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From Thursday August 8. to Monday August 12. 1689

Hampton-Court, August 8.

THIS day arrived here Captain *Withers*, being sent by Major-General *Kirk*, with the News of the raising the Siege of *Derry*: The Letters he brings from the Major-General, are of the 3d instant, from the Ile of *Inch*, and give an Account, That, after, he had sent up the two Ships with Provisions to *Derry*, he made the best of his way to *Inch*, that he got in the 31th past; and had Intelligence, that the Enemy were drawing off from before *Derry*, and had set fire to all the Villages and Houses Ten Miles round. That on the first of August an Officer came to him from *Derry*, and assured him the Enemy were marched over *Clawdy-fords*, and that they had made a Sally from the Town to fall on their Rear; That he thereupon sent immediately one of his Spyes, with a Letter to the Town, who came back by two a Clock in the Afternoon, with some Officers, who brought a Letter from thence; And gave this Account of our Ships getting in: Captain *Browning's* Ship stopp'd at the Boume, where he was kill'd, & the Boatwain's Mate of the *Spallow*, who commanded her Long-boat, cut the Boume, so that the weight of the Ship broke it, and the Ships went up, but with so little Wind, that the Long-boat towed the *Mounjoy* all the way to the Town; The Enemy had planted 4 Guns, and 2000 Small-shor along the River; we lost but 5 or 6 Soldiers, Lieutenant *deys* of Sir *John Hammore's* Regiment wounded, and the Boatwain's Mate hurt with a Splinter in the Thigh. That the Enemy blew up *Kilmore Castle*, burnt Red Castle, and all the Houses down the River, the day before they camped; And that, their Intelligence said, they had demolished *Colerain*, *Carrickfergus*, and all the places as they went. That on the 2d he sent Colonel *Stewart*, Captain *Richards* the Engineer, and some other Officers, to order the Enemies Trenches to be levelled, and to mark out a piece of Ground to encamp on, whither he would march the next Spring-Tide, the Strand at *Inch* not being fordable for Foot till that time. And that he heard there were about 4000 Fighting Men in the Town, which, when he came there, he intended to form into Regiments.

A Letter from the Town of *Derry* to Major-General *Kirk*.

SIR,

NExt to the Divine Providence, and the Care of our Gracious King and Queen, this poor Garrison owes their Deliverance to your seasonable Recruit of Provisions; your Ships mick'd the very time, otherwise, like this, we had been forc'd to submit our selves to the Fury of our cruel Enemies; but, praised be GOD, they have rais'd the Siege themselves the last Night, which we think fit, by Colonel *Tho. Laine*, Captain *Robert White*, Captain *John Hamilton*, Captain *Jerry*, and Mr. *John Knox*, who have been here besieg'd as a long with us, to give you an Account of, rendering you infinite Thanks for your Care of this Garrison, and desiring earnestly to see you, and receive your Commands. We are

Londonderry,
Aug. 1. 1689.

Your humble, and most obedient Servants,

George Walker
John Mitchell
Richard Crofton
Hugh Hamill
Henry Minro.

An Abstract of what pass'd at the Isle of Inch, from Sunday July 7, to Friday August 2, 1689.

On the 7th of July we sail'd from *Derry-Lough*, with a Detachment of 600 Men, commanded by Colonel *Stewart*. On the 9th we got up with the Island of *Inch*, and Anchored about a Mile from *Rafemullin*. We heard that the Irish People kept a great Cow-camp at a place call'd *Tully*, 6 Miles from *Rafemullin*, whereupon Colonel *Stewart* sent thither Captain *Larkin*, Lieutenant *Bigo*, and Lieutenant *Hart*, with

60 Musketers, who were put ashore about 12 at night. The 10th in the morning Captain *Richards*, His Majesties Engineer, landed, with an Entign and 20 Men, on the Island *Inch*, and, marching about a Mile, came to the great Strand, which was then overflow'd with the Tide; and, having view'd the Ground, stak'd out a Redoubt Work with Redoubts, and then sent to Col. *Stewart* for some Field-pieces, more Men, and Tools. About 11 in the morning it began to grow dry; and divers poor Protestants, with some Cartel, came over to us; And some of the Enemies Horse came down to the opposite shore, to hinder them, whereupon Captain *Richards* sent to Captain *Collier* to come to his Assistance with what Men he had on Board the *Greyhound*, which he did very seasonably, for about 45 of the Enemies Dragoons were making over to the Island; We went with 30 Men and met them on the middle of the Strand, but, after the first discharge, they retired. Presently after Lieutenant Colonel *St. Johns* joined us with 200 Men, he having learn what pass'd from the tops of the Hills, and hastening thereupon to our Succor. About 4 in the Afternoon Colonel *Stewart* came to us with Tools, and 4 Field-pieces, and approving our design, we fell to work. The 11th in the morning, Colonel *Stewart*, and Lieutenant Colonel *St. Johns*, return'd from the other side of the Island with their Men to work on a second Redoubt which we now began; We brought our four Field-pieces into Battery on a rising Ground, and fired now and then at the Enemies Horse that appear'd on the Strand; where they had posted 5 Troops of Dragoons, as if they intended to attack us; but they did not. This day a Kerch was sent to *Ferne-Lough*, where one Mr. *Cunningham*, with 40 Irish Protestants, was retir'd into a small Island, to catch them off. And a Fly-boat was also sent, with some Cartel, to the Fleet in *Derry-Lough*. The 12th, about 2 in the Afternoon, two Troops of Horse came upon the Strand, and marched half way over, where they halted, and there were also ready drawn up, on the other side, three Troops of Horse and Dragoons; Whereupon, with the help of some Seamen from on Board the *Greyhound*, and our Gunners, we drew away two Field-pieces, the Ground being so advantageous, as that we convey'd them near to the first Redoubt before the Enemy could perceive us, and we kept about our Guns, that they might not see them till they were lay'd to pass, and then we shot into the Body of their Horse upon the Strand; and broke them into several Divisions, and soon after beat them quite off the Strand to the Foot of the very Hills. Colonel *Stewart* came with a Party of 300 Men to our Assistance, and afterwards ordered the rest of our Men to march from the other side of the Island, and to joy us. We erected this night a Battery betwixt our two Redoubts, joyning it to them by two Lines of Communication. This day Colonel *Stewart* sent three several Messengers to endeavour to get into *Derry*. From the 13th to the 17th we continued our Works, and put 4 Cannon more into Battery. We had now formed ten Companies of new raised Men. And understood that Major-General *Kirk* designed to be very quickly with us, to give Orders about the supplying the *Innskilling* Men with Arms and able Officers, they being resolv'd to march to *Derry*, and force the Enemy to raise the Siege. This Afternoon Colonel *Stewart* went over to *Rafemullin*, where Captain *Eckling* was with his Party, and order'd him to remove all the Cartel and People over into the Island, for that the Duke of *Berwick* was retir'd from *Innskilling*, and did design to attack them. The 18th the Duke of *Berwick*, with about 1500 Horse and Foot, attack'd our Party at *Rafemullin*, who took care to barricado the Streets, and some other advantageous Passages, that their Horse could not break in upon them; The Fight lasted about two hours, and then the Enemy retir'd, with the loss of 240 Men. On our side Lieutenant *Cunningham* was kill'd, and an Engin wounded. At Night we drew our Party into the Island. The 19th at night the Major-General arriv'd in *Lough-Swilly*. The 20th he came ashore, and order'd the rest of the Forces to land, and to encamp. In the Afternoon a Messenger came with Letters from *Derry*, advising, that they were in great Distress, and that the Boume cross the River was broke, and the Guns drawn