

ART. VIII.—*Extracts from Acts of the Privy Council relating to Cumberland and Westmorland, 1558 to 1568, being the first ten years of the reign of Elizabeth.*  
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ON previous occasions I have had the honour of laying before this Society extracts from the Acts of the Privy Council, now in course of publication, in the hope that the collection might be useful to some of our members. As I am told that they have been found useful, and some members have asked for more, I now submit a further series. It is, of course, mere paste and scissors work; but it may be useful to have these entries collected, instead of having to search through many volumes. The entries are of very varied interest—some are of much interest, others merely trivial; but, if the extracts are given, it appears necessary that none relating to the two counties should be omitted. As usual, they are incomplete. In many cases we get a glance of an incident which seems interesting, but hear no more of it, and are, so far as these records go, in the dark as to how the matter began or how it ended. I have not, however, thought it necessary to give all in full; many of the entries are tedious from prolixity and repetition, some of them I have condensed—though I hope that nothing material has been omitted—and, in most cases, the spelling has been modernised. With this explanation, the extracts are best left to speak for themselves.

1558.

It would seem that on the accession of Elizabeth there were some apprehensions on account of the laxity of discipline in the northern garrisons, for at the third

Council held, on 30th November, 1558, instructions were sent to the Earl of Northumberland to hold a simultaneous muster at various places on the Borders, reporting those who were absent. As a sequel to this probably, we find that on the 2nd of January Sir Ralph Grey, to whom on the 20th December a letter was dispatched in approval of his conduct and continuing him in his command of 100 men with an increase of pay, but who, as it would appear, had come up to London without leave, was committed to the Porter's Lodge, from which, however, he was released next day on his humble submission and promise of amendment.

On the 30th November the Attorney-General was directed to stay proceedings in a matter between the Earl of Cumberland and Lord Wharton, as the Council would themselves hear the matter.

On the 9th December Lord Dacre, having 200 hackbutters under his command on the West Marches, was directed to send 100 of them for service on the east and Middle Marches.

On the 20th December a general order was issued that all officers and soldiers having charges on the Borders should repair to their posts on pain of forfeiture of all wages due to them.

At a sitting held at Westminster on the 23rd December, the Council appointed a series of committees for various purposes, among which was one "for care of the north partes towards Scotland and Berwick," consisting of the Earl of Arundel, the Earl of Shrewsbury, the Earl of Bedford, the Earl of Pembroke, the Lord Admiral (Lord Clinton, afterwards Earl of Lincoln), and Sir Ambrose Cave (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster).

1558-9.

On the 3rd of January Lord Westmorland was called on to make a return of the Scottish prisoners taken during his command in the north, the ransom agreed on for

them, where they were detained, and whether in his opinion they should be sent home on payment of their ransoms or should be detained for a time.

On the 10th of January a letter was written to Leonard Dacre thanking him for his late good exploit upon the Scots, and also directing him to express the thanks of the Council to Captain Tutty and the rest that served with him. The Council, however, while "they very well like his forwardness so would they have wysshed he had forborne thannoyinge of them, and stand only upon his own garde, consydering they wyll seke to revenge it." It may be mentioned here that Captain Tutty, who appears to have distinguished himself in Border warfare, was in 1562 appointed captain of one half of the Essex levies. We hear no more of him on the Borders.

On the 11th of January a letter was written to the Bishop of London requiring him to lend to the Bishop of Carlisle (Owen Oglethorpe), who was appointed to officiate at the Queen's coronation, *Universum apparatus pontificium quo uti solent Episcopi in hujusmodo magnifici illustrissimorum regum inaugurationibus*. It is well known that there was difficulty in obtaining a prelate to officiate. The Bishop of Carlisle's compliance was rewarded by his being summoned to appear before the Council on the 5th April and bound in recognisance to attend daily, and not to depart from London without leave of the Council. He, with others bound at the same time, attended accordingly till the 11th May, when he was discharged with a fine of £250. The offence is stated to have been a contempt; of what nature does not appear from the Council book, but from Strype it would seem to be that he spoke or voted in Parliament against the Queen's supremacy or against the Bill for Uniformity of Religion—perhaps both.

On the 27th February the Justices of Assize for Cumberland were directed to inquire into the matters in dispute between Sir Thomas Dacre and his father Lord Dacre, "according to the minute in the Council chest."

From the 12th May, 1559, to 28th May, 1562, the register is missing, and for some time after the latter date it is very imperfect.

1562.

On the 4th July occurs one of the few notices we find of Mary Queen of Scots. It is an order to the Sheriff of Nottingham to make preparation for a projected meeting there of the two Queens. This meeting, however, never took place.

