Letter from General T[homas] Wentworth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to Henry Pelham; 10 November 1745.

Newcastle, Nov. the 10th

1745

3^r,

I was this morning honour'd with yours of the 7th and as I am persuaded that you must not be a little anxious for what con cerns us, I write by the post, the Marshall not designing to send away an express 'till to morrow or the day following -

By our freshest intelligence, the Rebells were very near Carlisle, but I conceive it must only be meant of one of their partys, as it is pretty certain that a con siderable body of them, were two days ago at or near Dumfries, which town

Iying some miles west of Garlisle, I can not easily account for their going so far out of their way, if their real design is to move southward, indeed tis said th they have been oblig'd to take that road for the more easy conveyance of their artillery. Most of the accounts we receive of the Rebells,

are, I think, not altogether to be depended upon, as they are but too often dictated by the fears of those who are employ'd to observe their motions; a Glergyman upon the Western border, lately signify'd by letter that he had himself seen 2000 upon their march, which number a second letter writ by the same person a few hours after, reduc'd to sixty.

From what I can judge (as I mention'd in my last) their numbers can not ex ceed 8000 in Arms; allowing them to

be all Highlanders (which is not the case) and even such formidable Heros, as they are describ'd by certain persons on almost every occasion, I shou'd not be under the least apprehensions on that account; cou'd we but bring our people fairly up to them in health and in vigour - our greatest difficulty will arise from the want of subsistance, w will be unavoidable if we march towards the Western Moors; as we have no Magazines, and as little grain &c. is produc'd in th barren soil that, in my humble opinion, can be the only obstacle wh will prevent us seeking them instantly, as soon as it shall be certainly known what route they have taken.

To morrow a Councill of Warr is to sit, for, I suppose, determining what mea sures to take, the results of whyou will know by the next opportunity.

I am, Sr
With great truth,

Your most faithfull

& obliged humble serv^t

T. Wentworth

P.S.

Gen Handasyde is on

Tuesday to march to Edinburgh, the two Reg^{ts}

of foot who are to accompany him, have

no less than 300 sick.

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