract of the diurnals and other printed narratives published during those times, which I find full of mistakes and uncertainties.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 8. Dublin.—There came in two packets from Windsor yesterday, and with them my uncle Mathew landed and is gone this morning homewards, amongst other things that he informed [me], he told me of a proposal made for my niece Stanhope's marriage with a person of great quality. I hope that treaty goes on, for it is a thing I desire much, and will strengthen much the interest of our family at least in this country, and if that be brought about by a person now out of favour, I would not advise your Grace to scruple the readmitting of him. I have your Grace's letters of the 29th of the last and 1st instant, and am glad that the project of regimenting the Army as it was proposed is laid aside.

My Lord Hyde has given me an account how the farm came to be broke off and his lordship with the rest of the Lords of the Treasury have signified his Majesty's pleasure to me, requiring me to give orders that the Commission of Inspection be proceeded on anew to require the Farmers to give an account of their payments to the 1st of July last, and to make forthwith their demands for defalcations, which the Barons of the Exchequer are to proceed upon though out of term, and that the several collectors be sent to, to give an account of what assignments they have in their hands and what of them are paid and what unpaid, and that I should send positive directions that those of the civil and military list be first paid. This is the substance of their letter, to which I shall send a full answer with the advice of those few of the Board that are now here, by the next post. I have sent to desire my Lord Primate to come to town upon this business. I sent for the Farmers this morning and acquainted them with the substance of what I had in command, and do find that they will insist upon their covenants, and do allege that imposing an inspection upon them is contrary to their covenants, and also the orders I am required to send to their collectors. One thing I had forgot, and that is that warrants should be hereafter directed to the Vice-Treasurer, the warrants I signed for June pay were left with Mr. Taylor before he died, but I shall have them up from his executors and will direct new ones to the Vice-Treasurer, but we have neither Vice-Treasurer nor his deputy here. I hope Sir John Champante is upon his way by this time, if Sir James Shaen has not brought about the new contract again, as your Grace seems to hint in yours of the 1st was possible enough to happen.

I hope by the next post to hear that the Privy Seal is put into other hands, Thursday being the day appointed for my Lord Privy Seal's last answer.

If your Grace intends to come over so soon as you mention in yours of the 29th, which I by the way look upon as impossible having so much work of all hands to go through with, you need not avoid coming by this town, for you are as

much misinformed of the distempers of this place as we are in the coffee houses here, that my Lord Hyde is to be Lord Lieutenant of this kingdom and your Grace Lord Treasurer there.

The Archbishop of Cashel is not yet dead, though past recovery. I had a letter yesterday from the Bishop of Limerick desiring me to put your Grace in mind of his father the Bishop of Dromore for that archbishopric. Whoever shall take a new farm of the revenue here I hope your Grace will order it so that they may not farm the post office, for there are many great complaints and I am afraid just ones against the present Farmers, and without giving notice to me they send the post barks away to Chester when they please, by which means we want our letters out of England sometimes two or three days, as it happened this last time, and I know not who to punish because Capt. Gill's widow has made it so in her bargain for supplying the packet.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, August 8. Windsor.—Sunday last has put a final period to Sir James Shaen's proposals, and the trial of a management was resolved upon; great endeavours are used to get into the office, but the King says he will neither appoint or recommend any, that in case this way should not answer expectation, he may have no share of the blame, but leave it upon his ministers. The branches of the Establishment are (1) Ireland, (2) Tangier, (3) Ships, and (4) Pensions. I separate this last from the others, because the other three are to have preference and pensions are to bear any failures that may happen. I go this afternoon to London to meet the Lords of the Treasury to-morrow morning upon the whole matter. I hope it may be brought to a conclusion, so that I may keep my day of departure from hence. I am, I may say, importuned to stay all this winter here, and I find it to be the desire of some that may command, if they will, but till they do I hold my resolution and will by the next post give you a more positive account of what shall be resolved in the point. The present Farmers are by their contract obliged to give in their books for the information of the Government in the produce of the revenue in their time and other things. It will be fit on advice with the King's counsel to call upon them for them; from London you shall hear again from me. *Copy.*

COLONEL EDWARD COOKE to ORMOND.

1682, August 9. Highnam.—I understand by a letter brought me last post from Colonel Jeffreys, that your Grace intends your return for Ireland before the end of this month and by the way of Milford. This therefore is not only mine, but also the address of this whole family, that your Grace will be pleased to remember your old quarters and prefer this

house before a Gloucester Inn, where I presume your Grace, and my Lady Duchess both, believe all persons and things are absolutely your own; though I am now going to exercise my buckhunting vocation in Savernake Forest, yet as soon as I understand your Grace begins your march I shall quickly gallop to pay my duty. I therefore presume to beg that either Mr. Gascoigne, or some other of your Grace's servants, may have orders that as soon as the time and stations are resolved on they will give me an account of both. If before the end of this month, be pleased to let the superscription to my orders run thus, for me at Bagden Lodge in Savernake Forest, to be left with the postmaster at Marlborough in Wiltshire, if after this month then hither to be left with the postmaster at Gloucester. For my heart is so set on waiting on your Grace that it will prove a very irksome disappointment should I fail of it. If there be any commands that may guide me to become in any way serviceable to your Grace be pleased to bestow them as frankly on me as you have been accustomed to be liberal of other favours. How defective so ever I may be in power, I am sure my ambition is large enough to render me to all intents and purposes with all imaginable implicitness, etc.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, August 10. London.—Yesterday we met upon the establishment at the Treasury Chamber, where many retrenchments were proposed, but they were all in relation to particular persons and salaries, and though it was not a proper part for me to appear an opposer of any methods of thrift, that can consist with the service and safety of the Government, yet I did help some friends not altogether as such, but as I thought it just and useful. I will not name particulars, nor if I can help it shall there be any discovery made till the season of acting upon the new establishment. Your letter of the 1st instant I have and shall in the first place prevent any engagement upon his Majesty, and then we may have time to accommodate all fit persons as far as such a vacancy will permit, wherein room may be found for your chaplain. I am just now going to the Treasury Chamber again to go on with the establishment and particularly on those of Tangier and the ships, both which must be maintained out of the Irish revenue and I hope with little hurt to Ireland. *Copy.*

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE TO ORMOND.

1682, August 11. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news.
[See Foreign Office Papers, Flanders, in the Public Record Office.]

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1682, August 11. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 29th of July, which came to my hands at

Blessington, whither I had retired for five or six days for a little country physic, but upon my Lord Deputy's summons I came to Dublin, where his Excellency was pleased to show me a letter from the Lords of the Treasury to retrench the force of their lordships' former directions in the behalf of the present Farmers. I can say little upon that occasion, but what will be represented to your Grace by my Lord Deputy's private letter, or by my Lord Deputy and Council, but this I must presume to whisper to your Grace that by the observance of their lordships' former commands we are much disabled to restore the receipts and payments into such a method as might give us such an understanding of his Majesty's revenue as may be of satisfaction to us; but according to your Grace's advice and usual wisdom we shall make the best of it that we can. The Lord Deputy and Council have ordered the Commissioners of Inspection to be restored to their places as they were; but they durst not adventure without farther directions to send any positive orders to the collectors in the country as your letter directs, lest the Farmers should take up their old way of justifying their failure, because the Council table had intercepted their receipts by putting some restraints upon their collectors. I wish they do not make the same objection against the restoring of the Commissioners of Inspection; but in my poor opinion, and it was the general sense of the whole table also, let the Farmers object what they please, there could not be the least satisfactory prospect of their receipts and payments without the Inspection of the Commissioners.

Your Grace writes of being at the water-side about the beginning of September. I believe that your Grace designs it and what is more that you wish it, for I cannot suppose that the unsteadiness of affairs, for so they appear to us at this distance, can be any way pleasing to your Grace's way of managery, but notwithstanding all that, the great concern of this kingdom depending upon the settlement of the revenue it is not probable that his Majesty will permit your departure thence until that be first established or at least agreed on.

I hear that the proposal between the Lord of Kildare and my Lord Chesterfield's daughter is now put on foot by some of my Lord Kildare's friends. I heartily wish it may take good effect for many reasons, which I need not repeat unto your Grace. I pray God prosper your Grace and all yours.

ORMOND to COLONEL EDWARD COOKE.

1682, August 12. London.—Yours from Highnam finds me just now ready to return to Windsor from whence I came on Tuesday last and have ever since been employed in feasting and business, which are good things in their seasons, but for the most part spoil one another, yet the Lords of the Treasury have in my presence given order for the drawing a Commission for the management of the revenue in Ireland

and instructions to the Commissioners. They have also dispatched many pretenders to pensions and counties more for the ease of the revenue than the satisfaction of the parties. The unruliness of some hath made us hard hearted and pursue our resolution not to be cudgelled or starved, that is to say with our own consent. Till I have been at Windsor and received the King's pleasure I cannot be positive as to the time of my departure for Ireland, consequently you cannot have the information you so kindly desire, but I have put the directory part of your letter into Gascoigne's hands and he will be sure to follow it in due time. Remember my service to your whole family, which I would go out of my [way] and to worse accommodation, to see once more. *Copy.*

SIR FRANCIS BREWSTER TO ORMOND.

1682, August 12. Dublin.—Since the return I humbly made to your Grace's commands about the Castle I have traversed every thing likely to supply what the Castle falls short of the sum designed for the palace and that which appears most encouraging, if it may be done, is the exchange of the College for the new Hospital. Your Grace hath wished the College a better structure and situation, the latter now renders it more a sepulchre than nursery to the youth of this kingdom, who too often miscarry by the lewd neighbourhood of Lazy Hill; now if it please your Grace the College may be of sufficient reception for the soldiers, and the Hospital would make a magnificent college and being out of town would be free from those mischiefs that now attend it. For this change I presume 10,000*l.* would voluntary be subscribed by the gentlemen of this kingdom, who are now beginning to send their children abroad, and [it] is to be feared if not soon remedied this foundation will be desolate. If this should fall short of 10,000*l.* another thing presents, which Sir John Edgeworth hath put into my hands with covenant that he may have your Grace's favour for the paying of a debt of 3,000*l.* out of it due from his Majesty to him. He is positive that the information is true, though it seems improbable. The thing is the pay of the horses sent from hence to Tangier is wholly charged on this revenue, yet one half of the pay hath been answered by provisions out of England, then there rest near 8,000*l.* in the Farmers' hands.

I am farther to submit to your Grace, that if your Grace continues your thoughts relating to the Castle it imports the contractors before it be known, to secure in St. George's Lane, Sheep Street, Castle Street and Damaske Street so many houses as may make four fair streets into the Castle, which may be too late easily to procure if once the design be known. I beg your Grace's leave to acquaint your Grace with the wonderful progress of Ormond Market to the great satisfaction of this city being judged the greatest ornament in it.

Your Grace's favour therein hath given a fortune had I no more sufficient for one in my post, which with all dutiful thankfulness shall ever oblige me and mine to pray.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1682, August 14. Windsor.—I did not know your lordship was in town all the while I was the last week in London, if I had I could have borrowed some part of the time I spent with my Lord St. Albans to give you a visit and some account of our Irish affair, which took up all the mornings from Wednesday to Saturday and yet all that was done was to order the Solicitor to prepare the drafts of a commission and instructions for managers and to resolve that no new pensions could be admitted or old ones paid till experience should discover what his Majesty would have at the year's end to dispose of after the charge of the government of Ireland, the garrison of Tangier and the charge of a certain number of ships should be defrayed out of the Irish revenue. By this you see how impossible it is to serve the lady with that expedition her affair seems to require, which I had no way to accommodate but by offering to be bound for performance of conditions and this I hope will do the work.

Your lordship having had some part in bringing me over you will allow me to tell you that I am yet ignorant whether the King will permit my present return into Ireland or command my stay this next winter here. I hope I may be informed of his pleasure this night, if it be for my stay I shall see your lordship at Newmarket and I trust often after, if I have leave to go I will endeavour to see you to-morrow in the evening; if that cannot be this must pass for a leave taking, and for all that ought to be said on such an occasion by a faithful friend and most humble servant. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1682, August 15. Dublin.—I have none from your Grace this post, nor had any by the last, and what I have in command from the Lords of the Treasury I doubt not but you have the perusal of, before it is sent me and a sight of what is writ in return, which makes me not trouble your Grace with duplicates of all that passes.

By a letter from my Lord Longford of the 8th and some others I received by yesterday's packet, I find for certain that the new undertaking is now put off without resource, and that a management is resolved upon for the next year, the modelling of which must take up much time considering how long the revenue has been in farm, and will put your Grace to no small trouble whom to recommend, having so many persons on both sides the water that think themselves capable of such preferment and depend upon you for advancement. Sir John Champante landed yesterday and is not a little pleased

with this new alteration. I shall find it a difficult matter notwithstanding my putting the King's commands of the 1st instant in execution, and those I received from the Lords of the Treasury also dated the 8th in relation to the present Farmers; how to get a true account of what is paid, and what in arrear upon the assignments already sent down to the collectors they being so much the Farmers' creatures.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, August 15. Windsor.—Yours of the 6th I received yesterday, and that of the 8th this morning as I came from receiving the King's command to dispose myself for residence here this winter; the reasons he gave and the manner of delivering them were very obliging as they expressed confidence in my integrity and some opinion of my capacity to serve him at a time of difficulty.

It was not to be doubted but that the Farmers would not only draw into their hands all the money they could, but do whatever else might disturb the method and good success of the way the King has put his revenue into, the foresight of this produced those directions you received and which you are preparing to perform and give an account of. The King resolves there as well as here to govern by law and hopes one day to have the benefit of it himself, but in the case of these men who have long deluded him and his ministers their covenants ought to be narrowly examined and though nothing should be done to them against law, yet surely there is equity due to the King as well as to his subjects. I will take care of the other parts of your letters and return answers by the next post. The Bishop of Dromore is a sad prelate and Dr. Jones is a fit man to make one of. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, August 15. Windsor.—By letters of the 8th from Dublin I have had notice of your landing and departure the next day, and this morning I had the King's command to fit myself for wintering here and take it for granted that as much will be allowed for the support of the government in my absence as was in the like case at other times, the rest, which will be about half, I must bear. Much will depend on the success of the King's affairs betwixt this and the next spring and his Majesty is made believe that I may be of some use to him. The King having taken the management of his revenue into his own hands, at least to make a trial for one year, my prise wines will be loose and it will be fit in time to consider of the best way of disposing them, possibly the managers may be persuaded either to farm them from me or manage them for me. I know not certainly who they shall be, but without doubt they will be such as understand trade and may help me one way or other. My wife is early and

sharply attacked by her cough, I hope it is but what other more healthy and young are troubled with and get free of. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1682, August 16. Arlington House.—One of the businesses I forgot last night was to mind your Grace of Mr. Ellis, formerly your son's secretary, a very ingenious and well deserving man, who served his lord long both at home and abroad much to his satisfaction. He persuades himself your Grace may easily find means of accommodating him in the management of the revenue of Ireland and I dare be answerable for his performing it well. I humbly take leave once more of your Grace, begging your pardon, that my legs will not carry me to do it in person.

MADAM DE GRAMMONT to ORMOND.

1682, August 18. Versailles.—Vous avez receu ma lettre avec bonté, vous n'avez point méprisé les temoignages de mon respect et de ma tendresse et vous y repondez avec tant de douceur et de bienveillance que ie ne scaurois me consoler de ce que ma timidité ma privée si long temps d'un si grand bien. J'accepte avec ioye et reconnoissance l'offre que vous me faites de vostre portrait, ie nen saurois trop avoir et ie suis bien seure quil ne me fournira pas les tristes reflexions dont vous me parles puisque tout le monde massure que vous nestes point changé et que vostre santé est tres bonne; ie naurois pour me mortifier qua regarder mon miroir qui me fait apercevoir chaque jour de quelque nouvelle iniure due temps mais come la loy en est comune a toutes les creatures il faut songer a passer avec le moins dincomodites quil se pourra les jours qui nous sont contes, et pour cela aller aux remedes; ie crois que, Mr. le Comte de Gramont vous a envoyé de certaines pillules admirables pour la goutte on en a veu des miracles si vous vouliez vous en servir selon la methode qui est prescrite ie vous en fournirois toute l'annee Mr. Daumoun, Mr. le Marechal d'Humieres et plusieurs autres sen sont servits utilement. Je prens part come je dois a la satisfaction que vous temoignes avoir du mariage que vous venes de faire, tout le monde dit beaucoup de bien de la jeune dame et ie la trouve bien heureuse davoir l'honneur dentrer dans vostre famille; iay esté voir Me. sa mere a son arivee et ie ne manquerais pas de luy rendre pour l'amour de vous tous les soins dont ie me pourrais aviser puis que ie suis avec plus d'attachement que qui que ce soit Monsieur mon tres cher oncle vostre tres humble et tres obeissante servante et niece.*

* The orthography of the original is followed in this transcript.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 19. Dublin.—The bearer Mr. Ashbury, to whom I have given licence to go into England, I must recommend to your Grace's care and desire you would, notwithstanding your great affairs there, allow him to speak with you in a matter of great importance here; the business is Mr. Smith of our playhouse is lately dead, who you know was a great pillar of our stage, therefore your encouragement and assistance will be necessary or else the playhouse will fall.

SAME to SAME.

1682, August 19. Dublin.—I had on Thursday last Mr. Gascoigne's of the 12th by your Grace's direction and yesterday Mr. Dickson gave me yours of the 8th and 10th, which he had brought sooner but that he fell ill upon the road. I desire your Grace to acquaint the Lords of the Treasury, that I have punctually followed their directions in their several letters of the 1st, 8th and 12th of this month, to the two former I have given an answer in writing, the last is not worth a letter by itself. The Farmers have their lordships' order and tell me they will give obedience to it, but I am afraid if they prove not honest men all these orders will signify nothing to compass the end as I suppose aimed at, for without breach of covenants on the King's part, the collectors cannot be required to pay no money to them unless there were a seizure of the farm. The Farmers think I have gone too far already in the order I sent to their respective collectors to pay no money upon the assignments already issued but to the military and civil list only and not to the pensions, or any other payment whatever, these last words marked they except against as excluding them from receiving their money for management as by their contract is provided, upon which I sent for the King's counsel, Sir John Davys and the Commissioners of Inspection, the Farmers present. The Attorney and Solicitor General were of opinion that they ought not to have that restraint put upon them, provided they ascertained the sums, so the Farmers went away satisfied and Sir Charles Meredith and Sir John Topham are to adjust that matter with them. I do not see anything farther to be done in relation to the Farmers until the Barons of the Exchequer return from their circuits.

I do not doubt but before this time the Commissioners are named for managing the revenue, but however I must put your Grace in mind of Sir John Davys; before I received yours of the 8th Sir John Champante told me it was resolved there should be four columns in the establishment, which account he had from my Lord Ranelagh. I have called upon the Farmers for an account of the produce of the revenue in their time, which they own they are by their covenants bound to give the Chief Governor when demanded and will give in as

soon as they possibly can, indeed they have a great deal of work upon their hands, and by way of addition to their trouble the collector of this port, Mr. Pledwell, has taken away all the money and bonds in his hands to secure himself against a judgment, Fletcher has got of 1,600*l.* against him for executing the Farmers' orders, the business, your Grace knows very well, it has been often before you in Council. I wish the revenue may hold out to furnish Tangier and ships in that proportion as is expected.

SIR JOHN DAVYS to ORMOND.

1682, August 19. Dublin.—Asking his Grace as the Irish revenue is to be put into a number of Commissioners' hands to interpose in his favour in order that he may be one of them. The reasons of his coming to his present employment and the hopes of his endeavours in it consisted perfectly in his Grace, for it is not to be thought that the profits of that place, being so very little, could weigh in the balance with his inclinations of service under his Grace. He has been a constant attender at the Council Board and upon the Commissions of Accounts upwards of ten years, excepting that time by the iniquity whereof he was singled out of his Majesty's servants and ministers in this kingdom to be so severely fallen upon in England. *Abstract.*

WALTER BUTLER to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, August 22. Dublin.—Enclosing petition and letter to Dr. Taylor requesting some satisfaction for the charges and troubles he has been at about the Duchess of Portsmouth's concerns here. When her Grace sold her interest in Lord Kingston's grant to the King she made particular provision for the writer's satisfaction. He knows that she will get the matter referred to the Lord Lieutenant, and hopes his Grace will not be against it, as others will soon snap away all the forfeited lands found in those inquisitions. He suggests that Gascoigne should obtain help from Mr. Mulys, who is Dr. Taylor's great friend, and promises Gascoigne, if he can procure the King's letter to pass the grant, forty guineas for his trouble besides what the fees of the letter cost. *Abstract.*

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 22. Dublin.—I have your Grace's of the 15th with the notice of your staying in England this winter, which at parting I thought would happen and believed prudent for you to do. By the end of the next week I believe the Barons of the Exchequer will be returned hither from their respective circuits and my Lord Chancellor also from Blesington, who I was unwilling to send for until we might put all matters relating to the farm at once in its properest and best way for the speedy bringing the Farmers to a just account, and shall

proceed all along for the time to come with the advice of the Privy Council and his Majesty's learned counsel at law, and I have this day signed an order to the Commissioners to bring me an account of the produce of the revenue according to their covenants. I hope your Grace will now soon send over most of the jovial crew that attended you, for we have but a thin Council, and the Army but slenderly officered, there being but four captains with their regiment.

I had an application from my Lord Mayor this day about his allowance, which it seems is now but upon the fund of the pensions, though it was upon the former establishment in the list of perpetuities; and having the Lords of the Treasury's orders to pay no pensions, I desire to know whether the city be meant or no. I think it hard it should. There needed no exception for my Lady Ossory's pension, for that is upon the civil list.

I hear the Bishop of Cloyne is desperately ill in the north, and am informed that the Bishop of Down is so in England. What loss they would be to the Church here cannot be repaired but by making Dr. Bleyden succeed one of them and one Dean Murray the other. But to be serious, your Grace has the Provost to advance—a man without exception and fitter for a bishopric than the employment he holds, and I hear much good of the Dean of Waterford, and I think the Archdeacon of Kilkenny may be thought of if such a mortality should happen amongst the bishops. For my own part, I have at present but one chaplain to provide for, and him I will accommodate whoever is made bishop.

JAMES CLARKE to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, August 22. London.—His Grace is at Windsor and her Grace goes to-morrow. The next week my lord goes to Winchester to keep his table, and the week after he will go to Newmarket then for a month at least. We have no house yet, nor there is none under 500*l.* for six months. God send us over once again, for this will prove expensive. Here is no news but that all the family are in health. I thought to tell you by this post about the 15,000*l.*, but have not time to do it, for I came from Windsor this day, and am backward and forward very often. But I hope we shall be at rest very soon. My humble service to my lady. I hope she is safe with you.

JOHN MACNAMARA to ORMOND.

1682, August 24.—Assuring his Grace that he never appeared against his interest. He was the only person that did appear in defence of his Grace's innocence, and gave account of the malice of the Lord Privy Seal and his son-in-law the Earl of Tyrone against his Grace. The Earl of Shaftesbury and others were angry with him for the same, and the Earl showed him the Earl of Anglesey's charges against his Grace,

whereupon he drew up a short brief of their discourses and sent it to Thompson, the printer, in order to have it published. He can further give his Grace an account of the contrivances of Sir Henry Englesby and his associates. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL of DERBY.

1682, August 24. Windsor.—I am infinitely pleased that your lordship approves of the freedom I take in my advices to you. You may be sure they shall always be sincere and as much for your service as my capacity will reach. We are told here that the Lord of Monmouth will not go to the horse-races in those parts; if that be true, as for his sake I hope it is, your lordship will be delivered from all the difficulties you are under concerning him; however, I wish this may come to your hands time enough to prevent your writing to his Grace, since it is hard to contrive such a letter as in this case can satisfy him and not displease the King, which you ought principally to avoid. If his Grace should come to my Lord Rivers, it will not be hard for your lordship to find occasion to be from home all the time he shall be there, and if he should understand it to be to avoid inviting or being invited the matter will not be much. As soon as his Grace shall make his peace with the King, and allow his Majesty to be as wise as he or those he is governed by, we shall all be glad to pay him all the respect due to his birth and person; till then he must not expect it. *Copy.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE DAVYS to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, August 25. Cork.—When I was at Limerick I wrote to your Grace and then gave you an account of one Teigene Mart, who was then condemned for felony. He was one of those who are generally known by the name of the King's evidence. This person, when he came to die, did at the place of execution declare, as the Sheriff told me, that all that he had sworn in reference to the Plot was false, and that what he had so falsely sworn was only in order to preserve himself from any trial for offences of felony before committed by him. He was a bold and a stubborn fellow at the bar, but they say a great penitent at the time of his death.

At Limerick Sir John FitzGerald did petition to be brought to his trial; summonses were issued for the evidence against him, but they kept out of the way and would not appear, nor could they be brought in; wherefore the Court did not hold it safe to proceed to the trial of him.

And now here at Cork the titular Bishop of Cork, a person by me transmitted from Dublin hither by order of my Lord Deputy and Council, did petition the Court, setting forth that the witnesses against him, though desired, refused to appear, and therefore prayed a summons for them, which was granted, and this day being appointed for his trial, and the witnesses

appearing, the Court proceeded to the trial of him, and one of the witnesses being sworn to give evidence against the titular Bishop, then a prisoner at the bar, he did confidently declare that all what he had sworn against the prisoner was false, and so denied everything which was mentioned in his former examinations upon oath; but as the Court was going to call upon another evidence it happened that a great part of the floor of the court fell down, and with that a great number of people, many of whom are severely bruised, others wounded and one or two killed, as we are informed. The confusion, you may imagine, was very great; such as were not hurt were forced to get out of windows, and among them Mr. Baron Worth and I dropped down into the people's arms, who stood ready to receive us, and I thank God we are now in our lodgings very safe and very well. I have no more to add, but humbly to beg your blessing.

Postscript.—This day this city have on a second election chosen Alderman Covet to be Mayor for the ensuing year.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, August 25. Windsor.—By reason of his Majesty's keeping his Court here and of his starts to London, his servants and their horses are harassed and we can hardly remember or make use of post days to write to our friends. The next week he goes to horse-matches to Winchester and returns the same week. Then after a few days goes to London, thence perhaps in as few days to Newmarket, where we shall remain till October unless the election of a Lord Mayor for the following year shall bring the King about Michaelmas to London. All this is by way of excuse for not answering your letters as soon and as often as I ought.

Now that it is the King's pleasure to have me stay near him this winter I shall take the liberty to desire from your Grace those observations you had made in your visitation, with such advices as you may think proper for you and me to give his Majesty upon them. Your Grace may be sure that such of them as may most properly come from myself, and that may be fitter for me than your Grace to give, shall accordingly be managed, and I shall as well as I can observe proper conjunctures and seasons for them.

I doubt not but to obtain a revocation of that letter from his Majesty which so much troubles the good Provost. I have already prevailed with my Lord Conway to think it had been better it had not been sent. My letter of this date to my son Arran will be communicated to your Grace. It treats only of the new commission for the management of the revenue and of what is expected from thence.

The Duke of Lauderdale died last night or early this morning. Divers of his countrymen are lately come hither, and have brought with them the return of a Commission sent to inquire into the mismanagement of the Mint in Scotland, and the malversation of the profits arising from it, and many

other corruptions imputed to the Lord Hatton, his late Grace's brother, not without reflection on the Duke himself; but he is freed from any trouble it may give him, and the brother remains without any support to bear the prosecution of those who, it is said, his pride and insolence during his brother's greatness have made his enemies. It is hoped the young Duchess of Somerset will recover of the smallpox and, which is worse for my Lord of Essex, go on with her child.

It is, and I think on some ground, said, that the Duke of Monmouth begins to be weary of the distance he is at with the King. He has, at least in appearance, broke off his conversation with my Lord Shaftesbury and Mr. Montague, and it is thought he will forbear to go to a horse-race in Cheshire to avoid the offence of such a concourse as must meet there. If this be true, it is a confirmation of what is conjectured, and I think the wisest thing he has done these four or five years.

Sir Richard Stephens came to me about ten days since with a pretension of his and a desire that I would assist him in it; but I was so far from promising it, that I plainly told him that, unless he would resolve immediately to demonstrate an absolute conversion from his principles in relation to the Church and forsake his conventicles, that I must in duty to the King tell him that it was not fit for his Majesty to continue him in the place he held or to let him hold the name of his servant. He was surprised at this, and went away desiring he might have time to consider of what I had said to him. And thus ends your Grace's trouble for this time. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1682, August 25. Windsor.—By this post you will receive from my Lord Hyde by the King's command a copy of the commission prepared by Mr. Solicitor for the Commissioners that shall be appointed for the management of the revenue in Ireland. It was read over to me yesterday. Some exceptions I took to some parts of it as they seemed to me to pass by the Government of Ireland too much, and bringing all things relating to the revenue too immediately to the Treasury. That his Majesty should have frequent and clear information of the receipts and payments, and that he should have it through what hands he pleases and that the Treasury may be the most proper, is not to be disputed, but that the Commissioners should have no commerce with the Government or dependence on it, but receive directions and instructions and make returns without any examination, or interposition, or reference to the Chief Governor must be a disparagement to him and a disservice to the King, who ought to keep up his authority and reputation, that he may the better serve him. Of this my Lord Hyde was so far convinced, that he thought a clause reserving the approbation of inferior officers, who are to be chosen by the Commissioners, to the Treasury here unreasonable, and so

perhaps you will not find it in the copy sent you. He also thought it fit that any instructions that should be sent the Commissioners from the Treasury Chamber should be directed to the Chief Governor and that liberty should be left him either to require obedience to be given to them, or first to represent any inconvenience he may conceive such instructions may bring to his Majesty or his subjects. This being intended the question is whether it shall be provided for in the body of the commission or by subsequent instructions. Other things may occur on that side fit to be added, omitted or better explained, which ought with all convenient speed to be represented, as also at least some heads of instructions to guide the Commissioners in the performance of their work suitable to the laws in force in Ireland, especially to those that give his Majesty any kind of revenue. Herein I suppose you will advise with my Lord Primate, the three chief judges, and the King's counsel. When I wish a speedy return I do not mean but that time enough should be taken to consider well of the matter, as well for the King's service as the credit of his servants there, that it may appear they understand the revenue and the state of that kingdom better than some here would have it thought they do.

Though the Commissioners cannot act in virtue of their commission till the present farm shall be expired, yet it may be fit for them to hasten over to acquaint such of them as are strangers with the place and people, but if their commission be in their hands before the end of December it may be time enough, but let not that slacken your diligence on that side, for so your representations and advices be pertinent and as complete as you can make them they cannot be here too soon. I have not yet the names of the Commissioners, but know that most of them and those whose abilities are most relied on have never been at least in any employment in Ireland. Their salary will be very good, that they may be encouraged to do their duty well and unwilling to lose their places. I will put no other business in this letter. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT LANESBOROUGH to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, August 26. Rathcline.—Concerning Ormond's stay in England. He dreaded his lord's passing the seas in the month of September and is much troubled about the Duchess's cough. He desires his duty to them and to his dear Lord of Ossory and his fair lady. Now his lord is stayed in England he thinks the friends who attended him there should come back. The presence and good company of the Lords of Longford and Granard are much wanted and longed for in the county of Longford. He hopes Colonel Dillon has settled their affairs with Mr. Netterville. If the Colonel were pleased to solicit for the letter his Grace sent over by Mr. Ellis, his way for the 150*l.* a year which Lord Iveagh had upon the establishment would be more easy. *Abstract.*

JOHN FELL, BISHOP of OXFORD, to ORMOND.

1682, August 29.—Recommending Mr. Robert Huntington. He has been told by Lord Kildare that Dr. Marsh, the Provost of Trinity College, might ere long be advanced by his Grace to a higher station in the Church, and understands the death of the Archbishop of Cashel is likely to make way for several removes. In case there is a vacancy at Trinity College, there is with them a person of that eminence and learning he might be planted there. His name is Mr. Robert Huntington, sub-warden of Merton College, who is lately returned from the East where he has been for fifteen years, a great ornament to his country and a diligent factor for the interests of knowledge. *Abstract.*

THOMAS SHERIDAN to ORMOND.

1682, August 29. Windsor.—Concerning his brother. He asks his Grace to look upon the case of his brother, the Bishop of Cloyne, with a favourable eye. Envy had driven his brother out of the College, where as a lover of learning, of which his stock is not the smallest, he designed to have spent his days and strength in no unpardonable ambition to aim at the provostship, out of which he was really tricked by one since dead. Unfortunately, to ease him in his estate, his brother married a woman, who taking too much of her will, has since brought him under his Grace's displeasure. It was her importunity that gave his brother the small bishopric which he enjoys and her averseness ever since to remove into Munster that hindered his brother from residence. Grieved at his Grace's displeasure his brother has taken Mr. Frederick's house within two miles of Cloyne whither his wife is so far from removing that she brings upon her and him the scandal of living two hundred miles from her husband. The writer dares pawn his life that if his Grace will pardon what is passed and be pleased to settle his brother in some more convenient place, no man living will study more to deserve his Grace's favour. His brother is not like to have children and would spend his revenue in charity and hospitality. If it is a fault that his brother is a bishop, it is the writer's, who sought a letter for him to prevent a less loyal man coming into Derry contrary to his Grace's knowledge. The writer had hoped a letter from the Duke [of York] had made the way smooth without offending his Grace. His brothers and he have, as Irishmen, many envious adversaries, but it is hard that must be a crime in that kingdom and that Englishmen should be preferred there when not an Irishman would be allowed of here. There live not three men more devoted and bound to his Grace's interests. *Abstract.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE DAVYS to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, August 29. Cork.—This only serves to acquaint your Grace that Doctor Creah, the titular Bishop of Cork, came to his trial. The witnesses who appeared against him and had before

sworn positively against the Doctor in their examinations now retracted that part of their evidence which related to him, and thereupon the jury found the Doctor not guilty. If anything else worthy your Grace's notice had occurred here your Grace should have had information of it.

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN,

1682, August 29. Windsor.—I have yours of the 15th and 19th of this month, which when you have received my last from this place will need little further answer. The managers, as hitherto designed, are not publicly known nor any one of them at all to me, and that only by name and face. There are few of my acquaintance here or there that have any relation to Ireland who have not pretended to a Commissioner's place either for themselves or some friend, but I neither am nor shall be desirous to be able to serve any of them in this matter. The judgment given against the Farmers' officer may be of further consequence than that case of Fletcher's, and therefore I think it will be convenient a state of the whole matter should be drawn up and sent. The present Farmers I think did farm the duty upon hearths to some in the several counties, the duty is payable in January, but nobody is under obligation at that time to pay the King. It would be thought of in time how to secure the next payment of that branch of the revenue. You will have some order in it by the next post, but it is not amiss it should be thought of before. *Copy.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to COL. EDWARD VERNON.

