militia, to be restored to the said soldiers so serving in the militia."

2. The said militia to be duly exercised.
3. To be kept in order and not allowed to oppress the country.
4. All persons offending to be tried by the laws of war.

Commissions etc. A/26. 24. ff. 131-2.

756. T. Herbert to Ralph King.

" The Council, finding it high time to proceed upon letting leases of the Commonwealth's lands for some considerable time, have thought fit to nominate and appoint you to act with some others in that affair, according to such instructions as will be prepared. Dublin is conceived the fittest place for those Commissioners to sit in. I am commanded to acquaint you therewith and that it is desired you would make your speedy repair hither, that the public service may not suffer the least delay by the absence of any of you." 3 Dec. Letters of Lord Deputy and Council A/30. 28. f. 108.

757. Same to Charles Whalley Esq. and Captain Whitworth.

" His Highness' Council here, taking into consideration the sad condition many distressed orphans are reduced to, through the delinquency of their parents by acting with and adhering to the Irish against the English Interest in the late horrid Rebellion of this nation, have, nevertheless, compassionate thoughts towards their children, especially to their souls, which through the popery of their parents are misled and likely to run in their steps, unless the Lord, in mercy, discover some good means for prevention, by educating them where they may be virtuously bred where the truth is professed. I am therefore commanded to signify unto you that if you please to confer with Mr Mayor of Chester and some country justices thereabouts concerning some expedient in this case, and that if you please to send hither a dozen or twenty poor English children, that either are upon the charge of the parish, or whose parents are unable to provide for them, the Council will give order for their being received here and carefully provided for, by being put out to some fit trade or as

may be conceived meet ; and in exchange will send hence unto you an equal number of Irish children (none under nine years old), who shall be apparelled here, upon hopes that you will take the like care for binding them apprentices at Chester or elsewhere, or otherwise disposed of in country affairs as in your wisdom shall be judged fit. This is a work of mercy and truly may be the saving of souls, as well as provision for the bodies of those who may otherwise be neglected. Your speedy answer is desired." 4 Dec. *Ib.* f. 110.

758. " The Council taking notice that of late a great number of people are come over hither out of England and Wales upon the account of planting, or otherwise of disposing of themselves, but reduced to very great extremity by reason of the charge they have been put to in their travel to the seaside, and of their long stay there, occasioned through contrary winds, which (as is informed) hath exhausted all or most part of their substance," have in tender consideration whereof appointed a committee to consider how they are to be disposed. 4 Dec. Orders A/5. 5. f. 302.

759. Ordered that certain prisoners, some of them priests, and twenty women be delivered to Captain Norris, merchant, to be transported to Barbados. 4 Dec. *Ib.* f. 303.

760. The Council to the Lord Deputy Fleetwood.

" Whereas we are informed that the Protestant proprietors of lands in this nation are now soliciting before his Highness and Council to be discharged of their fee-farm rents, for five years or some other time, and that it is expected that we here on the place should give our advice therein. First, We hold it our duties to acquiesce in whatever his Highness shall command us therein, and shall rejoice that any favour is or shall be extended to the good people of this nation, though it be to the lessening of his Highness' revenue, if his Highness shall require the same, well knowing his Highness' wisdom will find out some better ways and means to supply the treasury elsewhere. But as to that, that is now desired by them we do find that in former rebellions (as in those of Tyrone and others in Queen Elizabeth and King James'