On the 6th July a letter was written to Lord Dacre respecting some complaints made by "the Mrs. Maxwell" (*sic*) to the Queen of Scots, a copy of which letter was sent to Mr. Randolph, the Ambassador in Scotland, to be shown to the Queen of Scots, with an assurance of the Queen's desire for the preservation of peace, "according to the minute in the Council chest."

On the 6th August, in consequence of a complaint from the Laird of Cessford that certain Scottish thieves had taken refuge in England, Lord Grey and Sir John Forster, the Wardens of the East and Middle Marches, were directed to arrest any such that might be found, and send them to the Warden of the opposite March to be dealt with.

An entry on the 6th September shows that Lord Dacre, having been directed to arrest one John Lampeley (probably Lamplugh), had in mistake arrested one George Lampeley. The rightful culprit having been otherwise arrested and committed, he is now directed to release George who, as it would appear, he was keeping in prison notwithstanding former orders for his release.

No entries from 22nd January, 1562, to 5th May, 1564.

1564.

On the 11th May Sir John Forster is directed "to see Greame (Graham) answered of such sommes of money as is due unto him," then to proceed to Berwick and follow the orders of the Earl of Bedford.

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On the 23rd November, "a letter to William Patenson of the county of Cumberland to suffer such as be skilful in minerals and are therefore authorized to have the working and recovering thereof in the Queen's Majesty's lordship of Barrowdale in the said county, notwithstanding his pretended right thereunto by virtue of letters granted out of the Seal of the Duchie of Lancaster unto him in the tyme of the reign of King Edward the VI<sup>th</sup>."

On the 7th December summonses to appear were issued to, among others, Corwin, *alias* Curwen, of Workington, "in Lancashire or Cumberlandshire" (*sic*).

1564-5.

An entry on the 9th January shows that Lord Scrope was then Warden of the West Marches and Governor of Carlisle, apparently recently appointed, as it refers to demands made by him for his command. These demands were on the 16th referred to Lord Bedford, Governor of Berwick and Warden of the East Marches, for inquiry and report, and by an entry on the 30th it appears that he had proposed to send an officer to examine the matter, as "the Lordes do well like his choice of Captain Rede or Captain Brickwell to go to the West Marches for the purpose."

On the 6th April, 1565, Lord Bedford is advised that since the coming of the Earl of Bothwell to his house of "tharmitage in Leddesdale," the evil-disposed sort have committed a spoil upon the Queen's Majesty's subjects, and he is therefore to detach 20 men for the strengthening of the force on the Middle Marches, in compliance with the request of Sir John Forster, the Warden; while the Earl of Bothwell should remain upon the Borders.

On the 22nd June there appears "a letter to the Lord Scrope in answer of his letters wrytten to Mr. Secretarye with the xamynacion by him taken of Nycholas Hethe, whom his Lordship is required to procede somewhat sharply withall to the ende he should declare the full

truthe why he wandreth abrode, and yf he will not be plaine to use some kinde of torture unto him so as it be without any grete bodily hurte and to advertise of his doings herein &c according to the mynute in the Council Chest." Who Nicholas Heath was or what was his offence I know not, but the entry is worth reproducing *verbatim*. It is the only allusion we meet with to the use of torture except in the Tower or Bridewell.

On the 8th of July a letter was written to the Mayor and other officers of Newcastle informing them of the expected arrival of certain German miners, who were to be "for their monny curtesly received," and guided from Newcastle to "Keswyk in Cumberland," where they were to be employed.

As is well known, piracy was one of the great evils of this period, and in this year (1565) the Council seems to have deemed it necessary to make a serious effort for its suppression. With this view Commissioners, armed with very extensive powers, were appointed in each maritime county, under an order passed on the 8th November. Accompanying this is a list of the Commissioners appointed in each county, and of the ports under their jurisdiction. The latter is of the highest interest, as showing the progress and decline of the ports round our coasts. Some which are now of importance seem hardly to have been known. For instance, the clerk of the Council places Liverpool in Cheshire, so that little can have been known of it;\* while, on the other hand, many which are named have dwindled into insignificance, and some, chiefly on the east coast, can no longer be found, having been washed away by the encroachments of the sea. The Commissioners named for Cumberland are Henricus, Dominus Scrope, Henricus Curwin, Johannes Egliambery (Aglionby), Georgius Laglegh (*sic*, perhaps Lamplugh) and Thomas Myddelton. The ports named

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\* Liverpool, until somewhat later, was considered a harbour of Chester.—ED.

are Millom, Ravenglass, Calday (perhaps the mouth of the Calder river), St. Bees, Whithaven, Wirkington, Skimbornes, and the Water of Sulweye.

From 31st December, 1565, to 8th October, 1566, the register is missing. The first entry we find relating to these counties is on the day they resume, when orders were sent to Lord Scrope and Sir John Forster to levy each within his wardenry 50 light horsemen for service in Ireland.

