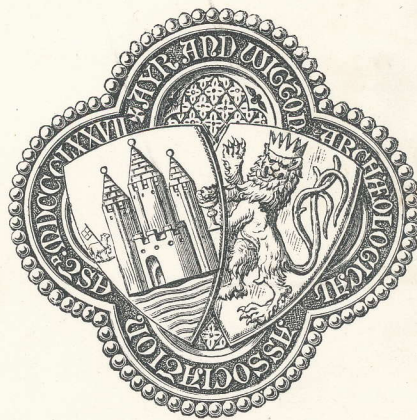


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XI.

CRAUFURDLAND MSS.

SUTHERLAND CORRESPONDENCE, 1748-9-50.

[THESE Letters, from the sixteenth Earl of Sutherland to Lieut.-Colonel Walkinshaw Craufurd of Craufurdland, are transcribed verbatim et literatim from the originals in the possession of J. Reginald Howison Craufurd of Craufurdland. The Letters from John Walkinshaw Craufurd (ten in number) have been kindly forwarded by his Grace the Duke of Sutherland, from the archives at Dunrobin Castle.

Extract from Wood's *Peerage of Scotland*.

WILLIAM, 16TH EARL OF SUTHERLAND, was born 1707. M.P. for Co. of Sutherland in 1727. Succeeded his grandfather in 1733. One of the Sixteen Scottish Peers in 1734. Appointed first Lord of Police 1744. During 1745 displayed great vigour in the service of the Government. Under the law for abolishing "Heritable Jurisdictions," in 1747, had £1000 paid to him for his Sheriffship of Sutherland. He died at Montauban, in France, in Dec. 1750, aged 43.

William, 17th Earl of Sutherland, born 1735, was his only son. Two Letters of his appear in the following correspondence, the first, when he was a boy, under the signature of "Strathnaver." He entered the army, and had an ensign's commission in his 11th year. Succeeded to his father in 1750, and was appointed A.D.C. to the King, and Colonel in 1763. He died in 1766.

JOHN WALKINSHAW CRAUFURD OF CRAUFURDLAND (son of John Craufurd of Craufurdland, and of Robina, heiress of Walkinshaw, his wife) was born 1721. Entered the army as cornet in North British Dragoons in

1741. Was present at the battle of Oudenarde in 1742, Dettingen 1743, and Fontenoy 1745. Returned to England in the summer of 1745, on sick leave, having become then Lieutenant in his Regiment. It was at this time he attended his friend Lord Kilmarnock to the scaffold. To show their displeasure the Government of that day stopped his promotion. A letter from Lord Kilmarnock's son, Lord Boyd, thanking him for his kindness, is in my possession, and has been published. Colonel Craufurd went to America as Captain in 115th Foot, in June 1757; he was at the taking of Quebec in 1759; returned to England in 1760; got the command of the 115th Foot, as major, in 1761; placed on half-pay when the Regiment was reduced in 1763, and was made a Lieut.-Colonel in 1772. He was his Majesty's Falconer for Scotland, but was superseded in that office in 1763, to make way for a relation of Lord Bute's. He received the freedom of the City of Perth in 1762, and succeeded to the estate of Craufurdland 1763, on his father's death. He died (unmarried) in 1793.]

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

EDINBURGH, 14th Jany. 1747.

My dear Lord—When I wrote your Lordship by Sandy Baines I mentioned that Mr. Baillie had sent your Lordship a scrole of an assignment from you to him of the jurisdiction money, which he had not sent in his packet; I dined with Sir John Gordon here this day, when Mr. Baillie made out the assignment to be given to him by your Lo/ as likewise his back bond, which you'll please return to Sir John Gordon at Edinburgh; Hugh M'donall write out both. Your Lo/ vill return the whole to Sir John with the scrole I send, that he may see the princepall is right.

Sir John waited on the Justice-Clerk this day and told that upon recommendation of yr Lo/ he hoped Mr. Polson of Kuthills would be appointed Sheriff for the County of Sutherland; L^d Justice-Clerk said that your Lo/ had been very hardly used, and that he did not fathom the meaning of it, considering the great service the family of Sutherland had always rendered to the present family, and the late noble struggle your Lo/ made during the late Rebellion; but I can easily account for it; the hints I gave concerning M. le General, vill plainly point out the whole, which your Lo/ vill do me the justice to say was my opinion from the beginning. This day I was with Ronald Craufurd, who told me that he had fair letters

Sic. from the General to diverent people which make him . He says George Mackay had no more intention to oppose your Lo/^s candidate than he had, till the General spoke to the Ministry to have George the opponante, and told them he vould give his interest for him against your Lo/. I have conversed a good deal about Ardloch affair. I am not fully assured vwhether or not it is proper for your Lo/ interest to prosecuted immediate, or rather that it should lye dormant till I come down in the spring, that it may be done away amicably. Sir John spoke to the L^d Advocate, he pushes to have the circuit at Dornoch, vvhich I hope he vill be able to effect. I set out to-morrow morning, and am just going to take leave of Lady Strathnaver, and receive her Lap/ and Lady Betty's Com^{sns}. The General set out for Sardinia, first to the Hague, to Vienna, and so on to Turin. The French are in motion, and 'tis said, tho' the Ministry disown it, that they have made themselves masters of several places in Flushing. I am vastly impatient to get away, vvhich put all other things out of my head. All the people here cry out against the Ministry of their usage to your Lo/, even those who are glad of it, and can't disowne the ill treatment.

I am, vwith great esteem and truth, my dear Lord, your Lordship's most affectionately most faithful ser^t.

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

To the Right Honourable

The Earl of Sutherland, at Dunrobin.

LONDON, 16 July 1747.

My dear Lord—It gives me great grief to hear that your Lordship is so much afflicted and that I cannot have the honour of seeing you this day, and this morning Doctor James has given me one of his infernal pilles, vwith strict orders not to go out of my room. I waited yesterday upon His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and delivered your Lordship's letter out of my own hand. He asked kindly for your Lordship, and when I expected you in town, vvhich I told him might be this evening, as I did not expect your Lordship sooner; he desired his compliments and would be glad to see your Lordship as soon as you come to town. If I had know of your passing yesterday, would have gone to Richmond, as only waited your Lordship's return. I waited yesterday on Mr. Schrader, who informed me the proposal made by your Lordship to raise a Regt. for the service of the States-General is much relished and approved of by the Prince of Orange, His Highness has likewise obtained leave from His Majesty to raise them in Scotland;

