was ill used, that he was at Bridgewater, that he had but 2,000 horse and a few foot, that he was offered any conditions if he would be of the Independents' faction, which he professed to oppose, that the King's army there is 10,000 strong at least. There are many of Col. Poyntz's horse separated, as we are informed, some troopers stayed behind and many went to other places, when they came over at Bewley, some [went] to Birmingham, but the body went to Stourbridge, from whence they might either march toward Chester or Newark. Our hopes from the north keep us in some life. Your Lordship hath encouraged me to this boldness, but I beg your pardon, and desire the bearing of this letter. [2 pp.]

Sept. 24.

Robert Stanier to the same. On Saturday the 20th the Earls of Carnwath and Nichsdale (Nithsdale), with all the King's servants who were left at Worcester, came to Bridgnorth, where upon our arrival the Governor acquainted us with your order for our march to High Arrol [High Salop]. On Sunday I sent a messenger to advise you that Encall was besieged and to desire further orders, but he returned the next day, not daring to proceed on. Here we have lain ever since, advising hourly with Sir Lewis Kirkle, the Commissioners, and all men else who knew the country and the condition of the enemy's garrisons, or who came from any other garrison of the King's. None of them, considering the number of the enemy, their [strong]holds, and the way of their march, would advise us to follow the King until we should hear further. In short, every man did conclude that either the King was got over the pass at Balesford into Lancashire, and then it would be too late to follow, or that he was forced back into Wales, and then we should hear of his Majesty near Bridgnorth or Ludlow very suddenly. Thus we live in expectation of hearing of his Majesty's motions, or receiving your Lordship's further orders; and as soon as we are certain that the King is in Lancashire, we shall suddenly resolve of returning to Worcester. I pray God bless the King and your Lordship in all your undertakings.

P.S.—I have sent you a letter from the Commissioners of Salop about their commission, who desire that it may be expedited and sent them according to the draft I sent herewith, and that you would consider of the note which you will find in another hand. [Two seals with arms, 1 p.]

Sept. 25.

142. Resolutions of the Lords and Commons touching the dispos'd and pay of the Scots' army, now ordered to march to the siege of Newark. [Almost identical with the Commons' resolutions passed on the 23rd, and calendared above under that date, p. 154. Printed in Lords' Journals vi., pp. 508, 599. Copy. 15 pp.]

Sept. 25.

143. Ordered by the Lords and Commons, that Sir Wm. Beveneck shall command in chief the forces of co. Chester, as formerly he did, for four months longer. [Subsequently continued for 40 days, and then 3 months. Printed in Lords' Journals vii., p. 599. 1 p.]