

William, 12th Lord Forbes

CHAPTER XIII.

WILLIAM, 13TH LORD FORBES.

Born, *circa* 1657. Succeeded, 1697. Died, 1716.

WILLIAM, 13th Lord, succeeded his father in 1697, being then about forty years of age, and as he held the title for less than twenty years, the more interesting part of his life occurred while he was still Master of Forbes.¹

William, 12th Lord, who had himself received the estate in a very embarrassed condition, seems to have done his best by his eldest son. A long memorandum of his action on this son's behalf is at Castle Forbes and may be somewhat epitomised. It is dated 1679. (These arrangements were perhaps made when the Master came of age, which would place his birth in 1658; it was, in any case, at the time of his marriage.)

"William, M. of Forbes got a full dispositione of the wholl estate and leiving of Forbes, being putton in full fie thereof by William, Lord Forbes his father upon and before the consummatione of his Mariage with Mistres Anne Brodie, daughter of the Laird of Brodie, which Mariage was consummated the 2^d of Oct. 1679.

"Lord Forbes having provided his children otherwayes, and what burden of debts he had (which was verie considerable) he keeped in his own hand and payed them as he might, he entered his eldest sone with 4,137 marks, 12 shillings, 10 pennis of silver, and of meal and malt converted into money at 100 marks the chalder, with 35 dozen and 6 poultrie fowls besydes reick hens,² 12 dozen capons, 18 wedders, 12 lambs, half a stone of butter, half a stone of brew tallow, ane miln swyn, and payed the wholl arents and Mert 1679 of all the lands resting (see page 221), the estate being onlie burdened with the sum of 13,000 marks and for payment of this he did leave what was to be cutted of the wood of Putachie, estimat to 4,000 marks and much more.

"Upon a second agreement of the date 12 Dec. 1681 at Putachie Lord Forbes disponed to his son 700 marks of silver and 3 chalder of malt yearlie, which was payable to himself out of the parishes of Kincardine and Forbes.

"Lord Forbes also gave to his son on the 4 Jan. 1682 when he (himself) was married to his present Lady, Barbara, Lady Forbes a right to the lands of Blairdinnie and Taliachis so that he (the Master) is to enter with the same immediately after the death of the present life-renter.

"He also gave him 4,000 marks which was his daughter Mary's portion [*this shows that she was dead*], Said portion being a part of what the said Lord has on the west Mains of Kellie, reserving only his own life-rent.

¹ On March 4th, 1674, William, Master of Forbes, was made a Burgess of Aberdeen.

² Hens bred in the house—"one Reik-hen" was at one time a sort of hearth-tax paid to the landlord.

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“ William, Lord Forbes did also pay the whole brydell, the cloaths, and all the pertinents, which was very dear, as the compts will instruct, and also gave the said Master ane entrie to his whole lands and made his entrie be the last Bishop of Aberdeen and be the last Exchequer, and all the Saisings and writings stood William Lord Forbes 100 marks. Let it therefore be considered whether William, Master of Forbes did not get his fortune with a very inconsiderable burden. . . .

“ And after his mariage he did get the house of Putachie very well provyded with plenishing and furniture of all sort—although at his last mariage William Lord Forbes did give to his foresaid sone the half of the whole plenishing, and domiciles of all sorts and did put him in present possession thereof, which was transported to Putachie, and what was not transported, is put up in trunks and chists at Castle Forbes.”

The inventory of the half of the domiciles of Castle Forbes will be found in the Appendix (page 235).¹

In the year 1687 the Master of Forbes is found demanding satisfaction from a tavern keeper in Edinburgh for a stolen cloak. And in the family charter chest is :

“ One sheet of a pleading for the Master of Forbes regarding his claim for the value of a cloak of Brussels stuff, lined with velvet, belonging to him, stolen from Steill’s tavern, when the Master was at supper.”

