

ART. XXXVII.—*Letters from Colonel Charles Howard of Naworth, to the Lord Protector Cromwell, in 1655; and his Secretary of State, Thurloe, in 1655-8; from the original State Papers among the Rawlinson MSS.** By SIR GEO. DUCKETT, BART.

Communicated at Naworth, August 27th, 1879.

FROM Colonel Charles Howard to the Lord Protector Cromwell, dated from Naworth, 20 June, 1655.†

May itt pleas y^r Highnes

Since my coming doune, I have donne my endeavors to putt y^r commands in execution. Thos, whoe yⁿ instructed with me to secure the malignantes, I have mett with, and we have imprisoned all the most dangerous, and taken bond off the rest off the disaffected in these northerne parts. Thear are severall, whoe I wish might be sentt to the barbados, both men off fortunes and others, beyng such, whoes principles and temper fitt them for disturbance upon any oportunity. The melitia troops are in a forwardnes; the captaynes and L^{ts} goying cheerfully on in thear work; butt the Cor^{mtts}, that is to say, babington for Northumberland, and Langhorne for Cum^d and West^d, have both refused; the first I beleeve thinks the place below him; the other will nott undertake any souldiers imploymentt, though active in y^r Hignes service otherways. I doe therefore humbly offer

* Many of the Thurloe State Papers were collected and printed by Birch, in the early part of the last century. But the flagrant inaccuracy which pervades them, makes those which he selected of doubtful value to the antiquary.

† Colonel Charles Howard of Naworth, was one of Cromwell's Commissioners for the northern counties. He was M.P. for Westmorland in the "Barebones Parliament" of 1653, and sat in the "Convention Parliament" of 1660 for Cumberland; and had been called to Cromwell's Upper House as Viscount Howard. He was the son of Sir William Howard of Naworth, and great-grandson of the well-known Lord William Howard. Having been active and instrumental in the restoration of Charles II. he was created by him, Earl of Carlisle. He incurred a good share of odium for the course he ultimately pursued, and the love which he professes for the Protector, and the zeal in his service, are slightly at variance with his subsequent acts. He had many others, however, to keep him in countenance in those eventful times, not the least of whom was Lambert, Major-General of several northern counties, who was all along supposed to be in the interest of the exiled family of the Stuarts, and by whom he had been appointed one of his deputies. He was nominated Governor of Carlisle in 1659.

Cap^t

Cap^t atkinson,* whoe is apoynted quarterm^r to the Cumberland troop, that he may be Cor^{ntt} to itt, beyng unwilling to accept the other place ; and one Cap^t bewley†, whoe hath been always a faythful man, thatt he may be quarter^m. Besides thes, I have sent names to Mr Secretary for the Northum^d troop, and desire y^r Highness pleasure concerning them all by the next post, by reason itt will be some obstruction in the work, iff the officers be not settled agaynst the day off muster. I hope I need not say any thing to make y^r highnes beleieve, thatt I am, and shall be, diligengt to serve you ; though whatt y^r highnes tould me touching an information, might have given me ground to speak aboutt itt, which through forgetfulnes I did nott, before my comming out of towne ; butt I have since repented I did nott, least iff any doubt remayne in yo^r highnes thoughts, I might have better cleered

*The following note by the Rev. Thomas Lees has been obligingly sent us, with reference to the individual in question : —

“ This man, to whose tender mercies the Royalists were thus to be committed, was a native of Winton in Westmorland, and afterwards became prominent as the leader of the Kaber Rig or Kipper Rig Plot. This was a branch of a conspiracy organised at Harrogate and Knaresborough, which extended over Yorkshire, Westmorland, and the Bishopric of Durham. Most interesting particulars regarding it are found in “ Depositions from the Castle of York,” published by the Surtees Society in 1861 ; a volume containing a mass of valuable matter connected with our two counties. From that volume we learn that the ramifications of the plot extended as far as Keswick ; that Carlisle was to be secured ; and that Atkinson intended to have seized the excise money in the hands of the Clerk of the Peace at Appleby. The utter collapse of the design is well told in the preface to the “ Depositions,” by the editor, the Rev. James Raine. “ ‘ Liberty of Conscience,’ was the watchword of the insurgents. But although there was much energy and determination evinced, they had neither system nor plan. There was no leader of any name to give his authority to the movement, for men like Fairfax and Whar-ton held themselves cautiously aloof. There were too many masters with no pre-siding genius to direct them. The house, therefore, whilst it was in the builder’s hands, crumbled to the ground. The night of the 12th October (1663), witnessed the beginning and the ending of the Westmorland plot. The Bishopric men arose at the same time, and with a similar result. In Yorkshire, however, some large preparations had been made. Farneley Wood, near Leeds, was the rendezvous of the insurgents, who assembled there on the night of the 12th in some force, and actually threw up entrenchments, which were abandoned at the approach of day. Concealment was impossible, and the cavalry were at once upon them.”

