

THE
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CONTAINING
GENERAL VIEW
OF THE
Religion, Politicks, Entertainment, &c.

IN
GREAT BRITAIN:

And a succinct ACCOUNT of
PUBLICK AFFAIRS

FOREIGN and DOMESTICK

For the YEAR M.DCC.XLVI.

VOLUME VIII.

Ne quid falsi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat.

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Pages [136-148](#)

The motions and operations of the armies

By our last accounts of the armies, in the *February Magazine*, the rebels were in different bodies. About 2000 of them were on the banks of the Spey; and not 3 or 4000, with the pretender's son, at Inverness. From this place, a detachment, with some cannon, was sent to Fort Augustus; and small parties were seen near Fort William.—On the other hand, the King's army, with the Duke, was at Aberdeen, making ready for a march to Inverness, which it was thought would take some days to form; the Hessians, and dragoons, who were about Edinburgh had got orders to march for Perth at Stirling; Sir Andrew Agnew, with 300 men, was at Blair; Capt. Webster, with 200, at Castle Menzies, near Tay Bridge, small parties of the Argyleshire Highlanders, at two or three posts in the glens of Athol; and Maj.-Gen. Campbell after having been with the Duke at Perth, was returned to Argyleshire.

About the beginning of March, the Hessian troops, with their artillery, &c. moved from the neighbourhood of Edinburgh for Perth. Their route was by Stirling. The Prince, the Earl of Crawford, &c. left Holyroodhouse on the 5th, and were that night at Hopeton-house. By the 10th, they had their head quarters with the greatest body of their troops, at Perth. Thence his Serene Highness took a tour Northward, by Dunkeld, Taymouth, &c. to reconnoitre, and returned to Perth on the 15th. Naizon's and Hamilton's dragoons marched about the middle of the month, by the same route the Hessians had taken.

Pursuant to an order from the Duke the Hessian transports, about thirty four in number, sailed from Leith road on the 2nd, for Shields, with their convoy the Gibraltar, Sheerness, and a bomb-vessel. There they took on board the Dutch troops, and arrived with them in Holland about the end of the month.

On the 5th, Bligh's regiment embarked at Leith, and sailed next day for Aberdeen. They were several times put back by contrary winds, and did not reach the destined port till the 25th. Two days before, 300 men belonging to different regiments had arrived at Aberdeen by land.

According to letters of the Duke the 9th, from Aberdeen, the rebels still pretended that they would defend the passage of the Spey. Lord John Drummond, who was chief of those in that part of the country, with the remains of his regiment, and a few French horse lately landed, was at Gordon castle. Their low country people, whom they set at 3000, were at Elgin, Fochabers, and other places on both sides the Spey. They were intrenching themselves, and preparing herrissons and crow feet to spoil the fords; and they gave out that the clans were coming behind them. The pretender's son himself was come to Elgin and was then very ill there. The day before his arrival at this place, some people unknown were shipped off in a small fishing-vessel at Portsoy, which little harbour was still in the power of the rebels. As to the other body of the rebels, the last accounts were, that after taking possession of Inverness and the castle, [Fort George], they sent one party over the frith of Murray after Lord Loudon; that another, of about 4 or 500, with the French piquets, were gone to Fort Augustus; that these had taken the old barracks, and expected to take the castle in a few days; that the number of the rebels was daily increasing; and that the pretender's son, as they gave out, would go himself to the isle of Sky, to raise men there. Among many reports concerning the increase of the rebels, one was, That Lord Lovat joined them with 700 men; another, That a private Gentleman having published a scheme, for transporting the disaffected highlanders to America, to prevent any future insurrections, this Lord procured a copy of it, translated it into the Irish language, showed copies of it up and down the country, told the people the Duke was coming to put the scheme in execution, and admonished them to rise, and

defend their liberties, properties, wives, and children; and that they seemed determined to follow his Lordship's advice. But we have had neither of these by authority.

Mean time the disposition and cantonment of the King's army were so contiguous, that there was no reason to apprehend any surprise. The whole of the infantry was within the towns of Old and New Aberdeen; and as soon as a great storm of snow, which fell on the night of the 8th, was a little run off, it was proposed to march. Three King's ships were cruising in the narrow frith of Murray, which it was hoped would effectually prevent any attempt that might be made by the French of assisting the rebels at Inverness.

The Duke of Gordon arrived at the head quarters at Aberdeen on the evening of the 9th, from his own house, which he had left the day before, on foot, and in the most secret manner he could, the rebels who lived upon his estate having constantly watched his Grace ever since they had been there.

At Forfar, where each of the four divisions of the King's army lay a night, three French Irish officers were concealed during the whole time; and after all the troops were passed through, they were permitted to beat up for volunteers there. — Upon information that those rebels, and, amongst others, Roy Stewart, were concealed in Aberdeen, the Duke ordered search to be made for them; but we did not hear that any were found. — A design was formed at Montrose, for the country-people to come down and rescue the rebel-prisoners; but fortunately Kingston's horse being there, prevented the affair. The prisoners were thereupon ordered under a guard to Stirling. — And upon Bligh's regiment being embarked at Leith for Aberdeen, some disaffected persons formed a design to rise up, and break the prison-doors at Edinburgh; whereupon Lee's regiment was ordered to march thither from

Berwick. The truth of this was doubted at Edinburgh.