The actual value, which would have been interesting, is not given, but the Master had “ decree for the plaintiff ”

“ before the Lord High Constable in Parliament, the Lords finding Steill liable, partly because Sir Robert Milne of Barntown, Sir Robert Colt and many others, had their cloaks thus stolen in this and other great taverns of the City, so they resolved to make an example.” Fountainhall: *M. of Forbes v. Steill*.

“ February 17th, 1687.”

William and his brother, Arthur Forbes of Auchintoul, had several disputes anent the salmon fishings on the Don, that fruitful source of litigation and even of bloodshed throughout the centuries ; the records of these are in the *Privy Council Register*, and are already in print.

True to the Whig tenets of his family, the Master of Forbes took a considerable part on the Government side in the first Jacobite rising. Forbes was in Edinburgh at the time that Dundee rode away from the Convention, when Mackay of Scourie set out to pursue him in late April, 1689, and “ he (Mackay) despatched the Master of Forbes to the north before him, with

¹ On September 6th, 1697, Anne, Lady Forbes, received from Barbara, Dowager Lady Forbes, and Arthur Forbes of Auchintoul:—

14 silver spoons and 4 forks ;

A large silver sugar box—all previously described in an inventory made, April 2nd, 1693 (before the 12th Lord’s death), and signed by Archibald Forbes of Lickleyhead, William, Lord Forbes, and William, Master of Forbes.

instructions to collect his clan, and to supply the General with information as to Dundee's movements." (*Napier*.)

"When Mackay crossed the Dee he met the Master, who had collected a few hundred foot and forty of his own clan, mounted, but they were so undisciplined and badly armed that Mackay sent them away." (*Ibid.*) It was at this period that John Macky,¹ in his *Memories of the Secret Services* describes the Master as "a young youth, whom Mackay hoped to make useful to his service, though as yet bashful before his enemy, having never seen any." (The "young youth" was then over thirty.)

Later Macky again describes him, after he had succeeded to the title, as "Zealous for the Revolution. He commanded a regiment of Dragoons (Eglinton's) most of King William's reign, is a good-natured gentleman, very tall and black, forty-five years old." Lord Forbes was forty-six when King William died, and may possibly have been more, when this description was written, but apparently he looked young for his years.

"A gentleman with Mackay's army," writing from Alford, June 9th, 1689, says: "We went from Puttachie on Sunday night last to Castle Forbes," and Mackay's own *Memoirs* say that the object of their visit was "to see if any bread could be had or quickly baked of oat-meal to supply his hungry soldiers, the horses getting something now in the fields to pick at, where order was given to prepare some bread—but the general's speedy march that night towards Dundee disappointed us of that supply."

The Master of Forbes does not seem to have been a great deal of use to Mackay as a combatant, but his two houses of Castle Forbes (now Druminnor) and Putachie (now Castle Forbes) were frequently used as places of concentration or rest by the Government commanders.

The following extracts from *Privy Council Records* refer to his services in the campaign:—

Edinburgh, May 29th, 1689.

Extract of Letter to Lord Rollo from Hamilton.

..... "The Master of Forbes by warrant from Major Generall McKay, having taken up the horses in Marischalls devisione of Aberdeen, which were allowed for makeing up your troope, the Estates did formerly desyre him to be cairfull and assisting his makeing up your troope, out of that part of his former locality which he hade not called for to make up his owne, and therefore you would writt to the Master of Forbes to know if he has gotten out all the horses in his localtie in the shyre of Banff and Erroll's part of Aberdeinshyre, and how soon the troopes shall come together, they will order such of the horsemen in your locality of Marischells devisione of Aberdein as have been uplifted by the Master, to be returned to you."

¹ John Macky (not to be confused with General Hugh Mackay) was the captain of a small trading vessel, and composed his famous "characters" of the prominent men in Scotland for the information of the Electress Sophia!

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Edinburgh, June 4th, 1689.

Extract of Letter to Master of Forbes from Hamilton.

