

St. James's, February 25, 1775.

Whereas it has been humbly represented to the King, That on the Twentieth Day of January last Mr. John Craufurd, of Doonside, and Mr. William Campbell, of Fairfield, both in the County of Air in North Britain, did each receive a Letter, which Letters had been put into the Post-Office at Air on the Nineteenth Day of the said Month, and of which Letters the following are Copies, viz.

Sir

This is perhaps the most interesting Letter you ever received as your future Safety will depend on your Answering its Demands. There are six of us who being reduced to Misery by Misfortune have pitched upon you for our Relief, Providence has made you able and it is our business to make you willing. You will therefore lay £50 Ster: below the Broad Stone on the Extremity of the South End of the Stone dike on your right hand as you go from Slophouse to Ayr and lett it be in Gold or Silver and lett it be done on the 23d or 24th of this present Month and lett it ly one Week, if it is not taken away before the Week expire you may take it Again. If you are so foolish as attempt to know who we are you are undone. One of us will uplift the Money while three Stand on the Watch with a Couple of Good Pistols each and two left at home to take Vengeance on you if you disturb the rest and a Cask of Powder ready to blow up your House — So you see that Silence is equally necessary on both Sides. You will see a Cross Scratch on the Stone by which you may know it, If ever we are able to pay you we have covenanted to do it Adieu
(Signed) A. F.—B. R.—Q. D. AM—19th Jan^y 1775. (Addressed) To John Craufurd of Doonside Esq^r hast

Sir,

This is perhaps the most interesting Letter you ever received as Your life depends on your abaying its demands. Six of us who are become desperate through Misfortune have resolved to make you extricate them from their Distress providence has made you able and it is our Business to make you willing. You will with your own hand put £50 Pounds Ster. below the Turf which is about four feet from the East side of the Slop or turn stile on the Earthen dike on the west of the toll-house as you go to Air You will know the turf if you view it from the South side of the Dike for there its edge will Appear Black. do this on the 20th or the 21st or the 22d day of Jan^y or the present Month one of us is to uplift the Money while three are to Watch with a Couple of Good Pistols each if you are so foolish as Attempt to molest them or Over come them by a Superior force, then we have two in reserve to take vengeance on you by spending a 20 pint Cask of powder on your house so that Silence is equally necessary on both Sides. remember to lett the Money ly in its place for one week If We ever become able to pay you we have covenanted to repay you so far well Sir

(Signed) A. F.—J. G.—W. N. R. B. A. N. S. M.
(Addressed) To William Campbell of Fairfield Esq^r hast

His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Person or Persons concerned in writing or sending the said Letters, is hereby pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any one of them, (except the Person or Persons who actually wrote the said Letters) who shall discover his or her Accomplice or Accomplices therein, so that he, she, or they, may be apprehended and convicted thereof.

SUFFOLK.

And, as a farther Encouragement, the said Mr. John Craufurd and Mr. William Campbell do each of them hereby promise a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS Sterling, and the Magistrates of Air do hereby promise a Reward of ONE HUNDRED POUNDS Sterling, to any Person making such Discovery as aforesaid, (except as before excepted) the said Rewards of Fifty Pounds Sterling each to be paid by the said Mr. John Craufurd and Mr. William Campbell, and the Reward of One Hundred Pounds Sterling by the Collectors

of the Land Tax of the said County of Air, immediately after the Conviction of any one or more of the Offenders.

Chelsea Hospital, February 20, 1775.

THESE are, by Order of the Right Honorable the Lords and others the Commissioners for Managing the Affairs of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, to give Notice, That His Majesty has given Directions that all Out-Pensioners belonging to the said Hospital, residing in London or within Twenty-five Miles thereof, do appear personally at the Secretary's Office within the said Hospital; such Pensioners therefore, as live in London or within Twenty-five Miles thereof, are required to appear personally at the said Office, and are required also to appear Regimentally on the respective Days appointed for them, when Attendance will be given from Nine o'Clock in the Morning till Three in the Afternoon, in order to their being examined by a Board appointed for that Purpose, viz.

Monday, March 6.

The Pensioners from the 1st Troop, 2d and late 3d and 4th Troops of Horse Guards; 1st and 2d Troops of Horse Grenadier Guards; Royal Horse Guards Blue; 3d, 4th, and late 7th Regiments of Horse; Lettermen and Men at 9 d. per Day.

Tuesday, March 7.

The Pensioners from the 1st, 2d, and 3d Regiments of Dragoon Guards, and all the Dragoons.

Wednesday, March 8.

The 1st Regiment of Foot Guards.

Thursday, March 9.

The 2d Regiment of Foot Guards.

Friday, March 10.

The 3d Regiment of Foot Guards.

Saturday, March 11.

The Pensioners from the 1st to the 12th Regiment of Foot inclusive.

Monday, March 13.

Those from the 13th to the 24th Regiments of Foot inclusive.

Tuesday, March 14.

Those from the 25th to the 40th Regiments of Foot inclusive.

Wednesday, March 15.

Those from the 42d to the 70th Regiments of Foot inclusive.

Thursday, March 16.

Those from the late 71st to the 119th Regiments of Foot inclusive; as also the Pensioners from the former broken Regiments of Foot and Marines; the Independent Companies, and such who have been In-Pensioners of Chelsea College.

And it is hereby further notified, That all Out-Pensioners, who are at a greater Distance than Twenty-five Miles from London, will be hereafter directed, by Advertisement in the Publick Papers, personally to appear at such Times and Places as will be therein specified; and such of the said Out-Pensioners as shall not appear and shew themselves at Chelsea Hospital as aforesaid, or at the Times and Places which shall be hereafter directed, will be taken to be dead, or otherwise provided for by the Government, and will be struck off the Books of the Out-Pension of the said Hospital.

John Nicoll, Secretary and Register.

War-Office, February 20, 1775.

IT being for His Majesty's Service, that the Out-Pensioners should be examined, that it may be known who of them are capable of doing Garrison or other Duty; I am to acquaint them, That proper Officers will attend on the respective Days abovementioned, to examine them accordingly.

BARRINGTON.

East-India House, February 22, 1775.

THE Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, do hereby Notice,

That the Transfer Books of the East-India Annuities will