

For my noble friend, Colonel Richard Norton: These.

'London,' 25th February, 1647.

DEAR NORTON,

I have sent my Son over to thee, being willing to answer Providence; and although I had an offer of a very great proposition, from a father, of his daughter, yet I rather incline to this in my thoughts; because, though the other be very far greater, yet I see different ties, and not that assurance of godliness,-though indeed of fairness. I confess that which is told me concerning the estate of Mr. M. is more than I can look for, as things now stand.

If God please to bring it about, the consideration of piety in the Parents, and such hopes of the Gentlewoman in that respect, make the business to me a great mercy; concerning which I desire to wait upon God.

I am confident of thy love; and desire things may be carried with privacy. The Lord do His will: that's best;-to which submitting, I rest,

Your humble servant,
OLIVER CROMWELL.