'Tis added in the above letters from the Duke, that his R. Highness had ordered Lord Loudon to come and join the army with all his highlanders; and that the Monroes, Sutherlands, and the rest of the well-affected Northern clans, had joined his Lordship, and would come with him. Four companies, confining of 310 men, besides Serjeants, Coporals, and Drums, joined him from the Earl of Sutherland. According to accounts from Aberdeen of the 19th, however, his Lordship was still at Dornoch in Sutherland.

About the beginning of March an order was published by the Duke, and read from the pulpits, commanding all those who had been pressed into the rebellion forthwith to deliver up their arms; and promising to recommend to the Royal mercy such as should comply. But 'tis said that the disaffected industriously put a bad construction on his R. Highness' merciful design; and that tho' some had thereupon complied, yet that others had fled, and joined the rebels.

Copies of a paper were brought to Aberdeen, which was printed, and dispersed all over the highlands, by the rebels, containing the reasons of their retreat from Stirling. In it they say, That, after the battle at Falkirk, a great part of the men desired to carry home the booty they had got there and in England, and promised to be back again before the King's forces could possibly be recruited, and come again to attack them; that they accordingly went, but not being come back when the King's army set out from Edinburgh, they thought it more prudent to retreat to Blair of Athol, than to hazard a battle: And that the reason of their retreating still farther North, was, that they had taken from the King's army upwards of 1000 tents at Falkirk, yet they could not prevail on their men to make use of them, who chose rather to lie in the open fields, in their usual manner notwithstanding the

severity of the weather; that their leaders foresaw this must be very prejudicial to their healths, and therefore ordered them to retreat to Inverness, till the weather became more favourable; and that then they would come South again, and make the uprightness of their cause to appear. *St J. Ev. Post*, — See *p. 92. col. 2. par. 2.*

From the Eastern coast we shall now remove our attention for a little to the West. Here we find that early precautions had been taken for the security of Fort William. Gen. Campbell threw into it upwards of 300 Argyleshire men with a good engineer; and ordered the *Serpent* and *Baltimore* sloops to that station. Fifty men of Guise's regiment, who had been gathered together at Edinburgh under the command of a Captain-Lieutenant, and some other troops, likewise ordered thither. These precautions soon came to be of use. By the 14th, the Duke had received the following accounts, dated the 4th, at Fort William "We have advice here, that a party of the rebels, amounting to 1000 men, is at Glenevis, within two miles of us; and that their train of artillery is to be tomorrow at Highbridge, which is six miles from this fort. We have heard of their taking of Fort Augustus, and expect to be attacked; but Gov. Campbell is determined to defend the place to the utmost of his power. For some days past there have been some small parties of rebels posted on each side the narrows of Carron; in which on Saturday last they took one of the boats belonging to the *Baltimore* sloop, as she was coming from Scallestall bay, and sent the crew prisoners to their head quarters. As soon as we had intelligence of this accident, a council was called, consisting of land and sea-officers, and a resolution taken to send a strong party to dislodge the rebels. In consequence thereof, early this morning Capt. Askew of the *Serpent* sloop sent his boat with 27 men in it, another boat of the *Baltimore's* with 24 men, and a boat belonging to Fort William, with 20, down the narrows; where they all arrived by day-light. Capt. Askew's men landed first, and were immediately attacked

by a party of 80 rebels, who fired upon them, but without doing them any damage; and upon the rest of the men belonging to the boats coming up, the rebels fled. Our people pursued them, burnt the ferry-houses on both sides of the water, and a little town with about twelve houses in it, a quarter of a mile distant from the ferry-house on the North-side, and destroyed or brought off all their boats. Two of the rebels were killed in this affair, and several wounded. It was very lucky that our boats went down as they did; for there was a boat with a party of militia in it, that was coming hither from Stalker castle, which would probably have fallen into the hands of the rebels, but for the skirmish before mentioned." — Capt. Frederick Scot came from Dunstasnage to Ellanstalker castle on the 6th; but could not get any farther, the rebels having guarded both sides of the narrows of Carron for two miles on that side Fort William. On the night of the 6th, the centries at Ellanstalker saw several lights, which were thought to belong to the rebel parties marching towards Fort William from Strathappin, which is near the rock on which Ellanstalker castle stands, and Appin house is not a mile from it.

Gen. Campbell having got notice at Inverary, that the rebels had taken the *Baltimore's* boat, and hearing that they had likewise possessed themselves of the pass of Ardgour, so that nothing could pass to or from Fort William, his Excellency caused put four swivel-guns, with ammunition, &c. on board the *Victory* wherry, with an officer and 16 men, and a like number on board the *Hopewell* sloop and sent them round. They sailed accordingly on the 8th.

Advice was received at Inverary the 11th, that the French, which were judged not to be many, had come up to Fort William, with the artillery on the 7th and 8th; and that they proposed to have a battery ready to play on the 10th. But by letters from Capt. Scot, who had thrown himself into Fort William, dated the 15th, the rebels had not then begun the siege, but were bringing up their artillery for

that purpose. - Four gunners sent by the Duke from Aberdeen, passed through Glasgow on the 19th for Fort William; and next day came into that city from Edinburgh two companies of Johnson's foot, designed as a reinforcement for the same place. Letters from Inverary give an account, that one of these companies had marched from that town on the 28th, and would be next morning at Dunstasnage, where they had wherries ready to transport them to Fort William. 'Tis added, that a deserter informed, that there were not above 5 or 600 of the clans and 300 French before Fort William; that on the 22nd they began to fire with six four-pounders and two eight-pounders, and talked of playing some great guns in two days after; and that Gov. Campbell had bravely defended the place, and, in order to prevent the rebels sheltering themselves near the fort, had caused burn the town of Maryburgh.