the officers, at least most of them, the King says he vill name, in vvhich case I suppose your Lordship vill not undertake the thing, and Mr. Schrader and even the Prince of Orange are of the same opinion; how that difficulty may be got over now as most of the elections are or vill be soon at an end, I shall not say, as the demand was made before they came on, and am hopeful the Duke of Newcastle and the other secretarys may be brought over, as this affair can now in no ways have influence upon political affairs. If your health can allow your Lordship^s coming to town to-morrow it will be very necessary; if not I beg you'll send the landaw early, and if there's anything your Lordship wants done with the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Schrader, or others, I shall do it, and come out to Richmond in the evening. The Duke's determination I am affraid leaves your Lordship much in the same way as before, tho' to give him his due it is write in a very civil stile, much more so than Sir Everald's. The last mail bring an account that Bergem op Zoom has been saluted since the trenches were opened vwith red-hot bullets, and that the Frence had taken possession of one of the glacis^s. The two Highland Regts. are in it as well as a Battⁿ of the Royal, as well as two three other Brittish Corps; the Prince of Waldeck has been detach'd from the Allied Army with ten battallions and fourteen squadrons to defend the Dutch territories. The siege of Genoa is entirely given over, and General Schulenberg marched his army from their territories, so that our affairs upon the Continent are not so vell as could be wished. Its said that General St. Clair is still to have your Lordship's interest for the county of Sutherland, and that he is going north for that purpose. I assured those who said so that every tittle of it was false, and that it was like many others, a malicious falsehood, rais'd by your enemies, all vvhich I hoped would soon be repayed them vwith interest; all vvhich aspersions can give your Lordship no uneasiness, as its vwhat they have from the beginning practised and have a mind to end vwith. I hear Lady Strathnaver is still very violent. I suppose from being ply'd by another set afresh. I am likewise inform'd Sir John has secured the town of Dingwall, so that if Ulpster do his duty he is in no danger of losing his election. I hear the majority of the town of Edinburg is for Provost Stewart being their member, vvhich he wisely declines. I do not hear that George Drummond is set up. The Duke of Argyle set out Saturday last, but not attended by Mr. Bruce, as was given out. The house is painting and is very disagreeble. Doctor Thompson took a walk last evening in the garden and seems to have an intention to get possession of the house, and

I suppose to eject your Lordship, which he vill find a very difficult matter and a vain attempt, tho' it shows his good intention. I have given orders that no person whatever is let in, as the maid tells me the Doctor servant wanted to see the house, from vhat intention I don't understand; but if he has any design to make a noise, and possible to endeavour to take possession, I shall take care to repell force by force. In hopes of seeing or hearing of your Lordship's better health to-morrow, I am, my dear Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most devoted ser^t.

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

I.

DUNROBIN, January 14th, 1748th.

My dearest Friend—I have been melancholy since I lost your company, but I hope you wil take caire of your health; I doe not feare your drinking, but take caire of the bony lassess of London, etc.

As to Mr. Simmonds' journey to Apelscross, he has been long, for he onlly came here 2 days agoe; but I believe that wi £20 expence wee may make Twenty thousand pounds, and perhaps ten times the sum. I shall take caire of the coal till your return, and keep a regular account with Simmonds if you doe not come sounne here. I designe to go a Don Quixoting, for I am resolv'd not to ruine myself for the service of anybody. I send you enclosd a copy Apelscross letter. If Simmonds' wife wants a little money I think you might give it her, for the man is honest I believe. My compliments to Lady Weems and Mrs. De Teers, and all other friends. —I am, dear Sir, yours while

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—The coper oare is worth fourty pounds a ton at least.

II.

DUNROBIN, January 22d, 1748th.

Dear Walkinshaw—I received your kind letter late last night. I am always satisfied, *malgree moy*, what wil or can hapen, tho' I think I am amongst the worst used men in the kingdom. I'l leave this place sounne if I doe not see you. I send you the enclosed letters which I hope you'l deliver. I am oblidge to send ane express to Inverness for fear of missing the post, so I am in heast, dear Sir, your most oblidge humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—I wrote you before to London about Apelscross coper oare.

III.

DUNROBIN, Febr. 6th, 1748th.

My dear Walkinshaw—I doe not wonder of your short letter datted January, Tuesday 12th, 1748th. Saturday would have answerd as well, because you could have told me more, as the Saturday's post answers here equally to the Tuesdays, but the pleassurs of London will not be out of a young man's head for some days. God pity you! I went to Helmsdale tother day and kild some fish, to the number of twenty salmond; next day went to the salt water fishing, where we kild about 65 cod, 600 hadoks, and ane innumerable quantity of whitteens, etc. I shall now conclude my letter with wishing you as much contentment at London as I have in Sutherland. —I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—I could have written you about some lasses in this country but will not, on the account of your short letter.

IV.

DUNROBIN, Febr. 10th, 1748th.

Dear Sir—I am oblidged to you for the letters you have forwarded. I send you enclosd Mr. Pelham's¹ letter. My usage by His Majestie's servants or ministers is what I never expected, for His Royal Highness the Duke,² as ane of such a family wil stand, and owns there is a considerable summ due me. For mine ar not to suffer as formerly, so I desire you'l give in a memorial in my name, for there is no ocasion of signing it, that I want to go abroad for my health, for no Peare of the Realme can go out without His Majestie's leave; which just demand, if refusd, I cannot help [0 0 0], but I think wil not be; as for London, etc., I have no thoughts. I take notice of all your philosophical remarks, and expect you soun here or you'l find me abroad, tho' without leave. Every thing is going on well here. If a new Rebellion, I could bring 2000 men, but as I sufferd so much I wil stand His Majestie's humble servant, but must not be entirly ruind. You'l excuse this scribble for being confusd, for Mrs. Gun was drinking your health, and you know I am zealous for the faire sex, especially when I have such a rival

¹ Henry Pelham, born 1696, died 1754, was brother of the Duke of Newcastle; was first Lord of the Treasury from 1744 till his death.

² H.R.H. Duke of Cumberland, born 1721; commanded the royal forces at the battle of Culloden; son of George the Second.

as you are, but if you come soune bak I am satisfied to take my chance ; as for going to London I cannot think of, having orderd my agent, Mr. Baily, to be here about the 15th March to settle my affairs, and then I am free. I shal endeavour to end with Apelcross about his coper mine. I hope you'll make Mr. Stephens give up the old contract between that raskal Dear and us, for honest men have no chance with villans but guard against them. I have so many ladys here that I cannot write any more in answer to yours, but I can assure you nobody has a greater regard to you than dear Sir, your most affectionat and oblidged servant, while SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—The rebells were upish; it is given out that a new rebellion wil begin the 15th March, others say not before November next ; I believe not at all. Mr. Pelham had no ocasion to frank my letter, for I might have been one of the 16ten¹ were it not for him, etc., and perhaps have served the Protestant succession as my predecessors and myself have don, no surer and better, I surpose, than those who they have put in. Some of them, I mean their predecessors, surrenderd to my grandfather for rebellion. I beg you'll acquaint me if it is necessary to answer the enclosd. I think you should show it to Mr. Weeb.

V.

DUNROBIN, Febr. 12th, 1748th.

