any pirates or other enemy, which may (as they please) soon stop all the poor trade of this nation, and therefore our desire is that you would take into consideration the necessity there is speedily to cause some other ships of force to be hastened hither for the defence and service of this nation. . . ." March. Letters of Lord Deputy and Council A/30. 28. f. 142.

806. Same to the Lord Protector.

" In pursuance of a late letter from your Highness' Council and an enclosed paper or proposal for a general pardon to be granted under the Great Seal of Ireland, and to return unto your Highness and Council our consideration thereof, we have considered of the several Ordinances for admitting the Protestants in Ireland to compound, and for the preparing some matter fit to be presented to your Highness and Council in order to a general pardon for the Protestant inhabitants of Ireland who live in Leinster, Munster and Connaught. And first, as to the Ordinance of indemnity for the Protestants of Munster made 1st August 1654, although the same was published here, and notice given for their compositions to be made in pursuance thereof, yet there hath not any one person hitherto of that province come in, that proffered or made any composition at all.

" As to the Ordinance of 2nd September 1654, by which liberty is given to admit all persons being Protestants in Ireland (other than such as have been excepted from pardon) to compound for their delinquencies, some few persons (the most of them being of the Scottish nation) have made their compositions, and days set for payment of their fines, yet very few of them have paid their fines or any part of them, and since by order of your Highness and Council such as have not come in and submitted to a composition before the 25th December 1655 are thenceforth excluded from the benefit of compounding. And such as by the said last Ordinance have made their compositions we doubt not but your Highness hath taken notice of the complaints and petitions of the Adventurers and soldiers, who do complain that they are thereby deprived of that satisfaction that by the Acts and Ordinances of Parliament is held out unto them, towards the satisfaction of their arrears out of those forfeited estates now compounded for, they insisting on that clause in the Act of

17 Caroli, that all patents and pardons, which shall be granted unto any of the said rebels after 23rd October 1641, without assent of Parliament, shall be adjudged void. But if your Highness, in your wisdom and judgment shall please to vouchsafe any further grace or mercy to offenders of that kind, we shall not interpose ; only we herewith humbly offer to your Highness' consideration whether these provisos in this paper enclosed, or some of them may not be adjudged fitting to be inserted in such pardon." 1 April. *Ib.* ff. 143-4. *Enclosed.*

806 (i). Provisos suggested in the General Pardon.[1]

" 1. That it extended not to persons or officers excepted from pardon by the Act of Settlement made and passed the 12th August 1654,[2] or by any Ordinance or Declaration of his Highness since.

" 2. That it extend only to free and acquit all persons, Protestants of Ireland, and their estates from all questions, suits, demands, forfeitures, pains, imprisonments, punishments, trouble, or molestations, sequestrations, fines, penalties whatsoever, for any matter or thing by them done and committed by land or sea against the Parliament of England, their army or forces, and since against his Highness, his army and forces in the late war, or any the former wars, except as in the said pardon is excepted.

" 3. That it extend not to give any power, right, or advantage to any arrears, or satisfaction for arrears, for his or their service done on the behalf of the Commonwealth before his or their defection.

" 4. That it extend only to such part of their estates, and of such values, as shall be mentioned in a particular to be by them exhibited in writing under their hands and seals, and for which they shall make their composition ; the fine and fines for the said composition not to be less than two years' full value of such estate, as the same was worth or were let for in the year 1640. The said fine to be assessed and set by the Lord Deputy and Council, or by the Council in the absence of the Lord Deputy, or by such other persons as his Highness shall nominate and appoint. And that upon payment into the treasury of such fine

[1] From Thurloe, *State Papers*, iv, pp. 668-669. [2] *Sic* : a mistake for 1652.

and fines so set and imposed as abovesaid, all and every person and persons so paying the same, his and their heirs and assigns, and all and every the lands and estates which shall be so compounded for, shall be thenceforth freed and discharged of and from all and all manner of sequestration, confiscation, or forfeiture, for and in respect of any delinquency whatsoever, and not otherwise.

" 5. That it extend only to such persons, as having any real estates in Ireland, or having any personal estates above £40, shall tender and make their composition for their delinquency, at or before the day of which shall be in the year and shall duly pay the same at the time appointed as abovesaid."

807. Ordered that Sir H. Waller, Sir Robt. King, Sir John Temple, Cols. Hewson, Sankey, Lawrence, Drs Winter, Harrison, Worth, Mr Wootton, and Alderman Hooke be, and they are hereby desired to attend the Lord Chief Justice Pepys and the Lord Chief Baron Corbett next Tuesday at nine in the forenoon in the Gallery Chamber within the Castle, and peruse his Highness' Ordinance for approbation of public preachers dated 20th March, 1653[-4] for the propagation of the Gospel and of learning. 4 April. Orders A/10. 10. f. 52.

808. " Upon consideration had of the Queries from the Commissioners for Adjudication of the Claims and Qualifications of the Irish dated the 28th March 1656.

" 1. To the first concerning what estate belongs to such of the inhabitants of Athlone, as are comprehended in the ninth article[1] there made, this answer is thought fit to be returned. That this article is not conceived to be obligatory longer than during the time it was held consistent with safety to permit the said inhabitants to live in Athlone, after which they were to submit to the Rule in the Act, and to have their respective qualifications determined according to law, and to enjoy such proportion of their estates as by Decree of Court should be awarded them.

[1] The ninth article reads: " That the inhabitants of the town of Athlone shall have quarters for their lives with assurance to enjoy their estates and goods, and remain in the said town, paying such contribution as others do whilst they remain in the English quarters." Articles of Capitulation, f. 44.