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As the rebels could not cut off the communication by sea, the garrison was plentifully supplied with provisions from Inverary. The siege was however continued till the 3rd of April, and then raised. An officer in the fort gives the following compleat journal of it.

“On the 24th of February this place was blockaded by the rebels, who they say are 1500, including the French piquets. Brig. Stapleton commands the siege. Lochiel commands the highlanders, consisting chiefly of his own clan, the Macdonalds of Keppoch and Glenco, and the Stewarts of Appin.

From the 24th February to the 20th March they kept every day firing, tho' at a considerable distance. On the 20th, they began to raise batteries, and that night threw in a great many cohorn-shells of six inches diameter, and above inch thick in the shell.

21st, They began to cannonade from a battery of 3 guns, and that night threw in betwixt 60 and 70 more of these shells upon us.

22nd, They sent a French drum with a summons to surrender. He was not admitted into the garrison, nor his credentials looked at. On his return, they plied us hard all that day with their cannon, and betwixt 10 at night and 3 next morning, they threw in from one battery of 5 and another of 4 cohorn-mortars, no less than 194 of those large shells. These batteries are about 200 yards distant from the walls.

23rd, They cannonaded us very closely this afternoon; but, in the afternoon, we made a triple discharge of 9 of our cannon, and 2 bomb-mortars, which silenced them.

24th, This morning they began again their cannonading from their first battery, which they continued on the 25th and 26th.

27th, They unmasked a second battery of 4 guns on the high ground above the Governor's garden, not above 200 yards distant; from which, and the other, they have fired 250 shot, besides a continued fire of small arms from the nearest battery. The shot from their cannon were two thirds of them six pounders. They threw in 50 more of their royals on us, but did us no further harm than wounding 2 men.

28th, They cannonaded us hard all this forenoon. In the afternoon they were silent; but were busy erecting a new battery about 200 yards higher than their second battery, and to the West of it, to sweep our whole parade.

29th, This morning, by break of day, they unmasked a new battery at the Craigs, of 3 brass four pounders, within 100 yards of the walls, and cannonaded us from that and the other 3 batteries. As they carried a furnace along with them, they threw in a great many hot bullets, and some bearded pieces of iron a foot long, and inch thick, which they designed should stick in our timber work, and set us on fire. They fired grape and partridge shot, and plied us hard from all hands with small arms; but have done us very little damage.

30th, They cannonaded us hard from daylight till night, and continued throwing a few shells and hot bullets, some of which, after lying some time on the ground, could burn powder.

31st, Capt. Scot having ordered 12 men out of each company, amounting in all to about 150 men, to make a sally, they marched out about 11 o'clock to the Craigs, about 100 yards from the garrison, where the rebels had a battery; which, after a smart fire, they rushed in upon, and made themselves masters of 3 brass four pounders,

2 mortars, and their furnace, being the same they took from Sir John Cope at Preston. They spiked up 2 large mortars, which they could not bring away, with 1 brass six pounder, which they brought under the walls. They had all this time a warm skirmish with the rebels, and lost only 2 men, and had 3 wounded. We brought in 2 prisoners, one of them a French gunner.

April 1st, This day the cannonaded us, but not very hotly.

2nd, They continued cannonading, but not so briskly as usual. At 10 at night they threw in 17 shells, and fired 7 cannon, and gave over about 1 o'clock in the morning. This play was only to amuse us while they were spiking up their largest cannon, and carrying off their small ones.

3rd, This forenoon, seeing no men about their batteries, and observing bodies of men travelling by the tops of the hills towards Fort Augustus, we made a sally with about 500 men, but found the works abandoned. We took the rest of the cannon and mortars, and brought them into the fort; so have raised the siege gloriously, and taken, in all, 4 brass four pounders, 4 iron six pounders, 9 mortars, and their furnace; and since the commencement have only buried 6 men, and have about 24 wounded. The roofs of the houses, and some of the rooms within, have suffered a good deal from the shells; which were so heavy, that they often went down from the roof to the ground before they broke. It seems they had got a very pressing call elsewhere, since they did not take time to carry off their artillery, or even to hide them, which might have been easily done.

P.S. We have razed down their batteries, which were prodigiously strong, some of them being 27 foot from the front of the embrazure to the other side."

Other accounts say, that the men who sallied out on the 31st were in two parties, one commanded by Capt^s Foster and

Maclachlan, the other by Capts Paton and Whitway; that the former attacked and took the battery at the back of the craigs; that in another attack, made upon a four gun battery at the foot of the hill, the King's troops were repulsed, with the loss of two men killed and a few wounded; that their retreat was made in good order, under cover of the guns of the fort; that they carried in two prisoners, one an Englishman, the other a Frenchman, or rather a Spaniard; that this last gave an account, that the besiegers were half starving, and beginning to run short of ammunition; that the rebels lost a considerable number of men, not only in their flight from the craigs, but in the second attack; that the Governor was wounded, but not dangerously; that the town of Maryburgh and garden walls were all levelled with the ground; that the garrison were 600 in number, all in good spirits, and were reinforced on the 1st of April by 70 of Johnson's regiment; that the roofs of the fort were exceedingly damaged, and the old pile of barracks almost quite beat down, both roof and walls; that there were not fix panes of glass remaining in the windows; and that Capt Scot had been indefatigable, both by night and day, in erecting new works.

