

News=Letters

FROM

SIR EDMUND MOUNDEFORD, KNT, M.P., TO FRAMLINGHAM GAWDY, ESQ.,
1627—1633.

In the Possession of Daniel Gurney, Esq., F. R. S., F. S. A.

COMMUNICATED BY

THE REV. C. R. MANNING, M.A., HON. SEC.

THE following letters are extracted, by the kind permission of Daniel Gurney, Esq., from a very large and valuable collection of Norfolk correspondence, now in his possession, and relating chiefly to the families of Gawdy, Knevett, Hare, Hobart, Holland, Rous, Davy, and Le Neve, with their numerous alliances. There are upwards of three thousand of these papers, arranged in seventeen folio volumes; and although the majority of them have reference to unimportant family affairs, yet there are numerous letters among them, such as those now selected, which are of much historical interest as well as local antiquarian value. It would occupy too much space to give any detailed account of this mass of correspondence, extending from the time of Elizabeth to that of George the Second; but it is hoped that at some future time the Society may again benefit by Mr. Gurney's liberality, and be furnished with extracts from the curious Knevett Papers, the Correspondence of the Hobarts, Davys, &c., or the Heraldic Letters of Le Neve and other Heralds.

The News-Letters now produced were written by Sir Edmund Moundeford to his kinsman, Framlingham Gawdy, Esq., at a critical time in English history, when Charles the First and his Commons were beginning that trial of strength which ended so disastrously for the former; when the third Parliament was refusing supplies and seeking a redress of grievances; and the Thirty Years' War, raging on the Continent, made the names of Tilly and Wallenstein, Spain, Sweden, and Austria, as much the anxious subjects of a news-letter, as loans and subsidies, impeachments and imprisonments, the king's prerogative and the people's grievances, at home. Now that messages fly by lightning upon a wire across whole continents, and "second deliveries" are a matter of course, and the "latest intelligence" is known over half the world every day, private correspondence is outstripped by public information, and a Member of Parliament at his post is not much wiser than his friend the High Sheriff who stays at home to overlook the business of his native county. But in the time of King Charles the First it was a very different thing: posts travelled a few miles in the hour, when the roads were passable; true reports could not be verified, nor false ones contradicted; friends who could write at all were scarce; to read was an accomplishment, and orthography unknown; and therefore a budget of news, leaving "y^e horse & sun in y^e Strande" and reaching "West harlyng" in the same week, was no doubt a highly-prized novelty, to be eagerly received, and spelt out, and discussed by all the family for many days, until another, equally fresh and veracious, might be expected to follow it. As examples of the forms usual at that time in the correspondence of the nearest relatives, these letters are also not without interest; a cousin is addressed as "thrice noble Sir," and "my ever honoured kinsman;" and the obsequious professions of respect and attachment are barely relieved by the hope of "a better pen" next time.

The family of Moundeford, or Mundford, had their resi-

dence, first at Hockwold, and afterwards at Feltwell, and pedigrees of them from the reign of Henry the Third to that of Charles the First are given by *Blomefield* (Vol. II., pp. 182, 193). Sir Edmund Moundeford, senior, the writer of the first three of the following letters, was knighted in 1603, and married Frances, daughter of Sir Thomas Gawdy, of Claxton. He was buried at Feltwell, May 6th, 1617. His son, Sir Edmund, was one of the Members of Parliament for Thetford, from 1627 to 1639, and was the writer of the remaining letters to his kinsman, Framlingham Gawdy. His political opinions were evidently on the Parliamentary side. He married Penelope, daughter of Thomas Brewse, of Wenham, co. Suffolk, and died without issue in 1643, and was buried at Feltwell May 11th.

The Gawdy family obtained the manor of West Harling by marriage in the reign of Edward the Sixth. Framlingham Gawdy, Esq., was the son of Bassingbourne Gawdy, by his first wife, Anne, daughter of Sir Clement Heigham, Knt. He married Lettice, daughter of Sir Robert Knowles, Knt., and was buried at West Harling, Feb. 25th, 1654, aged 64.

The numbers prefixed to the letters are those attached to them in the volumes from which they are taken.

