



THE CHIEFS
OF
GRANT

BY
WILLIAM FRASER L.L.D.

VOL. II. CORRESPONDENCE

EDINBURGH 1883

221. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to [MAJOR GEORGE GRANT]—To reprimand a military offence.

Culloden, 13th May 1741.

MY DEAR GEORGE,—If the facts contained in the petition which I take the liberty herewith to transmit to you are true, and the petitioner is very positive they are, Carrick's piper deserves to be reprimanded, and the poor fellow who suffered is intitled to redress. On every occasion of this kind, where any person belonging to the army exceeds, it much more for the interest of the service that the offence be corrected by the officers than that be left to a prosecution. It is for this reason, dear George, that I give you the trouble, which now you are to meet with. Praying that you will give directions to enquire into this matter, and if the allegations are found true, that justice be done to the poor fellow who has suffered, I am, my dear George, most faithfully yours,

DUN. FORBES.

222. ROBERT CRAIGIE of Glendoick, Lord Advocate of Scotland, to LUDOVICK GRANT, younger of Grant—Report of the embarkation of the Pretender's son.

Edinburgh, 5th August 1745.

DEAR SIR,—The Lords Justices have received intelligence that a report is current at Paris, that the 15th of July the Pretender's eldest son embarks near Nantz, Bretagne, on board a French ship of 64 guns, attended with another of 25 guns, having on board 70 gentlemen guards and 300 volunteers, with arms and ammunition, with a design to land in Scotland, where it was expected he would be joined by the Highlanders. I have no doubt this report will reach your parts augmented and diversified with many circumstances. I thought it proper acquaint you of this intelligence, that you may not be surprized with the accounts you may hear from other hands, and the same time that you may have a sharp look out and endeavour to discover if there are any motions the Highlands in consequence of those reports.

I know your zeal for the Government, and that it will be very acceptable service you can send me intelligence how matters go in your parts, which I shall send to London by express, where at present they have very good opinion the affections of this country; but I promise myself, from the knowlege I have of you and your family, that upon all occasions you'll convince them that in this particular they are in a mistake, that you have both power and inclination to support the Government in your parts.

I hope you'll make my compliments acceptable to Lady Margaret Grant. I am, with great and esteem, Sir,

Your most faithfull most humble servant,

ROB.
CRAIGIE.

To Ludovick Grant, younger of Grant, Esquire.

My Dear George

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to transmit to You, are true and the Petitioners being
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My Dear George most faithfully Yours D. W. FORT

Culloden, 13th May 1741

223, ALEXANDER BRODIE, Lyon King-of-Arms, to THE SAME—Landing of the Chevalier.

Fort George, Thursday, after dinner [Indorsed 15 August 1745].

DEAR SIR,—By all I can learn there are no French troops landed, only 40 or 50 volunteer renegados, so they can do but little mischief; at the same time, I believe it is certain that the young Chevalier, with Lochell and Tullibardin, are landed, and the Camerons and M^cDonalds in Lochabyr drawing together, but I don't hear of above one or two ships, and these have taken four Scotch ships with corn, and one from Sweden with iron, which are all ransomed, which is but a bad begining for them.

Sir John Cope is on this side of Perth, with all the foot and dragoons he has, marching towards them; and they come out to be more numerous—I mean the enemy—than we yet have heard of, it will then be proper for you to assemble your men to give assistance.

Lord Lovat is this day at Culloden, and is to assist us. Seafort is to be there to-morrow, and will do the same, as will M^cLeod; and the President is positive that Sir Alexander M^cDonald will give them no assistance; and those I have named, with M^cIntosh and Cluny, will be sufficient to drive them out of the countrey, so that tho' there is no apprehension of fear, yet every body should be on their guard, and be prepared to act their part for the common cause.

I sent an express to Duke Gordon, with a letter from the President, advising him what to do, and informing him that the Duke of Atholl was assembling his people, whom he has already secured against all attempts from his brother Tullybardin.

Sir John Cope will be at Fort Augustus probably on Saturday with the troops, so that people of Urquhart need not be afraid of the threatnings sent them, of which the bearer, Corrymonie, will give you the particulars.

The President's coming north was very lucky, and he came sooner on purpose to assist on this emergency, to prevent people's playing the fool.

I have time to say no more; and as this is wrote in the Major's presence, he has no farther to say to you. I shall go home to-morrow, but shall return in a day or two. I think you may visit the President that you may act in concert.

The Major's and my compliments to Sir James and Lady Margaret, etc.

Yours, etc,

ADEX^R BRODIE.

To the Honourable the Laird of Grant, younger.

224. THE SAME to THE SAME—News of Lord Seaforth, Lord Lovat and others.

Sunday, past two of the clock [Indorsed 18 August 1745].

DEAR SIR,—Lord Seafort is gone home from Culloden to raise his men for the service of the Government and his own protection. Lovat will stir of no side, but chooses to do it on our side, provided the King indemnifys him of his losses by taking away his company.

Captain Swillenham of Guise's is taken, on his way to Fort William from Fort Augustus; nay, it is further said, that the two additional companys of Sinclair's, in their march from Fort Augustus to Fort William, were surprised in the woods of Letterfinlay, and made prisoners, by a body of Highlanders, without such resistance as would have been made by veterans. ...

Campbell is made Quarter Master General, and is moveing before the General to provide quarters, who is marching to Lochell's cuntry, or where ever they are to attack them.

The two regiments of dragoons and two of foot march with him, who are to be joined by all the new recruits and the forces in the garrisons. What has carried the Duke of Gordon from home?

Accept of all our kind compliments to you and your family.

Yours, etc.,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

225, ROBERT CRAIGIE of Glendoick, Lord Advocate of Scotland, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant, Esquire—False intelligence of landing of French troops,

Edinburgh, 20th August 1745.

DEAR SIR,—Yesterday, about five in the afternoon, I had yours of the 15th, and the letter you received from your chamberlain, M^r Grant in Glenmoriston. I am exceeding glad that Sir James Grant and you keep up your spirits at this juncture, for of your zeal to his Majesty and the Government I never could entertain any doubt. I wish the deputy governor of Fort William were hanged. He has given the Government and its friends more disquiet, and has done it more disservice by his idle intelligence, than he will ever be able to make up were he to live a hundred years. Had it not been for his groundless intelligence of the landing, first of 2000, and afterwards of 10,000 French, in his neighbourhood, and which he transmitted to us by two expresses, our troops had been in your neighbourhood by this time, and which I am persuaded would have prevented many of the disorders that will happen in your parts, and the ruin of many people whom I heartily pity. However, the troops are now in full march from Stirling, and I hope will be soon in your neighbourhood, which, with the assistance of his Majesty's friends, its hoped will restore quiet to the country; for we are well assured that for many days after the governor of Fort William's intelligence, only one French sloop, a privateer of 16 or 18 guns, arrived upon the north west coast, with some gentlemen and some arms on board, and possibly the Pretender's eldest son. That the other ship of 64 guns, also a French privateer, that sailed in company with the smal one, was providentially met with at sea by the Lyon man-of-war, and after a fight of six hours, was so disabled as to be obliged to return to Brest, with the greatest part of the men, arms, etc., intended for this country. That the smal ship is still upon the coast, and last week two of the King's ships, stationed on the west coast, are gone in quest of her.

I shall transmit a copy of yours to my Lord Tweeddale, to be laid before the justices, or in case his Majesty is returned, as I hope he is before now, to be laid before the King. Make my compliments acceptable to Sir James Grant and Lady Margaret, and be so good as to believe that I am, with great truth and esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ROB. CRAIGIE.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

226. ALEXANDER BRODIE, Lyon King-of-Arms, to the LAIRD OF GRANT—Setting up of the standard at Glenfinan. Indorsed 21st August 1745.

Wednesday, 9 at night.

DEAR SIR,—I am favour'd with yours, and am glad all your family are well. My English friends and I drink your health every day, and success to your good intentions.

The Highlanders rendezvous'd on Munday at Glininvine, between Moydart and Lochabyr, to set up the standard, and no M^cKenzie, Chesolm or M^cLeod were there, or any from Sir Alexander M^cDonald, nor any with them except the family of Clanronald, with the Camerons, Kepach and some of the Glengary people. Prince Charles has published his manifesto as regent, and a copy of it in print the President has seen. No ship has landed since the first, and in it were but 25 persons, and none more expected. They hope for a junction of those who will be against them, and expect no landing here, but one in the west of England, from Ferrol or Cadiz.

Duke Gordon return'd home on the President's letter inclosed in my second, but I don't hear of his stirring notwithstanding all I have wrote to him; nay, the Duchess only answers our letters.

Sir John Cope marches too slowly, but they must beat him before they can come your length; but the sooner you are in arms the better. The additional companys were surprised and taken in Letter Findlay, without making the resistance that veterans would have done: a captain of Guise's is also taken prisoner.

A thousand arms and ammunition landed at Inverness last Saturday, of which I wonder the Major did not acquaint you.

I shall acquaint the President of the contents of yours. Your bearer hurrys me, so can add no more.

Yours, etc.,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

Mind my lemons.

To the Honourable the Laird of Grant.

227. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant, to SIR JOHN COPE—The Grants arming for the Government. Copy: Indorsed 25th August 1745.

SIR,—Upon the first information I had of the Pretender's son's landing in the north west Highlands I came to this part of the countrie, and conveened all the gentilmen of my name, and gave them directions to prepare as well as they could to keep the peace of the countrie, I and my friends have had great vengeance denounced against us by those clanns who are in arms for the appearance we made for the Government at the Revolution, and in the year 1715. We have been prepaireing to defend ourselves the best we could, but now all my fears are dissipate, as I am informed you are merching to attack these rebells: when I think of your abilities and experience, noe doubt can remain with me but that the Highlanders will run befor you. I wish you from my heart all success. I have sent the bearer, a cusine of mine, who has served severall years in the armie, to give you all the information he can, and to assure you of my zeall for the support of his Majesties service and Government. I am, Sir, with esteem, your most faithfull and obedient humble servant,

LUD. GRANT.

[Indorsed:] Mr. Grant to Sir John Cope.

228. MAJOR GEORGE GRANT to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Report of numbers joining the Prince.

Fort George, 26th August 1745, 11 at night.

MY DEAR SQWARE,—I had both yours by John and James Grants, but if you inclined to hear frequently from me ther should be one appointed to wait hear for that end, and would save the expense I'm at present. Sir John Cope was at Trenefour incamped the 24 at night, and was to march next morning in quest of the rebells, who I should hope will not think fit to meet him or wait for him. Glenmoristone and Glengarys people joyned them Saturday, and I'm affraid some of the M^cDonalds and Camerons in Urquhart will follow ther example on account of the threatnings they have got. It's said ther nomers are four thousand, tho I flater my self they cannot, severall of the clans not haveing joyn'd; hoever, the Generall cannot be too cautious wher so much depends on the first blow. The President is of opinion, as Sir John Cope will soon be in our nighborhood, that you should have your people in readiness to joyn him, and to act by his directions if ther be occasion. The Lyon and some of his Lady's English friends dine with me to morrow, and in short am few days without more company then I should incline. My kindest complements to Lady Margaret, and am yours,

GEORGE GRANT.

To Ludovick Grant off Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

229. ALEXANDER BRODIE, Lyon King-of-Arms, to [LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant]—
Remonstrating with him for not joining Sir John Cope, Indorsed 28 August 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I have yours last night on my return from Inverness. I have heard of your frequent alarms and threatnings. It is the game they have play'd upon every body, and that with too great success, which if not put a check to, they will soon become our masters; for if General Cope is not enabled to cut them off or lay down their arms and retire by a junction of Highlanders, they will soon gather to be too strong for him. They will not as yet, untill they can gather more men, venture to fight with Sir John Cope on fair fields, and he is not able to attack them in their passes or strong holds without Highlanders to flank them and climb up the hills; so that if none of the King's Highland friends join him we are undone; and I take it upon me to say, that the only way for you and others in your situation to preserve your own part of the countrey, is to join Sir John Cope and beat them out of the kingdom, for if Sir John is not thus properly supported, he and you and we all must be at their mercy. They threaten and coax in order to lull you all asleep untill their numbers encrease, and then it's too late. You will, if they conquer, be made a sacrifice of sooner or later, and so the only safety you have is joining with Sir John, to demolish them before they grow so strong that it will not be in your power. I am told your people refuse to join you, if you join him or march out of your own country, and that they have given you those false alarms on purpose to keep you at home, which is counselling you to your own ruin. Beware therefore of false brethren, and never give yourself any airs of haveing a clan that can support and serve the Government, if, when it comes to the push, they tell you they will not go alongst with you. You, in your letter to Sir John Cope before he came to your countrey, wrote to him that you and your people were ready to join and assist him, yet by some fatal advice you would nether join him with one man nor go near him yourself, altho' he stopt at Avemore and lay at Dalrachnys within ten miles of you, and was in danger of being attack'd in Sloch Muyck.

You wrote to me that you was ready to join the troops, and I told the General so. You wrote the same thing to Kilraick, and he told it to the Earl of Morray, who told it to the General and the President, but you have disappointed us all, and your uncle the Major is very angry that you should have follow'd other people's advice and not taken your own; and it had been much better you had given no such assurances without being sure that you could fullfill your engagements. I beg your forgiveness for being so free with you, since it proceeds from a true regard to your character, honour, and interest, for I could not help being afflicted and concern'd when I heard you so talkt of as I did when at Inverness; and upon t'other hand, how glorious would it have been for you, and of how much benefit must it have been to you, your family and friends, had you been the first man of your countrey that had joined your people to the King's forces; and sure I am fifty men is sufficient to guard Castle Grant, and you might spare two or three hundred to the General, which would be the best way of guarding your countrey, since

the General would allways be in pursuit of their army, and so they durst not separate or spare a party to attack your countrey, nor will the young gentleman allow his people to burn and destroy while he is in hopes of gathering a multitude to join him.

Sir John Cope says that if he had been joined but with one hundred or two from each of the Highland chiftians that he was told by the Ministry would join him as he marched along, he would have been satisfied and could have done their business; but instead of that, not one man has joined him, of which he has acquainted the Ministry.

I am further to acquaint you that the President has procured 200 stand of arms for the laird of M^cIntosh, who is to join the General with two hundred of his men.

Hary Munro is gone over for one or two hundred of his father's men. Major Mackay is gone to Dunrobin for to bring up my Lord Sutherland's, and Captain Mackay is to bring up 300 of my Lord Reay's, and Seafort is gone to bring up 500 of his people. May I therefore beg, pray, and entreat that you will not be amongst the last, but that you will go or send to the General, and tell him you have two or three hundred at least ready for his and the public service.

I have further to add that Kilraick and Lethen, with the help of Delness, have given me assurances that they will have a hundred or two ready to assist him, of which I am to have the particulars on Tuesday next at Oldearn.

Think on what I have said seriously, since I assure you it proceeds from real affection to you and your family.

Mrs, Brodie joins with me in the offerr of our kind compliments to Lady Margaret and all your family, and I am,

Dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

I shall be with the President and the General on Tuesday, so would be glad to know what I should say of or for you.

(On separate piece of paper.)

I would not have been so strong if it had not been with a design that you might show it to those of your people that I am told are not for your leaveing your own countrey; so hope you'll forgive any strong expressions, as my meaning is to serve you.

To the honourable the Laird of Grant, at Castle Grant.

230. JAMES LORD DESKFORD, son of James, fifth Earl of Findlater and Seafield, to THE SAME—Death of Baron Dalrymple, etc.

Saturday, 4 a clock, [August 1745],

DEAR SIR,—Upon hearing at Edinburgh of the landing of the Pretender's son in Clan Ronold's country, tho' I was sensible I could be of little use, yet I thought it right and decant for me to be where Lord Finlater was, and so I took the shortest way north and came here upon Thursday. Some time next week I intend to see you at Castle Grant. I am sorry for Baron Dalrymple's death at this time, because making your application at the same time that you profess your zeal, appears like making that a condition of the other service in which, quite independently of that, your principles oblige you to exert yourself. It is right to write from time to time to the Marquis of Twedale, because he will take it as a mark of respect, but all his friends agree that at present he has not the least influence. Mr. Pelham, you know, is totally, as to Scotch affairs, under the direction of the Duke of Argile—I believe more absolutely even than you imagine,—so that there is no prospect of succeeding but by his Grace's means. I should therefore think at this time that it would be very proper for you to send an express to Inverara with a letter, declaring that as your family had always been active in the Whig interest upon all occasions, both before and since the Revolution, you begged leave to assure his Grace, whom you look upon as the head of the Whigs in Scotland, that you would not fail at this time to exert yourself to the utmost of your power in the service of the Government; that if at any time you had had the misfortune to differ from his Grace, you hoped that would now be forgot, when the common interest directed you all to act with spirit in the service of the same cause; that therefor if there was any particular directions he pleased favour you with, you would certainly have the utmost attention to them.

Then add that, as by the death of Baron Dalrymple there was a place of Baron of the Exchequer vacant, you would be content to retire from parliamentary business and to accept of that, and if his Grace pleased to favour you with his recommendation, you would never let any opportunity pass of showing how sensible you was of that mark of his friendship; but that, totally independent of this consideration, you would exert your zeal for the Whig cause, and be, with the most profound respect, etc.

You certainly have no chance for succeeding if you do not do this; perhaps not much tho' you do. Liven, Strichen, John Maul, and Scots Tarbet, are the candidates, as I hear, The President is sent north with particular directions to correspond with Sir John Cope and the Ministry. I should think it right for you to write to him that, as you and he are both heartily engaged upon the same side of question, and that you was resolved to do every thing in your power in the service of the Government, you would be obliged to him for sending any intelligence that came to his hand, and likewise favour you with his advise and opinion upon any circumstance in which you might have occasion to act in the present conjuncture. Something of this kind would certainly be right.

When I left Edinburgh I was informed that Sir John Cope intended to be at Dalnicardoch on Sunday or Monday with two regiments of foot, one of dragoons and two independent companys: would it not be right to write to him that you had called the gentlemen of your clan together, and directed them to get themselves ready to act in support of the Government, which, they being all Whigs, were very well inclined to do; that you hoped soon to see him further north, where he might depend upon every assistance in your power? The Duke of Gordon has thought proper to go south. My best compliments to all with you. I am, dear Sir,

Most affectionately yours,

D[ESKFORD],

[Indorsed:] Lord Deskford, August 1745.

231. LACHLAN GRANT, Writer in Edinburgh, to [LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant]—
The Highland army reported to be at Blair.

Edinburgh, 4 September 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I wrote you by last post, repeating my former grievances, and I expected by this last post a return; but as the Highland army have intercepted all the letters, if you write any, I do not expect to see it. ...

We have here no other news than that the King is landed, and that a regiment of Dutch is expected daily to land at Leith, and 4 other regiments in England. By a man from Blair of Athole this day I am told the Highland army are there, and that Cluny is a prisoner there, and that Lochgerry is a lieutenant-colonell in their service. I wrote to Provost Gordon to forward this letter by express, and I hope by that express that you'll return ane answer to Forres, I am, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

LACHLAN GRANT.

232. PENUEL GRANT, wife of Captain Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch, to her
BROTHER, LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—The people of Morange threatened to
make them join the Highland army.

Bellindalloch, 5th September 1745.

DEAR BROTHER,—The people of Morange were last night threatned with being plundered if they did not rise and goe imediatly to the Heighland army, I believe they are not willing, and they have this day sent their cattle to this countrey. I don't hear that we are to be trubled here; but you know the Duke of Gordon pretends a right to the superiority of the lands of Morange, and Glenbucket uses freedom with them upon that account. Make my compliments to Lady Margaret, and I bege you'll let me know if you have got any post letters; and I am, dear brother,

Your affectionate sister,

PENUEL GRANT.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

233. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN GRANT, his Factor in Urquhart—Advice to his tenants to remain peaceably at home. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, September 5th, 1745.

SIR,—I have just now received yours, about eight at night. I know you have numbers of people spreading numbers of stories, of purpose to intimidate my people of Urquhart to run to their ruin. I know it's said the late Earl Marshall has landed with several thousands. I can assure you not one word of that is founded on truth, whereas I have certain information last night that there is 5000 good troops at Edinburgh, and severals of the regiments from Ostend have landed; as also 6000 Dutch are daylie expected, and as many Dains; this being the case, you may judge what must happen to any who appear against the Goverment. For my own part, what I desire and require of friends and tennents is to remain at home and cutt down their cornes peaceably, as we are doing in Strathspey, and as most of Strathdoun and Glenlivat are determined to do. This very day numbers of their people are flocking to this country with their cattle to be free of ruin, and to save their cattle for some time, in order to be happie at home within some few days, when Glenbuckat is to march from that neighbourhood. I shall conclude my letter with desiring you make my compliments to the gentlemen of Urquhart, and let them know that I desire you and them to spirite up the tennents and inhabitance of Urquhart to remain peaceable at home, and to assure them of all incouragement from me, of favours, if they are obedient; whereas, be they who they will that will act otherways than I desire, they may expect the treatment that they will justly merite from me. This I desire you read publickly; and if any after this spirite up my tennents to act a part against me, they may come to suffer for it. Let no body pretend to make the people imagine I have a secret and revealed will; for if they insinuate any such malicious notions among my tennents, assure you the people they are deceiving them, and hurrying of them to their distinction; and that my sentiments may appear, I desire you keep this letter as an evidence against them. Sic subscribitur, LUD. GRANT,
P.S.—I caused explain what's contain'd here to the bearer of this letter, and would gladly have kept him, to have conversed with the people of Strathdoun who are taking shalter below this.

I begin to think that some people want to send off some of my tennents of purpose to make a complayment of them poor people, without the least regard to their reall interest; but warn you the tennents to take care of themselves, as I shall do of them, conform to their behaviour upon this occasion. I must take care of my tennents who pay me my rent, and will show them marks of kindness which none other can do; and before they be much older, if they behave well, I will do them what no body who may spirite

them up against me can do. Some folks who may bear this letter read ought to consider well what they are doing.

[Indorsed:] Letter, Mr. Grant to his factor in Urquhart.

234. ALEXANDER GRANT of Grantfield to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
Accounts of the Highlanders.

Grantfield, September 7th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—It'll give me pleasure to hear if Lady Margaret, you, and all your good family are well, to whom I begg leave to offer my most humble dutie. I had ere now done myself the honour of waiting of you, but was told your family was not come to Castle Grant till within these 2 or 3 weeks, and since that time we have been alarum'd with different accounts of the Highlanders, who now, I'm inform'd, are all gone south, and I'm sorry to hear we have but few troops in that countrey to oppose them. There are no gentlemen of any character or estate in this county gone to join them, but severals are spoke off that intends to go how soon they hear that they have obtained victory over the king's troupes or have entred England, and that people of character in that countrey joins them. All these things may be stories made up, but it passes currently here. I am exceedingly anxious to know your accounts of them, and what you and the rest of the loyall clans are to do. We are told you're to join the king's troupes, others say yow're to stay at home and keep your own countrey. If you would be so good as honour me with a line now and then, when you have spare time, it would be most oblidging,

Mrs. Grant joins with me in our compliments to Lady Margaret, and I am most sincerly, my dear Sir,

Your affectionate cousin and most faithfull oblidged ready servant,

AL. GRANT.

You was so kynd as promise to give me some franks, therefore I have presumed to demand them, which you'l please do with the bearer, who returns here express.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, att Castle Grant.

235, SIR HARRY INNES of Innes to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Glenbucket's raids for horses.

Elgin, September 10th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—We ar hear in a perpetuall alarm for Glenbucket; he took sune of the Duke of Gordon's horses and arms this morning, at lest I am credably infonn'd of it, and have no reson to question its beeing trew. I am sory to tell yow that the Duke is quite wronge.

This allarm and ssearch for horses has determined me to send mine wnder your protection, Yow have the most of my cavalry, and God knows they ar but very indiferent, Was it not mor for humour that they shall not have them then the reall valow, I should not send one out of the way. Lord Braco, his son Jamie, and Mr. Duff, younger of Hatton, went to the west this day to be free of Glennie, I met his Lordship as I was walking to Innes, and now I must walk, for the divell a hors I have worth riding, News I have non. Our compliaments to Lady Margaret, and belive me, yours, etc.,

HARIE INNES.

Your sister desirs to know how Lady Margaret is, the docter beeing sent for late, and begs to know if the Earle of Findlater has arived with yow.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

236. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to SIR JOHN COPE—Glenbucket marching from Strathdoun and Glenlivat. Indorsed 12 September 1745.

SIR,—My servant is just now returned from Cullen House, and I am extreamlie glade that you have gott the letter come for you by this bearer from the Lord Advocate, I finde the fellow soe trustie, that I have sent him after you in order you may imploy him to carrie letters to the Advocate, or to dispose of him as you think proper. It gave me great pain that my situation in this part of the countrie made it absolutelie impossible for me to have the honour of waiteing of you when you was in my neighbourhood. Glenbucket marched earlie Saturday from Strathdoun and Glenlivate, and I have the pleasure to write you that a great manie of the Protestants in that part of the countrie have been diswaded from joining of him. I have numbers of them in this countrie with their cattle. I have had people observeing the motions in Badenouch, and since you left Invernes, there has not but verie few joined the Pretender's son to the northward of Badenouch. I wish you all success, and am, with honour. Sir,

Your most obedient and faithfull humble servant,

LUD. GRANT.

By all the information I can have, Glenbucket did not gett above one hundred and thirtie men to goe with him from Strathdoune and Glenlivat, and some of these are deserting him and returning home, In the year 1715 he marched near 500 men from that part of the countrie.

[Indorsed:] Mr. Grant to Sir John Cope.

237. JOHN GRANT, Factor of Urquhart, to LUDOVICK: GRANT of Grant—Movements of Lord Lovat and others.

Bellimackaen, September 12th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I received yours of the 5th current, which I made publick to all the gentlemen and tenants in this country, and the whole frankly agreed to obey your orders, except a very few; and Corimonie, who came the lenth of Millntown with all his tenants, to the number of twenty, so farr upon his way to the Highland armie, and thought to have preveald upon severalls of your tenants to goe with him, but affter I told your sentiments to the tenants, non of them wou'd obey him, and then he begane to resiell a little when he found non wou'd goe with him but the few he hade himself, and then Shewglie preveal'd with him to return home at this tyme; but Corimonie declars, as am told, if he does not see that you'll soon joyn that cause, that he will beg your excuse and follow his own inclinations; this I was told by a cousine of his own. Last night two of Shewglie's sons went of to the Highland armie with a dozen young fellows, amongst which were Allexander Grant in Inchbrin, who wanted to be your forister, and James Grant his brother, who were the only two worth while went with Shewglie's sons; for all the rest was only servants to some of the tenants. By all I can understand Shewglie hade no hand in there goeing, for since they went off, he swore to me offten that he never wou'd see any of his sons, as they went against his inclinations. Whither you credite this or not you ought to carry fair with Shewglie, and take your own tyme of him when all this disturbance is at ane end.

Lord Lovet is makeing rady to march. He has given orders to all his men to be in readyness, and has a good many smiths and tinkers preparing there arms and targes; and the Chisolm has likeways ordred his men to be in readieness to march upon a day's warning. John Roy Steuart was at Lord Lovet's house some nights agoe, after comeing from the Highland armie, and he assur'd his Lordshipe that the Earl of Marshall was daylay expected with severall thousands, and a great number of arms for the Highlanders. M^cLeode, upon John Steuart's comeing to Castle Dounie, was sent for by express, who came there Monday night in his little killt, and it's said that he has a minde to follow Lovet's way.

There was a letter of Sir Allexander McDonald's intersepted last weke by the Highlanders, which letter was for Generall Guest, assuring him that he was resolved to stand firm by the Goverment, and that the Generall might belive that he never was the fooll to joyn such a mobe as the Highlanders were. When this letter came to Pr— Ch— hands, he was much disoblidged at Sir Allexander, and publickly told it's what he did not expect, as Sir Allexander and M^cLeod were amongst the first in Scotland that advis'd his comeing, for which he hade there letters to shaw.

The bearer is your forister in this country, who is a very honest fellow; and was it not him, all the M^cMillans of this country wou'd have joynt Locheil, so I hope you'll give him a letter of foristry, which will make all those people stand by you; and you'll please tell him, as they behaved well at this tyme, that you'll still containow to befriend them; and if Sandy Grant hade staid at home, this man is much fitter for your purpose,

When you wryte me you may signifie your being well pleas'd at Shewglie for stopeing Corimonie from joyning the Highlanders, and likeways that you don't suspect, from what I wrote you, that he hade a hand in any of his sons goeing. I'le acquaint you from tyme to tyme all the news I can get, Glenmoristone sett of this day for the Highland armie. Dellidregan is not gone; and I am, Honourable Sir,

Your faithfull and obedient servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

P.S. —Ther's a report here that all our armie in Flanders was kill'd or made prisoners of by the French, which incurrageis severals to joyn the Highlanders.

238. THOMAS GRANT, Arndillie, to THE SAME—Glenbucket's proceedings.

Arndillie, Thursday, 12th of September [1745].

HONOURABLE SIR,—You have my most hearty thanks for the peace and safety I injoy in this troublesome time. Glenbucket has been within a mile of this place with his party, and went on Munday to Gordon Castle and seized the Duke's horses and arms, and likeways some horses and arms in Fochabars, and his party came in the night betwixt Munday and Tuesday to Afflunkart, and seized his horses, where I am informed they were not very discreet, having used the laird roughly. But all your people in this country have been quite safe and free of trouble, and this place has been a protection for Kinninway, Lasmurdie, and Newtown's horses. All this is owing to you, as you would have resented injuries done your freinds, and made repriseals. I am envyed by my neighbours for the happiness you occasion me to enjoy; long may you live for the good of your family and people, and the terror of your enemies. Glenbucket and his people went on Wednesday to Strath-Bogie, where he, Mr. Hamilton and Abichie are making levies. I forgot to tell you that he was not successfull in raising the men in Balveny. L. B. is in the greates[t] consternation and vexation, I am told he took journey on Munday for Edinburgh, but it's thought he can't get there. It's likeway clattered privatly that M— has been offered 1000 g—s; this is beleived by a good many.

I have an express here from Sutherland, and it's wrote me from that country that the Earl of Sutherland is now in perfect friendship with Lord Ray and Macimish. The militia there are raising to the number of 800, The Mackays 300 to be commanded by Lord Ray's second son, 300 of the Guns alias Grants to be commanded by Macimish, and 200 of the Sutherlands and Gordons to be commanded by Carroll; and Major Hew Mackay of Ogilthorp's regiment is to have the principall command in place of the Earl (in case they march to Inverness), as the Earl is tender, and cannot come abroad himself.

If you shall think fitt to take the feild with your men at any time during this confusion, I have some few people who I think will stand and fight and not fly from your banner, and I have others that will be bagage men, both here, on Gallwall and Achononie. Pray use the same authority with them as you do with your own tenents, for in effect both they and I are the same, and tho' I can not lye in the feilds on account of my tender constitution, if a day or two could do it you would find me near your person to share of the common fate with your other freinds. God bless and preserve you, Lady Margaret and the young family. I am, Sir,

Your most dutifull and most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS GRANTT.

To the Honourable the Laird of Grant, Castle Grant.

239. HUGH ROSE of Kilravock to THE SAME—News of the progress of the Rebel army.

Culmony, the 14th September 1745.

DEAR SIR,—As the seat of war (all except the keen dilligence of Glenbucket) seems to be remov'd from our parts, I hope you have now got rid of all threatnings and alarms, and I send this express to know how you and the good family at Castle Grant are.

My last accounts, whither new to you or not, I can't tell, came by express from Edinburgh to Aberdeen, transmitted from thence by the Lyon to Mrs. Brodie, and are as follows:—The Pretender proclaimed at Perth and Dundee; Perth was oblig'd (whither by loan, contribution, or military execution, I can't tell you) to pay 500 pounds sterling, and the magistrates chang'd.

The Highlanders are now say'd to be 4000 strong; the late Marquis of Tullibarden lyes ill of a fall from his horse at Blair, and the Duke of Perth of a fever at Creif. Sir John Cope embark'd with his army at Aberdeen for Lieth, where the Dutch are by now thought to be, haveing certinly been put on board of transports for Scotland the 4th. The Grand Duke is ellected Empror, and for the last grand article, Glenbucket lay last Wednesday at Strathbogie with 300 men, to be join'd by Mr. Hamilton the Duke's doer with more, and in the mean time has taken some of the Duke's saddle horses, and we are told is to come among us here for assistance to mount his cavalry. These are smart doings from a personal service man. Do you hear where the Duke of Gordon is? I was told yesterday that my Lords of Findlater and Dessford were to be with you. If they are, pray give them my most humble service as one who has very great respect for them both. I am still, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

HUGH ROSE.

240. JOHN GRANT, factor of Urquhart, to THE SAME—Who had joined the Highland army and who had not.

Bellimackaen, September 17th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I received yours of the 14th current last night. Ther is non of your tenants gone to the Highland armie since I wrote you last, and I hope non of them will think of leveing the country any more without your orders. I have no accounts of Lord Lovet's motions more then I wrote you formerly, but last Friday upon the night, sixty of his men went thorrow this country to joyn the Highlanders, and am told that all the Stratherick men joyns them this week. The Chisholm has not moved a man as yet, but has them all in readiness. Glengerrie stays at home, and has a protection from Generall Cope. Glenmoristone went off for the Highland armie Friday afternoon. The Highlanders disert dayly; there was a good many of the Camrons diserted last week, and a brother of Locheils came affter them to Lochaber, but cou'd not get them put together; and I hear some of these diserters went to the north in order to steall cattle. I hade accounts last Sunday from a gentilman of the name of M^cDonald who left the Highland armie Wedinsday last, that there was a letter directed for you from Sir James Grant intersepted by the Highlanders, and that the contents was disyreing you stay at home and take care of your country, and joyn no party which pleas'd Pr. Ch. much; and M^r M^cDonald tells that there armie is not above five thousand strong, and of that number that ther's 1000 silly boys that can be of no use; and he like-ways tells that one half of there armie wants arms. And I am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull and obedient servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

To the honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Member of Parliament, at Castle Grant.

241. LACHLAN GRANT, Writer in Edinburgh, to THE SAME:—Battle of Prestonpans.

Edinburgh, 21 September 1745.

SIR,—The inclosed came under my cover, but both my letter and it were unsealed before it came to my hand, as all the letters by that maill were. I have put another wafer on it. This day the Prince with his Highland army attackt the troops under the command of Sir John Cope. The action was in a line from Port Seton to Penston, which lasted about ane hour, and Sir John and his troops are cutt to pieces. The two regiments of dragoons behaved very disgracefully, for they did not stand the first fire, by which the foot were attackt in front and rear. What the number of the killed are none can tell, but one thing is certain, that they are all either destroyed or taken prisoners. Colonel Gardiner is killed, and Sir John has made his escape. It is impossible I can write you

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

any more particulars. This goes by Mr. Mackie, who is to send ane express with it. I am, honourable Sir,

Yours,
L. G.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Castle Grant.

242. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden, Lord President of the Court of Session—Design to raise Independent Companies.

[Copy.]

Castle Grant, September 22, 1745.

MY LORD,—I regrated much t'other day that I had soe little time to converse with you, and the more that when I came home I found by the newspapers that there was twentie independent companies designed to be raised among the Highland clans who were well affected. I own I thought one companie was not the proportion fell to the share of my friends, and I found some difficulties would likelie happen in getting them all satisfied, as everie one of the gentilmen of my name are well affected. Therefore I delayed nameing anie of them untill Lord Deskford should explain my sentiments to your Lordship. He has now communicate to me the conversation he had with you, and I take this opportunitie by my friend Rothiemurchus, to assure your Lordship I have not the least doubt of your friendship towards me and my friends, and I hope you shall see the same zeall for the support of the Government subsists at present in this countrie which you was ane eye witnes of in the year 1715; and we now who are the King's friends must act with the same spirite and confidence in one aneother. I doubt not but your Lordship will from time to time give the best advice you can, and likewayes communicate what you judge proper to my friend Rothiemurchus; his firmness you have long known. I think him the properest person for the companie, and Robert Grant, Easter Duthell's son, to be lieutenant, and William Grant, younger of Dellachapple, to be ensign. If your Lordship pleases you may fill up the commissions and deliver them to Rothiemurchus with your directions. I send you enclosed two letters I had to-day, one giveing ane account of the rebells entering Edinburgh with the young Pretender, and the other giveing ane account of Glenbucketts. Compliments, etc.