All this while, Gen. Campbell was very busy at Inverary, in preparing to oppose the rebels in case they should move that way. - It was said, about the beginning of March, That all the men in Argyleshire able to bear arms, were assembling at that place, and that two additional companies of the Scots fusileers who lay at Dunbarton, were likewise ordered thither; about the middle of the month, That there were then 1500 men there, and 300 more expected in a few days; and about the end of the month, That Maclean of Brolus had joined them with a company of his clan, and that the General had put the place in a good posture of defence, having ordered 12 pieces of cannon thither from Greenock.

By some accounts from Argyleshire, twenty six villages in Morven and places

adjacent, possessed chiefly by the Camerons, were burnt by a party sent ashore from the sloops of war on the West coast. This, tho' probably no other than what is related has, as is reported, produced a kind of manifesto by Lochiel and Keppoch in which they exclaim against the Campbells, for burning houses and corn, killing horses, houghing cattle, stripping women and children, and exposing them to the severity of the weather in the open fields; threaten to make reprisals, if they can procure leave from their Prince, by entering Argyleshire, and acting there at discretion, and by putting a Campbell to death (of whom several had lately been made prisoners in Athol) for every house that should afterwards be burnt by that clan; extol the lenity and moderation of the rebels, notwithstanding the aspersions industriously spread to the contrary; and insinuate, that those who gave orders for the burning, could not answer for it to the British parliament.

With regard to affairs in the inland parts of the country, the Duke had received pretty certain intelligence at Aberdeen, by the 14th, that Fort Augustus was fallen into the rebels hands and that the garrison, consisting of three companies of Guise's regiment, [140 men, *Gl. J.*], were made prisoners of war. It was not at this time known how they had defended themselves, as no accounts of what passed had been got, either from Major Wentworth, who commanded, or any other officer of the garrison. *G.* — Other advices say, that the place was invested on the 23rd of February, the third day after the rebels got possession of Fort George, [p. 92.]; that the garrison defended themselves two days; but that their powder magazine taking fire, they were obliged to surrender. *Gl. J.* — According to the above accounts from Aberdeen of the; 14th, the rebels were laying in their magazines and stores at Fort Augustus and had blown up Fort George; in doing which, their Chief Engineer, Col. Grant, was killed. It was thought, that all the advantage they could gain by the taking those two forts, and the retreat of Lord London, [p. 91, 2.], would be, the drawing

the seat of the war into the hills, and protracting it a little time. The only junction they had gained there, was some few of the Mackenzies, headed by the Lady Seafort. The Lord of that name, however, and the Laird of Macintosh, were both with Lord Loudon; but the wife of this last was likewise in the rebellion. *G.*

As to what happened to the South of this, by advices of the 4th from the Duke of Athol, the party of the rebels then nearest to Blair was at Dalnaspedal, twelve miles to the North of it; from whence to Inverness they were in possession of the whole country, and guarded the passes so strictly, that there was no getting any certain intelligence about them: Sir Andrew Agnew, with his 500 men, continued at Blair; and his Grace had sent a party to Mar, and retaken the young Laird of Invercauld, who was at his father's house upon parole *G.* — having been made prisoner at Preston. — Besides the garrisons of regular forces at Blair and Castle Menzies, there were about 200 Argyleshire highlanders in different parties; one at the foot of Rannoch under the command of Glenure; others at Blairfetty, three miles North, and Kynichan, three miles West of Blair. At two in the morning of the 17th, these out-parties were all surprised by the rebels, about half a dozen killed, and the rest taken prisoners, except a few that escaped. This corps of the rebels consisted of Macphersons, Macintoshes, and some Athol in all about 700, under the command of Lord George Murray. They marched from Ruthven only on the 16th. At Dalnaspedal, small parties were detached to the three places above mentioned, and Lord George with the main body marched directly for Blair. He arrived at this place and the three detachments at those to which they were respectively ordered about the same time, so as none of the Argyleshire parties could warn another of their danger. In the evening, two of the rebels cannon, four-pounders, arrived at Blair; with which they began to play on the castle in the morning of the 18th but did little hurt, other than damage some

parts of the roof. Sir Andrew Agnew with his men, were blockaded in the castle; and guards were posted by the rebels at both ends the pass of Killichranky and at all other passes and avenues leading to Blair. The rebels were highly intraged against the King's troops, because some of their houses in Athol had been plundered; and several of the country people that had been formerly forced into the rebellion, and were returned home, joined Lord George upon his coming among them at this time. Besides, the fiery cross was ordered thro' all places where they went, by which every man between sixteen and sixty years of age is required to appear on pain of the severest military execution. It is certain that there were parties of them at Dunkeld and Invar, and some said at Nairn house, which is but five miles from Perth. — The rebels were at this time several large bodies and smaller parties from the West to the East seas; about 1500 at Fort William, Camerons, Macdonalds, Appin Stewarts, and some French much the same number after Lord Loudon to Ross-shire; the Gordons and the lowlanders upon the Spey; and the Macphersons, some of the Macintoshes, and Atholmen, in Athol: so that tho' there was scarce 2000 in any one place, yet they could all join in three days.

