ledge, we have immediately despatched letters to Mr Charles Whalley at Chester, desiring him forthwith to give immediate notice thereof to such of the commanders of your ships of war as are in Chester and Liverpool waters (there being none of them on these coasts, nor in any place from this harbour northward that we know of) and to require them without delay to go to sea to clear those coasts of the north, where these pirates have continued for the most part of this summer hitherto. . . . Also the want of small nimble vessels, to go sometimes with oars, makes your great ships altogether unserviceable as to do any execution upon these picaroons, who are light, nimble vessels and go with oars. One such small vessel to attend each of your great ships, and to be manned by the company of the great ship, would be more available upon these coasts than double the number of great ships, now appointed for these coasts, who cannot annoy this enemy, who can get from them by the help of their oars, and therefore serve not, as they are, for much more than a convoy." 11 June. Domestic Corresp. A/90. 50. ff. 507-8.

394. The Commissioners for settling Ulster to the Commissioners of Parliament.

" In pursuance of what was formerly presented unto you (our Commission being determined) we give you, by one of our number, this following account of our actings in this further observance of your Instructions for the settling of Ulster.

" Upon Adjutant-General Allen's and Major Morgan's departure, finding that some time would be elapsed before the Declaration could be printed and sent unto us, the enclosed paper was agreed upon and signed by us all, to be sent, by us that stayed here, with all speed into the several quarters, to the end that no time might be lost in hastening the transplanters to make choice of their agents to attend you, in order to their future removal, which was accordingly executed, and the transplanters met at the places appointed before the Declaration came to us, which we received the 5th inst. Upon consideration whereof it was not thought fit to publish the same for these ensuing reasons :—

" 1. Because of the great mistake of the printing the names.

"2. Because we would take all occasion from any, by variation or transposition of matter from that which we had formerly held forth unto them, to suggest unto the rest, who are too ready to lay hold on any colourable pretence to misrepresent our actions, that we had in the least differed from our former papers.

"3. Because if the Declarations had been issued as soon as received they would have added nothing in furtherance of the work intended, being they contain no new matter save only the preamble.

"4. Because they could not be sent and divulged into the several quarters before the day appointed for the return of their final answer in choosing and instructing of their agents for the purposes aforesaid, which was appointed to be the 7th.

"5. Lastly, because that we had received some information from their meetings of their averseness to remove, to which we had formerly hopes they would have been more pliable, and so conceived that they might give occasion to make some alterations in what was already intended to be declared.

"Upon the 7th and 8th inst. the agents of both counties attended us for passes, which we accordingly granted them. Those of the County of Antrim gave us to understand that they could not possibly take their journey for want of monies, in regard the transplanters left them before a collection could be made. Wherefore, to further their despatch, we were necessitated to borrow £40, which we have delivered unto them, and humbly desire that you would be pleased to issue your warrants to the Commissioners of the Revenue to levy the same equally upon the transplanters, that the same be repaid accordingly to Col. Venables' order, that so we may be discharged of our engagement for the same. During the time that their agents attended us some gentlemen of both counties, being more desirous to choose and conclude for themselves than by agents, desired passes from us to attend you to that purpose, which we accordingly granted them. Their names and petitions signed will be with this delivered unto you. If more desire the same we shall readily agree to afford them passes, because we conceive it may much further the work intended, by begetting a better understanding, in those that are left behind, in your good intentions towards them, when they shall perceive others besides their

agents to return satisfied and fully agreed with you for their future residence.

"By all that hitherto we can see, either into the humours of these people or the issue of this business, we do not yet find that there will need much force or further threatenings to render them conformable, so they may be satisfied in the ensuing propositions:—

"1. That the places they go to inhabit be free of infection, and probably secure from Tories and enemies.

"2. In regard that many of them are of mean condition, they desire they may be left to choose their own landlords in any of the two provinces, by whose just dealing and countenance they may have hopes to live with the less oppression and disturbance.

"3. That if they contract for the State's lands, their contribution may be included in their rent, that so they may be at a certainty.

"4. That they may have such terms for years of the places that they go to possess, as may probably render them and their posterity gainers for the present hazard and great charge they are at in removing and planting of those wastes they go to possess.

"5. That those that have freeholds, or considerable leases of value, may not be forced to surrender their evidences or transfer their rights, until they have legal assurances made unto them of what they receive in exchange.