Dear Walkinshaw—I hope you'll make my compliments to Lord Londondery and to my friend Mr. Potter, whose advises for coming up I would take as soune as any in Brittain. You know my tennants and vassals since you was with me have payd nothing ; they think as they have a notion of another Rebellion I should not be hard as they sufferd so much on my account and have had no redress. You know I had a party of red coats quarterd on my estate ; where could I clear the deficiency but by borrowing the money ? which God be thanked I have as yet good credit. If I left the country my people would go mad at this time, and without a prospect of success why would any advise me to go ; for it would hurt me stil the more, for any mony I can get wil be to live privately abroad til justice is don me ; as for letters, you might have opend mine, but for yours it would not be right, being some lady's billet might bee seen, and as a certain General said, I was a blab. I don't encline to know such secrets. However,

¹ One of the sixteen Representative Peers of Scotland.

if you think it is absolutly necessary, I wil come up, but shal only pretend to be a broken highland laird, broke by the injustice of the Government for being the first that raised them men for the service of the Government months before any in Scotland. I writt more to you on this subject than I ever talke here, for I always have a hart love for the Protestant succession, which is my reason why I want to goe abroad, rather than when people spakes to me of the injustice I mett with, when I contradict them, every time I tell a falshoud.—I am in heast, dear Sir, your most obligd friend and affectionate servant,

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—I referr you to mine of the 18th.

VI.

DUNROBIN, Febr. 25th, 1748th.

My dear Walkinshaw—I thank you for putting me on my guard concerning what you writ me; except it is on publik or general things I am on my guard. If there is occasion for my going up I would goe, but I would rather choise to louse a 1000£ then go upt this year; if they give ane order for my payment (I mean Mr. Pelham) I can give a letter of attorney which will doe the bussiness. I am very much oblided to Major Bendish and other friends who takes my part in my absence, for they must be real friends; my mother wants me to live with her, but I would rather go and live at London on my owne expences than at Edinburgh on hers. I am not yet wearied of Dunrobin; if Major Bendish came along with you here he should have a hearty welcome as long as he pleasd to stay. I have six fine bulloks and twenty weathers fatning, which will be good meat again you come here: and I hope you'l see a good going coal; and I have hird a very pretty girl to spin, who comes at Whitsunday; but I hope you'l come soun, in better health than the last time. I am glad to heare of your great moderation with the fair sex. I heard Sir John Gordon¹ was ston blind at Edinburgh for some hours, his enemys says it was by drinking, others says it was a violent cold. A list of what the gardner wants you to bring down with you— $\frac{1}{2}$ Lib. of Apple Seed or Pipes: $\frac{1}{2}$ Lib. of Pear Seeds: 2 drop Carnation Seed: 2 drop Aureculass Seeds. I wil trouble you with no more letters, hoping you'l be soun here. I have received a cuple of weegs from James Anderson, who imagins I am going

¹ Probably Sir J. Gordon of Embo, who died 1779.

to London. I think the black might have gone about his bussiness long ago. The things I comissiond you to by for me you may give your bil, and shall pay you honestly the day it's due.—I am, dear Sir, your eternal friend, while

SUTHERLAND.

Turn.

William Campbel and Wil Muray has a trunk of cloathe in James Anderson's hands, which might be sent down with the rest of the comissions. If you would spake to Adam Gordon about my unkle Morison, and get him also sent here. My agent Baily has wrote to Mr. Gordon on the affaire; you could not doe my family greater service. Cout qu'il cout.

The Jacobits in Scotland give out that I had plenty of money remitted me by the Ministry during the Rebellion. If justice is not done me I must publish in the newspapers that I never got a farthing of what I spent, but, on the other hand, was turned out of the sixteen Peers, and turned out of my Presidency of Police. If Mr. Pelham wants me to come up shal waite on him, but I know London well; nobody has a regard for ane empty purse, and no young girl likes an old man so well as a young on. I have engaged the heress of Burlay, Auchachy's acquaint^{ance}, about eighteen years of age, a pretty girl; which will be safer than your Londoners. God guide you. I will write no more to you at London.

S—D.

VII.

DUNROBIN, Febr. 25th, 1748th.

Dear Sir—I received yours, but you touchd me to much on the sore heal, for I am resolvd if ever I see London againe to keep other sort of company. As I have lived so long in the Highlands I was oblidgd to be what wee call civil and hospitable to people wee would not doe the same to at London, which way and custom made me act abroad what I should not doe. Lord Lovat, by doing of which could gett people to do anything for him; my view was only to get people to act a just and conciencioss part. So much for moralitty. As for my coming to London I doe not see any advantage I could make except to be dund daily for mony. You know I have non. If those who can doe me justice and were willing to do it, then it is time enough, but I have next month my tennants and factors to count with, and settle all my affairs when my agent is present; and now my being out of Parliament what satisfaction would it be to me to be at

London without redress, spending my mony, and return home worse than I came out. I hope I need writt you no more on this subject, being I expect soun here, the weather turning fair and your presence much wanted concerning the coal and minels, for as you are equally concerned I doe not encline to act entirly by myself, but by your advice and aprobaton, being wee have very cuning people to deal with, especially for me. Scots Cathal is willing now to give a lease for thirty-one years instead of seven; but wil doe nothing til I see you. My mother is stil more and more unreasonable, and asakd me why I did not send her the two gold watchies? I wrot her they were my own, and therefore kept them; she alway complaining. I wil trouble you no more at present til I see you, but am, dear Sir, your most affectionate humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

Turn.

Sir—I send you the enclosd not of necessarys wanted for my family, I beg you'l give your credit. We have always nine month, and can repay you against the droving time, which will be in August. SUTHERLAND.

VIII.

DUNROBIN, March 3d, 1748th.

Dear Sir—I received yours, and when you come here shal gett all your letters up; for burning of them I choise rather you would doe it yourself, for you wrot nothing but as a friend to me, and the letters under lok; I intrust nobody with the key except Mr. Brichess-poket, etc.

As this northern parts are ful of news. It is said Seaforth and Munroe are to get the forfeited estates in the north. Seaforth, if his few-duty of the Lews, which is 500£ yearly, and due for a number of (20) years, the Crown might satisfie him and his people. As for the Munroes, God knows if they are not payd with usury. As for the Lyon, he could not bring ten Brodies to the field, and scraped up but fifteen to stay in his house; without vanity I believe non has been so requitted as I have been. The Government should say I did wrong, and prove it, as also that my people did no service; and not to propose to give the forfeited land to Mackenzies and Monroes; but if they have not mony to pay me, to give me some lands as ane equivalent in morgage, til they redeemd them; the others are very well refunded. God knows I want none of these misfortunate people's lands; but if the Government had no other funds it would be juster to give it me til I was

relived, than those who have got without doing so much. I had no thought of writting to you any more, as I told you I expected to see you soune; however I beg you'l burn my letters as they are not so well pend as yours. By the letters I wrot Mr. Pelham, I hope he will get me His Majesty's leave to go abroad, as I will be reckond a rebell without it; for no pear can go out of the nation without leave; and whatever hapeñs in the north afterwards late the Mackenzies and the little tribe of Monroes answer for it. I belive the latter can not make above 140 men. The former is weel known what they have don. As for me I must not pretend to have don any thing.

Turn.

If you are here next month I wil late you see all my affairs settled, so that I wil have no farther to trouble myself in the north either about their new shirises or other affairs. I was oblidge to pay land tax, minister stipends, and all publik burdens, without receiving a farthing, except what I got out of the farms I keep in my own hands. I wil say one thing, if just justice is not don me, I may, as the highlander says, forgive them but not forget them.

