

I give thee power, and desire thee to fill up blanks, either for the Turkey business, or for the Irish, as the queen shall find fit for my service.

I send thee this inclosed paper to make thee judge the better of the Scotch intentions.

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XLVIII.

New-Castle, Sep. 3rd, 1646.

DEAR HEART,

This is only to recommend my lord to thee, which I do very heartily, for he has served me most faithfully, having lost (for the present) a great estate for my sake, and is a man of right foundations; indeed, for his particular suit to be of my son's bedchamber, albeit I promised to name it to thee, I will not absolutely say it is fit, but leave it to thy judgment; however I desire thee to find out some way whereby the world may see that we esteem him, and that he may live out of contempt; but I will not hold thee longer on this subject, for I know one word is enough to make thee countenance honest men who have suffered for their fidelity to him who is eternally thine,

CHARLES R.

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XLIX.

New-Castle, Sept. 7th, 1646.

DEAR HEART,

I am freshly and fiercely assaulted from Scotland for yielding to the London propositions, likewise Will. Murray is let loose upon me from London for the same purpose: yet I desire thee to be confident in my constancy, for I assure thee, that (by the grace of God) nothing can be said or done to me which shall make me quit my grounds; as, for instance, neither to grant the London propositions

as they are (without great amendment), or sign or authorize the covenant, without which, I must again tell thee, I am more and more assured that nothing can be expected from the Scots; besides, I find the Irish peace angers them much. It is true I want not hope that the earl of Calander, with some others, may be persuaded to preserve my liberty, in case I should be demanned [demanded?] by the English; but I have too much cause to believe that the Scots will only be desired by the English to keep me safe, which will be granted, so that I shall be an absolute prisoner, and yet it will be denied; and, in that case, Calander, I doubt, will do nothing for me. Wherefore, if this (as is most likely) shall be my condition, I earnestly desire thee to consider what is to be endeavoured; now, all which (for the present) I can propose is, that the queen should persuade the French to demand my liberty from the Scots, powerfully, by the French engagement.

I have now no more to write, but concerning some particulars; the first is, that the secretary of my Portugal ambassadour hath complained to me against his master, the particulars of which Ashburnham will shew thee; another is here enclosed about the Turkey company; both which I desire thee to determine as thou shalt find best for his service who is eternally thine,

CHARLES R.

Believe not that I have made offer, or will come to London, on base conditions, or that this French ambassadour hath said that he hath or will persuade me to grant the London propositions.

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L.

New-Castle, Sep. 14th, 1646.

DEAR HEART,

I have now resisted all the assaults which my last letters mentioned, and they say that I shall have no more by any publick way.