The first three letters now printed are considerably earlier than the others, and were written by Sir Edmund Moundeford, the father, to Sir Bassingbourne Gawdy. James the First had just ascended the throne, and it is Moundeford's duty to proclaim him at Swaffham. Lord Beauchamp, here mentioned, was Edward Seymour, eldest son of the Earl of Hertford, by his wife Lady Catherine Grey, sister of Lady Jane Grey, and great grandson of Mary, Duchess of Suffolk, Dowager Queen of France, youngest daughter of Henry the Seventh; and it seems (as Mr. Gurney observes in a note to

this letter) by the "reports" about him here alluded to, that there was a fear of his attempting to secure the crown. The next (No. 416) was written on Moundeford's receiving the honour of knighthood, and declares the antiquity of his family. The "armes of gentry" which he sends for the inspection of his cousin, on deeds of the time of Edward the Third, were, *argent*, three fleurs-de-lis, *gules*. "Osbert Pratt of Hockwold," was probably the son of Edward Pratt, Esq., of the same place (ancestor of the present E. R. Pratt, Esq., of Ryston), and whose cousin Francis married Temperance Moundeford of Feltwell.

No. 411.

S^r, uppon Wednesday last, after the pclamacion made at Watton, I made a desperat iornye against the wynde to Sechey, there to ioyne wth my uncle Gawdye in pcedeing for the subsidye, whoe then would not deale any further therin, but dismissed the sessors wthout geveing them any charge, wherof I thought it good to advtize you, that you may consider what we shall doe in o^r Limitte. Newes I have none, but that all is quiet at London, & the kinge daly expected, as my brother Do^r advtizeth me, and that all the reports of the L. Beauchame arre untrue. I am, god willing, this day to ryde to Swaffame to pclayme the kinge ther: the pclamacion w^{ch} I receyvt from London hath theies thre more then were in the fyrst pclamacion: Oxenford, Scroope, & Norrise. Thus in hast I ame inforsed to take my leave. Linford, the ij^d of Aprill, 1603.

Y^r loving cosen,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

To the ryght w^{ill} my loveing
cosen, S^r Basinborne Gawdye,
knyght, at West Harling.

No. 416.

S^r, I doe most hartely thanke you for y^r kyndenes in advtizeing me of the contents of the Lord Marshall his letters. Truly as I never was neyther ame ābiciousse for pcedencye, so I nether may or will neglect the furtheremēt of my good frendes so farre as æquitie and reason may uphold my credit & reputation. Therefore, wheras among other thinges you arre required to certefye the places of aboade & the antiquitie of suche gentlemen as of late receyved by the kynges cōmissioners the order of knyghthood, although I doute not but that the antiquitie of my pdecessors in gentry is knowne to you & the residue, yet my desier is that you would certefye that my aboade for theis fower yeares last hath ben at Linford, and before at Feltwell, wher I & my father, wth other o^r pdecessors, have remayned gentlemen beareing armes in and sinse the rayne of Edward the third, as by apparant sealed dedes, bearing o^r armes of gentry, playnely appereth. Wherof you may, yf it please you, puse some w^{ch} I send by this bearer, desiering that they may be retourned by him. The report of the increase of the infection at Windhame, and some urgent business of myne owne, stayeth me from the sessions, wherfore I desier you to excuse my absens. Thus I & my wyfe remembring o^r harty cōmendaçõs to yo^r selfe, my good lady, & my younge cosens, I comitt you to god. Linford [*blank*] of October, 1603.

Yo^r assured & loveing cosen,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

The money due to the Lo. Marshall is sent by this bearer.

S^r, I ame further to request such favoure as iustice & æquitie shall requier on the behalfe of my cosen, Osbert Pratt of Hocwold, concerning some grevances as arre complained of against Jhon Pygeon of Walton, unto the Lo. chefe iustice, & by him referred to the hereing & determining

of Sr Philippe Woodhouse & yo^r selfe. I dare assure you, of myne owne knowlege, by prooffe made before me, he is a very troublesome man, & well wourthy to be bounde to his good behaviour.

No. 421.

* * * * Sr, ther is a report of a pclamation sent downe concerning recusants. I would praye informacion from you of the truthe therof. I doe assure you that recusants growe more then bolde in speche and action. I was mislyked much at Lyne sessions for geveinge in charge the inquirye of the statute made against them: once againe I ame to pray advertizēnt of such pclamation as is lately published, ether against them, or any other matter apperteyning to Justices of the pease to doe. Thus wth I and my wyfe remembring o^r harty comēdacons to yo & my good Ladye, I comitt you to god. Linford, the xvth of Aprill, 1604.