1682, September 1.—Amongst many other favours of yours to me I have that of the 2nd of August concerning Mr. Mallory and the fellowship, the gentleman is a stranger to me more than that he was brought to my house by Sir Richard Aldworth of Munster, a gentleman who during the late war had served the King both in England and Ireland without defection to the great impoverishing of an ancient estate, but since retrieved by him. He is known to the Duke of Ormond and hath a company in the Army. After once or twice being there he produced a testimonial of this gentleman's learning and parts, under the University seal and the hands of all the Senior Fellows except one or two; told me he hoped to obtain a letter for a junior fellowship, and desired me to recommend him to some friend at Court, which upon view of his testimonial and the desire of an ancient friend and gentleman of quality, I could not refuse and so presuming on your friendship gave you the trouble which produced, with such other friends as he made, a letter for a senior fellowship, which I never knew he pretended to. This is all I know or am concerned in the matter, nor would I have put pen to paper, had I thought it would have been a matter of such moment, with which I pray you in all humble wise to acquaint his Grace the Lord Lieutenant. I beg your pardon a thousand times for the trouble I have given you.

COLONEL RICHARD LAWRENCE to ORMOND.

1682, September 2. Dublin.—About eight years since towards the period of the last farm, I presumed to present you with a method for managing the King's revenue in Ireland when out of farm, by farming all the inland casual revenue as smoke money, excise, &c., to each respective county and principal city and they to farm each barony or considerable borough to themselves; the contractors for the counties or city to be presented by the Grand Jury to the Justices at the Sessions, who may authorize persons in the behalf of their county, &c., to contract with the King's Commissioners yearly; the sum agreed to be paid quarterly to answer the Army's quarterly payments, which method would be attended with these advantages to the King and conveniencies to the country:

1. The King would hereby reduce his casual revenue to a certainty that whether in or out of farm his Majesty might know what to depend on so far.

2. The charge of salaries would be saved now spent on collectors and other inferior officers. The high and petty constables who now attend the farmers' officers in their collections may with more ease receive the money and pay it to the Sheriff or who else shall be appointed to receive it.

3. It would remove all occasions of complaints of the arbitrary exactions of inferior officers, who are usually a sort of rude vagrant persons, that studies to surprize the people when worst provided in order to exact their own fines for distraining, and no relief but by appealing to the Commissioners whereby the remedy is worse than the disease.

4. The King upon any extraordinary occasion might be supplied by the advance of three or six months' rent upon the credit of the growing rent from which of the county farms he pleases.

Then for the fixed or certain revenue as crown rents, quit rents, &c., they can neither be improved nor diminished but by his Majesty's disposal, and therefore may be collected by the Exchequer, their proper channel, by maintaining only one able industrious person as the King's Solicitor for the fixed revenue to attend the Exchequer Chamber and issue process when delays and neglects are by the Sheriffs.

By this method the work of the King's Commissioners will be contracted to very little out of the Custom House, where the greatest care and skill is required and the greatest hazard of the King's loss out of farm; if care be not taken that some of the Commissioners be persons acquainted with the intrigues of trade and of more than ordinary diligence in business, that branch of the revenue will be in danger to decay and discourage the King from managing it out of farm, which is the interest of this Kingdom respecting trade, &c., to prevent if possible.

In order thereto I did then propose to your Grace a method for managing the Accountant General's Office, so as the King might have a view of his revenue every six months or every

year at his pleasure, so stated that his Majesty might as easily and readily inform himself of its improvements or abatements as he could find the day of the month in an almanac. That is, in what port trade increased or abated and in what commodity and whether in the importations or exportations, by which his Majesty might guess whether abatements proceeded from decay of trade or neglects of officers and provide timely remedies accordingly.

These particulars I humbly remind your Grace of, if they may hint anything that may tend to the better management of the revenue to encourage his Majesty so to continue it out of farm. And if any particular seem obscure or unpracticable I shall be willing to reply to any queries or objections that may be made against them and submit the whole to your Grace's great wisdom.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 2. Dublin.—I had on Thursday night last your Grace's letter of the 25th August and by the same packet received his Majesty's commands by my Lord Hyde, who sent me the draft of a warrant for the new managers of the revenue, and neither of the clauses that put a slight upon the Government here are left out of the copies sent me; but that which orders them to give account immediately to the Lords of the Treasury there, etc., and the other empowering the Commissioners to make all sub-commissioners, collectors, etc., are marked with a cross in the margin, perhaps by your Grace. And because his Majesty expects all possible expedition should be used in this affair I writ to my Lord Chancellor yesterday to make what haste he could conveniently to come to this town and sent him yours and my Lord Hyde's letter and he intends to be in town on Monday, and on Tuesday morning I intend to have a consultation with his Grace, my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge, Baron Hartstonge and the King's learned counsel upon the warrant sent me, the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench and Lord Chief Baron not being yet returned from their circuits; the former of these will not be in town, as I am told, this fortnight, but I believe those I have named are able enough to advise in the business required, thought it be of great importance. I thought it proper to have Judge Hartstonge, though he be not of the board, for he understands the business of the Exchequer and revenue very well and is very active in bringing the Farmers to account, and he hopes to get me by this night's post a brief of the state of their payments out of Taylor's books, they being very clear, and his son, who has the keeping them, very ready to give that court or the government any information in that matter. Hartstonge desired me this morning to return your Grace his thanks for qualifying his son your chaplain.

I have writ an answer to my Lord Hyde and given him an account how I intended to proceed upon his Majesty's commands signified to me by his lordship. Having an account that Lanty

Bolton is dead I have made Cornet Thelwall lieutenant, and Corbett cornet to that troop.

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1682, September 3. St. James's Square.—The well affected gentry of Cheshire have represented to the King, that they have ground to suspect there may be a design in those parts to raise a commotion to the disturbance of the public peace, and that it may be too strong to be suppressed by law or by the Militia established by law to prevent insurrections, in which case his Majesty will apply any other force he has in any of his kingdoms, and therefore would have you consider how you may best inforce the garrisons about Dublin, that in as short a time as may be, they may on any such occasion be transported where he shall direct. The harbours of Dublin and Drogheda are seldom disfurnished of ships and in such case they may be pressed, nor are they at any time destitute of provisions sufficient for such a voyage, which may be had with ready money or upon security. I write by Cary Dillon, but neither he does, nor ought any other to know of it, this being only to be resolved by yourself as preparatory to a thing rather possible than probable. *Copy.*

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, September 4. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news. [See Foreign Office Papers, Flanders, Vol. 53, in the Public Record Office.]

ELLEN GWYN to ORMOND.

1682, September 4.—This is to beg a favour of your Grace, which I hope you will stand my friend in. I lately got a friend of mine to advance me on my Irish pension half a year's payment for last Lady Day, which all people have received but me, and I drew bills upon Mr. Laurence Steele, my agent, for the payment of the money, not thinking but long before this the bills had been paid; but contrary to my expectation I last night received advice from him that the bills are protested, and he cannot receive any money without your Grace's positive order to the Farmers for it.

Your Grace formerly upon the King's letter, which this enclosed is the copy of, was so much mine and Mrs. Forster's friend as to give necessary orders for our payments notwithstanding the stop. I hope you will oblige me now, upon this request, to give your directions to the Farmers, that we may be paid our arrears and what is growing due and you will oblige.

EARL of DERBY to ORMOND.

1682, September 5. Lathom.—Acknowledging his Grace's letter of the 29th of the last. It is very true that he had several letters which informed him that the Duke of Monmouth

was reconciled to the King. He cannot be satisfied in himself until his Grace be fully assured that what his Grace was informed of his making a visit is altogether false, it being above fourteen months since he went to see Mr. Booth. He assures his Grace that it is not one of his least inducements of going to Newmarket that there he shall have both leisure and opportunity to receive his Grace's instructions,
Abstract.

FRANCIS GWYN to EARL of ARRAN.

1682, September 5. Windsor.—Though I know your lordship will receive from other and better hands than mine the present state of the revenue of Ireland, yet I thought it my duty to give your lordship the best account I could of that which so nearly concerned that kingdom. On Sunday last the Commission for the management was signed by his Majesty, the Earl of Longford, Mr. Lemuel Kingdon, Mr. Robert Bridges, Mr. Strong, a gentleman at present employed in the Excise, and Mr. Dickenson, one employed in the Customs here, are the managers with the salary of the 800*l.* per annum each, and are ordered to prepare themselves for their voyage thither immediately. The names of the managers was so great a secret, that it was kept private even from the persons themselves till it was done; my Lord Longford being as much surprised at it as any one else. The Lords of the Treasury are preparing their instructions, so that your lordship may expect them in Ireland in a very short time.

His Majesty hath the Privy Seal still in his hand, where it is undisposed of; the town and Court say Mr. Seymour is likeliest to have it, when his Majesty in his own good time shall think good to part with it, but in the meantime it is not yet declared when that time shall be. The King and whole Court remove from this place on Sunday next in the afternoon to Whitehall, where there is not likely to be any long stay, for the week after Newmarket is talked of.

The King was so pleased with his journey to Winchester, that he declares he will spend a month there every year in hawking. My Lord Ormond attended his Majesty thither, and at the same time I had the honour to wait upon my Lord Ossory, Lord Hyde and Colonel Legge to Portsmouth. My Lord Middleton succeeds my Lord of Lauderdale in the Bed-chamber, and it is said Duke Hamilton will have the Garter. The Earl of Stamford is lately dead; I need not acquaint your lordship how buxom a widow he hath left behind him, but the honour falls to Mr. Anketill Gray, who was of the late Long Parliament and a very angry man in it. Yesterday a gentleman came from the King of France with a present of a sword valued there at 2,000 pistoles to the Duke of Richmond, which was intended to be presented when the Duke was in France, but was not then ready.

JAMES CLARKE to CAPT. GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, September 5. London.—I had the honour of yours of the 25th August, and this day we have quite removed our family from Windsor hither. God knows when we shall be settled. The Queen goes a racing to Newmarket, so the ladies must accompany her. I spoke with Sir James Butler who will not let the money go into any hands but mine for his Grace's use. When you will see the account of the 15,000*l.* you will not wonder at it, for you cannot have your cake and eat your cake. What will come from the entertainment you will easily learn then.

I have just time to tell you who were named for managing the King's revenue of Ireland on Sunday night at Windsor: Lord Longford, Mr. Lemuel Kingdon, Captain Robert Bridges of Dublin, Mr. Strong, one of the Farmers of Excise, Mr. Dickenson, an officer of the Customs that understands it very well; Mr. John Ellis, they say, secretary. My wife and self sends our best service to you and my lady.

WILLIAM MORETON, BISHOP of KILDARE, to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, September 6. Neston.—I am now to tell you, that I am got as far as Neston towards Ireland, but cannot quietly leave this kingdom till I have done my utmost to obtain a favour of you for so particular a friend of mine that I would do anything in a manner to obtain it. The thing I would prevail for is to make him my Lord Duke's chaplain at large, one that will never be a burden to his Grace, but only begs this for the sake of the honour that attends it. A person he is of equal merits and modesty, as all that know him must needs acknowledge: he is confined to a small country living, and there he means to continue, but is like to appear public enough in a little time, having been already Dr. Burnet's principal assistant in correcting his Ecclesiastical History, and is now employed by my Lord Bishop of Oxford in the public good designs he has on foot, and will be sure of his good word, if there should be any great occasion for it. But I hope there will not be that, because he is likewise acquainted somewhat with the Dean of Limerick, who has promised me to go along with you to solicit the [favour] with my Lord Duke. I have ordered him to give you a double fee for your pains, and I do not question but you will be successful, if you take the pains in it, which I hope you will. We are just now going to set sail and bid England adieu for a considerable time. Service to all friends.

Postscript.—Pray let me have a line or two from you now and then especially when you have made this attempt upon my lord.

EARL of ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 6. Dublin.—I have your Grace's of the 29th of the last and find that the managers of the revenue

were not then publicly known, nor any of them of your acquaintance, which make me fear the news I heard of my Lord Longford's being one of them is not true. It will be proper for the new Commissioners to come over hither some time before they enter upon the management to look after the branch of the hearth money and the inland excise, especially since most of them are strangers in this country, the other branches of the revenue will not prove so difficult, but upon our answer to my Lord Hyde's letter upon the new commission transmitted to me by his Majesty's order, notice will be taken of that. We had a meeting yesterday in my closet upon this matter with the persons I mentioned in my last and have already made a fair progress in it, and within a few days Mr. Solicitor will have drawn our result up in some form and soon after that it shall be transmitted to your Grace to be if you think fit delivered to the Lords of the Treasury. My Lord Chief Baron being not yet come to town I cannot authentically give an account of Fletcher's business against the Farmers

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, September 8. Brussels.—His Excellency intends to part for Flanders on Thursday after dispatching the Spanish courier and signing the warrants for payment of the Army, which will be the 15th instant. But unless his Excellency be powerfully supplied from Spain he will not be able to pay them so regularly as he hath done hitherto, each payment amounting to near 400,000 florins, besides the extraordinary charges for remounting the cavalry, repairing the fortifications and providing magazines in all his garrisons. And that his Excellency may be in some capacity of doing this he hath, according to his own desire, obtained orders from Spain forbidding the payment of any pensions to the soldiers, or [to] recommend any to any general officer or person whatsoever, notwithstanding they had former orders from the King for it, which hath given all persons concerned therein much trouble.

We have had a long continuance of extraordinary ill-weather, which hath done much hurt to our latter harvest. The great floods have broken the Dyke of Ostrewelcer betwixt Antwerp and Lille and overflowed the [meadows], which will not be recovered without a vast expense.

EARL of LONGFORD to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, September 8. London.—Yours of the 12th of August I received yesterday and wonder where it was wandering so long. . . . I suppose you are no stranger to the late favour I have received from his Majesty by my Lord Duke's interposition, and you will easily believe I have all the resentments in gratitude I ought to have for so obliging a testimony of his Grace's friendship. You can bear me witness that I

never yet made a false step to him, and I shall now be the worst of men, if I am capable of it after so great evidences of his kindness. Mr. Bennet is dead since you left us, and had made his youngest daughter one of the greatest fortunes in England, being worth at least in lands and money 150,000*l*. There have been petitions from the Whig party of the City and the freeholders of Middlesex presented this week to my Lord Mayor for confirming Papillion and Du Bois Sheriffs; and there have been counter petitions also to his lordship both from the City and other the freeholders of Middlesex disowning the others' petition, thanking his lordship for swearing of Mr. North for one of the Sheriffs, and desiring that there may be a new choice of a Sheriff in the room of Mr. Box who fined. Tuesday next is appointed for the determination of this matter and his Majesty has deferred his journey to Newmarket till after Michaelmas in order to countenance his friends in the choice of a Sheriff and a Lord Mayor, it being Sir William Prichard's turn in course of succession to be Lord Mayor, to oppose which the Whigs intend to set up Sir John Shorter, who, to qualify himself for the election on Sunday last (as it is said) received the Sacrament in private after all the people were gone out of church, none other being witnesses of it but the Parson and a one friend more of Sir John's. For though there was a general Sacrament in the church for the Parishioners the Sunday before, yet Sir John did not think fit then to communicate in good company. My Lord Duke, Lady Duchess and the new couple are in perfect health and so are the two ladies, whom we visited here and at Windsor, who often speak of you and lament their loss of your company so soon. I have no more at present to add but that I am, &c., &c.

ORMOND to the EARL of ARRAN.

1682, September 9. St. James's Square.—The last post gave you an account from other hands, that the managers of the Irish revenue were named and who they are. I disclaim in the merit of the choice, having recommended none but my Lord Longford whose diligence and zeal for the service I have undertaken and I am hopeful his abilities will answer the trust. I confess I withal thought the employment might be some accommodation to his private affairs, if he made prudent use of it, which is my greatest doubt. Mr. Sheridan, I fear, is displeas'd with me for his disappointment though I had no other part in it than my preference of my Lord Longford before him; when he was last with me he was earnest for my consent to the further preferment of his brother of Cloyne, when the Archbishop of Cashel should die, I defended myself in the civilest terms I could, but if he fail in that pretention also, as he shall for me, it will be an additional mortification. I am of opinion that the Dean of Lismore would make a very good Bishop either of Waterford or Ossory and either of those Bishops a

good Archbishop of Cashel. I suspect he of Waterford may think himself better as he is, and I am not sure that the other would willingly change. It well became the Bishop of Limerick to wish his father a degree above him in the Church, but I doubt whether his father would become the promotion as well. You shall do well to advise with my Lord Primate in all things of this nature and then whoever you recommend I shall move the King for.

But to return to our managers, it appears by Acts of Parliament that gave the King some branches of his revenue that the Commissioners are to be five, and that they are to be named by the Chief Governor for the time being, which was not, nor I think is yet, known to the King or the Lords of the Treasury, and I believe that provision was made in compliment to me, or for the satisfaction of the Lords Justices Eustace, Orrery and Mountrath, or to exclude strangers who had no estates in Ireland to answer for their corruption or other failings in the administration of the revenue, but the nomination being past and reconcilable to the Act I know not of any use to be made of the observation.

On the 18th of this month* the King goes to Newmarket; before he goes a new Sheriff of London in place of Box, who chose to fine, will be attempted. The parties are making themselves as strong as they can. Those called the King's will have great want of Sir George Jefferyes who is now in his Welsh circuit. The Lord Mayor is yet courageous, but I doubt the better side will be outnumbered. The Duchess of Somerset is recovered to the great disappointment of the Earl of Essex and the Whig party. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 9. Dublin.—I had on Thursday last your Grace's letter of the 30th of the last month, with the information sent from Paris, which I perused in the presence of my Lord Primate and my Lord Granard, who was newly landed, and we were of opinion that no public notice should be taken of the matter and though the information seemed to us to be very improbable, yet I have given orders for the enforcing the three garrisons threatened and shall write to the respective governors to be vigilant to let very few enter their forts, and to examine strictly all persons that look suspiciously, especially those that come from foreign parts, if anything else be necessary to be done I shall expect commands from that side where you have a considerable person accused, and where you may with two or three ships prevent such a design taking effect.

I herewith send your Grace an account or view of the state of the present farm delivered me by Baron Hartstonge, it is not so exact as that he will venture his credit upon it as to all the particulars, but it will be found to be the best estimate that can be made. I also send your Grace the copy of a letter I

received some time since from the Lords of the Treasury ; you will find by it that it is the same kind of project Nich Baily set on foot once, for which you were very angry with him. I did not immediately comply with their lordships in granting my warrant for the two persons there mentioned to have the perusal of the customs' books, because the present Farmers except against it and will certainly pretend to a defalcation, therefore I thought it fit, and so did the rest of the Board, that the Farmers should have time to answer it in writing, which shall be transmitted, and this I desire the Lords of the Treasury might know, and if after that they shall desire the thing should be done I will upon their signifying their pleasures and his Majesty's, sign such an order, but I thought it my duty first to represent.

Their lordships' letter of the first instant from Winchester shall with all convenient speed be put into the properest course I can think of, or shall be advised to by those here that are most skilful in such matters ; it relates to the fire hearths duty, which they desire should be proffered to farm for one year.

FRANCIS GWYN to EARL of ARRAN.

1682, September 9. Whitehall.—My Lord Conway receiving his Irish letters by the last post at Windsor ; after his Grace the Duke of Ormond had left that place and understanding by those letters that Lanty Bolton was at the last gasp commanded me to wait upon his Grace in London and remind him of his promise to write to your Excellency by this post about the removing the officers on Bolton's death. His Grace hath been pleased to tell me that he would charge himself with writing to-night, but I left him at trick track with my Lord St. Alban's and Mr. Seymour and therefore humbly beg leave to acquaint your lordship with my Lord Conway's desires in that matter. . . . Here is no news worth writing to your lordship. The King leaves Windsor to-morrow in the afternoon and the whole Court, and on Monday goes down the water to Sheerness and Chatham, on the Monday following removes with the whole Court to Newmarket. The Duke of York hath lately made an alteration in the management of his revenue, for whereas all the chief officers of his household were his Commissioners, he hath taken it out of their hands and put it into the hands of Colonel Worden, Sir Nicholas Butler and Mr. Richard Graham, who is an attorney employed in the prosecution of the Earl of Shaftesbury and the charter of London.

Postscript.—I must like other my brother news-mongers beg your lordship's pardon for my mistake in my last of my Lord Stamford's death, who was very ill, but is said to be in a way of recovery now, though he was then reported dead.

SAME to SAME.

1682, September 12. Whitehall.—I gave your lordship the trouble of a letter by the last post concerning the desires of my Lord Conway in the disposing of the commission void by the death of Mr. Bolton, but the next day brought in the Irish packet with an account from your lordship how they were disposed of. His Grace of Ormond was pleased to acquaint my Lord Conway with it and to tell him that since it happened to be so before his letters could arrive he would find out some way very shortly of removing Cornet Corbet into some other troop and so accommodate Mr. Cope and Mr. Wilkinson according to my lord's desires. My Lord Conway commanded me to acquaint your lordship with it, and that Captain Cope waits to bring over his Grace's letter to your lordship upon that subject. I find since I spoke with my Lord Conway that I was under a mistake as to Mr. Wilkinson, for I mentioned him in my last to your lordship as Quarter Master to my lord's troop, which I perceive he is not and therefore beg your lordship's pardon for it.

The King is at present down the water towards Sheerness, intending to return to-morrow night and we begin to think his Majesty will not begin his journey to Newmarket so soon as Monday; for upon Mr. Box's fining for Sheriff there is likely to be another tug very speedily. Colonel Peter Ryel of Southwark being to be set up by the loyal citizens as a partner for Mr. North, and the election of Lord Mayor being on Michaelmas day it is believed his Majesty will rather put off his journey till after that time than come up on purpose for two or three days and return. I have taken the confidence to beg your lordship's favour in the dispatch of a report upon a petition of Sir Gerard Aylmer's by a letter of this day's date, which I have delivered to those that will follow the business in Ireland.

ORMOND to EARL of ARRAN.

1682, September 12. St. James's Square.—I have yours of the 2nd instant, but have not yet seen that to my Lord Hyde, which I suppose imports little more than your letter to me. Those that are to be Commissioners have the like copy of that sent to you about a week in their hands and are ready this afternoon to bring in their observations upon it. What those are and what the sense of the Lords of the Treasury will be upon them, I must refer to my Lord Longford to inform you, because I seldom know what will become of me in an afternoon; what betwixt the King's business and the Queen's and Duchess's divertisements to which I am oftener called than stands with my ease or profit.

The marks you found in the margin of the copy sent you were made by my Lord Hyde when he read the draft of the commission to me at Windsor, and it was at my motion that a copy was sent to you. I suppose when you return your thoughts

upon it and shall represent the omission of the part the Government there should have in matters relating to the revenue and the officers belonging to it, you will principally insist upon the prejudice such an omission may bring upon the revenue, which in effect is upon the Government, rather to give ground to suspect that you or I are unsatisfied either out of punctilio or to have means to gratify dependents and friends; the truth being that so the King's business be well carried on we ought to be glad to be freed from a necessity of displeasing many more than we can satisfy.

I understand that the younger Moore is chosen and approved of to serve another year as Mayor of Clonmel, I suppose it must be upon some good assurance of a change of his principles, and that he will make some open amends for his opposition to an address to his Majesty in imitation of places of less importance. Your mother writes to you concerning your domestic affairs, which as far as I understand them require timely regulation in several respects, especially I think you ought to be at some certainty in relation to your expense here as well as there. It is well that Mr. Taylor's son is so ready to assist with his papers, but can those give any further light, than since his father came to be concerned. *Copy.*

MATTHEW ANDERTON to JAMES CLARKE.

1682, September 13. Chester.—Yesterday the loyal gentry meeting at a hunting and other sport to divert themselves on the forest, myself and several loyal citizens went to accompany them and there we found a very great appearance. My Lord Kilmorey and at least four score baronets, knights, esquires and gentlemen of good quality and I believe two thousand of the vulgar. After hunting they dined in tents, and after dinner was a horse match. Mr. Warburton got the race. After that a foot race, Sir Philip Egerton's boy got the tumbler and the black got the velvet cap with the King's colours in it, and then I returned for Chester about eight at night [and] saw the city as it had been in a flame. The occasion of bonfires was the Duke of Monmouth had won the plate at Wallasey. The bonfires got the rabble together, they broke the windows of St. Peter's church to get to the bells, broke down two doors belonging to the steeple to get to the ropes, and then rang the bells, and amongst the rest the fire bell was rung, then the rout got into the streets crying, A Monmouth! A Monmouth! and at several loyal persons' doors sung a ballad Long live the Duke of Monmouth, &c. Five hundred of them, as I am credibly informed while the ballad was singing at my door at the end of every verse threw stones at my windows. I hearing of this uproar stayed in the Forest Street, my friends advising me to stay there for my own safety, which I did, and when the day appeared the rioters dispersed. Mr. Mayor is with the Duke of Monmouth at Wallasey and neither Justice of the Peace or constable

except three of the latter appeared, but they could do no good with them. I hope to find out at least some of the rioters and hope also for justice though I doubt whether I shall have it from——. You see how necessary it is to have a garrison; a few soldiers would soon have dispersed the rioters. Our Militia cannot arm without the Deputy Lieutenants' orders and we have none within ten miles of us. Our Mayor is Duke of Monmouth's creature, and Col. Whitley like to succeed. God help the poor cavaliers that must live here. Really, Sir, there will be no abiding here for the King's friends if bonfires must be permitted upon every idle occasion and the rabble encouraged in their unsufferable licentiousness. I write full of grief this to you who am, &c.

Postscript.—I have sent one of the same tenor of this letter to Col. Worden.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 13. Dublin.—The last letters from London dated the 5th brought news of the persons' names appointed for the management of the revenue here, I believe many both here and on that side are very much disappointed. I am sure I was surprised to find my Lord Longford engaged with such company. The Committee I appointed for amending the commission have lost no time, and Mr. Solicitor has spared no pains, it being thought necessary that all the former commissions to Farmers or Managers should be looked over, yet it will be Tuesday next before it will be ready to be transmitted, which I desire may be made known to the Lords of the Treasury lest we might be thought negligent in a matter of that importance

I had a letter last post from Lord Clanricarde informing me that one Sir Maurice Hurlly is gone over into England, and sent for by my Lord Anglesey, and carried along with him matters of accusation against your Grace. He is a person from whom your Grace recovered some lands in Achrim.

Doctor Willoughby, who is with the Bishop of Cloyne, writes word that he cannot live many days.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, September 15. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news. [See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders*, Vol. 53, in the Public Record Office.]

[ANONYMOUS.]

1682, September ¹⁵/₂₅. Brussels.—On Wednesday last the Resident and two other gentlemen being out of town to take the air in a coach, the coachman fell out of his box, and the horses having their reins run away with the coach in such a fury that they thought if they should remain in it and be overturned it might cost them their lives, which made them

endeavour to get out, but the Resident had the misfortune in leaping out to put out his shoulderbone of his right arm, which is the reason he makes use of an unknown hand, but hopes in a few days to give an account of affairs with his own. As for news here is nothing material in absence of the Court, his Excellency being still in Flanders negotiating with those States concerning the payment of their subsidy and has procured from them 50,000 crowns for a present supply and will not return till he hath fully adjusted that matter Yesterday an express passed here to his Excellency from Vienna. We are told he carried the news of a great victory obtained against the Rebels of Hungary, the confirmation of which with the particulars we expect by the next.

COL. EDWARD VERNON to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, September 16. Needwood.—Desiring him to acquaint his Grace with the contents of the enclosed.

Encloses :—

PETITION OF COL. EDWARD VERNON.

Showing that the Petitioner became bound at the request of the Earl of Longford, upon his lordship's purchasing the Master of the Ordnance's place in Ireland, for the payment of 2,000*l.* which he has reason to believe was paid to Sir Thomas Chicheley. He prays that Lord Longford's entertainment may be paid over to him (the Petitioner). *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 17. Dublin.—My Lord Primate and those I appointed a committee for the amending and altering the draft of the commission sent over by the Lords of the Treasury have finished a new one, and drawn up such instructions as they think proper to be given by his Majesty to these new Commissioners, and I believe they will be thought better than those my Lord Longford informs me he and his brethren are about. The instructions shall be sent over to your Grace the next post, and the new commission with the draft transmitted to me I shall direct to the Lords of the Treasury that they may see what alterations are made, and that the affairs of this country are not so well understood on that side but that they need help from this.

I send your Grace this post a report from the Court of Exchequer upon the order given them to proceed, though out of term, upon the Farmers' accounts and demands of defalcations, with the paper given in by the Farmers, which I desire may be sent to the Lords of the Treasury that we may have farther directions in that matter. I shall only observe that though the Farmers in the last clause desire a long time to make up their accounts to the 1st of July last they told me

above a month ago that they were ready to do it if my Lord Chief Baron were in town, and also to make their demands of defalcation.

I also send your Grace the returns made me from the several collectors, by which you will see how little of the March assignment had been paid when their return was made which [was] not above three weeks since.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

[1682, September 18.]—The honour of your Grace's of the 12th of this month came to my hands yesterday in his Excellency's closet where, with the rest of the Committee whom his Excellency had appointed to consider the draft of a commission sent from thence and intended for the managers of his Majesty's revenue in this kingdom, I attended his Excellency with our report in order to the transmittal of it by a vessel that went hence last night. I wish that his Excellency and the committee to whom he referred the matter might have had some longer time of consideration in a matter so weighty as this was, which in truth required a serious consideration of the several Acts of Parliament whereby his Majesty's revenue is settled, for if any thing should be contained either in the commission or instructions which should be granted and given to these Commissioners that is not consistent with and fully warranted by those Acts the subject, and more particularly the merchant, is but too apt to make disputes and raise cavils whereby the orderly and timely collection of the revenue may be obstructed. But since the conjuncture of affairs would not admit thereof I may truly say that his Excellency hath lost no time in the despatching of it.

But when all this is done, it is to very many here who have thought of this matter, almost apparent that the revenue will not be answered either as to the sum or time by this way of management as is expected. However, this being resolved on it is too late to say anything of that matter.

The principal concern now is to take care that the present Farmers may answer to his Majesty what is and will be justly due from them the 25th of December next, and by what I can find the money which his Majesty hath of theirs by way of advance, and what is due to them from the subject, will sufficiently secure his Majesty, for though it be manifest that several assignments issued by them for entertainments and pay [which] became due the 25th of March last, are not yet answered by their collectors, yet I account what should have answered these assignments not due unto, nor to be reckoned on, by them and so for all assignments issued already, though not actually paid, and therefore I deduct so much from the estimate I make of the arrears alleged to be due to them, the first money advanced by them was 60,000*l.* and 20,000*l.* since for Rincurran fort, out of which I know Mr. Sheridan hath had his money,

being about 6,000*l.*, and they have by directions and warrant from the Lords of the Treasury in England, though with some opposition here, taken out 24,000*l.* to pay off Mr. Ryder and for other uses, so that the advance money now in the King's hands to be discounted will be 50,000*l.*, their defalcations cannot be much. I know they will most assuredly make a great noise with the Lord Ranelagh's 80,000*l.*, but I must not prejudge them, and for all other particulars that they can possibly insist on I have considered and do verily believe they will with care be brought into a narrow compass and easy conclusion, whereby the gentlemen designed for the management would enter upon an easy province so far as they shall be concerned in bringing in the arrears of this present farm.

One thing in my judgment is to be carefully avoided by the gentlemen who come over for management, and that is the bringing over of their friends and relations to be made use of in the management, for if once brought hither out of their own country the sending them back, how unfit soever for the service, will be very uneasy even to the Commissioners themselves, and withal the making room for them will not only oust experienced officers but will likewise engage them to throw all the rubs they can into the new Farmers' way. But in the management of this such care is to be taken that it may not lie in the Commissioners' mouths to say they had not the choice of the tools they were to work with. Wherefore the result of what is humbly offered in this particular, which I am sure, for their first year at least, will be absolutely necessary is by no means to exceed the bounds of advice without the least shadow of restriction ; and I am sure, and should be very sorry that your Grace should have the least ground to doubt of the truth of it, that in all things wherein my advice and assistance shall be thought requisite neither shall be wanting. I must confess I have upon fourteen years' experience (for it is now so long since I was first of counsel with the Forth's in their farm), found the business of these two last farms to be much directed by Capt. Stone, and say it knowingly that the country during that time hath had much ease and the revenue brought to a certainty and put into a good method by his conduct, and where the officer in many cases had done wrong I have known the subject frequently righted, nay and amends made him without the charge of a complaint either to the Government or the Exchequer, which made me never doubt his being a Commissioner, but the matter is now over. I wish both for the King and subjects' sake there be a Capt. Stone among these gentlemen.

After all it is more than probable to me that a little time spent in management will show a necessity of setting the revenue again to farm, and if I be not misinformed some proposals will be made there to that purpose, of which I hope in a few days to give your Grace a farther account, in the interim I hope

his Excellency's endeavours as to the commission will meet that reception there which such a despatch made in so short a time deserves.

ORMOND to LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE.

1682, September 18. London.—I have received y[ours] of the 2nd of this month and read it thrice over and am fully of your lordship's opinion that if a good set of Farmers with reasonable security of performance could have been had it had been safer to farm than manage the revenue, and I agree that as the hearth duty should be farmed so the collection of the crown rent, whether new or old, should not be left to the Sheriffs, and both for the reasons given by your lordship. It was part of the art used by Sir James Shaen and Roberts to delay the conclusion of the bargain with them till it should be too late to look for any other bidders, or till it should be absolutely necessary for any other proposers to take them and those they wrought for into their fellowships, and the truth is they had gained so much credit in the Treasury here by the ease they proposed to give the revenue of England in the providing for Tangier and a certain number of ships that it was long before the vanity and villainy of their project was found out. As the case stands, I hope the civil and military lists, Tangier, and the ships will be provided for, and that though particulars may suffer delay or disappointments yet those essential parts of the establishment shall suffer neither ; and that they may not, all that have duty for the King or a care of the quiet and prosperity of the three kingdoms must apply all their wit and industry to assist the managers and detect either . . . remissness or corruption. To this end I am sure your lordship will direct your thoughts, knowledge and vigilance, and in that assurance as well as in that of your lordship, I remain &c.

I desire your lordship to continue this correspondence with me and upon all occasions to let me have your thoughts with all freedom. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, September 18. Dublin.—The dogger not going out with the packet last night, I have got the clerks to work so hard in drawing fair the commission and instructions for the managers of the revenue that I send them to your Grace this night, and desire that after or before your Grace's perusal they may be sent to the Lords of the Treasury, but it is likely your Grace will be with the Lords of the Treasury at the first reading of them. The instructions, which I look upon as the paper of greatest importance, I am confident your Grace will approve of, and both in that and the commission provision is made that the Government should not be passed by, and indeed it is contrary to several Acts of Parliament it should,

the draft sent over by them would have been for my ease for I find trouble enough of that kind amongst the black coats and the red, the clergymen and pretenders to military preferments.

The ground of my allowing young Moore to be Mayor of Clonmel this year was upon a letter writ me from my Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, with whom he had a great deal of discourse when he went the circuit, and Moore made such submissions as prevailed with my Lord Chief Justice to recommend him to me and to answer for him. It was Mr. Herbert's indiscretion and passion that occasioned the not joining unanimously in an address.

CAPT. GEORGE MATHEW TO CAPTAIN BUTLER.