1566.

On the 31st October a letter was sent to Lord Scrope desiring him to assist John Briggs, a merchant of Carmarthen, in enforcing a decree of the Privy Council of Scotland for the recovery of a sum of £300 detained in the hands of Sir John Maxwell and John Dumarr (Dunbar ?) of Mochrum, by the procurement of Archibald Greame and others, apparently as security, as it is stated that the latter are now content that the same may be released.

1566-7.

On the 18th January a letter was sent to Lord Scrope and the Bishop of Carlisle (John Best) to inquire into complaints made by the citizens of Carlisle against the Mayor, Robert Dalton. He appeared before the Council on the 21st April, and was committed to the Fleet, from which, however, he was released on the 29th on giving bail to appear at the next Assizes at Carlisle and abide by the order of the Judges. He is said to owe the city £100 besides the sums which he is charged to have taken out of the common treasury; also to restore the charter and plate belonging to the Corporation which had come into his possession. There appears also to have been a doubt whether he was lawfully elected Mayor, and in consequence it was directed that till this cause could be tried either he who was alleged to be lawfully chosen or the next senior alderman should act as Mayor—it being

provided, however, that no person appointed by Dalton to any office should be removed unless for default. In consideration of poverty, he was excused from his fees in the Fleet, except the expense of maintenance.

On the 7th April it was ordered that the receivers of the northern counties should pay the charges for the levy of 100 horsemen for Ireland to be made by Lord Scrope and Sir John Forster.

1570.

On the 12th October orders were given that Richard Lowther, who had been committed to the Tower and afterwards released on bail to reside with his brother-in-law Henry Goodyere, should be released on giving bonds to perform certain conditions named on the schedule sent to him, which, however, is not given.

1570-I.

On the 29th or 30th January (the entries are given together) we find a letter to Lord Scrope touching the overflowing of Eden river, and the danger of the bridge. He is directed to take advice as to the remedy, and carry it out with speed. It would seem that the result was an appeal to the country for subscriptions. An entry on the 1st March, 1574-5, records a letter to the Lord Scrope and the Bishop of Carlisle for the repairing of a breach upon the river of Eden near Carlisle, &c., according to a minute remaining in the Council chest; and on the 5th April, 1575, is a long entry of a letter which it will probably be of interest to give in full though out of date, as it shows that the matter was considered of sufficient importance to call for subscriptions from Westmorland, "the Bishopric" (of Durham), and other places within the presidency of York. With regard to "Low Westmorland," our late President wrote to me:—"The east and west wards of Westmorland, otherwise the barony of Appleby or Applebyshire, are 'the bottom of Westmorland,' and so would be Low Westmorland."

A letter to the Bisshop of Carlisle and Lord Scrope signifeing the receipt of theirs of the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> of the last touching their proceeding for the repaireng of the breach ot the river of Eden besides Carlile, for the which they give them right hartie thanckes; and as their Lordships liked well the forwardnes of the Mayour and his brethern of Carlile, the gentlemen of Cumberland and Kendall, for the which their Lordships thought convenient to require them to give thanckes unto them, so did they not a letill mervaille that the gentlemen of Lowe Westmerland shold so absolutely refuse to contribute anything at all, the worke being so necessarie aswell for the one countrey as thother, and therefore they shold signifie unto the said gentilmen that aunsver in the name of the rest, as to all others as they shold see cause, how moche theyr refusall is mysliked, and that, notwithstanding their allegacions of repaireng of bridges in their owne contrey, it is loked that they shold contribute sumwhat, although not in equall proporcion with the rest; and incase they shold still persiste in their wilfulness, then the said Bisshop and Lord Scrope to advertise their Lordships that other order might be taken; and yet to thintent the workers might not be any longer delaied, their Lordships had written their letters to the Lord President at Yorke that if he shalbe advertised from the said Bisshop and Lord Scrope that further contribucion shalbe nedefull then that which shalbe gathered in Carlile, Cumberland, Kendall, then his Lordship to give order that in the Bisshopricke and other places of his jurisdiction for some further contribucion, that the workes be not forslone but perfected with spede.

A letter to therle of Huntington, Lord President at Yorke, that whereas their Lordships had been informed of a greate breache of of the ryver of Eden near to the citie of Carlisle, which it were requisite, aswell for the necessitee of her Majesty's service as enter-course of contries adjoyninge, were spedely repaired, like as their Lordships had written their letters to the Bisshop of Carlile and Lord Scrope to deal with thinhabitauntes of those partes for some contribucion to be levied towards that workes, so have their Lordships thought convenient to signifie unto his Lordship that in case he shalbe advertised from them that the collection which shalbe gatherid in those partes shall not suffice to finishe the worke, then his Lordship to gyve order that in the Bisshopricke and other places of jurisdiction some gathering may be made towards the charges of that worke, being so necessarie, according to the said Buisshopps and Lord Scrope[s] advertisementes what shalbe nedeful for a further supplie, &c.