My mother wants me to come south and stay with her. I know her designe is to get me married to a widow. The old song is, a kis of a made is worth ten of a widow. I wil writ no more til the post comes to answer yours more fully for the last, til I see you here, not forgetting my compliments to lords and lairds who enquire after me. I just now received yours dated Febr. 20th. We have had a fine season in this country, and tolerable goud weather. If I showd your letters, as I am leasy might use a borrowed hand; but so far from that I keep them from the sight of everybody until I see you, when, if you encline, shal gett them. I know your advice about secrecy is acting a true friend by me, which I have found rare in my day. I have payd lately at Edinburgh above 2000£ sterling of debt, and if the Government payd me a part would be due nothing at London. As I wrot Mr. Pelham if His Majesty allowed me to go abroad I could be satisfied, as no justice is like to be don me, for I want only what is due me. I expect to see you soune here; in the meantime I am, dear sir, your most affectionat humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

I send you enclosed how I have ended with your friend the general. God knows I have sufferd for him and serving the Government. You'l

bring the enclosed with you ; but it will satisfy you and other of my friends how I have been used by the Ambassador. Captain Sutherland of Gorse was in Ross-shire, and passed through this country, and told everybody that the general had prevailed on Mr. Pelham to settle 1000£ yearly on my son ; but storys goes as fast about as ever. I think I should be paid my debt ; and as I ask no place or pension of the Ministry, since I have done nothing they might give him something for his predecessors' services. I have also remitted my agent 700£ to pay my other Edinburgh debts. I am, dear Walkinshaw, yours, etc. and etc.

[Letter from Lord Strathnaver, afterwards 17th Earl of Sutherland.
Born 1735 ; died 1766.]

Dear Sir—I beg pardon for not writing you before, according to my promise. I beg you would tell me who to keep correspondence about the tea and sugar. Pray send me the wax candle and the stockings, and send my combs. My duty to papa. Compts. to all friends ; and pray excuse my writing, etc.—I am your humble servant, STRATHNAVER.

To Captain Walkinshaw, at

The Rainbow Coffee-House,

Lancaster Court, in the Strand,

London.

IX.

DUNROBIN, March 3rd, 1748th.

Dear Sir—Since writing my former letters to you, the last post not being come on, I must inform you that the furnass is finished, and Simmonds says that he is not afraid of the coals answering to our satisfaction. I hope justice will be done me at London ; as for enemys, everybody that acted as I did must have them ; my grandfather and father who never owned to have good parts,¹ which I do not pretend to, but for honesty and integrity I will not yield to any,—they, after the Rebellion in the 15 or 16, had the Duke of Argyle and that party against them ; the late King knowing my grandfather's services and his readiness to serve his family supported him ; but on the other hand I am used worse than a rebell—without his Majesty's favour, but cannot get payment of what I disbursed. I will not trouble you any further, but any liquors or things belonging to me that you think might

¹ Sic.

be sent down or what I desird you to send may be by first ocasion and well insured, except by Captain Reid that notorious rascal. Everybody here is troubled with colds; Mrs. Butler is almost dead. Rob. Mackalester is gon to Inverness, but I belive wil not recover. I hope you'l belive that your letters are safe in my hands, and as there is no treason wil not burn them till I see you—I am, dear Sir, your most affectionat friend and humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—I wil expect you here the beginning of April at farthest.

X.

DUNROBIN, March 10th.

My dearest Walkinshaw—I hope you'l excuse this scrol having Ulbster and twenty others with me, and the post is just going of I cannot be particular. If His Majesty and Ministers would make up my expences and losses in this shape, would satisfie me and tend to the great advantage of His Majesty, which is to raise 3 companies of 60 private men, with officers, drums, etc., and build a fort at Helmsdale, I would be bound on any imargency to make them 1000 men on six days' notice, the Government paying for the aditional men during their service, and giving me good pay for to make up my former losses and expences; it would save his Majestie several regiments in Scotland; and if I kept any of the men in my pocket as Lord Lovat did, I would deserve to be quarterd. I know it would keep the north in order. My only view in mentioning this is the hint you gave me of building of forts. I wil trouble you no more with letters til I see you here, but I am, dear Sir, your most affectionat friend and humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

XI.

BATH, Febr. 8th, 1749.

My dearest Captain—I touke the liberty of opening Mr. Buntens letter to you under my cover; he wrote you about the G., of which the E. H. puts in for by the interest of the D. of A. You'l see if it is proper I should write to the Duke of Cumberland, he having promised to serve me. I am dull til I see you againe, though I have won fifteen guineas this morning, but my spirits are not elevated though I have drunk almost a bottle of Champaine, not forgetting your health. I am, dear Sir, yours unalterable, while

SUTHERLAND.

XII.

BATH, Febr. 12th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I hope you wil not come down to Bath on my account ; but if my affairs wil take time at London I rather choise to stay here, and in that caise wil be glad to see you and Mr. Banteen here. I beg you'l continue writing me ; my compliments to all friends that enquires after me. E. O.¹ thrives well. I am, dear Sir, your affectionat and most humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

XIII.

No Date.

Sir—I forgot to mention that Makay of Bryhouse and the rest of the Makays who deserted the pass in Sutherland called Port More sent to everyone of the officers of the independant companys to signe petitions to His Majestie. The sum for each captain to be payd the bearer is 6 shilings, the rest in proportion. The messenger and employer are, as I am informed, to part that mony. Everybod knows the independant companys did nothing, at least in this country. The man's name sent on the ambassy is one Mackbeath, a tenant's son of mine, who was the only fifth man of Mackintoshes company belonging to Lord Lowden's regiment. I doe not say they or any of that regiment were kild. I have or had a pair of colours ; not that I touke them, but my people did, without pay.

Turn.

I must acquaint you when I went to see Mrs. Munroe, your flame, and younger Andocks, that Macbeath said he was oblidgd to call himself Grant for protection ; he also says, goin to the Island of Skie he sayd he never saw such quantitys of Aquavite caried on horses, and that the officers in that island said that if they had not their half-pay they would hunt the fox. For my share I have sufferd ; but now am turnd wearied of what I have suffered. Farewel.

Tho' I mentiond above my weariness I am going to engage a piper, the best in Scotland, a true whig ; he plays on hautboy, flute, fidle, etc., and when I may be called perhaps wil be readier than others whose family's have only changed their opinions lately.

¹ The gaming table called the "E. O."

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

LONDON, 9th Feby. 1748/9.