" Sir, your letter to me was communicat to the Lords of his Majesties Privy Councill, who are sensible of your care and dilligence in their Majesties service in those shyres. The precept for the pay of your troope conforme to the act of the Estates, is herewith sent you, and wee expect you will give that effectuall concourse for raising the horse-levies in the northerne devisione of Aberdein shyre and shyres of Banff, Murray and Nairne, that when the Lord Rolloes troope and yours can be brought together after a just devisione, both the troopes may be completed."

Abergeldie, July 10th, 1689.

To the Collector of Excise, from Mackay.

" You are required to pay the Master of Forbes seven hundred fourty and eight marks Scots money for meal furnished by the said Master for the subsistance of the forces and provision of the garrison of Abergeldie, which soume I shall order to be pay'd to Mr Oswald at Edinburgh. Given at Abergeldie the 10th July 1689. H. Mackay. For his Majesties speciall service to Walter Gordon, colector of the excyses, of the town and shyre of Aberdone."

[On the back there is a receipt for the foresaid sum signed at Puttachie July 13th, 1689, by " Will. Mr. of Forbes."]

Edinburgh, July 26th, 1689.

" The Privy Councill had given commissions to Lords Kintore and Inverurie to call together the heretors and fencible men of Kincardine. They had also given commissions to the Earle Marischal and Lord Keith ' to draw out the fencible men in the shyre of Kincardine and his own devisione of Aberdein ' . . . ' and have ordained the said Earle to take upon him from the command of Erroll, part of the shyre of Aberdein ; and the Master of Forbes to take upon him the command of Marshall's devisione for that tyme only, and that now the Earle Marischell's indisposition renders him unfitt to undergoe the conduct and troublesome fatigue which the present circumstances of affairs and troubles in that place do requyre and that the Earle and Lord Keith have signified their willingness, that at this time the command given to them be devolved and conferred upon the Earle of Kintore and Lord Inverurie, therefore the Lord High Commission and the Lords of Privy Council granted a commission to John Earle of Kintore, and William Lord Inverurie his son, ' to call together the fencible men in Kincardine, and presbyteries of Aberdein, including the freedom lands of Aberdeen, the presbyteries of Ellon and Deer, which are presently under the command of the *Master of Forbes* ' ' and join them into troopes, companies, or regiment.' " . . .

Edinburgh, Aug. 9th, 1689.

" The Lords of his Majesties Privy Councill doe hereby grant order and warrant to the Earle of Kintore and *Master of Forbes* within the respective bounds under there commands, to secure such persones as shall refuse to come out when advertised, or others who upon good informatione they understand to be keepinge correspondence with the rebels."

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Edinburgh, Aug. 23rd, 1689.

Extract Letter by Council to Generall Mackay.

. "The Council are sensible of the merit of the Master of Forbes and Sir George Gordon of Edinglassie¹ for their singular service to their Majesties at this tyme and your justice by the characters you put upon them, and have accordingly humbly recommended them to his Majestie's particular care. This in name and by warrand of the Council is signified to you by your humble servant
"Crafurd P."

Dec. 18. "You are to model 3 troops of horse to be commanded by the Earl of Eglington, the master of Forbes, and Sir George Gordon of Edinglassie, each troop to consist of 50 troopers, if more cannot conveniently be maintained."

"A record of the military services of

"Forbes (Wm) Master of — is thus given—

"Capt. Independant Troop of Scots Horse 1689.

"Appointed Lieut-Col. of the Earl of Eglington's Regt. of Horse in 1690.

"Drove Genrl. Buchan and the Jacobite forces out of Aberdeenshire same year. [*He could hardly claim the entire credit of this operation.*]

"He served in Colonel Richard Cunningham's regiment of Scots Dragoons, of which he became Lt. Colonel in 1695, and on March 30th 1697 he was advanced to be Lt. Colonel of Lord Jedburgh's regiment of Dragoons, vice Lord Jedburgh.

"He retired from above Regt. 30 Mar. 1697. Became, as Lord Forbes, Col. of the Scots Troop of Grenadier Guards at its first raising 5 May 1702. Lt. Col. of the Scots troop of Life Guards 4 May 1704. D. in 1716."

