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1547.

April 7. Shrove Thnrsday night, Carlisle. 10. Thomas Lord Wharton to the Lord Protector and Council. I have received your instructions how to treat the Scotsmen of Annandale who proferred service to the King. Sundry of the Irwins have offered to serve, and to compel all the dwellers from the King's possessions to Dumfries, except the Laird of Johnston and John Maxwell, to serve, if they, being poor, might have entertainment. Johnston repaired from the Governor to his house at Lochwood, 2 April; called the principal men, and told them he had heard of their suit to me; said that the Governor would give them great rewards for their hurts, and that he and all the power of the realm would be at Langholm before Low Sunday, so that they need not to make suit to me. Divers inclined to him, and others continued their suit. As Johnston made an overture to serve the late King and then refused, I wanted to entrap him, and sent 40 light horsemen of Langholm to burn a town called Wamphray, half a mile from his house of Lochwood, and the captain and the rest of the garrison to lie in ambush to relieve them, thinking the laird would come out and pursue them. This he did, and took divers of the garrison, but my son Henry Wharton and John Musgrave, with 300 men, being in a second ambush, overthrew the Scots, and have taken prisoners the Laird Johnston, the Abbot of Salsyde, his brother, and 140 others; eight Scots were slain and many hurt. Of Englishmen, four were hurt, but none slain or taken. The prisoners were taken 14 miles within Scotland from Langholm. Archibald Armstrong, young laird of Mangerton of Liddesdale took Johnston. How am I to order my prisoners? The King now has prisoners the Maxwells and Johnstons, who have borne great rule in the West of Scotland.

I ordered the officers of Burgh and Gillesland to bring their best horsemen to wait on my son, but none came. Pray put order for their services to be more dutiful. If I punished a number, I know not how it would set forth the service.

On your letter of 5 Sept. about the wife of John Benthrop, two years prisoner in Scotland, I found an Englishman of that name prisoner in Dysart, beyond the Forth, and hired two Scots to get him away, but he had not spirit for it, and says he will be discharged on paying 10*l.* ransom.

P.S.—The Laird of Johnston had three spears broken on him, and is hurt with one. [2¾ *pages.*]

April 9. Easter Eve. Carlisle. 11. Thomas Lord Wharton to the Lord Protector and Council. I have had intelligence out of Scotland, that the Governor, with the whole power of that realm, should have been at Langholm on Monday after Palm Sunday, but the Earl of Huntley said he could not bring his train into those parts at that time of the year, so it was deferred. On the late proclamation in Edinburgh for all men to be ready with provisions, they have appointed a general wapenshaw or assembly of the whole force of the realm, on Monday the morrow after Low Sunday; the Governor and power beyond Forth to be at Rosley moor; Earl of Angus on Lanark moor; the countrymen of Carrick, Kyle, Cunningham, &c. to assemble, and all to march to Langholm,