Yo^r assured loveing cosen,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

The next letter is the first of the political news-letters from Sir Edmund Moundeford, the son, to Framlingham Gawdy, and requires some brief remarks in explanation. The King, wanting money for his projects of war, and still further embarrassed just at this time by the defeat of his uncle, the King of Denmark, in an encounter with the Emperor of Austria's general, Count Tilly, had recourse to various loans and impositions, much to the dissatisfaction of his subjects. Among the many who were imprisoned for their resistance to these measures (and who are here alluded to) were Wentworth,

afterwards the famous Earl of Strafford, Sir Harbottle Grimston, and John Hampden; some were confined in London, others in the country, but at a great distance from their own homes; and others had soldiers quartered on them. In the succeeding letter (No. 521) Sir John Elliot is named as added to the list; he had been before committed to the Tower with Sir Dudley Diggs, for his impeachment against the Duke of Buckingham, the King's favourite. We now learn that their release was expected by the people, as well as the assembling of another Parliament, which events however were not effected till the year afterwards, March 1627-8, when seventy-eight persons in all were released, and the third Parliament called. Of other news we find mention of an expedition, destination unknown, of the Duke of Buckingham with Sir Thomas Glemham; this was the unfortunate attempt upon Rochelle, which will be reverted to hereafter: and a report of the King of Sweden, Gustavus Adolphus, being shot; his wound was not, however, fatal, if true, as his death did not occur until the battle of Lutzen, in 1632. The conclusion of the first of these two letters is a good specimen of the quaint formality so characteristic of friendly correspondence at that time.

No. 518.

Noble Sr,

I intended to expresse the service I owe you by certifying you of the rumors of the towne, but as yet I have heard no one thing affyrmed, but the truth of it imēdiatly disputed. O^r Lord Adm. swear he will imēdiatly goe in person with his fleet,* and it is perrilous to confesse infidelitie in it, but I sent my man aboard one of the ships which had comāde of speedye redinesse, but knows not wear or when to git victuald. The Lo. of Warwik is gone;

* *In the margin*—"and to this end he wears a great fether."

good speed may he have. The lord Holland hath much angered the Gouldsmithes in getting a pattent for the sole exchange of plate and bullion. The Lone goes on couldly in London. Our committed Gentry ar very well and merrye, and have the libertie of the ajasent feilds; ther have bin none latly committed, but Glostersheir & Linconsheir give a tedious attendance. M^r Recorder wife is dead. M^r Coventrie is maried to M^{rs} Craven at £30,000. The bussing multitude talke of a parliment and of a sudden Release of the imprisoned; the lord Dorset hops of recovery, but they say he will fall short of that he had before. We longe to hear what you resolve uppon the letters sent you for aide in shipping. The king wāts mony, and I further niwes and a better pen, but never will want a hart unfaynedly to love and honor you, as your kindsman and servant.

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

London, 16 Apri., 1627.

I crave the presenting of my humble servis to my good cosin and valentine, and dubling ther Prosperitie to the two virgins is wished by ther servant.

No. 521.

Noble Sir; I have ever since my retorne from Bathe earnestly desired to expresse my selfe your servant in relating the passages which we heare heere, but what newes the morning hath afforded, noone hath contradicted. The Duke hath been often going, and gone, but as yett is at Yorke house; on Wednesdaie it is said the King goes with him to Portsmouth, whether he goes from thence it is unknowne, but he is victualled but for a small time. S^r Thomas Glemham goes with him, sale of honors furnish his Captain's paye; the rumor of the Spanish Fleet was soone blowne over & became

a score of easterlings; the prises brought in by divers men amount by report unto three hundred thowsand pound; there be two French men Comitted to the towre for intelligencers to France of our designes, there is lately added unto them Sr John Elliot & Mr Corrington, they expect dailie to be removed into remote Sheires. Sr Harbottle Grimston & Sr Edmond Hamden, being both sick, have entered recognizance to appeare upon Sumons, and are dismissed for more open ayer; this proiect takes a generall deniall in Ireland: thus much have I writt to Free my selfe of forgetfullness; what after I shall heare shall be diligentlie related by your servant and kinsman,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

from y^e horse & sun in y^e Strande,
this 4^o June, 1627.