On the 6th March Sir Thomas Smith, who held the

deanery of Carlisle, was sworn of the Privy Council. He was appointed a principal secretary in 1572, but the part of the register which should contain the minute of his appointment is now missing.

On the 6th March a letter was written to Lord Scrope "touching a spoil donne by the Quenes Majesties subjectes under his charge unto the tenants and servants of the Earl of Morton in Galloway, and furdur, &c according to the minute remaining, &c." In May following Lord Scrope is directed to cause restitution to be made to the Earl of Morton's tenants and others that were spoiled of their goods.

1571.

An entry of the 14th May, 1571, directs the Sheriffs and Justices of the Peace of certain shires within the diocese of Chester to be aiding and assisting to the Bishop of Carlisle, Richard Best (afterwards Bishop of Durham), who had been appointed by the Archbishop of York, Edmund Grindal (himself a Cumbrian), to be visitor of the diocese of Chester. Another letter of the same date gives similar instructions to Lord Derby, who was Lord-Lieutenant of Lancaster and Cheshire.

13th June.—A letter to George Lamplugh, signifying the Queen's pleasure that he should be restored and thenceforth enjoy the office of Deputy-Lieutenant to Lord Wharton of the Castle and Honour of Cockermouth. It appears that he had been deprived of his office, having given offence by issuing orders in his own name for the appointment and removal of officers without notifying that he did so as deputy to Lord Wharton. A letter of the 16th August, 1574, directs him to deliver over the castle to such as shall be appointed by the Master of the Wards (Lord Burghley) and the Lord Chamberlain (Lord Howard, of Effingham), as guardians to the Lord Wharton.

11th July.—A letter to Lord Scrope respecting the evil-doings of Fergus Greame, by reason whereof his lordship

was forced to use some kind of chastisement towards him, and the Scots allied with him. Lord Scrope is now required to forbear further proceedings till he shall receive further instructions; also to take some "quiet order and stay for the time being between him (Greame) and his friends and Edward (Irving) of the Boushaw and his friends that he may return to his in England and Edward to his in Scotland." It appears by an entry on the 8th August that Fergus Greame appeared before the Council and made submission, acknowledging sundry faults committed by him.

On the 29th September orders were sent to Lord Scrope to apprehend one Anthony Armstrong, "a notable thief and traytour to the Queens Majesty;" also to send up under safe custody one Richard Lothar (Lowther) to answer that is objected against him. Richard Lowther was, it appears, again committed to the Tower. He appeared before the Council on 2nd November, 1573, and was discharged with a reprimand on promising to appear when called upon.

15th October.—A letter to Lord Scrope, approving of his negotiations with Lord Herries and the King's party in Scotland.

## 1571-2.

16th March.—A letter to Lord Scrope advising him of one Robin a Fulde, *alias* Grymes, a conveyer of letters for the Queen of Scots. There were associated with him one David Grymes, of Conisburgh, and "one Wilson that halteth," whom he is to cause to be apprehended and put to safe keeping, so that the one may have no conference with the other until he shall have examined him touching the matters aforesaid.

## 1572.

21st, 22nd, and 25th May.—Entries for these dates are collected. The only one which concerns us is the following:—A letter to the Lord Scrope, Warden of the West

Marches, for aneimpst Scotland to cause restitution to be made to certain of therle (the Earl) of Morton's tenantes and others that have been spoiled of their goods by sundry under his rule and charge.

1573.

From the 31st July, 1572, to February, 1572-3, the registers are missing. On 26th March, 1573, letters were written to Lord Scrope and Sir John Forster to "have good regard to the forces of the Borders if the Marshal be enforced to imploye them to the recovery of Edenborough Castle." By "the Marshal" is meant the Marshal of Berwick, which office was then held by Sir William Drury, who was informed of the order given, and directed to "take like order with the Deputies of the East Marches." The office of Lord Warden of the East Marches seems to have been vacant.

14th January.—A letter to the Lord President of the North and the Archbishop of York (Edmund Grindal) with a supplication of Anthony Hudleston, of Cumberland, esquire, that when he was convented before the High Commissioners of that province for suspicion of incest and adultery, and thereupon was bound in recognisances not to depart home, which hath been almost two years, they would proceed without further delay to some final trial and determination of the matter, and to advertise their lordships what they have done therein.