In March, 1664, Sir Thomas Twisden and Sir Christopher Turner sat at Appleby by special commission from the King for the trial of the Westmorland conspirators ; and three of them were hanged, drawn, and quartered. Atkinson’s trial took place in the following August, and his execution on the 1st September. We can well imagine the feeling of satisfaction with which that staunch old Royalist, Anne, Countess of Pembroke, made the following entry in her “ Memorials ” : —

“ And the 20th of this August did the two Judges of Assize for this Northern Circuite come hither to keep the Assizes here when Robert Atkinson one of my Tenants in Mallerstang and that had been my great enemy, was condemned to be hang’d drawn and quarter’d as a Traitor to the King, for having had a hand in the late Plott and Conspiracy so as he was executed accordingly the first day of the month following.”

† Belonged probably, to the Bewleys (or Beaulies) of Hesket and Caldbeck, in Cumberland. See list postea.

itt,

itt, then I can att this distance; but my owne hart dothe witnes soe much clearnes to me, off all my thoughts off you, and towards you, thatt itt ocacioned my nott reflecting upon whatt yoⁿ sayd then. I shall conclude with this, thatt besides the greate yes off conscience, honour, and gratitude, I have a particular one, which is love to yu^r person, and thatt I can say with bouldnes is soe harty, that noe man thatt serves yoⁿ hath more; and itt will apear in case off greatest diffi- culty, thatt he speaks truth, whoe subscribes himself, y^r highnes

Most obedientt and faithfull servant,

(Signed),

CH: HOWARD.

Naward

June 20th

(Addressed),

ffor his highnes the Lord
Protector att Whitehall,
these

presentt.

(Endorsed),

A letter from Coll. Howard,
to his Highnesse, concerning
y^e secureing of severall dan-
gerous p'sons in those p'tes, &
y^e settling of ye Militia,
y^e 20th of June, 55

Wafer impressed with Howard coat, as in next letter
to Secretary Thurloe.

[Rawl. MS. 27, folio 497.]

Colonel Charles Howard to Secretary Thurloe, dated at
Naworth, 20 June, 1665.

S^r

I writt to yoⁿ last Post how farr I had p'ceeded about the militia
troopes in these foure countyes,* which I doubt not but will bee in a
fitt posture to muster at the time appointed. I desire yoⁿ be pleased
to acquaint his Highnes therewth, as also that I have spoke wth Mr.
Atkinson†, whoe is an honest man, and souldier, to bee Corn^{tt} in that

* Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland.

† Underlined in original; and "to be put into the Commission" in the margin.
troope

troope for Cumb^d and Westmerlande, who is very willing to accept the place, since Mr. Langhorne, that was named, refused it. I desire to know his Highnes pleasure, whether I may make choise of an honest man for Cornett in the Northumber^d troope, that likewise being destitute; as also two quarterm^{rs} places; and though I have blank commissions for them, yet I have forborne to deliver them, till I know his Highnes commands. This being all I have at present to trouble yo^a with, I am

Yo^r very humble Serv^t

(Signed,)

CH: HOWARD.

Naward the
20th June 55

(Addressed,)

Ffor the hon^{ble} John Thurloe
Esqr Secretary to the Counsell
at Whitehall,

these
London

(Endorsed,)

A letter from Coll. Howard, concerning y^e forwardnesse of y^e Militia troopes thereabout, 20 June 55.

Seal in red wax: on a bend between six cross crosslets an escutcheon, charged with a demi-lion rampant, (being the Howard coat,) with a crescent for difference.

—

Colonel Charles Howard to Secretary Thurloe, dated at Naworth, 8th October, 1655, respecting the disposing of his prisoners.