I crave the presenting of my service to my ever honored Cozen, & wishes of prosperity to the virgins (if I mistake not the worde.)

This lfe came short of the Carryers, & staying gives you to understand that the Kinge held his entended voyage for Portsmouth, but the Duke remaines heere, & his daie of departure uncertayne: there be six Londoners comitted for the Lone, the refusing Lords are now to be questioned: the Kinge of Swethden is reported to be shott through the bodye.

For his ever honored Cozen,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq.,
at West harlin hall, these
be dd, in Norff.

Leave this lfe at Thetford, to
be dd as above.

A somewhat mysterious letter follows, without date of the year, but which seems in its right place in the series. "Projects for money" are, as before, the chief subject of parliamentary debate. Sir John Digby, created Earl of Bristol, had been ambassador to Spain to make arrangements for the King's marriage, and was now in disgrace, through the enmity of Buckingham, and sent to the Tower. A long account of his trial will be found in *Rapin*, Vol. X., p. 456. The Earl of Arundel had been also imprisoned for taking part in the impeachment of Buckingham, as well as for his son's marriage contrary to the designs of the King. The billeting of soldiers on private houses became so great a grievance, that the Commons petitioned the King in 1628 for relief, to which he briefly replied that they had better talk less, and mind their business. The Great Seal was now held by Thomas, Lord Coventry, and Moundeford's "fears" appear to have been groundless.

No. 529.

Thrise noble Sr,

Howe I found London, we before Hand
trivly iudged, but what I heard, or dayly hear, I may not
wright; the proiect for mony is yit unknowne; the wearines
of my iorny hath made me resolute to stave in London untell
I goe to Cambridg. what I may sertynly hear and saffy
wright, I am yr seruant. they say we shall be verry iently
used, and a parlament at Micheft: Digbe is towerd, & they
say shall suddenly be arayned: Arundell & his company
a gayne confined: yr feloes ar yit fre: ther is a proclamatiõ
moer cuming, for papists cuming to court; no toleration will
be permitted; you must provide to goe to Wayborn hoope:
the counsell intend to billet 1200 sowlders moer then yr owne
if yr deputy lestinants hear auoyd it not; this towne is ma-
lancoly and empty in comparatiõ how you left it: I doubt
the great seale is in summe fears, but every howers niwes so

contradicts the former, as nothing is sertayne; the next week expect moer paper and I hope a better pen: forget not, I intreat, my servis to my good cosen, and my cosen Dott: y^r glove I will send. y^r further comānds I desier, as your willing

servant, E. MOUNDEFORD.

London, 19^o Junij.

M^r Lee, his house in the stran,
at horse and sun.

The next letter was written on the very day that the Petition respecting billeting soldiers, already mentioned, was presented to the King. The five subsidies had been granted a day or two before, on the King's telling the Commons that "as to the freedom of persons and propriety of goods, he was willing to come into any expedients which should be judged convenient by way of bill or otherwise; and that the more confidence they should show in his grace and goodness, the more they should prevail to obtain their desires." Four members had been raised to the peerage on the same day; and it appears by this letter that the Commons had required justice of the Lords the same morning, for the words of Lord Suffolk against John Selden, saying that he was "fit to be hanged;" no doubt for his determined opposition to the method adopted for raising loans and supplies. Signs of the storms impending over both King and people were even now to be discerned by a reflective mind: "our house proceeds not with that calm it did," must have been the sad feeling, growing day by day, of many another worthy looker-on at these troubled scenes; and many, we may trust, may have uttered in secret the same honest prayer, "God grant a good ende."

No. 533.

Noble Sr,

Could I have presented my servis unto you in any certayne relation I should not thus long have bin silent. Little it is now I can wright, only desirous to reniw my caractur in your memory, I send these posting lines. That we have voted five subsidies to y^e Kinge is no niwese, we this morning sent a messenger to y^e Lords to require Justice of them, for words spoken by my Lord of Suff. (That Selden was fit to be hāged, swering y^t he had rased a record therby to advance the subiects libertie beyond the diwe limets.) This Lord hath absolutely denied them, but the prooffe is so strong as it will be the worse to his disgrace. we went this afternoone with our speaker to the King to deliver him a petition for the billited souldiors, what answer we shall have is not known. our house proseeds not with that calme it did, God grant a good ende. we have fower barons taken this day into the upper house, the Lord Keeper, Sr George Goring, Sr Edward Howard, and y^e Chanseller of the Checker. we expect hourly from the Lords ther resolution to o^r declaration concerning o^r personall liberte and proprietic of Goods. When we hear, expect the attending of a scribling pen from

your kinsman and servant,

London, 14 Aprilis, 1628.