On the news of the rebels endeavouring to force the castle of Blair, two Hessian battalions that had been left at Stirling, marched to Crief on the 19th; and on the 24th, those at Perth, consisting of four battalions, moved Northward, incamped that night at Nairn-house, next day 600 of them marched to Dunkeld, as did the rest on the 26th, and the two battalions from Crief were to incamp at Tay bridge on the 27th. *G.*— From the 26th till the 31st the Hessians continued at Dunkeld. At that time their hussars and the outscouts of the rebels exchanged some shots; but without any hurt on either side, other than the wounding of one hussar. On Monday the 31st, 500 Hessians with St. George's dragoons, marched and incamped at Dowallie, four miles from Dunkeld, on the road to Blair. Next day they proceeded to

Pitlochrie, which is but six miles from Blair. St. George's dragoons and the Hessian hussars, commanded by the Earl of Crawford, and accompanied by the Duke of Athol, were a good way before the foot. At Pitlochrie an advanced party of the rebels drew up in order of battle to oppose the King's troops. Earl Crawford drew up his men likewise, sent orders to the foot to hasten their march, and dispatched an express for a reinforcement from the Prince, who was at Dunkeld. His Serene Highness immediately ordered 500 men to march; which they did accordingly, and incamped on the Tuesday night at Dowallie. But the rebels, before the foot were come up to Lord Crawford, retired; and making a small compass, posted themselves at the east end of the pass of Killichranky, about four miles from Blair. Lord Crawford with the dragoons remained at Pitlochrie on Tuesday night; but the Hessians were recalled to Dunkeld; and accordingly the whole were returned thither early on Wednesday morning. Mean time, instead of guarding the pass of Killichranky, the rebels quitted that post on Tuesday night, and retired to Blair; whence on Wednesday morning, they proceeded Northward by Drumuachker, Gen. Wade's road. On notice of this, — the Earl of Crawford, with a party of dragoons, marched, and arrived at Blair castle on Thursday at five o'clock in the morning. His Lordship was followed by the Duke of Athol, and both were received by Sir Andrew Agnew. The Prince of Hesse set out from Dunkeld for Blair on Friday, with all the cavalry and hussars, and was followed by 1000 foot. G.— Having staid a day or two, at Blair, the troops returned to Dunkeld, and from thence the whole of them marched to Perth. — Sir Andrew Agnew's conduct is highly applauded. The garrison were so reduced, that they had nothing to live upon but horse-flesh for some days before the rebels left the country. C.— 'Tis said that the hussars have been guilty of irregularities in Athol.

A letter from Athol gives the following account of the siege of Blair castle. "It gives me some pain, to observe that your news-writers have taken so little notice of the gallant defence made by the garrison at Blair. The rebels, by marching all night, concealed their design so well, that they were within two miles of Blair before the garrison had any notice of their being nearer than Badenoch. How soon they got intelligence, they with great alertness carried their sick from one of the office-houses near the castle, and took in their horses, with what forage and fuel was at hand. Afterwards Sir Andrew Agnew drew up his men before the castle, and kept them under arms for some hours, offering the rebels battle. But they were too wise to attack the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Scots fusileers, whose bravery they were no strangers to. When Sir Andrew perceived that they kept themselves behind park-dikes, he drew his men into the castle, and made the proper dispositions for standing a siege. All Monday the 17th of March, being the first day of the siege, there was little firing. The rebels paraded round the castle at a great distance, endeavouring to make their numbers appear as great as possible. Early on Tuesday morning they began to play upon the castle with two pieces of cannon, a four pounder and a three pounder. But observing that no impression was made upon the wall, they pointed their cannon at the roof, and did a good deal of damage, especially after they began to throw red-hot bullets, of which they threw a great many: but such was the alertness of the garrison, that their carpenters were ready to cut out the bullets where-ever they stuck, and to throw them out, or cool them in water. The rebels, after having thrown 207 cannon-bullets, of which 185 were red-hot, and did a good deal of damage to the roof and wainscotting, sent off their cannon to Dalnacardich, so as not to retard them in case of a retreat; which they began to think of in good earnest when the Hessians approached. The Earl of Crawford, at the head of the dragoons, and a detachment of the Hessians, having advanced to Pitlochrie

on Tuesday the 1st of April, the rebels quartered there formed, to give them battle. Lord Crawford formed on the other side. On this the rebels retired; with design, as they gave out, to decoy the troops into the pass of Killichranky. But missing their aim in this, and dreading lest Lord Crawford should steal a march upon them thro' the hills above Moulin, hearing likewise that there was a detachment marching from Tay bridge by Kynichan; therefore, for fear of being inclosed, they decamped on Tuesday night, and marched off with great precipitation for Badenoch, after having almost ruined the poor country they pretended to deliver, eating up the little meal that was left by the many parties who travelled thro' it this year. — After Sir Andrew Agnew had been a week shut up, he found means to send off two men from the castle; who, about twelve at night, made their way through the rebel guards, and reached Perth next day before two o'clock in the afternoon, after having fetched a terrible compass round the hills."

