

PAY FOR THE ARMY

Sir Thomas Fairfax (1612–1671), Lord General

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

Saint Alban's, 2 October 1648

Having received several complaints from the country about the soldiers taking free quarter, notwithstanding their constant paying of their assessments for the army, and finding the soldiers much troubled to hear the many sad complaints of those with whom they quarter and their own inability to answer the expectations of the country in that particular, some regiments having not received any pay these eighteen weeks last past, and none above a month's pay in that time (except those two regiments lately in Kent), upon the consideration of which I could not but, in discharge of my trust to the Parliament and Kingdom, humbly represent these things unto you. Which, if not speedily remedied and the country eased of free quarter by enabling the soldiers to pay their quarters, I fear it may be a rise of disturbances in the country, and distractions amongst the soldiery. Which I thought it my duty to represent unto you.

Henry Cary, *Memorials of the Great Civil War in England* (London: Henry Colburn, 1842), II:22–23.