

times, and being then told that the horse was ready, I started up, jumped to the corner for my Portmanteau to have it carried out, upon which the landlord told me, that he had got it put on the horse while we were drinking Charles's health. I suspected nothing of any harm, and set out on our journey. About half an hour after daylight we arrived at a gentleman's seat, Mr. M'Kenzie of Dundonald, nephew to Colin Dearg, by whose recommendation we halted at that house. Mr. M'Kenzie was then at Inverness for fear of being suspected of favouring Charles's cause; but his lady was at home. Unloaded the horse, when Mr. Gordon complained that he could not accompany us farther as his shoes were worn out. I told him I would supply that deficiency by giving him a pair of mine, which were in the upper covering of my Portmanteau. Then says he I must have them before we sleep. I told him to let us first take a nap. No, he returned, I will have them now, to try if they'll fit me. I went to the Portmanteau, unbuckled the upper straps and discovered a large cut, by which I immediately guessed some mischief had happened. Called Capt. Lynch, declared to him my suspicion; then before him and Mr. Gordon, examined the Portmanteau and found that a canvas bag containing 1000 guineas was gone. Lynch said, "it is your countrymen who have done this." "No reflections upon countries, Captain Lynch, returned I, there are more rogues in Ireland than in Scotland. Were we in France I'd pay you for your reflection; at present I do not choose to resent it. Let us go back to where this theft was committed; arm ourselves to the best advantage, and recover the money if possible."

This resolution being taken, I called the maid of the house, asked her if the lady was up. Was answered in the negative. Make her Capt. M'Donell's compliments and tell her I must instantly speak to her. She returned and told me I might use the freedom I asked. Upon which I went into the bed-room; the maid bearing me company. I told the lady the cause of my early visit—"that I was very happy for having made the discovery so early: for otherwise, I would certainly have blamed her people for the theft, rather than suspect those under the denomination of officers and gentlemen—but that now the case was quite plain.—Now Madam, here is a sack containing 500 guineas, which I give to you in charge; if I come back I will expect restitution—if killed, I bequeath it to your ladyship. God be with you, I wish you a good morning". Captain Lynch and I with only one man to shew us the way, returned to Laggy. Sent in the man to tell the officers, and particularly Colin Dearg, to come out to speak to us. While the man was in, with our message, Captain Lynch told me that we had but to present our pistols to their breasts and kill two of them, if they would not instantly return us our money. This too peremptory demand I opposed; and told him I was of opinion, first to prove that Colin Dearg was himself the person who took the money, and not to pretend that we suspected in the least the others to be concerned in the theft—and to urge them to use their influence over him to induce him to return the stolen gold: and if it was true, that my people were still in arms, I would soon recover the money with a vengeance to the McKenzies; and further that my friends knew nothing