The above is taken from *Dalton's English Army Lists*, Vol. III.

From the *Highland Papers*, Vol. IV., Scottish History Society, p. 108-109, is taken an official account of the proceedings in August 1690:—

"Edinburgh, August 16. Yesterday Sir John Keith came hither from Aberdeen and gives the following account of affairs in that county; that the Master of Forbes and Lt. Coll. Jackson having three troops of horse and dragoons with them, had notice that the Highland rebels were advancing on the 8th instant towards them; the advanced scouts of both parties met and skirmished, in which action 2 of the rebels were killed. The rebels, upon notice of the Master of Forbes march against them, retired towards a Fort on the River of Don and he pursued them for some time, but upon certain information that they were much stronger in Horse and foot than he was, he called a council of war, where it was resolved that in consideration of the great inequality of the strength of the rebels and theirs, they should not fight them, but make their retreat, with what safety and security they could, towards Aberdeen. . . The Rebels durst not attempt anything upon the Town of Aberdeen." ²

¹ This prominent Whig had his house destroyed by the Highlanders.

² A note in the *State Papers* of a fortnight earlier than the above entry is extremely curious:

"July 31. 1690. The Highlanders continue to ravage the country, whilst General Mackay is in the north, whence we hear that the Master of Forbes with some dragoons

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The account by a Jacobite historian of the same event is as follows :
" Buchan and Cannon with their mounted troops and the Farquharson Highlanders put the Master of Forbes and his Orange levies to rout, without striking a blow. His Mastership, understanding the word of command *wheel* better than *advance*, turned the battle into a race and won ; for he was first at Aberdeen and alarmed the town with a fearful outcry, ' the enemy, the enemy is coming.' "

Two discharges among the loose papers at Castle Forbes refer to Lord Forbes' earlier activities with Mackay's army :—

" Discharge the Laird of Craige to the Mr. of Forbes 1692.

" Be it kend to all men be these presents, me Francis Gordon of Craige, that whereas Sir Thomas Livingstone, Commander in chief of his Maties forces in Scotland by order of the privy council did give order and warrand to Wm. Master of Forbes to seize and aprehend all horses and arms belonging to papists and disaffected persons qch order is of the daite at Edin the — day of May last, be virtu of qch order the sd Maister of Forbes did cause seze ane horse and sadle belonging to me ye sd Francis Gordon, for qch he gave me a receipt in ye termes of ye foresaid order and now seeing ye sd Mr. of Forbes hath given me ye full price for ye forsaid hors and sadle and fully satisfied me yr anent, I therefore for me, my heires etc. discharges ye sd Mr. of Forbes etc. and renounces all rights and pretentione I can have—In witness qhrof these presents written be Charles Barclay servant to Wm. Lord forbes are sett with my hand at Castel Forbes, ye twentie fourth day of Dec. 1692 before witnesses

" Charles Barclay foresd and Arthur Forbes of Auchintoul."

" 1695. Discharge Adam Gordon in Smithston to Wm. Master of Forbes. Be it known to all men, be these prests. Me Adam Gordoun in Mill of Smithston, that whereas Sir Thomas Livingstone Commander in chief of their Majesties forces in Scotland, by order of the Lords of their Majesties Privy Council did give order and warrand to Wm. Master of Forbes to seize and apprehend all horses and arms belonging to papists or persons under baill qch order is dated at Edinburgh the — day of May last by past, by virtue qhrof the sd Mr. of Forbes caused seize ane horse only belonging to me the said Adam Gordoun for qch he gave me ane receipt in the terms of the foresaid order, and now seeing the said Mr. of Forbes has paid me the said price of the foresaid horse and satisfyed me thereanent, And therefore I for me, my airs Ex^{rs}. and Success^{rs}. excuse and discharge the sd Wm. Master of Forbes his Airs exrs. and successrs. of the foresaid horse and of all that I can ask or crave therefore any manner of way. Likewise I doe hereby declair that the foresaid horse was all that the sd Mr. of Forbes seased belonging to me by virtue of the sd order or at any time before In witness qhoff I have sub^d. these pres^{nts}. written be William Hay collector in Aberdeen

had defeated a party of Highlanders, taking some prisoners, amongst whom is one of his brothers."