"6. That they may enjoy the profits of their estates that they leave behind, paying contribution out of them as now they do, until the places exchanged with them be so planted as may render them a future livelihood, which is conceived cannot be less than one year after November next.

"These things being accidentally discoursed with us by several of them, and considering that these being added to what are formerly proposed they are but what we should propose for ourselves, if we were in their case, we have presumed to offer them to your consideration, believing that if you find them fitting to be consented to, and reserve them as concessions of favour from yourselves, with what other things of that kind may occur, all obstructions will be removed as to the general transplanting, except in some few particular cases, which by reason of age, sickness, or other necessary impediments cannot remove

without apparent ruin to their persons or fortunes ; and further you will beget in the hearts of these people such an understanding of your good intentions towards them, beyond what they have had or thought of you, as that we are persuaded you will within a twelve-month more leave few here that will not be willing to go faster, it may be, than you would have them.

" We have one thing more to add for their encouragement and also the State's advantage, as we conceive, which is that all the land that is set them be set by the acre ; that, if you include the contribution in the rent, you do, after the first year's freedom, the next year reserve very little more than the contribution comes to, and so increase your rent yearly for two or three years after until you come to such a rent as you find fit for the State to receive for their whole time, and they to pay, with respect to their future comfortable subsistence and well-being.

" This business is in our thoughts of that weight, and presume in yours also, in respect of the future planting of these parts with English and thereby securing of the same that we cannot pass by the conveniencies that may ensue upon the premisses if the ends aforesaid be obtained by them.

" 1. First, you displant these here without noise and clamour.

" 2. Their ministers will probably follow.

" 3. Whereas you have proposed them certain places to dwell in near and in a manner contiguous, you disperse them further asunder by giving them way to settle in any places in the said provinces as aforesaid, and so render their conjunctions less powerful in opposition at any time against the State.

" 4. You will assuredly find, after the first year, profit by their removal, for they will then in rent and contribution be content, according to the goodness of the land, to pay yearly for those wastes, which maybe in seven years would not be inhabited, much more than the contribution they pay here comes to.

" But if these people, notwithstanding the concessions aforesaid, shall still prove refractory, we conceive then no other means but force will render them conformable. In order to which we humbly offer, that whom you think fit may be empowered, upon the return of their agents, to call all the transplanters to one place ; that there it be demanded who are willing to remove by a time prefixed and who not ; that those that signify their consents give assurance for performance by a prefixed time ;

that those that refuse be imprisoned, and sent into Leinster and Munster to be secured, without disturbance to their families or prejudice to their estates, that so all may see that nothing is intended by their removal but present and future security.

"As these parts suffer very much by closing of the ports in order to their trade with Scotland, which we conceive cannot with safety to your affairs here be opened, until those things be brought to some issue one way or other, so the trade into England and alongst the coast also is exceedingly obstructed by some pirates which lie upon these harbours. They came lately into this road and soon after took two vessels, laden with corn and meal, bound for Connaught, out of the harbour of Olderfleet, which by composition, upon licence granted to that purpose, were recovered again. A third was taken coming from Coleraine and a fourth, being one of the poor men's barks that was recovered in Donegal, and laden with meal for Ballyshannon, was taken and sunk by them, because she had no lading in her, so that if your Honours do not speedily cause some swift vessel of good force to come into these parts to secure the passage betwixt England and this place, trade will be utterly at a stand. . . ." Carrickfergus, 14 June. (Signed) Venables, Art. Hill, Hen. Jones. MSS. T.C.D. F. 3. 18.

395. "Ordered that it be referred to the Council of Officers to consider how, and in what manner lands may be set out for satisfaction of the soldiers' arrears, and in what counties, and places such of the soldiers, as are now to be disbanded, and such others of the army, as desire to have lands set out for their arrears, may be fixed to plant, in order to the settlement and security of the country as well as the due satisfaction and security of the respective planters, without prejudice to the interest of the Adventurers; and to report their opinions with all convenient speed to the said Commissioners of the Commonwealth." 27 June. Orders A/84. 44. f. 248.

396. Ordered that the Commissioners of Revenue in every precinct do take all means for destroying wolves. A reward to be paid for every bitch-wolf of £6, dog-wolf £5, every cub, which preyeth for himself forty shillings, every suckling cub