

# THE INVASION OF ENGLAND

John Maitland (1616–1682), Earl of Lauderdale  
to Alexander Lindsay (1618–1659), Earl of Balcarres

Carlton, near Penrith, 8 August 1651, late

I cannot neglect any occasion to let you know His Majesty and his army are well (God be praised). Never men were more hearty for all their toil; and, seriously, you would not know this army. A natural purge is wholesome, and I hope ours is such when all the ill humors are gone. Trust me, we have not taken the worth of a six-pence, and the country are kind to us. We might have men enough, if we could get arms; some we get. This poor place has given in a day's bread and cheese, which is our first supply in England. We have a strong party advanced to Kendal for more provisions, whither we are to march tomorrow, God willing. More I would write, but it is very probable my friends shall not be the first that shall see this, for it goes a way I am not sure of, and through an enemy's quarters a long way.

I shall entreat you to haste the enclosed to Holland by the first safe occasion. And if my Lord Inchiquin<sup>1</sup> come, and bring any bill from my wife for a hundred pounds, payable on sight, let him not want it. This is twice I have said this. More I would say of my private business, but I have no time to write; and, as I said, the conveyance is dangerous.

I shall only acquaint you that this morning the Lord Howard of Escrick's son<sup>2</sup> is come in to His Majesty, and with him his whole troop. His Majesty received him graciously, and immediately did knight him. He is the first, but I have reason to believe he shall not be the last, 'ere long, that shall return to his duty.

Yesterday, we had a small party, commanded by Captain Inglis, of the regiment that was Riccarton's, who discovered about twenty of the enemy. He sent a corporal and six horse, who drove them before them. Then he advanced himself, alone, and only two with him. They overtook them at a gate, which the enemy were making fast; so the enemy made haste off. But Inglis received a shot in his leg, which I hope is nothing.

Upon this, and the intelligence that 2.000 horse of the enemy were near, the right wing of our horse advanced very fast half-way to Appleby. But finding it impossible to overtake them, seeing they were then the length of Brough, we returned, having only the advantage to get hot coats, and mine was as hot as ever in my life.

This day, to refresh our men, we rest. Tomorrow we march, God willing, towards Kendal. When I know of a good occasion, I shall write again.

I shall entreat you to send to Holland, with this enclosed, a copy of the King's declaration which I sent you. I cannot send it herewith for taking too much room.

My service to all friends, especially my dear cousin, and her that is your wife, and mine, and make my excuse that I write not to any of them. It is impossible, for the King is abed, and I lie this night in his chamber; so I have time to say no more but farewell. God send us a good meeting.

Let the justice-clerk direct this, and all that go to my wife into Holland, to Sir Alexander Home, Master Householder to the Princess Royal, at Her Highness' court in the Hague. We have not got a man of the Galloway or Nithsdale Foot, so your committee must be careful of levying them.

His Majesty has commanded them not to follow him. You are slow in writing. We have not heard from you since we parted.

Henry Cary, *Memorials of the Great Civil War in England* (London: Henry Colburn, 1842), II:309–312.

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<sup>1</sup> Murrough O'Brien (1614–1674), Earl of Inchiquin

<sup>2</sup> Cecil Howard (–), third son of Edward (–1675), Baron Howard of Escrick