

To my loyal servant, Sir John Paston Esq.

As you know the country continues to suffer under the grievous assault of our enemies - both from within and without - and I look now for loyalty and support from my friends. You, I know, are one I can trust.

The former king and pretender, Henry of Lancaster, continues to evade capture. There are reports he has fled to Northumberland and is now in hiding. I do not have to remind you of the importance at this time of quelling any resurgence of rebellion that may rise in our county of Norfolk and I trust I can rely on your support and your castle at Caister to keep order and peace at this difficult time.

Your sons, I hear, have grown strong and powerful, I am sure you will have no hesitation in giving them the opportunity to prove their honour by fighting at the side of your one and true King if and when the occasion arises. I will need every loyal knight I can muster for the trials ahead.

Your sacrifices will be rewarded.

Your sovereign,

Edward of York