[Indorsed:] M^r Grant to Lord President, 22 September 1745.

243. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden, Lord President of the Court of Session, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—The Independent Companies—Sir John Cope's army.

Culloden, 24th September 1745.

DEAR SIR,—This morning yours of 22d was delivered to me by Rothiemurchus. I am glad that my Lord Deskford has explained my sentiments to you so clearly as to remove all grounds of suspicion. I know too well the merite of your clan, and have too just a notion of your disposition to serve the Government, to have suffered any thought of partiality to your prejudice to enter my mind, I am perfectly satisfied with the nomination you have made of officers, and their commissions shall he filled up accordingly. But as Rothie intimates that it is your wish that this should not be spoken of for some days, I keep the commissions untill the arms and credite arrive, which I look for quickly. In the meantime you will give the proper directions for pitching on the men who must at first he employed, that they bee ready to bee got together on the first warning.

As for news, all I know with tollerable certainty is, that Sir John Cope landed with his troops at Dunbar on Tuesday, the very day the Highlanders got in to Edinburgh; that the Highlanders marched out of Edinburgh Friday morning last, and took their rout eastwards towards Muslebrugh, pretending they were to look for Sir John, who was joined by the 2 regiments of dragoons and 300 gentlemen volunteers from Edinburgh; but whether they have made good their word, or if they have filed of to the right and steered their course for the west or any other part of England, I cannot take upon me to guess. The transports that returned to Aberdeen from Dunbar report that the Dutch troops were on that coast Thursday last; and a Dutch vessel that came into our road Sunday, says they lay embarked long before hee left Holland, together with some Brittish battallions, and that as the wind stood, they must have been on the coast to the southwards 2 or 3 days before he reached this. My compliments to Lady Margaret and the rest of your good company. I am, dear Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES,

To the Honorable Ludowick Grant of Grant.

244, WILLIAM MARQUIS OE TULLIBARDINE (subscribing as Duke of Atholl) to the LAIRD OF GRANT—Asking him to raise his men and march to join his Royal Highness.

Blair Castle, 25 September 1745.

SIR—Knowing your good intentions to serve the King and deliver your country from oppression, and his Royal Highness having constituted me Commander-in-Chief of his Majesties forces benorth the river of Forth, do hereby desire you'l raise all your men in arms, and with the outmost expedition march with me to join his Royal Highness.

I am sensible it was more your misfortune than fault that you have not already had a share in the late victory obtained by his Highness, the most compleat that has been known—all the enemy's foot being either killed or taken prisoners, and a great number of the horse also either killed or taken, and that with a handfull of brave Highlanders, fifteen hundred of them only having been engaged.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

I hope, after the example of your predecessors, you will endeavour to bring up not only your own followers but your neighbours, who, I hope, will excuse me from not writing to every one, hoping you'll be so good as communicat this to them. Pray let me have your return as quick as possible, that I may acquaint his Royal Highness of your resolution, who expects you are ready to shew your loyalty on so happy ane occasion. I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ATHOLL.

To the Laird of Grant.

[Indorsed:] Tullebairden to Mr. Grant.

245. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden, Lord President of the Court of Session, to
LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—News of the battle of Prestonpans.

Culloden, 28th September 1745.

DEAR SIR,—This morning I received yours of yesterdays date, inclosing the copy of a letter from Lauchlane Grant, which gives the same account of the action between Sir John Cope and the Highlanders that has been published by the warm people here, and has very near turned their heads. They add only one circumstance, that they have taken three entire troops of dragoons, and that Sir John made his escape with the remains of three more; the rest of the regular troops they say are all killed or taken, but they name no one as killed except Colonel Gairdener, nor any prisoner of rank except Colonel Hacket. I have no account of this transaction from Sir John or any that was with him, nor is it likely I shall soon, unless it come by sea, as Edinburgh and the country between that and this are in the enemy's hands; but I am hopefull Lauchlane's intelligence will be found to have been premature, and taken only from the report of the city. If all had been killed or taken, it is a litle odd that none should be named in either class except the two persons already mentioned; and what very much confirms that speculation is, that I have conversed with a very sensible lad whose occasions led him close to the field of battle an hour or two after the action, and who spoke with the Highlanders and saw numbers of the prisoners. He says the killed of either side were few; that the Highlanders had many prisoners—some hundreds they might be, as he thought, but nothing like the numbers of which Sir John's troops consists; that he saw about eighteen officers—one of whom was said to be Colonel Hacket—prisoners; that none of those were named to him except Hacket; that none of the killed was named to him except Gairdner; that he neither saw nor heard of so much as one troop of dragoons taken, and that tho the Highlanders said to him they had gained a compleat victory, it was his own opinion that Sir John had made his retreat with a good body of foot, and with the gross of the two regiments of dragoons. He says it was agreed that it was the dragoons recoiling on the foot that broke them and gave the first advantage to the Highlanders; and he further says that some of the Dutch troops landed at Berwick the

day before the action. As this was the result of interrogating a man who was said to be the author of the totall overthrow, I thought it sufficient authority to suspend my assent to that story as it is told; and I have since received a letter from a gentleman of Perthshire, dated last Monday. It is on a different subject, and gives no particular account of the action, but in it are these words: “Sir John Cope’s defeat is nothing like the romautick accounts the other side give of it,” and then proceeds to find fault with Sir John for not waiting till the Dutch troops joined him, who he knew had landed at Berwick on Priday. The authority for this the letter dos not mention. What I have now told you is the substance of what I have learned; when I know more, you shall. In the meantime, as the worst account is greedily swallowed in this country, it occasions a considerable ferment, and I cannot answer for what folly may ensue. I therefor think you will judge it proper to have all your people allert, that they may be able to do such service as the exigence may require, Such a disposition in them will help to cause their neighbours consider. My compliments to Lady Margaret and to all your good company, to whom I am, as I am to you, dear Sir,

A most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

246. UNSUBSCRIBED LETTER to SIR ARCHIBALD GRANT of Monymusk, Baronet—
Embarkation of the Dutch troops—Battle of Prestonpans.

Saturday, 28th September 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I have the favour of yours just now. I have laid myself out to find a newspaper in this town, but unsuccessfully; if I can find one before Arthur leaves the town, you shall have it, As for newes on our side: A ship is landed at Montrose, aboard of which one of our Aberdeen sailors came. He says they left Holland Thursday was eight days, and that before he came away the last of the Dutch transports were sailed from Williamstadt, This agrees with a paragraph I saw in an English newspaper from the Hague, “that notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Abbe de la Ville, the first of the transports had sailed from Williamstadt the 21st N.S. The man I mentioned says that he heard in Holland that 10 batallions were marching from the Allied army thro’ Holland likewise to embark. There is a Daneish ship at our harbour from Christiansand, who says that 12 men were draughted out of every company to compose a body of 12,000 men, but whether for Flanders or England he knew not. As to home affairs we are very civilly used by the Highland parties as they pass; the only harsh thing they did was obliging the poor provost to appear on the cross as a puppet show at their proclamations, etc, and holding a glass to his head at their healths, which upon his not drinking ran all down upon his cloathes. They oblided the town treasurer and master of kirk-work to pay £8 sterling for the expence of their drink and printing, etc; They took 4 of Mr. Middleton’s horses, his guns and pistols, etc. They recruit with great success. As to the unhappy battle of Preston, we know nothing but their own account of

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

it. Everybody owns Cope chose his ground very advantageously, and had his men exceeding well disposed, that is to say, on the supposition he was attackt in a certain way; but as the Highlanders thought it not proper to attack in that quarter, most of his dispositions and precautions proved fruitless. He seems to have been surrounded, and to have had the main attack made entirely by surprise. Hamilton's Dragoons reeled, and put his foot, who were behaving well, in disorder, of which the Highlanders presently took advantage, and put everything in outer confusion. The whole action lasted not 15 minutes. There are but 7 or 8 officers killed, among whom is worthy Colonel Gardner and my good honest friend Tilleray, both shot. The Highlanders lost as many officers as the army, but their loss of private men, if true, is incredible, not amounting to above 20 killed and 50 wounded. They say the Master of Forbes and Lord Lowden got off with General Cope. Neither of the two first are mentioned in publick or private accounts either among killed or wounded or prisoners; and as to the last, his conduct looks very black, but all that is said of him (as his running away at the first fire and Gardner calling after him, "traitor") seems not to be well founded; for a letter I saw from a Jacobite, who was in Prestonpans in the time of the action, which gives a very minute account of it, says that it was 9 a'clock before he took boat for Dunbar. I see many white cocades at Aberdeen cross, among whom (tell Mr. Wilson) are Lord Sherriff Petry, Fiscal Francis Gordon, two Sandilands, besides Miss Mercer, Moirs and Hallhead. My compliments to Mr. Sympson's family and Mr. Wilson's. Tell the Captain his comrades have been busy all last week, and have finished their repetitions with applause,

I am, with great esteem.

We have no English papers older than the 14th, and expect no more intercourse with England. When I came to town to Mr. Fleming's I see he has sent you the last Mercury. This day's is not expected till night, if at all, because the Fox man-of-war kidnapped the post in his passage at Kinghorn.

For Sir Archibald Grant, Baronet, Monymusk.

247. COPY LETTER, subscribed CHARLES PRINCE REGENT, to the DEPUTIES FROM THE CITY OF EDINBURGH—Promising to make indemnification if the Castle fired upon the town of Edinburgh. 30th September 1745.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' answer to the gentlemen who were sent deputies from the City of Edinburgh with a letter from General Guest, threatening that unless the communication betwixt the city and castle was opened, they would fire upon the city.

GENTLEMEN,—I am equally surprised and concerned at the barbarity of the orders that have been signified to you from the castle, and which those who command in it say they have received from the Elector of Hanover; at the same time that they own they have six weeks' provisions left. If he lookt upon you as his subjects, he would never

exact from you what he knew it is not in your power to do; and should we, out of compassion to you, comply with this extravagant demand of his, he might as well summond us to quite the town, and abandon these advantages which Providence has granted us by crowning the valour of our troops with such signall success.

I shall be heartily sorry for any mischief that may befall the city, and shall make it my peculiar care to indemnifie you in the most ample manner. In the meantime, I shall make full reprisals upon the estates of those who are now in the castle, and even upon all who are known to be open abettors of the German Government, if I am forced to it by the continuance of such inhumanity.

Sign'd C. P. R.

Dated Holyrood, 30 September 1745.

248. COLONEL ANGUS M^CDONELL, second son of John Macdonell of Glengarry, to JOHN GRANT of Bellintom, Bailie of Urquhart—Ordering him to have a hundred men ready to join his standard in five days.

Dellchannie, 30th September 1745.

DEAR SIR,—These serves to give notice that I am this farr on my way to Glengarry, and being clad with the Prince's orders to burn and harass all people that does not imediatly joyn the standard, and ase I have particullar orders to raise your contrie, I doe by these beg the favoure you, on receipt of this line, to have att lest on hundred men readdie in five days after receipt of this, to joyn my standart att Invergarrie; and tho contrarie to my inclinations, in caice of not dew observance to this my demand, I shall march to your contrie with the gentlemen here in company, Keapoch's brother and Tirnadrish, etc., and shall putt my orders in execution with all rigour; and ase I have the greatest regaird for Grant and all his concerns, I beg you give nether your contrie or me any trouble I doe not choose to give; and your readdie compliance to this favour will much oblige him who is sineerly, dear Sir, your most humble servant, ANGUS M^CDONELL.

P.S.—Lett me have your answer per bearer, which will determine me how to behave.

To John Grant of Bellntomb, Baillie of Arquhatt.

249. SIR HARRY INNES to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Movements of Troops.

Aberdeen, 1st October 1745, 10 at night.

SIR—I have sent this by express to inform you that this day there came in a ship from Newcastle, one Willson, master, who left it on Sunday last, and brought with him a newspaper printed there, which gives an account, not only of the Dutch, but of the 10 battalions of English being landed in the Thames, and General Ligoneer and some other general officers with them, and gives a confirmation of the peace being concluded with Prussia, who is to furnish 70,000 men, to be employed as the Emperour or the maritim powers shall direct; that on Saturday there arrived an express at Newcastle, whom the ship master saw, as he told me, and that he brought an account of General Wentworth's being within 150 miles of that place with 4000 men; that there were eight companies at Newcastle, 1600 Dutch at Berwick, besides 500 that escaped from the battle of Gladsmure; and the news bears that, with the Dutch, there is now of regular forces to march against the Highlanders upwards of 25,000, all the marines of the ships upon the coast being landed. Willson told me that on Friday last, while he was at Newcastle, Hickson of Perth was apprehended there and put in prison, and before next morning had attempt to cut his throat, but had miss'd the wind pipe, and was found alive; that there was discover'd in the heads of his gloves several letters, and that he had made some discoveries in writting (as he could not speak) to the Maior, who had caused show up his wound, and a strict guard was kept upon him night and day. Lord Pitsligo march'd from this to-day with about 70 horses, including gentlemen and servants; and Stonnywood and others march'd 60 foot, the meanest looking creatures I ever saw, most of them herds and boys.

Thursday, 3d, 12 o'clock.

DEAR SIR,—I had the above letter this morning from Aberdeen. As I think it contains a good deal of good newes, I tak it for granted you will willingly pay the express. Let me know how M^r Duff is. My compliments to Lady Findlater, Lady Margaret, etc., and belive me, yours,

HARIE INNES.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

250. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to his TENANTS OF URQUHART—Commanding them to

remain peaceably at home.

Castle Grant, October 6th, 1745.

GENTILMEN—Achmonie has communicate to me the subject you have had latelie under your deliberation. All the return I will give you, considering what I formerlie writt to my chamberlane, and which he communicate to you, is this, that whoever among you

don't comylie with my directions in this present conjuncture, which is to remain peaceable at home and to be readie to receive my directions as your superior, and as master of my own esteat, must resolve to disobey me at your own perrill; and as I have firmlie determined that whoever shall insult me or disturb anie part of my esteat shall meett with the returns such ane insult will merite, I am hopefull non of my neighbours will act a part by me which I could not and can't allow myself to think them capable of. I can't conceive the least tittle anie man can have to commands anie of my vassalls or tennants but myself, therfor whoever deserts me to follow anie other at this time, I must look upon it as a disobedience to me, which I will never forgive or forgett to them and theirs. I am perfectlie perswaded all the tennants will adhere and keep firm to me if they are not lead astray by bad advice, which I hope they will not follow. I am, gentlemen, your friend, and will continue so if not your own faults.

[Indorsed:] Copy Letter to the gentlemen of Urquhart, 6th October 1745.

251. ALEXANDER BRODIE of Brodie to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Press for men.

Brodie House, October 7th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I intended when I saw my Lord Deskford at Cullodden to have waited of you in your garison how soon the Forress elections were over. But ever since we have been so alarm'd. with recruiting parties being to visit our stables for horses and our tennants' houses for M^cIntoshes, that I durst not venture from my own garison even if we had not been alarm'd with the accounts of Clunie and his people being come to the confines of your countrey. So I take this opportunity of enquiring how you, my Lady Margaret, and the family do, and how all our other friends in your garison are, to all whom Mrs. Brodie and I beg leave to make our most kind and hearty compliments, and are glad to hear that my Lord Braco's son was allmost recover'd before the doctors got there, who by the by have staid too long away from their first patient.

I am certainly inform'd that a very hot press for men is to be begun this morning in the parioch of Calder, and so to move eastward, and there has been a small party of idlers in Forress for some days, which is all I can tell you from this countrey,

I shall be glad to know what this day's post brings you, and am, dear Sir, Your most obedient humble servant and affectionate cusin,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

P.S.—I have not heard of any other motion amongst the Frasers than mustering and assembling to compt their numbers, and the makeing of two standards with my Lord Lovat's arms.

252. John GRANT, Bailie of Urquhart, to THE SAME—Tenants prevented from marching to Strathspey.

Bellimackaen, October 8th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—In obedience to your orders, I convien'd all the tenants of this country this day, in order to march them to Strathspey, and there was only sixty or seventy of the tenants that agreed to goe with me, Dell and I came with all the men that joynt ous the lenth of Drambuie, so fair upon our way to Strathspey, and Collonell M^cDonald and all the gentilmen in this country came up with ous there, and on and all of the gentilmen, but Shewglie and his sone, swore publickly to the tenants if they did not return imediatly, or two nights thereafter, that all there corns would be brunt and destroyed, and all there cattle carried away; and when the tenants was so much thretnd by the gentilmen, as well as by Mr. M^cDonald, they wou'd not follow me one foot further; and upon the tenants returning, Mr. M^cDonald asur'd me that this country wou'd be quit safe from any hurt from him; and not only so, but as some of the gentilmen that came north with him hade the same orders as he hade to distroy this country, if wee did not joyn them, he sincerly asur'd me that he wou'd do all he cou'd to prevent those gentilmen from comeing, and if he cou'd not preveall upon them to keep back, that he wou'd run me ane express in a few days to put me on my guard, and acquaint me of there comeing; but one thing I asure you of, or ten days that this country will be ruin'd.

Lord Lovet has not apointed a day for his marching as yet, for am told that he has the meall to make that he carrys alongs with him for his men's subsistence. There's a report here this day that ther's two thousand French landed at Cromarty last Saturday, with Prince Charles' brother. You'll please lett me have your advice how to behave, for am in a very bade situation. Please excuse this confus'd line, being in heast, and I ever am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

P.S.—Achmonie did not act a right part.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Member of Parliament, at Castle Grant.

253. ALEXANDER GRANT of Delrachny to THE SAME—Skirmishes with the Highlanders.

Inverlaidnen, 9th October 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I met this morning, on the post road Captain M^cKay's and Captain Monroe's whole recruits, who were dismiss'd Thursday last upon there swearing that they would not serve against the gentleman dureing the warr. Captain John Stewart's whole company except 5 inlisted with the Prince. Colquhown Grant prevail'd on Shaw, one of John's recruits, to inlist with the Prince. There is one of John's recruits come here just now, who ashures me of this last parte, wherat he was present.

The Highlanders made some intrenchments on Thursday befor the Castle above the weighouse, and began to bombard the castle with Coupe's small gunns, but were

soon beat out of them with the loss of 40 men. The garison made a saly and took a captain and a considerable party. Locheil was wounded in the leg by a splinter. About noon the recruits heard strong fyreing from the castle. I had almost forgot to tell that the Highlanders retyred from there trenches to a house or houses which were battered and burnt about there ears. I suppose wee shall soon have a good account of the Highlanders. They are every night deserting by hundreds. The roads are infested by theme, plundering all they meet. Glenbucket is dead, by all accounts. Duke of Perth is at Creif recruiting.

I goe with Whyteraw to Strathern this minute, for intelligence about Lovat's motions. The Strathern people are to be together this day. I wish they were all gone. I can here nothing of the Urquhart people, but hope you'le see them this day. My duety to your worthy guests. I am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull servant,

ALEX^R GRANT.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Castle Grant.

[Indorsed:] Delrachny, 9th October 1745.

254. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN GRANT, Bailie of Urquhart—Giving orders to bring his men to Strathspey. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, October 10th, 1745.

Sir— I received yours of the 8th this day about denner tyme, I am not at all surpris'd at the conduct of the gentilmen of Urquhart, for as they seem determ[in]ed to disobey my repeated orders, they want to preveall with my tenants to do so likeways; however, now that they most have heard that Generall Legonier, with at least 18,000 of our troops that have come from Flanders, and the Dutch, and that there 12,000 Danes and the remainder of the British troops dayly expected, and that no bodie even at Edinburgh pretend to say that the French can spare any of there troops, I fancie they will soon see there follie, and they must be satisfied that in a little tyme I will make them repent there conduct, and they will see the numbers they belived would joyn the rebels dwindle to very few, if any at all. Whenever you hear any motion among your neighbours, make the best of your way for this place, and see to bring those men with you who were comeing last day, and as many more as you can, and assure them I will see what lossess they sustain repaid, and shall do all in my power afterwards to serve them when others must fly the country. Don't lett any of the gentilmen know the day you design to march over with the men, otherways they may bring a possie to stope you, which will not be in there power if you be upon your guard, I think you ought to have spyes in the neighbouring countrys. See if you can gett money from the tenants who are dew, that wee may clear when you come over. Sic subscribitur

LUD. GRANT.

255. JAMES LORD DESKFORD to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Lord Loudoun arrived from Newcastle.

Brody, October 10th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—Since I came here I have learned by a letter from the Lyon, from Colodn, that the Mackintoshes and Frasers have laid aside thoughts of marching, and that my Lord Loudon is there, having come from Newcastle with a ship of war, I suppose with arms and money. As I apprehend that some demand will be made upon you, which I would wish you were ready to answer, I thought it right to send you this express to inform you of those particulars. I shall go on to-morrow morning early to Colodn, from whence you will probably hear from me by another express. You will communicate this to my Lord Findlater. Pay the express, and assure yourself that I am, dear Sir, most sincerely and affectionately yours,

DESKFOORD.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

256. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Mentioning his appointment to command the Troops in the North.

Inverness, October 11th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I could not lett slipe this oppertunity which I have by Lord Desforde returning to your house, of paying my compliments to a relation and friend whom I with great satisfaction find acting so distinguished a part at a time when 'tis so nessesary for the preservation of our religion and libertys.

As the king has done me the honour to appoint me to comand what troopes he has or may have in this country, it gives me the greatest pleasure to know that we have so powerfull and faithfull a friend of the Government to support us in case of need, and I assure you I think myself happy in having some of your people under my comand, in whom I shall place great confidence, and would beg leave to press there being got ready as soon as possible to join and form a body that may deter our enemyes from making any furder attemps in this part of the world, and be able to protect the King's friends in case they should. I beg you will believe me to be, with the greatest esteem and friendship, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

P.S.—If you can spaer any swords to the company you send down to join me hear, they will be of the greatest use.

To Loduick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

257. DUNCAN FORBES, Lord President of the Court of Session, to THE SAME— Asking him to have 100 men ready.

Culloden, 12th October 1745.

DEAR SIR,—The pen was at the paper yesterday to have wrote to you, when my Lord Deskford's arrivall made me conclude it was unnecessary to send you an express. What I then would have said is, that as my Lord Loudon is come into this country to command the troops, with means to subsist them, it is necessary that Rothiemarchus' company be forthwith brought together, in order to be ready to march, to have arms given to the men, and their commissions to the officers, on the first warning. That you will take care to have a hundred clever fellows for this service I do not doubt, neither have I any apprehension that they will be backward when they are told that they are not to be obliged to serve longer than the present exigence continues, when, if they think fit, they may be dispensed with, and the company made up in the ordinary way by listing and attesting. So soon as the men are brought together, upon notice to Lord Loudon or me, they shall have directions where to come to to receive their arms, etc., and to be put on the regular establishment for pay, and any expence that shall be incurred in the meantime for subsisting them after they are brought together, shall be made good. As folly occasions great fluctuation in this neighborhood—tho it is my present sentiment that the thing will blow over without much harm—it is my opinion that you should have your eye on as many of your people as you can aim, to be ready on any emergence if they are called out. Ways and means shall be fallen on to subsist them. I am sorry for the behaviour, which is reported to me, of your Urquhart people, so unlike the hearty commands you gave them; I doubt they must be corrected. I should give you the trouble to read our news, but that Lord Deskford will entertain you with them better. My compliments to Lady Margaret and to all your good company. The paper will allow me room only to say that I am, yours,

DUN. FORBES

To the honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

258. SIR HARRY INNES of Innes to THE SAME—Public news.

Elgin, October 14th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—My Lord Deskfoord desired I might write my news, and such as I have I send with a letter left hear for you.

In place of 500 chists of arms landed at Montros, there wer only 204, sum of which held 10 stand, 12, and fifteen; so taking the medim of tuelve, there is at full 3000 stand landed; in place of 4 chists gold there is only 2 of gold and one of silver, and but fowr offesirs. In short, the Jacks keep up the spirit of there cause by a fresh lay evry day. The communication with the city and castle is opned. The Highlanders have lost severall men by the fying from the castle; and by a sally, as weel as a good many men, they lost live of Sir John Cop's cannon and 15 barrels powdder. The account of

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

the landing the arms, etc., at Montrose, I had from a gentleman that sceed the thing, and spok to the person that pilated in the ship, and the boxes wer so light, that a man caried a box uppon his shoulder, which he could not had they been full of gold. We have nither London or Edinburgh neuspapers by this day's post, and shall be oblidged to yow for yowr news. Is Clunie gon, and is ther any word of the Frasers and M^cKintoshes rising? I shall be glad to bear that Mr. Duff is recovered. Yowr sister maks ofer of her complements to Lord Findlater, Lady Margaret, and all with yow, in which I joine, and belive me, dear Sir,

Yours, etc.,

HARIE INNES.

P.S.—If Lord Draco is with yow, and yow thought it proper, I wish yow would seee to pump if he minds any thing of his promise of a complement at the seatt of Garmowth.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

259. The Rev. PATRICK GRANT, Minister of Calder, to THE SAME—Inroad of the Clanchattan.

Calder, 12th October 1745.

HONOURABLE AND DEAR SIR,—As your intelligence from the south must, without doubt, be equally good with that of any one in this country, I think it unnecessary to trouble you with what our publick news thence contain. You will, I presume, have heard, before this reaches you, that Lord Loudon is lately come to Inverness by sea from Newcastle. He tells that, besides the Dutch and ten battalions of British troops from Flanders already landed in England, eight more British battalions and nine squadrons were embarked at Williamstadt for the north of England before he left Newcastle, that 2000 men were landed from Ireland at Chester, and that M. Wade was actually at the head of a great body of foot and horse, in order to attack the rebels without loss of time. I have not yet learned his Lordship's account of the late battle, which the author of the Caledonian Mercury, of worthy memory, stiles the battle of Gladsmuir, on purpose to amuse the giddy mob with the fulfillment of ane apocryphal prophecie, tho it was certainly fought at the distance of some miles from that place. Wednsdsday last past, a detachment of between 20 and 30 of our neighbours, the Clanchatton, in arms paid us a visit here; and, by the ancient hereditary and indefeasible right of chiftainry required all their kindred in this and other estates hereabouts to repair forthwith to the standard of their chief or chiefess, and in my hearing threatned fire and sword against all recusants. All they have yet made in my parish, so far as I could find out, was one Cummine, a volunteer, with a few horses, money, etc, from such of their own clan as would not enlist. So far they have executed their threats. I told their leaders, who were distinguished by white cocades, that the sample they had already given us of the government they were going about to establish, must greatly tend to reconcile all true friends of liberty to it. I must, however, do them

the justice to acknowledge their civility to me, for sometime after I parted with them they ordered one of their number to my house, to know if any of their party had presumed to give me the least disturbance by searching for arms or otherwise, assuring me if they had, that I should have ample satisfaction, but none of them attempted any such thing. Thursday they entered the town of Nairn and took possession of the tolbooth, their title to which no body I believe will deny. They found a few guns and some Danish axes in the town-house, of which they possessed themselves. They seized, I'm told, some guns and pistols in the house of Macleod the tinker, proclaimed the Pretender king at the mercat cross, and drank many healths suitable to the occasion, etc. etc. We were informed this day that they disarmed a few Strathspey men, who were at the fair selling timber. Had the gentlemen of this country exerted themselves as they might and ought to have done for the protection of their own tenants, who only waited orders to get up in arms for their own defence, a far greater number of banditti had not dared to offer such insults; but the spirit is departed from our gentry, which I took the freedom to tell some of them. But after all the publick rendezvous, private cabals and parades, these people have had, one might venture to lay an equal wager, that few if any of them will venture to join the Highland army. Lord Lovat appointed a day for a rendezvous of his clan, but when the day came he countermanded it, and it is the opinion of those who know him best that he will not openly rebell this year. We hear at present of no stir among the clanns to the north of us. If you're at leisure I begg your news by this bearer. My dutiful regards to Lady Margaret and the rest of the good company I left at Castle Grant, who I hear are still with you. I thought my Lord Desford would have put up at my house rather than at the publick house when he passed here. My wife sent him an invitation by his servant, who called here, and she expected his Lordship. I will take the liberty yet to reckon with him. I am, with respect and esteem, honourable and dear Sir, Your affectionate and obliged humble servant,

PAT. GRANT.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

260. ALEXANDER GRANT of Corrimony to THE SAME—Lord Lovat's clan to
join the Prince.

Corrimony, 15 October 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—You are no doubt surpris'd at my conduct since I had the honour of waiting of you at Castle Grant, but such is the miserable situation of this place, being at a distance from their chief, who is still capable to protect his friends, had they been in conjunction with the throng of the clan, to return any insults offer'd or acted against them, that they can never enjoy peaceable possession of their lands or cattle if they do not cultivat friendship with the neighbours. This cou'd by no means be done at present but by humouring the spirit of loyalty they now are in, which I endeavour'd to do by all means I cou'd think of. This I was more necessitat to do than others in the heighth of this country, having no pretensions to the immediat friendship of the neighbouring clans;

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

but I'm sure that I have acted some enormities which might hurt me, had I not the clemency of a good chief to screen me, who have done nothing but what self preservation oblig'd me to; being still mindfull of the promise I made when at Castle Grant, that I'd act nothing on any side of this critical affair contrair to your will, and this in the main I have and will precisely observe. I cannot go further on in this method without raising in arms to join the Prince, as all around are to march to him immediatly; this is the reason of giving the present trouble, I came last night from my Lord Lovat's, with whome I was pretty big, cou'd I credit him. I advertise you that, for certain, his whole clan and the Master of Lovat are next week to march to join the Prince. My Lord propos'd, as I meant that way, to join him and come under his colours. I told his Lordship that my own chief had very good colours, and tho' I was so rash as go without him, that I wou'd not but observe the differ twixt loyalty and family quarrels, and that I never wou'd bring such a tash on my chief or the clan as join a person who was thought to be in direct opposition to his intrest. My Lord got in a passion and order'd I shou'd be silent in his house, and till the hour of his death he cou'dn't forgive me, and that he wou'd cause my chief revenge it. This part I have acted, and can answer but for myself. I also advertise you that the Master of Lovat comes twixt and this day se'enight to force your tenants with 300 men to join him, in order to be under his banner; to prevent which design I run this express, and do think you shou'd send immediatly a judicious gentleman or two to spirit the people to go over to Castle Grant, where they shou'd continue in a body with the rest of the name, till any who wou'd dare to insult them wou'd go off. And if any insult is offer'd the country of Strathspey it will be now, so I think the whole clan ought to be in a body; by this method you can discover who are those who wish well to the honour and standing of your family, and who do not. I ask forgiveness for troubling you with so long a letter, or venturing to give you any advice; but I never cou'd be privy to such imposition without discovery. I beg that no person see this letter, as it might hurt me without serving you. I beg leave to offer my best wishes to you and Lady Margaret, my Lord and my Lady Findlater, and Lord Deskfoord, to whome I hope you'll reconcile me for what transgressions I committed 'gainst you, and believe me sincerely ever to be, honourable Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

ALEX^R GRANTT.

P.S.—I never as yet have discover'd my inclination, and no person knows of this letter or thinks any discovery is made.

261. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN—About sending a company to Inverness. [Copy]

16 October 1745.

MY LORD,—I had the honour of your Lordships of the 11th. Noething could give me greater pleasure than to hear that your Lordship was arrived at Invernes, and that his Majestie had given you the command of his troops in this countrie. Your Lordship may

firmly depend that as my heart is full of zeal for the preservation of our religion and liberties, that I will exert myself by doing every thing in my power for his Majesties service, and am perfectly happy that we, who are the friends of the Government, have your Lordship to advise and direct us. The sooner a body is got together, every one of us must be convinced it will tend to our common safety. I am getting together the company as fast as I can, and could have been ready to have sent them to Inverness as this day, but as all lay clan, vassals, and tenants of this country are ready to act and to do what service is in their power, I choose the company shall consist only of volunteers. They will be all together within a few days; and in the meantime, if there is any service necessary, your Lordship may let me have your directions, and I and my friends shall endeavour to obey. As I foresee that there may be frequent occasions to convene and march all the men of this country, or a considerable number of them, and as I have no gentleman so fit to march and command my people as Rothiemurchus, I think it proper to keep him with myself in the country, and to recommend his eldest son, Peter Grant, who is lieutenant to Lord Charles Gordon, to have the command of the company to be raised in this country. Robert Grant, who I have recommended to be the lieutenant to this company, your Lordship has had an opportunity to see. He has served long in the army at home and abroad. Until I have the men all together I do not incline to name the ensign, but he shall be very fit for the purpose. As at present I find it necessary to oblige some of my friends, may I beg leave to have your Lordship's interest to recommend one of my friends to succeed Peter Grant, Rothiemurchus' son, as lieutenant to Lord Charles Gordon's company; and when your Lordship sees the young gentleman I am hopeful you will be pleased with him. I shall take care that all the men of the company shall have swords if possible, and most of them pistols and dirks, I have this day sent 30 men to give some interruption to one Captain Gordon, who is uplifting the cess of a part of my estate in Bamffshire. He is to be at Mulben to-morrow, which place is within two miles of Gordon Castle. I hope if my people meet with him, I will have the captain and his party brought to this house. His arms will be of some service to us, and it may deter others from disturbing that part of the country. All the people here are kept alert, as we every other day have information that the Frasers and some other clans are to march, and I am determined not [to] let them enter this country if I can; and I wish, if they do attempt it, that we had some assistance. But if all the clans who are said to be in motion do not march in a body together, I do not imagine they will think it proper to come near us. I wish we knew whither they are to march, for until I know their motions I can't leave this to have the honour of waiting of your Lordship at Inverness. I should be glad your Lordship sent up lieutenant Peter Grant along with the bearer, that he may march down the men when you direct.

[Indorsed:] Mr. Grant to Lord Loudon.

262. DUNCAN FORBES, Lord President of the Court of Session, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Of a company to Rothiemurchus' son, etc.

Culloden, 17th October 1745, 10 at night.

DEAR SIR This evening I had the honour of yours of the 16th. I am glad to hear that the independent company is in such forwardness. Your proposition of giving that company to Rothie's son, I confess, for my own part, I like, as it is agreeable to my old friend Rothie at his time of life, and as it would be a fine step for the young lad, of whom I have a very good opinion. But how far the getting young Rothie's commission disposed of in the way you propose is at this conjuncture, and as we are situated, practicable, is more than I can tell; and whether Lord Loudon, whom I have not seen for some days, can resolve it, is more than I know. But if ther should be any difficultie in that negotiation at present, I hope Rothie will not deliberate, because we shall have immediate occasion for the company; and a matter such as is now proposed may hereafter be accomplished at leisure, tho' the situation at this nick of time might not admit of the transaction. However, if Lord Loudon is of opinion that the thing may with certainty be done, the captain's commission shall be filled up as you desire.

I return your letters. That from Aberdeen dos but repeat the belief of the country. How true that is, the article concerning your clan will satisfy you. From this latitude nobody except Cluny has yet marched any number of men. Some tribes of the Clanchattan have been assembling, but none are yet gone, and it is to be hoped those of most prudence and substance will not. The Frasers of the Aird had a sort of meeting yesterday, but returned again to their habitations, nor am I certainly informed when they are to meet again. Nine or ten score of Stratherrick men, surely without my Lord Lovat's knowlege or approbation, took a fancy, about 3 o'clock yesterday morning, to attemp this house, but meeting with some resistance, withdrew, leaving one of their number so hurt by a shot throw the foot that he could not accompany them. They say two or three more are slightly wounded, but I am glad to hear they have had none killed. Tho' they were prevented from executing their chief design, they succeeded in an underplot, which was carrying of my own sheep, and some of my tennants' cattell, and robbing the gardener and weavers' houses.

With respect to Sir Allexander Macdonald and Macleod, the Jacobites of this country say and believe as your Aberdeen letter dos. For my part, I believe the contrary, and a very few days will show which of us is in the right.

I am sorry for the situation of your Urquhart people. Your chamberlane has certainly informed you before this time to what it is owing that your orders have not been obeyed.