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

I humbly crave my servis to my good cosen.

[*Endorsed*] To his most noble kinsman, Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., High Shereve for Norff, these. Deliver this to one M^r Ludken lieng at the greene dragon in bishopsgate, to be delivdd as aforesaid.

Parliamentary affairs being in a stagnant state, Sir Edmund could find but little news to write; the "period" which he daily feared soon arrived, for Parliament was prorogued on the 25th of June in this year (1628). The speech of the Lord Keeper in March, in which he supported the King and endeavoured to rouse the Commons to grant supplies, frightening them with an imaginary invasion from Spain, and of which Moundeford here tells us the popular opinion, will be found in *Rapin*, Vol. X., p. 129. The expedition to Rochelle, already alluded to, was in all respects unfortunate. In the previous year the King had prepared a fleet, with great secrecy, and sent it from Portsmouth, under the command of the Duke of Buckingham, with forces for the recovery of the Palatinate. Finding the seizure of Rochelle, his real object, impracticable, the Duke turned to the Isle of Rhee, where he was followed by Count Schomberg, and obliged to return to England with the loss of five thousand out of seven thousand men.

No. 535.

Noble Sr, Such is the stay of all our businez in the uper howse y^t I can wright you no procedings. we have dayly fered our period, such is the divition of the Lords, whoese numerous niwe company have the power of voyses. The Lord Keeper hath not obteyned the best opinion in this, for w^{ch} I am sory. ther be sum ten Lords made this parla. we hear it goes ill with o^r naybours, Rochell, Stode, & denmarke: the Lo. Carlile is gone one tuesday last imbassadour for Savoy, Venice, and other places, other niwse I know not. this from yo^r comāndable kinsman,

to serve you,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

London, 25 Aprll.

To his noble kindsman, Framlingham Gaudy, Esq.,
High Shereve for the County of Norff.

[VOL. V.]

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The first Session of the third Parliament was now drawing to a close. Its principal interest had centered in the famous Petition of Rights, and the King, annoyed by its importunity, now threatened, by a message to the Commons, May 5th, to prorogue it on the 13th; it lasted, however, until the 26th of June. Moundeford, "sick and sadd," began to despair of success, not having much faith in the King's promises, his only hope is that when the Parliament granted him the money, his subjects would not be worse off than before. The title by which Sir Baptist Hicks, the eminent citizen of London and founder of Hicks's Hall, was ennobled, was not Campbell, but Campden.

The succeeding letter (No. 540), from which an extract is given, which is without date, must have been written during the recess, as Sir Edmund writes from Thetford to his cousin in London, and the King was at Newmarket. The Earl of Holland, who was to entertain the royal party at Kensington, was Henry Rich, made an Earl by James the First, and who was executed for his loyalty in 1649. The extracts which follow are also without date: the last must have been written in the spring, as Moundeford speaks of his alarm at the rigid observance of Lenten fasts.

No. 538.

Worthy Sr; although I be ever glad of oportunitie to doe you service, yet am I sorrye to be a messenger of sadd tidings; the feares of an ill ending of this Parliament are now growne so great as they comānd beleife: our last daie is appointed to morrow seavennight, and we are as farre from ending our worke as when wee began: we have been this daie wth the King, from whom we have inhibition of proceeding in our intended waye, and are laied up to relye upon his promises; what the sequell will be I know not: I wish we could soe be redd of our money, as not to be worse then we were before.

Our Lords encrease and multiplie. amongst the rest it is confidentlie reported that Sr Baptist Hix shall be Vicount Cambell, I shall at better leisure send you a list of their names. I crave the oportunitie of the next messenger for my further relation, being at this present unapt for discourse, both sicke and sadd. I crave the remembrance of my humble service to my good Cozen, and to be ever esteemed

Your comāndable kinsman,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

London, the 5^o May, 1628.

To his much honoured kinsman, Framlingham
Gaudy, Esq., High Shereve for the Countie
of Norff.

No. 540.