1682, September 18. Kilkenny.—Many of my Lord Lieutenant's writings and evidences being by troubles of times lost and several things belonging to him and his ancestors detained from him, upon search lately in the Rolls Office I find the ferry of Ross passed in patent to Thomas, Earl of Ormond, and understanding you enjoy the same I desire you will direct the possession to be delivered [to] Mr. Whyte, my Lord Lieutenant's Receiver, for his Grace's use, or that you will please to let me know what you have to offer to the contrary, otherwise I cannot but direct a suit to be brought in my lord's behalf for recovering thereof to which your answer is desired by, &c.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE TO ORMOND.

1682, September 18. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news.
[See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53*, in the Public Record Office.]

COL. RICHARD LAWRENCE TO ORMOND.

1682, September 19.—About fourteen days since I presumed to present some proposals for the management of the King's revenue in Ireland.

By these I humbly mind your Grace of your promise in your closet when Mr. Mathew Barry read the transactions of the hard measures I had received in Chapelizod manufacture to my damage upwards of 3,000*l* as by a report, then read, of Sir William Domvile and Sir John Temple appeared; and also by the opinion of Sir Nicholas Plunkett and six of the counsel learned in Ireland, Sir William Jones &c. of England, under their hands that your Grace's letter of November 3rd, 1668, gave me the security of a regal contract, and the promises of the Council table pursuant thereof a legal assumption, and that a much less transaction betwixt subject and subject was binding both in law and equity, to which your Grace replied what was binding betwixt subject and subject ought to bind betwixt King and subject; and assured me,

as soon as I could propose anything in your power for my reparation, you would endeavour my relief.

Now I do humbly propose to your Grace I may receive some reparation by an employment in which I hope to deserve my salary, and thereby the King will pay a just debt without a penny charge. If your Grace thinks fit to entrust me with the Accountant General's Office I hope to reduce those books to such a method as shall give the King such an easy prospect into every branch of his revenue, whether in farm or out [that] his Majesty shall understand every six months the value of each branch of his revenue with all its casualties, which will be a great help to his Commissioners timely to prevent the King's damage.

SIR R. BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, September 22. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news.
[See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53*, in the Public Record Office.]

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, September 26. London.—Your Grace's letter of the 6th of this month and the account you were pleased to give me of your visitation have been about a week in my hands, which time has been taken up almost so entirely with home and foreign affairs of the greatest importance that though your observations have been some days in the Secretary's hands to be imparted to his Majesty at a Committee where he often sits, yet no time has been found to read them before him, and those Lords who have seen them do so well approve of the matter and method that they believe the King would do well to recommend the like proceeding to the prelates here. Your Grace's letter I did not think proper to produce but what is proposed in it for the hindrance of the further growth of Nonconformity shall be extracted that it may be ready to be offered when it shall be seasonable to put the remedies in execution, and that I suppose will be when the success with the City of London shall appear, whereof some judgment may be made about the end of this week, a Lord Mayor being to be elected and some Sheriffs to enter upon the execution of their office by that time. Two things we seem to depend upon in relation to a Lord Mayor :—first, that we shall carry the election for an honest man, next in course though not of necessity to be chosen, but I am doubtful the worse man and the more irregular way will prevail; if it do, the next expedient is that the Lord Chancellor in the King's name should refuse to admit him that shall be offered and direct the citizens to go to a new election, and some of the Judges and of the King's learned counsel are of opinion [it] is warranted by a clause in their charter. On the other hand it is objected that the clause requiring his Majesty's approbation

is but ceremony as, say they, appears in that, from the first charter to the last, no use hath ever been made of it. It is replied that no lapse of time can be urged against the Crown and next that it cannot in all that time be shown that there was occasion for it, and that therefore it will be unreasonable the King should lose a prerogative reserved to him in the charter when he has good ground to make use of it. The Lord Chancellor, when I heard him speak last of it, seemed unwilling to be the instrument of putting so new a thing in practice, but I hear he is since better satisfied that his part will be justifiable. I doubt I have stated this matter imperfectly through my ignorance in law and in law terms, but your Grace has it as I conceive it.

I am perfectly of your Grace's opinion of Sir Richard Stephens, because I am sure you do not intend to shut the door against all converts and that no carriage of theirs or probation of their conversion shall let them into trust and employment for that it may be unsincere. The conduct on such occasions will be guided by various circumstances, and prudent observations, the only means by which men are allowed to judge of other men's hearts. But Sir Richard has taken so long a time to declare himself, which I take to be no very good sign, that I have moved the King to discharge him out of his service and I think it will be done before his Majesty goes to Newmarket, which he designs shall be on Monday the 2nd of October.

I came just now from the Lords of the Treasury and have with them heard the return, made upon the draft of a commission sent you into Ireland, read. Their lordships do approve of all the material parts of the draft sent from thence and of the instructions, yet we held it fit to send them to the King's Solicitor here and to the Commissioners who are, if it be possible, to bring in their sense of them by Friday or Saturday next, till then I shall not know whether I can go with the King or after him or at all.

The King has taken all the ways and pains he can to convince the world that he does not approve of the Duke of Monmouth's supposed pretensions or of the opportunities he lays hold of to make ostentation of his popularity, for which end principally it was that a serjeant at arms was sent to attach him in the midst of his partakers and dependants, and surely the laws that should preserve the government and peace of England are defective, and come short of the end, if such progresses and gathering of people together may be made by a person in the Duke of Monmouth's circumstances with impunity.

If I should not write to my Lord Deputy this post he may the better excuse me if your Grace shall please to let him read this. The other papers concerning the present Farmers' backwardness, manifested by their evasions, nor the estimate of their non-payments were not read, other affairs interposing not relating to Ireland. *Copy.*

DR. TIMOTHY HALTON to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, September 28. Queen's College, Oxford.—I entreat you to move my Lord Duke to grant a letter in behalf of John Furneaux of New Inn Hall as also of Robert Wynne of Jesus College that they may be dispensed with for absence of one term occasioned by his Majesty calling his Parliament at Oxford. I will reserve in my hands two guineas which shall safely be returned to you from, &c.

Postscript.—If the letter come to Oxford before October 5th it may be directed to myself as Vice Chancellor, otherwise to Dr. John Lloyd.

ORMOND to EARL OF DERBY.

1862, September 28. St. James's Square.—Some occasions requiring my stay here for some time after the King's going to Newmarket, I think it may be of use to your lordship to be informed that intimations have been given him out of Cheshire which may seem to reflect upon you in relation to the discharge of your duty as Lord Lieutenant.

The particulars of most importance I take to be that though the Deputy Lieutenants did by a joint letter from some of them about the middle of August last propose to your lordship the drawing of the Militia of that county together in order to the better settlement of it, your lordship then only answered that you would consider of it, but have never since taken any further notice of their advice. Next it is written from Chester that by your lordship's warrant the ammunition that was lodged in Chester Castle is removed from thence into a house in the city, and thereby exposed to greater hazard in all respects than it was before. My Lord Chamberlain will I suppose go with you when you first see the King, and your lordship may please to advise with him whether you are to take notice of this intimation before I speak with you or not. *Copy.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1682, September 28. St. James's Square.—I have given my Lord of Derby an account of informations sent his Majesty out of Cheshire, but though the Secretary trusted me with the letter I did not think fit to send him a copy of it, because I do not know whether the King would be pleased he should know from whose hands they come, but to guide your lordship the better in your advices to my Lord of Derby I have sent one to you. In short I do not take it to be his lordship's talent, or the figure he should make, to cut a feather, and therefore he must in downright terms and actions declare himself. The remove of the ammunition out of the Castle of Chester into the town where the Mayor and his disaffected party may command it may bear a worse construction than I heard made of it, especially his warrant having been given for it when

a company was by his alleged command marching or gotten thither.

The conclusion of the Irish affair will keep me here some days after the King is gone. You will have the detail of our Sheriffs being sworn and we are assured by those that are skilful that if an ill Lord Mayor shall be chosen the King may reject him and send the citizens to a new election. *Copy.*

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to [ORMOND].

1682, September 29. Brussels.—His Excellency is still in Flanders where he has made a great reform in the civil part of that government by reducing the number of many unnecessary officers both in the free of Bruges and pensioners of several villages which was very troublesome to the people and a great charge to the public. The Archbishop of Cambrai is at present at Mons, visiting that part of his diocese, where the Procuror General has served him with an order from the Conseil Privé that he should in fourteen days nominate three suffragans within his Catholic Majesty's dominions to act in his place, which is done in retaliation of some differences that were made in the French territories against the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Bruges.

What we had by our last ordinary concerning a victory obtained against the rebels of Hungary proves a mistake and the last letters from Vienna speak that all the Imperial troops are joined and advanced towards Philick, that the Governor defends the place still, but it is believed only the castle and the town is either taken or burnt. It is said the Imperial troops will be 38,000 and that there are more for a reserve marching after them drawn out of the Emperor's hereditary countries, so that we may shortly hear of some action.

The Duke of Holsten is to be made General of the Artillery in recompense of his pretensions.

EARL OF ARRAN to EARL OF LONGFORD.

1682, September 30. Dublin.—I had on Wednesday last your lordship's letters of the 16th and 19th of the last and because I doubt not but the drafts I sent over the beginning of the last week are with the Lords of the Treasury and have been perused before this time, I do not send over the copies of the several commissions your lordship mentions in yours of the 16th, for you will see by the return made that all those have been carefully examined here, and that I was as much concerned that the Commissioners of the Revenue should have as much power as possible given them in the execution of the great trust reposed in them as that the Government should not have too little, and I believe your lordship and your brethren will find it so, and I have the vanity to think it will come back with few amendments.

I mistook Doctor Rolls in my last for Doctor Harrison, the former having been brought to your house once against your will made him run in my head. I know not how the policy may be at this time, therefore I take no notice of that matter especially since I find the Archbishop is timorous. I have nothing to trouble his Grace with, but your lordship may show him this letter. I heard this day that the Farmers have declared to several persons who desired to impress Michaelmas pay that they are bound to pay no more than the June pay.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, September 30. Dublin.—Concerning a baronetcy for Sir Robert Ward.

THOMAS OTWAY, BISHOP OF OSSORY to ORMOND.

1682, September 30.—Recommending for Dr. Hierome's livings Mr. Patrick Christian, one of his Grace's chaplains, a very good scholar, of an exemplary life and pleasing humour. Christian had been a Senior Fellow of the College where he lived with a great reputation of learning, piety and discretion and was a man of large and charitable soul, likely to help Dr. Hierome's widow and numerous family. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARLINGTON to ORMOND.

1682, October 2. Euston.—No post has gone by since I received the honour of your Grace's of the 28th past to give me an opportunity of acknowledging it and telling you that it found my Lord of Derby here, where he hath been ever since Tuesday last, and is like to continue with me until I go to Newmarket to introduce him to the King, which office would have been performed with much more advantage to him by your Grace if your other occasions would have suffered you to be there so soon. I know not what general opinions may have done to his prejudice, but I cannot but say he does sufficiently justify himself in the particulars imputed to him, and the letter which he writes now to your Grace if it were shown to the King would in my opinion help him.

As for the remove of the powder out of the Castle of Chester into the town he says it was done four years since upon the disbanding of that company under whose care it was and when there were but two miserable people left to keep it. I mention only this particular because your Grace's letter to me seems to lay some stress upon it.

Last night's letters brought us the good news of the quiet swearing the new Sheriffs, but I was sorry to see in them what countenance Cornish hath had for his election to the mayoralty, for I do not think the City can have a more disaffected and seditious one, so that if his Majesty can oblige them to go to a new election, as your Grace seems to say he may, there is in this ill person sufficient ground for it.

I cannot end my letter without telling your Grace how much I pity you for being tied to the City in this hawking season, whereas in the country you would have found so much pleasure and health. We are very impatient here to know whether the King will hold his day so as to be at Newmarket to-morrow; if he does I shall wait on his Majesty there the next day and carry my Lord of Derby with me. Your Grace doing us the honour to concern yourself for us I cannot omit telling you what an alarm we lay under the last week by my Lady Grafton's miscarriage, which though it proved so, yet she is now, God be thanked, in good health.

MATTHEW ANDERTON to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, October 2. Chester.—I was bound over to the Sessions in this City to prosecute the riot, 25th September. The Jury not agreeing were adjourned till Thursday morning and then agreed not. Most of the Jury were such as had rejoiced for Duke of Monmouth's coming hither, and would not find the Bill nor bring in *ignoramus*, but having an opportunity to bring in my indictment before the Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer, that Thursday afternoon, that sat in the city I brought in my indictment against the rioters and the Jury found the bill.

The enclosed is what our Grand Jury signed and gave to the Judge to present to his Majesty.

The box for my Lady Mildmay is sent aboard the *Content* bound out first for Dublin.

We, the Grand Jury for your Majesty's Ancient County Palatine of Chester, do most humbly beg leave to represent ourselves your Majesty's most infinitely obliged, most obedient and unalterable loyal subjects; and that we may address ourselves to your sacred person upon an occasion almost particular to this County of Chester, that is upon reception of the Duke of Monmouth here, and the circumstances attending it which we find of evil influence, all which we dislike and disown and take the boldness to certify your Majesty that we believe the greatest part of the gentlemen of this county were not concerned with, and for our parts we declare it is far from us to countenance any endeavours to alter the true and legal succession or to allow of any armed violence or other designs to accomplish it. And do further resolve and promise not to caress or encourage any person who shall obstinately persist in courses disliked by your Majesty which may any way tend to shake the public peace or to the disturbance of your Majesty's most happy Government, which we pray God to continue.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, October 2. London.—My last to your Grace was for that time to serve for answer to yours and my son Arran's

letters, but therein I took no notice of yours of the 28th of the last month concerning the apprehensions on that side that the way of management into which the revenue is now to be put will not answer expectation so well as the way of farming has done. I do not find that there is here any confidence that it will. I am sure there is not in me, and yet taking things as they were when the question came to be debated there appeared to me no propositions for a farm that were not liable to objections and great uncertainty almost equal to any that can be suggested against a management, besides that the proposers, who had designedly contrived delays that there might not be time for other bidders, had raised so much indignation against them that the resolution of management was perhaps passionately fixed upon, and though after that, propositions were made for a farm not much short of theirs, yet it was so much suspected that they were at the bottom of it, or would some way or other get into it, that they lie still unconsidered. If they should have a share in a farm it is reasonably feared they would make a shift so to entangle the revenue that the King should never be free from a necessity of perpetually farming to the same men, or to the new partners they should bring in, and the King is resolved to be once free master of his own though it should cost him something to be so.

It is certain the King's loss in management will be more or less as the Commissioners shall be more or less able and diligent. Two of them, though strangers to Ireland, have been conversant in matters of the same nature here and are esteemed men of capacity sufficient to receive instruction, and they have authority to take to them in inferior places such men as they shall find useful to them with proper allowances, and herein they will be advised by the Government, which is to approve of persons and salaries.

It has been in my thoughts that to supply any disappointment that may happen this first year which may bring the establishment there into greater arrear than the revenue will be able to recover whether the consideration of calling a Parliament in Ireland whilst the revenue is under management might not be properly resumed, especially if his Majesty shall succeed in the foundations laid for the suppression of factions here. It cannot be said that they are absolutely extinguished, or well to be hoped that ever they will, but it is evident they lose ground almost everywhere, and will do so in Ireland in proportion, but of this I have yet said nothing to the King or his Ministers nor now to your Grace so much as I would do if we were together. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, October 2. London.—The duty has been so hard here since I received yours of the 17th and 18th of the last

month by Councils, Committees, the Treasury Chamber and basset, that I was constrained to desire my Lord Primate by letting you see my letter to him in some degree to supply my not writing to you these two last posts. It is supposed the poll books for a Lord Mayor for the ensuing year will be closed this day and then the King will go to-morrow to Newmarket and my Lord Hyde and I to see the new ships at Chatham, the Irish affair being put off till Saturday next, of which I suppose you had an account by letters of the 30th of the last month, as also some directions from the Lords of the Treasury upon some of the papers you sent me. The minutes were agreed on in my presence.

I know not how far Mr. Herbert's passion may have been the cause that an address was not unanimously agreed to at Clonmel, but it will behove Mr. Moore to give some signal evidence that he repents the opposition he gave it and is ready to make amends, and it concerns my Lord Chief Justice so to dispose him to it that he may not stand suspected to cajole that party for fear or favour, and I know not what demonstration Moore can now make but by contriving and carrying on an address as plain and full as any other county or corporation have presented. I know my Lord Chief Justice is zealous for the interest of the Crown and Church, and I would be sorry it should be doubted here, where as it is resolved to support Judges in the legal discharge of their duty, so it will be expected they should extend the law as far as it will go for the preservation of the prerogative and suppression of factions and factious people. This I desire you would let my Lord Chief Justice know from me who have been and will be his friend. The Lord Brittas has here in a petition stated his case to his Majesty and therein the Lord Chief Justice's proceeding with him, which seemed to some of the Council to be extremely hard, if legal, taking it as alleged. I send you the case as it is stated by that lord. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, October 3. Dublin.—I received yesterday your Grace's letters of the 23rd and 24th of the last, the latter by Ashbury, who has brought us a recruit of players, which I hope will afford us some divertisement this winter. My Lord Primate sent me by Mr. Muschamp your Grace's long letter to him full of remarkable observation. I hope you will be steady in your resolutions in relation to Sir Richard Stephens, for as I had a hand in his preferment when I thought he deserved to be countenanced, so now I am concerned he is not a man of good principles I think myself bound to give my helping hand towards his removal.

I will be vigilant and secret in the matter mentioned in yours of the 23rd, and when I have an answer from your Grace or the Lords of the Treasury about the Plantation Act, which some projectors are upon and are countenanced on that side

so much that I believe they will carry it and that Nich. Bailey is the chief engine in this matter, as your Grace may remember he desired some years ago and was severely rebuked by you for it, I shall make use of those men to search very narrowly all ships that come in.

I desire with all convenient speed that I may have the Lords of the Treasury's order how to proceed in relation to the present Farmers' accounts, for upon information given me by several officers both of the military and civil list that they had said they were not obliged to pay either September or next December pay I sent for Capt. Stone, (who by the way I hope will be provided for in this new management for something of profit, he being an able man and very useful to me), and he assures me that they have no such desire, and I believe him. However, I thought myself obliged to give your Grace an account of this, though I gave a hint of it to my Lord Longford in my last, for whatever the Farmers intend to do I am confident some of them have declared that the King is more in their debt than that six months' pay.

I shall not say much in answer to your Grace's of the 24th but return you thanks for the account you give me of the posture affairs are in at Court, whatever others intend I am sure the course your Grace has taken and resolves to follow is very honourable and prudent. I hope next letters will bring us a good account of the elections.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, October 6. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news. [*Continues* :] Though my arm be very weak, that I cannot lift it to my head, but only move it upon a table yet I would not omit paying this duty to your Excellency and to subscribe myself with all imaginable zeal and duty, &c.

[See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53*, in the Public Record Office.]

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, October 7. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 26th of September last, and am very much pleased that the account which I sent your Grace of my last visitation in the North hath given your Grace any satisfaction, it being much the business and desire of my life to serve you. Whensoever his Majesty shall be pleased to declare himself farther to the suppressing of such disorderly and factious meetings, and that your Grace shall think fit to transmit his commands into this kingdom, I do not doubt but they will be punctually observed here, and I hope successfully.

I am very far from shutting of the door of favour and acceptance against all converts, nay not against Sir Richard himself, or indeed against anyone that but pretends to be so, provided their conversion be attended with any probable circumstances of a true repentance. But I must own this opinion to your Grace that where the conversion is made upon

the account of outward advantages without any visible sorrow and repentance, but that their forsaken principles and partisans are upon occasions supported and argued for, the pretended convert will upon equal temptation return to his former practices, without any great violence or difficulty, and in the mean time oblige his former party all that he can that they may reward him with the greater kindness.

We were this day upon Sir John Champante's accounts in the behalf of the Vice Treasurer, but the Farmers and he are as yet at some disagreement upon the charge that we cannot yet proceed upon them; but I suppose that some few days may reconcile this difference if some others do not appear in the procedure on that work. I heartily pray for your Grace and for all yours.

DESCÜIL to

1682, October 8. Brest.—Monsieur de Moslidreu est prié de supplier de ma part Madame la Duchesse de Porsmuth de vouloir bien semployer pour obtenir du Roy d'Angleterre ou de Monsieur le Duc d'Ormond une permission d'emprisonner le homme Gerrault banqueroutier et fugitif de la Rochelle, lequel sous pretexte de Religion a emporte en Irlande le bien de plusieurs particuliers, desquels je suis en nombre. Il demeure a Dublin ou il a pris une ferme. Il me sera vu fort grand plaisir.*

Endorsed. Given me by the King, 14th November, 1682. From a French officer at Brest.

SIR RICHARD BULSTRODE to ORMOND.

1682, October 9. Brussels.—Detailing foreign news. [See *S.P. Foreign, Flanders, Vol. 53*, in the Public Record Office.]

COL. JOSEPH BAMFIELD to ORMOND.

1682, October 10. Lewarden.—Asking his Grace to join with Mr. Secretary Jenkins in obtaining the abatement of his Majesty's long and heavy indignation towards a most unhappy man, much more unfortunate than criminal. He is far from justifying himself as faultless, but represents that the offences were committed through insupportable necessity and violent despair, which overwhelmed his reason and that small portion of virtue which God had given him. *Abstract.*

Encloses :

I declare positively and protest that I never held any correspondence prejudicial to his Majesty's person or interests before he was pleased to cast me out of his service a little before he left Paris. That since his Restoration I have held no kind of correspondence by letter, message or any other way in any

* The original orthography is followed.

of his dominions to the damage of his most sacred person, to the disturbance of his Government or any ways prejudicial to his service even to this moment That I wrote not a letter into any of his Majesty's dominions to any person whatsoever nor received any from the beginning of the year 1665 until 1674 and then to none saving to the Earls of St. Albans and Arlington. That I have not had any knowledge of any private or open design against his person or Government saving what I have seen in print.

That during the space of eight or nine years which I ha[ve] passed in this Province I have never spoken one word, in a time when the liberty of tongues has been very great, but with honour, reverence and respect both of his person and Government. If the contrary to any of these things can be proved I am contented to die. The reason I obeyed not his Majesty's summons was that I knew I should have died or have been cast into a perpetual imprisonment which to me would have been worse, so that I had no way not to perish but to perish. As I sign this truth with my hand so I shall do it with my blood if nothing else will suffice.—Lewarden, October the 10th, 1682. JOS. BAMFIELD.

DUDLEY PERSE, DEAN OF KILMACDUAGH, to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, October 10. Cregrosby near Loughrea.—His Grace the Duke of Ormond hath spoke his kind resolutions to many persons of promoting me, but upon the nick of time he wanted a remembrancer since the death of my dear friend the late Archbishop of Dublin. Lately in England he spake very kindly of me to the Earl of Drogheda and other friends of mine. I am of opinion that ere long there will be an opportunity, for the Archbishop of Cashel is almost at death's door. He cannot live many days. I was in those parts about ten days since and he was very weak. Upon his death I know there will be removals and then it will be, I presume, a fit time for his Grace to appear, and if you please to be a remembrancer to his Grace in my behalf I shall own it with all thankfulness and upon the success manifest my gratitude. Pardon this trouble I beseech you and be assured, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, October 10. Dublin.—I have your Grace's letter of the 3rd and by my last letter your Grace will find that I had the perusal of yours to my Lord Primate. I have given an account to the Lords of the Treasury of my proceeding upon the directions they gave in their letter of the 30th which I suppose your Grace has seen. I wish the Commissioners of the Revenue were hastened over, for do what I can the Farmers will get money into their hands, but the method that my Lord Longford in his of the 3rd and one of his brethren

Mr. Dickenson proposed is in my judgment a very wild one, and that is to make a seizure of the farm without taking the legal course mentioned in their covenants, which is a thing the Farmers would be glad of, they have carried on that side one very great point, and it is mentioned in the Lords of the Treasury's letter and that is that they shall account only to the 1st of May.

I showed your Grace's letter of the 3rd to my Lord Chief Justice Davys and he will by the next post give your Grace satisfaction in both matters that concern him in that letter, and do find by the discourse I had with him upon my Lord of Brittas's case that he cannot without going against law free him absolutely from bonds upon the Lords of the Council's letters to us in answer to ours upon that subject which we were very favourable to him in, and that the only way is to get the King's commands to his Attorney General here to enter a *nolle prosequi*.

I had since last packet, though the letter is of an old date, one in recommendation of Lieutenant Strode, for he was never in an higher employment, to a captain's place. He indeed was somewhat hardly used by my Lord of Essex, for his wife was nurse to one of his children and this Strode not allowing his wife what my Lord and Lady Essex thought fit, his lieutenant's place was sold and the money given his wife. If your Grace thinks the King concerned for I will make him a lieutenant, but shall desire not to have many recommendations of that kind for I would be glad to oblige some of my friends, and others that have dependence upon me and may else prove hereafter a charge to me. I do not answer my Lord Longford's letter of the 3rd because I hope he is on the road with his brethren.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, October 10. London.—Mr. Secretary Jenkins has received his Majesty's command to write to the Lord Deputy for discharging Sir Richard Hopkins from the place of serjeant, but I find he is to seek for a form of such a letter, and therefore I desire your Grace to advise how it is to be done and send over a draft fit to be presented to his Majesty, wherein, or in a letter apart, Mr. Beckett may be put into his room. There has not, I think, been any cause heretofore for such an alteration and so precedents are wanting.

By this and the last post several directions are sent from the Lords of the Treasury all in order to prevent the frauds that may be practiced by the present Farmers of the revenue now at the expiration of the farm. The expedient of seizing, if practicable, is thought the most compendious and safe, but it is referred to the Government there to consider whether it may not be attended with other inconveniences not so visible here.

It is not yet known whether the Earl of Shaftesbury be really withdrawn through fear of what may befall him by an impartial Jury, or whether he be only stepped aside to hear what will be said of his absconding and then appear to the confusion of his enemies and the joy and mirth of his friends, but for my part, though I do not think he is yet enough frightened to run quite away, yet I do not believe he is in so merry an humour as to make sport with trials that may cost so dear. *Copy.*

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, October 10. St. James's Square.—I have seen yours of the 30th of September to my Lord Longford of which the most important part was the last, where you say the Farmers pretend that they are not obliged to make any payments after June last which makes 120,000*l.* difference in the hitherto received calculation. This was not known to the Lords of the Treasury when they made their despatch of the 7th of this month, and desired your opinion whether it might not be for his Majesty's service to make seizure of the farm to prevent his being put to play an after game with persons ill able to answer the damage he may sustain. The Commissioners on Saturday last declared that they had the opinion of an able lawyer that by the covenants it is in the power of the Government there to do it, and though it should not be very clear that it is, yet considering what sort of men the King has to deal with, and what ill consequences may happen to the Government in case the establishment should fall into great arrear by their failing, or by the necessary formalities of law. It is my sense that some course be taken so to secure the quit rents and any other payments due from the subject that it may not be in their power to run away with them, and put the King to be plaintiff in a cause where there will be little or no hope of satisfaction though it should go on his side. Whereas on the other hand it will be in his Majesty's power, as well as it is his purpose, to allow them whatever shall appear to be justly due to them without delay or charge.

I have not seen the letter of the 7th instant from the Lords of the Treasury to you but suppose it was only to have your opinion whether seizure was advisable or no. If it was no more, I much fear that whilst that is coming the Michaelmas quit rents and other duties will be received by them and then it will be too late to seize, and the only remedy left will be to lay hold of what lies out and is due to them upon other accounts which they have power to collect after the determination of their farm, but how that may be compounded for or concealed or what it amounts to is uncertain. Add to this that as it is as lawful to prevent their receiving the Michaelmas quit rent as what they have right to collect after their farm is ended, so I conceive their omitting to account with his Majesty, as they were obliged and often called upon to do, will

in all reason and equity justify his Majesty's securing himself by a seizure if that will do it. These are only imaginations of my own. You will think the matter round and take good advice and the concurrence of the Council if you fall upon a seizure before you have express order from hence. These men have not carried themselves so as to have many friends and that may make us something the bolder with them. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE TO ORMOND.

1682, October 10. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 2nd instant. In answer whereunto I wish heartily that his Majesty had so full an understanding of his revenue as not to be imposed upon by any sort of chapmen whatsoever, but whether the intended management, as it is now ordered, be the way to arrive unto it is the present question, (for the Commissioners being wholly strangers to this country it is scarce expected that they will be able, at least this next year, to raise that revenue within a considerable sum to what is now paid for it), and if so whether this management will not rather undervalue the revenue, and lower the esteem thereof for another farm, and instead of giving his Majesty a perfect knowledge thereof misinform him of its true and real value, may not be unworthy your Grace's consideration. Besides, I am told that these new Commissioners do intend to bring with them out of England many inferior officers and agents to employ in the underwork of that Commission. If that be done will not the same objection of being unacquainted with the state and condition of the country and revenue, and by consequence an incapacity of making the best of it, lie as much against them as it doth against the Commissioners themselves? Whether this may be fit for your Grace's enquiry and prevention your Grace best knows.

As to the fit season for calling a Parliament, it is without doubt that this kingdom never enjoyed such peace, plenty, liberty and ease as they have done under your Grace's government, and the generality of the people seem to be in such a quiet temper at present that I think it needs not much to be doubted but the members of Parliament if carefully elected will be easily persuaded to contribute to his Majesty's occasions upon such terms as have been already, upon the former expectations of a Parliament here, represented by your Grace and Council unto his Majesty in case affairs in England continue but in as good a posture as now they are, and hold up the reputation they have at present; but if there should happen to be a recidivation into the late disorders and disturbances in England I doubt we have some, perhaps many, ill-affected spirits amongst us who would take the boldness to be very instant and troublesome to the Government who would not dare to show themselves or appear in such a juncture as this seems to be. I pray God bless your Grace.

EARL OF LONGFORD to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, October 10. London.—Yours of the 20th of September I received yesterday, and yours of 12th of August with enclosed account I received and answered a month since, and shall take care to make the provision you desire of the 240*l.* at the time it will be due. As to the proposition about the prize wines, it is not practicable, for the Commissioners cannot farm them. But we can, and resolve to do better for my Lord Duke, for we shall give the King's officers the same charge for the collecting of them that they shall have about the King's duty and account to his Grace for the utmost penny of them.

I hope the next week we shall be dispatched for Ireland, and then I shall give you an account of the commands concerning the iron gates which I think you will have as well done by a smith at Kilkenny, and a third part cheaper than it will be had here, and to boot save the charge of freight and carriage from hence to Kilkenny. Such an engine as will serve your purpose will cost about 15*l.* besides the carriage to Kilkenny, and if you have any commands for me in it you must hasten them to me lest they may not overtake me here.

My Lord Shaftesbury has not played in sight these four days past, which occasions variety of reports and the poll about the Lord Mayor is not yet past the scrutiny. It is generally believed it will end on the Court side. But if it do not the King is resolved to disapprove and consequently to continue the present Lord Mayor. It is believed Hungary will be overrun by the Turks and in this conjuncture it is feared the King of France will take advantage against the Confederate Princes if they do not submit to his propositions and the mediation of our King.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE DAVYS to ORMOND.

1682, October 17. Dublin.—Detailing at great length the proceedings respecting Lord Brittas in reply to a paper entitled "My Lord Brittas's Case."

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, October 17. Dublin.—I received yesterday your Grace's of the 10th inst. and at the same time three letters from the Lords of the Treasury, two of them relating to the present farm, and because expedition and secrecy is recommended to me by their lordships, I had a meeting here this morning upon their letters and enclosed papers, queries and instructions, where I summoned to the consultation only my Lord Primate, the two Chief Justices, and Secretary of State and King's counsel, and by the next post they will prepare an answer in writing, and give reasons why a seizure of the farm, as is thought so necessary on that side, would be of very ill consequence to his Majesty, and therefore I have no reason to retract any part of what I writ last post to the

Lords of the Treasury upon this subject, and I hope there is not so much reason to be alarmed as I find they are on that side, for the Farmers declare they were wronged in the report that they should declare they would not pay September pay. The muster rolls being closed for this quarter I shall try them, for this week. I will sign the warrants for pay. The Commissioners speedy coming over here is thought absolutely necessary, therefore I hope your Grace will hasten them, for they will fit themselves better here for the great charge they have undertaken than by making idle queries there; in the meantime I will take all the care I can to avoid the Farmers getting money into their hands and applying it to other uses than paying the military and civil list. If I knew what clerks to employ and what reward to promise them, I would set hands to work in copying the Farmers' books for it is a thing absolutely necessary, for the Farmers, you may be sure, will not part with the originals, for they pretend to have a considerable arrear to collect after their grant is determined, but of this I will write to my Lord Longford if I can get time, for I conclude he will not come away until I make a return upon these last despatches. By the word secret in the Lords of the Treasury's letter I conclude it is not their desire this matter should be brought to the Council Board, and I think we are no better at keeping secrets there than are kept at the Board in England.

Cary Dillon brought me this morning your Grace's of the 30th which he thought was a particular recommendation of his business to me, but though it was not I will do him all the kindness I can with safety, all matters shall be in a readiness to observe his Majesty's commands in the particular mentioned. I am afraid I shall not be able to serve Mrs. Warren in the matter of her pension, the Lords of the Treasury's letter thwarting it, nor one I am more concerned for who is in the like condition, and that is my Lady Stephens.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, October 18. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 10th instant and I most humbly acknowledge your Grace's great favour in the behalf of Mr. Beckett. It is but one of a thousand that your Grace have been pleased to confer upon your most devoted servant for which I must ever be your Grace's beadsman. I have according to your Grace's directions prepared a letter for Mr. Secretary Jenkins and my Lord Deputy hath been so obliging as to recommend it to your Grace by a letter from himself, however Mr. Beckett hath appointed [a] friend there to attend Mr. Secretary Gascoigne about it and to dis[cover] the fees that are payable on that occasion.

My Lord Deputy hath received some late queries from the Lords of the Treasury upon the desires, as I presume, of the new appointed Commissioners for this revenue; his

Excellency will give your Grace such an account of them at present that it would be impertinent in me to say anything unto them. This only I shall presume to think, that the resolve of those queries will require more time to write them than difficulty to answer them, and it was the general opinion of all your Grace's servants that were present at the debate of them, that the presence of some of those Commissioners here upon the place would be much more conducive to their understanding of that affair, and by consequence unto his Majesty's service, than any resolves they can expect from hence, for the determination of the Farmers time draws on apace.

GERALD BOR to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, October 24. Dublin.—Asking Gascoigne to do what lies in him for Jack Lyndon. Prays him to give his service to the Controller, whom he does not trouble this post for his hand shakes with celebrating St. Rebels' Day at the Garter where Gascoigne's health went round a dozen times at least. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, October 18. Dublin.—Enclosing draft of a letter for the turning out Sir Richard Stephens and appointing William Beckett in his room.

SAME to SAME.

1682, October 25. Dublin.—Since mine of the 17th I have had nothing of public concern to write of, neither do believe that I shall have until the Commissioners come over; the answer to theirs and their learned counsels' queries I sent away yesterday to the Lords of the Treasury. My Lord Longford telling me that he and his brethren's being ordered by the Lords of the Treasury to leave London this week will save me the answering his letters of the 14th and 17th of this month, but indeed they contain nothing but what you have answers to on that side already. I have had little news in the two last packets which makes me not wonder I heard nothing from your Grace.