This was probably Arthur of Auchintoul, who, as already seen, had been summoned on January 1st, 1685, for not taking the test, and had then claimed that he was a minor.

att Castell Forbes the fourth day of January sixteen hundred and nynetie five years Before these witnesses Arthur fforbes of Auchintoul and Mr. William Blake servant to my Lord fforbes.

“ Arth. Forbes wittness.

Adam Gordon.

“ Will. Blake wittness.”

William, Master of Forbes and 13th Lord Forbes, also took a prominent part in the local government of the County, etc., and was a firm adherent of the Whig régime, even before its establishment (see his letter to William of Orange, January, 1689, page 213). He was a Privy Councillor for Scotland under William III. and also under Queen Anne.

The letter appointing him to this office by King William is at Castle Forbes :—

“ To the Maister of fforbes ffor his Majestie's speciall service—Ed. 27 May 1689.

[163] Sir. The King's Mâtie having been pleased to send a Commissione of his Privy Council for this Kingdome and to name you as one and having commanded all these named therein to give their attendance. Therefore these of the said Councill who were heir, mett this day and in obedience to his Mâties commands, doe requyre yow, how soone his Mâties service can dispense with your leaving that country, to repair to Edin^b to attend them conforme to the commissione which in their names is signified to you by yr humble servant

“ Hamilton, P.”

He had such a firm conviction of the usefulness of his own services to the Government that, on the accession of Queen Anne, he sent the following petition to the Secretary of State :—

C. 1702

“ For The Queens most Excellent Majesty

“ The humble Petition of William Lord Forbes.

“ Humbly Sheweth

“ That the Lord Forbes was amongst the first in Scotland who did appear for the Revolution, and when General Mackay came to the North of Scotland, he did Joyn him with a considerable Number of Men being his own Vassalls, and those of his name, which made the Gen.^{lles} passage to the North Easie, and did in great measure contribute to the quieting of that Country, by which means he did Create to himself many Enemies, more particularly in that place of the Country where his Estate Lyes, The issue whereof was that his Tennants were Robed, his woods destroyed and his Estate Laid Wast once and again by the Highland Army. So that for Several Years his Tennants were not able to pay him Rent, And his Family was oblig'd upon some occasions to Remove from his house of Castle Forbes.

“ The said Lord Forbes was necessitate when his Estate was thus Ruined to contract Debts for the support of his Family, and the subsistance of the Troup of horse he Commanded, besides what great charges he was at for the Service of the Government.

" King William of Glorious Memory had such a sense of his faithfull services and Losses that he was pleas'd to offer him the Gift of the Earle of Dunfermlins Forfeiture—esteemed worth a thousand pound Sterling a year, whereupon he Kiss'd his Maj^s hand, but upon inquiry the Estate was found so involv'd in Debt, That he did not push it any farther.

" So that those Debts Contract'd by his Zeal and affection for the Revolution and the faithfull Services he had perform'd since, do still affect his Estate, and will continue so to do, unless Your Majesty take the same to Your Royal Consideration. It is not unknown with what chearfullness the Ld Forbes did ingage for the Revolution and what Services he has perform'd.

" The Lord Forbes having been forced, when his Estate was rendred wast and desolate, to Contract debts, and the same are now become heavy upon him, his pay having been very small and he obliged to attend the Councillis and frequent Parliaments in Scotland, for the Service of the Govern^t.

" It is therefore humbly begg'd that your Lop : would be pleased to Lay this my case before her Maj^y and to honour me with your friendship and favourable protection, which hitherto you have been pleas'd to confer upon Me, that so her Maj^y when inform'd of this my Loses may do therein as She in her Royal Wisdom shall think fitt." ¹ (Castle Forbes papers.)

