the rest are hastening away, as soon as the Court of Justice have made some progress in their business, and when they (*sic*) have despatched some things that are upon our hands we intend (God willing) to remove to Dublin, where your commands shall be expected by." Kilkenny, 14 Oct. *Ib.* f. 309-10.

281. Same to the Parliament.

" Since our coming to this place very many of the officers of your army have given us a meeting, and after some consultations in order to the carrying on your affairs here, the greatest part of them are gone to attend their several charges. There are already gone out of this nation, of such of the Irish as have been in arms, about 7000 of the parties of Fitzpatrick, O'Dwyer, the Lord of Muskerry and Murtogh O'Brien and Fitzgerald; and at this present there is preparation for the carrying over of many others by Sir Walter Dungan, the Lord Westmeath and several other officers of the Irish party. This day we have received intelligence of 400 of the Connaught party, that hitherto have been out in rebellion, are come in, and last week did lay down their arms. But in Ir-Connaught, which is part of the County of Galway and next to Innisboffin, there are some that formerly submitted, have run out again. Sir Charles Coote is gone from us to Connaught to have an eye upon them. The most considerable enemy, that is still out, is the Ulster party. Sir Phelim O'Neill and the most of the officers with him, being guilty of blood and of the first rebellion, do head them and hold them together, and though a considerable part of them did condescend to some articles, yet it is doubtful of their continuance; but Col. Venables on the one side, and the Commissary-General Reynolds on the other are to attend them, and by the help of the Lord, we hope will give account of them.

" In our last unto you we humbly offered to have an Act in order to the trial of the murders done since 1641 by a High Court of Justice; but upon perusal of the powers by our last instructions granted to us, and upon consideration that our gaols in this place and some parts of Munster were full of them, and that delay might be of prejudice, we have granted commission to several persons of integrity and trust, that have this day begun to sit and execute their commission.[1] We cannot but present unto you the waste and sad condition of this country

[1] At Kilkenny. See Prendergast, *Cromwellian Settlement*, p. 287.

and of your poor army here, that must have perished by famine and other miseries, and been wholly unserviceable unto you, had you not made such good supplies and provisions of all necessaries as hitherto you have done. Our endeavours shall not be wanting to lessen your charge and burden, of which we shall hereafter give account, but do again humbly desire the continuance of your provisions for them, until some effectual course may be taken to lessen your charge, and the country rendered more secure than yet it is, and the stock now spoiled in all parts by the wars renewed, and the nation made capable of paying the monthly assessment." Kilkenny, 14 Oct. *Ib.* ff. 312-13.

282. Ordered that licence be given Con McCormac O'Neill [1] to transport 1000 Irish from Drogheda. 16 Oct. Orders A/82. 42. f. 363.

283. Order similar to No. 268 in behalf of the Earl of Westmeath, with licence to raise more men. 19 Oct. *Ib.* f. 342.

284. "The commissioners upon consideration had of the petition presented in the name of the inhabitants of the County of Kilkenny, having taken notice of the profession of the said petitioners of being free from the guilt of massacres, plunderings and murders of the English, of having submitted at first upon the Lord General's Proclamation, and ever since quietly and peaceably subjected themselves to the Parliament's government, with the good affection they show in their petition, the said Commissioners are willing to hold forth all regard answerably, that may discriminate and distinguish the sense they have of the petitioners from others who have been guilty of the aforesaid offences, which discrimination also they shall at all times readily express, according to the several or respective merits of each person, as it shall come before them, wherein it shall be in their power, with respect had to the duty and trusts they owe to the Parliament, to show any favour." 19 Oct. *Ib.* f. 372.

[1] Con McCormac O'Neill was the son of that Sir Cormac (brother of Hugh, Earl of Tyrone) who died about 1616, a prisoner in the Tower. After serving in Spain, Con came to Ireland in 1642 and was made lieut.-general to his uncle, Owen Roe O'Neill; but according to Ludlow (*Memoirs*, i, p. 328) "upon some jealousy or particular discontent he was laid aside." He surrendered with others of the Ulster leaders in Sept. 1652 and was allowed to go abroad. He is said to have married a niece of the Duchess of Artois.