It was observed above, that a body of the rebels had gone after Lord Loudon. — A small party of his regiment has been surprised, and taken prisoners, some few only excepted, who made their escape by flight *G*. — The particulars are thus related. "The rebels having collected a number of fishing boats at Findhorn, and two other small places in the Murray frith, put four men on board each, and, by the favour of a thick fog, which lasted eight days, coasted round Tarbotness to Tayne in Ross-shire, where a body of their men lay. There they embarked, to the number of 12 or 1500, under the command of the Duke of Perth, the Earl of Cromarty, and Clanronald; and on the 20th of March, at eight in the morning, they crossed the ferry, and landed on the Sutherland side, about two miles West of Dornoch, where 200 of Loudon's regiment were cantoned. On notice of the rebels landing, 140 of Loudon's men retired Eastward. The other 60 were surprised and made prisoners; among whom were the Major, Mackenzie, Capt^s Sutherland of

Forse, and Macintosh of that ilk, and Adjutant Robert Grant. Lord Loudon had left Dornoch that morning about five o'clock, and gone Westward, to reconnoitre the different passes where the rest of his men were stationed; dreading nothing from that quarter, as he had carried all the boats over to the opposite shore, and judged it impracticable to bring any from the Murray frith, three ships of war being stationed there." *C*. — Advice has been received since, that Lord Loudon, the Lord President, the Laird of Macleod, &c. with about 800 men, had got safe into the isle of Sky; that Gen. Campbell had sent them a ship with provisions; and that they were soon expected at Dunstafnage, to join the Argyleshire men.

To return now to Aberdeen: By putting together all of the intelligence got about the middle of March, it seemed pretty clear, that there were then few or none of the clans in Murray, or on that side; country; and that all the rebels then on the Spey, and which had made some shew were the lowlanders, and the greatest part of the French. *G*.

Maj.-Gen. Bland marched from Aberdeen on the 12th to Inverury and Old Meldrum, one march towards the Spey with the battalion of the Royal Scots, Barrel's, Price's, and Cholmondley's, Cobham's dragoons, and Kingfton's horse having the Campbells before him, with the Laird of Grant and 100 of his followers. *G*.

Advice was sent to Aberdeen from Stonhive on the 14th, that a dogger and some other vessels appeared off the coast, which they took to be French.

The Duke having received intelligence that Roy Stewart was at Strathbogie, with about 1000 foot and 60 hussars, sent Colonel Conway with orders to attempt to surprise them, and if he should not succeed in that; to attack them and his R. Highness ordered Brig. Mordaunt, with four battalions [the Scots fusileers, Brag's, Monro's, and Battereau's *C*.] and four pieces of cannon, to

march by break of day the next morning to Old Meldrum, in order to sustain Maj.-Gen. Bland, if there should be occasion. Accordingly Maj.-Gen. Bland marched on the 17th towards Strathbogie and was almost within sight of the place when the rebels had the first notice of his approach. Upon which they abandoned the town, and fled with the utmost precipitation towards Keith. Gen. Bland's vanguard pushed their rear a good way beyond the river Deveron: but as the night was coming on, and the evening was wet and hazy, his Excellency ordered the troops to quit the pursuit. Notwithstanding which, the volunteers, *viz*, the Marquis of Granby, Col. Conway, Capt. Haldane, and several others, continued to pursue the rebels at least two miles; whose panick was so great, that it was concluded they would not halt long in a place till they had passed the Spey. The Campbells, who had the van, behaved extremely well; as did also Kingston's horse, and in general all the troops. It was reported from among the rebels, that Roy Stewart was killed by a shot he received from one of Kingston's men *G*;— or, according to other accounts, wounded in the arm

A Captain of Highlanders, whom Gen. Bland detached with 70 highlanders and 30 of Kingston's men, to Keith from Strathbogie, was surprised [on the night of the 20th *M*], and lost his whole party, except a Cornet, five men and two horses, of Kingston's, and one highlander, who made their escape. The rebels [about 400 *C*.] marched from Fochabers in the night, surrounded Keith, and entered at both ends. As the Campbells lay in the church, and defended the church-yard for above half an hour, during which there was very brisk firing, it is not doubted but the rebels paid dear for this advantage. *G*. — Capt. Campbell, a Serjeant, and five private men of the King's troops were killed. *M*.

By the 26th, the King's army were divided in three cantonments; the whole first line, consisting of six Battalions, Kingston's

horse, and Cobham's dragoons, under the command of Lord Albemarle and Maj.-Gen. Bland, at Strathbogie, within twelve miles of the Spey; the reserve, consisting of three battalions, with four pieces of cannon, under the command of Brig. Mordaunt, at Old Meldrum, halfway between Strathbogie and Aberdeen; and the whole second line, consisting of the six remaining battalions, (Bligh's having been then arrived), and Mark Kerr's dragoons, at Aberdeen. *G*.— About this time, the advanced parties of the rebels and of the corps at Strathbogie were within a mile of each other every night; their scouts and reconnoitring parties exchanged some shots; and, for fear of a surprise, the troops were kept under arms several nights successively, being obliged to take what sleep they could get, in the day-time. *M*.