I had scarce time to read over last post the draft of a letter I sent on behalf of Mr. Beckett, it was not my intention to have him skip over any other servant's head; if the letter be so penned I desire it may be altered. Mr. Recorder Ryves is much concerned others should be preferred before him who has been longest the King's counsel. I wish I might have some private hint from my Lord Hyde to serve my Lady Stephens in her pension, and I will find a way to come off.

VISCOUNT LANESBOROUGH to ORMOND.

1682, October 25. Dublin.—Arriving here this day with my wife and family and resolving to continue here all this

winter, as well to attend upon my Lord Deputy as to perform the duties I owe to his Majesty's service, I think it my duty to give your Grace this notice of it, and most humbly to beg your Grace's commands in all things wherein you may think me capable of serving his Majesty and your Grace during your continuance on that side, for I have no greater pleasure than while I am employed in the performance of those duties. I humbly beseech your Grace to cause Mr. Gascoigne to make a collection of all orders and proceedings at the Board there in the transaction between your Grace and the Earl of Anglesey authentically attested to prevent any misrepresentations that may hereafter be made thereof, and to pardon me for this trouble who am unalterably at your devotion as your Grace's &c.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to [HENRY GASCOIGNE].

1682, October 26.—I have been desired to write to you in the behalf of the several persons herein mentioned, humbly to desire my Lord Grace's favour towards them in dispensing with them, they having performed all their exercise for thier bachelor's degree, for the absence of one term, which was occasioned by his Majesty's calling this Parliament here at Oxford. The request of the several persons being the same I suppose they may be comprised in one or more letters as you shall please to think fit, which way soever you please to take as to that I shall be sure to secure you a guinea from each of them, which I shall pay according to your order. The persons are as follow, viz., Thomas Brice and John Trenchard, commoners of St. Edmund's Hall, William Hancock and Edward Davis of Christ Church, Thomas Smith commoner of Merton College and William Kingford commoner of St. Mary's Hall.

Postscript.—My predecessor Dr. Halton has left one guinea with me for you for one Furneaux for a letter passed in his time, which shall be ready for you according to your order.

THOMAS FLATMAN to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, October 28.—The person I presumed to recommend to your kindness last night is Doctor Bernard, a man of note and great eminence in his profession, very dear to my Lord Chancellor who entrusts him only with the care of his body; well known to, and for his learning much esteemed by, his Grace of Canterbury and others of the nobility; in short a man not unworthy the conversation of Princes, if wonderful natural parts, improved as high as industry can pretend, may give one the advantage over other men. Though he is my particular friend I do not flatter his deserts, but take hold on that to beg your favour to my Lord Duke that, if he be not pre-engaged for some other, Dr. Bernard may have his Grace's vote for physician to the Chartreux in order to the

obtaining of which I wait your directions, which I will take care he shall thankfully comply with. I am prevailed on by my spouse to go with her and hers on Monday to see my Lord Mayor's Show, so that I hope you will excuse my expectations of you that morning, any other morning in the whole week about ten you will certainly find me ready and cheerful to show myself &c.

Postscript.—The day for election at the Chartreux will be on Thursday next being November 2nd, therefore pray be expeditious in moving my lord in Dr. Bernard's behalf, and give me notice what time it will be proper for him and me to wait on you in order to Dr. Bernard's kissing my lord's hands.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

1682, October 28.—Mr. Justice Turner having by the two last packets which arrived from London alarmed my brethren the Judges that 100*l.* per annum was to be retrenched in the establishment now under consideration from every [one] of them out of the allowance made them by his Majesty for their circuits, they have desired me with all humility to lay the state of that matter before your Grace and to beg your protection therein if any such thing be intended, for the scantness of the allowance as it now stands makes us with reason believe that Mr. Justice Turner hath been misinformed. The Lord Chief Justice hath for salary and circuits but 800*l.* per annum, the Chief Baron and myself but 700*l.*, and the rest of the Justices but 600*l.*, and if any of this should be retrenched the allowance would not support the Judge in any measure to the dignity of the place. The 200*l.* circuit money was given in lieu of the entertainment formerly given by the Judges in their circuits by each Sheriff in his county, and of an ancient fee of ten shillings taken by the Judges of Assize upon every traverse at the Assizes, both which were then taken from the Judges by Act of State in this kingdom, nor doth the 200*l.* per annum come altogether in lieu thereof, his Majesty's allowance for robes being likewise part thereof. Your Grace may be pleased to remember how the office of Sheriff formerly declined by all is now sued for by many competitors in each county, for in truth it is become generally an office of great gain and no charge. The Judges have generally long and uncouth journeys with ill and chargeable entertainment, and your Grace found it difficult, even as the allowances now stand, to get any gentleman of parts or practice to change the Bar for the Bench. It will be much more so if the present allowance be retrenched, for the gentlemen who now serve the King upon the Bench, we can most of us say we were no gainers by the change, but for my own part I am resolved to confine myself to his Majesty's allowance be it what his Majesty pleases. I hope there was not sufficient cause for giving your

Grace this trouble for the presumption whereof I humbly beg your Grace's pardon and am, &c.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, October 31.—Requesting a dispensation for the absence of three terms on behalf of Benjamin Milward, bachelor of arts, of St. Mary's Hall who could not conveniently keep such residence as the statute requires for the degree of master of arts. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, October 31. London.—I writ on Sunday last by James Mathew who I suppose went by post yesterday; I shall only add to what I writ by him that it was the expectation as well as hope of the disaffected party that the Government having put such Sheriffs as they liked into possession of their office would proceed to prosecute some with great severity and criminally. The fear of this made the opposition so tumultuous and eager, but the moderation used upon such an advantage will disabuse and disunite such as were united by the apprehension of a common danger, and the ringleaders may in time find themselves abandoned. Most of the Privy Council dined, or rather supped, last night with the new Lord Mayor. I observed in our passage thither that there were not so many livery men as usual standing within the rails. I suppose all that voted against this Mayor absented themselves and that was very near one half of those that had right to vote.

All the Commissioners are on their journey but my Lord Longford and I think Mr. Dickenson and they go hence to-morrow if Longford can get clear of the City. The weather is here very fair and the ways as good as in summer. Your wife I believe gives you notice of the time of her departure, she took her leave at Court on Sunday last.

Roger Moore put in a petition reflecting on the Lord Ranelagh principally, but in consequence on all his partners, to which my lord made an answer both which the Secretary has order to transmit to you and the Council there that your sense on both may be transmitted.

If the accounts of that undertaking and the validity of the Undertakers' pretensions to defalcations be in a judicial way of determination in the Exchequer I know not what material representation of the matter can come from that side. That Roger Moore has compounded with the creditors and that at low rates, is I think true, but I think it as true that the contractors by themselves or their agents have done as much and if it be reasonable that Roger Moore should have but the money he really paid, it is much more reasonable that the Undertakers should have allowance for no more, they being under covenant not to compound. The difficulty of knowing

how much was actually paid and to whom, the soldiers and those that trusted them being so many of them dead and removed out of the kingdom, is so great that I doubt my Lord of Ranelagh's charitable proposal in their behalf in his answer is more generous than practicable. However it is fit on this occasion that his Majesty should have a clear and impartial account of that undertaking as can be authentically collected.

Now that the Commissioners are despatched I suppose the establishment will soon follow wherein Tangier and the ships will be comprehended, but whether that revenue will be charged with what was advanced for Tangier by Sir James Shaen's partners is yet a question I cannot resolve, in a few days I will endeavour to get all ascertained. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, November 1 and 4. Dublin.—I have no business of public concern to write about this post, there being two packets due out of England and I think three went from hence on Monday last. I expect the Commissioners of the Revenue here with the first fair wind, and I hope my wife will be at the sea side the middle of the next week. I have ordered the yacht to stay for her at Holyhead, and one of the doggers to attend my Lord Longford and his brethren.

I was in expectation to have sent your Grace a state from the Farmers this post of their payments, and they found they had in prospect to answer their charge to the determination of the farm, for they gave me in such a paper about four days ago, which I sent to the Commissioners of Inspection, but the Farmers came to me and told me they had committed some mistakes and desired the paper back that they might mend it, but I have not heard from them since, and believe they wait for a packet out of England. The business of pricking the Sheriffs and the complaints of my Lord Ardglass in his business with Mr. Muschamp are like to prove matters of difficulty with me. The former will be the least trouble, but the other which I could not avoid taking cognisance of at the Board will be uneasy. My Lord Ardglass's complaint is against some Justices of the Peace that have turned tenants to Muschamp, and have acted in their own case, and they prove to be clergymen, and I happened to say at the Board that Justices of the Peace that acted partially or in their own case, especially clergymen, ought to be punished severely if proved, upon which the next day my Lord Primate came to me, and out of kindness to me seemed much afflicted for my sake that I should appear against the clergy so much. I confess I could not be made sensible I had done imprudently in that matter, for it is my opinion that clergymen should be very sparing in acting as Justices of the Peace, and yet I am for maintaining and supporting the orthodox clergy as much as any body alive, but not for countenancing their indiscretions.

The matter last Council day was brought as far as a rejoinder, and then Mr. Muschamp put in a petition against my Lord Ardglass of three sheets of paper accusing my Lord Ardglass of the like actings as a Justice of the Peace, and that he made use of his troopers to keep possession, which petition his lordship is to answer by a day. It was so reflecting, and unnecessarily, upon my lord that I could not avoid taking some notice of it, and at the delay of putting in so long a charge against my Lord Ardglass mentioning the whole merits of the cause, which occasioned another meeting in private with my Lord Primate, who told me that I appeared so much before the cause came to be heard on behalf of Lord Ardglass, that the Board might be influenced by it. I told my lord that I did not understand it so, but on the contrary I thought I had not done enough, for if he pleased to remember Mr. Muschamp's petition how in several places he says his lordship and his accomplices, and in other places his associates and confederates, which signified nothing to the matter, he ought not only to have been made to mend his petition, but to be put in prison for it, which I know to be the custom in England, but my Lord of Ardglass who was at the Board not taking notice of the matter I let it pass. His Grace seemed not to remember those words, but upon the whole we are come to this composition, that I will say nothing in the matter, if his Grace will not concern himself neither, which without vanity I may say I shall keep better than he, but because all that was said was out of great kindness, I told my mind to him, and was so plain, as to inform him how much different the character of my Lord of Ardglass was from that of Denny Muschamp, both here and in England, and desired his Grace to be very wary himself in this matter, for I heard more abroad than could possibly come to his ears.

November 4.—I received your Grace's letter of the 24th of the last which I showed to my Lord Primate, your Grace having not writ to him this post, and when you have discoursed with the King upon the subject of my Lord Killaloe's letters what directions are given shall be punctually observed. I hope my wife will be at the seaside this next week, for bills of exchange come thick upon me. The Commissioners of the Revenue shall have all the encouragement and countenance they can expect from the Government.

WILLIAM ROBINSON to CAPTAIN GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, November 4. Dublin.—In pursuance of what I promised concerning the woods of Arklow I do now presume to give you the trouble of this letter, and although I well know the disadvantage any purchaser doth lie under in making proposals first to the seller, yet I shall waive all those considerations being resolved to treat openly without design or reserve to persons of your quality who I am sure will not

take any advantage by such plain dealing. Sir, I have caused the woods to be viewed, and according to the best return they find or judge there may be about thirty thousand cords of wood in the whole, and little else of any other materials, the timber being all destroyed. Out of this the tenants of Arklow do annually consume one thousand cord for fire, which they must have by their leases, so that the thirtieth part yearly is diminished. The cord wood nearest the town is sold at 6*d.* the cord, and most of the wood lying more remote cannot be valued at more than 4*d.* per cord, for which rate most persons that have woods do sell.

I therefore do propose as follows, viz., that if I may have a lease of them for eleven or thirteen years, in which time near half the wood will be used by Arklow tenants, I will pay the annual rent of 20*l.* a year to begin from May next, and to have the liberty at the end of two years to pay down 200*l.* at one entire sum and then the said rent of 20*l.* to cease and to be rent free for the remainder of the time. If this proposal shall be adjudged rational, then to send immediate order to the tenants or such as you shall think fit to stop any further waste, which if not speedily prevented will soon destroy the whole. This, Sir, is the thoughts I have of the wood, which if you please to consider and to give a line in answer you will highly oblige &c.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, November 4.—Concerning a dispensation for Edward Transon, commoner of Alban, who was not able to keep the necessary residence for a bachelor of arts degree, owing to the death of one of his nearest relations. *Abstract.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

1682, Received November 5.—I hope this packet will give your Grace and the Lords of the Treasury full satisfaction as to the queries made by the Commissioners for Management of the Revenue here. Many of them were such as in our judgment (who had them under consideration here) afforded no ground of doubt, nor needed answer, however, we held ourselves obliged to say something to them; the thoughts of seizing the farm, besides the unseasonableness of it, and the great advantage it would have given the Farmers was not practicable, and if ever the matter of the revenue during the farm come under debate it shall be plainly made appear that the Government here have not been wanting the least tittle in what was to be done on their part, but if the Farmers have taken our money by positive orders from thence, if they have been at any time free from the supervision of the Commissioners of Inspection that must be answered by those who sent such orders, but the Commissioners for Management are not at any hand to stay there framing queries, their being here I am sure is necessary

I formerly moved your Grace that Mr. Lyndon now one of the King's Serjeants at Law may be Judge in the Common Pleas where I preside, in the room of Mr. Justice Cusack then deceased. Your Grace was pleased at my humble suit together with the intercession of some worthy gentlemen to promise Mr. Lyndon that place, but upon further thoughts advanced Mr. Turner to the Bench. It is said that Mr. Justice Johnson is in a languishing condition in England, and not likely to return hither. Your Grace was pleased to say when you preferred Mr. Turner that Mr. Lyndon should be the next in your care. I have sat near two years alone, and must confess to your Grace that it would be great satisfaction to me to have Mr. Lyndon to assist me, to whom I have been for many years known both at the University, Inns of Court, and Bar, and know his abilities. Your Grace was pleased to say you remembered his father and spoke kindly of him. I beg your Grace's pardon for this presumption, it being to me a matter of concern.

RICHARD ROTH to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, November 7. Parkfort.—My last to you [was] from Bristol of the 2nd ult., wherein I gave an account of my receiving your kind letter in answer to mine before in favour of honest Mr. Hewett, who I hope will perfect his business, and does with myself return you all imaginable acknowledgments for your particular kindness to him in that affair. The enclosed I this day received from a very worthy friend of mine, who has desired me to impart his request unto you, and that you would please to move his Grace for a letter of favour in his behalf to the Provost of the College of Dublin by which he doubts not of success answerable to his desires, he desiring no favour as to matter of his ability or fit qualification for to practise, having under the seal of the University of Oxford, where he has studied these nine years their approbation to practice all over England; and that the favour he desires is only a dispensation for matter of time, and that the taking of a degree of doctor of physick in Oxford far exceeds that in Dublin. Therefore my earnest request is that if you think it not inconvenient or improper to move his Grace in this affair that then you would favour both him and me in procuring the said letter so soon as possibly you can, and your favour to him in this particular will not only engage [him] gratefully to acknowledge your care therein, but [will] always be owned by, &c.

Postscript.—My wife, who I thank God for it, does much recover her health, presents her service to you, Mr. Controller, and the rest of our friends, whom I desire to accept the same from yours, &c.

Encloses :—

FRANCIS UPTON to ———

1682, November 7. Kinsale.—Stating the facts mentioned above on his own behalf.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, November 10. Dublin.—I had yesterday your Grace's letters of the 29th and 31st of the last, the former was given me by my cousin Mathew and I return you many thanks for it, the account given of the present posture of affairs both of State and Court being so necessary to be known by one that is placed in such a station as I am, as alterations happen I hope your Grace will choose the like way to give me intimation of them. By some letters of the 4th inst. I hear that my Lord Sunderland is admitted to the King's private council, and will be in his place of Secretary again, and my Lord Conway to be otherways considered, and that Mr. Seymour is returned to Court again. I have Roger Moore's two petitions and my Lord Ranelagh's answer all which I will carry within this hour to the Board, as I am directed by his Majesty in Mr. Secretary Jenkins's letter of the 31st of the last; the reason why I send away the packet now is to have the dogger ready for my Lord Longford at Holyhead to bring him and his brethren over speedily, that the number they bring with them might not incommode my wife in the yacht; they are to be at Holyhead to-morrow night.

I read over last night those papers concerning my Lord Ranelagh and find upon the whole matter that they are both in the right, for they have both cheated the poor people by their compositions, and I do well remember when they joined in the cheat, but it seems they could not cozen lovingly together, but how to detect either of them I believe will prove very difficult if not impracticable, but I will consult wiser heads than my own in the matter, but since my receipt of these I have consulted with nobody.

The matter your Grace mentions about the commission for the Managers of the Revenue is what I could have wished had been objected on that side, I will take good advice of counsel and of some of the Judges in it, but I believe the patent will not hold good if the Secretary does not countersign the warrant, for I had a letter from his Majesty not long since to pass a patent for incorporating the butchers, and it was entered at the Signet Office, but was by mistake not countersigned by the Secretary, upon which I sent Bor to the Solicitor General for his opinion, and his return was that it ought to be countersigned.

I was afraid when I first heard of your Grace's being made an English duke that the title of Ormond would have been drowned, but now I hear you retain that ancient title still. I am very glad you have been prevailed with to take the

like place in England for the reason your Grace gives, for certainly the other thing will happen. I hear the Bishop of Cloyne is now dying in earnest and the Dean of Lismore will accept of that bishopric, which I am sure your Grace will like.

ANONYMOUS TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, November 11.—I have here enclosed some observations to your Excellency's view and privacy which were gathered upon my perusing the copy of the commission and by the assistance of two persons of my acquaintance; not Sir James Shaen or any that have been Farmers of the Irish revenue, nor do I send them as motives to stop or retard the commission which I believe your Excellency ought to pass. But I have been always of opinion that if the commission did not succeed it would be endeavoured to lay the mismanagement at the Lord Lieutenant's or your Excellency's door. I take it for granted that your Excellency hath made all or most of these objections yourself and many of them are answered by the ability and integrity of some of the Managers as persons well qualified for so great a trust, and many more may be answered by their instructions which I have not seen. I hope your Excellency will pardon this and conceal my officiousness to serve you, for love is blind; and take my well meaning in good part. I have not as yet acquainted my Lord Lieutenant or any other with them, I have been so cautious in my folly.

Endorsed.—About the commission for the Revenue of Ireland.

PRINCE RUPERT TO [ORMOND].

1682, November 12. Whitehall.—The bearer hereof, Patrick Hews [Hughes], desires your favour for to be preferred to be a captain when a company shall fall. I can answer for his honesty, courage and obedience to his superiors so that I doubt not but you will not repent the favour your lordship shall do him which will infinitely oblige, &c.

ORMOND TO THE EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, November 13.—I remember I had long since directions from his Majesty to provide the bearer Captain Hughes with a foot company which I never since had opportunity to do nor was he upon the place to solicit it. He now hopes his presence may be more effectual to him. Besides his Majesty's commands Prince Rupert interposes very warmly in his behalf, and besides all that he has a good character for sufficiency in his profession so that as soon as he can be preferred I am desirous he should. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1682, November 14.—The King thinks the bringing of the Bishop of Killaloe's letter to any public consultation to be more than the thing deserves and would make unseasonable noise; what my Lord Primate returned is upon the matter all that could or can be done. I know so much of the temper of that sort of people that they are easily raised to insolency upon the least appearance of indulgence to them and therefore it may be fit to fall upon the first you can light on with severity. What was writ by the Bishop can be no secret and if totally neglected may one time or other be made ill use of, therefore if there be a convent in those parts as I believe there is let as many of the friars as can be found be apprehended and treated according to the Proclamation and this being done without special direction by the Government there will be best.

I send you a piece of intelligence out of Scotland to answer that that came out of France. I think they are of equal truth as to the importing of arms. But I believe the parties are equally dangerous and want but power to subvert the Government. That they have presbyteries and do exercise an ecclesiastical jurisdiction I do not doubt, but as it is hard to convict them of it so I did not find by any of our lawyers that it could come within the reach of any law in force in Ireland; nor had we power to suppress Jack's conventicle though a meeting house was erected professedly for that use so near the Council Chamber. *Copy.*

SAME to SAME.

1682, November 14.—Your latest letter received bears date the 1st and 4th of this month, others of yours I have unacknowledged which are either answered or require none or I shall now say something to them. I have by this post received my Lord Primate's thanks in behalf of Mr. Beckett whose letter was then received. I confess my letter to his Grace was the occasion of the just exception taken by Mr. Lyndon at Mr. Beckett being got over his head. My words were that his Majesty's pleasure was that he should come into the room of Sir Richard Stephens, though my meaning only was that he should be the youngest Serjeant nor did I remember that Mr. Lyndon was one. Sir Richard Ryves I own has good reason to complain that either of them were preferred before him. I doubt it will not be easy to persuade Mr. Beckett to part with the advantage he has thus got without my Lord Primate can be convinced that it is fit for him to interpose his authority, and if all must stand as it is the two gentlemen must have patience and give me credit when I assure them that I will make them amends as soon as I can.

It is only the want of fit persons to make Justices of Peace (by reason so many Papists and fanatics) that makes it excusable to employ so many churchmen in that office, which may divert them from the performance of their proper functions, may divert them from the performance of their proper functions, and subject them to scandal and calumny from those that are glad to find any colour to traduce and render them hateful to the people and therefore they ought to be more than ordinarily circumspect in their proceeding and in the exercise of temporal authority, rather submitting to than seeking for such business. This is my sense in general but I can say little in the particular case before you, but that if any churchmen so qualified have acted corruptly, that is partially upon any consideration, they ought upon due proof to be eased of their civil office. It will be as little justifiable if my Lord Ardglass has made use of his military power either by taking or keeping possession, but circumstances, in both cases must help the judgment and I am ignorant of them. Courts of Justice do allow of expressions that no other civil place will suffer yet there are limits to that liberty and it is fit that in all places distinction should be kept up, and if my Lord Ardglass shall require it upon good ground he ought to have reparation by way of amendment of the petition or by reprehension or both. My Lord Primate is a warm friend but I hope he will keep himself within due bounds in the hearing as I am sure he will tie himself to the rules of justice in the determination of the matter if he shall think fit to vote in it.

It will be necessary as soon as you can recover it to send as exact a state as can be had of the past and fund for the Farmers future payments, and it is no less needful that their pretentions for allowances and defalcations should be brought to a certainty, for without that I know not what computation can be made how far the revenue will reach towards the discharge of all that shall be charged upon it, and till there be some probable prospect of that it will be in vain to move in behalf of my Lady Stephens or any body else in her condition.

I am very doubtful that the horse guards are in as ill condition as when I left them and that was bad enough, which is not only to be imputed to the retrenchment of their pay or the slow payment of the remainder, but in a great measure to the absence and negligence of the officers. I therefore recommend it to you that they may be some time drawn out before you and that you would observe the defects of any kind and require amendment by a certain day upon pain of cashiering. I shall write to you by another way a letter of this date. All the Commissioners for Management of the Revenue are I hope by this time with you, so that what relates to their work is at an end here till some occasion be given from that side. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT LANESBOROUGH to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, November 14. Dublin.—I was extremely surprised to receive a letter of the 7th of this month under this cover, the handwriting of the superscription whereof I do not know nor had I ever any letter from his Grace or from you sealed with such a seal, however as soon as I received the letter I despatched my answer to it which being herewith enclosed I pray deliver to his Grace as soon as you receive it and let me know how his Grace's letter to me happened to be so superscribed and sealed that I may be freed from my apprehensions. Your cover was taken off and after perusal by some curious body or other this cover and seal clapped on. Sure if it had passed through either yours or Wogan's hands you would have superscribed it in one of your hands and sealed it with one of my lord's seals. Pray tell my son I know not what to make of his so long silence and not giving me any account of our affairs, perhaps he believes the stories from hence of my being in a desperate condition and that consequently I am not worth the satisfying. I am loath to harbour this opinion of him but tell him I expect immediate satisfaction from him for his failures towards me. Holy God's blessing may yet survive to serve him and my friends. I pray do not you neglect me neither, but let me hear from you on all occasions.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND,

1682, November 15. Dublin.—My Lord Longford and his brethren landed here yesterday morning, and brought me the commission and his Majesty's letter countersigned by the Lords of the Treasury for my passing their patents which I made no hesitation of signing a warrant for passing, having before had the opinion of my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge, and the Solicitor that it was safe for me to do it. I have given the Lords of the Treasury this post an account of my receipt of their letters and of my proceedings upon them which I will not repeat because I know they show you my letters, and I do not direct the despatches to your Grace because I guess by a clause in one of their letters that they would have me apply immediately to them. My Lord Longford brought the yacht over which I did not thank him for, and would suspend the Captain if his lordship did not intercede much for him, but I conclude he will be returned before my wife can get to the sea side.

SAME to SAME.

1682, November 19. Dublin.—The next day after I received from my Lord Longford the commission for management and his Majesty's command to see it passed with all convenient speed, I sent for the same committee that attended me when I transmitted the rough draft with such amendments as we

thought necessary, and by their advice though the commission be come back with material alterations, and with the want of the formalities necessary, as not giving me the proper titles, the commission shall not be delayed, for the King's counsel and the Judges I advised with think the caveats will signify nothing, the present Farmers not having any just cause of exception against it. The Lords of the Treasury's words in their letter of the 28th to me are these :—

“ We send here enclosed to your Excellency the King's letter for passing a commission for the Commissioners for Managing his Revenue in Ireland signed by his Majesty and countersigned by ourselves, having first inquired of my Lord Lieutenant whether he had any objection to this method, and finding he had none we transmit it in this manner to your Excellency and desire you to give order for the passing the same under seal with all convenient speed.

HYDE, &c.

Now I found the warrant for passing the seal must by law be passed by me in Council, and therefore a warrant was signed there on Friday last at a full Board, it being thought in this conjuncture very inconvenient to delay passing the commission, all the matters of form except that of the Lords of the Treasury's countersigning being amendable here without representing this particular of the countersigning, as well as the other objections, are drawing up and shall be transmitted to your Grace to make such use of them as you shall think fit. I am sure I was well pleased when I found it necessary to have the Council joined with me in signing the warrant.

I am told that there is a gentleman gone over into England to get leave for Col. Roscarrick to sell his commands. I hope your [Grace] will be watchful of that and not disappoint Tom Fairfax. I expect my wife over with the first fair wind.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, November 21.—I have been importuned to write to you in the behalf of two gentlemen to procure them a letter for dispensation from his Excellency my Lord Duke of Ormond, the former of which is one Mr. Phineas Elwood, Fellow of Christ Church College and bachelor of physic, who being four years more than standing for the said degree when he was admitted to it, he therefore requests that the time which was over and above requisite to the degree of bachelor of physic may be now allowed him and transferred towards the taking of his degree of doctor in the said faculty. And whereas by reason of very urgent business he cannot read his lectures this term he further requests that (upon sufficient caution given) he may be permitted forthwith to be a candidate for his degree and defer the reading of his lectures till next term.

The other is one Francis Foster of Merton College whose

request is that whereas being formerly of the University where after he had spent four years and performed such exercises as are requisite there, he had the title of master conferred on him ; and whereas he is now desirous to spend some time in this University, and is admitted commoner of Merton College, he humbly requests that in consideration of the time he spent in study in the University of Glasgow and the exercises he performed there he may be admitted to the degree of bachelor of arts in this University upon condition of determining the next Lent. I have now in my hands from these two and the former persons for whom I wrote ten guineas, which I shall be ready to pay according to your order. I pray be pleased to acquaint Mr. Wogan that I have prevailed with these gentlemen for five shillings from each of them for his pains which I shall likewise pay according to order.

SIR JOHN TEMPLE to ORMOND.

1682, November 21. Dublin.—I humbly beg your Grace's leave to give you this trouble in acquainting your Grace how the matter stands here about the living of Carrick which, I have been informed, you once intended for one Mr. Bredin a son-in-law of Dr. Hierome who in hopes of it hath served the cure there ever since the doctor died and is, as I am assured, very well liked by the inhabitants there, but is this week come from thence upon his being informed that your Grace designed that living for one Mr. Christian and that Mr. Christian should resign to him some other livings in the Diocese of Ossory to the like value with this of Carrick. But what your Grace then intended cannot now be brought to pass in regard the Bishop of Ossory doth declare that if any of these livings in his diocese are resigned by Mr. Christian he will give them to a chaplain of his own and not to Mr. Bredin, upon which terms I suppose Mr. Christian thinks not fit to accept of Carrick. I spoke with my Lord Deputy about this matter this afternoon who is of opinion that since the Bishop is so resolved it will be better to let Mr. Bredin have Carrick than by Mr. Christian's removal thither to gratify the Bishop's chaplain, for whom your Grace had no intention to provide, and my lord was pleased to say that he would write to your Grace about it. If your Grace should be pleased to grant to Mr. Bredin your presentation to Carrick it might be a means to preserve Dr. Hierome's widow and children from ruin and beggary, who are left in a very ill condition and might continue to live with him there upon much easier terms than they can provide for themselves in any other place, but if your Grace doth not soon present somebody there may be danger of a lapse it being now about five months since Dr. Hierome died.

The new commission for managing the revenue is now passing the seal and meets with no delay here, though there are some things in the King's letter for it that might well

have been altered if the King's service had not required a speedy despatch of it. I am to return your Grace my most humble thanks for your favour to Sir Robert Ward on whose behalf Mr. Gascoigne spoke to your Grace, and he hath since received the King's letter that you were pleased to procure for him.

[REV.] JOHN HUMBLE to [EZECHIEL HOPKINS,
BISHOP OF DERRY.]

1682, November 24.—Pursuant to your lordship's order I have made inquiry into the late confluence of the Romish clergy, which consisted of regulars as well as seculars. They held a formal visitation and paid their accustomed duties to one Manus O'Merisan as their superior and vicar general. There is a sharp dispute and contest betwixt this O'Merisan and Father McGorkey (the person I told your lordship was formerly in my Lord Massareene's custody for words of reflection) as competitors for the supremacy. The inferior clergy pretend to constitute their superior by their own election, and by this artifice and evasion think to secure themselves from the penalty of the law for extolling of and exercising foreign jurisdiction. They have their monthly assemblies, and what may be the productions of such dangerous conventions, if not seasonably restrained, is not hard to conjecture, the fatalities of former times sufficiently demonstrating to us the sad results thereof. There are many friars among us, particularly Father McColgan, Father Hegarty, Father O'Dogherty (there are two of that name), with some others. I hope your lordship will take this into your serious consideration and make some essay to suppress the dangerous irregularities of these sort of men, who are indefatigably industrious in all those methods that subtlety and malice can suggest to effect the ruin of our poor afflicted Zion. God bless your lordship's zealous and great endeavours for the building up and confirming his Church in these times of confusion and fanaticism and among such variety of enemies, and that your lordship's life may be long and prosperous, your memory and posterity honourable, your soul and body eternally happy when time shall be no more is, my Lord, the devout and unfeigned suffrage of, &c.

SAMUEL GORGES to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, November 25. Dublin.—Sending an enclosure for his Grace. He intends, the term being ended, to spend his time till towards the opening of the year at Kilkenny and Clonmel. That term at the King's Bench bar certain persons were arraigned for a robbery, on notice of which there came voluntary another person and acknowledged himself only guilty of the fact, for which crime he received judgment and this day was executed. *Abstract.*

ANONYMOUS to ORMOND.

1682, November 25.—I know not how far your Grace may intend to push your contest with the Earl of Anglesey, but having lately gained the knowledge of the following passage, and finding it much differing from the integrity of such a vehement professor of love and duty to the King, that he had rather a dagger should be struck into his old loyal heart than to be suspected of unfaithfulness to the King, I thought it not amiss to give your Grace this short advertisement of his loyalty to the King and of his pretended friendship to your Grace.

In the time of the late usurpers when Pepys was Chief Justice in the Upper Bench, they called before them Mr. Henry Warren that was Second Remembrancer in the Exchequer. He brought an action of the case against one Harding for saying that Warren was a rebel at Rathmines, and it was proved by the defendant that Warren's residence was at Grangebeg. Hereupon it was offered for proof of Warren's good affection to the Parliament side that he held correspondence with Michael Jones, and gave intelligence to him in the Castle of Dublin by letters, sometimes in the heart and sometimes in the liver of a bullock from day to day, and this was urged and proved by Mr. Annesley, the now Earl of Anglesey, and the service by him magnified to that degree that the Jury found for Warren and 500*l.* damages against Harding. Here are several persons yet alive who were present at this trial and remember it. I have writ this in a disguised hand that none may understand from whom it comes besides your Grace.

Endorsed: Out of Ireland.

ELLEN GWYN to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, November 26.—I hope your lordship will now oblige me so much as to stand my friend. I have, with much importunity, got the Lords of the Treasury to give an order to my Lord Ormond to cause the arrears of my pension stopped in Ireland to be paid what is due to me to last Michaelmas with my sister's, Mrs. Forster's, and others whom their letter mentions. My agent is Mr. Laurence Steele to whom I have sent this letter to deliver to your lordship. Hoping for my sake you will be pleased to give him a speedy despatch in this business, and oblige yours, etc.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, November 27. Dublin.—I had on Thursday your Grace's letter of the 14th, but have not yet received the other letter you mention of the same date. The business between Mr. Beckett and Lyndon I had accommodated before I received this of yours, my Lord Primate appearing so much for Beckett

the other waived the dispute, hoping to be preferred to a Judge's place before Beckett which my Lord Chancellor told me he would consent to, and what you are pleased to say concerning the Recorder I am sure will please him.

As to what concerns the difference between my Lord Ardglass and Muschamp, I shall only say that in the County of Down, where this concern lies, there are, as I am credibly informed, above eighty Justices of the Peace, and therefore there needed no clergymen in the commission, or at least no such stirring ones, but this cause will soon determine, for I do really think my Lord Ardglass's heart is broke, and no man without great concern (who has any good nature in him) can see so brave a man as he has shown himself to be in such a desponding condition as he is, and with good reason, for he is decrepid in body, disturbed in mind, and cannot get one able lawyer to plead for him. Yet all this shall not prevail with me to do any more for him than what I may justify, by having the majority of the Board, without any influencing them.

The Bishop of Cloyne is dead, and the Dean of Lismore continues his desires to have the bishopric. My Lord Primate would be glad the present Dean of Cloyne had it, as I find by him, but I believe he will write nothing of it.

Since I have read over the Commissioners' instructions I think it unnecessary for me to transmit over any calculations of the revenue, they being required to inspect all accounts of the present and former Farmers and contractors, and to deliver them to the Chief Governor and transmit duplicates to the Lords of the Treasury in England, a work of no small labour and intricacy. I wish they may be able to go through with it. Col. Vernon sent me last post some observations upon the commission, which I have sent to my Lord Chief Justice, who had undertaken before to make some of his own. Vernon tells me he had showed them to your Grace.