12th July.—Three letters to the Wardens of the Marches to meet and confer with the Regent of Scotland for the repressing of the thieves and fugitives of the Borders, &c., according to the minute remaining (in the Council chest).

29th October (at the Star Chamber).—A letter to the Bishop of Carlisle and the Lord Scrope to procure some contribution among the gentlemen of the Wardenry and the city of Carlisle for the repairing of a breach made by the river of Eden near unto the city of Carlisle.

2nd November.—Richard Lowther, late prisoner in the

Tower, made this day his appearance before my lords of the Council according to his bond, and was by their lordships for this time dismissed from any further attendance; but only commanded to behave himself well and dutifully, and to be ready to make his appearance before their lordships at such time as he should be hereafter commanded.

23rd November.—A letter to the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Carlisle (Richard Barnes), with the petition of Anthony Hudleston and a letter of the Bishop of Chester (William Downman) touching a matter of incest, wherewith the said Hudleston was charged and under bond, that they should take further examination if it so seemed meet, and dismiss him if they found no further cause than appeared to their lordships.

1st December.—A letter to Sir John Forster, Lord Warden of the Middle Marches, to use as good means as he can to stay the Lord Farnehurst (Ferniehurst) that he go not into France, and to keep him in some secret place for his safety until the Lord Regent may be dealt withal by the Queen's Majesty or otherwise to reconcile him to his favour; with a postscript to advertise how he findeth him and upon what points of submission he standeth, that the right may be dealt with accordingly.

1573-4.

3rd February.—Three letters to the Wardens of the Marches over against Scotland to concur (confer?) with the Lord Regent or other Wardens of the realm, for the suppression of their outlaws and rebels that seek any relief and succours or defence in each part, as heretofore have been written by their lordships to the said Wardens, whereof minutes have remained in the chest.

8th March.—A letter to the lord of Hunsdon (Governor of Berwick) to send forthwith to Workington the 100 soldiers appointed to be sent from Berwick to the Earl of Essex in Ireland. A letter to the Lord Scrope to give

order that they may be provided of lodging at Workington or thereabout and also of shipping.

1574.

19th June.—A letter to the Lord Scrope and Bishop of Carlisle to apprehend James Dugdale, Henry Thornell, Richard Wilson, and Martin Moisor, and to commit them to prison, without conference or intelligence, till they shall have advertised and thereupon have other direction. They resort to Mr. Latham's house. This case occurs again on the 18th November, when it appears that Lord Scrope had "apprehended one Dingdall (*sic*), a priest, and one Mosier, the causes of their apprehension being for matters of religion." His lordship was willed to cause them to be conferred withall by some discreet man for the purpose, by which if they could be brought to conformity and be bound to observe the laws and orders of this realm established for religion they should be put at liberty, otherwise he should proceed against them as their offences required, according to the law in such cases provided.

16th August.—A letter to George Lamplugh to deliver the castle of Cockermouth, which was for a certain time committed to his keeping, unto such and in such order as he shall be appointed and required by the Lord Treasurer, Master of the Wards (Lord Burghley), and the Lord Chamberlain (Lord Howard, of Effingham) as guardians to the Lord Wharton.

6th October.—A letter to the Earl of Huntingdon, Lord President in the North, to give order that by Commission from the Court there a complaint enclosed touching a certain riot committed by Gerard Lowther upon the servants of Richard Cleiburne, of the county of Westmorland, esquire, might be examined by some indifferent Justices of Peace, and the said Lowther to be sent for to show before his lordship what he can answer to the said complaint, and to have declared unto him that in consideration of her Majesty's pardon lately bestowed upon

him their lordships looked not to hear any such thing of him. Gerard Lowther was also written to "how their lordships had well thought that in respect of her Majesty's pardon lately granted unto him he would have behaved himself more dutifully than the complaint purporteth." He is ordered to appear before Lord Huntingdon for examination, and to answer the charge brought against him. The offence for which he had been pardoned appears from a late entry to have been a murder in Northumberland, but no particulars of it appear. He is again the subject of our next extract.

22nd November.—A letter to the Lord Chief Justice (Sir Christopher Wray) and Justice Harper, with an (examination) inclosed of the Lord President of the North touching Gerard Lowther for the death of Mathew Tomson. They are required to call him and to take order that he may be forthcoming to answer the fact according to justice, and not to participate (*sic*) the Lord President's letter to Lowther, being sent to them only for their instructions.

10th December.—Upon a letter received from the Lord President of the North that Gerard Lowther was indicted of wilful murder by a private Sessions holden in the county of Westmorland, a letter was written to the Master of the Rolls (Sir William Cordell) to take order for his apprehension and committing to prison according to the law, and if the Lord Chief Justice and Justice Harper were in the city he should confer with them for the ordering of him.

1574-5.