My dearest Lord—I wrote your Lo/ by last post. I dined this day with Captain Mackay, who told me Mr. Pelham had desired him to come to him next week, which is probably about your Lo/s business. The Captain was with the General; who seems to have an inclination to prosecute the affair against Sir John of Embo, which consequently is intended against Cap^{tn} Mackay, but in my humble opinion it is with no other intention than to say he has the command of your Lo/s interest as formerly, of which I leave you to be judge if it is in good hands. I saw the General this day, but had very little conversation with him. I shall this week deliver your letter to Mr. Pelham. I vrite you by next the news of the town. Cap^{tn} Mackay desires his comp^{ts}.—I am, my dearest Lord, most sincerely your devoted servant,

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

I delivered your letter to His Grace, who desired me to call on him this day s'night, when I should have an answer. I shall deliver your letter to Mr. P. to-morrow. I told Cap^{tn} M. of it, who approved of your writing him. Adieu.

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

LONDON, 14th Feby. 1748/9.

Sic. My dearest Lord—I had the honour of both your Lo/ of the 11th I received the former after I wrote you last night. I saw Doctor Ascarge this day; he ask'd very kindly after. Your Lo/s affairs are very vell in that quarter, concerning your Lo/, of which I shall take a more proper opportunity than by vriting. I likewise saw Mr. Skinner, who desires his comp^{ts}. He hopes your Lo/ will push the coal; he proposes to go down early in the spring. The Fort is to go on with all diligence and expedition. I dined with Cap^{tn} Mackay this day. I had a great deal of conversation with him about your affair. I told him the danger of a fresh quarrel if that affair was given away without your Lo/s knowledge and consent, as it was not then engaged when he spoke to a certain person of your inclination thereanent; he said it very frankly, and imagines the report to be without foundation, tho' it is a strong rumour in the city. I saw Hill this day. I

told him round of his impertinence, vvhich he own'd and begged pardon ; since the heat was over I did not think worth vvhile to use him as he deserved, but told him I was to have little more commerce with him. I have beat him down the quarter's rent. I think he deserves to be put to as much trouble as possible. There is little news of consequence. The Bill for Court Martials is not intirely withdrawn. A Bill is presented to the House for to raise and support 3000 more seamen. I did not find Mr. Campbell this day, but vill be sure of him to-morrow. I had a good deal of talk concerning Auchaneas affair. Your Lo/ is best judge ; I wish the thing was ended. I wish likewise the letter vwrite to Aidloch had it not been, as it was in effect contradicting the former ones. I shall be glad to receive your Lo/s directions anent that affair of which I wrote last post. I used the freedom to open the enclosed, knowing it to be from Robert Gray, to answer as your Lo/ desired, in case it required an immediate one. I think it contains a great deal of good. I hope ere long to vish your Lo/ joy of the estate of Skelbo. I am glad to hear E. O. succeeds. I hope your favourite Mrs. Baillie is vell ; remember me to Cust, and just pray let me hear if Uniak is married, and if Bath grows fuller of company or thinner. You'll please send Robert Gray's answer and I shall forward it. I am with great sincerity, my dearest Lord, your Lordship's most devoted servant,

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

The inclosed are proposals for printing, by subscription, the *Tragedy of James the First of Scotland*, written by Mr. Smollet.

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

LONDON, 15 Feby. 1748/9.

My dearest Lord—I wrote your Lordship by last night's post. This day I was at Chelsea to make enquiry about the house. I did not see Justice Allers ; but Mrs. Hall, at the Coffee-House, told me she had spoke to him since your Lo/ went to Bath. His answer was to her that he was ready to satisfy your Lo/ as to that affair. If you think it proper I should receive the rights and writings from his hands, your Lo/ will please send me a letter for the Justice, if not you can let it alone till you come to town. I saw Mr. Holmes, vho told me he had been very particular about that affair, and had wrote your Lo/ fully thereanent. I was at Mr. Campbell's this morning. The money is ready when your Lo/ pleases to draw ; he desired to

have your usual subscription, which is a form among bankers to prevent false draughts. I shall give it him from one of your letters, which will be sufficient. I am continually making inquiry about a certain affair. I have it from all hands he is certainly to be recalled, but I cannot learn of any person who has the best likelihood of having it. In my humble opinion your Lo/ should insist upon it, in case he is recalled; at the time you spoke he did not pretend to say it was engaged. News—I cannot learn what is done in the Bill raising 3000 more seamen; some say it is proposed to give them £10 per an. each, and to be ready upon call, another scheme is to have 10,000 seamen registrated, and allow them 40 shils. per an. and that they may be in the merchant-service till there is occasion for them, and they come home to be incorporate with the seamen of the Fleet, which in my opinion would be a very good scheme; there is something of a like proposal with regard to the land service. I shall mention an affair of that kind soon, which your Lo/ and I have talked of with regard to a northern county. His R. H. the Duke has declared his intention of going to Ireland, Gibraltar, Minorco, etc., in the spring, in order to make regulations with respect to the military affairs in these parts, which I daresay will be of good effect. The enclosed I opened, knowing it to be from Carrol, in case it required an immediate answer; when your Lo/ pleases to return answer send it to me, and I shall forward it. I shall wait of his Grace to-morrow, which is the day he desired me the last time I had the honour to see him. I am still of opinion that your Lo/ should remain where you are till things are settled, if your presence is not absolutely necessary, of which I shall not fail to give you the earliest notice I possibly can. I have no letters from the north since I came to town. I am with great sincerity and esteem, my dearest Lord, your Lordship's most devoted servant, JOHN WALKINSHAW.

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

LONDON, 17 Feb. 1748/9.

My dearest Lord—I just now have the honour of your Lo/ letter of the 15th, and am extremely glad to find that Bath still agrees with your Lo/, at the same time am sorry you cannot divert yourself with so many fair nymphs. I saw Capt. George this day; he saw Mr. P. to-day, who told him he hoped in a few days to be able to send for him about that affair, so I suppose his Grace and he will talk over the affair this week, as he

promised to me yesterday, when he desired me to wait of him next Thursday. This day the House is upon the Army Bill, and it expected it will sit very late; the one relating to the Navy is to come before it on Monday first. There will be very hot disputes on both those Bills. I shall write you by to-morrow's post what passes on that head. Capt. Mackay tells me he had a letter from Strathy, who wants him to see if he can get him the rank of a Lieut^{ny} for him, and then sell; which in my opinion is a very bad scheme, and at any rate would take some time to effectuate. I told George to acquaint him, which I shall likewise do, that as there is a probability of the Duke's going to Ireland every officer will be ordered to their respective posts. The only thing I can see to be done is to get a purchaser for his comⁿ, which George approves of, and we are to set about to find one as soon as possible. I am greatly opportuned by two ladies for places for the firesworks; Miss D'sher is one of them. I told them I would do my endeavour; for my own portion I would not give sixp^c to see them, but the curiosity of women is greater. If your Lo/ wrote to Sir John Cope, or spoke to him, when you come to town, I daresay he would not refuse your Lo/, especially for pretty ladies, as the knight is a great admirer of the fair sex. I had a letter from my uncle; he tells me the place is still vacant; but I do not incline to make any application till affairs of greater consequence are intirely fixed. If your Lo/ thinks proper I should be glad you staid a little longer at Bath, as it cannot be put of much longer without an answer, which I am assured of next week. I shall not fail to acquaint your Lo/ every post what passes. I am with great esteem, my dearest Lord, your Lordship's devoted servant,

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

XIV.