I must confess the horse guards are not in so good a condition as I could wish them, and I am afraid I shall scarce be able to make them what they ought to be, but since I have this intimation from you I will engage to make them much better than I found them by the muster after this, for I will grant very few, if any, licenses of absence, but to those persons with your Grace, and allow none to be free from duty but the Gentlemen Ushers.

Sir Robert King for the good of his nephew, my Lord Kingston, is very desirous he should be made a Privy Councillor; that he does not want understanding I believe your Grace knows.

My Lord Chief Justice Keatinge told me yesterday that he had a letter from Mr. Herbert declaring that he would return no more into this country, with intent that he should let me know it. I will upon that notice get such a commission drawn as is proper for your Grace to sign for Sir John Meade to succeed him in the County of Tipperary.

HENRY GASCOIGNE TO CAPT. GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, November 27.—I had not your letter of the 18th of October till the 5th of this month, with the contents whereof I immediately acquainted my Lord Lieutenant, and left with him the papers you sent me concerning Sir Maurice Hurley, but hear nothing of them since. My lord did order some time since that Mr. Patrick Christian should have the living at Carrick, provided he resigns what he has in the County of Kilkenny to Dr. Hierome's son-in-law which will amount to 90*l.* a year, and when they send over the denominations of the livings his Grace will do his part in signing them.

My lord has taken up a resolution to recommend nobody to the Commissioners of the Revenue, who are all in Ireland, so that I have nothing more to say to what you are pleased to write in favour of Sir Thomas Osborne.

ORMOND TO CAPT. GEORGE MATHEW.

1682, November 28.—I have not had any very important occasion to write to you of late. Now it will be fit to inform you that, for aught I know, the same reason that made the King command my stay here till the spring may move him to do it again then, and if he should find it necessary to call a Parliament here I doubt he would by no means allow of my absence. Nor could I refuse him my small assistance in such a conjuncture, how inconvenient soever it will certainly be to my fortune, by reason of the expense which I cannot retrench [as] my family is so great and chargeable, besides the extravagant rate of 1,000*l.* a year I pay for the house I live in and the furniture I use. The house is a very good one and cost above 15,000*l.* building, and will be sold for little more than 9,000*l.* Of this I could take up 5,000*l.* upon the security of the house at five or at most at six in the hundred, and if I had English security I could have the rest at the same rate. Hereupon the questions are :—first, whether it be not better for me, if I can compass the money, to buy the house than to be put to keep it at so excessive a price, or be put to seek for another unfurnished which will cost a great deal [for] the furnishing, if I do not send for furniture out of Ireland, either of which I must also do if I do buy the house I am in, but the house I have is one of the best in London and fit for my quality, and if I should remove into Ireland it is probable I may set it again at no loss, or set it without furniture at near the interest of my money. The next question is how to give such security for 4,000*l.* of the money as that I may have it at English interest, and unless I can do it by securing anybody that shall give me credit here upon my prize wines I fear it cannot be done, that duty being best known to merchants and least subject to fail in all events. I have time till March next to consider and contrive this affair and desire you to send me your opinion. My Lord of Longford in a late letter tells me

he has writ to you about the prize wines and perhaps it may be worth your going to Dublin to discourse with the Commissioners of the Revenue of the best way of collecting them, where you may perhaps be advised how 4,000*l.* may be raised upon them at English interest.

The young Earl of Abercorn being in treaty here for a wife, and giving in a particular of his estate values it at 6,000*l.* the more for a debt he says I owe him, but never spoke of it to me. Something of this nature I remember his mother pretended to, whether as my aunt Hamilton's portion, or a sum of money for which Sir Nicholas White had a bond, I know not, pray let me know what you can find of it.

I think in a former letter I gave you my sense of the bargain with the Smiths of Glasbane. If I did not I tell you now, It is that though I approve of Valentine's service, and mean to reward it, yet I will not do it by abatement of rent. The scope of land is more than I would have in one man's holding, and therefore I hope it will be divided into distinct farms and habitations, which is a rule that ought to be kept to in all such cases.

My grandchild Betty Stanhope is upon marriage with the Lord Campden's son and [heir] to an estate of 10,000*l.* a year. The person is not very agreeable in shape though in all other respects valuable enough. I doubt upon this occasion my Lord Chesterfield may expect the payment of the money I owe him, which must be got for him if he do.

The King's affairs go on well and I am told not the worse for me, but if my own decline as fast it will be hard to repair them. The new honour his Majesty has conferred on me is of no other advantage than precedency, unless it be that I may at any time part with my steward's place and lose but little place by it, and if the revenue shall so increase that the household come to be better paid, it will be more valuable to keep or part with upon my going into Ireland.

I send you a proposition in behalf of Alcock by his brother Mulys. You know best the value and conveniency of the land, and whether the money it will yield may be employed to advantage. I desire hovels may be built for the colts that have fallen this year and that no colts or fillies may be housed at Kilkenny, the stoniness of the ground spoiling their feet and limbs. *Copy.*

EZECHIEL HOPKINS, BISHOP OF DERRY, to the LORD PRIMATE.

1682, December 1. Londonderry.—On Saturday last I received the enclosed,* which because it seemed to be of importance, I thought it my duty to transmit it entire to your Grace under the same hand that wrote it. The gentleman is a minister of a parish in Inishoen, a considerable part of this diocese, but withal counted the most rude and uncivilized.

* *Supra*, p. 482.

There usually the priests and friars keep their rendezvous, and I am told that the numbers of those who flock to them are both a burden and a terror to the people. Whatever commands your Grace shall be pleased to give me, I will endeavour to see punctually executed. The Justices, who live in that barony, ought to have prevented this trouble both to your Grace and me. But I complain not of them, because I think they are loyally principled. Only I have heard this character of one Davenport, lately put into commission, that he loves neither church nor churchmen. It is said he is a person who hath little other interest in this country besides his commission, which renders him so far considerable as to make him troublesome. Yet even this I have only upon report, for of the person I have no knowledge, and therefore the rather think it true because I have not.

ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, December 2. Whitehall.—I write in a place where there are no papers by me, and so cannot remember the dates or much of the matters mentioned in those of yours that I have not answered. There is, as you were informed, a gentleman come over with a letter from Col. Roscarrick desiring that he may have leave to sell his company and command at Duncanon to him. His name is Ivory and his qualifications such as that the favour could not well be refused him, having put himself to charge by raising of men and providing equipage when there was expectation of foreign action. But his father being yet alive who was on the wrong side, and has given no satisfactory proof of his conversion, I have not consented to his request. As for Roscarrick, I conceive it will be hard after so long service to refuse him to sell what he has bought perhaps with all he had, if he can agree with a purchaser without exception, and I believe Tom Fairfax would be of the same opinion if the case were his own. If Roscarrick happen to die before he has parted with his commands, I am still for Fairfax's succeeding, but I do not find Vernon fond of the other post.

I am still of opinion that by the sale of ground, housing and materials belonging to Dublin Castle, a Chief Governor may be better seated than he is, and the King put to no considerable charge in the exchange, if to any, the rather that much less money than 30,000*l.* will make a better residence than the Castle. There has been so much building about Dublin, and Mr. Robinson is so well acquainted with the rates of work and materials and the value of ground, that methinks a probable estimate and calculation may be made, at the worst it will be but a little time lost to discourse it and try what the Castle will yield.

I conceive the Hospital is now in that forwardness that I have put my Lord Primate in mind of going in hand with preparing

of rules to be presented to the King for his approbation, of which I suppose he will speak to you. What remains material in relation to the revenue of Ireland is the establishment and the naming of a Paymaster, for that I find will be his title, and these have hung longer than they ought, or than I think they would have done but that the Lords of the Treasury have much English business on their hands, and more Irish than I think they need to trouble themselves with. I will hasten the despatch of these as much as I can. I have spoken to the King for Dr. Jones in case the Bishop of Cloyne die, if he do the Doctor is to send order to follow the taking out his letter of which a draft should be sent.

Here have been many and some great promotions, and many more there would be if pretenders might be heard. I am in some hope to sit at easier rent by purchasing my Lord St. Albans's house. It cost him 15,000*l.*, and I think I shall have it for 9,000*l.* Sir Stephen Fox will furnish me with money and drive on the bargain. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT LANESBOROUGH to ORMOND.

1682, December 4. Dublin.—Since my letter to your Grace of the 14th of November, in answer to your Grace's of the 7th of that month, which whether your Grace hath received or no I cannot yet tell, I have had some discourse with Capt. Mathew concerning the 400*l.* in broad gold which the Earl of Anglesey affirms to have delivered unto your Grace's own hands when you went to suppress the mutiny at Carrickfergus, and he tells me that though he remembers nothing of the 400 pieces of broad gold, yet being accidentally by in your closet he remembers that Mr. James Clarke, whom you appointed to inspect Mr. Controller Harrison's accounts between your Grace, the Earl of Anglesey and Sir Daniel Bellingham, [was there, and] he very well remembers that he heard some mention of that affair of Carrickfergus in an account which he by chance heard him read to your Grace about that business, of some disbursement or receipt about Carrickfergus, and that he believes if your Grace shall please to call upon Mr. Clarke for that account, which to the best of his memory was about three years ago, you will be thereby informed of the truth of that matter.

And discoursing further with him about your Grace's papers which were delivered up by me that he knew not where they were, so that it is necessary if your Grace have any occasion for them, or for me to attend you with them, to enquire of Mr. Gascoigne where they may be found. I have nothing more to trouble your Grace with at this time, but my humble desire that you will vouchsafe to signify your pleasure unto me in answer to my said letter of the 14th of November, and to take what notice you think fit of one I humbly presumed to offer to your Grace in behalf of Sir Francis Brewster, who

seems to wonder that your Grace takes no notice of what I humbly offered to your Grace's consideration in his behalf, who am unalterably at your Grace's devotion.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, December 5. Dublin.—I have no letter from your Grace of a later date than the 14th of the last, but am glad to hear by others that a fit of the gout was not the cause of your not writing, as I had reason to apprehend. My Lord Primate is now laid up of a very sore one, so that I believe I shall scarce have his company at the Board before Christmas. The Farmers and new Commissioners are so busy that neither are to be seen (unless sent for) but on Sundays. I wish they may both perform what they seem very confident in, the Farmers to make good their contract with his Majesty, the others to improve the revenue beyond what is expected from them.

I had a letter last post from the Lords of the Treasury by his Majesty's directions ordering me to take off the suspensions of Mrs. Gwyn's and several others' pensions, which I shall do, but must desire that the same favour may be done my Lady Stephens, and I shall interpose for nobody else, she having already impressed her Michaelmas gale, which would absolutely undo her if she should be forced to refund.

Uncle Mathew has taken upon him to give your Grace an account of matters that relate to the County of Tipperary, but lest other things he has in agitation, and those of great moment, should make him forget, I desire your Grace would know of Mr. Herbert where the County Palatine seal is, and if he has carried it with him (a thing without precedent) that he should surrender it to your Grace there, and that you would send me your directions as your Seneschal to give it to Sir John Meade, who is very proud to accept the employment. Capt. Isaac Walden is the fittest man to be Sheriff this year.

SAME to SAME.

1682, December 6. Dublin.—Recommending Mr. Wilson, who is known to his Grace. A troublesome brangle which Wilson had with the city of Londonderry, forces him to leave this country; he thinks London a better place for lawyers and poets. *Abstract.*

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to ORMOND.

1682, December [6].—His Majesty's Commissioners for management of his Revenue in this his kingdom were pleased soon after their arrival to give me the honour of a visit at my house, where after some discourse concerning this weighty matter which they were soon to enter upon, I gave them to understand that besides the obligation of my duty as the King's servant, I had your Grace's particular command to give them all the

light and assistance I could in the management and discharge of the trust committed unto them by his Majesty, and did assure them (as I now do your Grace) that if they shall at any time think my advice and assistance worth the calling for they should have it to the best of my skill and understanding.

I take it for granted that his Excellency hath given your Grace an account of the caveat entered by the now Farmers at the Hanaper to their commission, and what was done thereupon by the Lord Chancellor, who was pleased to call the Chief Baron, my brother Reynell, and myself to wait on him at the hearing. The Farmers did no more in this case than what became wary men, nor his Grace less than the matter did of necessity require, nor did the caveat obstruct the passing of the commission many hours after it was fitted for the seal.

I formerly gave your Grace an account that, besides the unusual style of the commission which Mr. Solicitor hath since rectified, I looked upon it to be very loosely drawn as to the King's security, the powers given the Commissioners being very ample and in many particulars of very great moment unlimited, and they nevertheless under no security to answer to his Majesty any loss or prejudice which may happen by theirs or the negligence or corruption of their officers, except in case of wilful corruption, and on the other hand the power given them for compounding for the excise without any stint; and this I must confess did very much shock me, as it did divers others upon reading thereof, and the more for that the queries which his Excellency sent to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury by the advice of the Lord Primate and others whom his Excellency was pleased to call to his assistance upon the reading of the first draft of the commission transmitted hither, were not in our judgments satisfactorily answered in the commission sent over and now under seal. But upon reading the commission at the time of hearing the caveat, it was observed that the Commissioners are required to observe such instructions as were, or should be given them, by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. Whereupon I attended his Excellency to whom I had promised my thoughts upon the commission in writing, and desired a copy of their instructions (if any they had) which his Excellency called for, and the next day delivered them to me together with two papers of observations made at London on the commission and sent him by your Grace, and in these instructions I found the queries made here on the first draft of the commission sufficiently answered, and almost all the inconveniences which we represented from hence (and which the author of the observations there gave your Grace the trouble of) fully obviated and provided against, so that he that gave your Grace those papers was not much to blame, in regard he knew nothing of the instructions, and his observations are for the most part contained in the first queries sent hence,

There remains yet in my judgment three or four material inconveniences not yet provided against by these instructions, and which I should now have given your Grace an account of but that his Excellency told me this day that the Commissioners did design to make application to have both the commission and instructions altered in some particulars, and because possibly they may desire amendments in those parts which to me seems defective, I shall forbear giving your Grace the trouble of them until I see what they design.

The eighth instruction being to call Sir George Carteret, Alderman Bence, and former Treasurers to account I apprehend ought to be under the Great Seal, and so I think ought some other of the instructions. But this is a ticklish point, and I fear would be displeasing to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. However if the question were put in *transitu* upon occasion of some other discourse relating to the management it would not be amiss, and thus far I presume to give your Grace an account of what hath occurred to me in the few days since Term ended that I have had to think of this matter.

I must now beg your Grace's pardon that I give you some trouble of another nature in the behalf of very many, if not most of the old Protestant proprietors of this kingdom. Your Grace some time before your last going for England, taking notice of the causeless and expensive trouble which the subject was put to in very many parts of the kingdom by commissions of inquiry procured and prosecuted by Sir Theophilus Jones, Lord Kingston's trustees, and divers others who pretended to be deficient as to their reprice, entered so far into the consideration of that matter, and saw the inconveniencies so many and the disquiet to the subject so great, that your Grace thought fit with the advice of the Council here to represent them to his Majesty who was graciously pleased thereupon to order a stop to all proceedings upon such commissions. Notwithstanding which the mischief is now in my apprehension as great as ever, there being a commission on foot and vigorously prosecuted in the behalf and for the advantage (as is pretended) of the '49 officers, the design being to discover and inquire after all forfeited mortgages, judgments, statutes staple, and other incumbrances of that nature belonging to any forfeiting persons whatsoever on the 23rd October, 1641 (though the lands were not seized nor sequestered) which the prosecutors of this commission say was occasioned by the old Protestant proprietors, who were generally in possession on account of the mortgage money due to them the 23rd October, 1641, and though their mortgage money amounted not to near the value of the lands, yet when the usurpers began to seize and sequester, they made means to keep the lands mortgaged to them from being seized and sequestered by pretending to have the absolute fee of them; in which your Grace will easily conclude they had the assistance

or at least met with no opposition from the forfeiting mortgagor, which, though I believe happened in many cases, yet considering that the Trustees for the '49 officers have had near twenty years for inquiring into contrivances of this kind, that his Majesty appointed Commissioners who were indifferent betwixt subject and subject to hear and determine all matters of this nature, and that the Trustees appointed by your Grace and the Duke of Albemarle for preserving the '49 security did for many years together make it their business to enquire after all encumbrances of this kind, [and] that the security hath for many years since been equally divided amongst the pretenders, and those Trustees concluding that they had left no part thereof undistributed, or if they had, it was so little that it would not support the charge of bringing it in, much less answer anything to that body of people, or those who claim under them, have long since discontinued and given up their commission, it is humbly submitted whether inquiries even in this case should not have a period, as well as all others of like nature, in the Acts of Settlement and Explanation, for as the matter seems now to be admitted as long as there shall be any who pretends to claim under a '49 officer, either as executor of the executor or administrator, this commission shall never have an end.

And I further offer it to your Grace's consideration that the Commissioners now authorized, or almost all of them, are '49 officers, or those who derive under them, who cannot be thought judges indifferent betwixt the party against whom the discovery (as they call it) is made by the informer, and themselves, for so in truth the matter stands. But allowing that these Commissioners were not concerned in point of interest yet theirs and the salary of their officers is to arise and be paid out of what they shall adjudge within the security, and is in truth no purchase no pay, which was not so in the case of any former Commissioners, who were paid go the land where it would; and upon something which I offered unto his Excellency's consideration yesterday in the closet in the presence of Mr. Secretary Ellis, Mr. Muschamp and Major Billingly, upon a caveat entered to one of their certificates, it was confessed that though they had sat now near twelve months they had not discovered to the value of 1,000*l.*, which I am sure will not pay their own salaries, and yet they have summoned the subject from the most remote parts of the kingdom. It is true they affirm that where the discovery have not been very clear they have dismissed the parties, but it being demanded where the subject, who was without cause brought from remote parts and necessitated to bring his evidences and witness with him, to retain counsel and attorney, to attend possibly a month or two, and leave his concerns at home, should have his costs and charges, oftentimes near the thing in question, when it appeared that he was causelessly vexed, there was no answer nor indeed can there be made any

to such an inquiry. So that in effect nobody can receive advantage by this commission save the Commissioners. But numbers will thereby be disquieted, which I thought it my duty to lay before your Grace, to which I could add much more, but that I am afraid I have already transgressed.

It remains only that according to your Grace's command I give my thoughts of the management to be begun this month of the revenue, which as the commission is now limited by the instructions may, and I think will, bring great advantages to the King, and I am sure if care be taken there can no loss happen to his Majesty thereby, of which as occasion offers I shall from time to time give your Grace a further account.

GERALD BOR to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, December 6. Dublin.—. . . . Last Sunday Mr. Prescott landed here and next morning brought me your letter of the 20th November. We went about five [in the] afternoon to the Globe, and to say truth, by the sweet of the evening we made a fine piece of business on it. You may be sure we remembered you and James Clarke over and over in Pontack, and wished you one tun of it, for Mr. Prescott confessed you have little such in London

PRIMATE BOYLE to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, December 9.—I understand that the Dean of Down is dead. Permit me, I beseech your Excellency, on this occasion to mind you that Mr. Jones may be a very fit person to succeed in that deanery, if your Excellency shall think fit.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, December 9.—Doctor Phipps, the Dean of Down, being this morning dead, your Excellency hath it now in your power to make such a provision for Mr. Jones, your chaplain, as may be an established settlement for him during life, and I should have waited on your Excellency in person to mind you of him were I not confined by the physician. I know the pretenders will be many, but your Excellency will provide for a gentleman who relieth wholly on you and must have his preferment by your Excellency's favour, and not otherways.

JOHN KEVAN to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, December 9. Kilkenny.—Enclosing a journal of the weather for the month of November according to its variation.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, December 10. Dublin.—It was Thursday last that I had your Grace's letter of the 14th of the last month by a private hand, the gentleman who brought it being detained

a long while at the sea-side by cross winds. What your Grace advises shall be done if possible without noise, but one way or other the insolency of those people must receive a check, or else I may some time or other be justly censured, for the information sent you is very true, and there are also a great many truths in the paper your Grace sent me. I shall act nothing in this matter without consulting my Lord Chancellor and having his concurrence.

Being informed by Mr. Cuff that there is a merchant ship cast away upon the coast of Munster (I think it was on some rock in the County of Clare) and that she had store of powder and arms, I sent to seize the arms and to have some of the seamen who escaped examined from whence she came, whither bound, and what their design was. I believe it will prove some ship bound to the West Indies.

My Lord Longford informing me that your Grace and my Lord Hyde were much concerned for one Mr. MacNeal a clergyman, and having a very good character of him from the Archbishop of Dublin, I intend to give him the deanery of Down fallen void yesterday by the death of Mr. Phipps to whom you gave it just before your Grace went over, but if I can without intolerable vexation I will keep it undisposed of until I have an answer to this letter.

This day died Judge Jones, so that I hope you will get a letter for Serjeant Lyndon to succeed him, he having been put by very hardly once before, and Serjeant Beckett very lately put over his head. I believe he will have few opposers and I think Mr. Sprigg a fit man to be made a Serjeant.

SAME to SAME.

1682, December 12. Dublin.—In my last I recommended Mr. Sprigg to be Serjeant in the room of Mr. Lyndon, but it was at the desire of one I have not so much value for as I have for Mr. Solicitor, and therefore I desire if this come soon enough to prevent it, that the letter may be had for one Mr. Echlin a person whom the Solicitor General recommends, and owns himself to be obliged to, and when this is granted I desire the number of Serjeants may not be increased further.

GERALD BOR to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682, December 14. Dublin.—Judge Jones is to be buried to-morrow, as the Lady Domvile will be this evening, and the Lady Byron was last Tuesday. *Abstract.*

DUCHESS OF ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, December 16.—I am very glad to hear as I did by your letter of the 2nd of this month that my daughter Arran landed safe at Dublin, who has before this time, I hope, recovered the weariness and toil of that long journey, and will be diverted

with little Charlotte's company, who I conclude is much improved in her discourse since I left her, as your little son is in his health and growth since his last sickness and is a very lively child.

If upon Dean Jones's preferment there be any sinecure held by him that is in your gift I desire you will bestow it upon Mr. Ryder, the schoolmaster at Kilkenny, for his greater encouragement to continue still there; otherwise I fear without some such help he will quit that place, and then that school will break, which has hitherto had great credit and been an advantage unto the town. My Lady Donegal was yesterday to see me, and did discourse of her daughter to me with more concernedness than I expected, so as I hope she will be kind to her at last. I hear my daughter Longford was resolved to try my Lady Rochester's doctor, who has done great cures to several that had pains in their stomachs, but I fear my Lady Rochester's recovery is not perfect, for she had returns of her ill since her landing and is extreme lean. I pray remember my service to my daughter, to whom I intended to have written this day, but that my cough is so troublesome this misty weather, that I must defer it until I be better.

PRIMATE BOYLE to EZECHIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry.

1682, December 16. Dublin.—I have received your lordship's of the 12th instant with an enclosed paper from Edinburgh. I showed them both to my Lord Deputy and it is his Excellency's desire that your lordship should manage this affair with as much secrecy and prudence, but withal with as much care and scrutiny as you can. It is his Excellency's opinion that you continue your informer in the same post as he now stands with the Nonconformists, by which he will be the better enabled to make discoveries to your lordship of their daily practices and designs, and because the world is full of counterfeits and cheats, you are likewise desired to make the best inspection that you can into the credit and reputation of his person; in short if he perform his duty well he will certainly be rewarded by the Government for his good service, if otherwise it is very fit he should be detected and discovered as soon as with conveniency it may be done. Your lordship in your letter gave some hint of your suspicion by his applying first into Scotland; I must confess that I am not satisfied therewith, though perhaps that might have been done because he was ignorant of doing better.

That which gave my lord the great concern in this affair is because a late intelligence hath been sent to his Excellency out of England, and which came hither from Scotland, much of the like nature, and I am not without some apprehensions but that the same person may be the author or the occasion

of both. I have therefore here enclosed sent your lordship two paragraphs of that intelligence which was lately sent, my Lord, to my Lord Deputy out of England, which will enable your lordship to ask such questions of your informer as will soon discover whether he be the same person or no.

Your lordship will be likewise [certain] to make your enquiries concerning those particular persons who are mentioned in those two paragraphs: what they are, where they live, and in what condition or posture they are with the people as to promote any disorder amongst them if they be inclinable thereunto.

I need not to invite your lordship to a great care and circumspection in this matter by any other argument than that it is the great concern of us all, and for the peace and quiet of the whole kingdom. I pray God bless your lordship.

Encloses:—

5. At the meetings of those Presbyterians there are delegates from each Presbytery to the other, and by the consent of the whole they send letters to their brethren and associates at London, and from thence to Holland, and thus to other places, and receive the returns once every month by those that are instructed to this end, which are Mr. Traill at Lifford in the north of Ireland and Mr. Keys at Dublin, and Mr. Traill at London or in his absence Mr. Ferguson, and may be intercepted if warily adverted how, and known what stuff they contain.
6. That there are some persons I have heard say that they were longing to have such an harvest day against the King as they had been witnesses of against his father, to wit Robert McLaghlan in Bowry, an arch ringleading knave for rebellion, and one James Boyd in Belnahary; and John Trumble in Belakelly said he would never rest till it were so. *Copy.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682, December 16. Dublin.—I herewith send your Grace by my Lord Deputy's commands two late intelligences from the Bishop of Derry; one concerning the Friars and secular Romish clergy in the north, dated December 1st, 1682, the other about a design in projection amongst the Presbyterians in the north of Ireland and Scotland, dated December 12th, 1682.

To the first I formally returned this answer to his lordship as from myself, but by my Lord Deputy's advice; that if his lordship's information was true it would much reflect upon the gentry of that country, and especially upon the Justices of Peace, who had power and authority put into their hands to suppress such unlawful and tumultuous assemblies, and to apprehend any of the regulars of the Roman clergy who had stayed in this kingdom contrary to the Proclamation, or

had returned since into it ; with a reward likewise for any man that should take and bring in any such offender contrary to the Proclamation, which had been punctually paid accordingly for the encouragement of such persons ; and that I doubted, that if a complaint of that nature should be brought to my Lord Deputy and Council, they would resent it sharply as a great omission and neglect of duty in the Justices of that country, for permitting such encroachments to be made upon the rules and directions of the Government without any endeavours from them for their redress. To the latter the enclosed to the Bishop of Derry, which is a copy of what I writ to his lordship by this night's post, will inform your Grace. What particular orders your Grace shall think fit to transmit to my Lord Deputy about this affair will I presume be very punctually observed.

And upon this occasion give me leave humbly to offer to your Grace's consideration that since times appear so menacing on all sides, and no man can foresee when, where or how they may break in upon us, that your Grace may be pleased to move his Majesty, if it may consist with his Majesty's other affairs, that some moneys may be deposited in the Castle to be locked up, and not to be touched by anybody but upon such an extraordinary occasion if any such should happen, and the rather at this time because the Army are likely to be in some arrear for their pay upon the occasion of the old Farmers quitting, and the new Managers entering upon the revenue of this kingdom, some provision of this kind (the credit whereof may be of greater consequence than the sum itself) may prove excellent husbandry, and if timely applied may prevent the charge of a continued war and the fatality of a kingdom.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, December 18. Dublin.—There are four packets now due out of England, and it is above a month since the date of your Grace's last letter to me. I hope the next fair wind will bring me the new establishment that we may know here who is provided for by it, and who not. The new Commissioners have made a great progress in settling their officers, and have already farmed or agreed to farm the duty of fire hearths, and have improved the rent, but this will I doubt not be represented by them to the Lords of the Treasury, and they will certainly bring the revenue this year to what Sir James Shaen proffered if they carry one point which they tell me is an adjudged one in England of the King's side, and that is the new impost on imported excise, for the duty not being to be paid but upon the consumption, for which there is six months time given, this farm determining before, they say the duty is the King's, but I find the laws here differ much in the point and though the Solicitor gave his opinion in the affirmative,

and has so given under his hand, yet my Lord Longford tells me he desires it back again, as given too hastily, and that upon better perusal of the statutes of force here he has reason to alter his opinion.

As to what concerns the Farmers I find that the assignments for last June pay are so far from being answered by the collectors that it is almost a general case that the collectors will not so much as accept of them but return them back again so that I look upon the Army now as nine months in arrear this last muster, for there is a very inconsiderable part of June pay received, and the quit-rents are, I am confident, already collected. This arrear and the necessity I was put to of sending parties out against the Tories, who are numerous and very outrageous, must put the Army in a very ill posture at a very unseasonable time, which wanted not such things to fall upon them, if you believe the intelligence lately sent out of the north to my Lord Primate which I have advised him to send over to your Grace this post. We are of opinion that it is the same informer that furnished you on that side with the information sent me by your Grace the 4th of the last. I shall say no more upon this matter but refer myself to my Lord Primate's letter, the matter not being communicated to anybody else that I know of.

But I must make some remark upon what has lately happened here in relation to the information out of France sent me with yours of the 30th of August last. C.M. went the other day to my Lady Clancarty and told her that he intended to settle here and therefore he desired he might be tenant to Blarney Castle and the lands about it. She answered that it was set already, and she could not put out the present tenant. He replied that he would deal with him, and that she must not deny him. Now the present tenant is an Englishman and a clergyman of our church, and if M. will not be persuaded to desist, for I find my Lady Clancarty is unwilling to give him an absolute denial, I am resolved to interpose by telling him privately of the imprudence of the thing, and if I cannot prevail that way I will tell him plainly I will appear publicly against it. I confess I do not well know what to think of this, when I find how pat it is to the matter informed, but his actions shall be warily and narrowly looked into, though I had no account from your Grace of his coming over, nor directions how to proceed with him.

1682, December 21.—There being no packet boat on this side I could not send away what I had writ the 18th until this morning that it goes in a Chester vessel. I had yesterday some discourse with Mac . . about the above mentioned affair, and he is very angry and much concerned that I have interposed in the matter of his being tenant to Blarney, and I find he has set his heart upon it, and

though I really believe upon the discourse we had that there is no danger in his being tenant to it, yet I will keep him off until I hear from your Grace. The ship I mentioned in my last was cast away in Malbay. She came from the West Indies, was bound for London, and loaden with tobacco.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682, December 19.—Yours of the 5th and 10th came together and with them a long one from my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge relating to the commission and instructions for the management of the revenue of Ireland, upon which he will be able to say more and more certainly after the Commissioners shall have considered what may be wanting either in matter of form or authority.

The establishment was yesterday closed. It differs from the former only in the retrenchment of half the Judges' circuit allowance, in the retrenchment of, I think, half the Muster Masters' salary; and in the reduction of some pensions. This as to saving; the additions are the establishment of Tangier 42,300*l.* and odd money, the ships about 26,000*l.* Upon the whole matter unless the revenue will answer 270,000*l.* at least the pensions will fall in arrear. I will get a copy and send you as soon as I can. I did full as much as I ought to serve the Judges and the Muster Master, but they must have patience and in their respective stations endeavour to improve and save the King's revenue that there may be reason and means to restore them.

As I understand Mr. Herbert, he means to try his fortune here and has sent order by the last post that the Palatinate seal shall be brought to you which by the next term may be put into Sir John Meade's hands with authority to use it. Mr. Lyndon's letter to succeed Jones shall be sent by the next post but that for Sprigg will stay till it be known whether Sir Richard Ryves will accept of it or no; if he will he ought to be preferred.

The King will promote the Dean of Lismore to the bishopric of Cloyne. In the distribution of livings I desire Mr. Wilson and Mr. Drelincourt may be thought of, they are both deserving men and my chaplains. There go about odd stories of Jones, who was recommended over and arrived at Dublin a little before I came thence, as to his principles of religion and morality. He is a fierce man against Non-conformists, and it is usual with them to traduce such as are so, and the reports of Jones may be an effect of their malice. Yet let us be careful as near as we can to admit of none to preferments that are liable to just exception. I wish you would do something to break the knot of those foolish friars that will needs provoke the Government to deal severely with them. It is by no means to be neglected, for if they are

never so little indulged or connived at, they will grow insolent and dangerous and most of all to those that foolishly support them.

When you have an account of the wreck in Munster it will be fit to transmit it hither. We have notice that the *Lark*, a small vessel of the King's designed for the service of Ireland, was cast away southward of Kinsale which may perhaps be the wreck you had intelligence of. The King and all of us have so good an opinion of Sir John Dillon that preferable to all others, recommended or not, he ought to have the first company of foot or lieutenancy of horse that shall fall. His father was ever eminently loyal and he is a very good young man.

Our Lord Chancellor died but last night about six of the clock, the last thing he signed was a letter missive to me to answer a bill preferred against me by the Earl of Anglesey. The Lord Chief Justice North will have the seal if he can be persuaded to part with profit for honour. I think Sanders will succeed him. He is an eminent and an honest lawyer.
Copy.

EZEKIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, December 22. Londonderry.—Upon the receipt of your Grace's I immediately sent for Mr. Gordon who the next day came to me, and I find by discoursing him upon the heads of those two paragraphs your Grace was pleased to send me inclosed, that your Grace did most rightly conjecture he was the man who gave those several informations to the Lord Chancellor of Scotland. For speaking with him of all the particularities both of persons and circumstances mentioned in them, he avowed that he knew them all to be true as I related them, and that he had informed his lordship so at his being there. I then demanded why he had not first made his discovery to the State in this kingdom: to which he answered that having the honour to be related to the Lord Chancellor and known to the Bishop of Edinburgh, he thought it prudence first to address himself to them, that by their letters and recommendation he might gain the more credit to himself and his business from the State here; in which I acquiesced as satisfactory.

He again told me that he was credibly informed that considerable sums of money collected in their several meetings upon pretence of redeeming slaves and other good purposes, are designed for the buying of arms and ammunition, that three ships are bound for London or Holland to fetch this holy ware; and that they are contrived with false decks in their holds in which these goods are to be stowed and which to avoid all suspicion and search, are to be covered over with ballast. He seems very serious in his discourse, and deeply concerned for the imminent hazard of the Kingdom; and says it is impossible to prevent a rebellion if some speedy course

be not taken to break their Presbyteries, and the intelligence they hold one with another, with Scotland, England, and Holland, for that in these meetings their designs are formed and communicated by fit agents and missionaries to the rest of the party.

In the conclusion I told him it was his Excellency's pleasure he should continue in the station he was in before, and if he observed anything of importance, should speedily communicate it, to which I added your Grace's promise of an ample reward, to which his answer was that he would obey his Excellency's order, though his desire was to testify his loyalty by a thorough and professed conformity; that the separate congregation to which he preached was very poor, though numerous, and that he had little or nothing to subsist on. I gave him the best encouragement I could by assuring him his services would not fail of a suitable reward and added somewhat which perhaps he thought better than good words. If there may be any small pension allowed for secret services your Grace may be pleased to consider whether those he hopes to do may deserve the settling one upon him.