24th January.—A letter to the Lord Chief Justice of England that whereas Gerard Lowther, being indicted of a wilful murder in Northumberland, had obtained her Majesty's pardon and made earnest request to have liberty to plead the same he should be suffered so to do according to the laws; and if upon pleading the said pardon should

be found available towards him he might see him at such liberty as law requireth, unless he should see cause to enjoin him to appear again before their lordships to receive such further order as the case should require. We hear no more of this incident, though the name of Gerard Lowther occurs again.

25th February.—Upon letters from the Lord Regent (of Scotland) that the only daughter and heir of the eldest son of the Lord Carlisle (Scotland) left in her grauncier's (grandsire's) custody, to whom succeeding her father she is now heir and ward to the King, hath been stolen away by her father's brother, &c., and brought into England, and after long secret keeping and removing from place to place was brought to the house of Thomas Carleton in Westmorland, and is presently in the keeping of the Lord Scrope, letters are written to the said lord to deliver her with expedition to such persons as the Lord Regent shall assign, which letters were sent to the Lord Regent inclosed in the former letters for the care of Carleton. Carleton was Land Sergeant of Gilsland, and letters were written on the same day to the Lord Regent on a complaint made by him. One of what nature is not stated. Lord Scrope was instructed to inquire into the Carlisle affair and report his opinion. Possibly the next extract may refer to the complaint made by Carleton.

1st March.—A letter to the Lord Scrope and Sir John Forster, upon the complaint of the death of John Armstrong, that they should cause the offenders to be apprehended and pursued according to justice with uprightness and indifference without all partiality, in which of their offices soever they shall be found.

11th March.—A letter to the Lord Scrope and the Bishop of Carlisle for the repairing of a breach upon the river of Eden near Carlisle, &c., according to a minute remaining in the Council chest. (See *ante*, *sub. ann.* 1570-1).

1575.

27th November.—Letters to Lord Hunsdon (Governor of Berwick and Warden of the East Marches), Lord Scrope (Warden of the West Marches), and Sir John Forster (Warden of the Middle Marches) to apprehend such persons whose names were contained in a schedule sent from the Regent of Scotland, being onsetters and practisers with one Lawrence Nicholai, Italian goldsmith, late inhabitant of Berwick and now prisoner in Scotland, not only to counterfeit that King's coin, but her Majesty's also; and in case upon diligent search any of them shall be found culpable of coining of the moneys of the realme they (are) to proceed with them according to the laws provided in this behalf; but if they had counterfeited only Scottish or other foreign (coin) they should nevertheless stay them till order were sent from hence for their punishment; and in case they should find any stamps of Scottish money to send the same to the Regent, and advertise him of their doings, that by conference together the truth of the practice might be thoroughly known.

29th December.—A letter to Sir John Forster, where their lordships being given to understand from the Lord Scrope what good justice the Regent of Scotland had done upon the West Marches, and that he meaneth to come to the Middle Marches to do the like he should use good correspondence in that behalf for the continuance of amity according to the late agreement at Flouden, and to advertise their lordships what shall be done therein.

1575-6.

26th February.—A letter to the Lord Regent of Scotland touching some quarrel between the Greymes and the Maxwells, according to the minute, &c. There is nothing to show what the quarrel was, or how it ended.

1576.

28th May.—A letter to Christopher Dalston that where he, being executor to the Lady Jane Dacre, wife of Sir

John Dacre of Lanercost, doth withhold a chain of gold given by the last will of the said Lady Jane to a young gentleman named John Semple, son to the Lord Semple, of Scotland, and born of the sister of the said Lady Jane, which having been sundry ways demanded of him and now of late by the Lord Scrope, who was moved thereunto at the instance of the Lord Regent of Scotland; the said Dalston is therefore required to make delivery of the said chain to the said Lord Scrope without delay, and he to deliver the same over to the young gentleman as appertaineth, and this letter shall be his discharge for this purpose, and in so doing he shall avoid other extremities which otherwise by the detaining of it are likely to fall unto him, and hereof he is willed to have regard.

10th February.—A letter to Lord Scrope that whereas by a letter directed to the Lord Treasurer their Lordships are given to understand that the alteration of the dungeon tower at Carlisle, according to his advice and opinion, would not only be very profitable to Her Majesty in saving a good sum of money, and also very commodious for Her Highness' service otherwise; in consideration whereof, and for his better discharge and their lordships' satisfaction therein, they have given order to the Marshal of Berwick (Sir Robert Constable), Captain Brickwell, and Captain Gham, whom their lordships know to be very skilful in matters of fortification, to make their repair to the town of Carlisle, and there together with him to view the said dungeon, and upon conference and consideration thereof to signify unto their lordships particularly the state of the said dungeon, how the same is to be altered, to what end, what profit and commodity may follow, and withal to set down an estimate of the charges necessarily to be employed for the doing of the whole. Orders in the sense of the above were also sent to the Marshal of Berwick.

