

An Exact

30

RELATION

Of the Siege before

YORKE:

Of the taking of the Suburbs, and of the Approaches made within 40. yards of the Walls: Of the taking of the Kings Manor house there : And how the Associated forces of *Essex, Suffolk, &c.* under the Earle of *Manchester*, have severall times repulsed the Enemy, and preserved some part of the Suburbs from being consumed with fire.

As it is sent in severall Letters, dated at the Leaguer before York, the 6. and 7. of June.

Published by Authority.

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A Letter from the Leaguer before
York, the sixth of June, 1644.

Since my last by the Post the 30. of May last, Prince Rupert hath taken Bolton in Lancashire, wherein there were a thousand five hundred Club-men, and Colonell Rigby with 2000. Armed men drawne from the Siege of Latham, Colonell Rigby himselfe who is come hither saith that he lost there five barrells of Powder, two Drakes, and other Ammunition, and not 200. men in all kild, most of the rest saving themselves by flight; but he conceives he lost neere 500. Armes, the vulgar report gives the losse to be greater; howsoever he is now about to rally his scattered men, and hopes to get them shortly together. Prince Ruperts forces range over a great part of Lancashire, but his principall quarter is at Wiggon, and to that Towne he drawes the forces raised by the Commission of Array: His Army increases by the dependants of the Earle of Darby, and the Popish Gentry there, that do all flock to him, and by the addition of Generall Gorings forces, who came to him on Monday last at Berry; and then it was also believed, that he intended presently to come to York to raise the Siege: But this day the 6. of June, Sir John Meldrum, writes that he conceives his forces not to exceed ten thousand men, and that they bend Southwards, as he thinkes, to take Warrington, and Leverpoole: but it is thought he will march to meet the King, if he once passe South out of Lancashire.

This day also Letters were intercepted from Sir *Philip Musgrave* to Prince *Rupert*, whereby I perceive *Rupert* hath sent for him, and all his forces of *Westmerland*, and *Cumberland*; which Sir *Philip* promiseth to performe, but not suddenly.

In *Lancashire* there are Garrisons of good strength, in *Warington*, *Liverpoole*, and *Lancaster*; and an Army of seven or 8000. Armed men in *Manchester*, where Sir *John Meldrum* resides, and hath the command of all the Country; and the Parliaments ships lately come to *Liverpoole* do much encourage the Souldiers there; so that I do not give *Lancashire* for lost, though I am perswaded *Rupert* will pillage the Country sore, and encrease his Army; neither of which can be prevented without a greater inconvenience.

From Bishoprick we hear that all the forces of the enemy are retreated into *Newcastle* (the Troops of *Claivering* excepted, that continue yet at *Durham*) which gives some assurance of the publique report of the Lord *Calendars* being at *Alnewick*.

The third of *June* our forces tooke *Walton-hall* neer *Wakefield*, and in it Sir *Francis Wortley*, the elder, the first incendiarie in this County, that publikely engaged a party for the King against the Parliament, and 120. souldiers with him, who yeilded themselves prisoners after they had kild severall of our men.

And third of *June* in the night, 60. horse sent by Sir *Hugh Cholmley* from *Scarborough* came to *Buttercoms*, where Mr. *Henry Darley* lodged; and the Draw-bridge being accidentally let down that night, they entred, and took him in bed, and carried him prisoner to *Scarborough*. On

On Monday the third of *June* the Earle of *Manchester* drew to the Leaguer at *Forkes*, about 6000. foot and a thousand horse, and twelve field pieces, and his men are quartered before *Bowdoin* barre, and that side towards *Chifton*, they are very brave souldiers, and every day fall upon some part, and beat the enemy.

