

# SIEGE OF HEREFORD

Alexander Leslie (1582–1661), **Earl of Leven**

to **Colonel Barnabas Scudamore** (1609–1652), Governor of Hereford

5 o'clock, 28 August 1645

By a former address I made known unto you the constant desires and resolutions of this army to shun the effusion of blood and to preserve cities and families from desolation. And for that end did invite you to a peaceable surrender of that city for the use of His Majesty and the Parliament of England, upon conditions honourable and safe, whereby they might enjoy the fruits of a settled peace, which other garrisons that have been in the like condition now do. Whereunto, upon grounds best known unto yourself, you thought it not then fitting to condescend. Nevertheless, that I may convince you of the realities of our desires and resolutions before mentioned, and of your own guiltiness of all bloodshed, misery, and desolation which your obstinacy may draw upon the persons, families, and estates of that people who are now under your charge, I have hereby once more resolved to renew my former offer, expecting your answer against tomorrow morning by six of the clock, assuring you that if the opportunity be not laid hold of, but rejected, the like will not be offered unto you by your friend.

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**Colonel Barnabas Scudamore** (1609–1652), Governor of Hereford

to Alexander Leslie (1582–1661), **Earl of Leven**

29 August 1645

For your favourable proffer to the inhabitants of this city I shall return their thanks and resolution that they intend to suffer with me, and I shall not suffer alone for the effusion of blood. I am sorry to think of it, that two united nations should so much differ, having paid once well for Scotland's friendship. My Lord, I am resolved to endure all mines and storms which shall be made against this place, and doubt not by God's assistance to render His Majesty a good account of it, the which by my endeavours I shall maintain to the last, and remain your lordship's servant.

John Webb, *Memorials of the Civil War Between King Charles I and the Parliament of England as it Affected Herefordshire and the Adjacent Counties* (London: Longman, Green, and Company, 1879), II:389.