I shall observe your Grace's commands in getting the best account I can of this person's former demeanour, and hope to make my enquiries so cautious as shortly to be able to send your Grace his character without raising the least suspicion in those who gave it. I humbly beg your blessing and that your Grace would be pleased by the next post to return one line to assure me that this is safe in your hands, for the post office of this town and Strabane is entrusted in the hands of persons who are zealous Presbyterians, and so I doubt it is in too many other stages which of what dangerous consequence it may prove, may be worthy of your Grace's and the Council's consideration.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682, December 23. Dublin.—There came in yesterday five packets but little news. I had your Grace's of the 2nd and 5th. As to what concerns the fort of Duncannon, I must confess your Grace judges right upon what you only know of the matter, for it would seem hard that Roscarick should be denied to sell having so well served the King and having bought the government and company. I am so much his friend that I would have writ on his behalf were it barely so, and that he had any relations to leave his money to, but when he was given over here he left all that he had to this Capt. Ivory, and he is no relation of his, but has taken the opportunity of Roscarick's stupifying distemper to make him his heir as I am very credibly informed, besides I look upon myself as slighted by his applying on that side without my leave. I desire Vernon if he slights the other employment may not have it, for though I own many obligations to him, I would have him considered any way rather than by a command in the Army.

I will seek out when I can find leisure, for the bidders for the Castle and ground in order to build better for the Government, though I know it can come to nothing, and I believe my Lord Primate is of my mind. The committee appointed for the Hospital have agreed upon rules and have reported them to me, but my Lord Primate having not seen them yet I do not transmit them. I think your Grace has done well in buying my Lord St. Albans's house considering what an unreasonable rent you pay, and how ill it would look now you are an English Duke to have no house there.

It is true that the Farmers will make matters as difficult as they can, but the Managers in my opinion have been hard enough with them, and have by their direction to their officers to stop vessels upon the account of the imported excise, hindered several merchants from entering their goods until the 25th be over, when without doubt the matter will be adjudged for the Farmers that the new impost will prove theirs, for I am told by able lawyers that there is a judgment in the like case already.

His Royal Highness has already an account of the difference betwixt the Admiralty and the City, acknowledged by his Secretary the last packet, but Robinson is a very unfit man for the employment that is given him, which I think is Marshal. Both the Earl of Burlington and the Earl of Conway shall be obliged, though I know not well where to send the company, for everywhere people are unwilling to receive any of the Scots' companies, but this was one of the civillest of them when the lieutenant was alive. He was killed the other day by a gentleman that bears arms in the company (that it seems is their phrase), but the gentleman is in jail at Waterford where he will find no favour when he comes upon his trial. I am sure if he escapes he shall find none at a court martial, for they say he that was killed was a good officer and a brave man, but too ancient and crazy to fight with every lusty young fellow.

I am sorry the Moors have proved so treacherous at Tangier, for it will be of very ill consequence to us as well as to England. I wish the project of parting with it may go on. The Ministers were once upon it when I was in England. I have ordered one of the Secretaries to send you the draft of a letter for Dean Jones to have the bishopric of Cloyne. I thought there had been one sent with my letter of recommendation. When the Bishop is in his office, I will recommend the chaplain of the Scots' regiment to him for a sinecure.

As to what concerns my Lord Ranelagh's and partners' accounts, and several other balances required by the Lords of the Treasury from whom I had four letters by the post bark that came last, I refer myself to the letter I have this day writ in answer to theirs, only I find since I writ it that judgment is not yet given upon the bond of 24,000*l.*, the Court of Exchequer having taken time till the next term.

Since my writing thus far Col. Fairfax has propounded an expedient about the fort of Duncannon, and that is, that if he may part with his employment to one that shall be fitting for it and give money to him, he will give Roscarick for his employment what it cost him, but if Ned Vernon should think himself wronged by this I waive the proposal. Poor Sir Thomas Longueville thinks, if he were made the King's counsel it would set him up. I dare not be eager in the recommending him.

SAME to SAME.

1682, December 24. Dublin.—I had this morning before I went to church your Grace's letter of the 19th, with the account that the establishment is closed. I am sorry that the Muster Master is retrenched for I take him to be a very honest and able man in his employment. As for the Judges they may very well spare what is cut off from them. I suppose the original establishment will be so soon transmitted to me that there needs no sending over a copy.

If I thought that the Recorder would have desired the being Serjeant in the room of Lyndon or that it was consistent with that employment which he will not quit to be a judge, I had certainly recommended him, and now I find it is his desire and that the thing is practicable to hold both, I am absolutely for him.

The character given your Grace of Mr. Jones, who was recommended to me at my coming over, was either done out of malice to him, or envy of some of his coat either on this side the water or the other, for as to his morals no fault can be found since his coming hither and as to his principles in religion two sermons he has lately preached will justify him I am sure. My Lord Primate recommended him to me to be Dean of Down, which he would not have done if he had thought that of him. He is the only man I have engaged myself to see preferred when I was in England, and have since given my promise to him that he shall have the livings that Dean Jones parts with, after this your Grace may be sure I will provide for those two you mention, but I would have it so as not to lose them. I would be glad to know which you would have first preferred. My nephew wrote to me on behalf of Mr. Drelincourt, and if the letter had been all in his own hand, he should have carried it without hesitation.

I shall be content to have as many recommendations for clergymen as you please, and as few for officers in the Army, as to the former I will say no more, this is Christmas Eve, and for the latter you could not oblige me more than recommending so positively Sir John Dillon to me. I hope that will be a step to get him to be a captain in the regiment for I have had my eye long upon him, as one that would do credit to it, but I desire hereafter when any of the like applications are made to you that you will let the persons know I am engaged already,

for so I really am, and do expect before the leaving the government to have the naming of one captain at least. I hope by to-morrow's post out of the country to hear that some of the friars are plucked by the ears out of their convent.

EZECHIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682, December 26. Londonderry.—Concerning Mr. James Gordon the informer. Though some heinous particulars are not mentioned presumes to give his lordship this relation. Mr. Gordon was ordained by the Bishop of Moray whose surname was Mackenzie. When benefited in Scotland he was betrothed to the sister of a gentleman who served the cure of Moville. Before the day of marriage came he brought away the Laird of Carnborough's daughter, and took up his residence in Londonderry, where he was admitted by Bishop Mossom to preach in Clondermot Church. Upon the receipt of some letters he returned to Scotland where, after having done public penance, he was married to the laird's daughter. He was presented to a parish called Cool, some miles from Aberdeen, where he lived several years and had by his wife four or five children. But being desirous of change he brought away a kinswoman of his, who was his housekeeper, to Aberdeen, and his wife making her complaint to the Synod he was convicted and deposed. He then took a farm of lands in the Highlands, where he continued until his wife died. Afterwards he went to England but finding no encouragement there came the second time into Ireland. Having failed to obtain a recommendation to serve the cure of Dungiven he went to the parish of Bovevagh where there was a meeting house long unfrequented, and there became a Presbyterian minister. At the writer's first coming, which was in September 1681, he was desired by Bishop Ward to obtain Captain Edward Cary's assistance to send Mr. Gordon to gaol, but he was not taken as Bishop Ward died soon afterwards. Mr. Gordon continued there all the winter and married one Boyd's daughter of the parish of Drumcose, but since was impeached of the crimes by some of his own hearers particularly by one Robert McClenaghan, who is supposed to be the same person that is called Robert McLaughlan in his Grace's last letter, and was turned out by the Presbytery at Coleraine. The informers of all until his residence at Bovevagh are Mr. Adam Read, Mr. Lesk (who for many mis-carriages was turned out by the writer of a curacy in Raphoe and also of one in Derry and shelters himself in Dublin where he is in mighty vogue for a preacher, like another curate who was discharged by the writer for drunkenness and betook himself to the city where the great beast cherished and hid the less) and Robert Ross of Art O'Kelly. The writer humbly craves directions. Perhaps the old proverb of setting a knave to catch a knave may be no ill

policy. Only he fears that Gordon intends to make himself by this new trade and though the writer verily believes the Dissenters' designs are desperate and rebellious, yet cannot think they should communicate much to a person ejected by themselves. *Abstract.*

EDWARD JONES, Dean of Lismore, to ORMOND.

1682, December 27. Lismore.—I understand that those addresses that have been made in my behalf for the bishopric of Cloyne, have inclined your Grace to design that promotion for me. I do therefore make it my humble request to your Grace to consider the smallness of the income that is left to support the dignity and to maintain hospitality, and be pleased to add by way of commendam either my deanery which is a sinecure and lies not above three miles out of the diocese, or, my prebend (near Kilkenny) with a clause to take any other prebend or rectory that is or may be vacant in the diocese of Cloyne, as has been practised in this kingdom. This I humbly submit to your Grace's consideration, assuring your Grace that, as all the services of my life are already due to your family, so they shall ever be most faithfully rendered.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 1. Dublin.—The bearer Mr. Keightly being resolved upon a journey into England, I take this opportunity to recommend a business that may be of some advantage to him and of his service to his Majesty. It is in short that your Grace would appear to the Duke in favour of Mr. Harberton when the post office is out of farm. He understands the managing such a matter, and I believe your Grace has a kindness for him upon his discharging his trust so skillfully and honestly heretofore. I have reason to believe that it is not so honestly managed now, and therefore I think it of consequence that the Duke should be early spoke to in this matter.

HENRY GUY to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 2. Treasury Chamber.—The totals of the several lists in the Establishment for Ireland and Tangier, viz. :

	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Civil List	20,031	18	1			
Temporary Payments	02,303	6	8			
				22,335	4	9
Military List				166,945	11	8
List for Tangier				042,338	12	21 ⁹ / ₁₉
Ships according to the last paper (besides the victuals, wear and tear)				013,939	6	1
Pensions (Cary Dillon's not inserted)				008,911	8	0
				£254,470	2	81 ⁹ / ₁₉

According to your Grace's commands which I received by my Lord Rochester I have here sent your Grace the totals of the establishment as the same is now perfected for the three first lists, but not fully concluded for the Ships and Pensions.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 2, St. James's Square.—The last I received from you as I remember was of the 18th or 19th of December, and I think there was nothing in it that requires answer.

I should by the last post have told you that it was the King's pleasure that he should receive from thence, with all convenient speed, as exact a computation as can be made of the state of his revenue there that in what it shall certainly, or may probably, fall short of answering the establishment he may make such timely provision as that neither the civil and military list of Ireland nor the charge of Tangier and the ships designed to be borne by the Irish revenue, should fall into great arrear. And to the end that the computation may the easier and more probably be made, I shall herewith send you at least the totals of all those main heads of the establishment. To satisfy his Majesty herein you will call for the assistance of those of the Council who are like to give you the best and for such reports and certificates from the officers of the revenue whether heretofore or now employed, as it is proper and their duty to give. You will likewise call to the present Commissioners for management for the best prospect they shall be able to give for the present of what they may reasonably presume the revenue will yield and in what time; and in the last place what directions or authority they may desire from the King in order to the increase, securing or more speedy paying of what is or may be due to him upon any account. This is what I had in charge in this particular, and what it is necessary you should go immediately in hand with. *Copy.*

DUCHESS OF ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 6.—Two of your letters came together to my hands upon Wednesday last: the one of the 21st of December, the other of the 23rd of the same; with an account of my daughter Arran's health and satisfaction, and the prudent resolutions she has taken, which I am infinitely satisfied with, as what will make you both happy, which I pray God may continue to the end of both your days, and that every year of your life may increase your value one of another. Your little son is very well, and grows a fine strong child, but Betty is Lady Blouse still. You will be, I suppose, surprised to hear that your father is become a purchaser of my Lord St. Albans's house, which he gives 9,000*l.* for, but is they say a good bargain, for it cost above 15,000*l.* the building, and will set for as much or more than the interest of his money.

I thank you for your good intendment unto Mr. Ryder which if it may be by giving him a sinecure, it can no ways hinder his present undertaking, but encourage him to continue it, as I find he is resolved and never to look for further preferment, if he may obtain some additional help to what he has, who is a hospitable man, and much valued in the place where he lives. The match for Betty Stanhope is broke off on her side, who could by no means be persuaded to like of the person that was proposed to her, who I never saw, but as I hear far more considerable in his understanding than in his outward figure, and for his fortune there is none now to be had that equals him, but upon the whole matter that affair is at an end, it being the part of her friends to propound but not to compel against her own inclination. The Lord Bellomont died two days ago, and left my Lord of Chesterfield's second son his heir of all his real and personal estate.

EZECHIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682-3, January 9. Londonderry.—This day I received the honour of your Grace's, with the enclosed bill, which I make bold to return again enclosed, having no occasion to make use of the contents. I have of mine own given the man 5*l.*, and that I fear is more than all the services he can do will be worth. I perceive he is a mere juggler, and all his design is to be admitted into our Church, being shamefully cast out of theirs. I discoursed him this day and find nothing more than what he formerly told me, but only that the Presbytery of Coleraine and the Root had got together 700*l.* which he believes is laid out for buying arms, though collected in those precincts under pretence of redeeming captived Christians, which perhaps may be true enough, though he confesseth he cannot certainly prove that the money is so employed. And besides the fellow is so very infamous among his own party that to [back] up himself he hath not spared to own publicly that he is allowed by authority to preach without conformity. I was yesterday told of it by one who challenged me with neglect for suffering such a villain to preach, hated by his own party, and unfit to be owned by any. I was silent to that reproof; but this day told Gordon that he had done very indiscreetly to talk of any allowance or connivance for the keeping up his conventicle and had thereby rendered himself incapable of trust among those whose pernicious designs he pretended to disclose. He freely owned that he thought no man was more hated by that party than himself; but endeavoured to palliate it by telling me it was so only since he had applied himself to me. I convinced him of the nonsense and folly of that pretention by telling him of some passages of his life, for which he was rejected by them long before, and that if any of that party knew of any conference between him and me it was only by his own rash discovery.

In fine, my Lord, I cannot think him a fit man for our purpose, for I cannot find that he can really prove what he affirms, and for future services he hath rendered himself utterly incapable. And perhaps to handle such a tool would only smut the hand that toucheth it. Yet, since greater services cannot be expected from him here, if your Grace shall judge that what he hath already said may be useful for the safety of the kingdom, I humbly renew my address, that he may be sent for to Dublin, and there more strictly examined; at least that the Lord Chancellor of Scotland and the Lord Bishop of Edinburgh may know their intelligence and recommendation is not slighted here. I humbly beg your Grace's pardon for this boldness.

Our new Sheriff, Mr. Benson, hath apprehended one of those troublesome friars your Grace hath heard of, and assures me he is in pursuit of more. Capt. Cocken hath pawnd me his word that there shall not be a friary left in that county, and because I knew him an intelligent and active man, I take his word for it, and shall from time to time give your Grace an account of what is done. The friar's name, now taken is John McColgan, superior of the Convent of Derry. I humbly beg your Grace's blessing and commands.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 9. St. James' Square.—Yours of the 28th, 23rd, and 24th of December were received on the 3rd of January altogether as it sometimes falls out at this time of the year. The establishment is not yet signed by the King, nor quite ready for his hand, some alteration being to be made in relation to the ships, but I fear you will have it before money comes in to pay it, from which apprehension it was desired that a prospect of debts and funds should be hastened over that some way might be found to prevent the civil and military lists, and the shipping, and Tangier from falling into arrear, which can be no other way effected than by supplying what shall be wanting from the revenue of England, or by raising money upon that of Ireland and therefore it would be good to know how much that may be as early as possible. My Lord Longford sent me Mr. Attorney's opinion in the point controverted betwixt the King and the late Farmers, and laid the not sending Mr. Solicitor's upon the papers being mislaid and not upon his alteration of opinion. Your computation may be conditional in proportion to what the matter in question may be valued at.

I do not doubt but that all means are used for suppressing the Tories in their first appearance, and considering how much they will interrupt commerce, and how much that interruption may affect the land revenue, it may be good husbandry to be liberal to such as may be got to set or to betray them.

Capt. Ivory by the infallible assistance of Col. Oglethorpe and his patroness has procured the direction he will himself deliver to you from me which must be complied with. I would know whether the project about the sale of the Castle will come to nothing because money will not be given for it, or not enough, or for what other reason. My Lord Primate in his of the 26th of the last takes no notice of what I write about the Hospital, which according to Mr. Robinson's computation ought in a short time to be ready to receive the persons it is designed for, which would ease the King of some charge and be a great comfort to unserviceable soldiers.

Our Scotch informer is certainly a rascal and frames his intelligence for his profit. Yet if there must be conventicles, it is better a man of his immorality should be their guide than a more faultless man, so that he ought to be connived at, and a little money cast away upon him.

The Recorder's acceptance of a Serjeant's place comes I doubt too late unless the King will add one more to the number which in consideration of him may be obtained if he desire it; but for Sir Thomas Longueville he will do the King's choice little credit and as little advantage him. It is fit to consider honest loyal men in what way be proper for them. *Copy.*

CAPTAIN GEORGE PHILIPS to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682-3, January 16. Newhall.—I cannot say I have received any direct intelligence or information, but I have met with some whispers and rumours that the Dissenting party are generally discontented and disposed, if not prepared, to some mischievous undertaking. If I knew that it might be grateful and useful to the Government to make an inquiry into such matters I shall be very diligent to discharge my duty. I humbly beg your Grace's opinion and directions herein to, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 10. Dublin.—Your Grace's letter of the 2nd came in just as our packet was going out, so that I could not acknowledge it sooner. I had with it the totals of the establishment which amounts to 254,000*l.* odd money, besides victuals, wear and tear for the shipping, and I am afraid that is as much if not more than the revenue here will bear, be the managers never so skilful, for upon the gross produce for the six years given in to me by the late Farmers, the only light the Managers can have in making a computation, it never amounted to 300,000*l.* in any one year, and when out of this sum the charge of management, contingencies, allowances upon the excise, and some unavoidable arrears are taken out, I leave it to your Grace to judge whether 40,000*l.* be not the least that can be allowed for these things, but the Managers being by their instructions not only to look into all balances but to give frequent accounts to the government and Lords of

the Treasury of the state of the revenue, they are the properest persons to be employed to procure such a state as your Grace informs me his Majesty requires, and they shall be assisted by all persons concerned here, the task is very great, the matters intricate, and they being so newly in employment it would be unreasonable to expect a very speedy account from them ; for my own part I should be loath to venture my credit in saying his Majesty might depend upon more than the last Farmers were to pay.

I gave your Grace an account in mine of the 18th of the last month how matters stood in relation to the Farmers' payments to the Army, which letter I suppose you had not by you when you writ your last. They have not yet paid, I am confident one third part of the June pay, as I gather by the complaints made me from the several companies and troops concerned, and if they ever pay those assignments they cannot do it but by debts due to them from the merchants, which are not payable this three months, and as to Michaelmas and Christmas quarters I can assure your Grace, I have it from so sure a hand, that they will refuse to give assignments for them upon pretence that the 80,000*l.* owing from my Lord Ranelagh is due to them and that considerable defalcations ought to be allowed them, and as to the latter demand if the Court of Exchequer does not satisfy them they will appeal to the Board here, and if they are not pleased with their judgments they will appeal into England as my Lord Ranelagh did, so that your Grace may see what a condition the Army is like to be in, for at least six months pay will be lost, or be postponed, which since my Lord Ranelagh's undertaking is looked upon as bad. Of this I gave an account to the Lords of the Treasury in mine of the 23rd of the last, it is no small trouble to me to be in this station in such a conjuncture but I will spare no pains in the matter, neither will I be discouraged, though the Farmers have dealt very disingenuously with me, therefore they shall have no favour showed them, the benefit of the law shall not be refused, but I think it proper that the rigour of it should be made use of against them.

I herewith send your Grace the draft of a commission for the Receiver General which I desire may be delivered to the Lords of the Treasury and also the report from Mr. Solicitor which he leaves to your Grace's judgment and whether or no it should be sent along with it ; for my own part I think it very necessary it should, but he is cautious and thinks he may have said too much.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3. January 13. St. James's Square.—I forgot in my last to answer to what in one of yours you writ concerning Justin McCarty, the greatest inconvenience I can yet apprehend in his taking the farm you mention is the removal of a Protestant to make room for a Papist which certainly is affected only

for divertisement and conveniency, for it is plain the intelligencer, however he be otherwise qualified is but a cheat and informed only for his profit, yet I wish the noise might be avoided and for the pretender's sake that he would not think of living there. But the lady has reason not to disoblige him since if her son should die all her daughters will be at his mercy for portions saving what she shall be able to provide for them. I had not long since a letter from the little Earl of Clancarty desiring my leave to choose me for his guardian being as he supposes shortly of age to do it. I suppose he was put upon it by Justin in expectation that he might have a deputation under me. As to the care of the estate he may be proper enough since it may be presumed he will endeavour to improve what he is in possibility to inherit, but the same reason and his religion in law and reason bars him from having the tuition of his person; besides a guardian must enter into security to render a fair account to the minor when he comes to age and the like security the guardian ought to have from any intrusted by him, which I doubt Justin is not able to give though it be more reasonable for me to expect because I am not like to live till the youth come to age. I pray advise with my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge on the whole matter and let me have his opinion what I may best do for the advantage of the boy and my own safety.

1682-3, January 13.—It falls out that the letter for making the gentleman recommended by Mr. Solicitor to be a Serjeant is not yet gone, and I have stopped it till I know whether the Recorder of Dublin be desirous of the promotion or no, if he be the other must stay for a vacancy or one must be added to the number. Let me know how the matter shall be contrived.

I received a letter from the Dean of Lismore desiring he may hold the deanery with the bishopric of Cloyne. Methinks it looks oddly to have a deanery drowned in the bishopric of the same place, but it is usual to join other livings to a poor bishopric as Cloyne is, but the Dean being a young man, and there being two neighbouring bishops very old, methinks he might stay for a translation till one of them dies, else you will have no room for the providing of deserving inferior meriting clergymen. Order the matter as you think best and let me know what you would have done. *Copy.*

WILLIAM MORETON, Bishop of Kildare, to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, January 16.—It is now methinks a great while since I heard from you, and I wonder what it is that so diverts you; sure I am not out of your favour, as I suspect I am out of James Clarke's, for it is a long time since I wrote to him, and I have not seen a syllable from him yet. As for yourself I am to tell you for your comfort that my Lady Mildmay has made very much of us this Christmas, and we have been extremely merry. Other news I have none, but that our

old Bishops, Elphin, Ferns, Dromore, and Cashel are bidding fair for the next world, but none of them are gone hence yet though so many are agoing. I pray present the enclosed to my Lord Duke, and send the other forward by the next post to Oxford. All your friends salute you here.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 16.—I find that much of what I writ concerning Dean Jones's holding the deanery of Lismore with the bishopric of Cloyne was mistake. It run in my head that they were one and the same diocese whereas it is Waterford that is joined to Lismore, yet still I think if he can be persuaded to expect an advantageous remove it will be for the advantage of the Church.

Our first Intelligencers in France have been so long silent and consequently not supplied with money which I take to be the principal if not only design, there is now one come over with a new but a pretended confirmation of the former information that arms have already been sent for Ireland, and landed there to the number of about six thousand and that before he came from Paris, which he says was very lately, another quantity to make up ten thousand in all were sent to Nantes to be shipped there for Ireland. Upon the first intelligence strict inquiry has been made not only at Nantes but in all the ports of Brittany, and it cannot be found that any such lading has been exported, nor is it well possible that such quantities could be stowed and landed in Ireland much less put into one magazine or dispersed but it must have been discovered after the search you have ordered to be made. The new fellow follows the track of the first as to the two principal persons that are to head the rising. There is nothing to be done by you unless it be to repeat your orders to the officers of the ports, who are now more in your power by the management than when the revenue was in farm and your directions like to be pursued with more diligence and less appearance of any other end than to prevent the stealing of customs. *Copy.*

EZECHIEL HOPKINS, Bishop of Derry, to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682-3, January 16, Londonderry.—I am ashamed that I must once more trouble your Grace with the story of Mr. Gordon; but the next day after my last to your Grace, I received a letter from him, which I make bold to enclose, though I fear your Grace will find some difficulty in reading the hand, and understanding the lingua. And for mine own part, I mortally fear that I shall shortly be accused of discouraging the King's evidence. But I assure your Grace that all this great consternation that is upon his mind proceeds only from this, that when he was last with me, which was the 9th of this month, towards the closing of our discourse, he began to boast what notable services he might do if he

were owned by public authority. I told him I thought that was the only way to render him unserviceable, and that the methods laid down by the Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and the Lord Bishop of Edinburgh were vastly different from his proposals. Yet he still persisted, that by all means this must be done for him or else he could do nothing considerable, and at last it came out that some cure in the Church must be provided for him. This was no surprise to me, for I expected it before : nay, to deal ingenuously with your Grace, I had, before I heard anything of his ill character, promised him that as the State would certainly take notice of his good service, so, being a clergyman, the Church would receive him to a comfortable settlement. But when I perceived he still insisted upon encouragement, and an ecclesiastical settlement, I told him that I was lately informed the Presbytery had ejected him for notorious crimes, which, though I did not fully believe in all their circumstances, yet as it would render him unserviceable to take any cure as an allowed minister, so it would be a grievous reproach to us to receive a person who lay under such scandals. But if he could by any due course make them appear to be mere slanders, I would with the first conveniency endeavour to provide for his more comfortable subsistence, and desired him in the meantime to do what service he could for the public.

This was the sum of all the conference we then had, more than I wrote in my last. And upon this he went off very discontented, and the next day sent me this discontented inclosed. I beg your Grace's directions what to do farther, and humbly again supplicate that he may be sent for to Dublin. I will not spoil any of his future discoveries, for I verily think he hath got already as much of their counsels as ever he will be acquainted with. I lately spoke with the Governor, Mr. Philips, and asked him if he knew such a person, his neighbour. He told me he did, and withal that he threatened some of the people in those parts to give informations against them. I therefore judge it utterly in vain to expect more from him than he can now disclose ; and perhaps that may be worth the knowledge and inspection of the State. For I do verily believe that some great mischief is now brewing among the faction, having heard not only from him, but from more credible persons, that never was there such intercourse of packets between the active men of that party, as now. And perhaps the State would do well to examine them. Besides, in these parts, they talk of persecuting times just coming and of removing to Carolina. But I doubt the necessity of going thither to avoid persecution, is only buzzed into peoples heads with a design to make them fight for their own homes, and drive us from ours. I leave this to your Grace's consideration, begging your blessing and pardon for the many troublesome letters I have written. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 17, Dublin.—I have your Grace's letters of the 6th . . . and the former concerns my Lord Burlington; I did suspect when Col. Dillon prevailed with me to confirm an order you formerly gave at the Board that there was some other body concerned though he protested nobody could be wronged by it, I advised my Lord Burlington's agent to put in a petition next Council day and then his lordship shall have right done him.

When Mr. Ivory comes over I shall, though very unwilling, obey your commands concerning the fort of Duncannon, for I think your Grace has given just cause of discontent to two persons that are much your servants, not to mention the slight put upon myself in this matter. In my last I gave your Grace a full account of matters here, and have no reason since to alter the state I gave. The new Commissioners have writ at large this post to the Lords of the Treasury to which I must refer you Grace, for they give a very perfect account of what relates to them. Sir Francis Brewster was the proposer about the pulling down this Castle, and building another place for the Chief Governor, but he is now unwilling to meddle in it. I sent over the draft of a letter for changing the market place which I am informed is stopped on that side for want of a general application from the city, which cannot be obtained though the new market is almost finished, and I am satisfied that it will be a great convenience to the public and an ornament to the town; I desire it may [be] signed.

We have had so much business at the Board between the Managers and late Farmers that we could not go through with the business of the Hospital. The Bishop of Leighlin and Ferns is dead, and the Provost of the College I take to be the fittest man to be preferred to that bishopric, and by the opinion of all persons Doctor Styles to succeed him, but he is unwilling to go into full orders immediately. Yet he has promised within a short time to do it, and I rely upon his word; therefore pray let not that scruple hinder his preferment, for I like him the better for desiring time lest the world should think he did it purely for profit.

Pray make my excuse to my mother that I do not acknowledge her letter this post, and I return you thanks for your letter to my wife for she is much pleased with it, and is now at Chapelizod sending out words of eloquence in answer to it.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, January 18.—There have been some young men with me to desire me to write in their behalf to procure them letters of dispensation from his Grace. The persons and their requests are as follows:—The first, Thomas Shaw, scholar of Brasenose College humbly requests to be dispensed with for the absence of one term occasioned by his Majesty's calling

his Parliament at Oxford. The second, John Miles of Jesus College requests the like favour for the absence of one term upon the same account with the former, viz., the Parliaments being here. The third is Rowland Vaughan of Jesus College who humbly requests he may be dispensed with for the absence of two terms occasioned likewise by his Majesty's having his Parliament here. I have received from each of these a guinea for yourself, which as soon as you shall please to send me down the letters I shall send you up this money, with what is before in my hands, which I desire may be as soon as conveniently you may, else it will be very prejudicial to these persons, for that they will not else be able to complete their degrees well this term, and if they stay until the next term they will not stand in need of any dispensation.

You cannot, Sir, imagine what censure and reprehension I have incurred by the receiving of five shillings a piece for the two last letters I sent for, for Mr. Wogan, and that by some of the chief of the University, in that I should be any way instrumental in the introducing such an innovation and encroachment upon the University. I am sorry I cannot further serve Mr. Wogan in this regard. In case there should be any scruple made about the sending the letters or any more than ordinary stay, I shall be obliged to represent the whole affair in the name of the University to his Excellency. As to your own usual fee, there is not the least scruple made. I pray favour me with a few lines as soon as conveniently you may. I am with all true respect, &c.

DUCHESS OF ORMOND TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 20.—I have not heard from you since I writ last, there being some packets from Ireland due, but I am assured by Sir Robert Hamilton, who arrived here within these few days, that he left you and my daughter very well, which is the principal concern that I do inquire after. I had a letter upon Monday last from my daughter Longford who complains of ill health notwithstanding the trial she has made of my Lady Rochester's doctor who has done the last but little good, for she is still under a great impair and it is feared cannot recover. The Duke of Buckingham, it is said for certain, has parted with all the estate that he has left for 6,000*l.* a year during his own life and 3,000*l.* a year to his lady if she do survive him. The Duchess of Richmond had her house seized upon for debt, which the King did redeem for her very lately, but her other engagements are so great that her best friends do fear that she will be in a condition to want bread before it be many months, so very imprudent she has been in her expenses since her husband died. Your little boy is very well, thanks be to God, and so is Betty. My lord has hitherto escaped the gout, and I begin to be better than I was since the fair weather, though I have not ventured down stairs as yet for fear of a relapse. I was told just now that my Lord Conway is to quit his place and my Lord Sunderland to be secretary.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 22. Dublin.—I had yesterday your Grace's letter of the 10th by Sir Maurice Eustace and two by the post dated the 13th. I am afraid that both he and Cary Dillon have such unlucky pretensions that their friends though in power can do them no great good, but in what I may safely I will serve them. I return your Grace thanks for the pains you have taken in giving me so large and exact an account of the posture of affairs at present, though it differs not much from a former one I had from your Grace; the game that is playing being begun then. I have the Dean of Lismore's letter to be bishop drawn up as I like it, therefore there is like to be no more trouble about that business, though he has not dealt very well with me in the matter since I saw it under his hand that he would be contented with the bishopric of Cloyne without any commendam and desired my recommendation to that purpose, yet it seems he has made application to your Grace for the deanery.

Your Grace need not send over any letter for the Serjeant's place for I find by my patent that it is in my gift and I shall dispose of it to Mr. Ryves, for I am informed that the person recommended by the Solicitor is not fit for it, he having been but very lately turned from a solicitor or attorney to a counsellor at the bar, and Mr. Sprigg is not very fond of it; but I really think him the fittest man to be made a puisne judge when anyone falls.

I send your Grace a paper given me by the Chief Judges on behalf of themselves and their brethren, humbly representing their condition, which they desired me to lay before your Grace, and hope for your assistance, for they believe his Majesty is not rightly informed of what they parted with when the circuit money was given them, and for your better information I transmit a proclamation passed the Board at that time by his Majesty's direction.

As to what I wrote concerning C.M., I have cleared myself in the matter and I believe the lady's husband will so contrive it as that the present possessor shall not be removed, and as to the letter writ to your Grace I will discourse the matter with my Lord Chief Justice Keatinge. My opinion is, and I am confident it will be his, that if your Grace takes the trust upon you, the person you mention, setting his religion aside, would be the improperest man in the world to be employed under you.

I spoke some time since to the Managers about what your Grace mentions concerning the importation of arms, but I will give it in charge to them anew, which will make less noise than the orders I formerly gave. I leave it to my Lord Primate to give your Grace an account of our rogueish informer here, what has been hitherto transacted having passed with my approbation through his hands. The late Farmers and Managers are fighting it out almost every day

in the Exchequer, and do what we can, they will draw it into length, the Farmers proceed so knavishly, by making use of irregular proceedings in Mr. Taylor's trial, whom they say was imposed upon them by your Grace, and of the letters from the Lords of the Treasury to me altering the time of their accounting, when I know all was procured by them; but the Commissioners will give a full account of their proceedings to the Lords of the Treasury, and my Lord Longford will give your Grace a long one by himself.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 23. Dublin.—I have the honour of your Grace's of the 13th instant, and have herewith enclosed a letter from the Bishop of Derry of the 9th of this month, wherein he returned me a bill of exchange of 20*l.* which I sent his lordship to deliver to Mr. Gordon for his encouragement, and this I thought had put an end at present to that correspondence, but within few days after his lordship sent me another of the 16th instant with one from Mr. Gordon to his lordship which I likewise enclose in this packet, and submit them all to your Grace's further directions if you shall think them worth your trouble. At present I have returned an answer to his lordship to this purpose: that Mr. Gordon's letter was chiefly a complaint against some injuries which he apprehended had been done him, to which his lordship had given him a return very proper for that business; but that what he wrote about his discoveries and services were only general suggestions, and therefore was much short of what particular informations he had formerly given to the Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and to the Bishop of Edinburgh, and if he could not make out the truth of any of those things which he had already informed, which yet he hath not done in any degree, there was little reason to depend upon any future expectations. However if his lordship, upon further discourse with him, should suppose him capable of doing service I know no reason but that his lordship may forbear taking any notice of his conventicle preaching, since many of that irregular kind, in those parts of the country, do it without the least allowance or toleration. And that your Grace may have all before you relating to this matter, I likewise send your Grace the Bishop of Derry's of the 26th of December, which gives a fuller account of Mr. Gordon than any of his former letters, for perhaps your Grace may have some occasion to make use of it, if you shall think fit, to give a character of this person to the Lord Chancellor of Scotland. I have likewise sent your Grace a short letter of Capt. Philips, which perhaps might have taken its rise only from the discourse between him and the Bishop of Derry, as may be supposed from the Bishop's last letter, which mentions a meeting with him. And now I humbly beg your

Excellency's pardon for giving your Grace the trouble of this bundle of rude papers on such an insignificant account.