1576-7.

6th March.—A letter to the Lord President of the North

(Lord Huntingdon) that where one William Johnson, of Naworth, in the barony of Gildeland (*sic*), hath been a suitor unto the lords to have a licence to beg in consideration of certain losses sustained, he is required to examine whether there be any cause why he should be relieved, and accordingly to give order for the helping of it.

1577.

4th August.—A short entry of letters to the Lords Wardens as to the outlaws and disordered people in the north. One hundred men are to be sent from Berwick to Lord Scrope when he shall send for them. Sir John Forster was also written to concerning some matter between the Fenwicks and “Shastons” (Shaftoes?). No particulars are given. The minutes are said to be in the Council chest.

14th October.—Lord Scrope having desired an allowance of eight pence a day to 50 of the 100 men sent from Berwick, that they might serve for two months as horsemen for “repressing of the fugitives on both parts;” their lordships, for avoiding of a new and extraordinary charge to Her Majesty, have required his lordship to make choice of such a number of persons meet and sufficient to serve as he shall think good, the same to be of the country thereabouts, and to divide the time for their service so as some of them may attend vii or viii days and some other on less, as his lordship shall see meetest for the service and for the lesser trouble unto them.

2nd November.—A letter to the Lord Scrope that where their lordships understand by a letter of his of the 25th October, written to Mr. Secretary, that he hath dealt with the gentlemen in that country for a contribution to be had towards the maintenance of fifty horsemen to serve for a time on the Borders for the suppressing of disorders daily committed by the fugitives, whereunto his lordship doubteth they will hardly yield, for that it may seem some innovation among them, although the sum that will suffice

for that purpose will not amount unto above fourscore pounds in both shires, which is but a small thing; their lordships have thought good, upon further consideration had, how necessary the service of the said horsemen will be there for the time, to signify to his lordship that of that fourscore pounds which he thinketh will suffice to bear the charge aforesaid, if he can procure the gentlemen of both the said shires (Cumberland and Westmorland) to allow the one half, their lordships are well contented to furnish him of the other forty pounds out of Her Majesty's treasure at Berwick, and have to that end written their warrant to the treasurer there; they have also appointed the said treasurer to disburse unto the captains beforehand for the victualling of their bands two months' pay or more as he shall think meet, unto whose discretion they refer the time of their stay on the said Borders, when they doubt not but his lordship will have care for the return of them to Berwick as soon as he shall see no further use of their service in those parts. Instructions in this sense were sent to the treasurer of Berwick. Captain Pikeman and Captain Carvill were the officers to be sent.

27th November.—A letter to the Earl of Angus thanking him for "the good disposition and singular care he hath as well towards the furtherance of justice in those parts within his charge as to the continuance and advancement of the league and amity between the two realms."

2nd December.—A letter to the Lord President of York signifying that by the inclosed petition he shall perceive the state of a controversy between one Rowland Vaux, gentleman, of the county of Cumberland, and one Richard and Gerard Lowther, brethren, also of the same county, and where the said Vaux hath been an humble suitor unto their lordships to call the said Lowthers before them and to examine the said controversy here, their lordships have thought it more convenient, the persons being inhabitant within his lordship's government, to recommend the matter unto him, earnestly requiring his lord-

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ship to take some pains to boult out the truth between them, and as upon proof he shall find the parties culpable to punish them according to the laws of this realm in that behalf provided.

1577-8.

2nd January.—A letter to the Lord Scrope that where it hath pleased Her Majesty to grant unto Mr. Wolley, Her Highness' secretary for the Latin tongue, the deanery of the Church of Carlisle, who having of purpose sent thither to understand the state of that church to the end that such things as were amiss might be reformed, their lordships do now by his report understand that certain of the same college remain in deep arrearages to the church; for remedy whereof their lordships have thought good to require him to call before him as well the accomptants of the Church of Carlisle, whom they shall understand to remain in debt, as the tenants who are behind with their rents, and as he shall find cause to give order either that they pay the said arrearages and rents due to that college, or to show some reasonable cause why they ought not or do not pay the same; and of his doings herein to advertise their lordships with as convenient speed as he may, as also if there shall be any slackness used herein by any party.