S^r

I have received yo^{rs}, and shall undoubtedly observe his Highnes Commands, soe soone as I understand his pleasure, which I hope yo^a will intimate unto mee, as well for the disposing of my self to such service & employm^t, as his Highnes shall require; as also for dispossall of the Prisonn^{rs} in these Border Counties. I have not writt to his Highnes at present aboute this p'ticular, or any thing else, but

N 3

shall

shall relye upon yo^r care and favor in getting mee an answere, to the end I may proceede accordingly. I shall further intreate yo^u, that in case any application bee made to his Highnes, by any p'ticuler p'sonn, for obteneing the command of a guard in the county of Northumberland agst theeves, that I may have noetice of the same, and of such p'sonn as shall most likely gett that Employ^{mt}, if any such bee; to the end I may deliver my judgm^t in that business, in regard I know more of that p'ticuler then any whatsoever. Besydes my desire is, to prevent such miscarridges as hitherto have beene committed by them I imployed for garding the country. Now the reasonn I press this, is because it is a service mantained* freely by the chardg of the Country, and therefore none ought to putt themselves upon us, but by our gener^{ll} consent, unless they bring an order from above, which I desire and hope yo^u will prevent, till reasonn be heard from the Justices on the Countries p^t. I suppose the time drawes neare for appointing Sheriffs; and in regard fitt men are soe thinn in these pt^s, I thought it my duety to putt yo^u in minde of two, to the end his Highnes may not have them to seeke; when the time comes; w^{ch} are Mr. Robert Ffenwick for Northumberland; † and Mr. Tho^s Lampough for Cumberland.

I am S^r,
Yo^r very humble Serv^t,
(Signed,)

Naward Octob^r
the 8th (55)

CH: HOWARD.

(Addressed,)

Ffor the hon^{ble} John
Thurloe Esq^r, Princip^{ll}
Secrettary to his Highnes
at Whitehall
London

(Endorsed,)

Howard,
Naward, Octob.
8th, 1655

Seal in red wax: a lion rampant.

[Rawl. MS., A. 31, 79]

* In the margin "That [he gives us] ye names of such of [them as are] fitt."
† This is Robert Fenwick who represented Northumberland in the "Barebones Parliament" of 1653.

Colonel

Colonel Charles Howard to the Lord Protector Cromwell,
dated from Durham, 24th December, 1665.

May itt please yo^r Highness

I came hither this night to confer with Coll: Lilburne,* concerninge our business, and within a day or two, I shall goo back to putt the business forward in those places, w^{ch} I am intrusted with. I feare Coll Lilburne occasions will nott p'mitt him to goe alonge with mee, butt however I shall use my utmost indeavo^{rs}; thatt yo^r Highness may receive a good account of whatt may bee expected from me; for I shall act with as much fidely and carefulness in yo^e executinge of yo^e chargde imposed upon me, as may be, w^{ch} I hope yo^r Hignes will accept in dischargde of a duty from him, who desires to live noe longer, then to approve himselfe,

Yo^r Hignness,

Durham Decemb^r
yo^e 24th, 1655.

Most humble & obeysant
Serv^{nt}

(Signed,)

CH : HOWARD.

[Rawl. MS., A. 33, folio 567].

Colonel Charles Howard to Thurloe, desiring his attendance may be dispensed with, on the opening of Parliament.

Sr,

I have received yo^{rs}, and am preparing for my Journey towards London. I shall onely desire two words of Advise from yo^u by the first Post; whether yo^u thinke I might be excused for not appearing the first day of the Parliam^t, ffor I have some extraordinary occasions of my own to dispatch; but should hasten tobее upp wthin a weeke after. However if yo^u thinke it fitt I should appear the first day, I shall laye asyde all other things, and not fayle (God willing) to be there. In the meane time I am,

Sr,

Yo^r very humble Servr,

(Signed,)

Naward
Sept^r
the 3^d 1656

CH : HOWARD.

* Colonel Robert Lilburne. See Distribution of his regiment.

(Addressed),

(Addressed,)
For the hon^{ble} John
Thurloe Esq^r, Secretary
of State
at
Whytehall.

[Rawl. MS., A. 42, p. 65.]

Colonel Charles Howard to Secretary Thurloe, dated at
Naworth, 10th August, 1658.

Right Hon^{ble}

The Grand Jurors of this countey, perceaving that those of some
other counteys have made a congratulatory Adresse to his Highnes,
thought it their duty to doe somewhat of the like nature, as you may
perceave by the Inclosed, which they desired me to convey, and I know
not how to doe itt better than through your handes It will be a great
favour to me, and the gentlemen subscribers, to heare from you what
acceptance itt gets, and obleidge,

S^r

Yor ffaithful & humble Servant,

(Signed,)

CH: HOWARD.