* * * * * Our King and Queen like
newmarket very well and will ad to the bulding. The Erle
of Holland hath had a fall from his horse, hunting: this
hath deferred the kings going frō newmarket, because y^e
Erle is to intertayne the court homeward. this is all I can
send you, but the harty love of

Your faythfull servant,

Thetford.

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

To my much honoured cosen,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., London.

No. 541.

* * * * * Ther is a noyse of Letters cūing
for a benevolence for y^e Palatinate. the king is returning.
I should be verr glad to you (*sic*) & my cosens after this day

seavenight I shall hope to be at home : in the meane time to
Ketteringham. My service & love to you & yours remem-
bred, I rest

Your ever loving
Feltwell, kinsman & servant,
this thursday, haste. ED. MOUNDEFORD.

[*Endorsed*] For my ever honoured kinsman,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., these.

No. 544.

* * * * * One Tuesday seaveñit y^e king
is expected at Cambridge. We ar much frighted with y^e
Strickt keeping of lent. I pray let me here what is thought
of it. I pray present my service and thanks to S^r Tho.
Barington. The letter boy sends, I can write no more, but
that I am

Your faythfull loveng kinsmā to serve you,
ED. MOUNDFORD.

[*Endorsed*] To my much honoured cosen,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq.

The remaining letters are of much political interest. The
news, as before, relates to affairs attracting every man's notice
at the time, and which are now matters of history, requiring
no discussion here. The warlike doings on the Continent;
ship-money; taxes and impositions; the King's conduct;
Noy, the Attorney-General; the battle of Lutzen; the pro-
ceedings of the Star Chamber; the King's progress to Scot-
land, &c., are all noted by Moundeford: news read by his
correspondent no doubt with the same interest that we now
feel in the last letters from the Crimea, and in the details of

the hospitalities of Royal Allies; but long since powerless to stir men's passions in the presence of nearer anxieties, and serving only for the study of the statesman and the philosopher, and for the research of the antiquary. The allusion to the haste in christening the young Princess is curious; and it is amusing to observe the excellent intentions of the government, unfortunately not realized to this day, of a "general reformation" in court and country. "Offices shall be given by desert," is still the popular cry: let us hope it is no symptom of a course of events at all similar to those which so miserably falsified the hopes here expressed, in the days of this unfortunate King and of his profligate son.

To explain the allusions in letter No. 578, it must be mentioned that the King had issued a proclamation commanding "all Lords, Gentlemen, Clergymen and others, whose stay in London was not absolutely necessary, to go within forty days and reside in their respective Countries, and at their mansion-houses, in order to hinder them from wasting their Estates:" (*Rapin*, Vol. X., p. 257) another object being to secure the heavy fines exacted from those who did not obey, for the King's use. The case here mentioned was peculiarly hard, the person convicted being single, and having just been deprived of his country house by fire. The King's coronation alluded to in the last letter was that which took place at Edinburgh, when he was crowned King of Scotland, June 18th, 1633; and the Parliament referred to was also held in that city, two days afterwards, none having been summoned in England until the year 1640.

No. 548.

London.

Worthy Sr,

I promised to send you the newse of the towne, of w^{ch} I am a bad collector. The Pallesgrave is dayly hear expected, but the winds hinder. Here is a proclamatiō to

stope the importing goods out of France & Holland, for fear of the plag w^{ch} is verry great there. The Arch Duke hath lately taken an other towne frō the States: the French have bin beaten in Italy. The Emperor's forces increase. We have no new Shereves prict, nor shall not (it is sayd) untill the now Shereves have acunted for this Ship mony; in sum counties they pay, in other not, & many make the Shereves take distress. New impositions ar set upō frute, silver, pewter, pines, & divers other things to the vallew £80,000 p^r ann. Ther is a patent to be granted for making Salt, w^{ch} will make us all smarte. The king hath caused his comitiō of grace to pass the seall this terme, that all imperfections in grants may be ther mended, & compositions madd for forrests, or any clayme the king make to any subiects lands. It is this day sayd ther is a stay of the palsgraves cuming. The Turke hath made his peace with his late adversaries & hath raysed a great army for Christendom. The King hath granted two regements to goe into France. Rob. Wingfields brother goes Sergeant maior of one. It is thought high time for o^r King now to put in sum graynes into the Lighter Scale. If you can read this, you take more paynes than

Your servant,

ED. MOUNDFORD.

No. 551.