The last Inverness post brought neither the Gazette nor any [of] the other prints of Saturday 7 night from London, which he must have done in course had they not been industriously stopped, which is no bad sign to those that wish as you and I do. Private accounts by Aberdeen from Glasgow, who have an open communication with Carlisle, are full of the English preparations, and say that 16 or 18 thousand regular troops must

at this time be advanced as far as Newcastle in their way to Scotland, besides the last imbarcation from Flanders destined for the north of England; and it is certain the gentlemen at Edinburgh are not a little uneasy at the news from England, and at the slowness of the march of the auxiliars they have expected from the north. I send you the only two London newspapers I had last post. Be so good as to make my compliments to Lady Margaret and all your good company, and believe me to be, dear Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

P.S.—I have found but one of the 2 printed papers I mentioned, the other has been stollen.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, att Castle Grant.

263. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Promising assistance if he were attacked,

Inverness, October 18th, 1745.

SIR,—I had last night the honour of yours of the 16th, and am very much obliged to you for the good oppinion you are pleased to express of me I can only promiss I shall endeavour to deserve it at your hands and at the publick's.

I must hear applaude your zealle for the comon good, and extramly approve of your scame of having the company you are at presant to send intierly of vollunteers. I was sure they would be men of that sort, when I told you in my last that I should have a particular confidence in those I had from you.

As to that part of your letter which relates to Lieutenant Grant of my regiment being appointed to be captain of the company in place of his father, I will writ plainly, that must be done at London, and is an affair of negosiation. I would advise things standing as they do at presant till we can sattel things above. I shall be very willing to concur in your recomendation, that is, for the ensince, for the lieutenance belongs to the regiment; and if I did not do justice to them, you could not have faith enough to think I was to be trusted. I am willing to give up my own interests, but I cannot give up other people's rights.

The nixt paragraf of your letter relates to the apprehensions you have of some of your neightbours entring your country in there way to join the rebells, and of the assistance you would be glade to have in that event. In the first place, I think if those gentelmen do move, they will not venture to meddel with your supperior forse. In the nixt place, I think intrest will prevent there joining in so desperat a cause as that is now become, for 'tis certain that there numbers dayly decres by the great desartion they have, notwithstanding the numbers that join them from hance, and I do not doubt that the supperior forse of the King's forses, that are now come up allmost to there passes, will soon put an end to this destruction in our country. As to the assistance you

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

mention, I know no body so well entitled to it, and I hope you do not doubt my inclinations to serve the Laird of Grant, which you know I have not at presant in my power; but you may put it in my power by setting the exemple of sending in your people as soon as possible, which will insit other people to follow your exemple, and be a security to your self, and a service I hope to master and the comon cause. I beg you will make my compliments to your family, as it now consistes, and that you will believe me to rest sincerly and affectionatly, dear Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Loduick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Grant Castle.

264, DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to THE SAME—Begging to know the state his Company was in.

Culloden, 24th October 1745.

DEAR SIR,—As you acquainted me in the letter you did me the honour to write to me of the 16th, that the Independent Company would be immediatly put together, and as I beg'd you would be so good as to let Lord Loudon or me know the moment they were assembled, he and I expected every moment for some days past to have heard from you, that orders might have been sent for their marching, as others of the companys are actually on their way to Inverness; but not having received any notice from you, I take the liberty to dispatch this messenger, to beg to know the state in which the company is, and that you will be so good as to put them in motion hitherwards as soon as possible, which will be of service to the cause we wish equally well to. Notwithstanding the movements in this neighbourhood of late, no body has as yet marched southwards, and I am hopefull they will not be so hasty as was believed; the assistance they expected from the northwest, they now begin to see will fail them. The Saltash sloop of war is arrived with some arms, etc., at Cromerty, but because of the cross winds, not yet come into our road. I have no news further than what you see in the prints, except that the Highland camp is certainly broke up from Dudingstone and quartered in the suburbs of Edinburgh and the neighboring villages, possibly to conceall the numbers which are impaired by desertion; and that Fairburn, who left Stirling last Friday, assured me that Generall Blackney told him Mareshall Wade was actually arrived at Berwick. I hope you will without loss of time dispatch the bearer with an answer. My compliments to Lady Margaret and all your good company. I am, dear Sir, without ceremony,

Yours,

DUN. FORBES.

265. ALEXANDER BRODIE of Brodie to SIR HARRY INNES—Meeting at Lord Lovat's.

Indorsed 26th October 1745.

Brodie House, Munday morning.

DEAR KNIGHT,—On Saturday at noon the President was desired to have quarters ready at Inverness for 500 Grants, which was accordingly provided, but in the evening the orders were countermanded, and it seems it proceeded from a mistake of Deskford's.

When I left Inverness yesterday, I was told that M^cDonalds of Knoydart, Barrisdale and Glengary's son were at Lovat's, where there were twelve cover'd tables on Saturday's night for the gentlemen conven'd, and that the number of men then there would be above a thousand, including 200 M^cDonalds and the people of Urquhart, etc., and that they were to march as yesterday for the castle of Brahan, to force Seafort to give them his men to join them, from whence it was said they were to proceed further north to force all the north to join in a general rebellion. The M^cIntoshes are certainly marched to the tune of 300.

I beg to know by the bearer if you have any news from Aberdeen, and what is doing att Gordon Castle, and what Lord Lewis Gordon and David Tulloch have done since they came north to recruit.

All our kind compliments to my Lady, and I am,

Yours, etc.,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

To the Honourable Sir Harie Inness of Inness, Baronet, att Elgin.

266. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden and JOHN LORD LOUDOUN to JAMES LORD DESKFORD—Report that 500 Grants were to come to Inverness. Indorsed October 1745.

Culloden, 26th, 2 afternoon.

MY LORD By ten this morning your messenger arrived at this place. I immediatly dispatched your Lordship's letter to Earl Loudon, who came hither on the receipt of it this moment, after leaving directions in town for accommodating the men the best they can, if they all come. I wish with all my heart, and so does Lord Loudon, that Mr. Grant had communicated to us his design before he set out with such numbers, which may have the effect to begin horse play before we are sufficiently prepared. However, since he is in the way, and has given no notice of his rout, I cannot tell how, even if it were necessary, to prevent it, and we must now do the best we can. It appears to me to be unaccountable folly in the people that they deliberate on entering into the company, since they are not to be bound further than the present service, and therfor I should hope they may be perswaded forthwith to form it. As your messenger presses to be dispatched, I add no more but my compliments to the ladys and to my Lord Findlater. I am perfectly your Lordship's,

DUN. FORBES.

Make my compliments likewais. Yours,

LOUDOUN.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

To the Eight Honourable the Lord Deskfoord, att Castle Grant.

267. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant;—Requesting
Rothiemurchus' Company to march to Inverness.

Culloden, 27th October 1745.

DEAR SIR,—Upon Lord Deskford's letter of the 25th, quarters were prepared last night in Inverness for the 500 men he spoke of, and Earl Loudon waited there to receive them, untill I sent him in your letter of the 26th (which came to his hands before eight o'clock), acquainting him that you had altered your resolution, I am not sorry that the whole number did not come then, as no plan had been concerted for the disposition of them; but I am under some concern that so many of them as were proper for composing Rothiemurchus's company did not come, because those were expected some time agoe; and the company from Sutherland arrived the night before the last. What I therfor send you back this messenger for is, to beg that Rothie's company may march without loosing a moment, because we have relyed upon them, and the example to others will be bad if they who were relyed on should prove dilatory. The oppression of your Urquhart people, I am afrayed, continues still, and ther may, for ought I know, be occasion to march a considerable body to relieve them from it; but that in due time may be concerted properly and executed, tho it ought not to hinder the immediate march of the company, who in all events will be so far in their way, I offer my compliments to Lady Margaret and the rest of your good company, and am, with great respect, dear Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

268. JOHN GRANT, factor of Urquhart, to THE SAME—Proceedings of the Macdonalds,
Lovat, etc,

Bellimackaen, October 28th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—Yesterday morning I left Inverlaidnen in order to goe to Culloden, as you desyr'd. When I came the lenth of Castlehill I saw ane Inverness hyrer there, that made me belive that the Precedent went in to town to hear sermon, which made me goe directly for Inverness; and when I came there I found that the fellow was misstaken, for the Precedent was not in town for a month past; and then I waited upon Lord Loudon, and deliver'd his Lordship your message, and Major Grant present, and he seem'd to be very well pleas'd, and told me he never doubted of your willingness to serve the Goverment, and that he wish'd with all his heart that all those that pretend to be friends of the Goverment's wou'd act the same part as you do. I wou'd have gone to Culloden from Inverness, was it not that Lord Loudon was in his boots to goe there, and Lord Loudon promis'd to tell the Precedent all I told him.

The forty men that was apointed to goe from this country with M^cDonald of Barisdell to the north did not goe, as Lord Lovet fail'd in his promise to joyn them with 200 men, Collonell M^cDonald and his party are to march to-morrow from Glengerry for the armie. When I came home by eight a'clock last night there was twelve of the M^cDonalds about this house, goeing to breck open the doors; and there was non within the house but my wife and a servand maid, who keep them out till I came. How soon the fellows saw me a-coming they left the house; and no sooner I came into the house, when they found I had non with me, they return'd, and swore if they were not allowed access immediatly that they wou'd breck open doors; and there was some shot fierd at them, which made them leave the house, and they left the country this morning before day light.

Dell and I came home thorrow the Arde, and I sent Dell to Castle Dounie to see what we cou'd learn of the Frasers' march. Lord Lovet told Dell that the Master was to joyn the Prince with all his men, quit contrair to his inclinations, but that the Master was not to march sooner then next week; and his Lordship asur'd Dell that Sir Allexander McDonald or M^cLeode woud not joyn the Prince, and Dell tells me that Lovet swers revenge against M^cLeode, and told that he was but a perjurd villon, as he swore, when last at Castledounie, that be wou'd be, in a few days thereafter, there with all his men, in order to merch with the Master of Lovet to joyn the Highland armie. Am told by Dell that Lovet is positive to goe soon to Castle Grant to see to make up all diference with you, in order to be revenged of M^cLeode, and in tyme cumeing that he will be as deutyfull ane uncle as any his dear nephew has, and that ther's nothing he has more at heart then to make up all the breaches 'twixt both your families.

Corimonie and his lady and Achmonie has gone for Castle Grant this morning. They see that; non of the tenants will goe with them to the Highland armie. With the greatest submission I think you ought to see non of them, as they have acted such a part by you

as they have done; and I assure you that I can prove against them what will forfeit both their estates; and if you forgive them when they are so much in your power, you ought in justice to meet with the same disaster if there was a disturbance in the nation yearly, which am sure will be the case if you'll not use these two lairds as they deserve. Corimonie believes that his lady will make his peace with you, which I hope he will be mistaken in; and I am, honourable Sir,

Your faithful servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

269. LORD LEWIS GORDON to THE SAME—Asking him not to oppose the raising of his Clan for the Prince Regent.

St. Bridget, November 3d, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I take this opportunity to assure you of the esteem and regard I have for yourself and all your family, and that I shall be always glad to do all in my power to maintain the good correspondence that has so long subsisted between the families of Grant and Gordon; and as you are very sensible of the situation of Scotland at present, I shall take this occasion of delivering you the Prince Regent's compliments, and how much he would be oblig'd to you for your aid at this important time, and if you do not appear active yourself, that you would not oppose the raising of your clan, which is so capable of serving their king and country. I hope you will be so good as to consider this seriously, and to excuse this liberty from a friend, who does it with a pure intention of serving his country. I beg my compliments to Lady Margatt and all your family, as also to Lord and Lady Finlater and Lord Deskford, to whom please be so good as to tell that what I am to do for the Prince's cause in Banfshire shall be executed in the mildest and easiest way in my power. Glenbucket will deliver this to you; and believe me to be, dear Sir, with great sincerity,

Your most affectionate friend and servant,

LEWIS GORDON.

To Lodowik Grant, Esquire of Grant, at Castle Grant—these.

270, LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN LORD LOUDOUN—Rothiemurchus' Company marched for Inverness—Proceedings of Lord Lewis Gordon. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, November 3d, 1745.

MY DEAR LORD,—Rothiemurchus marched from this yesterday in the afternoon with a company of one hundred men, besides serjants and corporalls. There were so many idle stories spread among the commons, that it was with the greatest difficulty I got them prevailed with to march to Inverness, as they were made believe they were to be shipped off in order to recruit some other regiments, and had several other stories told them, which Rothiemurchus will explain. I have likewise been obliged to promise to relieve the whole, or such as should incline to return, at a month's end. I hope, altho

they were not sent down soe soon as I designed and expected, that your Lordship won't imagine it could proceed from anie want of attachment to the Government, or anie coollnes in me to the cause we all wish to support. I am informed that Lord Lewis Gordon is getting a great bodie together, and that I and my friends are threatened, which, should they attempt to putt in execution, I must hope for assistance, at least to have Rothie's men sent up.

271. THE SAME to DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden, Lord President of the Court of Session—The same subject. Indorsed 3d November 1745. [Copy.]

MV DEAR LORD,—Rothiemurchus will inform your Lordship the difficulties I had to prevaill with the men to march from this countrie to Invernes, which was occasioned by manie idle stories that were spread among them from different quarters. I have been obliged to promise to releive them, at least such as should incline, at the end of a month, and shall endeavour all I can to have them supplied with full as good men. Lord Lewis Gordon is bussie recruiteing, and I am informed will have a considerable number of men together this week. He brought north 500 stand of arms with him. I am informed from different quarters that I and my friends are to be attacked, in which event I will hope for assistance from Lord Loudoun. All here join in offering your Lordship our sincere compliments, and will be glade to hear anie news you have. I ever am, my dear Lord,

Most faithfullie yours while
L. G.

[Indorsation on copies:] Mr, Grant to Lord Louden and President.

272. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Arrival of Rothiemurchus' Company at Inverness.

Culloden, 5th November 1745.

DEAR SIR,—Last Sunday's night Rothie's company came in to Inverness, and a very fine one it is, as Loudon assures me. I know you can well affoord another of the same kind; and you remember I promised that if any more Independant Companys were to be raised, you should have the nomination of the officers of one of them. It is now in Lord Loudon's opinion and mine necessary to add some to those already raised. You will therfor think of proper officers to command another company of your people, to be raised in the same way as the last, and look out for the men to be employed on the same conditions. This will enable you to gratify some deserving young gentlemen of your kindred, at the same time that it will do the Government that service which you intend.

I have no apprehension from Lord Lewis Gordon's recruiting, which I am told goes but heavily on. If I am rightly informed, he was to have been at Aberdeen on last Friday, to influence the gathering the publick money. I have no notion that such men as he can collect in the shires of Bamf or Aberdeenshire durst look Strathspey in the face,

tho' half its men were marched out of it; but should any attempt, contrary to expectation, be made, you may depend on speedy assistance from hence. We must make the defence of each other cause comune. My compliments to Lady Margaret and all your good company. I am, Sir, with great respect,

Your most obedient and most bumble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

P S.—Rothie assures me that you are willing the commission intended for him be given to his son; the moment you signify to me your consent it shall be done.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

273. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Proceedings of Lord Lewis Gordon.

Inverness, November 5th, 1745.

SIR,—Yesterday I had the pleasure of yours of the 3d imediatly before I reviewed Rothemurchus' company, which is a very good one, and the best cloathed I have yet seen, or I believe shall see at this time. I was very glade of there arival, as I know I may safly relie on the men you send to his Majestyes service.

I am sorry to hear your neighbour Lord Liewes Gordon has been drawn in to this ruinous scem, but I have no apprehension of his being able to bring any great number of people together. You know Glenbucket was long in that country raising men both with money and threats, and you know how few he caryed with him. The Duke I know has given very positive orders to his people neither to join him nor assist him, and at present I understand he has got but very few; and as he is in your power, and so near you, I take it for granted he will be very casious how he acts. If any body should be hardie enough to offer to attack your people, I think your power without assistance would very soon make them repent it. But if you find you want it, you may depend on all the assistance I can give you. The method you propose of sending you Rothemurchus' company is what I dare not venture on, but when you want our assistance from hence I shall looke on your cause as my own.

May I beg you will be so good as make my compliments to Lady Margaret and our other friends with you. I am, with great respect and esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

274. JOHN EARL or LOUDOUN to [JAMES, FIFTH EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD]—
Proceedings of Lord Lewis Gordon.

Inverness, November 5th, 1745.

My LORD,—Yesterday I had the honour of your Lordship's of the 3d, with the inclosed, which I hearwith return.

I am extramly conserved for that unhappy young man, Lord Lewis, both for his own sake and for the trouble and distress he is likly to bring on people in the neighbourhood where he is, and I assure your Lordship I will willingly give all the assistance in my power to the king's friends; but I cannot perswade myself that he can make near such a formidable figure as your Lordship has been told. I know the Duke has done, and still is adoing, all in his power to stope his progress; and the minut that the account of an action comes from the south, which we have reason to expect every day, there is an entier end of all his Lordship's scames. In all human apperance, if those gen[t]lemen fight they must be beat, and if the[y] avoid fighting it will have the same effect; every body will then think of shifting for themselves, and as Mr. Grant has so formidable a force just by him, he will find himself under a nessesity to act very cautiously in the mean time.

The Independant Companies having hitherto come in so slowly, has till now prevented my being able to do any thing of consequence, but now I begine to be able to do something, and am at presant supplieing those forts in the chain, which must be the first thing done in order to provide against all events, after which I shall have my hands a littel more at liberty.

I beg your Lordship will make my complements to my Lady Findlater and Lord Desford, and that you will believe me to be, with great esteem and regard, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

275. SIR HARRY INNES to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Pressing him to attack Lord Lewis Gordon.

Elgin, November 7th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—That yow have at present the best opportunity of showing your beeing able to be of grate service to the Government is a fact not to be denayed, and if this is late slip yow never will hawe such another. Therfor, dear Sir, forgive mey writing in this strane; it is ocasioned from my reall regard to yow and family. I ned not tell yow that Lord Lewis Gordon is pressing men of all age; that the Duke of Gordon's tenants ar flaying to this cuntry for shelter in numbers, and that the men he has press'd only want ane opportunity to make there escape, Yow can not only dow this with eas and without danger, but it is in yowr power to go to Aberdeen and prevent his Lordship from giving any truble there. Nay farther, with 200 men yow can make a fine prise of 600 stand of

arms. For God's sake think, dear Sir, if yow sent such a body of yowr men as would effectuat this, what must not the Government think of such ane action! It would overjoy yowr frinds, and mortefie yowr enemies. If yow ar to dow any thing, there is no time to lose. And to shou that I would not desire yow to dow a wronge thing, if yow will dow me the honour to comand in a volintire way so many brave fellows, I will go with plesure; and for arms, if yow have not anow of your own, Lord Loudon will be fond yow make a demand for arms to be imployed so much in the Government's service from him. As there is no time to be lost I send this by express, and to bringe me word hou Lady Margaret dous. Yowr sister and all hear desire there compliments to her and the rest of yowr famely; and believe me, yowrs,

HARIE INNES.

P.S.—I flater myself boath the Earle of Findlater and my Lord Deskfoord will approve of what I have mentioned.

2 afternoo[n].

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

276. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OR LOUDOUN—Proceedings of the Rebels, etc. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, November 29th, 1745.

MY LORD,—Since I had the honour of waiteing of your Lordship, I have proposed to severall of the gentilmen of my name the forming ane other companie, to be sent to Inverness, to which I finde them averse, for the reasons I told your Lordship when with you, and for other reasons have since occurred, which would be too tedious to write. At the same time, as I told your Lordship, the whole bodie of this clan will be readie, upon a few dayes notice, to goe upon anie deutie under your Lordship's eye or command in the north you think for his Majesties service, and they will not scrouple to continue upon deutie as long as is consistant with the whole people of a countrie to be from home. This they did in the year 1715, which the Lord President knows perfectlie, and I am sure at present they are as much to be depended upon as they were then. I would willinglie complie with the forming of ane other companie, as the Lord President, for whom I have the greatest regard, proposed; but as I finde that measure not relished, I don't incline to push it, as I am perswaded it is best to humour my friends, who I finde will exert themselves for the service of their king and countrie when they are called upon by your Lordship. Your Lordship will have beard of the transactions in the shires of Bamff, Aberdeen, and in the town of Aberdeen. I am informed the rebels have sett fire to corn stacks in Braemare and in that neighbourhood, to oblige the people to join them, and that they are levieing the cess in a most oppressive manner in these parts. Within these few days they have draged people out of their beds in the Enzie and sent them to Strathbogie. As I reallie think it would be of some importance to putt a check to

such proceedings in these counties, and to relieve the town of Aberdeen, which is the third town in Scotland for trade, from the hardships they at present labour under, if your Lordship think it proper to give me your commands, I shall be readie within five dayes after I receive your orders to march with five or six hundered men to Aberdeen, and shall endeavour to restore the peace of these parts; and if your Lordship will send Captain Grant's companie to my assistance, I should incline it, and I think we will have noe difficultie in obeying anie commands your Lordship gives us for his Majesties service. If your Lordship and the Lord President, after considering of this proposall, think it a proper measure, I would wish to have 200 stand of arms, and I doubt not provision will be made for paying the officers and men while they continue upon this service; and at the same time I doubt not your Lordship will protect this countrie, should anie of the rebells march north while the people are upon the service I have mentioned. The reason of my mentioning to have Captain Grant's companie is, that I might be the better enabled to resist the rebells should they detach some assistance from Perth to those in Aberdeen and Bamffshires. Upon the whole, I shall be readie to concur with your Lordship in everie measure for the service of the Government to the outmost of my power, and where I am not able to goe myself, I shall send some of my friends with the men, who will obey your Lordship's commands; at the same time, I must suggest that if it is consistent with the service at Inverness, Major Grant is the properest person to head this clan, Compliments, etc.

Copie letter, Ludovick Grant to the Earl of Loudoun, commander in chieff, at Inverness,

277. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Stating that he was to march to Fort Augustus.

Inverness, December 2d, 1745.

SIR,—I had this morning the pleasure of yours, with an account of the hardships which your neighbours leber under at presant, and the efforts you are ready to make for there relief, which I can not to much comend; and I assure you it must give the Government the greatest satisfaction when they see a gentilman at the head of so pourfull a clan as yours ready to stand up for there interest, as you propose to do. As to the company, before I had the favour of your letter, they were under orders to march with me to-morrow throw Strath-Erick to Port Augustus, which expedition will take me up a few dayes, after which I propose to march along the cost for the relief of that country, where, if it should prove nessesary, I shall expect and beg your assistance. As to arms, it is, you know, entierly out of my power to assist you till we get a furder supplie, for those we have are scarce suffisient for the new companyes.

You will be so good as pardon the indestincknes of this^f as I have a good many things to do before a march with young troopes. I beg you will make my compliments to Lady Margaret Grant and all our friends with you. I ever am, most faithfully, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Lodowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

278. LORD LEWIS GORDON to THOMAS GRANT of Achoinany—Commanding him to send to Keith the men called for from his estate.

Huntly Castle, 6th December 1745.

SIR,—As Lord Lieutenant of the counties of Aberdeen and Banff, I am to raise a man from each hundred pound of valued rent within the samen, and where fractions hapen, the same is to yeild a man. I hope therefore you'll be so good as to send to Keith, Twesday nixt, such a number of sufficient able-bodied men as will answer to the valuation of your estate, well cloathed in short cloaths, plaid, new shoes and three pair of hose, and accoutered with shoulder-belt, gun, pistoll and sword. I have appointed a proper officer to attend at Keith the above day for receiving the men. I need not tell a man of your good sense and knowledge, the hazard of not complying with this demand. Your prudence no doubt will direct you to avoid hardships of military execution, wherein you'll extremely oblige, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LEWIS GORDON.

For Thomas Grant of Achoinanie, Esquire, Arndilly.

279. JOHN GRANT, factor of Urquhart, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—The Master of Lovat to march south with the Frasers, etc.

Bellimackaen, December 10th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I call'd last Saturday at Inverness in my way home, and waited upon the Major, who hade no news but such as you hade yourself or I left Castle Grant. Lord Loudon did not then return. I hear he came to Inverness Sunday night, I understand that his Lordship's expedition was not further then Fort Augustus, to guard provisions and money to that fort.

I was told this day by a man that came from Castle Dounie that the Master of Lovet was to march south with the Frasers this week; ther's three companys of them at Pearth allready. Am told the Master is to give no trouble to this country, and that he's determin'd to protect us as farr as lays in his power. The Chisolum's men goes with the Frasers—at least the'll soon follow them, It's currantly spoke of at Inverness that Lord

John Drumond is to march immediatly north with all the men at Pearth, in order to atact Lord Loudon, and forse all the clans in the north to joyn them; and it's said that eighteen hundred men landed with Lord John Drumond.

You'll please acquaint me if you have a mind to bring all this country people to the court of Castle Grant, as you was of that minde when I left that place; and if you shou'd bring them over, it cannot be sooner then the first or eight of Januar. Am to hold a court Friday, in order to have your tenants discern'd for your rents. . . . I am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

I shall keep the Urquart man that brought this letter to-morrow all day, to wait your answer.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Member of Parliament, at Castlegrant.

280. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to JAMES, FIFTH EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD— That a body of troops had marched from Inverness towards Aberdeen.

Culloden, 10th December 1745.

MY LORD,—This afternoon your Lordship's letter of the 9th was, pursuant to your directions, delivered to me in absence of Earl Loudon, who is this day marched with a considerable body of men to the westward, to obtain the best security he can, that Lord Lovat's kindred, who have been long in an uncertain state, notwithstanding the many endeavours that his Lordship assures us he has used to keep them dutifull, will remain quiet and give no disturbance to the Government.

I observe with concern the menaces used by the rebels in Bamfshire (which are the same that are made use of in Aberdeenshire) to induce his Majesty's subjects to raise money and men towards the subversion of the Government. Your Lordship has surely returned to those who have consulted with you a very solid advice, and has no doubt given the proper directions to those that take care of your affairs on the subject of the letter that was written to your serf; and if those advices and directions can prevent men's subjecting themselves to the penaltys of high treason for a very few days, they will be delivered from all apprehensions of such usage, for before any notice came from your Lordship, a body of between 5 and 600 men was this day marched from Inverness towards Aberdeen by Elgin, to be followed by my Lord Loudoun very quickly, with as many more if needfull, and by a farther force from hence if it shall be wanted. Thus your Lordship's tennants and neighbors will be speedily relieved from the oppression under which they groan, and I should hope they will have the fortitude to resist the threats that are employed to induce them to become partys to high treason for a very few days, when relief is so very near at hand; as, on the other hand, I imagine the rebels will he cautious how they execute those threats when reprisalls can be so speedily made

on those who may be so wicked as to put them in execution: and as Earl Loudoun is absolutely a stranger in Bamfshire, it would surely contribute very much to the service if your Lordship, who can give so perfect information of the practices as well as the characters of men, could meet him in his march thro' that country, or if that may not be, because of the severity of the season, or on any other account, that your Lordship would give directions to any person in whose fidelity you have confidence, and of whose sagacity and acquaintance with the late transactions in the country you are satisfied, to attend him, that he may receive the proper information, and that you would also direct your deputy-sherif to be in the way that he may issue the proper orders for what concerns the accommodation of the troops in their march. I beg your Lordship may be so good as to make my compliments to my Lady Findlater, Lady Margaret Grant, and the rest of your good company, and believe me to be, with perfect respect, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

P. S.—Your servant having gone in to town last night about some bye business he had to do, and not having as yet returned, I have struck up the seal of my letter to let your Lordship know that Earl Loudoun has prevailed with Lord Lovat to come in with him to town, to reside at liberty there till the present confusions are over, to deliver up what arms he has, and to sign all proper orders to his clan to remain quiet. Loudon brings him in with him to-day.

Wednesday the 11th, 9 o'clock in the morning.

281. THOMAS GRANT of Achoinany to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Nature of Lord Lewis Gordon's levies, etc.

Arndillie, 11th December 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I have inform'd myself of Lord Lewis strength; he's not three hundered men, by their own account, one hundered of which are listed only, and to be mounted and accuter'd by the tenents that have not yet joined them, and possibly never may; and those men whom he has, a great many of them press'd, want but an excuse to get away. They are mostly herds and hyemen in and about Strathbogie—know not how to use arms. One hundered or one hundered and fifty of your men are sufficient to drive them to the devil, and make Lord Lewis and Abachie, his prime minister of oppression, prisoners.

Your tenent and mine, Sanders Russell, is just now come here, who informs that Abachie came to Keith yesternight with sixty of his herds and hyemen, and this day is playing the devil with my Lord Findlater and Glengarick's tenents. He saw a great many of them this day greeting and wringing their hands, and praying and wishing they were your men, and if you would send down a hundered men they would all join

and rather dye than be used in the way they are. They have not touch'd my interest as yet.

William Taylor, the quartermaster, was ordered to give them billots for peats, etc., to their guardhouse, and he very artfully gave them billots upon your nearest lands of Allanbuie. The party brought in the things contained in the billots to the guardhouse, before they discovered it was from your lands; upon which discovery all was return'd to your tenents, and they have near kill'd the quartermaster for betraying them, as they call it, which shows how much they are afraid of you. Cantly assures me likewise that the people of Keith and Grange parish are content, and propose to support any number of men you shall send to Keith with meall, etc.; and you are the only savior they look for this side of time.

Now, my own opinion is, that you should march a hundered and fifty or two hundered men, which will bear the name of five, and they will be join'd by people in this country. It's realy serving the Government as well as your freinds, and will be taken notice of by the Government; and if Lord Loudon would march a company and take possession of the old castle of Balveny, which is a stronge house with an iron gate, it would spoil Lord Lewis's recruiting in all the Duke's estate, in case you supported that garrison now and then as occasion would require. We have the news that Admiral Martin has distroy'd the French fleet and transports, and taken ten French men of war, and that the Pretender's son is defeat, but they have kept up all the news; but it's buss'd about they contain what is said. There is betwixt five and six hundred French at Perth; there's 400 recruits at Aberdeen, mostly from Buchan. This is the account of one of Lord Lewis's officers; others call them but 150, which I beleive is the true number. I have seen Strathspey when the half of its men would have defeat all the rebells that are just now betwixt Spey and Perth. I was one of 1600 who was to engadge Seaforth in the year 1715, as he pass'd through Strathspey at the head of 22,000 men of his own, the Frazers, Macdonalds of Sclate, and Mackinnins, who went aside; and if it had not been Wester Elchies, we had engadged them and defeat them, as they and we were circumstanced. Your uncle, the brigadeer, was very angry it did not happen, and never regarded Elchies afterward. I heard the brigadeer say he would have given the half of his estate we had attack'd them. God direct you right and prosper you in all your glorious undertakings. I am, as in duty bound, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

THOMAS GRANTT.

[Indorsed:] Achoineny to Mr. Grant.

282. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN—Was to try to prevent Lord Lewis Gordon's recruiting. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, December 12th, 1745.

MY LORD,—Your Lordship would see by the letter Lord Findlater wrote you last day, that Lord Lewis Gordon and his partie were to begin their oppression in Bamffshire Teusday the 10th, at Keith and that neighbourhood. I had a letter from Mr. Grant of Achoynanie, incloseing one from Lord Lewis, in the same stile with the one he wrote to Lord Findlater.

Achoynanie wanted my directions and assistance. Upon considering the situation of my friends and neighbours, I thought it incumbent upon me to prevent their being oppressed, and at the same time I can't think of seeing their tennants draged into the rebells' armie. Late last night I had ane express from the same gentilman, informing that their violencess and plundering is begun, which I can noe longer stand; for which reason I have order'd five or six hundered of my men togither, and I am just now in my bootts, and design to be at Keith to-morrow, and shall endeavour where ever Lord Lewis' partie are recruiteing and oppressing that countrie to come up with them, and hope to give your Lordship a good accountt of them. I shall endeavour to gett some of the rebells' arms to help sopplic some of our people. I shall continue there with a force sufficient to keep the peace of that countrie, untill I have your Lordship's further directions, and I think I shall prevent their sending anie partie to the town of Elgin, as I am informed they design. Everie thing in my power shall be done for the service of the Government dureing these unhappie times. I beg your Lordship will forgive this scroll from, my dear Lord,

Your most faithfull and obedient humble servant.

To the Earl of Loudoun.

283. ROBERT GRANT to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—March to Fort Augustus—
Arrest of Lord Lovat.

Inverness, December 12th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—No doute you hade account of our march to Fort Augustus. I cannot see we hade any thing to doe, only the escorting of some money for that garishon. Our men were like to mutinie, aledgeing that they were not engaged to goe upon any dutie from this place, except to the east coast. We prevail'd one them without any discoveries. Yesterday we brought my Lord Lovet to this place, and about 24 stand of old arms, without locks. There was 800 men apprehending his Lordship, viz., 100 of Lord Loudon's, Munros, Grants, Guns, Mackays, Sutherlands, and 200 M^cKenzes, came here on Monday's afternoon, commanded by Hilltown and Dochmaluack. The Layon was at Castell Dounie with us, who came in the charioat with the noble prisoner,

allowed to come a separat way from the troups, and lodged last night at his own quarters in town, without centeries; but I unders[t]and by Lord Loudon, will be brought werry soon to the garishon. There is a corporall of the regiment in garishon here arrived last night from Perth, and seed the rebells there reviewed by Strathallan, numbered there fiels, amounted to 1860. My Lord Loudon insinuat to me last night that we were to have an other command werry soon. The 5 companys of the M^cLeods are gone to the east coast, for it was impossible to keep them to dutie here. Pray lose noe time in preparing the reliefs, for the men craves leave already, for they have been much fatiug'd on those commands. Send as many as possible that will continue. I think you ought to lay your commands one some of the idelers of your country. The post hade no news, but what's in the publick, which are not worth noticeing. I am, with esteem, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and faithfull servant while

ROBT. GRANT.

N.B.—The Frasers of Stratherriek were all in arms the day we past, to dispute the pass of the Black Rock, and the number of 150 appeared, within 6 miles of Fort Augustus, and sent their ambassadors to capitulate with us, then dispers'd, fiending we [meant] no violence in the country.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant.

284. NORMAN MACLEOD of Macleod to THE SAME—March to the Spey.

Elgin, December 14th [1745], 12 att night.

SIR,—It was no small joy to me to see your letter of this evening to Sir Harry, I cannot doubt but your march with so considerable a body of men will protect your friends in Bamfshyre, but also be of great avail for his Majesty's service att this time. I was ordered to march Mounday with 500 men that are here to attempt to pass Spey, in order to assist in protecting all these places, and to disipate anie body of rebells that might be assembled in those parts. I hear the passadge is to be disputed, and they have gone so far as gather all the boats att Bog to the east side, and plant a gaurd on them. I am perswaded your moveing that way will disperse them, and open that passadge, which otherwise might be hasardous. I have on that account ordered my march for to-morrow morning to Spey side to attempt it, and will most chearfully act in conjunction with you in every thing thought proper for the good of the country and his Majesty's service. All other matters I must refer to Sir Harry, who knows all my news and orders. Expecting soon to hear from you, and a merry meeting, I am, yours,

NORMAND MACLEOD,

To the Honorable Lodovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

285. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—That he had taken possession of Elgin.

Inverness, December 14th, 1745.

SIR,—I had. this afternoon the honour of yours of the 12th, with an account of your intended march towards Keith, with 5 or 600 men for the relief of that country, and to prevent there ceising Elgin.

Nothing can be more for the service of the Government than that zeal and activity which you have on all occasions shown, and which I shall not fail to represent in the strongest light.

I need not acquaint you with my having taken possession of Elgin with 100 men on the 11th, and of my marching in 400 more on the 12th, as you would see it in the answer the Precedent writ to Lord Finlater when I was waiting on your friend Lord Lovat, and I have [t]his morning sent two hundered more after them along with Culcairn, and shall in a day or two follow them my self with some more troops, in order to be able effectually to quiet that country; and if I shall find that any other considerable service can be done to the Government for which greater numbers may be wanting, I shall certainly acquaint you, and depend on your pouerfull assistance.

There is one thing I beg leave to mention to you which is nessesary for both of us to be taken care of, which is, that as I am now in your neighbourhood, if we should both take a suden march without any previous consert, it may very possibly happen that we may meet in the same quarters, which can hold but one of us, which will be a very great inconvenience at this season of the year.

