

KEEPING THE KING

Colonel Richard Hammond (1621–1654), Governor of Carisbrooke Castle (1647–1648)

to William Lenthall (1591–1662), Speaker of the House of Commons (1640–1655, 1659–1660)

Carisbrooke Castle, 19 August 1648

Give me leave to acquaint you that, notwithstanding your care to provide for the accommodation of His Majesty and this place by ordering £1000 monthly to be advanced out of the revenue for that end; yet so it is that I am so far from receiving that provision according to order that at this present there is yet unpaid £131 due upon the last month of July, so that there is at least £500 in arrear.

I sent the treasurer of the family, above a month since, to London to solicit and receive the money; who yesterday returned to me with this answer, that there is not any money in the revenue, nor does he know when it will be had.

Sir, our extremities at this present are exceeding great for want of money, I having yet received none out of Hampshire for the payment of the soldiers. And if this £1000 monthly be not constantly advanced, the two hundred soldiers, gunners, and other officers (which are also paid out of it) must not only be dismissed, to the great hazard of this place, but I shall not be able to make provision for His Majesty and his family, the debt for necessary supplies in this intermission begins to be now so great.

Sir, my humble suit to you therefore is that you will please to make some other present provision for supplies, or that you will give order that no moneys may be issued out of the revenue until the £1000 last ordered by you for the urgent necessities of this place, and the £1000 due for this present August, and another £1000 advanced for the month of September, now nigh at hand, be paid.

Sir, I beseech you to take some speedy and effectual course herein, for the necessities of this place are such that they can very ill bear delay.

Henry Cary, *Memorials of the Great Civil War in England* (London: Henry Colburn, 1842), II:2–3.