Noble Sr,

I have been wth the Kinges Councill of the Navye, who have appointed my attendance againe to morrow: they desire me to set price by the loade, w^{ch} I neither can neither am willing to doe it, yet if you please to send me word how timber is there solde by the loade, it may doe me some service. It is now again certainly reported Tilly is dead, his army not able to Reinforce. the King of

Sweden is stept to y^e side of the upper Palatinate; The King of Bohemia is goeing to him: 24,000 men by our King, & the States are parlied of for him. Our brave citie soldier the noble Lo. Craven is com̄ing for England to be employed in the Service, he was goeing to the King of Sweden, but had a com̄and to the contrary. Our Princes is christened & named Maria: this hast to avoyde mothers importunitie. All our noise is of S^r William Noy our Attorney Generall, and his stoicall comportment, manie feare he will prove too honest & too stowte. There is a generall reformation in hand for Court and Countrie. Offices shall be given by desert: the Kinges Pentioners & Guard shall be moulded to the patterne of Q. Eliz. Sheriff-wickes shall be given as rewards of Honour to the best deservers of the Counties. keeping of ordinaries prohibited point blanck. our Judges are chidden for their Rigid demeanor to the Gentrye in their Circuitts. this in hast from yo^r faithfull loving freind & kinsmā,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

M^r Pettus is Sheriff for Norff.; S^r Rob^t Crane for Suff.

Frō y^e flower de luce in Princes streete,
8 9^{ber}, 1631.

No. 564.

* * * * * For newes here is little, onely on Saterdaie last one M^r Castle brought letters to the King, from the King of Sweden, informing the truthe of those affaires, the overthrow w^{ch} Tilly had was not soe great as was reported, he lost but 10,000 men, but himselfe was sore hurte, & whether living or noe, is not yet knowne. The King of Sweden lost but 1200 men, & now lyes before Frankfort, his Armie daily increasing, & his abilitie to paie them being much bettered by

the Spoyle w^{ch} he had in Tillye's Campe. [*In the margin—*
o^r King knighted S^r John Castle for his cūing.] The next
weeke expect further tidings from me: in meane time I rest
Y^r faithfull loveing kinsman

to serve you,

London, 1^o 9ber, 1631.

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

[*Endorsed*] To my very loveing freind & much
honoured kinsman, Framlingham Gaudy, Esq.,
att Harling, these.

No. 575.

* * * * Hear cam last night great newse to
towne, how trew I know not, but I had it with confidence
reported by the [*word illegible*] that the king of Sweden hath
fought with Walinstein & hath utterly ruined the Imperiall
army, & hath taken 125 cullers. Monser is fled again frō
his brother, & is at Brussels * * * *

Your assured Loving Kinsman to serve you,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

London, 20 9ber, 1632.

[*Endorsed*] To my ever honoured kinsman,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., at Harling.
these to be left at Thetford.

No. 578.

* * * * On wednesdaie last one M^r Palmer
was censured 1000^{li} in the Star Chamber for liveing in
London contrary to the Proclamation, and yet he was a
Batchelor, and never had familie, and latelie had his mansion
house burnt in the countrie. There is diligent search made
by the Constables of everie warde, & the names taken of all

such Lodgers as laie in towne the last vacation; forreigne
news here is none stirring; I desire to heare from you so
soone as maye be, in the meane time and ever I shall rest

Yo^r faithfull loveing kinsman,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

Drury Lane, 13 Novem., 1632.

[*Endorsed*] To his ever honored kinsman,
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., att West
harling, these be det. Thetford, Norff.

No. 583.

* * * * * Newes here is none in towne.

Our King is well, his entertaynement great in his iorney, the
lord of New Castle most famous for his meat, the Bpp of
Yorke most famous for his drinke: the Coronation is past
wth great Solemnitie. the Parliament is begun, but no newes
of their proceedings as yet: the Palsgrave is possessed of
both the Pallatinats. Hedelburgh was delivered upp the
daie after the takeing of Rhineburke. The King paid
15,000^l for the entertayning of new Garrysons. this is all
the newes I have. manie freinds heere salute you by the
hand of yo^r

ever loving kinsman and servant,

ED. MOUNDEFORD.

Drury Lane, 25 June, 1633.

[*Endorsed*] To my much honoured kinsman
Framlingham Gaudy, Esq., at Harling.
Leave thes at Thetford.