There is a ship arived with some things for my regiment from London, but I have not as yet got any letters. I beg my compliments to all friends. I ever am, most faithfully, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Lodo[wick] Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

286. ALEXANDER BRODIE, Lyon King-of-Arms, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
News of military movements.

Inverness, December 16th, [1745].

ON the 14th the Hound man of war arrived here, Captain Dove commander, and with him the Master of Ross and the Laird of Cullodden, junior, and one Mr. Gordon, an engineer, a brother of Gordon's of St. Cristophor's, as also guns, broad swords, tents, canteens, kettles, halberds, cockades, powder and ball, etc. They left Harwich on Tuesday the 10th, and bring account of the rebells haveing fled from before the Duke and Legonier, and were in such a pannick that they marched 30 miles in one day. The Duke with his army came to Stone, in Staffordshire, within four miles of the rebells,

and marched early next morning in order to attack them, but the night before they march'd off about eleven, and never stopt untill they came to Derby; upon which the Duke went with his army to Northampton, to prevent their going to London, where the King has but three regiments besides four battallions of Guards; but when Wade comes up to join—and he was to be at Doncaster as on Saturday the sixth of December—the Duke would leave him to guard all the passes to London, and would then follow them wherever they went; and it was still believed they meant for Wales, if they could not get stole by to London.

Meantime the King has set up his standard at Finchley Common, where the London militia has joined him, and volunteers flocking in to him from all quarters.

Earl Home is made collonell of the Edinburgh volunteers, Captain James Murray lieutenant-collonell, and Captain Francis Kinloch, major, and all the other officers are men of service. Eight companys of the Glasgow regiment are compleated, and 500 of that of Edinburgh, besides the 300 Seceders, who have chose Sir John Shaw for their collonell. Drumoglass is collonell of the M^cIntosh regiment, Lauchy lieutenant-collonell, and Gileas M^cBain major.

The King says that M^cLeod acts as he expected of him; and as to Sir Alexander M^cDonald, he believes him a man of honour, and if he continues firm he will keep his word to him.

That all Scotch people who go to London, and who have any interest in their country, are look'd down upon; for which reason Sir James Grant talks of comeing down.

That Collonell Lascells is much blamed for his misbehaviour; and as to Cope, take the following observation:—

Say what reward should be decreed
To deeds like those of Cope;
Reason and rhyme are both agreed
His ribband should be made a rope.

The chat of Court and both Houses, as well as coffee houses, is upon what the respective Highland chiftians are doing, and what the Scots members that stay at home are doing; and a letter from Inverness is more enquired for than a Flanders or a Dutch mail, even tho' Vernon writes of an embarkation at Brest, whom he intends to keep in the harbour if he can. That Guest would not yield the command to Handaside, so Handaside is gone to London.

Loudon does not incline to leave this town untill Lovat has fullfilled his treaty and brought in his arms, which he is not fond of doing, and is protracting the time as long as he can.

The Lyon goes to Ross with the Master of Ross to introduce him to the country, as he never was there before, and so to help him to raise his men.

The jockers say that for once the Lyon has entrap'd the Fox.

[Indorsed:] The Lyon to Mr. Grant, 16th December 1745.

287. THE SAME to SIR HARRY INNES, Baronet—Asking for intelligence how their friends got over the Spey. Indorsed 16th December 1745.

DEAR KNIGHT,—The inclosed is all I can send you, which I believe may be late, as M^cLeod has had two expresses from this since the arrival of the Hound. Mean time, beg you may acquaint my wife how our friends get over the Spey, that she may acquaint me at Balnagown, where I will be anxious untill I hear from them, and I should think there could not be any difficulty in crossing the river, as there are 700 Grants crossed it already, who are greatly superior to Lord Lewis.

I can tell you nothing of Loudon's march to Elgin, and hope to be back in time enough to esscott him there.

I have time to say no more; but my compliments to your lady and all friends that may be with you, and am yours, etc.,

THE LYON.

To the Honourable Sir Harry Innes, Barronet, of Innes, at Elgine.

288. LORD LEWIS GORDON to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Complaining of Grant's marching a body of men to Mulben, etc.

Fyvie, 16th December 1745.

SIR,—I was a litle surpris'd morning to hear that you hade marched a body of your men to the Low COUNTRY so far as Mulben. Your reason for such proceedings I can't find out, as you have not got the least disturbance from the Prince, or any of his freinds, since his Royall Highnes arived in Scotland, and for my part I have not given you the least disturbance since my coming to the north; so far from it, that I hade given positive orders to the gentlemen employ'd by me to raise the levies not to medle with any of your estate, no, not so much as to raise a man from a litle place called Delnaboe, which holds of the Duke of Gordon, to the men of which last place I hade a natural title.

I now desire to know if you are to take any concern in protecting the estats of any but your own; if that is the case, I must take my measures acordinglie, and as the consequences must be fatall, you have none to blame but yourself. I ame this minute writing to Lord John Drummond, that he may march his troups directlie for this cOUNTRY, to join the men I have a[l]ready raised; but if you withdraw your men, and give no funder disturbance, it may move me to alter my resolutions with respect to you. I wrot you a leter from Strathdown, but was not favoured with any return, but must insist upon ane answer to this in writing, or by some gentleman of character. Offer my compliments to Lady Margaret Grant and your young familie. I ame, with much respect, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LEWIS GORDON.

To Lodwick Grant of Grant, Esquire,

289. SIR HARRY INNES of Innes to THE SAME—Macleod's men passing Spey. Indorsed
16th December 1745.

DEAR SIR,—Grantsffeeld and I wer gratly surprised to scee M^cKlowd's men passing Spay when we wer abowt a mile and half from the boat, which made him return to apprise yow of as I proceded to tell M^cKlowd the reall occasion of the mistake. Had yowr men (although not the number given owt) marched down, the party garding the boats might all been made prisners, if they had not got off by spide of foot, Yow kan not imagine the reall consarne this has given me, but must observe that yowr frinds wer not so fond as they owght to been from first, and when I did not scee thear the number given out to be seen, and the number hear hightned, bad arms, etc., I acknowledge I was of oppinion with Turnor—but no help. M^cKlowd wants to act in consert with yow, and therfor will be glad to scee yow the morning, if not to retriue this little misfortune, yow should not think fit to march to arly to Cullen and disludge Abbachie, who went very fast for that how soon M^cKlowd's men appeared. His numbers ar 180 exactly. Believe me,

Yours,

HARIE INNES.

McKlowd is to stay hear to-morow, when, or nixt day, he will be joined by Culcarne, etc., and in the meantime wants to consarte with yow for yowr mutuall safty and the publike service.

This is wrot from Gordon Castle, but M^cKlowd will be at Focabers all night,
Indorsed: Sir Hary Inness to Mr. Grant.

290. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Commending his activity in marching
towards Keith.

Inverness, December 17th, 1745.

SIR,—I had this morning a verbal message from you by a messenger that was sent from Aberdeen, with an account of your march towards Keith, and the great zeal with which you was resolved to act in suppressing the oppressions the rebells make your neighbours groan under. I cannot enough comend the activity you have shown on this occasion in relieving your relations and neighbours: 'tis those friendly acts that gain the love and esteem of mankind. At the same time, you have left my hands a little looser then they were, to push on the relief of the country in other places. 'Tis impossible for me to give you, at this distance, any advice about what is proper for you to do at Straboge, in relation to keeping possession of it or not, which must entierly depend on the on judgment you form from the sircumstanses that appear on the spot. I shall march

tuo companyes more to-morrow morning after the Mackleods, and shall follow myself with more in a day or two at fardest, when I have ended with your friend Lovat. I am, with great esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Lodowick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

291. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to SIR HARRY INNES of Innes—To direct the bearer to Macleod, etc.

Culloden, 17th December 1745.

MY DEAR KNIGHT,—I write you this note by the Elgin post that brought the letters from Macleod. What I wish you would do is to direct him the safest course to find Macleod, who, I presume, will be at Bamf. I imagine care is taken that the passage by the Boat of Bog is safe; if that is not so, give him your advice, and even your assistance how to come securely at the Island chief. I am glad to hear that Grant has showed so hearty a disposition as to march such a body of his people to Keith, and from thence to Strathbogie. We have no news in this country. Lovat has not as yet given intire satisfaction to Loudoun, but I hope he soon will, and then Loudoun, with a fresh force—who by this time have received orders to be ready to march—will be up with you. Last Saturday's evening the Master of Ross and my son landed out of the Hound sloop of war from tho Nore. She brought nothing besides but arms for Lord Loudoun's regiment. The Highlanders in England, by the last advices I saw, are now between the Duke of Cumberland's army and that commanded by General Wade. The Inverness post is not come in, but he can hardly bring anything later than what I saw last Saturday's night. My compliments to my Lady Innes. I am, my dear knight, yours,

DUN. FORBES.

Pray, knight, take care with Bailie Wilson that Gedes, who carries this and who seems to be an honest fellow, do not loose his tour to Aberdeen as post, if he should be a little late in returning from Macleod.

To Sir Harry Innes of Innes, Baronet, at Elgin.

292. NORMAN MACLEOD of Macleod to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Arranging for concerted action in the shires of Banff and Aberdeen.

Cullen, December 17th [1745], 9 att night.

MY DEAR SIR,—No word yett from you, which you may be sure is impatiently longed for. Culcairn has acquainted you of his being att Phocabers, and I've now wrote him to join you att Keith early to-morrow morning, I am quite convinced that after that junction, or even without it, no party of rebels att Strathboggie dare look you in the face. If you've right information of their numbers, etc., and think so, I'm humbly of opinion you and he should march there to-morrow and rest Wednesday, whilst I go to Bamff to-morrow, next day to Turra, and the third to Old Meldrum, which is Thursday, on which day you would march from Strathboggie to Kintore and Inverura, and then we are within three miles of other, which is near enough for the convenience of quarters and to join in ane hour. These marches secure all Bamffshyre, and part of Aberdeenshyre, from further insults and oppressions from the rebels, and we will in the interim have certain information of their strenth att Aberdeen, and orders from Lord Loudoun whet[h]er to proceed there or not in case we judge our selves strong enough.

So farr is wrote, and yours, dated att 6, is arived; it gives me vast joy, and Culcairn shall be with you to-morrow as soon as possible. I go on to Bamff, so send there; and so proceed on my route, except necessary circumstances vary your directions to me. Lord Lewis must find stronger arguments then paper to stop you and your ladds. I with my soul wish you all well, and drink your healths and unbounded success. You shall hear frequentlie from me, as I expect to do from you, till we meet. Disperse a number of your manifestos att Strathbogy. I ever am yours,

NORMAND MACLEOD.

To the Honorable Lodovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

293. PROCLAMATION by LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant at Strathbogie—Pretender's men to come and deliver up their arms. 18th December 1745. [Copy.]

WHEREAS many of his Majestie's subjects have been compelled by force and threats to inlist in the service of the Pretender, whilst there was no force sufficient to protect them, if any such shall resort to me, and deliver up their arms, I shall signify their dutiful behaviour in this point, to the end that it may be a motive to obtain their pardon from his Majestie's grace, and will endeavour to free all of illegal and treasonable levies of men and money; but such as presume to persist in their treasonable practics and to resist, will be traited as traitors.

Sic subscribitur LUD. GRANT of Grant,

[Indorsed:] Declaration published at Strathboge by Mr. Grant, 18th December 1745.

294. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to SIR HARRY INNES—Stating that he could not send arms.

Inverness, December 18th, 1745.

SIR,—I received the favour of yours of the 16th last night, with an account of the numbers Mr. Grant had along with him, the rout they were to march by, and the want they were in of arms.

I expect this day an account of the success of that march with some impatience, I hope Lord Lieweses people have not been so mad as to defend the castle; but if they have, I dare say Grant's prudence will make that avail them little.

As to the arms, I am very sorry 'tis not in my power to assist them, as the only arms hear are those sent for the independant companyes, and some for my own regiment, which I can not give out as being made on a new modal, and particularly ordered for them, but I hope we shall soon have a fresh supplie.

I shall take care to keep up a corespondence with Mr. Grant, that if I find there is any considerable service to be done, he may have an opportunity to have a shair in it with his whole people. I beg my compliments may be made acceptable to my Lady Innes, and that you will believe me to be, with great truth, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

I propose to file off some more companyes to-morow, and to follow my self in a day or two.

To the Honourable Sir Herre Innes, Baronet.

295, NORMAN MACLEOD of Macleod to LEWIS GRANT of Grant—Sorry that the two Clans were not to move together.

Banff, December 19th [1745], 11 att night.

MY DEAR SIR,—I've yours this moment, and I am very sorry to find you are not to join us att Inverura, on our expedition to Aberdeen, which wants releef much, and much more so that you are not even to remain att Strathboggie, but return to Keith; however, you know best what is proper for you to do, and what Loudoun has wrote you, but I own I am sorry we do not move together, because I think the ladds of both clanns must have been in high spirits. I beg to know by Culcairn your resolutions, and be assured I am, with all my heart and soul, yours,

NORMAND MACLEOD.

To Lewis Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Strathbogy.
Dispatched at eleven at night.

296. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to NORMAN MACLEOD of Macleod—That he intended to return to Keith, etc. [Copy.]

Huntly, December 19th, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—I hope you have received the letter I writt you last night. I had a letter yesterday from Lord Loudoun; and Lachlan Grant, writter in Edinburgh, came to me last night from Inverness. I find it's not expected nor believed that I should have marched further then Keith, for which reason I design to return from this to-morrow earlie to Keith, and Culcairn and Captain M^cKintosh want much to join you at Inverurie to-morrow night, and then you will march together for Aberdeen, or doe as Lord Loudoun will direct. My best wishes shall attend you, and I should have been glade to have been with you. I am, with great truth, dear Sir,

Affectionatly and faithfully yours.

Captain Grant of Grantfield, the sherriff of the county, will goe from this with Culcairn to-morrow to Inverurie, in order to give you all the assistance and intelligence he can. Culcairn expects by this bearer you'l lett me know what time you'l be at Inverurie to-morrow to join him.

[Written on an inclosed slip.]

Lord Loudoun will not act as Cope,
Whose ribbon now is call'd a rope; If
Grant is arm'd to join M^cLeod, The
enemy is soon subdued.

To the Honourable Normand Macleod of Mackleod, Esquire, att Turriff.

297. JOHN GRANT, Factor of Urquhart, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Men from Urquhart joining the Highland army.

Bellimackaen, December 20th, 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I rune you this express to acquaint you that the people of this country has past my power to keep them any longer from joyning the Highland armie. Ther's fifty or sixty of them to goe for Perth the begining of next week. There going is all oweing to Angus Grant, who goes alongs with your tenants. Corimonie and Achmony sends a part of there tenants, which I belive in justice ought to bring them in equally guilty, as they went themselves. Am told Achmony's brother goes. The country people here and I do not agree on minute, as am against there going to Perth. Corimonie and I quarald last Friday, and upon the Saturday he sent for severalls of the men of his faimly, who came in full arms with him in order to atact me, and after they came to Millntown, where I was then, they thought proper to lett me alon. This is the situation am in for some tyme past, am not only threatned by the Highlanders for disvading your tenants from joyning, but are threatned by the country people here.

Within thir few days my house and corns were threatned to be brunt, and I don't know how soon this may hapen, if am not suported by you. Am always ready to riske my life in your service. I hope if any of the small effects I have are distroyed, that you'll see me redress'd, as you know that my little moveabls are the greatest subject I have to depend upon for the suport of my faimly.

If you'll be so good as to give me a possession elsewhere; to accomodate my wife and faimly and cattle for some little tyme till the present troubls in the nation are quell'd, I'll always stay here while you'r pleas'd to imploy me, and obey your orders as farr as lays in my power. If this you'll be so good to agree too, it will be very oblidging, and if you should not, I'll allways submitt myself to your pleasure, and not put any little fonds I have in ballance with serveing my chief.

Ther's eight companys of the Frasers at Perth. The Master of Lovet has not gone as yet. The most part of the Camrons are come home; ther's not three hundred of them with there chief. All the M'Donalds of Brealochaber are come home too thirty or forty, and ther's not forty of the Glenmoristone men from home. The Glengerry McDonalds stood it out best; ther's few of them came home accept those that returned to Perth. ... I ever am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull servantt,

JOHN GRANTT.

298. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN—Macleod and Culcairn in Aberdeenshire. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, December 24th, 1745.

MY LORD,—I had the honour of your Lordship's of the 17th when at Strathbogie, where I remained two nights with Culcairn. From all the intelligence I could gett of the numbers of the rebells at Aberdeen, I was of the opinion the five companies of the M'Leods, with Culcairn and Captain Mackintoshes companies, was a great deal more then sufficient to make them flie as fast out of Aberdeenshire as they did out of Bamff, otherwayes I certainlie would have gone forward to Aberdeen, tho' never soe inconvenient to me. I writt a short scrall to Sir Harrie Innes from Keith, which I desired him communicate to your Lordship if at Elgin with him. He writt me he forwarded it, by which your Lordship would see that I was to leave a partie of 60 private men for some dayes near Keith, to prevent anie of the small parties of the rebells from returning to Bamffshire or that neighbourhood untill your Lordship should send forward some of the other companies from Inverness. Sir Archbald Grant, who will deliwer this letter to your Lordship, and who came here last night, informs me from the intelligence he gott Saturday in Aberdeenshire, that the rebells intended to make a stand at Aberdeen. Should this prove true, I shall regrate much I did not goe forward; but noe doubt Mackleod and Culcairn has acquainted your Lordship of the situation of that part of the countrie. For my part, I am humblie of the opinion that all the force that can be gott

together should be employed to drive these rebels out of these parts in the north they are at present in possession of, and I wish your Lordship could have enabled me to have kept my men together; but Lachlan Grant told me your Lordship inclined I should return home, and that you would call upon me when you thought there was occasion for the men of this countrie to be employed. Let me have some dayes advertizement, and your Lordship may depend upon my exerting myself. Whenever your Lordship can spare some armes, I should wish to have them, as some of what our men have are not good, but such as they are shall upon everie occasion be used for the service of his Majestic and of our happie estestablishment, I shall be glade to hear from your Lordship by my friend Sir Archbald Grant, to whom you may communicate anie commands you have for me, which shall be complied with as far as is in my power. Your Lordship has inclosed a copie of Lord Lewis Gordon's letter to me, which I received at Keith the night befor I marched to Strathbogie. I found two of the guns the rebels had, three bagonetts and one broadsword, which I shall take care of, Compliments, etc.

LUD. GRANT.

[At end of letter:] Copie Letter to the Earl of Loudoun.

299. THE SAME to WILLIAM GRANT, younger of Burnside—Macleod defeated at Inverury.

Castle Grant, Teusday evening, December 24th, 1745.

SIR,—I have this minute received yours, givinge ane accountt that the M^cLeods, Monroes, and Captain M^cIntoshess companies were attacked and defeat at Inverurie yesterday. If that is the case, which I should be sorrie for, my opinion is that you and the partie with you ought to secure the passage for them in case they retire, and should come to the Boat of Bridge, and that you should fall upon some method to give M^cLeod and Culcainr intelligence that you have secured that passage, and I think you and the rest of the officers, and all your partie, should lodge upon the Murray side of Spey, and carrie over the boats with you, and you may remain there if you finde you can doe it with safetie untill further orders from me; but if you find anie strong bodie approaching you, then you should retire to this countrie in a bodie through Rothess, Elchies, and Knockandow. You, the rest of the gentilmen, and your partie have my good wishess, and pray take care of your selves, for I don't desire you to doe anie rash thing by engaging with the other partie. Achoynanie I know will give you all the intelligence he can. Pray run me ane express upon receipt of this, and let me [have] all the news you have further received. Believe me, sincerelie yours, etc,

LUD. GRANT.

To William Grant, younger of Burnside, att Mulben.

300. SIR HARRY INNES of Innes to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Action at Inverury.

Elgin, December 24th, 4 afternoon, 1745.

DEAR SIR,—This forenoon twenty of MacLeod's men came here, giving an account that last night twixt 5 and 6 there was a kind of action between the MacLeods and Lord Lewis Gordon at Inverury. The particulars we have not as yet, but it is most certain that they have got the worst of it, for the men are coming in in numbers, and Macleod and all the officers expected here to-night. I have got no account of the killed on either side, but 'tis said there are men lost upon both. It is further said that Lord Lewis Gordon examined one Steuart, a hirer of this town, last Friday, if your men were along with the MacLeods, and that he should have ask'd particularly how they were armed, and if they had broad swords and targets. When the fellow answered in the affirmative, his Lordship should have swore they could not stand it, and thought it was best to separate; but immediatly upon your withdrawing your men, it seems they have taken a different resolution. I believe no person that thinks well, and is rightly informed, will lay this miscarriage to your charge; however, I can assure you that you will be blamed by some, and the Jacobites here, as I am told, think themselves obliged to you.

I don't know if you received a letter from me by Provost Murison's servant, in which I told you the danger you run of being blamed whatever part you acted. This moment I have a letter from MacLeod, which I inclose you, another for the President, that I am dispatching by express. I can give you no further particulars than that they were surprised, and one of Culcairn's men, who delivered me this, says if the Grants had been with them this had not happened, or had they marched a day sooner into Aberdeen, they had carried their point. As you have the Earl of Finlater and Lord Deskford with you, they are more capable than I to give you advice. So shall conclude, with your sister's compliments and mine to Lady Margaret and all with you, and wish you a happy Christmass, for I am, dear Sir, yours,

HARIE INNES.

Their baggage and money is taken, except Culcairn's clock bag, and he with 600 men and their officers are to be in town this night.

To the Honourable Lodovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

301. THE SAME to THE SAME—Asking him to dispose his men so as to secure the boats on Spey,

Elgin, December, Tuesday the 24th, 9 at night, 1745.

DEAR SIR—I wrote you this night by express, and he was dispatch'd half an hour after four; since which time M^cLeod is come to town. I have been with him, and the account he makes of the little batel is, in short, that a little after dinner, and candles lighted, they were allarm'd of Lord Lewis Gordon's being close upon them; and close he was, for he was within five musket shots. The gaurd of the preceeding day were asleep, the men

quartered in Inverury refreshing themselves, and all the rest quartered a mile and a half's distance from the town. Meantime they got together about 250 men, all M^cLeods, but were soon forced to give way. The people behaved very well, and have done the enemy much more mischeif than they have received, altho' M^cLeod does not yet know the number of kill'd and wounded. He and all the officers have lost their baggage but Culcairn, who saved his clogback and lost a horse, M^cLeod says he is outdone in generalship, but his men behaved better than the rebels, who, Culcairn says, must have been thrice their number at least, by the ground they cover'd more than M^cLeod's men. In short, the blame of this is lodged upon the Government's friends at Aberdeen, who did not give M^cLeod notice of the rebels' numbers or march towards him; and he was so secure that there was not so much as an advanc'd party. But this history is not the reason of sending you this express. It is at M^cLeod's desire, who has had a message from Sir Archibald Grant, and who tells him that you have received instructions, either from the Government or from your father, to have all your people ready to act in support and deffence of the Government; and as this unluckie accident has obliged M^cLeod with his men to retire to this place, it will now be more necessary than ever that your men shou'd all be convey'd to oppose Lord Lewis Gordon in his depredations in the shires of Banff and Aberdeen,—at least to have your men so convey'd as to secure all the boats on Spey. M^cLeod has left 80 men at Boat of Bogg, but if that number is not sufficient he hopes you will strengthen that party. Everybody wishes that M^cLeod and you had acted as you were both once resolved upon; but I must doe him justice; he is very far from giving you any share of the blame, let that ly where it wills. M^cLeod does not seem to think that the rebels will venture this length; but no doubt it will be agreeable to him and all your friends that you be as near to each other as possible, and will therefore expect to hear that you, with at least 500 of your lads, are soon at Rothes or somewhere in our neighbourhood. Take speciall care the Boat of Bridge be well secured. For God's sake let me hear from you upon receipt of this, and that by a servant of your own. It is possible Lord Lowdon may be here to-morrow, therefore write it such a way as I may shew it to him or any other person. I think you shou'd likewise write to M^cLeod; I think him a man of strict honour, and at the same time you obliged to him for his manner of talking. I make no compliments, but I am, yours,

HARIE INNES.

I have given the runer a shilling.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant—heast.

302. THOMAS GRANT of Achoinany to THE SAME—The measures he had taken to secure the boats on Spey.

Arndillie, 25th December 1745.

HONOURABLE SIR,—There is a servant come from Monimusk here just now with letters from the minister of Monimusk to Sir Archibald, who is to stay here till Sir Archibald come. He informs that Lord John Drummond, with the half of the rebels, are returned to Aberdeen, and carried with them seventy prisoners, M^cLeods and Monros. He does not know the number slain, but that the rebels had most men kill'd, particularly a captain, whom they regrated much. Aberlour, Abachie, Da. Tulloch and a fourth officer, came yesternight to Strathbogie, and Lord Lewis, with seven hundered men, came this day. He likeways informs that John Gordon, chamberlane in Strathbogie, disarmed the last of the M^cLeods and Monros, who came up in twos and threes, crossing the bridge at the castle. This is all the information he can give.

In obedience to yours I advised Burnside to send half a dozen of his command to Fiddich, to carry doun the boats the length of the Haugh of Arndillie, where they have good quarters, and there to watch the boats on the Murray side till further orders, and that 18 or 20 of his command might goe to Boat of Brig and watch the boats there, in either side of the water, and he to stay in the House of Mulben, with the bulk of his command, untill he was informed of the motion of the enemy, which he could not miss but get, for that it would look as if we were afraid in case we left Mulben abruptly. It is my opinion you can bring a much superior force to the party in Strathbogie. I find if the M^cLeods and Monros had had broadswords, the affair would not have been as it is. God direct you right, and I am, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

THOMAS GRANTT,

P.S.—Those who were to come to Strathbogie this day were called 700, so that we may judge them fewer.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Castle Grant.

[Indorsed:] Achoineny to Mr. Grant.

303. WILLIAM GRANT of Burnside to THE SAME—Intended to march to Castle Grant.

Milben, 25th December 1745.

SIR,—Upon information of M^cLeand and Culcarn's defet, I convin'd your men here to your own house of Millben, and resolved to wait your orders, which shou'd have been exactly obayed, but as M^cLeaud, Culcarn, and the most of there officers crost Spay at the Boats of Bog yesternight, I thought it needless for me to send your complements after them; and as I'm inform'd that Lord Lewis Gordon is yet at Inverury, only expected at Stratbogie this night, I'm to march directly to Castle Grant as we came, and Bogendue,

who stayd closs with me join'd the same. We sent an express to Stratbogie this morning, who is not as yet return'd, who perhaps may bring better accounts then we cou'd had from Keith, from which place we were advised that the M^cLeauds and Munroes were unexpectedly actacted about five of the clock Munday's afternoon, at the south end of the town of Inverury, and from the wood of Kintore. The action did not last any time, as there were but 300 of the M^cLeauds and a few of the Munroes in the town, the rest being billated in the country. It's said by the M^cLeauds that there's more of the Prince's men kil'd then of thers. M^cLeaud lost all his baggage, and came to Cuper Hill with a straw rop in his horse's head. Culcarn's servant saved his clog bage. I shall bring the Strathbogie news alongs with my self, and I'm, Sir,

Your most faithfull and obedient humble servant,

W^M GRANTT.

To Ludovick Grantt of Grant, Esquire, Castle Grantt.

304. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to WILLIAM GRANT of Burnside—
To remain at Boat of Brig. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, December 26th, 1745.

SIR,—I have this minute received yours, and I intreat you may not come home with the partie sooner then Sunday, but remain at the [Boat of Brig](#), one either side of the water you think best, for I have both writt and told that I was to take care of these boats for some dayes, as alsoe that I had ordered the boat of Piddich to be carried below Arndillie, which I hope is done. I run this express, to entreat you take care of these boats untill I write you, which letter I shall send of to-morrow or Saturday morning, and by this express let me have your news, and send me ane other express if anie thing occurs. You and the rest of the gentilmen will for ever oblige me in not move[ing] from these boats, but take great care of them untill you hear from me; and if anie partie should come to disturb you, you may retire to the Murray side, and remain there with the boats. In haste. Adew.

LUD. GRANT.

To William Grant of Burnside.

305. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—That he had not decided what operation to undertake next.

Inverness, December 30th, 1745.

SIR—I ask pardon for having detained Sir Archibald Grant so long before I returned you an answer to the letter you did me the honour to send me by him. I was in hopes to have had it in my power to have determined fmalys before this time what opperation I would have undertaken nixt, bot so many new things arise, that I have still been obliged

to postpone it; however, as soon as I find it proper to undertake any thing of moment towards the east, I shall acquaint you, in order that we may concert what will be the most effectual way of doing it; and I do assure you I shall on all occasions exert my self to show with how much real regard, friendship and esteem, I am, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

The Mackleods are now sattleed, and I [t]hink of reinforcing them to-morrow. My compliments to all friends.

To Loudowick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

306. THOMAS GRANT of Achoinany to THE SAME—Further accounts of the skirmish at Inverury, etc,

Arndilly, 2d January 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I had the honour of yours last night, and if anything had occur'd remarkable since the last time I wrote you, I had certainly informed you thereof by an express. The rebels to the number of sex or seven hundred stayed at Strathboggie from Wednesday was a seven night untill yesterday, when they got a hasty call, and march'd off at nine o'clock before noon to Aberdeen; the occasion of their hasty departure was not made publick. Some of them who dwell in Strathisla came home and seed their families, particulary Doctor Paterson, who frankly own'd if the handfull of M^cLudes who were engaged at Inverury had stood but five minutes longer, in that case their men, viz., the rebels, would have run away. He further said that, except by the few of Lord John Drummond's regiment and the gentlemen, no execution was done, and that they lost a great many of their men crossing the water of Inverury; that the Strathboggie and Buchan and other recruits, instead of fighting, fell on their own baggage and plundered it. He did not deny that he himself lay in a ditch during the firing.

The situation of the Highland armie is kept a secret, and instead of that the rebels are amus'd with the repeated victorys of Prince Charles in England, and that he has got possession of London. This blind will not doe long, and their eyes must be opened. Two men from this country, who were allong with you at Keith and Strathboggie, wentur'd down the length of Peterhead last week. Their errand was to visite one of their fathers, who is a Highland man, and dwells there. They were in Highland cloths, and arm'd with sword, pistole, and durk. In their return, about a mile from Turrof, they were attack'd by a serjant and two soldiers of Lord John Drummond's regiment, who had been sent from Inverury to Buchan to quarter for cress, and nothing wou'd please the serjant but make them prisoners, as he knew they belong'd to Lord Loudon. They told him they were none of Loudon's men, but belong'd to the Laird of Grant, whose men wou'd not be made prisoners, and directly fell to luggerheads. Your two men defeat the three, left

them lying on the spot so as they cou'd not crawl, took from them their arms, yea, their cockadoes; the serjant's I send you here inclosed, being a piece of curiosity. We have their guns, which are French, and none of the Brittish arms. This must be conceall'd, in case they return to Strathboggie, because they might resent it on the lands of Achoynanie, when they discover that any of my people had used them so. You may judge how far superiour the Strathspey men are to these people, when two of this country defeats three of them. The inclos'd I gote last night late from the Tutor of Gordon, which may be depended on. God direct you right, and I am, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS GRANTT.

2d January 1745.

This letter Mr. Grant sent by express to the Earle of Louden, with renew'd assurances of his readiness to act under his Lordship for the service of the Government, and added that this measure of the rebels gave rise in his mind to severall advantages for the countrey and Government that might be made of it; but would not presume to dictate to his Lordshipe, as he was much better judge, only he beg'd leave to suggest if this was not a proper oportunity to hem them in much more than hitherto they had been.

In this Mr. Grant meant to join if allowed in the execution.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Castle Grant.

[Indorsed:] Achoineny to Mr. Grant, and Mr. Grant to Lord Louden.

307, JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—That he was filing off troops to the eastward.

Inverness, January 4th, 1745-6.

SIR,—Yesterday I had the honour of yours of the 2d; that of Mr, Grant of Grantsfield did not arive till just now. I am extramly obliged to you for the intelligence you are so good as to comunicat to me. I expect every hour a vessel from Lieth with intelligence, which I shall comunicat to you as soon as it arives; and I think it will be nessesary to know a little more of what they are a-doing in the south before we absolutly fix the scame of our operations, that we may co-opperat together, otherwais we may chance to run counter and spoil the whole.

In the mean time I am filling of troopes to the eastward. Yesterday I sent 200 M^cDonals, who will in a few dayes be followed by more.

Our neighbours pretend to have what they call good newes, but it hangs ill together, and they tell it with grave faces.

As I have a great many things to dispatch this morning, may I beg you will make my excuse to Grantfield for not writting to him. I beg that Lady Margaret and you will accept of the complements of the season from me, who am, with great esteem and regard, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Loduick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

308. LUDOVICK GRANT to SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant, his father—Giving a detailed account of the events of the winter.

