

III. *Copies of various Papers relating to the Family of THORNTON, of Witton Castle, in the County of Northumberland, some of them bearing the Signatures of Charles I. and Oliver Cromwell. Communicated by W. C. TREVELYAN, Esq., of Wallington, to J. ADAMSON, Esq., Secretary.*

I.

A Commision from William, Earle of Newcastle, to Captain S^r. Nich^s. Thornton, K^{nt}. to be Cap^{tn}. of one Troope of Hargobuzieres, consisting of one hundred men—and power to rayse the said Troope by beating a Drumē wthin the Countyes of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmōland, and Bishoprick of Duresme, &c. &c.

22d. 8ber, 1642.

II.

Indorsed,—*John Thornton passe from ye King.*—On parchment.

Carolus dei gratia Magnæ Britanniae Franciæ et Hibniæ. Rex fidei defensor, &c. Serenissimis Reverendissimis Celsis^s. Illustris^s. Regibus. Principibus Ducib. Statibq. eorumq. vices gerentibus Regionum, Urbium, Castrorum, Oppidorū. Copiarū. Classiū. Portuum, Naviū. Fluviorū. viarumq. Præfectis aut quibuscunq. aliis Magistratus munere insignibus viris ad quorum benevolas manus hæ literæ pervenient salutem. Sciatis quod lator presentiū. nobis dilectus Johannes Thornton Colonellus Equestriū. nuper locum tenens qui omnibus nostris mandatis fideliter obsequutus est iter in partes transmarinas perficiendū. habeat nosq. ea qua hunc nostrum ministrum prosequimur benevolentia iter istud tutum securum

expeditumq. cupiamus. Nos igitur Regiis nostris literis salvi conductus concomitantes atq. omnib. quorum supra honoris causa mentionem fecimus comendantes singulos in quorum ditiones aut jurisdictiones pervenerit, amice benigneq. rogamus subditisq. nostris præcipimus ut dicto Johanni amicam pacatam, liberamq. cum rebus necessariis eundi ac morandi concedant potestatem nihil omnino moræ molestiæ vis aut injuriæ inferant inferre sinant sed potius omni benevolentia humanitatis & amicitia officiorum genere præstiterint atq. omnia ad itineris expeditionem facientia præbeant quæ unusquisq. sibi suisve ministris aut subditis peregre euntib. exhiberi vellet. Hanc illi petimus (quoquo appulerit) humanitatem quam ex talionis lege eorum subditis per nostras ditiones euntib. debemus & nos præstituros promittimus. A Newcastle decimo quinto die Januarij Año salutis Millessimo sexcentesimo Quadragessimo sexto.

CAROLUS R.

Copies from the originals, at Netherwitton.

III.—*On paper.*

L. S Theis are to require you forthwith on sight hereof to forbear to prejudice the Lady Anne Thorneton relict of S^r Nicholas Thorneton of Witton Castle in the County of Northumberland K^{nt}. either by offering any violence to her person or any of her family, or by taking away any of her horses Cattle, or other Goods whatsoever without speciall order. And hereof you are not to fayle as you will answeare the contrary, Provided that shee yeild obedience to all orders and ordinances of Parliam^t: & act nothing prejudiciall to the State. Given under my hand* the 17 day of Julye, 1650.

O. CROMWELL.

To all Officers and souldiers under
my Command, And all others
whome it may concerne.

* The pen has been drawn across a word in the original.—*W. C. T.*

IV.—*On paper.*

11^o: *Aug*: 1651.

Three hundred horssees belonging to the Officers of nyne Regimt^s of Foote viz^t. his Excies, Maio^r Gen^{ll} Lamberts, Maio^r Generall Deanes, Collo: Engoldsbyes, Collo: Prids, Collo: Fairfax, Collo: Goffes, Collo: Coopers and Collo: Wests, as alsoe one thowsand horssees belonginge to the Trainee and baggage together with One hundred and fiftie horssees belonginge to the life guard, and One thowsand horssees belonginge to the two Regim^{ts}. of Collo: Tomlinson and Collo: Hacker, were all quartered for one night upon the grounds of Lady Thornton, att Nether Witton, in the Parish of Halborne, in the Countie of Northumberland Tenant to Edward Fenwicke of Stanton Esq^r.

JOHN MOSELY, Q. M. Gen^{ll}.

Whereas beside the p^rjudice w^{ch} the said Lady Thornton received by the quarteringe of the Army in respect of Corne and grasse for horsemeate, The foote souldiers spoiled att y^e least Thirtie loades of Hay (*and Straw*)* (by estima^con) w^{ch} they made use of to lay in their Tents, I desire y^e same alsoe may bee Considered, and allowance made to the Lady and her Tenante respectively accordinge to the Loss they have susteyned thereby.

11^o. *August*: 1651.