According to letters from Aberdeen, of the 26th, certain intelligence had been received, that the Earl of Airly, father of Lord Ogilvy, was raising his men, to join the rebels; and orders had been sent him, by the Duke, to desist from such treasonable practices. This, however, his Lordship did not comply with; and therefore Capt. Hewett, with 100 recovered men who were coming up to the army, were sent to take possession of his house, and to make him prisoner in it, until his people should bring in their arms, and behave as became good subjects: which soon had some good effect, as a number thereupon brought in their arms. *G*.— [The Earl has since come to Edinburgh.] — 'Tis added, that his R. Highness had also ordered Major La Fausille, with 300 men, to go to Glenesk, one of the most rebellious parts, to attack all whom he found in arms against the government, and to burn the habitations of such as had left them, and were with the rebels. *G*. — A letter from Brechin says, That they would certainly have been swallowed up, if the Duke had not been so good as send this detachment to their assistance; for that one David Ferrier, an old smuggler. had, with a small party of rebels, taken up his quarters in Glenesk; had sent

down parties almost to the very ports of Brechin, and carried off men, horses, arms, &c. and had raised about 200 men in Glenesk and Glenprosen: That Major La Fausille made a trip to Edzell, burnt the meeting-house of Lethnet, and laid two or three of the richest Jacobites under a small contribution; that he next paid Lord Airly a visit, traversed Glenprosen and Clova, and there took some greater freedoms; that he burnt or destroyed all the meeting-houses wherever he came; that it cost some pains to save Glenesk from being burnt from end to end, being a nest of Jacobites; and that these measures, with some threats, had had the desired effect, all having submitted, and partly delivered up their arms.

By the best accounts at this time, there were few or none of the rebels left upon the Spey side, and they were removing all their magazines to the Northward of the Chain [a name given to the road leading from Inverness to Fort William] into Caithness. *G.* — Some prisoners that made their escape from them reported, that they were in the utmost distress for provisions, insomuch that the raw green kail from the farmers yards were looked on as a feast. *C.*

A party of the rebels came to the Earl of Findlater's house at Cullen on the 29th, with an order from the pretender's son, to burn the house, unless his steward and tenants immediately paid the cess and levy that they demanded. *G.* — Later advices say, that they rifled the house. *C.*

Several deserters that were come into Aberdeen by the 31st, confirmed the intelligence formerly received, that the rebel-army were in great want of money, having had no pay for seven days before. *G.* — They were endeavouring to imbark their lowlanders, and force them to pass the Murray frith into Sutherland; but 200 of Stonywood's men, whom they were attempting to imbark at Findhorn, deserted. *G.*

Letters of the 26th from Kirkwall in Orkney give an account, that a New England ship, commanded by one Capt Sinclair, of 14 guns, some swivels, 150 small arms, and about 10 barrels of gun powder, loaded at Newcastle, had put in to Stromness on pretence of her being unable to proceed in her voyage to Boston, and was there seized by six highlanders and six Orkneymen, assisted by the Captain; who it seems had a corresponded with the rebels, and with a Gentleman of the Orkneys of known attachment them. The crew fled, and the mate made his escape. *C.*

The Hazard sloop, taken by the rebels in November last, and called the *Prince Charles Stuart*, which has been of great use to them, [p. 88.], is retaken. She was drove ashore at Ostend by two English privateers, and thought to be destroyed; but being afterwards repaired, she sailed; and, being an excellent sailor, escaped the vigilance and pursuit of six or seven English ships that were cruising off that port to watch her. On the 24th of March, she was descried by four English ships at anchor off Troup head. On sight of them, she bore away. Thereupon the Sheerness, Capt. Obrian, cut, gave her chace quite through Pentland frith, about 50 leagues, kept a running fight for five hours, and at last run her aground in Tongue bay. Here they landed their men late in the evening of the 25th, and came to a Gentleman's house opposite to Tongue. Lord Rea's militia, and about 100 men of Loudon's regiment, with the Captains Alexander Mackay, Sir Henry Monro, young Macleod, and Lord Charles Gordon, two subalterns, and the Surgeon, all left by Lord Loudon in Sutherland when he went to Sky, were at this time not far from Tongue. Lord Rea, on notice of the landing of the men, sent a boat to get intelligence of their numbers, &c. On whose return, it was concerted by his Lordship and the officers, immediately to convene as many of the men as lay nearest, and to run expresses to such as were at a greater distance, with orders to join them with all possible speed. About 50

of Loudon's men, and the like number of Rea's, marched by break of day, and in two hours came up with the French; who had forced a guide to lead them off in the night. The French drew up, and being attacked, made several fires, but the Highlanders, after discharging their firelocks, attacked them sword-in-hand. Thereupon the French, having five or six men killed, and as many more wounded, and seeing Capt. George Mackay coming up with a reinforcement of fresh men, surrendered. They were carried prisoners to Tongue, and the same night put on board the Sheerness. One was wounded. There were in whole of the French, 20 officers, and 120 soldiers and sailors; of which upwards of 30 were killed and a good many wounded by the Sheerness, before they landed. A good deal of arms and ammunition with £13,000 Sterling, all English gold, except 1000 French guineas, was found on board. — The officers taken were: Col. Brown — Of Berwick's regiment Capt^s Macmahon and Rogers; Lieut^s. Edw. and Will. Barnavals, Nugent, and Maurice. — Of Hainault, Capt. Macmahon. — Of Clare's, Lieut^s Obrian, Brimingham, and Osborn. — Of the Royal Scots in France, Lieut^s Barnaval and Weyard. — Of the French Gens d'Armes, M. Shabillard. — In the Spanish service, Capt. Gould, Lieut. Hynd. — Of the Irish grenadeers in the Spanifh fervice, Capt^s Macpherson, Sinclair, and Hay. — A Spanish engineer M. Faro. — And M. Sabold, Captain of the Hazard. C.

