

'To Mr. Secretary Thurloe.'

'Whitehall,' 28th July, 1655.

You receive from me, this 28th instant, a Petition from Margery Beacham, desiring the admission of her Son into the Charterhouse; whose Husband was employed one day in an important secret service, which he did effectually, to our great benefit and the Commonwealth's.

I have wrote under it a common Reference to the Commissioners, but I mean a great deal more: That it shall be done, without their debate or consideration of the matter. And so do you privately hint to _____. I have not the particular shining bauble for crowds to gaze at or kneel to, but-To be short, I know how to deny Petitions; and, whatever I think proper, for outward form, to "refer" to any Officer or Office, I expect that such my compliance with custom shall be looked upon as an indication of my will and pleasure to have the thing done.

Thy true friend,
OLIVER P.'