I must needs acknowledge to your Grace that I do not perfectly understand your Grace's intentions in desiring to know what is the matter in question between the King and the late Farmers, upon a probable computation, which, your Grace says, cannot be hard to guess at since the contest is only upon the duties of such merchandise as were imported a little before the expiration of their farm. If your Grace intends thereby the value only of the imported excise for goods brought in before the determination of the farm, for which bonds were given by the first buyer, to be paid upon the first sale of those goods, and which yet remains unpaid, the matter is not of much moment, not above 2,500*l.* at the most, as I am informed; and the King's commissioners seem now to be somewhat cool in that demand; but if your Grace desires to be satisfied what may be computed to be due upon the Farmers upon their stating their accounts, this is very difficult and uncertain, but by anything that yet appears to the Exchequer, allowing all that the Farmers have yet demanded for payments and interest (which certainly will never be allowed in a great measure), there will be yet due upon them by a probable computation at least 80,000*l.*, but I do not here include their extravagant pretensions to the Lord Ranelagh's bond, and balance, and to this year's hearth money; nor to any other defalcations that they shall yet demand, of which they have yet craved no allowance in the Exchequer. And this is the best account that I can send your Grace of that matter. Baron Worth understands the business of the Exchequer exceedingly well, and pursues it heartily. I am glad the Commissioners write so hopefully as they do of their management of our revenue. I wish they be not somewhat mistaken in their conjectures, for others, who are supposed to understand those affairs very well, do make some doubt thereof; not but that all believe that the revenue of this kingdom will be sufficient to answer the charge of our establishment, with a considerable overplus for Tangier, or for what other use his Majesty shall be pleased to employ it (if the late inhibition in Spain against the importing of foreign commodities do not obstruct our trade of Bayes which is now growing very considerable in this kingdom), but they think that the assistance of some knowing and experienced persons in this kingdom must contribute to make it so. But I only whisper this to your Grace privately, for perhaps it may not be thought proper for me to stir anything in that matter.

Your Grace will by this packet, as I suppose, receive an address from the Judges about some abatement which is reported to be made in their allowances for their circuits in the next establishment. Permit me, I beseech your Grace, to give you this my humble opinion in that matter, that

such an abatement will much more prejudice his Majesty's service than the use or value of that little money can be advantageous thereunto, for if his Majesty should look towards a Parliament in this kingdom, it would be no good argument for supplies, that the revenue of this kingdom exceeded the establishment by several thousand pounds, yet the Judges were retrenched one half of their circuit moneys, which was the sum added to their former allowance only to give ease to the country. Much may be said upon this occasion, if it were convenient; but I do not affect to be over busy.

I do not at all wonder at your Grace's expense in the station you are now in upon the account of his Majesty's and the kingdom's service, your continuing there under the present circumstances of affairs, may not only be convenient but perhaps of absolute necessity for the good of us all. And your Grace have been all the days of your life so great and generous in your way of living that you cannot now tell how to abate. I doubt not but God hath a continuance of his blessings for you and yours, and, while he is pleased to employ you as his instrument in so great a work, he will never scant you of means to support it. I heartily pray for your Grace's happiness.

The poor Bishop of Leighlin is dead.

RETURN OF STORE OF POWDER AND OF MONEY STOPPED
FROM PENSIONS.

1682-3, January 23.

Powder.	<i>barrels</i>
In the Stores then	940 ⁰⁰

1683, July 17.

In the stores then	797 ⁶⁷
In the computation of annual expence ..	235 ⁰⁰

19,840*l.* appointed by the King to be stopped of Pensions.

Received in money thereof by an account sent and received 28 February, 1682-3.	13719 15 0
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Rests in cash	03076 08 01
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CAPT. GEORGE PHILIPS to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682-3, January 23. New Hall.—Since I have received the honour of your advice and encouragement to look into those things which I am made to believe are of great importance; I shall briefly sum up before your Grace what hitherto hath occurred.

Since the news of the suppression of conventicles in London, it was given out here (either by mistake or in raillery) that the like was to be done through Ireland, and this being easily believed, because much feared by the vulgar, has occasioned many mutinous and petulant discourses, and plain menaces

of resisting it unto blood : for stories have been told me of traiterous and seditious words spoken by particular persons, of which I thought it not convenient as yet to take any public cognisance. But my curiosity prompted me to get an acquaintance with a certain Presbyterian minister, suspended by the Presbytery, and so the more likely to be prevailed on to tell what he knew. Him I sent for, and finding him to be a sober and intelligent person (and one whom even the censorious brethren cannot tax of any irregularity either in manners or doctrine) and very forward to do his Majesty service, I took the more serious notice of what he discoursed, which is committed to writing, and sworn and subscribed by him, before me. The brief whereof is this,

1. That through the whole North of Ireland this position is infused into the belief of the people, both by public preaching, and private discourse, that it is lawful to take up arms to oppose any wrong offered to religion, and the glorious Reformation.

2. That there are constant meetings of their General Assembly, consisting of about eighteen ministers, with two delegates from every Presbytery, who do exercise an open and sharp jurisdiction over their followers, and whose business it is to hatch and contrive all means for establishing their own way, and overturning of all others ; having a constant intercourse of letters from Holland, London, and their confederates in other places.

3. That the business and letters from all the meetings are conveyed to Mr. Robert Traill (one of the four ministers that was before the Council) and by him transmitted to his brother Mr. William Traill, minister in London and so contra. And it is the informer's opinion that if care were taken to open the letters that pass between those two persons great discovery might be made.

4. At all their meetings there is a determinate combination to bring arms into this Kingdom on pretence to resist Popery, which they say is flowing in upon us suddenly, and to this end there are frequent and great collections, under colour of gathering money for redemption of captives, but in truth are sent to the confederates in Holland to buy arms, which in the most secret manner are sent over in ships with private decks made for that purpose, and may in the informer's opinion be found out, if curiously watched.

5. That such persons as have been lately banished from Scotland, are the most eminent at their meetings, and looked upon as suffering Saints.

6. That within these last three months, two ministers who publicly excommunicated all such as took the Test, and were therefore banished from Scotland, are admitted to be preachers in Ireland : one of them called Mr. Huiston (or some such name), is settled in Dublin, the other, who is called Mr. Dorat, in the county of Antrim.

This matter is hitherto managed with all secrecy and known to no man (as I think) but myself; how I am to behave myself for the future, or what further to act in it, I humbly expect from your Grace's advice and directions, and that when your Grace shall impart this thing to my Lord Deputy, you will be pleased to satisfy his Excellency why I did not address it immediately to him.

If your Grace shall conceive this to be of any moment, and that it be fit to show it to his Majesty or to my Lord Lieutenant, and that it be drawn into a formal information sworn before me, I shall presently cause it to be done. Howsoever let my zeal be accepted, and my weakness excused, who have in great haste scribbled this account.

My Lady Ardglass's commands shall be obeyed by the next post.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1682-3, January 24. Dublin.—Your Grace will find by the duplicates of my Lord Longford's and his brethren's letters transmitted by them to you, that they labour under many difficulties, by reason of their commissions being not full enough, and they complain of the draft of that commission I sent your Grace for the Cashier or Receiver General. I am afraid that what will be drawn on that side may not be so well done, as if the Lords of the Treasury should order that a draft of such powers, as they intend the Managers should have, might be drawn here, and transmitted to their lordships, and though I am sensible that will take up time, yet I believe it will be the speediest way, for, what will be transmitted from hence, shall first be approved of by the Managers, and I think it for the King's service that their powers should be as large as may be, without passing by the Government.

I am informed that one Mr. Mallory is now in England, soliciting for a mandamus for a senior fellowship, which would be of very ill consequence to the University, besides it would put by one Mr. Griffith next commencement, who is a very ingenious man and one of my chaplains.

I forgot to inform your Grace that a pretty while since Capt. FitzGerald sent me the King's letter for his having the first troop that falls, and he wrote me word it was with your Grace's approbation, but you have made no mention of it to me in any of your letters.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE KEATINGE TO ORMOND.

1682, January 24.—Concerning the guardianship of the Earl of Clancarty. His father being dead out of the communion of the Church of England, the Commissioners appointed by the Act for the taking away of the Court of Wards have committed his guardianship to his mother. The writer hopes that his Grace will receive by next post a good account of the

notorious highwaymen and robbers of the province from which he writes, wherein he has taken some pains. *Abstract.*

MONSIEUR BARILLON THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR
to the KING.

1682-3, January 25. London.—Le sousigne Ambassadeur de France a reçu Ordre du Roy son Maistre de faire sçavoir à Votre Maté qu'encore que les comissaires de sa Maté à la conference de Courtray ayent clairement fait connoistre la justice des pretentions de sad' Maté en consequence du Traitté de Nimegue sur le vieux Bourg de Gand avec toutes ses appartenances, dependances, et annexes, la ville et chasteau d'Alost, avec semblables dependances, la ville de Grammont, Renaix, la ville de Ninoue, Rudershove, le Pays de Beueren, le Mestier d'Assenede, le Mestier de Bouchant, Weertheerbrugge, Opdorp, Moortselle, St. Amand, le Pays de Bornhem, la Terre de Flobecq, et Lessines; neantmoins pour tesmoigner le desir sincere que Sa Maté a de maintenir la Paix et de prevenir tout ce qui la pourroit troubler, elle veut bien renoncer non seulement à tous les droits qui Luy appartiennent en consequence du Traitté de Nimegue sur lesd' Villes and lieux cy dessus mentionnéz; mais aussy à toutes les autres pretentions generalem^t quelquonques et sans exception que sa Maté pourroit avoir sur toutes autres Villes, Lieux, et Pays dont la Couronne d'Espagne est à present en possession: Pourveu que le Roy Catholique luy abandonne dans trois mois pour tout delay, la possession et jouissance tant de la Ville de Luxembourg (dont sad Maté consent que les fortifications soient demolies) que des Villages et hameaux dont led Roy Catholique est demeuré en possession à trois lieues aux environs de lad' Ville de Luxembourg; de l'exécution des quelles conditions sad' Maté consent qu'il soit fait un Traitté, dont vre Maté et les Estats Generaux des Provinces Unies puissent estre Garends; Fait à Londres ce ^{4 Fevr.} 25 Janr, 1682.

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 26. Dublin.—I presume your Excellency may approve of the Provost of the College who is represented to your Grace to succeed in the united bishoprics of Ferns and Leighlin, for he is a very good man and a good scholar. But I must beseech your Grace's pardon while I make my exceptions against Dr. Styles, whom my Lord Deputy hath been prevailed with to name to your Grace for the provostship of this College, which is a place of one of the greatest considerations in all this kingdom. He is a person whom I much suspect for some singularities (at least) in his religion. He was entered into the orders of a deacon before I came to the archbishopric of Dublin, and possessed a church living under that pretence, and he enjoyed it two or three years after my

coming hither, and all that while held me in expectation of entering into the orders of priesthood; but after all that time of forbearance, he at length declined that living, for I would not permit him to hold it longer, he still refusing to take upon him the orders of a full minister, and in that state he continues to this day. And that which gives me a further suspicion of his religion, is (as I am credibly informed, and do verily believe) that he hath not received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper these several years, and to add to this, I am likewise told that he is no good liver, but vicious in his life and conversation. And I am very sure that your Grace will never think such a person fit to be recommended to his Majesty for the education and government of the youth of a whole kingdom. The last part of this came but lately to my knowledge, and I acquainted my Lord Deputy therewith but last night; and his Excellency gave me leave to represent it to your Grace, for without his licence I should not have presumed to have offered anything to your Grace different from [what] he first recommended; but his Excellency having upon the solicitation of others wrote already in his behalf, he did not see how he could handsomely as soon retract it, though he likewise saith that if a letter for Dr. Styles should come over he would stop it till he was satisfied in these particulars.

That which I humbly propose to your Grace is, that since this employment is of so great concern, your Grace will be pleased to suspend the disposing thereof until you can be more fully informed of those particulars whether they be true or no. A little time may satisfy you, and then your Grace may obtain it for whomever you shall think fit. This delay can be of no ill consequence, for though the Provost be made a bishop, he may however continue his care and residence in the college for three or four months after without any inconvenience.

My Lord, I have no prospect of any man whatsoever to recommend to your Grace for this employment, and therefore cannot be supposed to do this upon any particular design of my own, but for the public good, and for your Grace's honour, which I have religiously observed ever since I have had the honour to be admitted to your Grace's knowledge, and which I ever shall do while I live, for I am with all duty and resignation, &c.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, January 27. St. James's Square.—To both your last I have little to say, the Commissioners of the Revenue there having sent large dispatches to the Lords of the Treasury, who this morning ordered, in my presence, returns to be made to those things without authority wherein they could not well go on in their business. I have writ something more at large of them and Sir James Shaen in a letter to my

Lord Primate, his Grace having given me occasion in two of his last letters. If my Lord of Shaftesbury be dead, as it is confidently reported in town, the certainty may by this time be known at Whitehall, or will be to-morrow, the wind standing fair out of Holland. By Tuesday's post you will have an account of the letter for the removing of the market place. I presume the draft of a letter to that purpose was drawn by those that knew it could be legally done without the consent of the city.

I shall speak to the King for the promotions you propose upon the death of the Bishop of Leighlin, but forms must be sent over and somebody trusted here by the parties to take out the letters.

I am glad your wife is satisfied with my kindness to her. It shall not be my fault if it do not continue. *Copy.*

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, January 28.—Requesting letter of dispensation for Hugh Lewis, bachelor of arts, of New Inn Hall. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARKAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 29, Dublin.—The wind has been so long at east that I believe your Grace will receive together three or four letters from me. What I have to inform your Grace now is, that I hear the Bishop of Dromore is passed recovery, that bishopric is not worth above 700*l.* a year, but it is looked upon as a very convenient one, and if your Grace would not have Dean Jones stay for a better bishopric in Munster, he will desire and does deserve to be translated, if his patent be passed for Cloyne, and in that case you would oblige my Lord Primate in making the present Dean of Cloyne Bishop of that place, which I find nobody but himself ambitious of, that in any degree deserves farther promotion, but Archdeacon Drisdale. If this scheme does not like you, then I think the Dean of Waterford the fittest man that I know to be made Bishop of Dromore.

I find my Lord Primate has great things to object against Doctor Styles which, if true, I wonder he is not expelled the College, but by all others that I have discoursed with, both of the clergy and laity, he is thought to be the fittest man, and nobody does contest with him. This right I thought I ought to do him, since my Lord Primate has asked leave to write against him, and to inform your Grace that one Mr. Troy, a relation of his Grace's, who I think is of the longest standing next Styles, is looked upon as a very unfit man, but if a *non obstante* for marriage would be allowed, I should recommend Doctor Palliser before anybody.

If you like either of these schemes I have mentioned, there will be room to provide for Mr. Wilson or Drelincour and I believe for both.

COUNTESS OF CLANRICARDE to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 29. Portumna.—Concerning her interest in the estate of Decies now in dispute between her sister-in-law and Mr. Villers. Her sister-in-law shows for her pretention to her estate the opinions of four famed of the leading and eminent lawyers of England, and though she was cast by a judgment of the King's Bench here, yet Mr. Jones, the second judge of that court, reputed the ablest in that profession here, gave his opinion point blank for her. *Abstract.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682-3, January 30. Dublin.—I am really ashamed to trouble your Grace with such long letters, and so frequently as I do. I must acknowledge to your Grace that I have as little pleasure in writing as your Grace can have in reading them ; but the affairs of this kingdom have such a necessary dependence upon your Grace that I know not how to avoid them, and this I hope will obtain your Grace's pardon for me in such cases.

The inclosed from Capt. Philips will give your Grace his opinion of the state of that country, though I do not think that there is much more in it than what Gordon hath informed him ; however I have desired him to continue the diligence of his scrutiny.

The Bishop of Derry is very earnest that Gordon may be sent for to Dublin, who saith that he will justify the information that he gave the Lord Chancellor of Scotland and the Bishop of Edinburgh ; upon consideration whereof, and lest that varlet, for I doubt he is such, should inform them in Scotland that their intelligence (which was sent to the Lord Deputy of Ireland), should not be thought worth inquiring into, my Lord Deputy hath thought fit to order me to write to the Bishop of Derry, that Gordon may have leave to come to Dublin, to make good, if he can, what he hath informed about the northern designs for inquietness.

My Lord Deputy is very successful in his prosecution of the Tories, for several of them have been lately killed, and many of them taken. I believe a little further success against them will utterly dissolve their associations in this kingdom.

ORMOND to PRIMATE BOYLE.

1682-3, February 3. St. James's Square.—Your Grace's of the 23rd and 26th of January came both to my hands yesterday. With the first were enclosed the Bishop of Derry's concerning Gordon the Scotch informer, of whom the history and character is such that I cannot imagine any sort of use can be made of him, but that he be left to his vagabond course of life, till it shall bring him to the natural end it leads

to. Yet I think he ought to be left at the same liberty others take to gather and preach to a conventicle. It may be fit the Chancellor of Scotland and the Bishop of Edinburgh should know what figure he makes in the north of Ireland, which I shall take care to acquaint the Secretary of Scotland with.

Your Grace has answered the question I put in mine of the 13th of January as well as if I had expressed myself more clearly than I did, for my desire was to have an estimate of the value of what was in contest betwixt the Managers and the late Farmers upon the duties upon goods arrived in harbour before the expiration of the farm. I know the difficulty of a probable computation of what the Farmers will owe the King, and I fear it will be harder to know how to recover it. I must confess I apprehend the Managers may be under some difficulties that the Farmers were not subjected to, besides that they are for the most part strangers to that kingdom, though they have been conversant with the like sort of revenue in England. The Farmers were at liberty to encourage officers for diligence and discovery to what degree they pleased, and they could gratify whomever they thought fit, and were in capacity to befriend them, and all without account; but the Managers are accountable for every sum they lay out. Whilst the revenue was in farm there were those that said it would do better by management, but now, that they are not Managers, it would do better in a farm, or it would be better managed if more skilful men were employed, that is themselves; Roger Moore's and the other man's blind bargain with Sir James Shaen and Richard Bell here about the hearth money, that was plainly a contrivance to disturb the management and drive the King into a farm. But I am yet of opinion that whatever it cost his Majesty he should once put his revenue out of wardship and know what he lets when he shall think fit to let it.

I am of your Grace's opinion that the half of the Judges' circuit money is not worth the saving, both their salary and their places are held only during the King's pleasure, and if they shall not deserve that little encouragement, they will deserve to be turned out of service and wages. This being my sense your Grace may be sure I will serve them the best I can.

To return a little to our Presbyterians, though Gordon should be discarded nor not heeded in what he so generally informs, yet George Philips ought to be encouraged to obtain what intelligence he can amongst them of their propention to rebellion, nobody that hath eyes or memory can doubt but what preparations they make to put their disposition into execution is only material, and for a good account of that it might be worth the putting the King to some charge, nay, it were worth something to know that they are not conspiring at this time, nor any further driving on their design, than by their common practice of charging the

Government with favouring Popery, and preparing their people to suffer impendent persecution for the Gospel.

I conclude by what your Grace writes of the provostship and Dr. Styles, that the Bishop of Leighlin is dead, and I absolutely concur in your cautions in the choice of another. The old Provost or new Bishop may stay in the College so long as your Grace mentions, or longer, without any prejudice or indecency, rather than to make a too hasty choice, the only fear is of unfit pretenders, and importunities to his Majesty, which I will endeavour to prevent.

Postscript. The Archbishop of York they say is dead. If I had been at Court this day, I might possibly have told you who had been his successor. Your Grace knows such places are not long uningaged for. *Copy.*

SIR WILLIAM STEWART to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 6. Newtownstewart.—Soliciting a title of honour. He has been surprised at the favour proposed in a letter from his Grace. His moderate fortune and numerous family are strong arguments to dissuade him from changing his station, yet the desire of making his Grace's favours public and of being looked upon as a man owned by his Majesty makes him solicit his Grace to procure him a title of honour, and since viscounts are the men in fashion in Ireland, he would wish to be one with the title of Mountjoy. This name he would the rather choose, as the place so called is in the county where he lives. If baron must go with it, the title might be Rainalban. *Abstract.*

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3. February 6.—Requesting letters of dispensation for Charles Clarke, commoner, of Brasenose College, and Thomas Cooke, of New College. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, February 6, St. James's Square.—I have yours of the 24th and 29th, but having made no return to the former of the 22nd of the last month, I shall first say something to some particulars of that.

Cary Dillon and Sir Maurice Eustace are both undoubtedly really affectionate, and may be useful to the Government; but their necessities are greater than to be relieved by bounties from it, which puts them upon such projects, and upon such pretences as will not justify the granting of their desires, and then they complain of their want of success, and of the coldness of their friends in their concerns. Another honest gentleman, Ned Brabazon, is just in the same case, and will be in the same discontent. When anything comes in our way to help them it is fit to do it; in the meantime they must bear their disappointment, and we their murmurings.

I did not read the Dean of Lismore's letter for the bishopric of Cloyne, nor was told that the holding of his deanery with it was part of it, but surely if it be, there will be no need of his translation to Dromore, and it will be best to promote the Dean of Waterford to it. Though Cloyne be but a poor bishopric, yet it has a large diocese, and there is a great congregation at Youghal which is under his immediate cure, and where he ought to reside. The want of a resident bishop, whilst that and Cork were united, and since, whilst Sheridan was Bishop, gave great advantage to perverters of all sorts to withdraw and keep the people from the service of the church, and from their loyalty. I hope the new Bishop will take pains to redeem them from their error, and repair for the negligence of his predecessors. If you desire the Dean of Waterford should be Bishop of Dromore, a letter must be sent for it, and one employed to take it out.

In my Lord Primate's letter touching a Provost upon Dr. Marsh's promotion to Ferns and Leighlin, he professes he has nobody to recommend to the succession, and proposes that the Bishop may stay there some months, as he may well do, in which time it may appear whether the objections against Dr. Styles be true or no; but in the meantime they are no less than a point of religion and morality, and whilst he is under suspicion in either I am sure it is neither fit nor safe for me to recommend him to the King.

It comes just now into my memory that my niece Hamilton and her son have been very earnest for the getting a bishopric for one Hamilton, as I take it, Archdeacon of Raphoe. If the man upon enquiry shall be found fit for such a promotion in all other respects, I would be glad to gratify so good and so near relations, and therefore, before any discourse of the Dean of Waterford, I desire you to make inquiry of him. My Lord Primate will assist you in it. None but a northern bishopric will fit him, his temporal concerns being there, and possibly a Scotchman would do better in any other province.

Our foreign Intelligencer plies us still with fresh information, and hath sent over one he trusts with the secret. The messenger is in very ill circumstances, and fain to keep Scotland Yard for fear of arrest, and we are compelled to keep him from famishing by a small allowance. We see the cheat plain enough, yet, not knowing when such sort of evidence may come in play, it is held fit to drive the discovery as far as it will go till the cosenage may be made appear. They speak of five thousand arms that were already landed in Ireland, and about the same quantity sent from Paris overland at this time of the year to Nantes, and from thence to be transported into Ireland, so that the renewing of your orders to the new Managers was reasonable. If arms cannot be discovered landed in ports they are no doubt prepared to say they were discharged in creeks and uninhabited places; but

into what magazines they could be received, or how they could be secretly conveyed or dispersed thence, is hard to conceive.

Nothing that I have of late heard of could be more impudent than the late Farmers' assertion that I imposed Taylor upon them, all that knew the thing knowing the contrary, and my letters to the Lords of the Treasury objecting against it. I shall this morning, for I write early, produce the Judges' address to the Lords of the Treasury, and serve the Judges the best I can. We are to meet there in order to clear and settle the commission to be given to a Receiver and Paymaster General, and I guess the result will be to stay for a draft to be sent out of Ireland.

I have had much trouble from Mr. Mallory, not to prevent his getting a mandamus, but to frustrate one he had gotten, the execution whereof I got suspended. The College is under some disadvantage in the case, not only by their own certificate in the favour of Mallory when he was to be ordained priest, which he produces in confutation of their objection against him, but in that the King may be told that however he should be sparing in mandamuses yet when they are granted they should be obeyed. I wish the matter well taken up by some way of satisfaction to the man. He has suffered already no small mortification at the delay, and by the answers I have always given him upon his applications to me, and so I believe has Capt. FitzGerald, when he has cast up his accounts. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 6. Dublin.—There is little of importance happened here since my last letters, but what relates to the Exchequer proceedings with the late Farmers, and of those affairs the present Commissioners have promised to send your Grace the like account that they give to the Lords of the Treasury, and will do so from time to time. I had their Lord's directions to imprest three months pay to the Army without mentioning for what time occasioned. I suppose by a letter I writ to your Grace formerly the orders shall be signed by me very soon, but I do not think it prudent that assignments should issue until the Managers inform me that the respective collectors have cash in their hands, and it will be the beginning of April before the Managers guess there will be effects.

Because I thought it would be prejudicial to the King's service that the Solicitor General should be disobliged by the Managers, I got them to meet with the Solicitor about the draft, I transmitted to your Grace, of an authority to the Receiver General, but they could not agree, and therefore they would not stop the letter they writ against that draft to the Lords of the Treasury, Mr. Dickenson, though an able and honest man, being very positive in the matter.

The Bishop of Dromore I hear is mending, so that there will be time enough to consider of the scheme I sent over upon the report of his being dead. I am very sorry that my Lord Primate and I cannot always agree in our recommendations of clergymen; but I am glad that that is the only thing we are like to differ in. I am sure I shall recommend none but such as I know to be good and able men, or that are generally reputed such.

February 7.—This morning I had your Grace's letter of the 27th of January last, which required no answer, though I expected to hear at large how matters are betwixt my Lord Rochester and Lord Halifax. Their disagreeing makes a great noise, for private letters are full of it.

THE KING to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, February 9.—Concerning the right of Thomas Tilson as Craner of the Port of Dublin to the Old Custom House. An allowance of sixty pounds a year is to be given him in compensation for not enjoying that house. *Abstract.*

SIR FRANCIS BREWSTER to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 10.—Concerning Lieutenant Colonel Moore's proposals. The writer then goes on to supplicate for the letters for settling Ormond Markets which are now finished and which have taken up the greater part of his fortune. Any delay may blast the whole undertaking by hindering builders. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, February 13. St. James's Square.—All that relates to the revenue passing from the Lords of the Treasury in my presence I seldom have anything to write, unless it be upon vacancies and promotions in the Church or Army. It is reasonably doubted that this year's management of the revenue will not bring in what will answer what is charged upon it, amounting to at least 270,000*l.*, but how far it will fall short cannot be certainly computed, and therefore to prevent the civil and military lists falling into too great an arrear to be easily recovered, I think it will be resolved to borrow a considerable sum of money upon the security of the quit-rents, when they shall be freed from the lease pretended to by the late Farmers, as by this time, it is hoped, it is; but the interest of the money that shall be so borrowed must in so much lessen the revenue, and that, in all likelihood, beyond what the improvement of the revenue above 270,000*l.* will amount unto.

The consideration of this has put the King upon resuming the thoughts of calling a Parliament in Ireland, and he has commanded the Lord Keeper to look over all the bills that were transmitted in order to it, and to give his opinion whether

those bills, without a new transmission, may not be proceeded upon, and returned in the proper form, changing the periods of times, when it shall be found necessary, by way of amendments, according to the authority the law gives the King and his Privy Council of England. Now, though my Lord Keeper is a man of as great ability in his profession as any that wears a gown, yet he may not perhaps have made our laws and constitutions in Ireland much his study, and therefore I would be glad to receive the opinion of Mr. Solicitor, not only in the point of calling a Parliament without a new transmission, but in anything else that he may conceive the change of time and circumstances may prudentially require an alteration in. The first point, being matter of law, he may own his opinion, in the latter you may receive his thoughts, and send them as your own. It is desired that the taking the calling of a Parliament in Ireland into consideration may for some time be a secret, yet not to exclude the Lord Primate and the two Chief Justices, who have all the qualifications fit for trust and advice. Before his Majesty's remove to Newmarket, it will be considered at a secret committee, and if it be thought fit to have an Irish Parliament, it will be imparted to the Council, where the debates will be the freer from cavils by my Lord of Anglesey's absence, that for confirmation of the Act of Settlement and Explanation, and securing estates depending on them was in the purpose and design of it maliciously traduced by some, and ignorantly mistaken by others. If the same spirit be yet alive in any of the Council, I could wish we might be enabled to vindicate, at least, our good intentions, though for myself I do not conceive, I am concerned to press for a Parliament, or to justify all the bills that have been or shall be transmitted.

I have received yours of the 6th inst., and you may by this time have a letter from the Lords of the Treasury returning the draft sent by Mr. Solicitor, and the objections made to it by the Commissioners of the Revenue, and requiring your sense upon it.

It is hard to give an account of the misunderstanding betwixt my Lords of Halifax and Rochester, the grounds of it were, as Halifax says, the application of one Shales to his Majesty informing that he had been extravagantly cheated by a bargain made with the Farmers of the hearth money for the overplus it should yield above the certain rent, for which it seems, they are to be accountable. But my Lord Rochester suspects the informer was incited and introduced to the King by the Privy Seal, and procured a direction to himself to examine it, my Lord Halifax says he acquainted my Lord Rochester with the information as soon as he had it, to which Rochester agrees not.

The truth of the matter of fact is denied by the Farmers; that is, they say they neither did nor could know the value of what they bargained for, and that they find it is not of half

the value suggested, and now the whole case is under examination before the King and other Lords besides those of the Treasury, and thither I am going, though somewhat indisposed.

The Whig party raise great hopes from this division betwixt men in such trust, but I hope the noise is the greatest hurt that will come from this disagreement. *Copy.*

SIR WILLIAM STEWART TO EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, February 13. Newtownstewart.—Your Excellency's directions from the Council did so quicken the diligence of the gentlemen here that, with Captain Hamilton's help who has been most useful in this matter, we have reduced about thirteen Tories that were abroad within these six weeks to one and a boy that keeps him company. There are no more now in open rebellion, and these can do no hurt, so that I think your Excellency need make no difficulty to return all such parties as are abroad upon their account to their first stations. Some of them were in such distress that I have already taken the liberty to send them home, or they had starved. Until somewhat more may be done for Captain Hamilton if your Excellency will be pleased to have him made a Justice of Peace for the Counties of Armagh, Monaghan and Tyrone (he lives near the borders of them all) it will be a kindness to him and the like has been done before on the like occasion.

That Maguirke, whom your Excellency mentions, was sent to Lifford jail for being titular Dean of Armagh and pretended Vicar General, and was by me bailed to the Assizes, he utterly disowning either title, and it being made appear before me that he has been already tried for the very same thing at the Assizes of Dungannon, Armagh and Monaghan and acquit at all, and that he is at this time bound by my Lord Massarecne to appear at Derry Assizes to answer the same charge, if after this any Justice there is offended at his being bailed I doubt he would shew more zeal than he does understanding, if when a man is cleared in one county he must lie in jail in the next for the same charge without bail, he may be fifteen years a prisoner ere he can be freed for at two Assizes in the year he cannot in less time go through the thirty counties of the kingdom. After all I believe this Maguirke a great rogue, but if he were a devil he must have right. Docherty is not said to be a regular no more than he, his charge is acting under Maguirke and I thought he was to be bailed of consequence.

My Lord, one called O'Neill, who about ten years ago committed a robbery on the Dean of Raphoe, and who has since skulked in the country, so that none being very zealous to prosecute him he was never taken, sent this very day to me to try if his pardon could be procured, that he might live in safety and that for it he would do any service he were capable

of, but that there being no Tories now left in the country he could not deserve it by destroying them. The fear of forcing this man into open rebellion has made me always very cautious in going about to take him, for he is a very cunning fellow, and of a great sept, so that he may draw what number he pleased with him, and would be a more dangerous Tory than we ever had, and since for so long time he has done no open mischief if your Excellency would take some small pretence for pardoning him I think it would be no dishonour to the Government, and a security to the country. Be pleased to let me have your Excellency's commands which shall be punctually observed.

COLONEL JOHN JEFFREYS to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, February 15. Brecknock.—Concerning his cousin, one Mr. David Williams, who had taken his degree of master of arts at Oxford. He was invited to the practice of an ancient and learned physician Dr. Wright of Shrewsbury, and the attendance of this business so remote from Oxford has prevented his taking his degree in physic methodically. The writer prays his Grace's indulgence for his cousin who is ready to perform all exercises that are usual and required. The writer would be glad to hear how the Hospital goes forward. Arthur Turner has been again indisposed, so the writer seldom hears from Ireland. *Abstract.*

— TALBOT to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 17. Paris.—I am very confident if your Grace had believed me guilty of so much as a thought against his Majesty's service, you had not so generously appeared for my liberty when I was prisoner in the Castle of Dublin, and I hope that the same reason will now prevail with you to move the King that I may return to put some order to my small affairs that extremely suffer by my absence for now almost four years from home. My Lord, should I be obliged to live here any longer time, I must certainly be ruined, the expense of this place being excessive for any man that must live as I am obliged to do, and that has so numerous a family. And though his Majesty shall be pleased to approve of my return to my own house, I do assure your Grace that I shall need be a good husband to pay the debts I have contracted since I had the misfortune to be named in the Plot, and that your Grace may the more freely move his Majesty, to grant this my most humble request, pray be pleased to know that I am none of those persons that are impeached by the House of Commons, and that all that ever was laid to my charge was a story of Mr. Oates that he had seen some commission which was sent me into Ireland, and at the same time he said it was sent me into Ireland I lived in the north of England and did

not come thither in six months after, all which is but a bare hearsay and cannot so much as bear any action at common law.

After all, my Lord, if my living at home may prove the least prejudice to the King's service (which in my poor judgment is not possible), and that he do think it fit for me to withdraw myself again into any other country, I shall, with all the submission that is befitting a man that never had, nor never will have, any other dependency then upon him, retire myself into any corner of the world where he shall command me, as soon as I have settled my concerns at home, though, I confess, I would willingly enjoy myself there under your Grace's happy government, since I have observed, that it is only under it that those that have served the King have met with any good treatment.

Your Grace may be also pleased to remember that the Order of Council sent to you for my release, directs only my giving in bail to appear whenever his Majesty should call upon me to answer such things as were laid to my charge, and that before I returned into his Majesty's dominions I should acquaint him with it by one of his Secretaries of State, which I have done by this packet to my Lord Sunderland.

Nothing less, my Lord, than the experience I have of your Grace's justice and generosity to all those that have served the King, could make me take this liberty of importuning you, and humbly to assure you that I am with all the respect and truth imaginable, &c.

JOHN KEVAN to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, February 17. Kilkenny.—Enclosing a journal of the weather in the month of January. *Abstract.*

EARL OF BARRYMORE to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 20. Dublin.—That unhappy match my son Buttevant made with my Lord Santry's daughter has occasioned my absence all this winter from attending your Grace at London, and the delays and artifices I have met with, to settle the several interests of my family, have kept me here these fourteen weeks past at an excessive charge and trouble, and, though all things are agreed and engrossed, I even meet with delays in protracting the signing of that settlement, but the hopes I have that all doubts are now removed gives me a great deal of satisfaction in the hopes I have of paying my duty to your Grace and my Lady Duchess at London.

The concern your Grace has been pleased to have for me and my family gives me the confidence to give your Grace an account of the portion which is 2,000*l.* in hand, 500*l.* at the end of a year from the date of the deed, and 500*l.* to be paid

as your Grace shall be pleased to order and appoint, and I assure your Grace the three several journeys I have made hither, and this last especially, have cost me 500*l*.

As soon as I return home, and that the Assizes are over, I resolve, God willing, to wait on your Grace, in the interim I beg your Grace to believe that you have not a more faithful servant to the interest of yourself and family than, &c.