Intelligence was received by Lord Rea on the 29th, from Andrew Ross Sheriff-depute of Orkney that Captain Sinclair, above mentioned, had laid an imbargo on twelve merchant-ships in Stromness harbour; and designed, with the assistance of a rebel party then at Kirkwall, under command of Lord Macleod, son of the Earl of Cromarty, to secure them for the use of the pretender. Lord Rea immediately sent notice to the Sheerness: which thereupon sailed directly, relieved the merchant-ships, and seized Sinclair's, but he himself made his escape. Capt. Obrian found a good deal of small

arms, broad swords, ammunion, and several letters on board. C.

Lord Rea having been threatened by letters from the Earl of Cromarty with fire and sword, unless his men would submit to the rebels, and deliver up their arms, went soon after this to Edinburgh, with his family, as did Loudon's men to Aberdeen, both by sea, C. — Capt. Obrian has since sailed to the frith of Forth, and has sent the two prizes, the Hazard, and Sinclair's ship, to Leith-road. The prisoners were carried to Berwick. C.

While the army lay at Aberdeen, some of the soldiers discovered an inclination to use the same freedoms there that had been taken in Perthshire [p. 87] But it is allured in several letters, that the Duke discountenanced such practices. — One dated at Aberdeen, March 24. says, "Some detached parties having pillaged James Gordon of Cowbairdie's house, [who is in the rebellion, C.]; and his Lady having, by Lord Forbes, her father, petitioned the Duke, his R. Highness thereupon ordered a strict inquiry to be made into the matter, and 100 guineas to be given the Lady for her losses; declaring that there never was an order for taking any effects belonging to the rebels, other than their cattle and forage, for that the rest was to be left to the law. By this it appears that his R. Highness knows not of some little outrages committed, but punishes them when they are known" *St. J. Ev. Post* — It appears that some officers were likewise criminal. — Lieut. Fawlie, of Fleming's regiment, was broke at Montrose, on the 24th of February, for disobedience of orders, forfeiture of his word of honour, and prevarication before a court-martial held on him in consequence of his plundering the house of Mr Oliphant of Gask, who is with the rebels. C. — This was one of the Gentlemen who had some of their household-goods, &c. auctioned at Perth. What the orders were that Lieut. Fawlie disobeyed, or wherein he forfeited his honour, is not mentioned; but the following

case is more particular, (as inserted by order in the Edinburgh news-papers), dated at Aberdeen, March 27, and signed by *Lt-Col. David Cunninghame, President of the court-martial, and by David Bruce, D.J. Advocate, -viz.* “At a general court-martial held at Aberdeen the 23rd day of March instant, by order of his R. Highness William Duke of Cumberland, &c. &c. &c. the following sentence was pronounced against Ensign Daniel Hart, of late Sir Robert Monro’s regiment, for extorting six guineas from the wife of Francis Ross merchant in Aberdeen, upon his promising to protect her house and shop, *viz. It appearing evident to the court, from the preceeding depositions, and the prisoner’s own confession, that he is guilty of the crimes laid to his charge, do therefore unanimously adjudge him to be cashiered, and rendered incapable of ever serving in any capacity under his Majesty; and ordain this his sentence to be publickly read to him at the head of the piquets; and require David Bruce, Deputy Judge Advocate for his R. Highness’s army, to, transmit a copy of the sentence to Edinburgh, to be insert in the publick news-papers. N. B.* His R. Highness approved of the above sentence, and discharged his following the army any further.” — Two soldiers of Fleming’s regiment were hanged at Aberdeen, for plundering several houses in that neighbourhood; and a spy was likewise executed there. The rebels did the fame by a man for carrying letters to some friends of the government. *C.*

Great encomiums are daily made upon the Duke. — One letter in particular from Aberdeen, of the 9th of March, says, “His R. Royal Highness is in good health, and all degrees of people are charmed with his deportment. Even the disaffected cannot help saying, that his presence alone is equal to an army; and our friends, when they see him equally attentive to business and diversion, and as felicitous to please as to execute his office, ask us, whether the Duke was sent down to civilize, or to subdue the North? We answer, He is come to do both. The late hard

weather has afforded him leisure enough for the former; and as the air grows warmer, he will infallibly take the necessary measures for performing the latter; and till the season would allow, even Cæsar himself must have staid.” *Old Eng.*

According to letters from Aberdeen, of the 31st, the continued ill weather during the month of March, had raised the waters of the Spey so high, that the army still remained in that city and neighbourhood; but his R. Highness proposed to march as soon as possible. *G.*

Several small parties came to Edinburgh from England during this month, regulars and irregulars, and marched to the posts assigned them. Considerable sums of money for the use of the army, and great quantities of stores provisions, &c. likewise came to Scotland from England. Lee’s regiment from Berwick came to Edinburgh on the 16th, and were quartered in the suburbs. The Edinburgh regiment is still kept up. They do duty not only in town, but likewise in Canongate the castle, &c. when there is occasion and twelve of them, with a Serjeant, went on the 3rd of March for Blackness castle ten miles West of the city, to reinforce the garrison there. The freeholders the shire of Mid-Lothian, at a general meeting held on the 14th, resolved, that they should pay up their full cess, without asking deduction of what they had been obliged to pay to the rebels. *M.*— On the 27th, four surgeon-lads, who had attended the rebels in their expedition into England, and had been prisoners some time in Edinburgh castle, were sent under a guard for London; and on the 1st of April, several prisoners taken up on suspicion at Perth, were brought to Edinburgh, some Gentlemen in a coach, the rest on foot and committed to the castle *M*; but they were brought down the same day to the city-prison.