Castle Grant, Jannarie 14th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—I received two letters you writt me, one of them dated the 14th of last month, and the other of the 21st, which are the onlie letters I have received of what you writt me this verie long time, but the newspapers you sent under my wife's cover was not allowed to come forward. I reallie think we onlie gott two Evening Posts of all you may have sent since the rebells went first to Perth. Lord Deskfoord, who sailed from Inverness the 26th of December aboard of the Hound sloop, I hope is long befor this time with you. He will have informed you of the situation we have been in dureing all these troublesome times; I wish to God they were at ane end, My letter you received by Tobieson would inform you of all our motions in this countrie preceeding the first of November; and Lord Desford will have told you everie thing fullie from that time untill the 26th of December. We have in this countrie enjoyed perfect peace, but in Aberdeenshire the countrie has been terriblelie distressed, with large sumes of monie collected in the countrie and town, and numbers of the tennants draged to the rebells' armie. The rebells begun their operations in Bamffshire, and intended to have gone over to Elgin and Murray. I had been often desireing the friends of the Government entrusted at Inverness to give them a check, but it seems, for reasons best knowen to them, it was thought proper to continue at Inverness while the rebells were in full possession of all Bamff and Aberdeen shires and all the cost, and even the whole countrie almost to Stirling. I from time to time writt to Invernes and acquainted Lord Loudoun and the President of the levies Lord Lewis Gordon was makeing in these counties, and the monie his people were exacting; and in the end of November I writt to Lord Loudoun and the President that, if they approved and desired me, I would march with six hundered of your people, and endeavour to chase the rebells out of Aberdeenshire, and relieve the town of Aberdeen from the miserable oppression they then suffered; and I think I should have prevented manie who have since been draged to encrease the armie of the rebells from joining them. I desired if they could spare the companie from this countrie that was at Inverness to be sent me, if they thought proper and could spare them, and likewayes 200 stand of arms, if they were to spare at Inverness; and at the same time I writt that I doubted not provision would be made for paying the men while I was upon that service. In short, I onlie mentioned these things, as you will see in time from the copie of the letter I writt; but at the same time I writt that, upon receiveing orders, I was readie to march with 500 or 600 with such arms as we had. The return I gott was, that Lord Loudoun intended soon to march towards

Aberdeen, and if our assistance was wanted I should be acquainted, and that our men should be called for. Upon receiveing this return I kept the countrie people as allert as I could, and everie day was expecting to hear that some force would march from Inverness to releive Aberdeen and Bamff shires; but upon the 11th of December I had letters informing me that Lord Lewis Gordon's people was goeing snccessfullie one with their recroteing and in raiseing contributions in Aberdeenshire, and was informed that they had gott in different parties to the number of 500 or 600 men, and that they were to march to Bamffshire, and to begin at Keith the 12th. Their demand was a man to be furnished them out of everie 100 pound Scots of valued rent, and that everie man should have Highland garb, with gun, broad sword, pistoll, and durk, two pair of hose and two pair shoes, under the pain of militarie execution. I had some of these letters sent me, particularlie the one Lord Lewis writt to Achoynanie, and I saw the letters Lord Findlater received from him to the same purpose. Upon the 12th, late at night, I had ane express from Achoynanie informing me that about two or three hundered of the rebels had actuallie come to Keith, and was beginning to oppress the whole countrie, and begging I would endeavour to send them some releiff. This made me resolve to convey about 600 men, and to march as quick as possible to chase them out off Bamffshire; and to prevent the partie they were to send from getting to Elgin. Upon the 13th I sent the officers to the different parishess, and upon the 19th I marched from Cromdell, was that night at Bellindalloch, nixt night lay myself at Arndillie, and sent a great manie of the men in a bodie within three miles of Keith. Upon my approach the rebels gave over their levies of men and monie, and fled from Keith to Fochabers, where they designed to have opposed five hundered men had been sent under M^cLeod's command from crossing the Spey; but upon the Sunday morning, when they were informed from their spies that I had marched and was conveyeing all our men within two miles of them, and as they heard some shots, which was occasioned by our people's dischargeing and loading there guns of new. As there had been great rain the night befor, and we were affraid the rain, might have wett the powder, it was thought best to draw the shotts and lod of new; but some of the balls being straitt, they were obliged to fire them. Upon their spies hearing and seeing this preparation, they made all haste to Fochabers, and the rebels fled of; soe that when M^cLeod came to Fochabers he mett with noe opposition, but the boatts were sent over. M^cLeod, Saturday night, prevailed with Sir Harrie Innes to ride all night, and to acquaint me that he would march to Fochabers the Sunday, provideing I would march to Fochabers and send over the boatts; otherwayes it would be impossible for him to have gott over the Spey, which was in a great flood, and to let him know by express what time I would be there, that he might have his people to meett me upon the Murray side. I writt him by Sir Harrie's servant, and desired he might be with his people at the Boat of Bog about two of the clock, and I designed to have been at Fochabers betwixt twelve and one; but just as we were goeing to march from Mulben, Tammore came to us and called Sir Harrie Innes aside, and assured him he had undoubted information that there was above 500 men at Fochabers that had come from Aberdeenshire under the command of Lord Lewis,

Abachie, Gordon of Bleluck, etc. etc.; that they had drawn up the boats to the Duke of Gordon's park diches, and had bored them; and at the same time, as they had possession of all the walls of the yards about Fochabers, and was well armed, having the gunns that came over from France, they might distroy numbers of our men from these diches befor we could gett up. He proposed that we should send of 100 men and secure the Boats of Brig, which was about a mile and a half above the Boats of Bog, and send to M^cLeod to come up there with his men, and that then we should attack them nixt day jointlie. This opinion of his, Sir Harrie and all the other gentilmen with me thought most prudent, soe I yeilded; but the enemie, in place of being 600, as Tammore told us, was not above 200, and fled whenever we were marching within two miles of them. I was informed late at night that they had marched through the Enzie, and that they had crossed over from some part of the Enzie to Newmiln, near Glengarrucks. I conveened our people earlie in the morning, and thought to have come up with them befor they left Newmiln, or at least to have intercepted them befor they could reach Strathbogie; but they unluckielie intercepted Kyliemore, who I had sent to Cullen with instructions to a partie of our men was sent there some howers befor to prevent anie of them from getting into Lord Findlater's house. They detained Kyliemore prisoner untill about five in the morning, and then they marched as fast as they could for Strathbogie; and when we came to Keith we heard that they had passed for Strathbogie befor daylight, and all the parties were in Bamff and Portsoy fled of the Sunday evening, when the partie I sent to Cullen entered that town. I had writt to Lord Loudoun the day I left Castle Grant that I would chase the rebells out of Bamffshire, and would obey anie further orders or directions he should be pleased to send me; but Lord Loudoun and the President, it seems, thought they had sent force sufficient without me to clear the town and countie of Aberdeen, soe after clearing Bamffshire and marching to Strathbogie, I was desired to return, that service being sufficient he had provided for. After continueing two nights in Strathbogie, still expecting instructions to goe to Aberdeen, I returned, and Culcairn, with 200 men, who come up to me at Strathbogie, marched forward and joined M^cLeod, who had 500 with him. That 700 men I reallie thought myself sufficient, soe I returned, and you'll have heard of the skirmish of Inverurie. I have since that time been pressing that all the friends of the Government should be collected together, that we might make such a bodie as to disperse the rebells in the north, and even stricke some dampt upon those in the south. What measures they will follow I don't know, but it's a reflection upon the King's friends in this north countrie to have done soe little; but let the blame lay where it will, I hope your friends will make it appear it don't lay at their door. I am unhappie that never received anie letters from you giveing your advice and directions. Sir Archibald Grant told me what you have proposed where you are, and how it was received, and I am glade to think that we here shall have your approbation. I wish you would write me fullie and often, and putt them under Lachlan Grant's cover, and order him to send them north with the packet boats comes from Leith to Inverness. I hear Lachlan sent me some letters by a Kinghorn boat, which putt in at Frasersbrough. Knockandow's son,

who is lieutenant in Lord John Murray's regiment, was in that boat, and taken prisoner at Frasersbrugh, but released by Achmaden, but my letters were burned to prevent the rebels from getting them. Since you left this countrie I have not seen one farthing from Urquhart; the people there won't pay. I have gott non from Mulben, and not above fiftie pound from the chamberlane of Strathspey, and I assure you I see noe prospect of anie. This being the plain case, you may judge what situation we will soon be in if the Government don't releive us. I wish you would see to gett the monie dew Achoynanie payed fullie up, and take of it what you want, as Mr. Drummond has stoped. I assure you I don't see what way we can expect monie soon from the tennants, as they have had noe mercatts this year, and as all their neighbours, or most of them, have entered into rebellion. I have hopes that you may gett that monie payed up. Mr. Grant, Hatton Garden, has a mandate to receive it. He writes me pressinglie for monie, and all his letters are opened and read in everie post house, and almost in everie corner of Atholl and Badenouch. This is verie ill done, as I have writt him by this occasion; it's impossible for me to gett monie considering the situation of Scotland. I long to know that Tobieson has arrived from Holland, and that they have sold his cargoe. I have turned of Allexander Rankin, and hope nixt year our work at Garmouth shall succeed better. Lord and Lady Findlater are well, and offer you their compliments, as does Sir Archibald Grant and Grantfield. My wife and the childereen are well. We all offer you our humble deutie and compliments to my brothers and all other friends with you. I am uneasie that I can't gett monie to remitt to pay Captain Malcome his annual rents. If my brother Jamie gett cash for his commission I wish he would pay it, and I shall repay him when he comes to Scotland. We have fine weather, I ever am, dear Sir, your faithfull son, etc.

LUD. GRANT.

At present we here are uncertain where the rebels are since they have been driven out of England.

To Sir James Grant of Grant, baronet, member of parliament, at his house in Conduit Streett, London.

309. PATRICK GRANT, LORD ELCHIES, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—The battle of Falkirk.

Edinburgh, January 18th, 1746.

MY DEAR SIR,—Before this come to hand, I doubt not you'll have had the news of a battle that was fought yesterday att Faakirk, and in the channell by which it must come to you, I daresay it will be magnified to a great and compleat victory. I write this therefor att our friend the Justice-Clerk's desire, by whom this express is sent, chiefly to inform our friends of the true fact, which is, that ther was indeed a sort of a battle, or rather a skirmish, att three acloak afternoon, in which, tho' wee were undoubtedly superior in strength and number, yet wee lost, as wee reckon, about 300 men, with 6 or

7 piece of cannon, and I'm afraid our tents. The best account I have heard of this odd accident is, that the Highlanders had sent out some parties that appear'd about the tops of the hills above Faakirk, and the Generall sent up the dragoons to beat them back and disperse them. Then he was advis'd by his scouts that the body of the Highland army were marching the same way, upon which he order'd our foot to be drawn up and march against them. The Highlanders by this means gott the top of a pretty steep hill before us, and were favour'd by a storm of wind and rain in our teeth. They first attack'd our dragoons upon the left, who stood their fire, but were instantly in a cloud of smoke, and reel'd. They attack'd the left of our foot in the same way, who had no other mark to shoot att but the cloud of smoke of the rebells' fire, which made them also give way. Our right stood their ground, and made the left of the rebells run, and Generall Husk rallied again the left of our foot and quite beat of the rebells. Wee had no use of our cannon, which were att a distance from us; and the drivers, seeing our dragoons and the left of our foot reel, cutt the traces and run away with the horses. Wee had no provisions at Faakirk, and night coming on, which made us retire yesternight to Linlithgow, but cou'd carry only three of our canon with us; and as this rainy weather must have hurt the men's arms and ammunition, the whole army comes here this night, where there are two batalions more to join them, Lord Semple's and the fuzieleers; and I'm told that how soon the men are refreshed we march back to them again. Wee hear the rebells retired to Stirling, and imagine they must have lost more men than wee.

La. G. wrote you yesterday the sentiments of your friends here with respect to your own future conduct, to which I must referr you, tho' possibly this may come first to hand. My best wishes attend you and yours, my dear Sir. Adieu.

Wee have lost very few officers. I heard Sir Robert Monro and Colonel Biggar talk'd of, but not with any certainty.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

[Indorsed:] L. El—s to Mr. Grant, 18th January 1746, but did not arive till 2d February.

310. ALEXANDER BRODIE of Brodie [address wanting]—Items of public intelligence.

Brodie House, January 20th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—According to my promise, this is to acquaint you that I am inform'd from the shire of Aberdeen, by one that read the Scots papers of the 7th and 8th of January, that from the English papers of January 2d D. Bolton had got the command of the troops in Kent; Hume Campbell had resigned, being solicitor to the Prince; Duke of Bedford ill; Admiral Vernon arrived at Deal, struck his flag, and succeeded by Admiral Martin, upon whom there was great encomiums.

That the forces at Edinburgh were 10 or 11,000 strong, but had not marched to the relief of the siege of Stirling, their artillery not being come up.

That the Prince's headquarters were at Banockburn, and partys of them at Lithgow, Falkirk and Borroustouness.

That by an accidental bearer from Dundee, he heard the passage at Alloa was made good, and the forces and artillery from Perth had pass'd that way.

That the castle of Stirling had offerr'd to capitulate, if allow'd military honours, which was refused. That the town was taken on the 8th, and the militia fled to Fife in boats. That the castle had surrender'd on the 10th, prisoners at discretion.

That Pitrichie and Eicht were prisoners on their parole at Forfar, a favour procured them by Sir James Kinloch.

And that by the newspapers from London of the 4th of January, the Marquis of Tweedale had resigned.

That the Duke had returned from Carlisle, and Hawley commanded in Scotland.

That by the Mercury there were 314 prisoners taken in Carlisle, and by the Courant there were 354, of which 20 English and six women.

I saw the list of officers, but know none of them but Colonel Hamiltoun and Captain Abernethie. I think there are about 15 officers and three surgeons of them altogether.

That the newspapers farther added that it was said several others were about to resign their employments.

The above is the sum of all that was wrote me, which I sent to Loudon and the President. Meantime, if Stirling be surrender'd or taken, neither of which I can believe, you will probably have heard somewhat of it before now, and therefore should be glad to know your news by the bearer.

As they are and must continue in distress for money to pay the troops at Inverness untill the Hound or Saltash returns, I wish you sent down our collector to gather the cess, being most of us in the Low Countrey are ready to pay it in upon the collector's receipt, but not his deputy's.

Can you spare me a small quantity of coals from Granghill? I mean a few Scotch coal for my dining room.

Can you now spare me a handsome broadsword and belt, to be used only by myself, and return'd on demand?

I make offerr of my compliments to the Admiral, and beg leave to acquaint him that on receipt of his, I gave the necessary orders to my substitutes relative to the embargo.

I have now only to add Mrs. Brodie's, her daughter's, and my own respectfull compliments to the Earl and Countess of Findlater, to Mr. Grant and Lady Margaret, and to Miss, and that, as I forgot to do it in my last, to wish you all many happy new years, and I remain, dear Sir,

Yours most faithfully,

ALEX^R BRODIE.

311. [SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant] to the right honourable HENRY PELHAM— Offering to raise his Clan for the service of the Government. [Copy.]

23d January 1745-6.

SIR,—On occasion of the bad newes we have received of the action near Falkirk on the 17th, I am particularly concerned least the northern part of Scotland, where my interest lyes, should be under the power of the rebels for some time, and apprehensive that this new success may procure them fresh succours from such parts of the Highlands as are well affected towards them, ore enable them to force others into there service, while there is noe sufficient force in those parts to oppose there operations, for the companies under Earl Louden, by the best information I have gott, will not be able to serve that purpose. I therfor think it my duty at this juncture again to signify to you that I am ready to employ the whole force that can be brought out of my esteat in his Majestie's service, upon being furnished with arms and subsistance dureing there continowance in that employment. This is what my son offered some time ago to the Earl of Lowden, but it seems his Lordship was not in condition to furnish them arms ore money for there subsistance. My son can bring out 600 men, to march where they shall be commanded, besyds the company of on 100 men already with Lord Lowden. He declin'd accepting a second company, because he found it would disoblige the rest of his people, and disable him to bring the rest into the field, if even that should be necessary for his Majestie's service. By what I know of the temper of those people and of the companies already with Lowden, from the severall tribes of which they consist, I am well assured that these companies will not serve with that alacrity and submission that they would doe, if the main body of each clan were called out by the Crown under there proper chiftans, ore some near relation of there family, which would raise ane emulation among them who should most distinguish themselves in the common cause. I heartily wish that what I now again propose may not be needfull, but if it shall be thought of any use, the maner of employing my people I submitt entyrlly to his Majesty, as it is my zeale for his service that only prompts me to make ore repeat this proposition; which I hope therfor shall be taken in good part from, Sir, etc.

To the Right Honourable Henry Pelham, Esquire.

312. THE SAME to ANDREW FLETCHER of Milton, Lord Justice-Clerk—Requesting him to make an offer to the Duke of Cumberland on Sir James's part to raise his Clan. [Copy.]

London, 28th January 1745-6.

MY LORD,—I have heard so many reports, and read some in print, relating to the affairs of the North of Scotland, and particularly the clan of Grants, that I thought it my duty to his Majisty's Government, and a piece of justice due to myself and family, to offer your Lordship the trouble of a letter on that subject, tho' the intercourse with my son has

been so much interrupted for some months past, that I have not yet been particularly inform'd of all the transactions in those parts.

I need not inform your Lordship of the character my family has long bore; that it suffered heavily, as your own did, during the two arbitrary reigns that preceeded the happy Revolution; at which Revolution my father, and at the last Rebellion, in the year 1715, my elder brother, Brigadeir Grant, exerted themselves with vigour in behalf of our present happy establishment, and this at so great an expence as we have not yet wholly payed the debts thereby created.

Att the breaking out of the present Rebellion, both I and my son were determin'd to act on the same principles for the service of his present Majistie, upon our people's being furnish'd with arms and necessary subsistance, so long as they should be called out and detain'd from home, for without which it is impossible for them to assemble or go from home. Your Lordship knows that the countrys in which my estate lys are of the number of those that are dissarmed by law; and tho' the people have made shift to procure some parcell's of arms, they are far from being compleatly provided.

Tho' I was one of those who sincerely regretted that the King's friends in the Highlands were not timely armed and put in condition to have suppress'd this rebellion in its infancy, I confess that I was always diffident of the propriety and success of that measure of raising the twenty companys, whereof the commissions were to be disstrubuted by the Lord President; and the difficultys I foresaw have actually been felt in the execution of that scheme, for now, after five months, I do not know these companys are yet compleated, and far less how they will behave when they shall be order'd upon action. But this I know, that att first when Lord President proposed to my son and some other heads of clans, to raise each of them only one company, it was with the utmost difficulty that my son prevail'd with one hundred of his people to enter into the service in that manner, tho' the whole offered to go along with him where ever he should lead them, for the defence of his Majisty's Goverment; and he, finding them in this temper, when it was proposed to him to furnish a second company out of his country, he declin'd the undertaking as a thing impracticable; but instead of that, he offered to the Earle of Loudon to join his Lordship with all the men he could raise—being about six hundred more—upon their being furnished with arms and subsistance during their service, but this his Lordship did not accept off.

About the latter end of October last, I heard here, with great pleasure, that Generall Campbell was to be sent down into Argyleshire to raise and arm a considerable body of men from that country, which appeared to me to be the true way of doing service in the Highlands, and to make the men act with alacrity and vigour, a corps being formed out of one clan under the command of their chieftans or a near relation of his family, being the very meathod in which the rebell Highlanders are conducted. And about the same time, there being severall regiments rais'd by noblemen in England, I did, on the 30th of October last, present a memoriall to Mr. Pelham, making an humble offer to his Majistie of raising a Highland regiment for his service out of the inhabitants of my own estate and those of my kindred, and undertaking to do this upon the like terms on which

his Grace the Duke of Bedford and others had raised their respective regiments in England, or upon such other terms and conditions as to his Majesty should seem fitt.

This offer was not then accepted, it being, I presume, judged unnecessary for the Government to be att the expence of any further armament in the north of Scotland than had been already provided for; and now, upon the late repulse which his Majesty's forces under Generall Hawley have receiv'd near Falkirk, I thought it my duty to signify that I still persist in my readiness and desire to bring out all the men that can be raised upon my estate, to be employed in the north, or whithin any part of Scotland where ever they can be of use in his Majistie's service, requireing no other condition than their being furnished with arms and subsistance during the time of their being from home in the publick service. I thought such an offer att this juncture would be seasonable, and could be no where more properly made than to his Royall Highness the Duke of Cumberland, upon the occasion (happy, I hope, for the whole United Kingdoms) of his going down to command in person in Scotland.

And my humble request to your Lordship is, that you will do me the honour to make such offer on my behalf to his Royall Highness, and whatever commands he may honour [me] with, that your Lordship would transmitt the same by Lauchlan Grant, or some other fitt person, to my son, who I hope may be assissted in the execution of them by his brother. Major Colquhoun, than whom nobody can serve with greater alacrity under the command of his Royall Highness.

I have some reason to believe that there are already at Inverness more arms unimployed than will furnish more people than my son can bring into the field, which, after our country has been drain'd by levys made there by my brother Collonell Lewis and other relations during this war, and the hundred men already sent to Inverness, cannot well exceed 600; and if such a body of Highlanders, whose fidelity I can answer for, can be use to his Royall Highness, either before or after he shall have defeated the main body of the rebels (which I hope in God shall soon be the case) they shall be at his service.

I beg your Lordship's pardon for this long letter, and shall only add that neither this nor the offer I made three months ago to Mr. Pelham, was done without first adviseing with his Grace the Duke of Argyle, whose directions I am at all times (and especially in these) that are difficult and troublesome very proud to obey. I am, etc.

To the Right Honourable the Lord Justice-Clerk.

[Indorsed:] Sir James Grant to the Justice-Clerk,

313. MRS. MARY BRODIE, wife of Alexander Brodie of Brodie, to [LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant]—News of the battle of Falkirk.

Brodie House, February 2d, 1745-6.

SIR,—When the Lyon returns from Inverness he will certainly take the first opertunity of thanking you for the use of your broadsword, and of leting you know any news he

may have worth writing. In the meantime, that your servant may not goe back without an answer to your letter, and as you will be desirous to hear what we know of the late battle, I write. We have seen many deferent accounts, and the thing variously represented, but by the whole it seems plain that the King's troops drove the Highlanders out of the field, which they kept above an hour after all firing ceased, and then retired to Lithgoe on account of the violent storm, which was spoiling thier arms and amunition. What was the reason of their going to Edinburgh next day is not known here. Some cannons being left in the field, tho' nail'd up, was occasioned by the people's having run away with thier horses. The lieutenant of the train has prevented publick punishment by opening an artery.

What you have heard of our friend Sir Robert Monro I fear is but too true, as most accounts agree in his death, and there is much reason to apprehend his brother the doctor has shared the same fate, tho' still there is some grownd to hope he is safe. They are generally and most deservedly regreted.

I enclose a list of the army, the kill'd, wounded, and prisoners taken yesterday, from one sent by a private hand to be depended on, and which was all known at Edinburgh for certain on the 21st. I saw the newspaper of the same date, which had no matirial adition to those you saw, but that two more regiments were ariv'd at Edinburgh, I beg leave to make my respectfull and sencere compliments to the Earl and Countess of Findlater, and to my Lady Margaret and the young folks, and am, with much regard, Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

MARY BRODIE.

The bearer has an intention of taking a farm from the Lyon, but as he is your servant, we wou'd end nothing without informing you, and asking if he had your consent.

314. JOHN GRANT to [THE SAME]—About the battle of Falkirk.

Bienanach, February 3d, 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—The inclosed account of the action att Falkirk I hade yesterday from Invernes, and in case your friends there have neglected to send it you, I thought it my duty.

I have seen all the accounts to Badenoch, and every one of them differs, so that they deserve no credite. Mr. Blair, minister of Kingusie, writes to Dellrachnie that severals of his pariocheners have come home, and are determind to sufferr all manner of violence before they go any more from home. It's said Clunie, Keppoch, and several others are coming home to gett all their deserters together, and as many more as is in their power. By the Badenoch accounts Lochiel is wounded; Collonel M^cDonell, a son of Glengarry's, killed next day after the action; Robert Grant, Sheuglie's son, killed in the action; your acquaintance, M^cDonell of Tirnadrish, prisoner. By the accounts from

Invernes, Sir Robert Munro, his lieutenant-colonel and two captains of his regiment, are killed.

M^cLeod of Talasker is come to Invernes with one hundred and fifty of M^cLeod's deserters, and M^cLeod of Bernara is one the road with more.

You have inclosed a list of such persons as have att this time come from Invernes without leave. It's true most of them served out the time condescended on, but if these practices are not discouraged there will be no managing of the company, and you ought certainly use these deserters as other companys there have used theirs, who are not oblidged to serve more then your people are; that is, either to return them to serve another moneth, or lodge them in the lower prison of Crombdell during the time they ought to serve. And, agreeable to the common practice of our country, which makes our common people very unmanagable, I doubt not but each of them will have some worthie agent or other to interceed for them, as they must depend on some wadsetter or some head of tribe. But if these would really consider their own honour as well as yours, and also their interest, they would bring such to be punished without giving you trouble. The officers of your company do insist that they be returned, and it will be the only effectual means to make your company anyways regular, . . . With the greatest esteem and sincerity, I am, honourable Sir,

Your most humble and most faithfull servant,

JOHN GRANT.

This morning, when I went to Inclhuine to call for your officer to give him this letter to be sent you, I there meet with a tennant of Dellrachny's who lives att that place, and in whose house two of the Lady Mcintosh's men lodged last night in their way home from the army—one of them wounded in the late action—and they do confirm, the accounts from Invernes in most particulars. They told the Highlanders lost many more men then they gave out; and likeways tells that the small share of victory they imagined themselves to have, was owing to the storm of wind and rain that happen'd the time of the action, and the approach of the night. They also tell that if their is another attack made by the army soon, that they are so shatter'd that they cannot stand it. They tell Stirling castle is besiedged, but no great appearance of having it when they left the place, and that Sheuglie lost two sons in the action.

315. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Same subject.

Culloden, 6th February 1746.

DEAR SIR,—The letter which this messenger brought to me allongst with yours, was from my Lord Justice-Clerk, of date the 31st January, It agrees with the other accounts we have had, which make the enemy's loss about 1000, and our own very inconsiderable, except in so far as the tempest and the flight of the artillery and baggage horses, which so frightened the bread waggons coming from Lithgow that they also returned, forced the troops to leave Falkirk with so much of the artillery and baggage as

they could not drag along; and it says further, that notwithstanding the brags of the Highlanders of having chased the troops out of the field, they kepted it a considerable time after the Highlanders had retired quite out of sight, the greatest part of whom did not stop after their repulse till they had got a mile or two back from the field, and did not return till they were assured that the troops had left Falkirk. The particulars of this action we do not yet know with any certainty; in generall, from the complaints that begin to break out amongst the different clans, it seems to be past doubt the account they pretended to give of their loss is fabulous. It is said amongst the Camrons, that they lost 60 on the spot besides the wounded, amongst whom Lochiel is said to be slightly, and his brother the doctor mortally. A litle time will bring us greater certainty. Sir Robert Munro and his brother the doctor were certainly killed on the field, as his son, by a letter from Edinburgh, informs me. Our neighbors give it out that the castle of Stirling surrendered on the 28th January; but I saw yesterday a letter from one of their officers, dated at Stirling, the 29th, which says that the next morning their battery would be ready to play on the castle, and if the snow which fell on that day did not prevent it, one should think the troops must have been up with them before the battery could do much harm. My compliments to my Lady Margaret and to all your good company. I am, with perfect respect, dear Sir, yours,

DUN. FORBES.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

316. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Abandonment of the siege of Stirling Castle.

Inverness, February 7th, 1745-6.

SIR,—I have this day got intellegence that the rebels begun firing on the Castle of Stirling from a battery of three guns on Thursday the 30th, and continued most of Friday, in which time they lost a good many of there people, and had one of there guns broak in the mussel from the castle, which with an account they had of the Duke of Cumberland's being arived at Edinburgh on Thursday with seven regiments, or as some call them seven thousand men, and that the troopes were in motion towards them, they abandoned the siege and presipitately past the Forth. They were on Saturday at Drumond Castle, and on Sunday at Lord John Drumond's above Crieff, from whence they detached the Lowland people by Perth to Aberdeen, and the Mackintoshes and Ferquersons by Dunkell to the same place, and the rest proposed as they sade to come by the Highland road to attack this country. By what I can understand there desertion has been very great, in which case they must take some time to gether there people again before they can hurt us.

What I would beg of you is, that you would, in the first place, have some people out to get intelligence of there motions, and from time to time let us hear what they are

a-doing, and how they advance, for which purpose I have made Captain Grant write to his father Rothamurchus likewise.

And in the next place, I hope you will have your people allert that we may act by concert, and support one another, which I assure you I will to the outmost, and for which purpose the President and I have writ to Lord Fortross, Lord Sutherland and Raey, that every body may be ready to act as soon as the arms arive, which I flatter my self will be hear to-morrow, for we see two ships standing in. I will lett you know if they bring us any thing good, and shall detain at present this bearer no longer than to beg you will make my compliments to Lady Margat Grant and to my Lord and my Lady Findlater, and that you will believe me to be, with the greatest esteem and sinserity, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Loduick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

317. DUNCAN FORBES of Culloden to THE SAME.—Reports of the proceedings of the Rebels.

Culloden, 11th February 1746, 7 at night.

DEAR SIR,—As your servant was very much tired when he came hither last night, I sent in a messenger of my own with your letters last night to Earl Loudoun, and tho' his answer came out hither whilst I was at dinner, I chose to detain your servant two or three hours, in hopes of hearing somewhat worth your knowing. I hardly need trouble you with news from the eastward, which you have much earlier than we can. If what we are assured of is true, the posse coming by Aberdeen are much discouraged, have for the most part separated, and will not easily be brought again together. From the south and west advices are much more uncertain. What all give out is an intention to disloge the forces from Inverness, to make themselves masters of that place, and then to force all the neighborhood into their service by fire and sword; and we have, as you have had, surmises of armies coming into Badenoch Saturday and Sunday last. But that these reports must be false I know from different persons who left Blair last Fryday morning, but who saw no army coming. The report said an army was speedily to come that way. From Glengary and that neighborhood we have the same reports; but then the men of that country admit their people, Keppoch's and the Camrons, are almost all come home. But then they say that their leaders are sent before to fetch them all out again, and that before their Prince is 3 days at Ruthven they all will join him, and from thence proceed on their further operations. Whatever their views may be, it is likely, from all accounts, they will give us some time; and should that happen, I am hopefull they will think twice before they attempt anything, for we have given early intelligence to our more remote friends to the northwards, and I take it for granted they will soon repair to this country, for their own as well as for the Government's and for our defence; and if the gentlemen

from the south allow us but time for that—which, from the accounts their deserters give of them, I am apt to think they must—I should hope they will think it a very dangerous undertaking to follow their threats, considering the disposition you have made, and the readiness we shall be in to receive them and to support you. In the meantime, we ought to leave nothing undone that may tend to the support of the Government and to our mutuall security; and I take it for granted you will let us know from time to time what you learn concerning the excentrick motions of these gentlemen.

I presume to beg the favour that you will offer my compliments to my Lady Margaret and to the rest of your good company, who, I daresay, wish to be released from their confinement, however agreeable, as I from my heart wish they were, that peace might put honest industry again to work, and that men may want no other defence but their virtue, I am, dear Sir, with perfect respect,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

DUN. FORBES.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

318. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to THE SAME—Arrival of a supply of arms from London.

Inverness, February 11th, 1745-6.

SIR,—Late last night I received your letter of the 10th, directed to the Presedent and me, with the intelligence of the motions of the rebels and the great desartion they have had, which, with the good posture of defence you have put yourself in, I hope will determin them to lay aside all thoughts of distressing your country. I must beg that you will continue from time to time to lett us know what fresh accounts you get of there numbers, there motions, and there designs, for till we know a little more of them 'tis impossible to fix intierly on the proper scame to resiste and disapoint them.

We have at last received a small supplie of arms from London, with some money. If those had arived a little sooner, I believe we should have had no vissit in this country. Those the Presedent and I propose to devide among the King's friends; and 'tis very luckie that you are so well provided with arms, I do assure you it gave me the greatest pleasure to hear the account the man gave of them that brought the letter. However, I shall take care at the distributing to reserve for you as many as I can, and nothing shall be neglected that lies in our power to get as many of our friends into arms as possible.

As to the sending of arms up the country to you, 'tis quite impossible in the presant situation of affairs; men must certainly come donn for them, and when you and I meet we shall sattel what numbers we can arme, and what forse we can bring into the field; for I do assure you I shall be glade to embrace all occasions to consult and co-operat with you for the mutual protection of his Majestyes friends and the support of his troops.

As to the money of the cess that Mr. Grant has got, it must now be sent hear, as I have brought back the troopes from Foress, and it may safly come with the men who come doun hear, and I shall give the proper receipt to whoever delivers it to me.

I beg you will make my compliments acceptable to Lady Margaret, and to my Lord and Lady Findlater, and all the rest of your good family, and that you will believe me to be, with great esteem and respect, dear Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

319. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN—Sending the intelligence he had been able to gain. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, Twesday, near 12 at night,
February 11th, 1746.

MY LORD,—Inclosed your Lordship has all the intelligence I received since I wrote this morning to Major Grant, to be communicated to your Lordship, I have expresses ready to send with what I may receive early in the morning, if material. Nothing shall be neglected by me, and I intreat your Lordship will, if you happen to be bussy, gett Major Grant or some other to write me whenever you gett any intelligence, that we may act in concert for the common cause at this criticall juncture. This letter will be delivered by John Grant, the ensign I recommended to Captain Grant's company, who will inform your Lordship of our situation in this country. I doubt not he will acquitt himself to your Lordship's satisfaction. Give me leave to return your Lordship my sincere thanks for what you have done for my friend Robert Grant, We all here salute your Lordship in the most affectionate manner. I ever am, my dear [Lord],

Most faithfully yours while

L. G.

[Indorsed:] Cobby letter to my Lord Loudon.

INTELLIGENCE referred to in the foregoing Letter.

9th February 1746.

Last Thursday Mr. Grant sent by a minister's son—not haveing then time to write, being bussyed in his own preparations—intelligence of the rebells' motions, and what was said by some of their leaders to be their intention.

Frayday morning, he wrote M^cLeod the substance of it, with the orders then brought to Badenough, which, as M^cLeod would forward, was unnecessary for Mr. Grant to doe.

Since the above, many confirmations of it have arived, but nothing new till this day.

The inclosed is copy of the resolutions taken at their meeting last Frayday in Badenoch, where Cluny was present and aproved of them.

Many of the M^cPhersons came home before Cluny, and many of them expressed resolutions not to be further concerned; but how far they will be steady is as yet uncertain.

It is said by pretty good authority that the Glengary men, after the interment of Angus McDonald, openly and in a body left the army, and many of the Camerons followed their example; and it is certain most of Keppoch's men were at home some time agoe.

People are sent to use their utmost indeavours to bring all the above back, and influence what more they can; for which purpose, it is said, they will remain at least two days in Badenoch.

Their Prince is said to be at Cluny last night; but the men remaining to him and coming through the hills to be in the countrey only this night.

A deserter from those coming by the coast, and who only left them in Angus, says Duke of Cumberland was entering Stirling as last of their army was going out; confirms the great desertion since the battle, and asserts it continues dailly; also, that there is no division coming by Breamar.

The above deserter and others and letters say that Clanhatton, Ferquarsons, French, Pitsligo, Angus, Mearns, and Aberdeenshire people come by the coast, for whom billets were order'd last Wednesday at Aberdeen; and that some M^cDonalds, M^cKienzies, Frasers, M^cLeods of Bernera, Camerons, Stewarts, M^cPhersons, Athole and Drummond men are coming by the hills.

Some clatters say they won't disturb Strathspay, and others that it is their formed plan to march through and disarm it, and join the rest in Murray. The truth is not yet known.

There are rumours from the south that part of the Duke's army is following briskly by the coast, and that upon the rebels leaveing Stirling two regiments were order'd to embark for Inverness.

Mr. Grant and all his friends have been alert, as desired; many spys are employed, and what's materiall shall be communicated.

The bearer will explain Mr. Grant's numbers and present distribution of them, with the various instructions given for the different occurances that may happen.

In the generall, it may be depended upon that Mr. Grant will act zealously with his whole power, in every shape that shall be judged best, suitable to the hearty professions he hath all along made; and upon closser scrutiny finds he could bring forth 5 or 600 more good and trusty men, if he had arms, than he can in his present condition.

If there are arms to be given, the bearer will concert their conveyance.

Sunday, 8 at night.

This moment fresh intelligence arived from Rothemurchus, as follows:—

It confirms most of what is above.

They are ignorant in Badenoch of the future rout of the army, and conceal their losses as much as possible, but acknowledge they lost considerably before Stirling, and

obliged to leave behind them 7 heavy canon of their own, and part of their amunition and bagage, with all the canon and amunition taken from the King's army.

That they have brought north all their prisoners, as the Duke was advanced as farr as Perth. Their Prince is to be at Riven to-morrow, where his field pieces, and 5 and some say nine, small battering cannon is arived.

Tho' they conceal their designes with great secrecy, the inferiour officers conjecture their great design is against Inverness. All the men of Strathern are gone home, and to meet the army in its way to Inverness, which is to goe through Strathspey, and the division comeing by the coast to march through Murray. They call those in Badenough 7 regiments, made up of the people above mentioned.

That many the writter conversed with declair'd they were sick of the present bussyness, and wish for a sufficient force to protect them at home.

One man says he heard their Prince declair ho would quarter next Twesday in the house of Rothemurchus.

Some means are employed to indeavour to increase the desertion and to create some dissention; if they prove effectuall, the conclusion will be quicker and easier.

[Indorsed:] Intelligence sent Lord Louden 9th February 1746.

Twesday evening, 11th February.

Haveing a man under examination, who left Blair Castle in Athole last Saturday at 2 afternoon, and who by his station had good oportunity of knowing what passed there and in their march through England, the substance of what is materiall at present is as follows:—

Lord George Murray, Lord John Drumond, John Roy Stewart, and many other officers, with what remains of the French, all the horse and some foot, are gone the coast road, but he can't ascertain the numbers.

The Prince came to Blair last Thursday night with Duke William, who went to meet him, the French imbassador, whom they call Duke Perth, Killmarnock, Nairn, Lord Lewis Gordon, Lochell, Secretary Murray, and Sir David Murray his nephew, all of whom, with many more officers, he left there.

That there were not 200 men at or about Blair Castle, even after the fiery crosses had been sent about the country. There were also a few at Killicranky and Tay Bridge, as out-guards for information.

All the rest of the army, who were to come thro' the hills, was marched in three divisions to be at Ruthven, where they were to assemble at Dalnecardoch and Dallwhiny, and were estimated, when they passed Tay Bridge, as he heard several officers say, to be about 3000, inclusive of those that were at Blair, but he knew some were actually deserted from them since.

The people in Athol seem'd very averse to venture themselves more on. Duke William's side, and many of them inclined to join Duke James. In proof of this he says, amongst other particulars, that Robert Stewart, Lady Lud's ground officer, being sent to

raise her men, upon his return told his Lady, Damn them, they will rather stay and go for King George than go any more with Duke William; and some of the servants at Blair, and severalls of the country with whom he conversed, were of the same opinion.