BATH, Wednesday 15th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I receivd yours, and am not surprised of any behaviour of G. St^r towards me; this world is filld up with monsters of ingratitude. I propose to stay here til you acquaint me, tho' it is hard to be doing nothing. My compliments to Lord Londondery, the Lyon, Mr. Bonteen, the Messieurs Mitchels, and all friends that enquire after me—I am, dear Sir, your most affectionat humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

P.S.—You'l thank Mr. Mitchel in my name for being at the trouble of sending mee the newspapers and letters.

XV.

BATH, Thursday, 1749.

Sir—I am very much oblig'd to you and Mr. Bunten for calling on my son and the good report you have given me of him. There is no news here, but everybody is leaving the town, and I am now quite tired of it. I think it is hard on me to neglect my affairs in Scotland considering everything, but I believe the hurry it could not be otherwise; but I would be glad that my affairs were ended and that my mind might be at ease for the remainder of my days. I have written to Cust, and encourage him in speaking for me, as he is well known by the M. I am ready to set out from this in a minute; a call from this would please me. I am, dear Sir, yours while

SUTHERLAND.

XVI.

BATH, Febr. 11th, 1749.

Dear Sir—You know my situation, that I cannot think of leaving this place till something is done in my affairs at London. I can assure you I am pretty well recovered, but vastly wearied of this place, though God be thanked I do not squander away my money. I beg you'll wait of Campbell and Bruce, to know if they have received the £145, and if they will honour my draughts. There is no news here, only the Sheriff gave a handsome entertainment Thursday last. General St. Claire has plenty of money, but we all know he can make but one vote in the country without my assistance, and he has no reason to think after the manner he has used me that he shall rise his friends

Turn.

on my and my friends' ruins, for I am resolv'd to be grateful to my friends as long as I live, and let my enemies find their folly. I am, dear Walkinshaw, your most affectionate friend and

SUTHERLAND.

XVII.

BATH, March 17th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I received yours; and, as you have seen the Scotch letters to me I beg you'll answer them as your great wisdom shall think proper, and acquaint them that people that comes to Bath for the waters loses the benefit if they go on business. E. O. goes on well, and wonderfully with me. As for the Government of Ja.; I do not think myself well used if they do

not give it me when vacant, for I can answer any objection can be led to me. I beg that you and Captain Mackay wil push on the affaire, tho' the Captain thinks there wil be no vacancie; but if otherwise how wil I be used in the sight of everybody? but I belive Mr. P. is too humane to use me in such a manner. Mr. Cust is gon to London. Mr Euniex¹ is not maried, but I hope will. Mrs. Bailie is stil very pretty in my eys. *Turn.*

Since writing the former I receivd yours and a letter of yours from Strathy. God bless you, and be more luky in my affaires than you was here at E. O. I expect you'l give me a sudden cal, for I am tird of winning at E. O. I have written to Captain George; as for the G.,² I despise what he can doe for me. I know he is inveteratly against me, tho' without reason. I have constantly writt you; if letters have miscaried I cannot help it. I am, dear Walkinshaw, your assurd friend and affectionat servant,

SUTHERLAND.

XVIII.

TUNBRIDGE, August 6th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I receivd your 2 letters this day. I am sorry you are not recoverd, patiance par force 9. As for Tunbridge it is equaly the same to me as Bath, but I think the watters agrees well with me. I hope to return in a fortnight to your cousin Mr. Crawford. I send you enclosd Captain Gordon's letter, which I have answer'd. As for the P. G. it should have been don as promised, for I am sure the least is lost, and you should see the narrative of the paper and acquaint me. I am glad things answers so well with Mr. Gordon in Morison's affaire, and I hope Mr. Baird, Mr. Williams, and other law affaires wil soun be ended to my satisfaction. The Count, Carron, and I longs to see you, and I am, dear Sir, your most affectionat humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

XIX.

TUNBRIDGE, August 13th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I received yours yesterday. Lady Ancrum is here; but when she goes I doe not know. The watters agrees very wel with me. Lord Eglintown leaves this place with Lady Fortrose and Lady Kitty

¹ Mr. Uniak.

² General St. Clair.

Stuart. My compliments to all friends. The Barron and Count, as also Mr. Vaan, offers ther compliments to you, and longs to see you. I am, dear Walkinshaw, yours and
SUTHERLAND.

XX.

TUNBRIDGE, August 13th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I receivd yours this morning, and I propose to be at London the latter end of the week ; so you need write but one letter to me since I cannot expect you. The Count and Barron returns on Thursday, tho' wee have payd for the lodgings for a week longer. There is no news here. I am, dear Walkinshaw, yours most affectionatly,
SUTHERLAND.

XXI.

TUNBRIDGE, August 13th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I hope to see you at Chelsea Saturday night, and hopes you'l take caire of Mr. Williams and others ; and I hope, if you have seen my son, that you can give me good accounts of him. I am, dear Walkinshaw, yours and
SUTHERLAND.

XXII.

CHELSEA, Nov^{br}. 19th, 1749.

Dear Sir—I receivd your letter, which gave me a great deal of pleasure. I shal mind what you wrot to me of. I have written sometime agoe to Major Colhoun, and next week I shal write to my mother ; and if you doe not come to London against Christmass my son wil breake his hert, as I wil not take him from schoule if you doe not come up, as you solemnly promisd. I hope to heare frequently from you til Christmass, and shal write you more fully next week. My compliments and duty to my mother and all other friends. I am, dear Sir, your most affectionat and sincere friend,
SUTHERLAND.

I have been in Bedfordshire for about a fortnight.

[John Walkinshaw to Earl of Sutherland.]

EDINBURGH, 19th Dec. 1749.

My dear Lord—I had the honour of your Lo/'s letter of the 14th inst. by last post, which gave me a great deal of joy, as I had received but one

other since my arrival in Scotland. As you mention nothing of your being ill (except the vexation from different hands) I conclude your Lo/ enjoys a good state of health. Your Lordship does not a little surprise me with that piece of history relating to the management of your estate, as all the times I have seen Lady Strathnaver she seem'd dissatisfied with General St. Clair's not assisting your Lo/ in your affairs, and spoke in such a way to me as she did not think the General your friend, which made me state the affair between your Lo/ and the General in the real light in appeared to your Lo/ and I, when we used to talk over that affair in private; but I must say my amazement was great when I received the above mentioned letter that it was a proposal of her Ladyship's that General St. Clair should have the management of your estate, which, in my opinion, is putting your Lo/ in a most despicable light, if I may be allowed the expression; as making you not capable to manage your own affairs. If your Lo/ didn't care to take the trouble to look into your own affairs, and was pleased to employ any person you confided in to take that upon them, well and good; but for any person living to tell me he must have the management of my affairs, I could conceive it in no other light than that he had a mind to make it appear to the world that I was not fit or capable to manage my own affairs, and consequently a pupil or ward to my Lord Chancellor. I suppose the General has got a full account of my proceedings. But for the future I shall not be so communicative till I am sure of my man. Your Lordship knows I am not very apt to speak out till I know something of my company; but I did it as I thought it might be of service to your Lo/. In the meantime, my humble opinion is, that your Lo/ should keep fair with her Ladyship, and write often, and endeavour to convince her of the folly of such a proposal, and to consider in what a despicable light it must put your Lordship.