O. CROMWELL.

V.—*On paper.*

Losses sustained by the Lady Anne Thornton, of Netherwitton, in the Countie of Northum^r. and her tenants, the Armie being quartered upon her grounds as appeares by an order under the Ger^{lls} hand, 11^o: August: 1651.

Impri: Quartered upon my Lady Thornton her grounds of Netherwitton, in the Countie of Northumer. and Parish of Hartburne, in Meadow and other grass for one night, Two thousand fowre hundered and fiftie horse, as appeares under the G ^{rlls} . hand, at thre pence a horse a night comes to	}	£. s. d. 30 12 06
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* The pen has been drawn across the words *and straw* in the original.—*W. C. T.*

	£.	s.	d.
Alsoe Thirtie loads of Hay spoiled and waisted by } the foote Souldiers, Estimated to - - - - }	18	00	00
alsoe a barne burned by the Soldiers vallewed -	16	00	00
Sixteen Sheep taken and killed by the Souldiers to	3	04	00
Likewise their was destroyed in Oats and eaten } by their horses of my Ladies and her tenants (of } Morpeth measur) Thirtie nine bowles & a bush- } ell vallewed to - - - - }	13	16	06
And of Pease two bowles & one bushell to -	01	17	06
of Rye one bowle vallewed to - - - -	01	00	00
of bigg tene bowle vallewed to - - - -	11	15	00
Some is off y ^c			
Losses: 95 : 05 : 6*			
Summ totall	95	05	06

All these perticullers (*save what*)† the order mentioneth is viewed and prized by us whose names are heer underwritten.

ROBERT REAMES

THO: EVERS

JOHN JOYSEY ✕ his marke

NICHOLAS BELL his ✕ marke

Indorsed, y^c Generalls

Order.

VI.—*On paper.*

Appointment by T. Northumberland & I. Percy Lieutenants of the County of Northumberland, of John Thorneton Cornett to that Troope of Voluntiers whereof the Lord Widdrington is Captaine— 25 January 1660.

VII.—*On paper.*

Same as above, but dated 6th June, 1664.

* An error of £1 occurs in the calculation.—*W. C. T.*

† The pen has been drawn across the words *save what* in the original.—*W. C. T.*

VIII.—*On Parchment.*

Commission signed by Charles 2^d to John Thornton Esq. to be Cornet of that Troop of Horse whereof the Lord Widdrington is Captaine. 13th June, 1667.

IX.—*On Parchment.*

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, do certify that S^r Nicholas Thornton, late of Witton Castle, in the County of Northumb^d. Kn^t. deceased, did, in the beginning of the Warr, att his owne charge, raise a troope of Horss for his late Maje^{tye} service and comāded them himselve tell want of health obliged him to returne home, and then he left them to his Brother John Thornton, under whose comand they continued in y^e Kings sarvice soe long as any field forces remand on foot the said John being for a long time Leuietennant Collonell to S^r W^m Blackiston of Newton, that the said S^r Nicolas for this, and his constant adherence to the Kings Party, was in his life time often plundred, his Estate sequestered, and soe continued divers years after his Death, and at last put into the Bill of saile, w^{ch} forced his Sonn John Thornton to redeeme it att a high rate, and the rather because the said Jo. Thornton, The Sonn, even in his Infancy shewed his Loyalty, by appearing in the Warr of 1648, where he was made prisoner, and constantly after sustained all the hardshipp and plundring that the prevailing Enemy could inflict on him; and that, after the happy restauration of his Maiesty, the said John, his Sonn, was Cornet to the Voluntere Troope in that County, Comāded by the late Lord Widdrington, and continued in that Imployment to his Death, and that the said S^r Nicolas Thornton was Grandfather, & y^e said John Thornton, his Sonn, was Father to Nicolas Thornton, Esq. now of Witton Castle aforesaid; and we further Certify, that the said Nicolas Thornton hath, on all occations, shewed himselve Loyall and ready to sarve his Maies^{tye}, and that his Two Unckles, Henry & William, now liveing, w^{ch} Henry sarved in the quallity of a Comission officer under his late Maies^{tye} of Blisshed memorie, and that William is Sonn to S^r Nicolas Thornton, and sarved his Majes^{tye} under

the Comānd of W^m Lord Widdrington, late Deceased. Witness our hands y^e 2 January, 16⁸⁸³.

I doe verily beleive this certificate to be true.

I. HOWARD: vice com:

THO: HORSLEY.

S^r N. WHITEHEAD.

WILL: STROTHER.

WILLM OGLE.

EDMUND CRASTER.

Note by W. C. Trevelyan, Esq.

It is said there is a bed at Nether Witton, called Oliver Cromwell's. "His Excellency" mentioned in the fourth document, must mean Oliver;—it appears that he was then on his way to Scotland, having entered Newcastle on the 15th of July preceding; Colonel Pride, who is mentioned was one of those who went to meet him at Durham, and attended him back to Newcastle.—*Brand's Newcastle, ii. 478.*