That they had seven cannon and two mortars at Blair; some of the cannon, he heard them say, were five or six pounders. He did not know if any cannon were carryed the road from Tay Bridge. When he came off they were yoking the horses to draw the cannon northward; and that they had burryed their own large cannon and what they had taken from the Government in the south.

Upon information Fryday night and early Saturday morning, that Duke James was to be at Dunkell Saturday before noon, John Murray, Duke William's principal servant, was sent upon a fine horse to bring intelligence, who, returning about eleven, told that he saw a body of horse passing at the West Boat of Dunkell, and Highlanders, said to be Campbells, at the East Boat, and that the country people told him they were 1000 horse and 2000 Highlanders. This was confirmed by several couriers that arrived soon afterwards, and that they were actually come into Dunkell, with the Duke of Cumberland at their head, Duke James at his right hand, and the Duke of Maryborough at his left.

Upon the first information of the troops marching to Dunkell, Duke William proposed to the Prince to oppose them at Killecranky, but the Prince answered that was impracticable, for the Campbells were Highlanders and could climb the hills. When the certain accounts of their being at Dunkell arrived, the Prince look'd grave and immediately retired to his own room; and the baggage was soon ordered to remove northwards, the last of which was preparing to sett out as he came away, and the whole company were to follow immediately after dinner. He heard severalls of them express that they did not know what rout the Duke of Cumberland wou'd take.

He was not at the battle of Falkirk, but heard that the Prince's army lost a good many men, and that the Prince had taken a good many prisoners, some of them redcoats, whom the examinant did not see, but most militia whom he did see, but could not tell, nor does he remember to have heard their numbers. He did not hear what the Highland army lost before Stirling, only he heard several officers acknowledge that in one night they lost about 50 men, mostly French.

Before they heard of any army coming to Dunkell, they spoke that their own intention was to go to Inverness; but afterwards he did not hear any of the principal people speak about their designs, but some of the lesser gentlemen said it would be best now to go to Fort Augustus. Some also spoke of forceing Strathspey, but others answered that wou'd be difficult, because they had made such appearances for King George they will not alter.

In. general, they all spoke that they expected when the army should come north that the deserters and Highlanders wou'd return to them.

He says they got much money but few men in England; that they lost considerably at Clyfton, many by death, besides several straglers knocked in the head, and severals

left behind by sickness; and that after the general review at Glasgow they called themselves 6000.

By intelligence from Strathdown reciev'd this day, it is confirm'd that the division said to be coming by Braemar have gone the coast side, and commanded by Lord George Murray, etc., as mentioned before; but that those coming through the Highlands intend for Inverness, where they all design to meet this week, if the weather permitts. It also confirms the loss before Stirling, especially of French, and that 60 of their private men were lost when their magazine was blown up.

By an express just now receiv'd, the underwritten note was sent:—"February 8th.—Just now I am well inform'd that a Kinghorn hirer, one John Martin, was catch'd at Artlach by one of the rebels dwelling there, as he was drinking a bottle of ale in a publick house. Frazer, who apprehended him, took his letters from him and open'd them, and found them to be from Lachlan Grant, writer in Edinburgh, directed to the Laird of Grant. It's said there were several other letters to the same gentleman, and one to Lord Loudon. The bearer of them was brought down to David Tulloch, who threw him into prison at Strathbogie."

Twesday, eleven at night.

An express just arived from Badenough informs that the Duke of Perth is at Riven; Kilmarnock was last night at Killehuntly's house, but heard nothing of the Prince; that he spoke with a Fochebars man who came with Duke Cumberland's army from Stirling to Perth. In his way the Duke put a garison into Drummond Castle, and Saturday was to goe to Dunkell, when the man went to Blair to Lord Lewis Gordon. That Peter M^cGlashen at Blair haveing been sent to the West Highlands, this fellow was at Blair when M^cGlashen returned Saturday night, which seemed to give them some joy; that the Prince sent an express to the division goeing coastways, that they should come to him to goe north together. The express did not hear of any more people being come to Badenough.

[Indorsed:] Intelligence sent Lord Loudon 11th February 1746.

320. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN—Asking for a supply of arms, etc. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, February 13th, 1745-6.

MY LORD,—I had the honour of your Lordship's of the 11th last night. Since my last, which went with John Grant from this yesterday's morning, I have recieved nothing matterial with respect to the motions of the rebels, which makes me afraid they may have apprehended one or two of my people I sent to Badenoch for intelligence. I am confident it's not in their power, from the disposition I have made, to move nearer this country without my being fully informed, and I have expresses ready to inform your Lordship. I am extreamly glad your Lordship has got some arms from London by this

last ship. I wish it had been possible to have sent some of them to us, for really the half of the arms we have are very bad, and we have not near the number of arms our neighbours imagine. I am glad they think us better provided than we are, as I believe that contributes somewhat to our safety; but give me leave to assure your Lordship that the half of our people have not arms, and as many of them are so bad, I am really anxious to get what supply your Lordship can spare me, and as I am nearest danger, the sooner they come it will be the more agreeable. As the enemy are so near, I can't well spare any party to go to Inverness for them, for should the rebels move towards this country, all the people would be necessary. Those who have not guns and swords must make use of corn forks, etc.; but if the arms were sent by some of the Low Country people with a small party to Dumfail—which is about four miles above Forres, and the road good from that place to Inverness—I could send a party from this for them, who could go off in the morning and return at night; and whenever your Lordship call'd us further for his Majesty's service, our people could be of the greater use, and having good arms would put our people in top spirits. I have all along been at pains to make every one of this country, as well as the neighbourhood, imagine we have greater numbers of good arms than we have, and that made the bearer who went with my letter to your Lordship and the Lord President inform we were better provided than we are; but let me beg if possible to be supply'd with 400 guns at least, and some flints, of which last I am in great want. Four hundred of the enemy were last night in the barrony of Dunachtan, and this night to be removed to the confines of this country. This I have just now received intelligence of, and enclos'd you have a list of their numbers and the different bodys they are composed of, according to the best information we have as yet received. We can't hear where they are to be join'd by the Frasers and M^cDonalds of Glengary, and some more Camerons and Cappach's people, whom they have sent for.

Mr. Forbes of Eight has this minute come in. Since I wrote what is above, he made his escape from them at Eterigc, four miles above Ruthven. I have shoven him the enclosed list of their numbers. He is of opinion their numbers are not near so great as I am informed of, but he can't positively know how many, less or more, the different bodys consist of. He came this morning from Inverlaiden. All here offer your Lordship and the President our best compliments. This letter is sent by Peter Grant, sergeant of Bothy's company.

[Indorsed;] Mr. Grant's letter to Lord Louden, and intelligence, dated 13th February 1745-6.

INTELLIGENCE referred to in the foregoing Letter.

Thursday, 13th February, 12 at noon.—The bearer was detain'd till now, expecting something new, and matteriall intelligence to communicate, but none hath yet arriv'd this forenoon.

Last night some advice arriv'd from Badenoch, which informs that some more of the Highland army, with 4 cannon, had arriv'd the day before, but is not positive as to numbers, and can give no certain account of their Prince. This last occasions various conjectures, and amongst others, that he is gone to Glengery, etc., to try to influence the

people in that country and neighbourhood. They also say the Frazers and M^cKenzies are gone by Corriarich, to wait and prepare in Stratherick for what shall be concerted. It is likewise rumour'd that Duke James is got to Blair Castle.

By a letter from Aberdeen of the 8th instant, we have accounts that many of the gentlemen of that country and Banffshire were there or gone home, but no body of men then come to that town; that the arms, money, etc, brought by the last ship arriv'd at Peterhead, which had been sent south, was return'd to and still detain'd in that town; that the King's friends there are in great apprehensions of the consequences of the desponding condition of the enemy, but all the rebels there give out they are still to collect their force, and make further efforts, and that the gentlemen are dispersed in the country for that purpose.

As the above was going to be dispatcht, one of the correspondents arriv'd from Badenoch, and gives the following account of their numbers:—

M ^c Gregors and M ^c Kinvens,	400
Cappach's battallion, including Glencoe	300
Stewart Roberston,	150
Stewarts of Apping,	120
Camerons, some of whom arriv'd lately,	400
Duke of Perth's men,	500
Athol men,	400
M ^c Phersons,	300
Totall,	<u>2570</u>

The Laird of Eight, also just arriv'd, thinks the above rather large, but cannot be positive, and says he left Mr. Maitland, Pittchrithy, three or four officers, about 60 or 70 red coats, and a number of militia, all prisoners, but the last were daily making their escape, and that he heard their Prince was last night at Gordonhall, near Ruthven; and all of them gave out they were to make fresh efforts.

If any arms are sent to Dumfail, notice must be given, and there shall be a party there to recieve them. This is sent half an hour after one of the clock, afternoon.

INTELLIGENCE sent to LORD LOUDOUN, 14th February 1746.

Thursday evening, the 13th February 1745-6.—William Shepherd, a mason in Focabers, being come to Strathspey, Mr. Grant order'd him to be brought to Castle Grant for examination, the substance of which is as follows:—

He said he was sent by Mr. Gordon at Focabers, with some commissions to Stewart of Bogg, at Castle Drummond, where, having staid some days, he return'd by Crief, Dunkell, Blair, and Ruthven, from whence he came to Strathspey, where he has been these two days and two nights before Mr. Grant sent for him.

Monday, the 3d instant.—As he was going to Drummond Castle he mett Lord Pitsligoe betwixt Cooper and Perth, with, as he says, about 700 horse and foot, in their way to Aberdeen. The same day, about 11 before noon, he mett, at the waterside of Tay,

opposite to Perth, Lord Ogilvy, with about 300 foot; and when he came to Perth, saw Lord George Murray go down the Links in order to cross the water at a lower place, with about 300 men, as he thought, and was inform'd Lord Strathallan and Lord John Drummond were with what men they had, whose numbers he did not see nor had any information of; and John Roy Stewart, with about 500, were all to go for Aberdeen.

Tuesday, the 4th instant.—He was at Crief, when six or eight light horse came from Duke Cumberland's army and return'd; after which about 300 Campbells and 20 dragoons came to that place. He drank with some of the Campbells that night, who informed him the Duke's army was at hand, and were above 9000, with a great number of Campbells behind it. When the Campbells enter'd Crief, the last of the Highland army were but a little way got out of it.

Wednesday, 5th instant.—He saw the Duke of Cumberland enter Crief—whose person he describes pretty well—and all his army follow'd, who were continually coming in from about 12 a'clock till almost dark, and that he could not be less than 9000, and, as he imagin'd, above 1000 horse with the bagage. As the Duke's army enter'd Crief, the above 300 Campbells went to Perth, but the Campbells said to be following the army did not come in that night. The examinant went forward to Bog's house, near Drummond Castle, where he staid till Saturday morning. Halley (he don't know whither a general or collonel) was that night at Drummond Castle with some dragoons.

Thursday, 6th instant.—The Duke of Cumberland and all the army march'd to Perth, except one hundred foot left at Crief, and 50 dragoons at Drummond Castle.

Saturday, the 8th instant.—When the examinant came past Dunkell in his return, he was inform'd James Duke of Athol was the night before or that morning come there, with 60 horse and 400 Campbells.

Sunday, 9th instant.—The examinant being at Blair, he found the Prince there with Lord Lewis Gordon, William Duke of Athol, old Lochell, and others he don't remember. He did not hear where young Lockell was, but supposes him to be gone home to raise men. The examinant came to Dalnaspill this night.

Monday, the 10th instant.—The Prince came to Dalnacardich, and the examinant was some hours at Ruthven in his way to Kelliehuntley, where he was at night with Lord Kilmarnock, who came in his coach and eighteen attendants on horseback. At Ruthven he saw the Duke of Perth. He does not remember any other considerable people, he saw great numbers of men there and in the country about, but can't tell their differrent tribes or numbers. He also saw 9 cannon, 8 of which arriv'd on Monday, three or four of which, he says, are as large as the one that was there before, which he says is call'd a six pounder. He was there inform'd the Master of Lovat was gone home, and the Frazers were not come the length of Ruthven; also, that the M^cIntoshes were come over the hill, but he did not see them, nor heard anything about the Farquharsons. When all who came through the hills were come up, he said they would amount to 5000, as he was inform'd.

Near to Blair, Lord Lewis Gordon's men, about 700 in number, he says, turned off the road to go through Braemar for Aberdeenshire, and that John Gatherar, Lord Lewis Gordon's man, told him at Blair, Sunday when he was there, that 200 new rais'd Athol men had come in there that day, and declares that he himself saw that day about Blair about six or seven hundred, according to his judgement, exclusive of the said 200; and being often stopt between Dunkell and Blair by large parties of men, he could not compute the whole of these dispersed parties at less than six or seven hundred.

He says Cromarty is gone by the coast, and he heard nothing of any M^cLeods, and that Glengile was at Balnespick Tuesday night with some M^cGregors, but don't know the number, but he heard that between two and three hundred M^cGregors were before in Angus, Mearns, and Aberdeen shires.

As the examinant could not give a good account of himself and his business the two days and nights he has been at Strathspey, and considering the roundabout road he has taken in his return to Focabers without assigning good reasons for it, and that the examinant was discover'd to be amongst the Strathspey men when they were down at Mullben and Keith, from whence he went directly to Strathbogie to give, as is supposed, information of what he then saw, Mr. Grant, suspecting he may have some hidden bad purposes in his journey now, as a spy of his disposition and strength, or courier with intelligence betwixt the eastern and western division of the enemy's army, has confined him untill he have further instructions from Lord Loudon or the President concerning him, or can have clear satisfaction for using him otherways.

He says all he heard of their design in the north was, to march through Strathspey to join those coming by the coast to take Inverness.

[Indorsed:] Intelligence sent Lord Loudon by Mr. Grant, 14th February 1746.

Inclosed in a letter to the Governor of Inverness, in which the want of arms and flints and a speedy supply of them was again urged.

FURTHER INTELLIGENCE, sent 14th February 1746,

Thursday evening, the 13th February 1745-6.—By a messenger just arriv'd from Strathern we are inform'd the people there seem to be still in spirits, and give out the army remaining with the Prince, besides deserters who are to return, is still 6000; two thousand of them gone the coast way, 2000 to go through Stratherick, and 2000 with the Prince by Ruthven, all to meet near Inverness to take that place and Culloden.

Mr. Forbes of Eight says that last Friday, when he was at Dalnacairdich, it was rumoured in the Highland army that the Duke of Cumberland and his army were marched from Perth to Dundee.

[Indorsed:] Further intelligence sent Lord Loudon by Mr. Grant, 14th February 1746.

321. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Thanking him for his intelligence, etc.

Inverness, February 15th, 1745-6.

SIR,—I have been honoured with one letter from you last night and another this morning, and I have seen yours to the Governor, all with the intelligence you have got, for which I am very much obliged to you; and as we have had notice some time, I hope if they do come we shall be able to give them such a reception as they will not like. I expect to be reinforced with nine hundred or a thousand men in two dayes, and every day to grow stronger. I have thought seriously on every method of sending you arms, but do not see, as we are thretened with an attack, that I can answer sending such a detachment from hence, a march that must take up four dayes, as will bring the arms safe to you. Consider the Clan Hattan are all come home; the Frasers and thos gentlemen in Badanach are oposite to intersept them; and if we have any busines, it must be over before they can return. As to the numbers you mention, you know how small the number is I have to give, and how many demands are made on me, and by people who are non of them near so well provided as you are. If you can send down three hundred men, I will endeavour to provid them as well as I can; that is the outmost I can do.

You are very good, as you lie advanced, to send us constantly what accounts you get, but by all I can learn, your accounts magnifie there numbers greatly. I beg you will make my compliments to all friends. I am, with real esteem and sincerity, dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LOUDOUN.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Castle Grant.

322. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to SIR EVERARD FALKENER—Was to raise his Clan, and sending intelligence. [Copy.]

Castle Grant, 16th February 1746.

SIR,—Last evening I reciev'd a letter, dated at Perth the 12th, by my Lord Justice-Clerk's order, to acquaint me that it was his Royall Highness the Duke of Cumberland's commands that I should put all this clann in arms for his Majesty's service, and that I should correspond with you to inform his Royall Highness the best I can of the situation of the rebels in the north. It is extreably agreeable to my own inclinations, and the uniform sentiments of our family, to recieve his Royall Highnesses commands on this occasion, and I shall be proud of every opportunity to obey them at all times. The inclos'd is the substance of all the information I can at present give, but I shall not fail to continue it as often as I can find anything matterial for it. I would not have so long delay'd returning an answer to what came from such authority, but that I could not sooner contrive a method for its having a tollerable

chance to get forward. Please do me the justice to assure his Royall Highness of my inviolable zeal for his Majesty and all the royall family, and that you will believe I am, with respect and esteem.

P.S.—I shall have five or six hundred men more at his Royall Highness's command, how soon I can get arms for them, than I have at present in arms, or can have whilst in such want of arms. Two expresses mention'd in the letter to have been sent me must have been stopt by the rebels, as they have not arriv'd.

Monday, 17th February.—When the above was put up ready for sealing, and just going to be dispatch'd about eight last night, I reciev'd another letter from my friend at Perth, also by my Lord Justice-Clerk's orders, of the 13th, which left Perth, as the bearer informs, about three that afternoon; and he having been stopt yesterday by a large party marching for Strathdown and through the hills, probably in their way to join the rebels, the very road I intended my express should go, and some other partys yet remaining in every road he could go, I thought it more for his Royall Highness's service to detain the express half a day more than risque its being intercepted.

INTELLIGENCE referred to in the foregoing Letter.

Fryday, 7th February 1746.—The M^cPhersons came to Badenoch with Cluny their collonell.

Saturday, 8th.—Some of the M^cDonalds, M^cGregors, M^cKinvins and Camerons, arrived with one cannon, said to be a six pounder, on the second fireing of which next day the barrack, haveing only eight men and an officer, surrendred, by which the rebels got about one hundred bolls of oatmeall and some malt, etc.

Sunday, the 9th, and Monday and Tuesday following.—Many of the Stewarts of Apping, Duke of Perth's men, Strewan Robertson, and other Atholl men arrived, but the intelligencers could not bo positive how many each day, nor the numbers of each tribe; also some say 7, some 8 cannon; two or 3 of which of the size of the above.

Wednesday, 12th.—Their Prince arrived, with some more Athol men and some M^cKenzies, Frasers and Camerons.

Thursday.—All were reviewed at Ruthven, and said by themselves to amount to above three thousand, but our intelligencers did not allow them to be 2500; and it was then in deliberation among them if they should not, before they went to Inverness, destroy, at least disarm the Grants.

Friday.—The M^cDonnalds of Glengarry, with the eldest son of the second marriage at their head, and some more Camerons return'd, also some M^cDonnalds of Keppach. The M^cIntoshes were said to be gone home, also the Frasers and the few M^cKenzies that were with them, over the hills to Stratherrick, and to make ready to join the army in their way to Inverness.

Saturday.—The advanced guard in Stratherrick, the main body and cannon about Avemore, and M^cPhersons for the rear in lower parts of Badenoch. They are computed by best information at about 3000, exclusive of M^cIntoshes, Frasers and a few

M^cKenzies gone forwards as above. Perth, Killmarnock, Lord Lewis Gordon, both Lochells, and other principall people are with them, except these gone the coast road,

A Serjeant of Lord Loudoun's, who has been among them, says they are certainly above 2000, exclusive of the M^cPhersons and Stewarts of Apping, whom he did not see.

It is not yet certain whether they will attack the Grants; but Mr. Grant has made as good a disposition for defence, if he is attacked, as the bad arms, and even scarcity of them, such as they are, will allow. He has made frequent remonstrances of the above condition of his people's arms, but as yet had no relief. He has at present above six hundred men in arms, and daily encreasing them as he can by any means get arms for them. The best intelligence we have had of the division of the rebels that are coming by the coast makes them to be about 2000, who took different roads through the shires of Aberdeen and Banff, in order to pick up some monies and influence some more people, but without, as we hope and have some reason to believe, much success as to the people; and that they were to be united last night at Fochabers, and this night, the 15th, at Elgin, commanded by Lord George Murray, John Roy Stuart, Lord Ogilvie, Lord Pitsligo, Lord John Drummond and others.

Very threatning orders have issued from Lord George Murray for cess, carriages, and even men, and speciall ones against the Grants appearing in arms in opposition to them; hut this last has had no effect to make the clan alter its measures, whose conduct through the whole of this rebellion, when it is strictly examin'd, will show what they have done, and would have done, for the Government's service, had they been enabled and allowed.

If these going by the coast are at Elgin this night, it will very well correspond to meet with their friends in this neighbourhood next Monday or Tuesday as they please, before they go to Inverness.

Mr. Grant, besides the frequent correspondences he hath had formerly with those entrusted by his Majestie at Inverness during the whole course of this rebellion, hath daily inform'd them of all transactions amongst the rebels, and of his own scituation since the first of the rebels return'd to Badenoch, and renew'd the declaration of his readiness to be at their command, and act in concert for his Majestie's service.

Lord Lowdon has about two thousand men in Inverness, and since he apprehended an attack from the rebels, hath called for more men from severalls of his Majestie's good subjects and friends benorth Inverness. He hath provided the castle of Inverness as well as circumstanees will allow, and made some entrenchments and pallisadoes round the town, in order to make the best defence he can.

We have just now information that most of the Strathbogie, Strathdown and Glenlivet men who were with the army are at home, but gentlemen are sent amongst them to endeavour to bring them out again, but we hope they will not prevaill with quite so many as they formerly had.

Just now we are inform'd by letters from Lord Lowdon and the governor of Inverness fort, by the return of one of our couriers, they are in the scituation above, and

expect in a day or two about a thousand men from the north, but cannot in the present state of things send us any arms.

Saturday, seven a'clock night.—Mr. Grant dispatched an express to Inverness to Lord Lowdon, with the following paragraph:—"Two different persons return'd from Badenoch agree that letters for Lord Lowdon and President were stopt at Ruthven, and say the bearer was hang'd this morning; that the bridges in the road to Athole are broken down; that the castle of Ruthven was burnt last night, and the stables this morning; that seven cannon were at Aviemore at two this afternoon. The Prince was to be at Inverlaidnen this night; some of his people in Strathern, the last at Avimore: the M^cPhersons to march to-morrow, all for Inverness. Best judges call them about 3000." And further acquainted my Lord of what Mr. Grant was inform'd concerning the scituation of the King's troops in the south.

Sunday, noon.—Intelligence is just arrived from Strathboggie by a person who left that place yesterday, and had been two days there. They had conven'd three or four hundred baggadage horse, in order to their march, agreeable to our former information; they were dismiss'd and their march putt off, but for what reason, the informer could not learn. That the number of gentlemen and men there did not exceed 500; that they were bringing them in by twos and threes, but they were takeing opportunities to desert in half dozens, after whom partys and gentlemen were sent, and extream severe threats were used to deter them from desertion and bring them back. The informer could not learn what numbers were going the other road towards the coast, nor how far they were advanced. If they were hotly pursued by any considerable body of the King's troops, there is reason to believe the desertion would dailly encrease, and their dissipation much quicker and more easy than otherways it will be; whereas if they are allowed time, there is reason, from former experience, to conclude the severe threats and measures they are using with great dilligence will have considerable effect, and when the men are gott together, tho' unvoluntarily, example, their own preservation, and other inducements may make them fight better than could be wish'd.

Sunday afternoon.—An express inform'd us of the Highland army's marching from their last night's quarters, a good part of them to Moy, the house of the Laird of M^cIntosh, within seven miles of Inverness, where their Prince was to dine this day and remain all night. The remainder of them to be about Corribrough, which is but ten miles from Inverness, and the M^cPhersons in the rear to be in some place not far distant behind the rest.

Also intelligence from Elgin says none but some officers and a few men were there Fryday night, but a great body was to be there last night, who were this day to proceed to Forres, and to be succeeded at Elgin by the rest of the army comeing by the coast. Elgin is twenty-eight miles from Inverness, and Forress twenty.

Sunday, eight at night.—An express presently arrived informs that none of the Rebels were in Elgin last night, except those that arrived as above on Friday, but 200 of them crossed Spey last night, and remain'd at Garmouth, and a great many of them were at Fochabers on the south side of the river. People thereabouts differ greatly as to

their numbers; the rebels themselves magnifie their numbers exceedingly, and pretend to be in high spirits.

Monday, noon.—By fresh information we hear the rear of the rebell army marched forward this morning, that the whole body may draw near to Inverness this night. They give out, that after taking Inverness, of which they make no doubt, their army will be more numerous and powerfull than ever. They talk of no less than ten or twelve thousand, but we cannot concieve from whence they can come, unless they have great time allow'd them, to use force and lyes as usuall.

Monday, four afternoon.—Our express to Inverness is just return'd. They are in good spirits there, but this time yesterday no body of men from the north was come to them. The rebels pretend to have intercepted a letter going to Lord Loudon to inform him that the Duke of Cumberland was not coming north, which seem'd to give them great joy, for they held him in great veneration, and they seem to stand more in awe of his name than anything else.

[Indorsed:] Letter, etc., Mr. Grant to Sir Everard Faulkener, 16th February 1746.

323. LACHLAN GRANT, Writer in. Edinburgh, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
Asking him to send intelligence of the Rebels.

Perth, 17th February 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I wrote you by two severall expresses last week, which I sent by different roads, and I now send you this third express to acquaint you of the import of the contents of the former two expresses, in case any misfortune should happen them, and that is this, that by your father's direction you are to raise all your men for the Government immediatly, and assisst the King's troops. The Lord Justice-Clerk, by direction of Sir James, has made ane offer of your service to the Duke of Cumberland, who is here with the army, of which his Highnes has accepted; but as I hope one or other of my former letters have come to hand, I shall not say anything furdur on that head. But one thing is chiefly wanted, that you acquaint me of the motions of the rebels that are gone towards Badenoch, and of their numbers, their different clans, and particularly if their Prince is with them, and what other accounts you can get, so as I may acquaint his Royall Highnes or his secretary of it, as I am sent here for that purpose. So if you would send me ane express every third day, I will cheerfully pay all charges. I am, Honourable Sir,

Yours, etc. etc.,

LACHLAN GRANT.

Direct to the care of David Allison, vintner in Perth.

Write me fully by every express, in case of a misfortune should fall on or other [of] them. To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire,

324. THE SAME to THE SAME—Offer of Sir James Grant to raise his Clan, etc.

Perth, 18th February 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I wrote you this day fourthnight by express, which, I am told, did not come to hand, as the express was seised at Strathbogie, imprisoned, and his letters taken from him. This gives me great uneasines, the packet containing matters of consequence, particularly a letter from the Justice-Clerk, wrote you by direction of your father, desiring you might forthwith raise all your men for the Government and as to money, you was to take your hazard; and at the same time acquainting you that the Justice-Clerk, by your father's permission, had made ane offerr to his Royal Highnes the Duke of Cumberland, who is here with the army, of your service to the Government, which was accepted off.

I have within those six dayes sent you three differrent expresses, but fearing they may meet with the same fate with the former express, I send you this fourth express. All my letters were to the same purpose, and contain no more than that I was sent here to attend his Royal Highnes, in order to correspond with you that you might from time to time give intelligence of the motions of the rebels, particularly of those that went north towards Badenoch, whither they keep together, what their numbers are, what clans they consist off, and if their Prince be with them, and of every other thing you can think material at this time. I will cheerfully pay all charges of expresses, so that I hope you'l contrive matters so as I may hear twice a week from you. The Duke expects you'l do this if possible. I am, Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LACHLAN GRANT.

Direct for me at David Alison, vintner, his house, Perth.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, att Castle Grant.

325. THE SAME to THE SAME—The Duke's army set out for Aberdeen.

Perth, 21st February 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I received yours with the letter for Sir E—d F—r, which was delivered, and gave great satisfaction, and am desired to make his apology for not writing you ane answer, as he is so extrcamly bussy that it's impossible for him to give regular returns. Att the same time he begs you keep up the correspondence; and as the army are all marched from here, the advanced party near Aberdeen, and the Duke with the rear to be this night near Montrose, I hope you'l soon have ane interview. I have represented your case in a memorial to Sir James at London, which he gave the Duke of Argyle, and explained it here by word of mouth, in my opinion to their satisfaction. However, you'l do it soon to better purpose yourself. I impatiently wait for the return of three letters write you. Whenever any return to either comes, I go from here after the Duke; in all events I leave this place Tuesday morning, so all letters that are to come

after this is delivered must come by Aberdeenshire; and as Sir Archibald is with you, he may direct all letters to be sent to Mr. Simpson, his minister of Monimusk, where I shall have a messenger attending for them. The army gone northwards are about 10,000 men, horse and foot; the Hessians and two regiments of foot, and three of horse and dragoons, are to be at Stirling and here and in the seaport towns. We are in great concern for Lord Loudon. We had very considerable news from London some possts agoe. Lord Granville was appointed Secretary of State, Lord Winshelsea to be his collect, Sir Jo. Barnard at the head of the Treasury, etc., upon which the Chancellor, the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Pelhame, the whole admiralty, and, in a word, everybody about the King waited of his Majesty in a body and resigned their respective employments, which occasioned the very next day the seals to be redelivered to the Duke of N—le, and Granville and his whole party were turned out; so matters are upon the old footing. The inclosed I had sent me from Lord E—s, which I was to send by express, but haveing this opportunity of the bearer, I hope it will come as safe to hand. Invasions are said to be at ane end, and it is thought if the Dutch don't declare war against France, will send no troops to Flanders this year. And I am respectfully, etc. etc.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

[Indorsed:] Mr. Lachlan Grant.

326. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT—Of his journey from Strathspey to Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, March 4th, 1745-6.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 15th of last month I received Saturday the 1st current, upon my arrivall in this place from Lachlan Grant. The Sunday befor I received a letter from the Pretender's secretarie, as I was going to Bellintomb to review your men, ordering me to send all the arms in the countrie, and six of the gentilmen of the countrie, to remain with them as pledges for our good behaviour, for that they knew I was by your order to give 600 men for the service of the Government. Upon receiveing this letter, I ordered all the men to Castle Grant; and as the rebels were in great numbers in Badenouch and in Murray, besides their bodies in Bamffshire, and Glenbucket with a number of men with him in Strathdown, Lord Findlater and I thought it best for us, as Invernes had surrendered, to endeavour to gett to Perth, where we imagined the Duke of Cumberland then was, rather then to remain at Castle Grant, as we were soe surrounded, and least the rebels should bring their cannon to attack our garrison; soe we determined upon Munday to sett out, and to march the Braemar road, and we took a partie of 400 men with us, and left the rest to take care of the house and of the countrie as best they could. Lady Findlater and my wife and daughter came with us. I left my son and Inernie at Castle Grant. The first night we came to Lurg; nixt day, being Teusday, to Skelleter's house in Strathdon, it turning dark as we past it, and not being able to

make out to our friend New's house; nixt morning we came to New, and stayed there all day, and there we gott notice that the Duke was at Aberdeen; soe I resolved to return all the men home except 140, and carried them with us here as a guard, and to escort me back to the countrie when I should receive the Duke's orders where to meett him with all your men. I am waiteing his Royall Highnes' orders, and I hope I shall be able to write you that all our people shoves the spirite you would wish. My sister Pennie don't incline to let Bellindalloch's men march from protecting his own esteat without the captain's orders. I wish you would talk with him, and I am convinced he will order his people to join us in this glorious cause. It's thought the rebels will collect as great a number about Invernes as they have as yet had; but I hope in God the Duke will soon disperse them. Lord Loudoun retired first to Ross, and then to Sutherland, and he has carried boats with him, and I hope he will be able to join us either in Bamffshire or Murray, for he may land at Findhorn or Portsoy. You may depend I shall exert myself to the outmost of my power that our familie may preserve the character we have always had, and I hope shall mentain. Inclosed you have two bills, one of £40, and the other of £10. I need not repeat to you the situation of the countrie but, upon honour, I can't gett ten pounds in all your esteat, and the substantiall tennants are in as much want of monie as the power. I shall use my best endeavours to supplie you; but as we are all engaged in the service of the Government, and as I have been at a great expence these six monthes, might not you speak with Mr. Pelham to gett that monie dew Achoynanie payed up. Pray talk with the Duke of A—le about it. I shall write you more fullie by nixt, being at present much hurried. We all offer you our humble deutie. Compliments to Deskford. I ever am, dear Sir, your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

327. ANDREW FLETCHER, Lord Justice-Clerk, to JAMES EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD—With instructions for assisting the Duke of Cumberland, Letter from the Earl of Findlater to the Bailies of the Laird of Grant subjoined.

Edinburgh, 8th March 1746.

MY LORD,—The army of the rebels being now in the northern parts of this country, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland being on his march to disperse them, I have the honour of his Majesty's commands, signified to me by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, one of the principal Secretarys of State, to acquaint your Lordship that it is his Majesty's pleasure that your Lordship, and all other civil officers, assist his Royal Highness in the best manner that may lie in your power, and his Majesty has commanded me to transmit accounts of the behaviour of the several civil officers in this respect.

These officers were not created to be of use only in times of peace; they were intended for the support of the Government in times of war also, and you cannot but foresee what pernicious consequences a faillure of duty in matters of this importance may produce; and therefore it seems unnecessary that I should warn you of the danger

of every officer who shall be guilty of the smallest neglect, where so much may depend upon an exact performance of his duty. But as you know it is the indispensable duty of your office, so I can't doubt that it is no less your Lordship's inclination, as a loyal subject of his Majesty and a sincere friend of our present happy constitution, to give cheerfull and ready obedience to so just and necessary a command.

I need not mention to your Lordship the particulars wherein you may be assisting to his Royal Highness. It is sufficient, in the general, to tell you that you ought in your station to do all that is in your Lordship's power for accomodating and supplying the army in every thing necessary, and for distressing and weakening the rebels; and your Lordship ought also to send to, or bring his Royal Highness, or the proper officers commanding under him, the earliest and best intelligence that you can procure of the rebels, their numbers, their motions or designs; and for that end you ought to use your outmost diligence to procure such intelligence.

Your Lordship must likeways, with all dispatch, communicate these his Majesty's commands to the several baillies of regality, magistrates of burghs, and justices of peace within your shire, at least to such of them as have continued in their duty and loyalty to his Majesty, and transmit to them copys of this letter; and your Lordship is to send me from time to time accounts of your proceedings in pursuance of these orders; and give notice to these other civil officers within your shire that they in like manner send me accounts of their proceedings, that I may be thereby enabled, in obedience to his Majesty's commands, to transmit accounts of the behaviour of the several civil officers; and it must be a satisfaction to all such as shall faithfully perform their duty, to know that full accounts of their conduct will be laid before his Majesty, I am, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) ANDREW FLETCHER.

Aberdeen, March 12th, 1746.

SIR,—The above is an exact copy of a letter I received last post from my Lord Justice-Clerk, I doubt not but according to your duty you will faithfully and diligently obey the directions therein contained, I am sincerely, Sir,

Your humble servant,

FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD,

To the Laird of Grant's baillies of regality in the county of Banff.

328. JAMES EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
His Royal Highness pleased with the intelligence obtained.

Aberdeen, March 9th, 12 a'clock, 1745-6.

DEAR SIR,—I have communicated to his Royal Highnes, the intelligence received, as likeways your going this day to Inverurie with ane intention to take all proper methods

of procureing all possible intelligence, and communicateing it to me for his Royal Highnesses information, which he greatly approves off; as also that in the present situation of things you should not be rash in pushing forward, he being sensible of the bad consequences of your being at ane improper time in your own country, or being intercepted by the way. So I expect to heer distinctly and frequently from you. General Husk, in his conversation with me, seemed to think you should have intelligence or out watches, that you may be on your guard that you may not be surprised by any considerable superior force, it being better to retire neerer the town than to let the enemies have such ane advantage of you.

Most affectionatly and intirely yours,

FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD.

To Ludwick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

329. MAJOR JAMES COLQUHOUN of Luss [to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT]—
Capture of Duncan MacLachlan.

Rosedoe, 10th March 1746.