I am glad to hear that Mr. Morison is quit of his lady, if it's for our side, which I doubt of, as it was a thing Baynes was pushing for. I have got most of the papers relating to the appeal, and shall send them without loss of time. Mr. Gordon has wrote to have a state of your case drawn up and revised here before it's sent to London, which shall be done; but am afraid it cannot be got well (as most of the lawyers are out of town) till after the Christmas vacance is over.

I am glad Lord Strathnaver is with you and well. I intreat your Lo/ if not already done to get a proper person to instruct him in the French language, as it will be an absolutely necessary piece of education for his

Lo/ if I mistake not the turn of his genous, which will not be for the graver studies; but at the same time, with proper care, may make a great figure in the world.

Nothing would give me greater joy than to be with your Lo/, and an addition to it if I could be of any service to that youth for whose education I have a great concern, as your Lo/s whole hope on this earth for your succession depends on him, and its likewise of great consequence to the North of this Kingdom in what manner he shall turn out. So that I think too much care cannot be taken of him in the meantime. I am using too much freedom with your Lo/, but as you were so good as to have once intrusted me with him, I take the liberty to say more on the subject than otherwise I would have done.

I can fix no time when I shall have the happiness of seeing you Lo/ at London, as it will take me till March before affairs are ended. My father stays here all this winter; if in anyways possible I'll take a trip about that time to see your Lo/, but I cannot be positive.

My sincere vishes to Lord Strathnaver, and complimts. to Capt. Gordon.—My dear Lord, I am with greatest esteem, your Lordship's devoted
ser^t

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

I am under Doctor Clarke's hands for a pain in the breast, which I hope to get soon over, the better with proper care. I have got a barrel of herrings. The ship sails next week.

[John Walkinshaw to the Earl of Sutherland.]

EDINBURGH, 2 January 1750.

My dear Lord—I had the honour of your Lo/ letter of the 23d of last month by last post, which ought to have come to hand one sooner, as the 26th came at the same time with it, by which we have an account of my Lord Crawford's death, as likewise of the behaviour of Mr. Murray to his Lordship; his death is much regreted here, and no doubt is likewise so at London; but the will of heaven must be obeyed, and its the course we must all sooner or later. As by his Lo/ death a seat in the house of Lords becomes vacant, I hope your Lo/ will be the person appointed to fill it up. Lord Marchmont is talked of here, Lord Cathcart is likewise thought of, but I think your Lo/ has a better title to it than any of them. Your Lo/

has already, I suppose, waited upon the Ministry anent that affair, as likewise upon the Duke of Argyle, who will surely stand your friend against Marchmont; and not to dwell long upon the thing, I think your Lo/ has a right to insist on it from former services both in Parliament and during the Rebellion, and being in the House may enforce your claims. The letter from Thurso does not a little surprise me; my humble opinion of the affair is, that your Lo/ should not say a word of the matter to any mortal, upon this account, if it is so represented the Crown may take hold of it as interregalia; at any rate the king has a right to the tenth, free of all charges; which tenth, if the thing is kept secret, your Lo/ may possibly get a grant of, so that you may draw that yourself as a grant from the Crown, and after that come in for your proportion, which you'll observe must make your Lo/ a much greater gainer. I must at the same time beg to be excused from showing the letter to any person whatever, except to such as its absolutely necessary, in order to be instructed in the most cautious manner. I communicated the affair only to my uncle,¹ who is a man skilled in the law, and this to take his advice and of some lawyers by stating the case, but not mentioning any particulars; if your Lo/ has the agreement with Scobeadle, please send me a copy of it that I may take advice upon it whether your Lo/ can come upon him for what is past or not, and likewise be so good as write for further information from Thurso, and have some of the oar sent, but above all things keep the affair a dead secret. When I recollect Scotscaddle often told me of better things than his lead mine; your Lo/ knows we were in great friendship, and for any thing I know are still so.

I saw Mr. Robert Gray lately, who told me he would be obliged to take some course with Sir John Gordon, as he uplifts the wadsett which he has yet never renounced; he says it will be necessary to raise a process agst him, for your Lo/ will never be able by law to recover the money so uplifted; your Lo/ will please send your orders to me, and I shall take care they are put in execution.

I have not seen Lady Strathnaver or any of the family lately, as I have been frequently ill and likewise out of town. I was at Newbottle with your friend the Marquiss of Lothian, who sets out this week for London. I design to go there to-morrow and talk to him about this vacant seat in the House of Lords; believe me I should be more disappointed if your Lo/ was not the person than if I stood for member in the House of Commons and

¹ William Crawford, an Advocate.

lost it. I laid my accounts that if Lord Broadalbine had been dead before a vacancy that his son would have succeeded, but the case is interely different at present.

I am glad to hear Lord Strathnaver is vell, tho' I don't expect to have the honour of knowing it from his Lordship. I beg to know what yr. Lo/ designs to do with him; vwhether to send him back to Harrow for another year, or to keep him this winter with yourself, and if you intend to send him abroad next summer. I am glad to hear of your Lo/ recovery, and I hope you'll take care of your health, for I can say with a safe conscience that there is no person vwhatever, not the nearest relatine I have on earth for vhom I have half so great a regard, vvhich, indeed, in gratitude I am bound to. I must add one thing more, that tho' I cannot get my affairs put in order before the end of this session and at the same time my health very indifferent, I would take post to London upon condition that your Lordship was in the House of Peers. Your Lordship taxes me with not answering your letters. I have received in all three since I came to Scotland. I answered in due course of post 18th Nov., 23d ditto, 7th Decr., 14th ditto, 19th Dec. I hope your Lo/ got the turkey and hares; I hope they were the occasion of passing a merry evening. Compliments to Lord Strathnaver and Cap^{tn} Gordon; and with the greatest esteem, my dear Lord, your Lordship's devoted ser^t

JOHN WALKINSHAW.

P. S.—As my man John Boaz has some business of his own in London, he has desired to be discharged from me, vvhich I am sorry to do, as he is a good faithful servant and knowing in several things. I have desired him to offer his services to your Lo/ I gave him £7 per an., and nine shils. per week when on board wages.

[J. Walkinshaw Crawford to the Earl of Sutherland.]

EDINBURGH, 6 Feby. 1750th.