Naward this
10th August 1658.

What news you may impart,
I shall be glad to heare.

(Addressed,)

For the Right Hono^{ble}
Secretary Thurloe,
att
Whitehall

London. these

(Endorsed,)

Naward, 10 August 1658,
The Lord Howard, about
the representacon of the
Grand Jurors of the county
of Cumberland

[Rawl. MS., A. 60, 345.]

Colonel

Colonel Charles Howard to Secretary Thurloe, dated at
Naworth, 25th August, 1658.

Right Hon^{ble}

Since I sent the Adresse ffrom y^e Grand Jurors of this countey,
I received the Inclosed from those of Northumberland. I find
generally in these partes, the people desirous of a settlement, and
those who have bin against such a one, as you and I think to be y^e
best; are now very willing to submit. I have nothing else, but that

I am,

Yo^{ur} ffaithfull & humble Servant,

(Signed,)

Nawerd this 25th
August 1658.

CH: HOWARD.

(Addressed,)

ffor the Right Hon^{ble}: Secretary
Thurloe,

att

Whitehall,
these present.

(Endorsed,)

25 August, 1658
Lord Howard.

Seal in red wax: a lion rampant.

[Rawl. MS., A. 60, 465,]

The allusion in the foregoing letters, both to the militia
of the Northern counties, and the forces in the North, may
render these additional entries in the Thurloe Papers of
some interest and value, in respect of some of the military
appointments, and the distribution of the mounted part of
Cromwell's army at that period of the Protectorate.

Recommendations

Recommendations for commissions in the Cumberland and Northumberland Militia.

- “ In Northumberland; These are recommended by Captⁿ Ogle :*
 one Stradder for Corn^{tt} ;
 & one Simpson for quarterm^r ;
 both reputed honnest.”
- “ In Cumberland & Westm^{ld} :
 One ~~B~~ Bewley for quarterm^r ;
 whoe hath still been faithfull”

[Rawl. MS., A. 27, 281.]

The last of these appointments will be seen to have been recommended by Colonel Howard.

The quarters of the regiments of horse in England during the Commonwealth, (year not given), among the Thurloe State Papers.

Coll Lillburnes	}	Tadcaster ;
Reg ^r		Northallerton ;
		Darlington ;
		Morpeith ;
		Preston ;
		Cheshire ;

Coll. Berry at Worcester ;
 Maj^r Butler at Noth Hampton
 & Oundle ;
 Cap^t Crookes in Hereford ;
 Cap^t Hutton, Shrewsbury ;
 Cap^t Robinson, Wreham ;
 Cap^t Hawkrich, Bedford.

Gen ^l Desbrough in Devon ;	}	Ordered for Scotland.
Maj ^r Blackmore at Exeter		
Cap ^t Hope in Cornwall ;		
— Scotton at the Devizes ;		
— Jenkings at Wells ;		
— Wallington at Gloucester.		

* Doubtless the same that represented one of the four northern counties in the Barebones Parliament.

Coll Goffs Troope at Chicester;
 Creedes at Oxforde;
 Cap^t Palmers at Winchester;
 — Hope at Lewis;
 — Cotchet at Readinge;
 — Pretty at Maidstone.

Com' Gen^l Whaley at Newarke;
 Maj^r Swallow at Downham near Lyn;
 Cap^t Evynson at Bockley neare Yarmouth;
 Cap^t Chamberlayne at Chelmsford & Colchester;
 Cap^t Saperton at Nottingham;
 Cap^t Deale at Coventry.

Coll Twisleton at Grantham;
 Maj^r Cambridge at the Isle of Ely;
 Cap^t Byfield at Ipswich;
 — Beale at Ailsbury;
 — Harts at Lincolne.

Coll Hackers at Melton Mowbray;	} Ordered for Scotland.
Maj ^r Grove at Monmouth;	
Cap ^t Hubbert in Rutlande;	
— Waynes in Chesterfield;	
— Empson at Hertforde;	
— Needham at Cardiffe in South Wales.	

The Lord Lambert's Regt, and
 Coll. Bridge, uppo' the Guarde
 in Towne.

[Rawl. MS., A. 27, folio 753.]