DEAR SIR,—I had the pleasure of your letters of the 25 and 27 ultimo, as likewise the last by Satterday's post. I would have wrote you in course of post, ouning the receipt of the first, wherein you inform'd me of the commissions being out in favours of Francis and Mr. M^cVicar, but was just goeing upon an expedition, by order of General Campbell, to seise the boats at the severall ferrys upon Lochlomond, which I had delayed for some time, having another project of my own which I wanted to execute at the same time, which was to apprehend one Duncan M^cLachlan, a lieutenant in the Pretender's service; and I have now the pleasure to tell you that upon Friday last, with a party of my own tennants, I went up the loch and succeeded in both my schemes. Some shotts pas'd in apprehending Mr. M^cLachlan, but luckily no accident hapened to him or any of my people. He was taken in the midle of the Water of Duglass, endeavouring to gain the hills. I had that day information of his being upon my side the loch, but was told he had crosed back again. However, when I was landing my men at Ross MacAlpine's shoar, I observed a boat crossing over from Innerbeg, and in a little one of my people discover'd that the very man I was wanting was in her, upon which I order'd the men to be silent. However, he immediately turn'd about his boat, and was makeing all dispatch back again, and then a chace ensued. Wee came up with him just as he was jumping out of his boat, which he did before he got near the shoar; but my men were as nimble as him, and the moment two of them got near him he turn'd about, presented a long French holster pistle, as they did their firelocks, but luckily his pistle snapt, and he made of. One fired at him but mised. I have sent him prisoner to Dumbarton Castle, and acquainted the Justice-Clerk of it, as likewise General Campbell. Though I had no authority for what I have done, yet as I thought it for the service of the Government, I was determined to run all risque; but I have wrote the Justiee-Clerk that unless he approves of it, and likewise gives me full powers to act in case any others cast up, that I will medle no further. . I am, dear Sir,

Your most affectionate and faithfull son,

JA. COLQUHOUN.

330. JAMES EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
That the Duke was anxious for information.

Aberdeen, 10th [March 1746], 12 acloack at noon.

DEAR SIR,—I have this moment received yours of the 9th. Before it came to my hand I had seen the Duke, and told him I had not heard from you, which I supposed I would have done, had there been any material intelligence to communicate. He desired me to write you that Generall Bland is to be your way this day, and that he will converse with

you, and that perhaps you may be obliged to move your quarters a little, as some regiments are to move to-morrow. I have no news to give you from hence, only the Duke and the Generalls are might[y] anxious to have daily informations from you of all you can learn of the situation, numbers and parties of the enemies, etc. Most intirely yours,

F. & S.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

Upon his Majestie's service,—FINDLATER.

331. THE SAME to THE SAME—To send all intelligence he could get.

Aberdeen, 10th March [1746], 1 acloack.

DEAR SIR,—Since writing the inclosed, I have communicated yours of the 9th to his Royall Highnes, who appeared very well pleast with it, and desired me to write you that he understood you was to push your way forward as soon as you could do it with prudence and reasonable prospect of safety; but that in the meantime he thinks it best that you stay in the quarters with your men where they shall happen to be, and continue all proper endeavours to procure intelligence, which is of very great importance, and I understand the principal dependence for intelligence to be trusted is on you, for which reason his Royal Highnes intreats you may write me every day, or rather twice a day, for his information, It is understood that all expenses laid out for intelligence is to be stated to ane account; and it is certainly money well laid out. Most intirely yours,

F. & S.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Inverury.

Upon his Majestie's service.—FINDLATER.

332, THE SAME to THE SAME—Asking his interest for James Philip to be a depute to the Lord Advocate.

Aberdeen, 11th March 1746, 1 a'clock.

DEAR SIR,—I have received yours of this date about 12 this day, as also another pretty late last night, together with the informations inclosed, which I have communicate to his Royall Highnes, who is extreamly well pleast with your dilligence in procuring intelligence, which he desires you may continue, and spare no expence to get material and certain accounts of the number and situation of the rebells and their severall parties, and where the young Pretender is, and communicate to me for his information as frequently as possible—every day at least. He desired me particularly make his compliments to you in the kindest manner, and strongly to recommend caution in your procedure, for he said you must not be catched by them. General Husk added that you should proceed with such prudence as not to be affronted or checked by them. I always am, most intirely yours,

F. & S.

His Royal Highnes exprest great sympathy with the king's distrest friends, particularly Glenkindy and Mr, Lumsden the minister.

P.S.—I must beg the favour of you, by the first post, to write to your friend my Lord Advocate, intreating, in my name and your own, that he will make my friend James Philip one of his deputes for the next circuit. You know how reasonably I am concerned for him, and how oblidging it will be to me to grant this request.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Inverurie.

On his Majestie's service.—FINDLATER.

333. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT—Was to move forward to Strathspey. [Copy.]

Inverurie, March 11, [1746.]

DEAR SIR,—I came from Aberdeen to this place Sunday the 9th, with ane intention to have proceeded that night six miles from this towards Strathspey, but there fell soe much snow Saturday night and Sunday morning, that the first deviation of the troups could not move from Aberdeen Munday, as his Royall Highnes the Duke designed, that it was thought proper I should remain here Sunday and yesterday all day, in order to send out for intelligence of the situation of the rebells. I was informed that Glenbucket was about Kildrummie, and part of his men in Strathdon and about Glenkindie, levieing monie and dragging some of the people in these parts along with him. His partie is reported to be about 300; and as John Roy Steuart was betwixt Keith and Strathbogie with about 700 men, besides about 40 of their people called hussarrs

about Strathbogie. I was advised from Aberdeen, after sending all the intelligence from time to time, to remain here this day; and as part of the first devision of the Duke's armie is to be here to-morrow, I move forwards with the partie I have with me, consisting of 134, six miles further, and soe one nixt day, as the troups move forward, and I design to keep near the troups untill from my intelligence I finde I can push my way to Strathspey, where I shall loose noe time in conveening your men, and I hope to join the Duke with them befor the last devision come to Speyside. I am informed the young Pretender has taken possession of Gordon Castle, and that a considerable bodie of the rebels is about Fochabers, besides their advanced parties about Keith, Strathbogie, Cullen, and Bamff. I am perswaded they will all retire as the armie advancess to the Murray side. I hear they give out they will make a stand near Forress, and some say they will dispute the passage of the Spey. I shall write you everie opportunitie, and let you have all the intelligence I receive. I hope you have received my last from Aberdeen, with the two bills inclosed, both amounting to £50. When in my power, I shall not fail to remitt more, as I am sensible of your situation. The situation of the countrie is such at present, that there is noe monie to be had from the most substantiall tennant in it. As I writt, I entreat you would see to gett Achoynanie's monie payed up, and you might take from Mr. Grant of Hatton Garden what you advanced for me. I know he will be out of humour that I don't remitt him; but the situation of the countrie is such that I receive non. I scarselie can gett to borrow what has payed the men, for untill I have all your people conveended I can't ask subsistance for them, and I am near run quite out. My wife leaves Aberdeen to-morrow; she is with childe, which makes me affraid of her journie to Hopetoun House. You have inclosed a copie of a prittie extraordinarie demand made by the rebels. If they should burn the countrie they won't finde soe much monie in it; but I hope we shall now soon putt ane end to them and their oppression. Sir Archibald Grant, Lewie, Elchies, Dalrachnie, and the rest of your friends here offer you their humble deutie. I ever am, dear Sir,

Your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

I beg you'll make my compliments to our friend the Lord Advocate, and assure him of my being sincere in wishing him joy and all manner of success; and give me leave to recommend—which I entreat you'll join me in—that he would appoint Mr. James Philp, advocate, as one of his deputts for the circuit, which will greatlie oblige my Lord Findlater and his humble servant. Considering my present situation, I hope he will admitt of this as a letter as to himself. I am at present in a situation I am absolutelie unfitt for; but with God's assistance I shall leave noething undone for this glorious cause we are engaged in. I beg my humble deutie to his Grace of Argile. Colonel Campbell and I are within 3 miles of other. He is at Old Meldrum with ane advanced partie, and we communicate our intelligence. I am unhappie that I can't write to Captain Malcolme. There is a report that the Pretender is ill at Gordon Castle of a cold and a spitting of blood. Noe intelligence from Castle Grant; the rebels intercepts all.

When you write me, putt my letters under cover to Lachlan Grant.

334. JAMES EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—

To continue his correspondence.

Aberdeen, 12th March 1746, 2 a'clock.

DEAR SIR,—I have received yours both of yesterday's date and that of this morning, and have communicate all the intelligence both to the Duke and Mr. Husk. The Duke is very well pleast with your dilligence, and has no farther commands but that you continue your constant correspondence with me, for his own information; that you mind the direction I gave you yesterday; and that you correspond likeways with General Bland, who commands that part of the army which is now advanced nearer you. Most intirely yours,

F. & S.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

Upon his Majestie's service.—FINDLATER.

335. THE SAME to THE SAME—The Duke pleased with the intelligence.

Aberdeen, March 13th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—About an hour ago I received yours of yesternight's date, which I have communicated to his Royal Highness, and he was so well pleased with it that he kept it, because it describes the places where the several partys of the rebels are, and comes nearer to a certainty, in so far as it goes, than any letters we have received. He desired his complements to be made to you, and has nothing to add to his former orders and directions, only he expects that you will constantly write to me, to be communicated to him, as well as correspond with General Bland; and he told me he had sent Sandy Grant, who he reckoned would be an usefull person both to you and the General. Your wife not being perfectly free of the toothach, has, on account of the badness of the weather, delayed her journey till to-morrow. Most entirely yours,

F. & S.

Dispatched at half an hour after two in the afternoon.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

336. THE SAME to THE SAME—Money needed for the subsistence of Grant's men.

Aberdeen, March 15th, 1746, past 2 a'clock.

DEAR SIR,—About half an hour ago I received yours of yesterday's date, which, together with the letters therein inclosed, I have communicated to His Royal Highness, to whom your diligence as to the point of intelligence is agreeable, and he doubts not but you will continue it. As to other points, he said he had nothing to add to the directions which from time to time he had formerly sent you. Your communicating with General Bland, who is near you, is certainly right.

This morning, about ten a'clock, Grantsfield delivered me a message from Sir Archibald Grant, acquainting me of your having very little money. If I had any thing worth while that I could spare, you may be sure it would be at your service; but all I can possibly spare at present is fifty pounds sterling, which, if it can be of use, you may send any person you think proper to receive it; but as that can last but very short while, I think it is best that you write a letter to Sir Everard representing your present situation, and your difficultys arising from the state of the country, and desiring some money from the Duke to account for the present subsistence of your men. Your wife is some better, and will not move till the weather is softer. Most entirely yours,

F. & S.

Receive a quare of paper.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

337. THE SAME to THE SAME—The Duke well pleased with his activity.

Aberdeen, March 17th, 1746, half an hour past one in the afternoon.

DEAR SIR,—I received yours, dated on Sunday at one a'clock in the afternoon, this morning, which I have communicated to the Duke, who is very well pleased with your conduct, zeal and activity in all respects; and I find now he seems to entertain better hopes of your yet making that figure in the service which he wishes. He says as to Saundy Grant, he does not want inclination of complying with your desire in letting him stay with you; but as he is a clever scampering young fellow, and has some skill and experience in conducting small enterprizes, he must leave him to be directed by General Bland, who may perhaps desire to make use of him before you can return from Strathspey. Your wife has been very well these two days past, which made her positive to set out this day. She went off about half an hour ago against my will, because it is not a very good day. Mr. Alexander attends her all the way. The Duke, in reading your letter, appeared very well pleased at Sir Archibald's being with you. Most entirely yours,

F & S

Three or four more regiments have marched forward this day, and several transports with provisions came in yesternight. Husk approved much of your taking possession of Castle Forbes.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

338. THE SAME to THE SAME—Disorders committed by the Rebels in Strathspey.

Aberdeen, March 18th, 1746, 9 at night.

DEAR SIR,—This afternoon I received yours of yesterday's date. The Duke being then out awalking, it was some hours before I could have opportunity to communicate it to him, which I have now done. He had before heard of the march to attack Castle Forbes, You had certainly done right to put yourselves in a place of some strength. You have before now, no doubt, heard of their precipitate retreat from Strathbogy, so that I need write nothing of that to you. It is very probable you may have beard likeways of the disorders committed in our low part of the country, and their seizing several of the ministers and principal tenents. I hope the advance of the troops will clear this side of Spey of them quickly. I am very sorry for the disorders they are committing in Strathspey. I do not hear that they now observe any sort of rule in any part where they go. The great point is that the men keep out of their way and hide their arms. The Duke has got some information that most of the prisoners of your clan taken at Inverness have listed with them, which I should be sorry for. I saw this morning a man that came from Lord Loudon, who positively assures that Lord Sutherland and Lord Rae had made up a thousand men, besides the companys they had before given; that the whole body was then about three thousand, altho' all the M^cKenzies had deserted; that Sir Alexander M^cDonald was near with four hundred fresh men; that the M^cLeods were increasing dayly; that the rebels were in Ross, from which country they demanded nine thousand pounds sterling, and were committing most terrible outrages; that Lord Fortrose had put a stop to their raising his men by positive intimations, that he would seize on the whole substance of such as should join them, and would never for any entreaty suffer them to live in his country. The forces here are in great spirit; the wind being fair, Bland's regiment is hourly expected. I think I have given you all the news but what are in the prints. I had a letter from your wife to-day; she got well yesterday to Stonehive. We hope you will continue to write dayly if possible. Most affectionately and entirely yours,

F. & S.

Receive your wastecoat, paper, pens, and wax, as likeways Sir Archibald's Highland cloaths.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

339. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT—Rebels driven out of Strathbogie. [Copy.]

Castle Grant [Forbes], March 19th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—I writt you from Pittodrie the 12th. When we came from Inverurie, we marched from Pittodrie to Oldrain, which was within eight miles of Strathbogie, and remained there untill Sunday about two of the clock, and daylie sent out to Speyside, Strathbogie and all the different corners we could think of, for intelligence of the motions of the rebels, which I communicate to His Royall Highnes the Duke, to Generall Bland at Old Meldrum, and to Collonel Campbell, who was within three miles of me, with a detachment of the Campbells. Sunday we resolved to come here, in order to be nearer intelligence both from Strathbogie and Strathspey. We had not marched, I beleive, two miles from Oldrain, when the rebels at Strathbogie were informed of our march. They imagined we were to quarter at Clett, which we did when we were going to Aberdeen, but we came here, which is a short mile from Clett, and non of us went to bed that night. About five or six Munday morning we were informed that about one thousand of the rebels were within a mile of us. We prepared to give them the best reception we could; but after they came within a quarter of mile of this house, they thought proper to march for Clett, and returned after they had taken a breakfast. The minister and some others informed us that they were onlie about 700 foott and 40 horse, under the command of John Roy Steuart and Abachie, but they were not half ane hower in Strathbogie when Generall Bland made them fly like cowards, He had four regiments of foott, one of dragoons and Kingston's horse, and a regiment of Campbells. Fryday last week above 2000 of the rebels marched into Strathspey. They had two cannon with them. The gentillmen there seing the cannon, which were nine pounders, rather then have the house, as they imagined, battered down, order the gates of the house to be opened, and Lord Nairn took possession with 100 men, and quartered the rest through the countrie. I gott information of this Munday, but had it confirmed yesterday, as likewayes that Lord George Murray marched with about 1500, part of these, and the M^cPhersons and some others, to Blair Castle. I design to move homewards this day, and hope soon to write you that I have disloged Lord Nairn, and that we have chased the rebels out of Strathspey, I shall write you everie opportunitie, and am, dear Sir, your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

To Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, Member of Parliament, at his house in
Conduit Streett, London.

340. GENERAL HUMPHREY BLAND to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—The Rebels coming over the Spey.

Strathbogie, 3 o'clock Sunday morning, [23 March 1746.]

SIR,—I am this moment favoured with yours, and shall forward the inclos'd letter to the Earl of Finlater by the first opportunity.

We [have] been alarm'd here these two nights, by accounts that a considerable body of the rebels were come over the Spey at Fochabers, where they say the young Pretender now is, and they give out that they intend to attack this post, which you may be sure has kept us very alert; and in order to give them a proper reception, I sent last night for Brigadier Mordant and the four battaillons that were at Old Meldrum and Inverurie, who join'd us here about 3 in the afternoon, so I have here eight regiments of foot, besides the Campbells and the cavalry.

The messenger told us we are to have the pleasure of seeing yow here to-morrow, which I hope is true. Be so kind to present my most humble respect to Sir Archibald Grant, and believe me, with much esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

HUM. BLAND.

To Ludwick Grant of Grant, Esquire, att Asswanley.

341. LUDOVICK GRANT to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant—Giving an account of his proceedings.

Strathbogie, March 24th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—My last to you gave ane account of the designed attack upon us at Castle Forbes. The rebels gave out, when they left this place this day se'night, about one in the morning, that they would bring us in prisoners here again dinner; but it soe happened that General Bland's officers gott the dinner to eat, haveing come near the town befor they knew of him, about half ane hower after they had returned from their expedition against me, and drove them out of town with great precipetation. The day after General Bland gott possession of this place, Sir Archibald Grant, Dalrachnie, and I thought we might venter towards Speyside, imagineing that non of the rebels would remain, this side of it, and soe marched from Castle Forbes to Balvenie, and designed for the old castle there; but Dalrachnie and Lettoch, who we sent befor us, findeing the roof of the house broke, and imagineing we were in noe danger, ordered fires to be putt one for us in the new house, and gott all our people accomodate in the low parts of the house. There we gott nottice that Lord Nairn had left Castle Grant with his partie the night befor, and that he went of in great hurrie about nine at night, occasioned by ane express from Fochabers, we suppose, giveing ane account of the rebels' retreat from Strathbogie, and of our advance towards Strathspey. He came to Castle Grant the Fryday befor, as did Lord George Murray with him to the countrie, with about 1600 men, and brought with them two cannon, 9 pounders, to batter down the house if

resisted. When our people saw that force, they agreed to give access to the house immediatlie; so Lord Nairn was sent to Castle Grant, and Lord George Murray proceeded to Atholl to attack some forcess were in Blair Castle. In that, we are informed, he did not succeed, but that he surprized to or three small out-parties near Kynachan, and has sent them to Ruthven, where Lord Nairn marched to when he left Castle Grant. I am informed Lord Nairn did noe great hurt when he was at Castle Grant, further then drinking some wine, etc., and cuting a little beeff and mutton. I writt you formerlie that Rothiemurchus and Dillachaple had gott, it seems, to Invernes some dayes after I left the countrie with Lord Findlater, with ane intention to contrive their sons' escape, who had been taken at Invernes, and had prevailed with Tillochgorm to goe with them, and were their seized by the rebells and detained as hostages for the good behaviour of their friends in Strathspey, It seems a day or two after they were apprehended, they entered into treatie with the rebells, and, upon condition of getting their sons released, and the private men (who by the by had mostlie all made their escape) and the countrie free of their levie monie, these gentilmen signed a newtrallitie, and obliged themselves to gett Dalrachnie and Lettoch to join them. This villanous storie, you may beleive, gave us all the greatest pain, and their onlie defence, as I hear, is, that if they had not agreed to it the countrie would have been destroyed. Dalrachnie, Lettoch, and the rest of the gentilmen who were with me, are greatlie ashamed of their friends' behaviour, and I hope as yet it shall have noe bad effect. That night we went to Balvenie. We thought ourselves quite secure, as non of the rebells were, we believed, nearer then Fochabers, and the King's troups being at Strathbogie, which [was] equallie near us; but about twelve at night Boginduie came running to us, and told us he had certain information we were to be attacked befor day, or earlie in the morning, for that there were above 300 within two miles of us. This information he had from a minister, and it proved true, for they were opposite to Arndillie, and some of them towards Mulben, who could have been with us in ane hower. Upon this we gott all our people together and marched to Bellindalloch under silence of night, and nixt day thought to have been at Castle Grant; but after we had sent all our men and horsess over Aven, Knockandow and his son came and told us he had certain intelligence the rebells were following us up, and designed to surround us at Castle Grant by parties were below Elchies from Nairn, Forress, and Badenouch. We resolved to remain, that night at Bellindalloch, and to secure all the boats both of Spey and Avon; and indeed that night and nixt day their hussars came to Kirdalls, and some of their men drew up towards Elchies. Soe upon the Saturday morning, after remaining 3 nights at Bellindalloch, we dispaired of getting to Castle Grant untill the Duke's troups advanced to the Spey, and soe we returned for this place and came by Glenlivate, Achendown, and the Kirk of Glass, which is within four miles of Keith, and five long of this place. There we heard that numbers of the rebells were at Keith and Fochabers. The minister advised us to gett into the house of Aswanlie, which was within half a mile of that place, and where we might defend ourselves if attacked, untill we were releived by General Bland. We went there, and immediatlie sent near Keith for

intelligence, and about 12 at night our bearer returned and told us the rebels had left Keith and gone for Fochabers, which we immediatlie acquainted General Bland of. Yesterday we came here, and found that all the troups had been watchfull for two nights, General Bland and non of the officers haveing been in bed. Here now we are, and I am resolved not to move untill the troups advance, for from the information the General had, and all our friends, of the designs against us, they were much affraid of us. Dalrachnie went home and brought his wife and papers out of his house, and returned here last night. I hope you'll think more favourablelie of me then I see you did by two letters Lachlan Grant showed me last night. I declair I have not seen but £11 sterling of this year's, besides not 100 from James Grant, Chamberlane of Strathspey, and John Grant in Mulben, since you left Castle Grant, and not one farthing from Urquhart. I hope you'll not beleive me capable of neglecting you were it in my power; and untill the countrie is in a more peaceable condition, God knows when we shall receive rent; and yesterday I hear the rebels have seized all the meall of Mulben, and carried of the Chamberlane and some of the best tennants prisoners untill they pay their levie monie. As this is our situation, might not you gett the D. of A. to gett Mr. P. to pay up Thomas Grant's pollice monie, which, by a letter I received yesterday from Mr. Grant of Hatton Garden, is dew since Lady Day 1744. My wife is by this time at Hoptown House, and the childereen are well at Castle Grant. Sir Archibald Grant joins me in offering you our humble deutie. I shall write you everie occasion, and let you know when we move to Strathspey to raise your men. I ever am, dear Sir,

Your faithfull son, etc,

LUD GRANT.

342. WILLIAM DUFF, LORD BRACO, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—For a protection for his sister, Lady Auchmedden, etc.

25th March [1746].

DEAR SIR,—I was sorie that I hade not the pleasure of seing you here yesterday, but I hope to have that satisfaction befor you leave this country.

In the mean time, as I know you'l be ill accomodate for everie thing where you are, I must beg that, on recept hereof, you'l let me know of any thing that can be sent from this place that can be of use to, and it shall be with you without loss of time; for I'm persuaded you'l not be on any cerimonie with me or your sister on that score.

You'l doe me a great fawour if you'l apply to the General for a protection for my poor sister Lady Achmedden, and for a protection to John Forbes, for Cornousies House, who was verie friendly to me befor he enter'd into this unhappie rebellion, I am alwise, dear Sir,

Yours most faithfully,

BRACO.

To the Honourable Lwdowick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

343. SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant [Address wanting]—Sorry that the Rebels were in possession of Castle Grant.

London, 29th March 1746.

MY DEAR LORD,—I am sorry for the account your Lordship, and a letter I have by the same post from my son, dated the 19th, from Castle Forbes, give of the rebels being in possession of my house, I hope there abode there won't be long. I own my present concern is not so deep as what I had by the report spread here some time ago (and I think believed by too many), that my friends and name had entered into a neutrality with the rebels, This was most shocking to me; but I thank God I finde that nothing less than superiour force has made them deliver the house, and while they continow to preserve a true principle of liberty, and ane inviolable attachment to his present Majesty and family (which allon is able to secure it to us and our posterity), I much undervalue any other loss those miserable wretches are capable of reduceing me to. Upon getting my letters, I immediatly sent them to the D. of A., with whom I was yesterday morning. I wish my son Lewie may take care of himselfe. Nothing offers from this place. The Duke has applyed to the Duke of Bedford in favour of your son. Kinde compliments as usuall, and I continow, my dear Lord, yours,

JA. GRANT.

Seale and forward the inclosed as directed,

344. JAMES EARL OF FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—
Protections for houses, etc.

Aberdeen, March 29th, 1746

DEAR SIR,—Yesternight late I received your letters by the bearer, and this morning one of the 28th, by Mr. Duff's man. All have been communicated to his Royal Highness, who is sensible of your zeal and that of many of your friends; and I flatter myself your clan will soon have opportunity to distinguish itself. Your continuing to communicate intelligence here as well as to my Lord Albemarle is right. As to the protections asked, the Duke's answer is, that the behaviour of his army with regard to the houses of the rebels will depend on their behaviour to the friends of the Government; but while they are using so strong threats and acting so outrageously and irregularly, he will grant no particular protections. Make my complements to all friends with you, particularly to Sir Archibald, whom you may be sure I would incline to serve in any thing in my power with peculiar attachment; but I am sorry to acquaint you that, from all I can learn, tho' he had been at Edinburgh there would have been no chance of his succeeding in what he immediatly proposes. The Duke of Argyle has, as I am well informed, declared himself in the strongest manner for Lord Tinwall's son; and even altho' he had not, from what I can learn from several of the ministers, Sir Archibald could not have carried it amongst them. While he continues to insist for it, my small endeavours to serve him shall not be wanting but I think it fairer to let you know the true state of things than to flatter him in

the expectation of what does not appear to have any likelihood of success. Your wife was this day seven night at Alloah in good health. My gardner was dispatched this morning early to Cullen. By his Royal Highnesses orders I have writ to Mr. Lawtie, that if they burn my house or the house of any well affected gentleman, his army will burn the houses of all the rebels, and this he has ordered to intimate by showing [my letter] to every party that may come there. Entirely yours,

F. & S.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

345. THE SAME to THE SAME—The Duke pleased with his intelligence.

Aberdeen, April 2d, 1746, near one afternoon.

DEAR SIR,—Since writing the inclosed I have received yours of the 1st, about 11 a'clock, which I have communicated to the Duke, who was very well pleased with it. I am glad Hay of Banff has behaved so well, I hope he will continue. The Duke desired me to write to you that he would be glad you could contrive matters so as to be able with safety to move from the head quarters at Strathbogy a little nearer to Spey. If it was but two miles, he said, it would look like a movement. I would fain flatter myself that the knowledge of the safety that will arise to the commons by giving obedience to the Duke's summons, joined with the want of money and other confusions amongst them, will produce a dispersion.

Most entirely yours,

F. & S.

Receive by the bearer the two dozen of lemons.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Strathbogy.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

346. LUDOVICK GRANT to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT—Items of intelligence.

Strathbogie, Aprile 3d, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—Dalrachnie came here last night from Strathspey, The childereen were well at Castle Grant, All the countrie are determined neither to part with their arms to the rebells nor to be taken prisoners by them. I have been often thinking to make a trip to the countrie, but considering the situation of the rebells, it's what I dare not venter untill the troups advance some farther, and oblige them to gather their people into one bodie. There has non of them been nearer Castle Grant then Knockandow and Brae-Murray since Lord Nairn left it; but I am affraid of that partie that is in Atholl, least they should come down through Strathspey. They have taken 180 prisoners in Atholl. Barrisdale returned to Invernes Fryday last, and brought with him about 60 of Lord Loudoun's

people, who they came up with near Dunrobin. Major M^cKenzie, Sutherland of Force, Robert Grant, ensign and adjutant to Lord Loudoun, young Glenmoriston, and John Grant the comptroller, are among the prisoners taken in Sutherland. I hear the Laird of Mackintosh is likeways taken prisoner, and Lord Loudoun, with the remainder of his people, went to Lochbroom, and it's thought he was to goe from that place to the Sky. The rebels are verie scarce of monie at present; they pay their men in Murray and at Inverness with meall. There is great murmurings among the men for want of monie. There is some reason to beleive numbers of them were like to mutinie. Mulben and Dunphail is quite ruined by the rebels. I am affraid manie of them won't sow the ground this year. I beg you would write me often and send me the newspapers. You may putt all my letters under Lord Findlater's cover, and direct for him by Aberdeen to Cullen, I am surprized I never hear from Lord Deskford. I long to know your success in Achoynanie's affair. Sir Archibald Grant joins me in offering you our humble deutie. I ever am, dear Sir,

Your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

Dalrachnie's son was taken prisoner in Sutherland, but made his escape, haveing passed as a servant.

To Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, Member of Parliament, at his house in
Conduit Streett, London.

347, THE SAME to THE SAME—That the Duke had crossed the Spey.

Elgin, Aprile 13th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—Fryday the 11th his Royall Highnes the Duke marched from Bamff to Cullen, and the troups that were in Strathbogie joined him at Cullen; I came with them. Yesterday about one his Royall Highnes crossed the Spey; the rebels who were this side of the Spey all fled earlie in the morning, except some of their hussars, who remained to take a vew of the armie, and some of them fired about twentie or thertie shott, and then made of. This day the Duke sett out from his camp, and is to encamp this night at Avis, or near to it. I am just goeing for Strathspey the Rothes road, and shall rest little untill I gett your people convey'd to join the armie with them. I have desired Lachlan Grant to write you everie occasion, as I shall when I gett to the armie, for till then I can have noe spirites. The childeren were well when I heard from Castle Grant some dayes agoe. My wife I fancie writes you some times. I ever am, dear Sir,

Your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

Make my compliments to Lord Deskford, and tell him I thank him for writeing soe often to me. The rebels give out they are to fight near Inverness. You'll have heard that they pillaged Cullen House—left naething they could finde, and took away all the

books. The same was to have been done to yours, but the Duke's advanceing has prevented it.

To the Honourable Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, Member of Parliament, at his house in Conduit Street, London.

348. SIR WILLIAM GORDON of Park to LADY GORDON—Acquainting her that he is well.

April 17th, 1746.

DEAR MADAM,—As you have heard of our misfortune in general, I have sent you this line to assure you that I am well, and most earnestly begs you'll take care of your health and of my child's. I wish you would goe to your own house as soon as possible. You can get leave that you may be brought to bed there, as the country you are presently in will be nothing but a scene of misery. When I can get a safe opportunity you shall hear from me. Till then, my dearest life, God bless you. Adieu.

Dorso: The letter Sir William Gordon wrote Lady Gordon the day after the battle of Culoden, April 17, 1746, Lady Gordon was then prisoner to the Duke of Cumberland at Inverness, within six weeks of being brought to bed of her daughter Jane, afterwards Mrs. Urquhart, and till she received this note from Sir William, did not know if he was dead or alive.¹

349. JAMES, FIFTH EARL OF FINDLATER AND SECOND EARL OF SEAFIELD, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Orders of the Duke to keep his men four or five miles from Inverness.

Inverness, Aprile 19th, 1746, 9 at night.

DEAR SIR,—I am just now come from waiting of his Royal Highness, who had happened to hear from Mr. Shaw that you was certainly to be soon in with your men, with which he seemed to be very well pleased, but desired me instantly to write you not to advance nearer the town with your body than four or five miles, least in the present situation of the Guards some mistake might happen by the souldiers mistaking them for other Highlanders; for which reason it would be best that yourself, or some right person from you, should come first to receive orders where the men should be quartered. He at the same time ordered John Grant, the chamberlain of Urquhart, out, to bring in the Urquhart men; that is, such as had remained loyal and were disposed to follow you,

¹ A note preserved along with this letter bears,

“...After Sir William and his lady went to France they had two sons and one daughter, John James and William Braco Gordons, and a daughter, born at Duie, dyed young. John, the eldest, was an officer, and dyed in India of wounds received in a battle there. He was born the 26 of March 1749, one daughter. William Braco dyed in Scotland, and was also in the army.”

their chief; and with directions likewise not to approach too near until he should receive orders, I lodge at Duncan Grant's, where I believe there is a room still reserved for you. It is computed that there is at least 2500 of the rebels killed on the day of battle and dead of their wounds since, and we have now above 1000 prisoners, including the French. Lord Cromarty and his son are aboard your brother's ship in the road, with about 150 other prisoners. There are about 500 men come from Angus and Aberdeenshire since the battle, who had been left there; and there is still a body of people at Aberdeen, besides the 4 regiments expected from London. I believe the rebels won't again gather into any body. However, I need not tell you it is right for you to have in view to get all the intelligence possible of what is doing in all the rebellious districts, and whether they are gathering or not. If it is convenient, I think it is best that you come forward yourself to receive orders. Most entirely yours,

F & S

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire,

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

350. THE SAME to THE SAME—The Duke pleased that Lord Balmerino was in custody.

Inverness, 20th Aprile 1746.

DEAR SIR,—I received this morning yours of yesterday's date, which I immediately communicated to the Duke, He repeated his desire that you should leave your men about 4 miles distance, and come here yourself to receive his orders. He asked me your numbers, which you know I could not inform him of. He was well pleased with your having Lord Balmerino in custody, and the other persons you mention, and said they must be closely taken care of and brought in as speedily as possible. He seems to think you might have taken some more rebels prisoners. I told him your men was not conveyed at the time of their flight. He supposed that, as a Justice of the Peace, you would take the proper depositions concerning Lord Balmerino and the other prisoners, and bring the affidavits along with you. The inclosed was sent off this morning by Glendinny, and I was mightily surprised when I saw it returned this evening. I have not yet seen Lachlan to enquire how that has come about. Most affectionately and most entirely yours,

F. & S.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

On his Majesty's service.—FINDLATER.

351. SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant, Baronet, to his Son, LUDOVICK GRANT—Address to his Majesty on the victory.

London, 29th Aprile 1746.

DEAR LEWIE,—I need not give you account of the glorious victory gain'd by his Royal Highness the Duke, as you were nearer it then I; but we had the greatest rejoicings here upon hearing of it that was ever seen, and I wish I had heard that our people had been present. Pray let me know if you have made any appearance at all, and what you are doing, for I longe much to have some nottage taken of you in the prints, as is of the Argileshyr men, etc. As I told you in my last, don't trust to Lachlan's writing to me, for I never heare from him of a long time, and it seems his corespondance is with others.

Yesterday Lord Cook, seconded by Mr. Granvile, senior, moved—That a congratulatory adress should be presented to his Majesty on the happy success and victory gott by his Royal Highness the Duke over the rebels by his Majestie's arms; Mr. Home Campble, seconded by Sir Francis Dashwood, moved for ane amendment to it, which was—That in place of his Majestie's arms, it should be by his Majestie's British subjects, but met with great opposition; and Mr. Home Campbell withdrew his amendment, and the first passed *nem. con.* Then Sir Hary Liddell, seconded by Mr. Ellis, moved—That ane adress of thanks should be given by the House to his Royall Highnes for, etc., which passed also *nem. con.*, and the Speaker is directed by the House to transmitt it to his Royal Highness. This day we begin to examine witnesses against the rebels, but I have time to say noe more. Adew, dear Lewie.

[Indorsed:] Sir James Grant, Baronet.

352. SIR ARCHIBALD GRANT to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—His Royal Highness well pleased with the appearance the Grants had made.

Inverness, 3d of May 1746, eleven before noon.

MY DEAR SIR,—Matters are now brought to an issue. I deliver'd your letter last night to Sir Everard, and after some conversation, was desired to be with him this morning. I also made the report to Generall Halley, Collonel Napier being out of the way; and, according to appointment, waited on Sir Everard this morning betwixt 7 and 8, when, after further conversation and explaining every thing, I was again desired to call at 10, and then how soon he was free from other prior engagements, had the following answer; That his Royall Highness was very well satisfied with the appearance you and your friends had made; but as there was difficulty of getting provisions, and even scarcity of money, and as he had dismissed the Sutherland militia, and was to doe the same to the rest, he desired you might dismiss all your people likewise, except your independant company; and as money was scarce at present, and you had mention'd considerable expence incurr'd, the whole must be represented by you to the King, and his Majesty would give orders about it. I had also the inclosed order sent from Collonel Napier, and my Lord Louden and Rothy expects you'll compleat the company, and provide a pyper for it. The above being your present situation, I suppose you'll come to town, therefore I need not come out. I am, my dear Sir, faithfully yours,

ARCH. GRANT.

To the Honourable Ludowick Grant of Grant, Esquire, at Urqhart.

353. SIR ARCHIBALD GRANT to SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant—Proceedings of the Clan in support of the Government.