My dear Lord—I had the honour of your Lo/'s letter of the 27 ult. last Thursday, just as Ulpster and I were taking horses to visit the Marquis of Lothian at Newbottle, otherwise I would not have slipt a single post in making a return to your letter. I told him the contents of it; and even, at his desire, gave him your Lordship's letter to read, to show him how much Lady Strathnaver hurt your health by vritting in that manner, and beged

of him to expostulate the affair with her Ladyship (assisted with Lady Janet), explaining the bad consequences such a procedure might have. I shall see Ulpster in a day or two, and if there's any room for me talk over the matter to her. I shall do it in the best manner I can. I am extremely sorry it has such an effect, but I can, from the knowledge I have of your Lordship, easily guess how much these things hurt you; they are very anxious to know of your marriage, as it's currently reported here that your Lo/ is about it. I told them that I expected it was to happen soon, with a very fine woman and a great fortune, which I pray without ceasing to hear. I hope its Mrs. Herbert or Miss Parker; your rival Major Johnstone, as we was pleased to call himself, has given up the pursuit, he being now here; he says that if some of his friends had not mismanaged the affair he would have carried off the prize, so I think your Lo/ has no excuse if you fail in the enterprize, when such a person as the Major had brought the garrison almost to a capitulation. If you'll fix the day I'll post to see the knot tied; but I beg your Lordship to change from chicken to cock broth; not that I doubt of your abilities, but its vhat I would do if I was to pursue the same game, I wish your Lo/ to do, for I hope you'll begin first, tho' I believe it will be necessary for me to think of something of the same nature soon, as I begin to grow an old fellow;¹ but I am never to proceed till I have your Lo/ approbation, and as I look upon your Lo/ as my very best friend, I think it my duty to trouble you with my scheme, viz., I am now in a fair way of getting matters adjusted with my father, and his earnest desire is that I would marry, which is natural enough in him, but which I incline to ward off for a few years, for reasons known to your Lo/; the method I propose, to shun it and at the same time not give any offence, is, that if I can possibly procure a commission, either by interest or money, or part of both, is that I can have a pretence to be absent, as also as its not so consistent with a military man to be double. I need not desire your Lo/ interest, because I have already sincere proofs in many respects, only that if it was not inconsistent with your Lo/ own affairs I would beg your assistance; your Lo/ proposed to me some time ago a scheme in relation to the P——ces family; if it was possible to bring that about I think I could be of service to your Lord/ in that capacity, its vhat your Lo/ and I have often talked off; at the same time I beg my dear Lord you will not do anything which may retard or clashes with your own interest, which I hope it

¹ J. Walkinshaw Crawford, now aged 29 years.

shall always be my study to promote; pray be not cast down, tables will change and a very short time gives an unexpected turn to the face of affairs. I should be glad to know the report of the treasury relative to your Lo/ accounts. I am told Ld. Kilkerran has wrote you a letter anent coming to Scotland, which is expected will have great effect; I told them that your Lo/ knew your own business best, but that I detained you at London, and it was not to be expected your Lo/ would communicate it to any but whom you thought proper.

I am obliged to your Lo/ in regard to John; it was my neglect of not giving him a written order. I told him to break up the trunk (as I had the key here with another trunk), to see if my cloaths had not got moth'd by being shut up. I have wrote him not to take any out of your Lo/ house till I send him a written order. Lady Betty is very well; she is reading French, and designs to get the better of her brother in that language, tho' I suppose he's applying close at present to that useful branch of polite education, and I expect soon to hear from his Lordship in that language, for I have given over hoping for it in his mother tongue, as likewise has his sister. I hear he is with your Lo/ I fancy he likes it better than Harrow. I shall speak to Mr. Ross. I imagine he will not interest himself any more in Duffus's favours. I have seen him, but we have had no conversation. He has been with Lady Strathnaver making his complaint of his severe treatment. I explained it, and his behaviour about the fish, which I would not have received from himself, much less your Lo/ to suffer it at his hand. I knew it was the common practice at Skelbo to make their animadversions on your Lo/, and those you was pleas'd to make your companions; at present il l'est aux a bois, which in English is in a bad way. He's ordain'd to account for five or six years bygone of the factory, which it's imagin'd he'll have difficulty to repeat. In hopes of hearing soon of your Lo/ perfect recovery, and ready to enter the holy bonds, I conclude with sincere wishes for Ld. Strathnaver,—My dear Lord, your Lordship's devoted ser^t

J. W. CRAWFURD.

Scottscaddle's silver mine has taken air, and it's looked on at the same as a thing without foundation. Ulpster was talking about it to me, and seemed to think if there was such a thing he had a title as superior of the lands, which I told him he was mistaken in, granting there was such a thing. Mr. St. Clair, younger of Phryswick, is the candidate declared for Caithness next election, and the Lyon his opponent.

The lawyers here are affraid of the appeal going against your Lo/, as I fend the determination here in Morison's affair was more that the Chancellor's power did not extend to this part of the United Kingdom than any thing else, and fear that he vill adhere to his former sentence. I wrote of it to Mr. Gordon, who told me formerly that even then he had a corps de reserve, which I hope will prove effectual. Adieu, mon cher Milord.

[John Walkinshaw Crawford to the Earl of Sutherland.]

EDINBURGH, 15th Feby., 1750.

My dear Lord.—The last letter I had the honour to receive from your Lordship was dated the 27th of last month, to vvhich I made a return on the 6th inst. I wrote your Lordship the 28th ultimo, which I suppose is likewise come to hand. I am daily impatient to hear of your Lordship's perfect recovery, with the consequences of the re-establishment of your health, I mean the taking on the solemn vows of matrimony, for which I delay put up my petitions. It was reported here that Lo/ Dunmore was dead, in that case I hoped there was no objection to your Lordship in his room, as representative of the Peerage of Scotland, but its again contradicted; at the same time I am informed that his Lo/^p is in a very bad way and not likely to live long. I am inform'd your appeal was put off on account of my Lord Chancellor's indisposition, but I hope to hear of your success, notwithstanding the opinion of most people here, as I mentioned in my last. I saw the Master of Ross yesterday, who seems still anxious to have affairs between your Lo/ and Duffus made up. I again repeated the impossibility of it, and told him I imagined your Lo/ would soon make a return to his letter. I see Duffus often in the coffee-house, etc., but we never so much as salute or take the least notice of each other. I beg the favour your Lo/ vill as often as your health and time permit drop a few lines, as nothing can give me greater joy than to hear of your Lo/ welfare. I hope timely notice will be sent me, that I may toss the stocking (as the saying is), to the conclusion of which I pray without ceasing. There's nothing passing in this part worth mentioning; some marriages, as Ld. Napier to Miss Molly Johnstone, daughter to Johnstone the agent at Dublin, a very fine lass, with 4000 sterling, which is a great fortune here; but your Lo/ must add another cypher. Please direct the enclosed. I am, with great esteem and sincerity, my dear Lord, your Lordship's devoted ser^t,

J. W. CRAWFURD.

[Letter from the 17th Earl of Sutherland, Son of the former Correspondent.

Writer of the previous Letter under the signature of Strathnaver.]

NEWCASTLE, Dec. 31, 1756.

Sir—I was favoured with yours last poste. As for the papers you need be in no hurry with them, as I shall sett out from this place for London in a few days. Concerning the American affair, you vill excuse my not giving you any promise, as I am uncertain how far I may be concerned myself; but wishing you all success in your undertakings, I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

SUTHERLAND.

J. REGINALD HOWISON CRAUFURD.

BRAEHEAD, *March* 1880.