Lord Forbes was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Aberdeen and Kincardine in 1715, though *not*, as sometimes stated, " to suppress the Jacobite Rising," since his appointment took effect some time before the Earl of Mar raised the Standard at Braemar on September 6th. And the terms of his appointment, as given in full in the Appendix, page 236, show that no " Rebellion or Foreign Invasion " was at that moment in progress, though he was urged to go from London to Aberdeenshire on August 30th.

When the Rising actually took place, Lord Forbes seems to have been placed in command of some regular troops, since " Lord Forbes Dragoons " are said to have been responsible for the death of " John Forbes of Invernettie," on the banks of the Don.

According to a letter from Robert Leslie to the Duke of Mar, in the *Stuart Papers*, Lord Forbes had also leanings towards the Jacobite side.

March 31st, 1716. " Though Lord Forbes is generally reputed a Whig, he has given assurances to some particular friends of his zeal for the King's service." This must refer to the Scottish Lord Forbes, as the eldest son of Lord Granard, who is also mentioned in the *Stuart Papers*, and there confused with the Scots Baron, was at this period Governor of Minorca.

And William, 13th Lord Forbes, was still alive at the date of the letter, though he died in that year and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who took no part in politics on either side.

William, 13th Lord Forbes, by his wife Anne, daughter of James Brodie, had three sons and one daughter :—

¹ Queen Anne did nothing, but George I. granted a pension of £200 per annum. (See next chapter.)

WILLIAM, 13TH LORD FORBES—APPENDIX

1. William, afterwards 14th Lord Forbes, born *circa* 1685.
2. James, afterwards 16th Lord, born 1689.
3. Archibald, born 1697.
4. Mary, married to John Ogilvie of Balbegno, Kincardineshire.

The third son, Archibald, is surmised to have been a Jacobite of the '15, because the Earl of Mar, writing to James, the second brother, on November 17th, 1717, says: "I hear your brother is in France but I know not where, which is the occasion I have not written to him, and particularly on a late occasion of condolence," which must refer to the death of William, 13th Lord Forbes, in London in July of the previous year. William, the eldest son, was present at his father's death-bed, having returned from France (where he had resided for some years) in the spring of 1716 and is not known to have gone abroad again until much later. (He was at Aix-la-Chapelle in 1728.)

If Archibald were in France it might very probably have been in company with other Jacobites who had taken refuge for the same reason. The Earl of Mar was friendly with both William and James. (See pages 239 and 249.)

APPENDIX FOR WILLIAM, 13TH LORD FORBES.

DOCUMENTS, ETC.

INVENTAR.

" Inventar of the just and equall half of the domicills of the house of Castell Forbes disponed by William Lord Forbes to William, Master of Forbes his sone, conform to a just partition made betwixt the said Lord Forbes and his lady, on the one part and the Master of Forbes on the uther, second day of April 1683. " Imprimis, of naperie, Eleven tabel cloaths, six dizon and ane half of servets, fijv better meat cloaths, eleven hand toulis.

" *Item* of bedding seveinteen pare of sheets, twentie two pillow wares, eight pair of hardin sheets, Eleven leather beds, twelve bolsters, twelve pillows, fourtie-fijve pair of plaids, eight coverings.

" *Item* of furnitur and hangings of rooms A green table cloth of the great hall, with the coverings of the formes, a satin quilt, the hangings of the dynen room, the hangings of the old chamber, the hangings of the low room, the bed hangings of the fore-chamber, the bed hangings of the heigh school, a dozen of cushions.

" *Item* of the vessels. Eleven trenchers a dozen of playts and two useless playts. Two stoups of pynt measure, a quart stoup, a mutckin stoup, a flagon and a gill.

" *Item* Six brass candlesticks fijv tongs four fyre-shovels, three dry stools with their pans in the chambers.