[Wolley was not in orders, though he already held an ecclesiastical preferment, being prebendary of Compton Dundon in the Diocese of Wells.—*Dict. of Nat. Biog.*]

13th January.—To the Lord Scrope in answer of his to my lords, wherein their lordships give him thanks for his pains taken in compounding the controversies and quarrels upon the Borders, being reduced to such quietness as the like hath not been seen within the memory of man; it is also signified unto him that their lordships are pleased to give order to the Receiver of Cumberland to advance unto Mr. Captain Carvell and Mr. Captain Pickman that served under his lordship two months' wages to be defalked of their entertainment out of their

next pay at midsummer, and that they send their letter to Mr. Braddyll (the receiver) for that purpose; they likewise make him to understand that they sent their letters of thanks to Mr. Carmighell (Sir John Carmichael, Scottish Warden of the Marches) for his diligence and conformity in joining with his lordship for compounding of the causes aforesaid.

[Letters in accordance with the above were written to Mr. Braddyll, the treasurer of Berwick, and Sir John Carmichael, but did not reach their destination, the post being robbed on the way, as appears by the next entry to be quoted.]

28th January.—Three letters to the Lord Scrope, Mr. Braddyll, and Mr. Carmighell according as they are before noted, upon advertisement that the former letters were lost by spoiling of the post, the next post is to Carlisle.

10th March.—To the Lord Scrope with a petition inclosed, subscribed by the hands of divers Justices and gentlemen of Cumberland and Westmorland, declaring the scarcity and necessity of corn in the country, and desiring to be relieved from some other parts of this realm; for that the said Justices and gentlemen whose names were subscribed are for the most part persons unknown to their lordships, and thereby the necessity of the request not yet ordered to be relieved, his lordship is desired to certify the very truth of the state and necessity of the premises in that country that thereupon order may be given accordingly, and that by his lordship's case it may be foreseen that such relief as shall be meet to be granted may be faithfully employed only to the use of the country as in the petition is pretended.

[The inland transit of grain was rigidly prohibited, Commissioners for each county being appointed to enforce the restrictions; and there are many instances of licence being granted for the removal of grain from one county to another in consequence of a local—or, indeed, general—scarcity, which was not unfrequent.]

1578.

12th October.—A letter to the Lord Scrope that when by his letters of the 4th October their Lordships are given to understand that from Mr. Bowes, Her Majesty's agent in Scotland, he is advertised that the King of Scots and his Council are very well contented that Will Elliot, *alias* "Will of the Mill," for intercepting of Her Majesty's packet, shall be executed in such sort and manner as Her Majesty shall like of, he is given to understand that for the manner of his execution their lordships do wish it shall be done according to the custom of the Borders, and as near unto the place where the fact was committed as may be.

[This seems to refer to the robbery of the post mentioned above.]

26th October.—Letters to the Lords Wardens as to co-operation with the Scottish Wardens in repressing disorder on the Marches, inclosing a copy (as follows) of a letter from the King of Scots to Mr. Bowes, the English Ambassador in Scotland.

Right trusty and well beloved we greet you heartily well; we have resolved by advice of our Council to direct two noblemen as our Lieutenants to the Borders against the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November next, either of them accompanied with a sufficient force of our good subjects inhabitants in the inner parts of our realm, for which purpose we have already set out our Proclamations, trusting by this power and the good concurrence and aid of our dearest sister the Queen your Sovereign's Wardens that the insolence and misrule of the thieves that have so troubled the good subjects of both realms this time by past shall be suppressed and they brought to obedience; we have thought good to certify you that you may let our course and interest in this behalf to be understood to our said dearest sister and her Council that order and direction may be sent the more speedily to her Wardens to give their aid and effectual assistance to the furtherance of this purpose so necessary for the continuance of the amity and the common quiet of the Borders of both the realms, for the which effect we intend shortly to direct towards our said dearest sister a servant of our own, but in the mean time

have thought it convenient therefore to acquaint you with our resolution, and so commit you to God.

At our Castle of Stirling the xij<sup>th</sup> daie of October 1578.

To our right trusty and well beloved  
Mr Robert Bowes esquire Ambassador  
for our dearest sister the Queen of  
England.

22nd November.—A letter to Sir Henry Curwen, knight, and George Lamplugh, esquire, that where Robert Wenham is appointed for Her Majesty's service to convey from Keswick, &c., certain mineral to Dartford, near London, and is to that end to take up things necessary for that service, their lordships have accompanied him with their warrant for the taking up of carts, wains, &c.; although their lordships doubt not but the same will be sufficient in all places where he shall come, yet they think it not amiss to require them in the places near about (if it shall be needful), to be aiding and assisting unto him in all that they may, causing him to be furnished of such things as he shall necessarily want for the furthering of this Her Majesty's service.

[The minerals in question were intended to be used as fluxes in the hope of reducing a quantity of ore brought back by Frobisher from his north-west voyage, and which was supposed to contain gold. It proved, however, to be worthless.]

This completes the entries relating to the two counties for the first ten years of Elizabeth's reign. Later they become fewer in number, though there are still several of interest.