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 20. Dublin.—I had this day your Grace's letters of the 6th and 13th instant, and with the former the project put into my Lord Grafton's hands which I doubt will not be thought fit for him to meddle in, for though I am confident Sir Theophilus Jones has made discoveries of land to above three times the value mentioned, yet he makes no more of it than 600*l*. per annum, and it was so valued by a jury, but I shall consult with the Solicitor in this matter and return you his sense upon it.

Archdeacon Hamilton, whom your Grace mentions, has been my chaplain these many years ; but I never heard him preach, neither am I well acquainted with him, nor do I find that my Lord Primate knows him, but before another bishopric falls we shall have time to inquire, for the Bishop of Dromore is as well as one of his age can expect to be, and as to that of the Provost, I believe it will come to this at last, that one should be sent us from Oxford, unless Doctor Styles can make his peace with my Lord Primate.

I am confident there is no such thing as any arms imported here from foreign parts since my being in the Government, but about forty case of pistols brought to Cork by a Scotch peddler, which are seized upon and are now in the King's stores. I expect his examination should be sent me by to-morrow's post, and upon this I gave new directions to the Commissioners to order particular search to be made for the future, of which Mr. Secretary Jenkins has an account from me. Our Scotch informer has been privately in town, and proves such a man as I expected. At his desire he is returned amongst his brethren, and promises to make great discoveries, but I believe getting money is all he aims at.

I had a letter this post from the Lords of the Treasury dated the 6th concerning the Receiver General and the Vice-Treasurer's employment, to which I shall return an answer after I have consulted with the Solicitor General, and such others of the long robe as I think ablest to advise in such a matter, and as to what your Grace mentions in yours of the 13th about the calling a Parliament, and the moot point, whether or no new bills should be transmitted, I will call to my assistance the persons you mention, and it shall be debated privately ; but the matter is of such consequence that it must be seriously considered, and therefore a very

speedy account ought not to be expected, for circumstances are much altered since the transmission of the bills, and especially by the charging Tangier upon our establishment.

I had just now news from the County of Waterford that Col. Roscarrick is fallen into another fit which is like to carry him away, perhaps this may alter your getting the employment for Ivory and Tom Fairfax may be thought on again.

There is one Mr. Brown of this College who is generally well spoken of and is recommended to me, as a very fit man to be Provost, and that by those I know to be good and impartial men, and therefore him I dare venture to recommend, and upon better considering, I think it much better to choose a Provost out of the College here, than to send a stranger again amongst them.

I am glad to find, by Secretary Gwynn's letter to the Commissioners of the Revenue, that the Judges will be continued in the establishment for their full allowance of circuit money; but I find withal that the Commissioners have the credit of the work, for he says it was done upon their letter, but not upon the address I sent over to your Grace.

Just as I had writ thus far my Lord Primate came hither, and he is much against Mr. Brown I before mentioned, so that I know not what further to say in that troublesome business of the Provost. I also had the Solicitor's company here, and he says that the project the Duke of Grafton is put upon cannot signify anything to him, for he says that though Sir Theophilus Jones's land that he has passed the patent for may be undervalued, yet his patents, being passed upon a legal inquiry, he cannot be legally called to an account.

Capt. John Butler's concerns lying in England chiefly, he has had my leave to sell his company, and I believe Capt. Hayles will be forced to do the like. If he should, I have engaged that a brother of Sir William Tichborne's should deal for it, who has been at Tangier, therefore I hope you will let nobody on that side prevent him. Capt. Sankey has bought Butler's. To-morrow we meet upon the business of a Parliament, &c.

GEORGE BROWNE to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, February 20. Dublin.—Begging his interest and friendship in the affair of the provostship. He finds Dr. Styles has not been so strong as to carry it against some men's uncharitable, not to say unjust, censure. The Lord Deputy has promised to recommend him, so that unless another black character come or the plough be already granted to a third person he may conceive some hopes of it. *Abstract.*

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, February 20.—Requesting letters of dispensation for Francis Hingston, commoner, of Pembroke College, and Lewis Powell, of Jesus College. *Abstract.*

THOMAS SHERIDAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 23.—Concerning the disfavour shown him by Lord Rochester. He must not stand upon his justification since Lord Rochester will have him a criminal, but it is hard that neither a trial must be allowed nor any acknowledgment or submission received to gain his pardon. *Abstract.*

PRIMATE BOYLE to ORMOND.

1682-3, February 27. Dublin.—I am earnestly pressed by Sir John Topham to put the enclosed state of his case into your Grace's hands. I know this is a very unseasonable time for any requests of that nature; but he assuring me that it was your Grace's directions to him to have it sent you, and considering that perhaps his desires may be granted him upon the Lord Ranelagh's fund without much prejudice to his Majesty, I complied with him the easier. If Sir John's informations had been more credited than they were, the King had not doubtless been exposed to so great a loss by the late Farmers as he is like to be. That was none of Sir John's fault, but his attendance was his great expense, &c.

DR. JOHN LLOYD to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, February 27.—Requesting letters of dispensation for Dudley Hopper of Christ Church, and John Brown of St. John's College. *Abstract.*

An ACCOUNT of MONEY for CARBINES, MUSKETS, &c.

1682-3, February 28.—When the moneys were stopped from the pensions for supplying the stores with arms, &c., your Grace was pleased to order the making of a thousand case of pistols, and a thousand carbines, towards which was allowed 500*l.*, which moneys is expended upon two hundred and eighty-two carbines, and two hundred and seventy-four cases of pistols, that were made, some in Dublin, some at Mullingar, and some at Kilkenny, and all lodged in the stores at Dublin. As for muskets, there was none ordered to be made by your Grace or the Committee, because a considerable quantity of them were brought into the stores that were for the Militia; but if it be thought convenient to make any here, they may be procured at sixteen shillings per piece, both match and firelock, equal quantities.

The account of moneys received is as follows:—

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Moneys actually received in Dublin, &c.	13,719	15	00
More paid by the Farmers in England for arms	4,020	00	00
Moneys stopped in the Treasury for fees	591	17	00
Paid for exchange of 10,580 <i>l.</i> assigned in the country 6 <i>d.</i> per pound	260	00	00
Unpaid by the Farmers	1,248	08	00
Total stopped	19,840	00	00

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Received in money as aforesaid	13,719	15	00
Whereof is expended :—			
For repair of fortifications, &c., per order of your Grace	7,706	14	01
For the like repairs per Lord Deputy's Warrant	1,436	12	10
For finishing Charles' Fort	1,500	00	00
Rest in cash	3,076	08	01
Total	13,719	15	00

[*Endorsed*—]Received from Lord Longford.

VALENTINE SMYTH to MRS. LOW.

1682-3, February 28. Kilkenny.—Concerning tapestry hangings sent to London for their Graces. Hoskins has packed up according to her directions four suits of hangings, namely, the suit of Decius, the suit of Achilles, the suit of horses, and the suit of Octavius Cæsar, also the brocaded hangings that belong to the dining room of Dunmore and the white damask curtains. He had also packed in a black square trunk four pair of large silver sconces with top pieces and double sockets, and four pair of a lesser sort with double sockets without tops. All go by the waggon this day to Dublin to be forwarded by Captain Baxter. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 1. Dublin.—Judge Turner has been so very ill lately of his old distemper that he was given over, but is now so recovered as to be able to go so much of the circuit, as to get his share of the money allotted for that purpose; but if he had died, then he had left his lady in so sad a condition that the little goods and household stuff they have would have been seized upon for debts contracted by the journey he made into England for his health. His lady informs me that he had the King's promise, with your Grace's privity, and assistance, when he was in England to change his life for another, in the grant he has of the Surveyor General's reversion; but finding himself well then, he was unwilling to change his life, without he might add two others. He does now humbly desire he may change his own life only. I have sent Mr. Secretary Jenkins the draft of a letter to that purpose, and do desire your Grace's furtherance in the matter; for I have great compassion on them both, and his Majesty will do an act of great charity, for Judge Turner cannot live long.

SAME to SAME.

1682-3, March 1. Dublin.—The last packet brought me no letter from your Grace, but my Lord Longford showed me a

letter to him of the 16th of the last from my Lord Rochester, and a postscript, written at your desire, to satisfy me why, that in the order for my granting imprests to the Army, it was not mentioned for what months, when I was so well satisfied with the expedient, that it was I that desired the Commissioners of the Revenue to write to the Lords of the Treasury, for a letter to that purpose, and, for the very reasons his lordship gives in the same letter, he informs me that your Grace approves of taking up money to pay the arrears upon the quit rents they being now free, and, to that purpose, he has ordered the Commissioners to try whether money may be had here, of which they give an answer, and that is that a sufficient sum cannot be taken up here.

This makes me believe that the thoughts of a Parliament's meeting here are over ; but lest they should not, I will send your Grace by the next packet, the opinions of us, whom you desired should meet, upon this subject, and those agreed upon after two days very serious debate. We were very cautious lest we should say too much or too little in this nice and important business, for as, on the one hand I was loath to promise a Parliament would do more than perhaps will be performed, or indeed, can rationally be expected when the revenue is so directed to the privy of this kingdom, and is not to be avoided for the future, so, on the other hand, I should be sorry his Majesty did not think his subjects here very loyal, and for my own part I have, foreseeing his Majesty might have thoughts of calling a Parliament here, chosen very loyal Sheriffs this year, so that I hope if his Majesty should command the calling one, he will generally have very honest men returned. It is desired that the paper should not be shown, but upon necessity, and I am unwilling to send it as my own, though I join in opinion with them, but that I leave to your Grace. It is plain that there needs no new transmission of bills. It being likely that your Grace may be at Newmarket and the Lords of the Treasury at London when this comes to your Grace's hands, I have sent you copies of the letters for these commissions for the Receiver General, for amendment of that of the Accountant General, and for increasing the powers of the Commissioners of the Revenue.

I also send your Grace the reply of the Provost and Senior Fellows to Mr. Mallory's answer, and all that I observe upon it is, that if Mallory carries this business against the Provost and Senior Fellows it is no great matter who is made Provost, upon this promotion, for the College will never be good for anything, and I have examined the pretended matter of contempt of his Majesty's letter, and find there is no truth in the suggestion, besides it will look odd that a person of five years standing should come over the head of one of fourteen, who has been long my chaplain, and a very deserving man, and has been so modest as never to ask anything but that this affront should not be put upon him,

The Commissioners wonder that your Grace has proceeded no farther in your bargain about the prisage, for both the King and you will loose much in the delay, and it is of great importance to both that my Lord Derby should be dealt with for the duties of the Isle of Man, for there are great cheats committed, as has been formerly represented by the Commissioners of the Revenue.

I hear Sir Theophilus Jones is very sick and weak. I desire to know whether I should give his troop to Capt. Fitz Gerald if he dies, which I will do if you were instrumental in his getting the letter for the first troop, if not, I desire to know whether or no I ought not to have it myself. I am sure everybody concludes I should, and therefore nobody pretends to the first troop here. I desire your answer to this point.

EARL OF ARRAN TO ORMOND.

1682-3, March 4. Dublin.—The bearer, my Lord of Ardglass, has been so well known to your Grace these many years, though not under that title, that I am sure I need not recommend him to you, for I know your Grace will help him with your interest, in all his just pretentions, without my interposing; but since his lordship desires a letter from me I most willingly grant it, and must inform you that I think he has had hard measure and it was not in my power to help him, for Mr. Muschamp having had notice of the death of the late Lord of Ardglass before the present lord had, he retained all the best counsel so that by the skill of the Farmer's counsel, and the ignorance of the latter's, my lord has been delayed in his proving the misdemeanours against Maxwell, who without doubt is a very ill man, and behaved himself very saucily at a committee as they all told me, but an accommodation being then propounded no report was made regularly of it, and his lordship's business as to the legal or equitable part being to be tried in England, he rather chooses to go over than to prosecute his accusation here, especially since both Muschamp and the other fellow have asked his lordship's pardon, and the Board's, for the reflecting expressions in the pleadings, and they ordered by the Board to strike out whatever my Lord of Ardglass or his counsel shall think reflecting.

EXAMINATION of DR. JOHN WORTH, Dean of St. Patrick's, and DR. JOHN POOLY, Dean of Kilkenny.

1682, March 6.—The examinants, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, depose, that on the 10th day of October last (old style) going from Paris to Fountainebleau by boat, the deponents met there Captain Tille *alias* Shelton, never known before to the examinants; being an Irishman, he became acquainted with these deponents, and the next day the said

Captain, and the said deponents dined and supped together at Fountainebleau, where the said Captain Tille was very open and free in his discourse concerning the French King's intentions and designs on our Majesty's kingdoms, and on the 23rd of October last (old style) the deponents and Mr. Thomas Pooly met the said Capt. Tille in Paris, and went in with him to the sign of Saint Marten's in Rue de Baucherie, and then and there the said Tille gave these deponents an account of some of the French King's proceedings and intentions against his Majesty and the Prince of Orange. That the French King's Council had decreed the French King's right to that estate, which is claimed in France by that Prince, and that the French King had already taken possession thereof, and the said Tille then told the deponents that on Wednesday last being the 18th day of October (old style) the French Council did sit in consultation about the kingdom of Ireland, and that as soon as one business was over, and that one seaport was taken by the French King in Ireland, whether Cork or Galway and that it was his already in effect. The next morning early the deponents went out of town and on these deponent's return to Paris they thought it convenient for to acquaint his Excellency the Lord Preston, his Majesty's Ambassador in France with this affair, and on the 4th of November last (old style) the deponents went to wait on the Lord Preston to acquaint him with the information they received from Capt. Tille; but his Excellency not being at home, these deponents gave an account of the said information to his Chaplain Doctor Wiggins. These deponents and James Plunkett, Esq., being to take their journey the next morning towards England and that evening after that these deponents parted with Doctor Wiggins these deponents again met the said Capt. Tille who renewed his discourse concerning the French King's design on Ireland, and James Plunkett, Esq., being then in the same room with the said Tille and these deponents, the said Tille took the said Plunkett aside and talked privately with him, and after the said Plunkett and Tille parted the said Plunkett told these deponents that the substance of the said Tille's discourse was concerning Ireland, which the said Tille spoke to the said Plunkett with tears in his eyes, and that the said Tille had acquainted the Lord Preston with this affair of the French King's intentions on that kingdom, and that he the said Tille had a paper which none knew but two priests and himself and that paper he showed the said Plunkett and [he] remembered: imprimis, that in all the garrisons in Ireland half the soldiers should be French, the other Irish; secondly, that the English that had Irish estate should quit, and also they should make satisfaction, according to their abilities, for the rents received, and then depart; thirdly, that Colonel Talbot should be Lord Lieutenant of that kingdom. The said Plunkett then told these deponents that the said Tille proffered him a copy

of the said proposal, if he would be secret therein, but the said Plunkett told these deponents that he refused to engage himself therein.

Endorsed—The Examination of Doctor John Worth, Dean of Saint Patrick's, Dublin, and Doctor John Pooley, Dean of Kilkenny, taken before his Excellency Richard Earl of Arran, Lord Deputy of the Kingdom of Ireland, the 6th day of March, 1682.

JOHN KEVAN to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, March 10. Kilkenny.—Enclosing an account of the variation of the weather for the month of February. *Abstract.*

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, March 10. St. James's Square.—Though I am unable to go yet, I am free from pain, and if this fit passes over as it seems to promise, it is the easiest I have had these seven years, and may give me leave to get to attend the King at Newmarket. You see it has hitherto spared my right hand. My Lord Rochester told you true, that I was of opinion it will be better to take up money at interest than let the establishments fall too much in arrear; but the difficulty will be where to find it, and how to have it upon reasonable terms that is barely upon interest, without any other clog. Here almost all the bankers of Lombard Street are gone off like crackers one after another, and those who have money, and have gotten it by taking branches of the English revenue, are not out of hope but they may have new bargains, though the King in the Treasury Chamber once declared he would have them all managed for him, and has actually named Commissioners for the Excise. The temptation of being secured a considerable sum by the year, and that by a good advance in hand, may, for aught I know, prevail in the end, and plausible offers will, I doubt not prevail, he made perhaps as much to have wherewith to accuse the Lords of the Treasury for refusing them, in case the King should not make so much of his revenue by management, as for any other reason.

These offers are said to be encouraged by the Lord Privy Seal, who apparently sets up for a general reformer of all the abuses put upon the King, not only in the management, but in the disposing of his revenue. My Lord Rochester declares warmly against farming, and supports his opinion with good reasons, how they will take, is what must be expected at the King's return. I do not conceive that the King's taking money upon his revenue is any argument that he will not have a Parliament in Ireland, and yet I believe he will have none. I am sure I shall not move it to him any more unless I shall be called to for my opinion, and then I

shall give it with as much caution as can consist with my duty. Our new Lord Keeper is of opinion with the lawyers there that there will be no need of a new transmission. I doubt my reasons for desiring the King to call a Parliament in Ireland may be as much mistaken as I may mistake theirs that are against it, and therefore, I will let that matter rest and not trouble my head any more with it.

If Roscarrick shall have delayed to make use of the liberty the King has given him to sell his government and company till he is at the point of death, and that then application should be made to you by young Ivory, I desire you would hold your hand till you have represented the matter, and then you shall have his Majesty's further pleasure if there shall be need of it. Capt. FitzGerald is to have the first troop that shall fall, for which I obtained the King's letter to oblige my new allies, but principally my Lord of Rochester.

To all the letters directed to the Treasury I presume returns will be made from thence. *Copy.*

MATTHEW ANDERTON to HENRY GASCOIGNE.

1682-3, March 12. Chester.—Concerning the rectory of Aldingham in the county of Westmorland and diocese of Chester, which has become void by death of Mr. Michael Stanford, and is worth about 120*l.* a year. It is in the King's gift. The writer asks Gascoigne's favour for Mr. William Thompson, of St. Peter's in Chester, a person truly loyal, painful and industrious, whose rectory affords only a voluntary contributory maintenance, which seldom exceeds 40*l.* a year. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 13. Dublin.—There being several letters of mine before your Grace unanswered, I shall only by this packet send you the result of our meeting upon the subject of calling a Parliament here. The sense of the enclosed paper was agreed upon some time since, but the wording of it, being left to Mr. Solicitor General, was not perfected until Thursday last, since which time no packet boat has been on this side. He is unwilling the paper should be known to be of his drawing, and the rest of us leave it to your Grace to make what use of it you think best, for your Grace knows better the posture of affairs on that side than we can.

My Lord Mayor, taking only the advice of Sir Francis Brewster in his proceedings relating to the new Market, whereas he should have had the concurrence of the whole table of Aldermen, had so insensd his brethren, that I was forced to give him and Sir Francis a check before the Aldermen, which I hope will make them agree well for the future, though I believe the fanatics are very busy in endeavouring to make a breach amongst them, and Robin Ware the busiest among the mutineers.

I hope the gout having taken you at this time of the year will prove very favourable to you, and that I may either have a letter from you by the next packet, or one by your direction, how to steer myself in the business of the French plot upon us, if it should make further noise in the meantime. Mr. Secretary Jenkins has an account from me of my obeying the commands received from him upon that subject.

I have had the good luck, by cajoling the brewers, to serve his Majesty in the difference about the guage of brewing, so that for the future there will be no dispute about the gallon; but they will acquiesce in the measure as they have lately paid, and this is no small satisfaction to the Judges, for they are not clear in their opinion that the law would force them to pay that duty. The difference betwixt the two gallons is computed by the skilful to be near 15,000*l.* a year.

ANTHONY DOPPING, Bishop of Meath, to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 17.—Concerning the provostship. He presumes to mention two persons well qualified for that employment. The first is Mr. Henry Dodwell, educated in this Society, and once a fellow of it, but now in England with Dr. Lloyd, Bishop of Saint Asaph, a person of most excellent and profound learning in divinity and other sciences, and of a most grave, pious, and apostolical life. He is well known to all the learned men in England, and particularly to the Bishop of Oxford, and is liable to no exception, but that he is not in orders, which he hath only declined on the account of some conscientious scruples, and an opinion that he may do more good in divinity by being looked upon as a person disinterested. The writer is doubtful whether Dodwell will accept the provostship, having hitherto shunned all honours and employments; but if his Grace could persuade him for the good of that Society, all persons would highly approve the choice. Him the writer presumes to recommend as the worthiest. The other is Mr. Nathaniel Foy one of the fellows of the Society. He is senior to all the fellows except Dr. Styles. If Mr. Dodwell will not accept, and his Grace hath any intention of recommending one of the present members in that Society to the Government, the writer does without flattery judge Foy the fittest person in it. *Abstract.*

SIR WILLIAM STEWART to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 17. Dublin.—Acknowledging the bounty his Majesty was pleased to honour him with . . . There was never such a winter for country sports as the past and I have enjoyed them in much perfection. I had very good hawks and hounds but we have not had more success in any sport than Tory hunting. The gentlemen of the country have

been so hearty in that chase that of thirteen in the county where I live in November, the last was killed two days before I left home. *Abstract.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 19. Dublin.—I am glad to find by yours of the 10th that the gout has been so favourable to your Grace as that you are already thinking of a journey to Newmarket.

It seems the two great Lords are not yet so well reconciled as to carry matters outwardly like friends, which I am very sorry to hear, for the breaking of the bankers, occasioned by their being at variance will prove of very evil consequence, both to his Majesty's affairs on that side, and on this; for I have little hopes that money will be raised for paying the arrear due to the Army here, this great while, if ever. I have answered the Lords of the Treasury's letter concerning the great arrear due from the Farmers to the King, and have given their lordships my opinion what was best to be done in this conjuncture, a copy of which letter shall be sent you. The Judges being in their circuits, and my Lord Chancellor at Blessington, I shall not meet in Council after to-morrow, until the Easter holidays are over, unless something from England should occasion our meeting sooner. I hear, with much ado, the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen are agreed about the markets, which I am very glad of, for they were come to great heats, and were in the wrong on both sides, as to the manner of their proceeding. I saw a letter by the last country packet informing that Col. Roscarrick was then as ill as ever he had been. I shall observe your directions in that particular.

ORMOND to EARL OF ARRAN.

1682-3, March 20. St. James's Square.—Mine of the 10th of this month was the last I was ever since able to write with my own hand, the gout having seized upon it the very next day, and continuing still to disable it, yet now without much pain. I have since received yours of the 13th with the paper inclosed in it, relating to the bills long since transmitted hither, which shall quietly lie by me until that affair shall be again called upon, which I think will not be in haste.

I did always believe that the removing of the market to the other side of the water would not be without contest, or at least discontent, which it was the more like to produce, since the table of Aldermen had not been consenting to it, or consulted with in it, and it is well if the business be settled without any apprehension of reviving it.

I conceive you have received a full account of the French plot from Mr. Secretary Jenkins, that is, of the information and all the improbable, if not impossible, circumstances attending that discovery, which, together with the con-

traditions in the narrative, and the palpable perjuries, which for want of conduct and memory, the informer fell into, would have drawn on him the severest infliction the law would bear; but that his Majesty, having commanded his passing over into England, thought fit to forbear, and to turn him loose to what further course he shall think fit to take, and I hear that he has since joined himself to Titus Oates and that some of that party do seem to wonder and to lament that such intelligence is made no more of as, to say truth, they may have reason since his information as to matter and form is as credible as many others that have passed for truth were, he only miscomputed his time, and is, I think, made believe that a seasonable time will come to bring him into play again.

It is a very seasonable, and I hope, it will be an acceptable service you have done the King, if the question about the measure of the gallon be absolutely determined for the King, and I hope some fitter person than myself will represent the advantage of it hither.

On this day sennight my Lord of Rochester with his son-in-law went to Newmarket, and that, I believe, was before any return could be made to all that was laid before the Lords of the Treasury from you, and from the Commissioners of the Revenue, though, as I remember, my lord told me that he and the rest either did or would approve of the draft of a letter transmitted to guide the drawing of a sufficient authority to the Receiver General, which seemed to be the particular requiring most haste, but the forbidding of tenants to pay the rent into the Exchequer, from whence they can only have a legal discharge, was not thought fit.

The last letters brought me the copy of an application made to you by the Commissioners of the Revenue, to prevent the misapplication of the arrears due to the late Farmers, whilst there are so many assignments of theirs unsatisfied, and whilst they owe the King so much money as is suggested from thence, though they, on the other side, do confidently, if not impudently, affirm that they have overpaid their rent to about 12,000*l*. The question only is whether, by their covenants and without a new Commission, they can raise any of those arrears that stand out. If they can legally be hindered from it, there is all the reason in the world they should. *Copy.*

THE KING OF FRANCE to MARSHAL DE CREQUI.

1682-3, March 22.—Mon Cousin, J'ay esté informé par le Marquis de Sebeville de l'arrivee à Vienne d'un Courier despesché par l'envoyé de l'Empereur à Constantinople, pour luy apprendre qu'il ne trouvoit aucune disposition aupres des Ministres du Grand Seigneur au renouvellement de la Treve qu'il sollicite depuis long temps; Cette nouvelle m'a esté confirmée par un expres qui est arrivé ce matin chargé

des Lettres du Sieur Guilleragues mon Ambassadeur à Constantinople par lesquelles il m'asseure que toutes les forces de l'Empire Ottoman sont en marche vers le Danube, et que le Grand Seigneur à leur teste doit attaquer au Printemps prochain la Hongrie: Et comme Je ne voudrois pas que ceux que se doivent opposer a l'invasion du Turc puissent me reprocher que les mouvements qui se font dans les Pais-bas pour faire valoir les justes Droits que J'yay les missent hors d'estat de pouvoir veiller avec succes à la defense de la Chrestienté; J'ay resolu pour terminer tout d'un coup les affaires du Pays-bas de remettre à l'arbitrage du Roy d'Angleterre, l'Equivalent qui me doit estre donné pour la renonciation des legitimes pretensions portées par la demande faite par mon Procureur aux Conferances de Courtray de 4^e Aoust dernier; Ce qui faisant cesser les raisons qui m'avoient obligé a vous ordonner d'empescher qu'il n'entrast aucunes Troupes Vivres ni Munitions de Guerre dans la Ville de Luxembourg; Je vous fais cette lettre pour vous faire sçavoir que mon intention est qu'aussy tost apres vous l'aurez reçu Vous envoyez un Officier vers celuy qui commande dans la Ville de Luxembourg pour l'advertir de la resolution que J'ay prise de remettre à la decision du Roy d'Angleterre tous les Differends que J'ay avec le Roy Catholique de l'Ordre que vous avez de moy de retirer mes Troupes des lieux que le Sieur de Bissy a reconnu estre de la Prevosté de Luxembourg, lorsque l'esté dernier il a pris possession de la Comte le Chiny et de ses Dependances; Et de celuy que Je desire que vous donniez au Sieur Marquis de Lambert de laisser entrer dans Luxembourg sans difficulté toute sorte de vivres et de Munitions de Guerre qui sortiront des autres Terres de la domination d'Espagne pour estre conduites à Luxembourg, et en payant les Droits des mes Traittez Forraines ceux que les habitans de la Ville de Luxembourg et des villages de la Prevosté qui en depend voudront achepter dans les Terres de mon obeissance ou faire passer par icelles venant des Pais estrangers; le tout conformement à ce qui est porté par l'Article 16^{me} du Traitte de Nimegue; Vous chargerez celuy que vous envoyerez vers ledit Gouverneur de Luxembourg d'y adjouster que lorsque le Gouverneur des Pays bas voudra changer la Garnison de Luxembourg, ledit Sieur de Lambert aura Ordre de convenir les logemens que lesdites Troupes feront sur les Terres de mon obeissance, allant et venant de Limbourg à Luxembourg et de Luxembourg à Limbourg; et de leur faire fournir, en payant, les vivres et fourages necessaires pour leur subsistance.

Après quoy Je desire qu'en effet vous fassiez marcher les troupes que vous commandez leur donnant vos ordres pour s'acheminer aux lieux mentionnez dans le controle cy joint, et qu'apres leur entiere seperation, Vous partiez du Pays ou Vous estes pour vous revenir aupres de Moy. *Copy.*

MONSIEUR DE LOUVOIS to MONSIEUR DE CROISSY.

1682-3, March 22.—Vous trouverez cy jointe la copie de la Depesche à Monsr. le Mareschal de Crequy, que J'ay en Ordre du Roy de Vous envoyer, moyennant l'exécution de laquelle toutes choses doivent rester du costé des Frontiers des Pays-bas qui sont sous l'obeissance des Espagnols, au mesme estat qu'elles estoient le 4^{me} Fevr. dernier, c'est à dire que chacun demeurera en possession de ce qu'il occupoit ce jour la à la reserve de ce qui est porté des intentions de Sa Mat^e dans la susdite Depesche à Monsr. le Mareschal de Crequi à l'esgard de la ville et de la Prevosté de Luxembourg; laquelle Prevosté sera evacué et les Villages qui la composent, aussy bien que la ville jouiront de la liberté de comēce stipulé par l'Article 16^{me} du Traitté de Nimegue; Et comme au moyen de ce que dessus, il ne peut plus y avoir aucune chose à negotier aux Conferences de Courtray, puis que chaque, Estat doit rester en possession de ce qu'il occupe et que toutes sortes des pretensions sont remises à l'Arbitrage du Roy d'Angleterre; Sa Mat^e ordonne a ses Comissaires a Courtray de se retirer apres avoir informé les Comissaires d'Espagne de la resolution que Sa Mat^e a prise. Il reste deux affaires qui pourroient encore causer quelque trouble en Flandre, l'une est la saisie faite des biens des sujets du Roy Cath. scituez dans les Terres de la Domination du Roy à l'occasion de l'injustice que les Espagnols ont fait au Prince d'Isenghien; du prejudice que le Gouverneur de Nieuport à causé aux sujets du Roy en laschant pendant la Paix les eaues salées sur leurs Terres, bienque l'Article 10^{me} du Traite de Nimegue porte expressement que non obstant la cession faite par Sa Mat^e des Escluses de Nieuport l'escoulement des eux de la Chastelanie de Furnes sera continue par lesdits escluses en la mesme forme et maniere qu'il a esté pratique cy devant; Du refus que font les Espagnols de payer à Monsr. de l'Islebonne une Rente considerable, qu'ils luy doivent; de faire jouir les Sujets du Roy du Passage par la Ville de Gand stipulé par les Traittes de Paix, et de plusieurs autres injustices faites par les Ministres d'Espagne aux sujets du Roy dont Je Vous fourniray un memoire. L'autre est la detention à Cambray de plusieurs Baillifs et Habitants du Franc de Bruges et de la Chastellenie de Courtray, pris par le Chevalier de Sourdis et retenus à Cambray jusques à l'actuel payement de cinquante et tant de Mille Livres, qu'ils redoivent de la somme fixée par le Roy pour le desdommagement de ce qui s'estoit passé à Bertrange: Lesquels Prisonniers sa Mat^e fera mettre en liberté sans rien payer desdites 50^m/₁₁ et donnera main levé des biens saisis pour les causes marquées aussy tost qu'elle apprendra que les Espagnols auront consenti que toutes ces Difficultes soient jugées par le Roy d'Angleterre et qu'il puisse prononcer sur toutes les choses qui ont donné lieu à la saisie desdits Biens,

Le Roy a remis pareillement a l'arbitrage du Roy Angleterre le Differend, qui est entre les Habitants d'Andaye et ceux de Fontarabie pour l'usage de la Riviere de Bidassoa Sa Mat^e tient a Agen 50 ou 60 Habitants de Fontarabie ou des lieux voisins Prisonniers ; Elle trouve bon que Monsr. Barrillon promette au Roy d'Angleterre qu'Elle les fera mettre en liberte aussi tost que quinze ou vingt Habitants d'Andaye ou des Villages Voisins, que les Espagnols tiennent en prison pour cette mesme affaire auront esté par eux mis en liberte. *Copy.*

EARL OF ARRAN to ORMOND.

1682-3, March 23. Dublin.—I am sorry to find by your Secretary's letter of the 13th, that the gout has taken your Grace in your hand, for it has formerly been very painful to you there, besides, by that means, I shall lose the benefit of your more free corresponding with me, I am afraid in a time when I can least spare it, for I hear the two great Ministers are still at outward variance, and were gone to Newmarket when the last letters were writ, the one, to make good his accusation, the other, to justify proceedings in the Treasury.

I have it from good hands that it is not intended by the Ministers on that side, that any money at all should be raised either here or there, for the payment of the arrears which will be due to the Army, which will be a great mortification to us here, and may be of very dangerous consequence to his Majesty's service, especially since the establishment is so overcharged. I would not have my Lord Rochester know that I gave your Grace this information, because he must then know who gave me this notice, and I should be sorry the person should suffer, for he is one his lordship does much rely upon, and does most trust in this place.

I find from the new Commissioners that it is still reported in England that they do not well agree, and therefore I think myself obliged, in justice to them, to let your Grace know in order to the Lords of the Treasury's being informed of the truth, that, by all that I can learn, and I have made particular inquiry into the matter, that I am confident they are abused in the report.

SAME to SAME.

1682-3, March 23. Dublin.—Understanding by my Lord Lanesborough that my Lady Orrery, the younger, has petitioned the King in a considerable concern of hers here, which petition is referred to your Grace, and knowing that the other Lady Orrery has endeavoured to do her prejudice in her pretensions, I earnestly desire your Grace would show her all the favour you can with justice on that side, and if it comes before me, as I believe it must, I will do her all the service her case will bear. I have seen a copy of her petition, which is very general ; I hope she has some sort of particular evidence to prove

possession of what she desires from his Majesty. I need say no more, I am sure, upon this subject to your Grace, but this I must acquaint you, that she was always your champion, though in favour with my Lord Shaftesbury.

The following letter has been found misplaced amongst the correspondence for the year 1687 since this volume went to press :—

ORMOND to EARL OF ARLINGTON.

1681, December 3.—Here goes enclosed together with an answer to Sir Robert Carr's of the 12th brought me with your lordship's of the 15th of October, the best excuse I can find for sending it no sooner, to which is only to be added that Vernon was then newly gone and not easily found, and he is a person so much concerned in the affair that I cannot fairly act definitively without him, till I have made him a saver, which shall be the sooner done since his Majesty is persuaded his having that command is not satisfactory to the gentlemen of that country, though it often happens that a public name is assumed for private respects.

It is with us the best time of hawking, but it is at cocks, of which the climate you are in affords but few, but by way of preparation for the next season I may tell you that if you will have a cast or more of untried sore hawks, I shall be able to furnish you out of eyries of my own, which certainly prove good if they happen to be well reared and entered.

I am off from all thoughts of trusting my grandson to travel under the conduct of any governor, a good and faithful one being so hard to find, the youth so hard to govern, and the prosperity or ruin of my family depending so much upon him. Here under my care he behaves himself to my satisfaction, and visibly improves in his person and parts, for which he is beholding to nature which we cannot get him to take any pains to cultivate, so that a good wife is what must be sought for him, and the search must be by such friends as your lordship. When therefore the affair of your kinswoman shall be desperate, I hope you will have your eye elsewhere.

I am beholding to my Lord Ranelagh for all the light I have into the new proposals for the revenue. But who would have thought I should be so some time since? It seems he is confident he is in the right in the contest when in a manner he appeals to me. *Copy.*

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