" *Item*. Utensils for the use of the Kitchen, a meikle jar a great speit, a fire shovel, a crook.

" *Item* Cellar vessels—nyn barrells.

" *Item* Out of the wardrops Eight bottle glasses, two lame (earthenware) cans, two lame chamberpots, a lame playt, two lame trenchers, three lame dishes, two heckles (flax combs) two pair of cairds (carding combs) two coffers, two

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chests, two lint wheels, two wool wheels, four chamberpots, two buffs (threshing flails), a pair of close creels."

A second Inventar gives

"Such things as are apothecat to the house of Forbes [i.e. heirlooms] disposed by the foresaid William Lord Forbes to the heir thereof.

"Imprimis of silver work—a great syllabub pot with a cover and a stoup.

"*Item* a silver tankar; *Item* ane alamode pottinger with a cover.

"*Item* a large silver dish. *Item* a great silver salt fat [i.e. a salt-cellar, cf. the modern Dutch 'soutvat']. *Item* Seventeen silver spoones. *Item* four silver forks. *Item* a large sugar box. *Item* of armes. Twentie-four guns. *Item* a brewlead *Item* a great pot."

These two inventars are signed by Lord Forbes before witnesses—

Mr. Adam Barclay, minister of Keig, and Mr. William Johnston, minister of Kearn.

LD. LIEUTENANCY OF ABERDEENSHIRE.

[171] The appointment of Lord Forbes was gazetted on August 19th, and transmitted to him on the 27th, along with the following elaborate instructions dated 25th, 1715. "*George R.*

"1. You are forthwith to name and constitute proper persons to be your deputy Lieutenants, taking care that the number of the said deputy Lieutenants for each shire be from six to twelve (and no more) in proportion to the extent of the same shire.

"2. You are not to appoint any officer to be a Deputy Lieutenant who is under the degree of a Major or Captain of a Troop.

"3. You are likewise forthwith to name and constitute such a number of officers in their respective ranks as is proportionable to the fensible men within the said shires whereof you are Lieutenant, which can with ease and without great interruption from their ordinary occupations be assembled and in order to this you may have some regard to the numbers of the Militia of Scotland, but not such as to restrain you from making such deviations from it as from the circumstances of the shires whereof you are Lieutenant may appear to you to be proper and usefull to the Government, in regard that all the fensible men are bound by law to obey you as their Lieutenant in defence of the Kingdom.

"4. You are to observe the utmost precaution and impartiality in the naming your Deputy Lieutenants and Officers so that they may not only be capable but likewise those who are and have been of the greatest and most known zeal before our accession to the Crown for the Protestant succession as established by Law, such only being fit to be trusted with the defence of our person and government who have been always ready to maintain the Protestant religion and their own liberties.

"5. You are likewise to take a peculiar care in the naming your Deputy Lieutenants and officers so as to avoid and prevent any differences and competitions between the heretors which might not only produce many difficulties in the execution of this trust reposed in you, but may be very prejudicial and disadvantageous to our service.

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“ 6. You are at all times to avoid the summoning, calling out, assembling, disciplining or arming any of the fensible men or heretors concerning whom there can be any doubt as to their affection to our government.

“ 7. You are to take care that each battalion consists of a Colonel, Lt. Colonel, Major (who shall have no companies), ten Captains, ten Lieutenants, ten Ensigns, twenty Sergeants, twenty Corporals, two drums, an Adjutant and a Quarter Master and about four hundred private men. And if you shall find it expedient to form any body of horse, each troop is to consist of a Captain, Lieutenant, Cornet, Quarter-master, two Corporals and about forty private men.

“ 8. So soon as you have appointed your Deputy Lieutenants and officers you are to transmit a list of them to our principal Secretary of State.

“ 9. You are to take care to form all the fensible men whom you shall be fully convinced are well affectioned to our government into Battalions and Squadrons according to the methods above mentioned and in case of any Rebellion or foreign invasion you are immediately to assemble them and you are also in this case to observe such Directions as you shall receive from the Commander-in-Chief for the time being in Scotland.