And now having these forces added to our other Armies, the enemy is shut up far closer then before: and the Generals consult how the work may be made short with least losse of their men: and yesternight being *June* the fifth, they have caused a work to be raised for a battery, upon a hill neer *Walm-gate*, where there are four pieces of battery already planted, that have played all this afternoone upon the Castle, Tower, and Towne; and they from the Town have sent us at least an hundred Bullets from severall Platformes in the Towne, but they have done us very little hurt, not above one man killed, and what execution our Ordnance do in the City we cannot yet tell; But we are getting more pieces up to our new worke, which we know hath already put them into a very great fear, for this day they have fired most part of the Suburbs, and drawne their people into the Town; our men fall into the Suburbs and beat them in when they Sally our either to fire houses or fetch in goods, but whilest they skirmish the fire consumes the houses, they wil not suffer our men to quench it, for if the houses could have been saved they would have been a great shelter for our men in their approaches.

And the Suburb without *Bowdoin*, where there were many faire houses, being fired, the E. of *Manchesters* men neverthelesse entred, and beat in the enemy this

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this morning, and have saved much of the houses from the fire, and doe gallery through them close to the walls, so that it is to be hoped, that unlesse succours come speedily to them, the Town will be taken or yielded. And to prevent Prince *Ruperts* coming, the most part of our horse and dragooneers are laid towards *Lancashire*, who if they be not able to beat him back, yet will at least stop his march, untill these Armies be drawne up to them, and then they will, being all together, be able to fight with all the forces the King hath on the north side of Trent, if God give his blessing, which we all pray for.

There is a bridge made of boats over the Owse in *Cliftonings*, that the Armies may on a sudden send succour one to another.

The first of *June*, the Scots forces fetched a great many cattell and horses from the enemy neer *Milegate* barre, and kild many both horse and foot of the enemy, I heare they left four and thirty dead, and brought away thirty prisoners, but all fore wounded.

And yesterday *June* the 5. the Earle of *Manchesters* men fell on neere *Walm-gate*, and took *Saint Nicholas* Church, but dissted it againe when they had gotten away eighty head of cattell from the enemy: and there is no day passeth but something is done worthy commendations, for our men are full of courage, and desire to fall upon the Town whensoever the Generalls thinke it fit to command them: *Sandall* Castle neere *Wakefield* was surrendred yesterday.

June the sixth, 1644. Leaguer before York.

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Another Letter from the Leaguer before York, June 7. eleven a Clock at noon.

Every day produces novelties, at present thus, Upon *Wednesday* night last, was a battery made at the Windmil betwixt *York* and *Leslington*, about eight score distant from the Walls, and five piece of great Ordnance yesterday placed in it, and divers shots made into the City, which have made visible batteries, both in the Walls, *Cliffords Tower*, and other houses, another battery was yesterday got at *S. Lawrence* Church, made within the Churchyard next *Wombgate*, about fifty yards from the gate, and here, and in the Church, and houses, there are about 3000. of our men.

My Lord *Eglinton* with 4000. Scots, yesterday entred *Gilligate*, *Marygate*, and *Mary Tower*, & have made a passage into the Manor under ground: This last night a strong party sallyed out of the City, and fell upon his men to beat them back, but could not prevaile, for 7000. of my Lo: *Manchesters* and my Lord *Fairfaxes* men fell into *Wombgate*, and so diverted the enemy, and had a sore fight with them,

them, the losse hitherto, I have not heard on either side: The Lo: Generall *Leven* with his Regiment fell upon a strong Fort this last night, upon a hill, about eight score distant from Skeldergate posterne, and have taken it, and 120. men in it, whereof about 35. are brought in prisoners, the rest killed, hee lost some men in that service: and in this Fort, being very considerable, my Lo: intends to make a battery, and so from thence make shots at pleasure into Town, and I do believe to morrow, or the next day, they will Summon the City once more, and if not yeelded, then they may take the last farewell, for the Soldiers are mightily enraged, and I doubt will not be carefull to distinguish persons: All this last night I saw great fires in three severall places of the City, much of the Suburbs was burned before, except such as our men have saved, and wee heare the enemy resolve to burn the City, rather then yeeld it, wee do houely expect the issue.

*York Leaguer, 7. of June, at eleven
a Clock at noon.*

F I N I S.