of Kerry) both in relation to his manifold sufferings under the barbarous Irish rebels for his affection to the English, and his adhering to their Interest, preserving of divers English Protestants in that county from the rage and cruelty of the rebels, and being trusted by the late Lord Deputy to manage (with others) the public affairs of that place as Commissioner of the Revenue, performing faithfully that service, it is desired that, notwithstanding his being a native and a Roman Catholic, he may be put into equal capacity with the English in their civil freedom and liberty as a sign of merit. 17 May. *Ib.* f. 689.

499. SAME TO THE SAME.

"The enclosed is a petition [wanting] lately presented to us by Major [Robert] Ormsby and Capt. Oliver St George[1] behalf of such of the English as either live in Connaught or have estates there, and have constantly adhered to the English Interest during all the late horrid Rebellion, which being a business of so great concernment both in relation to the public and the petitioners' security (as they allege), and not discerning any inconveniency to the public in granting the thing desired, we judge it proper for your cognisance, the Act not enabling us to make such exchange as is desired, and therefore we present the same unto your consideration that the petitioners in due time may receive such orders therein as you in your wisdom shall think fit." 18 May. *Ib.* f. 695.

500. SAME TO THE LORD PROTECTOR.

"In obedience to your commands, signified by your late letter concerning the elections of persons in this nation to serve in the next ensuing Parliament, we have considered of the present condition of this desolate country, wherein several counties lie totally waste and uninhabited, and in other counties the inhabitants not yet in any settled condition, which we doubt not is well known to your Highness. In which respect we cannot satisfy ourselves, as the present state of affairs here do stand, to

[1] Captain afterwards (1666) Sir Oliver St George was the son and heir of Sir George St George of Carrickdrumruske, co. Leitrim, who was the first of the St Georges to settle in Ireland towards the end of James I's reign. As the petition is not enclosed it is impossible to say precisely what Ormsby and St George wanted; but from the context it would seem that they were anxious to exchange their estates for others not lying in Connaught.