“ 10. In case of the Junction of the fensible men or Militia of more shires or Stewardries than one, the Lieutenants shall have the Command by the day alternatively, and the Lieutenant of the Shire or Stewardry which stood first in the Rolls of Parliament of Scotland shall have the first dayes command and so on in that order, so long as the lieutenancies continue in conjunction.

“ 11. You are upon all occasions to execute this trust reposed in you with as little expense to our subjects as is possible.

“ By His Māties Command, James Stanhope.”

“ William, Master of Forbes presented a Petition, Edinburgh, 25th Feb, 1669 on behalf of Hubert Forbes, Lord Ardlawn and Alose in France, bearing that he is descended of the family and name of Forbes, as the testificats under the petitioners hands bearing his particular descent and pedigree produced bears, humbly therefore supplicating that a borbrieff [birthbrieve] might be granted to him conform to the same. The Lords of his Majesty's Privy Council, having considered the foresaid petition and testificats produced, doe hereby give order to the directour of his Majesties Chancellary to extend a borbrieff to the said Hubert Forbes conform to the said testificats, and ordains the keeper of the great seal to append the same thereto, for which these presents shall be a warrant.” (*Privy Council Records.*) The birth brieve cannot be found.

The 13th Lord Forbes, being an ardent Protestant and Whig, was much against King James' plans for the relief of Roman Catholics, and preserved a contemporary copy of the following document, date 1688 :—

“ The Bishops of Englands address to King Jeames 7th and his Answer thereto.
“ We are yet averse to the publishing of the declaration for want of due tenderess to the dissenters to whom we shall be willing to come to such a temper as sall be thocht fitt qr it sall be considered and settled in parliament and convocation, but the declaration being founded upon such a dispencing power as may att pleasur sett asyde all laws ecclesiasticall and civell, appears to us illegal and did so to the parliament in 1672 and it is a poynt of such great consequence we cannot

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in so farr make ourselves parties to it as the reading of it in the Churches the tyme of divine service will amount too—Signed by the Bishop Canterbury, the
“ B. Pitterborrow, the B. Elie, the B. St. Stataph. the B Baithe and Walls, the
“ B. bristol.”¹

The King's Answer.

“ I heard so much before, but could not believe it, ye look lyk the suspects of rebellion. ye aim at my prerogative but I will not lose a brانش of it, Take yr course and I will take myn—my command sall be obeyed—doe it at yr perrell.”

“ Bishop baith and Wailles said ‘ gods will be doon.’ ”

“ 12 April 1699. [169]

“ A contract by which William Lord Forbes binds himself to pay to John Schaw of Dalnavert three hundred marks upon his proving against responsible men that they were the out-hounders of a band of highlanders, the committers of a depredation on Edinbanchory in the parochin of Achindore in the month of October one thousand six hundred and eighty nine or at least that the masters and heritors of the said depredators are responsal and worth all the value of the said depredation and Expenses bestowed in that affair.”

In an “ Account of the Shires 1706 ” among Macpherson's Original Papers, *Stuart Series*, occurs the following, from the Jacobite point of view—

“ Most of the gentry of Aberdeen are well affected to the King's Interest. My Lord Forbes and some of his name excepted, who are rank Whigs.” (*Nairne.*)

Another paper on the condition of the Army, June 28th, 1706, states—
“ The Lord Forbes. A bigotted Whig. Little sense—little estate and disloyal.”

In the official list of various sums paid to Scots peers to induce them to vote for the Union, Lord Forbes appears as having received £50.

The amounts vary from the £11 paid to Lord Banff to £1000 to the Duke of Atholl.

¹ The seven bishops who signed the famous petition were Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, White of Peterborough, Turner of Ely, Lloyd of St. Asaph, Ken of Bath and Wells, Trelawny of Bristol, and Lake of Chichester. The last-named did not sign *this* copy.