Inverness, 8th May 1746

MY DEAR SIR,—Your son being presently much hurry'd about Glenmoristoun and Urqhart people, and preparing to get out of this town and to see you as soon as possible, not having it in his power to write you fully without neglect of these affaires, of which you would much disapprove, hath desired me to tender you his affectionate respects, and inform you of what hath lately occur'd concerning him and your people. He wrote you fully from Elgin of all that preceeded that periode, and then informed you of his intention to goe to Castle Grant to raise the men to join his Royal Highness, according to your desire, and for which he had his Royall Highness's verball authority. It was Munday night, the 14th, before we got to Castle Grant, and could not sooner, as the rebells only left Knocando, Ballentomb, etc., upon Sunday. No time was lost to improve what indeavours had been used before to prepair matters to get the men together with all expedition; but as they expected to be kept out some considerable time, and severalls of them out of the way, and Achoineny and Elchis being sick, and Knocando and son refugees in Aberdeenshire, which deprived us of such assistances, it was not possible to convene them compleatly before Thursday. When the news of the glorious battle, of which you would know sooner than we could inform, reaching the countrey, many returned home, and others stoped there, for fear of plundering by the broken rebell army in their retreat but they haveing heard your people were getting together, none of them ventured through Strathspey but a few straglers in the night time, the gross of them who came that art haveing keep'd high through Badenouch, and apprehending an attack there from Strathspey, after haveing collected about 2000 at Ruthven, dispersed in great haste, upon the Saturday, when your son marched from Castle Grant. Sunday the men marched with Lord Balmirino, the famous partisan, Major Glasgow, and many other prissoners, to Strathern, and your son and I to the Duke for orders, which were to deliver the prissoners next morning to a troop of dragoons, and search for rebells and arms through Strathern and M^cIntosh countrey, and destroy their ploughs and other husbandry utensills, which being in a few days finished, we were order'd to north of Inverness, where, after a few days' stay, we were order'd to the Aird of Urqhart, and, after a stay of 8 days there, where severall prissoners and some arms were taken, and Grant of Shugly and his son, whom your son thinks notorious offenders, and prevailed with 83 of the Glenmoristoun and Urqhart people who had been forced into the rebellion, and most of them had deserted, to come with their arms and surrender at discretion to his Royal Highness; and least they should have altered their minds by the way, your son disarmed them and sent them under a guard of 200 very pretty fellows of the Strathspey people. Lord Loudon haveing come from the west

with all the Independant Companys and remains of his own regiment, and Generall Campbell being with so many more, his Royal Highness thought there was no further occasion for any militia, especially considering that provisions was scarce, and oatmeal not to be had, the crop being last year bad, and rebells consumed so much; therefore had first dismissed all Sutherland militia, and then told your son to doe the same with those from Strathspey. Your son brought together about 800, officers included; and after re-establishing the Strathspey independant company, which the Duke desired might be done at his first arivall, there were 613 private men, besides officers, servants, etc., all which were dismissed, and all arms gote from the Duke or found of the rebell arms delivered day before yesterday. This is the substance of our military history. Tho' we went to the most barren part for rebells and arms, being too nigh the army, and but few retreated that way, yet we would have catched many more, but for Lord Loudon's accidentally comeing to that same countrey at the same time, which they imagined concerted, and gave such alarms that they were to be set round, that all fled to more distant parts. Your son and men were the first militia, except the Campbells, that arived to the Duke, and the only one that hath brought any number to surrender. I am, my dear Sir,

Faithfully yours,

ARCH. GRANT.

To the Honourable Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, Member of Parliament, at London.

354. LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant to SIR JAMES GRANT his Father—Approbation of His Royal Highness, etc.

Invernes, May 10th, 1746.

DEAR SIR,—This is the first time I have writt since my last to you from Elgin, altho' I frequentlie intended to have writt to you and my wife, and to Lord Findlater, since he left this place for London, yet I have had soe various things to doe which quite oppressed me, that I alwayes missed thinking of it at the proper time. I had the honour yesterday of haveing his Royall Highnes' approbation of the part I have acted since I came here, I intended to have sett out from this for London as this day, but as the Major's tryall comes one to-morrou, I must waite it. I shall, when we meett, satisfie you I hope and all the world with my conduct since the beginning of this villanous rebellion. I am glade to finde, by yours of the 26th, that Sandie Grant, Bellindalloch, has sold out. I think old Sheuglie is now in a way of repenting all his villanous rebellious skems, since he was a man in the 1715, and ever since; his cunning will not save him. I have done all I could to gett hold of Corrimonie and Achmonie, but have not as yet succeeded, I hope when I come up to make the proper appologie to Captain Malcom, for surelie my expencess will be reimbursed. John Bailie, Torbreck, was burried last week. I hear the Lyon has gott the Duke of Cumberland's promise to recommend Kinsterie to

succeed him, in which event I beg you would applie for our friend John Grant the comptroller to succeed him in his office of land surveyor. John was a volunteer with Lord Loudoun when he went from this to Ross and Sutherland; was taken prisoner at Dornach with part of Lord Loudoun's regiment; was confined by the rebels in a dungeon here, when all the officers were sett at libertie upon parroll, and I reallie beleive would have been hanged by them if the Duke had not come to the releiff of us all. As he suffered soe much for his zeall and fidelitie, it will be hard if he is not promoted in course, and reallie will be a reflection upon us. I shall now write you everie post. I ever am, dear Sir,

Your faithfull son, etc.,

LUD. GRANT.

355. LACHLAN GRANT, Writer in Edinburgh, to LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Death of Glenbucket and Cluny Macpherson.

Edinburgh, 10th July 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I have had little or no news from the north since my last, other than that it is pretty certain that old Glenbucket died lately in the hills of Glenaven, and that old Cluny M^cPherson died a few days agoe, so that past all doubt the estate of Cluny will now be forfeited. I see M^cLeod is come to town dresst in his Highland cloaths. I suppose he will be ane exception for his late good services from the acts now depending. . . .

Letters from London by last post have these words in them: Sheuglie, etc., are sett at liberty, I wish the Glenmoristone men may be included in the etc. Lady Margaret holds it out pretty well. I am, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

LACHLAN GRANT.

356. JOHN GRANT, Factor of Urquhart, to THE SAME—Threats of Shewglie's friends.

Bellimackaen, Jullay 12th, 1746.

HONOURABLE SIR,—I wrote you two posts agoe of the missfortune happn'd some of your tenants in this country, to which refers. I have no news to wryte you, but that the Duke and the armie are still at Fort Augustus, and dayly bring in numbers of the rebels' cattle to the camp. There was two of the troops kill'd last Sunday at Glengerry by the rebels, and ane other of them kill'd at Glenmoristone last week. Am told that the Duke is positive to distroy all the people of those countrys if the murderers are not delivered him. It's said the Duke will not leave this country till he hear of the young Pretender's being in France or taken in Scotland; ther's stronge parties in ssearch of him. It's said that the young Pretender has embarked last week for France, but this news wants confirmation.

Monday I begin to poind your tenents for there rent, and I'le send all the cattle I take from them to Strathspey, as there's no keepeing for them here. Am sory to tell you that I must remove my family from this country, as am not safe to have them here; ther's so many threats against me by Shewglie's rebell Highland friends, that am sure my house will soon be brunt, and the few cattle left me by the rebels taken from me. Some days agoe, upon my way to Fort Augustus, Glenmoristone and Angus McDonald, Shewglie's sone-in-law, waylaid me in the hills of Glenmoristone, and Mr. M^cDonald then told me that all Shewglie's friends was fully convinced that he or his sone wou'd not be confinde was it not me; and as that was the case, after the armie left Fort Augustus, that I might depend upon my not being one night safe here, as he and all Shewglie's friends was positive to be revenged of me. So I hope you'll be so good to acomodate my wife in a possession in Strathspey, or any other part of your esteate, as there [is] no master I'd chouse so soon; but if she's not imediatly acomodate, I must be excus'd to have her acomodate elsewhere, for I'le not keep her any longer here, as am afraid every night when wee goe to bed to be brunt to ashes or next day. James Grant in Killmore is equally threatn'd with me, and he begs likways to be acomodate. Am determin'd, be the event as it will, not to leave this country, if I shou'd remove my family, at least till you come home. I understand that the Shewglies have landed at London, You'll please let me know how soon you expect there tryall. As I wrote you in my last, if ther's no other wittness call'd for then the prisoners that went from here and Glenmoristone, the Shewglies will be very safe, as these people would perjure themselves or they told any thing that wou'd hurt the Shewglies. I'le expect you'll be so good to lett me here from you in course, and I ever am, honourable Sir,

Your faithfull and obedient servant,

JOHN GRANTT.

To the Honourable Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire, Member of Parliament, at his house, Conduit Street, London.

357. LUDOVICK GRANT, Younger of Grant, to the DUKE OF NEWCASTLE—Information respecting the movements of Prince Charles Edward—His letter written to Sir James Grant of Grant handed to the Secretary of State unopened—Proceedings of Grant of Sheuglie with the Pretender's Son—The prisoners from Urquhart. Indorsed 1746.

Mv LORD,—Being informed that there has been a petition presented to your Grace in behalf of Alexander Grant of Sheuglie, who was made prisoner at Inverness in May last by order of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, as a person who entered early into a correspondence with the Pretender's son, and as I hear that I am reflected upon by the friends of Sheuglie in the petition they have given to your Grace, I must beg leave, in my vindication, to state the reasons of his being made prisoner.

There is an estate of above £400 sterling per annum belonging to Sir James Grant, my father, called Urquhart, which is situate about 10 miles above Inverness, upon the north side of Lochness, and possessed for the most part by tenents whose names are MacDonalds, Camerons, Frasers, and some Macintoshes, and about a third part of it by Grants of the tribes of Sheuglie and Glenmoristone.

In the year 1715 some of the tenents of this estate joined with the late Glengerry, and went with him to Perth, for which this same Grant of Sheuglie was much suspected by the late Brigadier Grant.

I had information from John Grant, Stewart of Urquhart, in August last, that Sheuglie and Alexander Grant of Currymony, Alexander Mackay of Auchmony, two gentlemen who have small estates in Urquhart holding few of Sir James Grant, and who joined the Pretender when he came to Inverness, were practising upon the tenents of that estate, and advising them to join the rebels; and that Sheuglie had sent a cousin of his own, one James Grant, with some message to the Pretender, and had received a letter from him, upon receiving of which letter he had called the above two gentlemen, the minister of the parish, and all the tenents to a meeting, to consult what was to be done; and that Sheuglie, in a full meeting, delivered first the letter he received from the Pretender to the minister, Mr. John Grant, which was publickly read by him, and thereafter the same Sheuglie delivered the Pretender's manifesto and the young Pretender's declaration to the minister, which he read at this meeting, where it was proposed by all these gentlemen that a certain number of the tenents should join the Pretender's standart. John Grant, Sir James Grant's stewart, who had been at Castle Grant, which is above 40 miles' distance from Urquhart, came home the very morning of the meeting, and upon having notice of it, went there, as was his duty, to obstruct as much as he could the designs of the above gentlemen, and to pick up all the intelligence he could, to be communicate to me in order to inform the friends of the Government. After the minister had read the above letter, by some means or other, he, John Grant, got hold of it, which he took care should not fall again into Sheuglie's hands, altho' frequently demanded thereafter from him; but he acquainted me that he had the letter, and that he should deliver it to me so soon as he could venture to bring his papers from that country to Strathspey, The very day after the first meeting, John Grant came to Castle Grant to advise with me how to prevent the tenents of that estate from being misled by Sheuglie and the other two gentlemen, and got letters addressed to the tenents and gentlemen from me, exhorting them to prove faithfull to the Government, and assuring them, in that event, I would make good all the damage the rebels should do them, which for a considerable time had the effect I sincerely wished. I must take notice that the very day the above letter was intimate to the people, Sheuglie delivered to John Grant the Stewart a letter from the young Pretender to my father, in order to be by him forwarded, which letter he gave me, and was sent by me to my father by the post, and delivered to the Marquis of Tweddale, the Secretary of State, unopened.

Notwithstanding all my endeavours, two of Sheuglie's sons joined the Pretender, and carried with them all his cousines and relations on that estate, with these they could

influence at that time, being about 20, and were at Preston and every engagement the young Pretender had, untill they were defeat by the Duke of Cumberland at Culloden. All Sheuglie's behaviour was so notorious to the whole countrie, and to the officers of the army, that when his Royal Highness saw the above letter, wherein the Pretender thanks Sheuglie for the message he had sent him, Sheuglie was immediatly ordered to be confined, and after I left Inverness he was sent along with the other rebels to London, in order to be tried for high treason. I shall not pretend to say any thing from my own particular knowledge against him, only that from all I could find when in Urquhart, he was considered as the person who had spirited up the people of that estate to join with his sons to enter into the rebellion, and that he had the colonels and captains of the rebels frequently in his house, and constantly attended them, when they were counteracting the directions the stewart of that estate gave the tenents; and among them they, by threats and promises, carried above 60 out of that estate to the rebell army, besides those that had gone at first, and of these there were, as I am informed, about 30 killed at the battle of Culloden.

This I thought my duty to inform your Grace of, and having exonerated myself, if his Majesty shall pardon or dismiss Sheuglie upon the request of any great man, I wish he may prove more faithfull to his King and country than I have reason to believe he has hitherto done.

I never heard that Sheuglie's eldest son, James Grant in Lochletter, who is prisoner, joined the rebels further than in spiriting up the tenents, and promising to go along with them if they joined their pretended Prince; and as to the minister, he, as I am informed, was at all their consultations, and never attempted to dissuade the people from joining the rebels, but on the contrary gave over praying for his Majesty, and after the battle of Culloden he concealed some of the rebels, and had their money in keeping; and altho' I was sent to Urquhart by his Royal Highness' order to apprehend any of the rebels that were in that country, Mr. Grant concealed from me where three of the rebels were hid by his direction, and untill I apprehended them, which was 4 days after I was in that country, he never acquainted me that he knew of such peoples being in the country. Neither did he ever, from the beginning of the rebellion to the end of it, inform me of the transactions of that corner or the neighbourhood.

I must beg leave to inform your Grace that there are 68 of the men of Glenmoristone and 16 of the men of Urquhart sent here prisoners. These unhappy men surrendered themselves to me May 4th, without any promise of pardon, but threw themselves upon his Majesty's mercy, and surrendered their arms, which were delivered to his Royal Highness's order. As none of these people were at the battle of Culloden, and were the first who surrendered, without attempting to make terms, and as since that time many of the rebels who have surrendered have been allowed to live in their own countrys, I can't help feeling some compassion for those who surrendered to me. I must therefore humbly beg they may be used no worse than others. I have information many of them deserted from the rebels and returned home, and showed no

inclination to continue in rebellion. And as I told their friends before they surrendered that they would find it would tend more for their own safety, and that of their wives and children, to follow that measure, which I was convinced would preserve their effects, whereas if they continued in arms, I was certain their whole country would be turned into a forest, and their effects carried off, and they themselves in a short time could not miss to be apprehended. I know if they are not treat with the same mercy as others are, I must meet with reflection as being the person who advised their surrendering without waiting to see the fate of others.

I beg pardon for having given your Grace so long a letter upon this subject, and I am, with the greatest respect,

Your Grace's most obedient and faithfull humble servant,

[LUD, GRANT.]²

[Indorsed:] Copy letter to the Duke of Newcastle as to the Shewglies and the Urquhart men that surrendered, 1746.

[While this sheet is passing through the press, the original letter from the "young Pretender," referred to in the foregoing letter as having been written to Sir James Grant, and handed by him unopened to the Marquis of Tweeddale, Secretary of State, has been found at Yester, the residence of the present Marquis of Tweeddale, who has kindly forwarded it to be printed in this collection. The letter is in the following terms:—]

358. PRINCE CHARLES EDWARD to SIR JAMES GRANT, Baronet.

Kinlochiel, August the 22d, 1745.

You cannot be ignorant of my being arrived in this country, and of my having set up the Royal Standard, and of my firm resolution to stand by those who will stand by me. I refer you to my printed declaration for the rest. On such an occasion I cannot but expect the concurrence of all those who have the true interest of their country at heart. And I have heard such a character of you, as makes me hope to see you among the most forward. By answering these expectations you will entitle yourself to that favour and friendship of which I shall be ever ready to give you proofs.

CHARLES, P. R.

For Sir James Grant, Baronet.

² Printed from the draft, holograph of Ludovick Grant, younger of Grant, and a contemporary copy of it, both at Castle Grant.

359. LACHLAN GRANT, Writer in Edinburgh, to SIR LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant,
baronet—Case of Glengarry.

Edinburgh, 7 May 1747.

HONOURABLE SIR,—The Master of Lovat seems a little shagreened you never make mention of his name to any of your correspondents here. He relys more upon you than any Scotsman, and it would ease his mind much if you signified any thing to me or any other of his friends who have access to see him about his situation.

The Lord Justice-Clerk told me the other day that the Lord Advocate was to report to his Majesty the case of the different prisoners here, among whom to be sure Glengarry will be one. Every body is surprised that Glengarry should be so long confined, as he was never concerned in the rebellion. He is now in a starving condition, having neither money nor credite to support him, and only lyes in prison for want of any friend to represent his miserable situation; for on his estate he has not a tenent but two, and those only pay £80 Scots each. So he was this day determined to write you, but I prevented him by telling him I would write you, to beg of my Lord Advocate, in whose power it is now to releive him or not, to make his report as soon as possible; at least to fall upon some method to order some subsistence for the poor gentleman, if better cannot be. . I am, respectfully, honourable Sir,

Your most obedient and faithful servant,

LACHLAN GRANT.

To the Honourable Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Baronet, Member of Parliament.

360. THE SAME to [THE SAME]—The Master of Lovat set at liberty,

Edinburgh, 13 August 1747.

HONOURABLE SIR,—. . . Tuesday night the Justice-Clerk sent for me by express to the country, and when I came there he told me that he had got the Duke of Newcastle's warrant for setting the Master of Lovat at liberty, on condition he gave an obligation to go to Glasgow, there to remain until his Majesty's further pleasure was known, without any guard, and the obligation to be only signed by himself; and told me he choosed to have me for the bearer of this news. This I took to be a compliment intended you, as every body here does. So I got the whole management of it, and he goes this week to Glasgow. The Duke of Argyle is gone for Inverary, attended by Sir Hew Dalrymple, etc, Many others are to follow. I am, honourable Sir, Your most humble servant,

LACHLAN GRANT.

361. SIR LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant, baronet, to LACHLAN GRANT, "Writer in Edinburgh-Intended sale of Baron Grant's estate.

Almonrie, Thursday, three of the clock afternoon, Julie 6th 1758.

SIR,—I sett out from Hopetoun House yesterday about nine, which was four howers after you left me. I came last night to Dumblain; this night I hope to be at Cushieveill, Friday Ruthven, and Saturday Castle Grant, and nixt night at Moy, where I shall not rest until I visite all my friends. The thoughts of Baron Grant's parting with his estate grieves me to the heart. Were his father and grandfather to look up, I am certain they would not approve of it more then I doe, Surelie it is of as much value to him as it can be to anie other; but my friend the Baron has certainlie thought seriouslie of the affair, and noe bodie has a tittle to controll or quarrell what he is pleased to doe. I lament the thoughts of letting anie but a Grant have a footing within the two Craigelachies, and I must own that since I parted with you I have thought of noething els. Sure I am, in the situation I am in at present, I will not be thought less able to purchase the whole of his estate then his grandfather was to purchase Rothes; and if you mannage this as well as Colonel William Grant did, with the assistance of faith and truth, I think this estate may be kept in the name. Upon honour, I cannot sleep when I think of looseing one of the Craigelachies, Therfor, after mature deliberation, I will venture upon it at the price the present offerer will give, providing he let me have the preference, which I doe not ask for myself, but for the honour of our name. In the first place, I will give over all thoughts of the purchase of Kencorth; in the 2d place, I will sell Allanbuie, for which I will draw £8000, and I will likwayes sell Bellintomb and Allachie, which will bring me in betwixt 5 and 6000; and in the 3d place, I will endeavour to dispose of part of the Barron's estate as best I can among my name; and if they should not incline to purchase, rather then part with anie of it out of the name, I will part with my favourite

Moy, etc.; but I hope there will be noe occasion for that. Now, dear Lachlan, this is great confidence I putt in you, for if ever it is known, Lord Findlater and his friends will never forgive me; but I am in great earnest to have this esteat preserved in the Clan, and beg you'll send me a rent-roll by first post, and that you may prevent the disposing of it, except you purchase it for me at the offer Lord Findlater makes; in which event, gett me twelve monthes to pay the monie, that I may dispose of my own and have time to borrow. I hope I need say noe more to make you exert yourself, and let noe person know what I write. I am certain you'll not betray this confidence, and if you and the Barron agree, let not the purchaser or price be known for some time, for I mean to have it given out to be an other person for some time, and noe bodie ought ever to know the person if I can get the devision made which I have in vew; and at anie rate it shall be at the desire of the Clan, who hes prevailed upon me, as we may say, to give more then was offered, rather then to let anie other but our own name enter the Craigelachies. I forsee manie reasons which make me wish to have this purchase. Soe again doe your best, and write me per first to Moy. You need not be seen openlie in this, and I know it will be thought our friend Sir A. Grant is the man, and let people think soe for some time. Adew. Yours,

LUD. GRANT.

To Mr. Lachlan Grant, Writer in Edinburgh.

362. JAMES, FIFTH EARL OF FINDLATER and SECOND EARL OF SEAFIELD, to [SIR LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant]—Ill health of the latter.

Buxton Wells, May 24, 1761.

DEAREST SIR,—I received a few days ago your very obliging letter of the 8th. I am fully convinced of the very sincere sympathy which you and all your family have with me, on occasion of the great and irreparable loss which I have sustained. You have also lost a very true friend, who zealously wish'd the prosperity and happiness of all your children and concerns. I know my duty of acquiescing in the divine disposals and submission to the will of the perfect Being; but all the philosophy I can use cannot prevent the remembrance of the comfort and happiness I had. My refuge is to have recourse to God, in whose presence I live and move, and in whom alone I ought to put my trust, It was lucky that Lord Hoptoun happened to be coming to this place, and it has been a great comfort to me to meet him and Lord Erskine and Lady Charlotte; and Lord Kinnoul and Lady Harriot Roper, here. Your son has likeways been so good as to come hither to see me, and I rejoice in seeing him so well and so hopeful in all respects.

I am much affected with the bad accounts you give of your own health. I am really afraid that the want of exercise, and the pain you have in your weak knee and legg, may prove very hurtful to you. I beg pardon to say it appears to me to be your duty, both for your own sake and for the sake of your young family, to neglect nothing in

your power that may tend to the restoration of your health, or to make you easier and more capable of using some exercise than you are at present. Lord Kinnoul and Lady Harriot Roper left us this morning to go to London, but they and all your friends who continue here unite in being of opinion that it is absolutely right for you, as soon as possible, to go to Bath to try the pumping and bathing there, which they reckon the most probable remedy in the world for you. Moderate journeys and cool living on the road must do you good, and perhaps, by the blessing of God, your knee and your leg may be greatly restored by the use of the bath and pump. They don't suppose that drinking the Bath waters would be fit for you. But as to this and every thing that concerns your health you would have the best advice. It is not a dear place; you will be sure of agreeable, sober company, and you may take as much or as little of it as you please. It is solely my zeal for the preservation of your health that makes me say so much,

I believe I shall continue here something more than three weeks, and stay some short time at Hoptoun House before I go north; I have not been able to compose my thoughts so as to settle exactly how long. All your friends here offer their kindest compliments to you. I was thinking by this same post to have answered my dear Menie's obliging, sensible, and discreet letter; but as I am writing to you, I think it is better to delay it for 8 or 10 days. My best wishes do constantly attend her and all your young family. And I always am, dearest Sir,

Most affectionately and most sincerely yours,

F. & S.

363. JAMES GRANT, younger of Grant, to his Father, SIR LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant—Death of Lady Findlater.

Buxton, May 26th, 1761.

MY DEAR SIR,—It is now about ten days since I arrived at Buxton, when I had the satisfaction to find Lord Findlater in much better spirits than I expected, which I believe may be attributed to that natural composure he enjoys and the attention of the amiable Lady Harriot Hope, who, during Lady Findlater's illness, and after her death, took such care of his Lordship and of his affairs, that he rather knew of his loss than felt it; his meeting so many of his acquaintance at this place was also a lucky circumstance, and has contributed very much to my happiness, as I have had an opportunity of renewing my acquaintance with Lord Erskine and Lady Charlotte, who are solicitous about every thing that concerns you, and enquire very particularly about the children. I am very much prepossess'd in favour of Lord Hoptoun; he preserves a dignity of character, united with an affectionate and friendly temper, which at the same time inspires esteem and regard. Lady Harriot has been extremely ill of a rhumatick fever, occasion'd by a violent cold; she is rather better, but extremely weak.

I shall most likely remain here about a fortnight longer, as Lord Findlater is desirous I should stay with him till he sets out for Scotland, when I shall return to

London for the rest of the summer. Mr. Lorimer goes to Cullen with his Lordship, and I am hopefull this misfortune will not bear so hard upon him as we had reason to apprehend.

Lord Kinnoul and Lady Harriot Roper left us about two days ago. His Lordship, to my great surprize, seems to be of opinion, as well as the Duke of Newcastle, that you did not exert yourself enough in the Inver— affair. In short, success is necessary to satisfy them, and they do not consider whether the thing be practicable or not.

The sooner you send me the memorial for P. Brodie. etc., the better, tho' by what Lord Findlater tells me, I am affraid we shall not succeed, as the Duke of N—e is very obstinate in an affair of that nature, and in a like affair refused the Duke of Argyle and many others. The post is just going out. Excuse haste and incorrectness; and believe me, your most dutiful son,

JA. GRANT,

Direct to Mr. Mackic's care.

364. LUDOVICK GRANT, Edinburgh, to JAMES GRANT, younger of Grant—Decision of the House of Lords in the Douglas Case.

Edinburgh, 4th March 1769.

DEAR SIR,—On Munday last the House of Peers reversed the decree of the Court of Session in the Douglas cause without a vote. The Duke of Newcastle spoke first for reversing the decree. Then Lord Sandwich spoke three hours for affirming; the Lord Chancellor for reversing. The Duke of Bedford spoke in vindication of Mr. Steuart, agent for Duke Hamilton, but said nothing upon the merites of the cause; and then Lord Mansfield spoke three hours, and said the decree of the Court of Session was contrary to law and evidence, upon which the decree was reversed without stating a vote.

An express arrived here at 8 o'clock Thursday night, with the news of Mr. Douglas having prevailed, which was so agreeable to the people in general, that in a few minutes the whole houses were illuminated; all the windows to the street were broke by the mob before candles could be lighted. They began with the President's house, the Justice-Clerk's, Lord Galloway's, etc. etc, upon which the millitary in the castle were called. Last night the mob were as numerous as ever. The houses were again illuminated last night, and it's thought the mob will continue this evening. The millitary continue still to patrole the streets; and notwithstanding, I hear of no dammage done except the breaking of windows, which indeed is general. When I went in to Sir Ludovick's to acquaint them of the news, you cannot imagine the joyfull faces; Miss Mary in particular would surprise you.

There is no news here. All at the Castlehill are well. Best wishes attend all at Hatton Lodge; and I am, with much esteem, my dear Sir,

Your most faithfull humble servant,

LUD. GRANT.

James Grant of Grant, Esquire.

365. JAMES, SEVENTH EARL OF FINDLATER and FOURTH EARL OF SEAFIELD, [Address wanting]—Written after the death of his father.

Cullen House, December 11, 1770.

MY DEAREST SIR,—I was made most happy with your very polite and friendly letter of the 5th, and again with yours of 8th.

As they were wrote in answer to letters of mine, perhaps I ought not now to trouble you; but your usual indulgence must make you on this occasion forgive me, as I cannot help testifying the lively emotions with which that goodness of soul so peculiarly discernable in every thing which proceeds from you affects me.

Though I had been an utter stranger to that amiable character which you have so invariably adhered to from the cradle, the excellence of heart which you have manifested on this melancholy occasion, the affectionate manner in which you have sympathized with my worthy mother and me, and above all the piety with which you regard the sacred memory of those departed parents, whose virtues we can never too much revere, would have for ever endeared you to me. My most amiable friend, we are sprung from the same illustrious stock, and I trust in God we shall ever flourish for the mutual shelter and advantage of each other. The virtues of our ancestors have nobly inspired you to equal, nay, perhaps to outshine them; it shall be my pride and earnest desire to imitate them.

It gives me pleasure to think that I shall so soon be able to leave this dismal place, where my poor mother every day receives fresh wounds to her afflicted mind, and where I can enjoy but little satisfaction. I indulge my self often in the thoughts of soon having the happiness of seeing one whom I so sincerely esteem, and of making acquaintance with my sweet little cousins, whom I shall ever love for their own and father's sake.

My mother anxiously desires to be joined in the offer of respectful and affectionate compliments to our good friends at Castlesteads.

As I know your concern about your friends, I will trouble you with a note from Dupplin.

In the meantime, my dear Sir, I beg leave to assure you how ambitious I shall always be to merit and maintain your friendship, and how zealously and affectionately I shall ever remain,

Your most faithful and most devoted humble servant,

FINDLATER AND SEAFIELD.

366. SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant to ALEXANDER INNES of Breda, Commissary of Aberdeen—Death of Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant,

Castle Grant, March 26th, 1773.

My DEAR SIR,—The afflicting but looked for dispensation of the Almighty is at last come. As you have already been acquainted, I need only tell you that ever since you saw my beloved father, his life has been most pleasing and most exemplary—resigned, composed, superiour to all ostentation or diffidence, yet religious and attentive to the duties of a Christian, No one could see him without saying, O that my later end may be like his.

His family, you may believe, is sensible that they have lost the best of fathers. They nevertheless are as well as can be expected. May kind Heaven sanctify this its severe dispensation. May it take my beloved sisters under its protection, and, if it is agreeable to its decrees, extricate me out of the difficulties I labour under, and enable me to do my duty to them and all mankind.

I have directed my father's bureau at Edinburgh to be seal'd up, and most probably shall be obliged to go thither to examine it. There is only a table drawer here, which, with his bureau at Cotthall, I have likewise directed to be seal'd. I suppose it is proper to have witnesses when I open them. You are acquainted with these matters, and I shall expect to hear from you in course. Believe me affectionately yours,

JA. GRANT.

To Alexander Innes of Breda, Esquire, Commissary, Aberdeen.

367. HENRY DUNDAS, afterwards VISCOUNT MELVILLE, to SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant—Death of a son of the latter.

Wimbledon, 14th April 1788.

DEAR SIR JAMES,—I learnt by Mr. Cumming's letter the distress Lady Grant and you have undergone in your family, and recently in the loss of my little god-son. You will give me credit when I assure you I sincerely participate in every distress which reaches you; and on the present occasion I am particularly sorry in being deprived of an acquaintance with my young friend, whose name would have marked the friendship which subsists between his parents and me. I beg to offer my best respects

to Lady Grant, and remember me affectionately to all the young part of the family. I remain, my dear Sir, with great regard,

Yours very sincerely,

HENRY DUNDAS.

Sir James Grant.

368. LEWIS-ALEXANDER GRANT, afterwards FIFTH EARL OF SEAFIELD, to his Father, SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant—His studies in the Law.

Edinburgh, November 17th, 1783.

MY DEAREST FATHER,—I really have at present a better cause for my silence than what I am commonly able to assign, as I have been a good deal employed in preparing for my trials. I now find what you used to tell me verified by experiment—that you have only to study law a little to make it not unintertaining. As to being positively agreeable, I hope that will arrive in time, when I begin to reap the fruits of my labor. My dear brother James, with his cara sposa John Grant, are by this time in London, as fat and fresh looking a couple as have crossed the Tweed from our country for this good while. It was here agreed on all hands that they did great credit to the Strathspey feeding, which is more than can yet be said of your eldest hopeful. I have no doubt of James going thro' life with happiness and credit to himself and his connections. I never saw a greater combination of good qualities. His good sense, his appearance, and above all, a certain openness and conciliation of temper, attract and secure every one who sees him. Anne, who all [a]gree to have grown younger instead of older by her suspension of winter campaigns in Edinburgh, seems as happy with her friends here as they are with her. Indeed, she looks so well and behaves with such propriety, that I think it ought not to require the generalship of a Lady Lauderdale to get her happily settled. She would make my apology for not writing last post, from my being at Yester, where every body is anxious to repay our kindness to William. But I must stop, as I am just going to take my seat in the Royal Society for the first time. Therefore, with love to my dearest mother, M[argare]t, Jane, etc., believe me,

Your dutiful and affectionate son,

L. A. GRANT.

Sir James Grant, Baronet, Castle Grant, Grantown.

369. JAMES-FRANCIS, son of Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk, to SIR JAMES GRANT of Grant—With a poem enclosed. Indorsed, November 1788.

Monymusk, Tuesday.

SIR,—In the days of the feudal system, days not intirely sunk from human ken, the petty lord, who was a prince within his cott, and a vassal only at his chiefs, was forced, through dire necessity, to seek that ready aid which power, descended from a

numerous list of noble ancestors, had only to bestow; could he have existed or ensured his life one hour without it, never had his haughty soul stooped so low as beg assistance from another. Full many a vassal, trembling for his little tower, has waited anxious at thy castle gates, and those poor few who sometimes were denied, have been obliged, despairing of their safety, to leave their tattered offspring to eventual fate; yet few these were—few but received the fostering ray of pity, and braved immediately their daring neighbour to assault a Grant. But tho' mankind are softened by religion, tamed by the frequent calls of conscience, led on to generous deeds by royalty and generous example,—tho' now we sleep exposed alone to chance, that happens to us all; tho' guards speak dignity and state, no needed watch for safety, yet still the noble patronise the low, the humble are exalted by the means of greatness, and should a tincture of the ancient dye yet mark the bosom of my chief, a distant kindred holds aloft its claim and sighs for hearing.

No broaden'd swords are asked by valour drawn,
 No ready durks that pierce the sleeping fawn;
 No martial thoughts inspire the humble swain,
 Nor dusky vengeance blackens in his brain.
 He to ambition turns his back with fear,
 As dangerous ills in lengthened view appear,
 Seeks not to dwell amidst the envied court,
 Content to know its pleasures by report.
 Untrained in guile, he thinks the word the soul,
 And wants no ordeal from the sparkling bowl,
 No loss of reason to explain the heart,
 But fancys real what his friends impart.
 No frothy hopes—chimeras to the wise—
 Distract his mind or play before his eyes;
 No gilded phantom's syren voice infects
 Tho' childish folly oft his youth directs;
 No vice uncommon casts a piteous stain
 On him, not best nor worst of nature's train.

He pleads not worth, for that indeed were wrong;
 No poet yet was hero of his song,
 No hero yet adjudged himself the palm,
 No froward man was moderately calm,
 No silly fool but yielded to conciet,
 Nor crafty statesman but employed deciet;
 Yet now he looks entreating thee, a friend,
 With hopes that favour will his suite commend.
 Not that he merits what thy tale may plead,
 For that were empty flattery indeed;
 But if no folly damps his ardent cause,

If indiscretion points no glaring flaws,
 If something tremulous awakes a sigh,
 And fears unnumbered bid their victim die,
 Then to thy York one gracious line describe,
 And let the suppliant's bosom hope imbibe.
 Be thou the guardian of his infant tower,
 Be chief in inclination as in power;
 Allay the storm examination breeds,
 And bias all to favourable deeds.
 Speak but in pity what indulgence frames,
 What truth can license or protection claims;
 What fathers feel when trembling sons deplore
 The fate that threatens on a dreaded shore;
 What clanship whispers or ideas plant;
 What Spey rude murmurs, fitted for a Grant.

Having heard that Dr. Markam, a bishop ..., tutor at Eton, I upon that took the liberty of ... a recommendation to him, as I offer myself for holy orders next Christmass to that reverend father, I hope. Sir, you will excuse both my letter and liberty of writing it; and if it be a fault, place it first to my fears on the ensuing occasion, and next to my impudence; but to the first I am much inclined to hope you will set it down; and believe me, dear Sir,

Yours,

JA^S FRA^S GRANT.

P.S.—Please direct to the Doctor's, if you incline me to carry it.

Sir James Grant of Grant, Baronet, Castle Grant.