

THE GARRISON OF NEWPORT PAGNELL DURING THE CIVIL WARS.

BY REV. H. ROUNDELL.

(Concluded from page 312.)

Upon the first day of June 1645, Sir Robert Pye surrendered the Town of Leicester to the Royal Army. In the attack of the previous day, the chief if not the only determined resistance to the besiegers had been made by Major Ennis and the Newport soldiers. They had been placed in charge of the portion of the fortifications then called "The Newe Worke," on the south side of the Town, near an old stone wall, against which Prince Rupert had directed the King's artillery to be planted. In this wall a large breach had been made, but repaired and defended by Ennis, who twice repulsed the enemy with great loss: he continued to maintain his position for three hours after the rest of the Town was taken, and obtained good terms of capitulation when surrounded and attacked from the opposite side.* A Parliamentary Journal, naturally anxious to support its own cause, states that Ennis plunged into the river and escaped,† but it is certain that he surrendered himself together with his men. He petitioned Parliament for an investigation into his conduct at Leicester, and obtained a high testimony to his courage from the House of Commons, who voted him a gift of one hundred pounds, and obtained his release by exchange for Major Maxey:‡ and within a fortnight after the fall of Leicester he had returned to Newport Pagnell and placed himself again under the command of his steady friend, Sir Samuel Luke.§

The period of Luke's command had now expired, and he was prepared to leave his post as soon as his successor

* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 34 b.

† *Perfect Diurnall*, Munday 2^d of June, to Munday the 9th of June, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, Junii 7^o, and Die Martis, Junii 10^o, 1645.

§ Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 14 b.

was appointed. But the imminent danger from any further advance of the King towards London, and the universal terror which the surrender of Leicester had created among the supporters of the Parliament made the maintenance of the frontier garrison of Newport of paramount importance. The celebrated City Petition of the fifth of June, unmistakably alluded to Newport Pagnell in the paragraph calling on both Houses to take measures for "Prevention of the Enemy's further Surprising of other Places of Strength, and destroying the rest who had appeared in Defence of the Parliament, and for Preservation of the Kingdom."* At this crisis of the Civil Wars, the whole garrison at Newport consisted of one troop of horse and less than six hundred foot.† Besides losing a troop at Leicester, Luke had been obliged to send a reinforcement to Major General Skippon, near Oxford, who instead of returning these soldiers for the defence of Newport, had marched them to Abingdon. The Governor's Dispatch of the sixth of June, addressed to the Lord Roberts, fully confirms all the apprehensions for the security of the garrison then entertained in London. In it he says *The Country all hereabouts are growne soe malignant, y^t neither ye power of ye Army or of ye Com^{tees} could bee sufficient to fforce in Provisions, w^{ch} hath soe much exhausted this Towne, & y^e pts adioyning to ye Towne y^t if his Matys Army should approach before wee are againe recruited this Towne cannot possibly hold out, though hee only lyes about it according to a Com^{and} from ye Lords I sent warr^{ts} to ye Com^{tee} of Bed: for p^{ro}visions but very few came in, And truly my Lord if yu did but see w^t a change o^r late ill successe hath made in these p^{ts}, yu would admire it,***

Yor honors most humble

*Newport June 6th
1645.*

*seruant
S. L. ‡*

The alarm indeed in London had been so great, that the day before the above dispatch was written both Houses of Parliament, at the request, adds Mr Whitelock,§ of the

* *Lords Journals*, Die Jovis, 5^o die Junii, 1645.

† Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 40 b.

‡ Id., folio 9 b.

§ *Memorials of the English Affairs*, page 149.

inhabitants of Newport Pagnell, had extended Luke's Commission as Governor for twenty days longer, and this Order was sent away in such haste, as on its arrival to be found wanting the necessary signatures.* Luke continued pressing his demands for men and munitions of war upon the Committee of Both Kingdoms, now thoroughly alive to the possible consequences of their previous neglect of this garrison, and smarting under the not undeserved censure cast on them by the City Petition. An order was issued for one hundred and fifty Pikes, and two hundred and fifty Musquets out of the public stores to be sent down speedily to Newport.† Lord Roberts commissioned Luke to forward to London daily intelligence of the King's movements and strength;‡ and within a few days the House of Commons ordered "the Gentlemen of the " Eastern Association and others concerned in the Pay " to the Garrison at *Newport Pagnell*, to consider of the " Settling of the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*, and that " they should advise herein with the Gentlemen of the " Counties of *Oxon* and *Bucks*.§

Meantime however Sir Thomas Fairfax had raised the siege of Oxford, and after a desperate but fruitless assault with his whole army upon the gallant little garrison in Borstoll House, marched to the protection of Newport, stationing himself at Fenny Stratford.|| Colonel Vermyden hastened with his brigade from Oundle in Northamptonshire, to join with Fairfax, and on the sixth of the month reached Olney, assigned to him for quarters by Sir Samuel, where he found two troops of the Scottish horse, under Colonel Middleton, lately come up and occupying the fort.** Protected from any sudden surprise by these troops, Fairfax being to the south within easy reach; and Vermyden and Middleton to the north between himself and the King's army, Luke was enabled to send out on the twelfth of June his old ally Major Fennis with a troop of one hundred horse and dragoons to lie in wait between Brackley and Daventry for a party of the enemies cavalry

* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 4. b.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Veneris Junii, 1646.

‡ Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 79 b.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii Junii 11^o, 1646.

|| *Moderate Intelligencer*, June 5 to June 12, 1646.

** Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 3 b. and folio 6.

reported to be going out of Oxford, and with orders to return to Newport, in the event of news of any defeat of the Parliamentary forces, or of the forward march of the King.* While Ennis was absent on this service, Fairfax having obtained supplies of provisions from the stores at Newport, and collected his stragglers, moved forward the main body of his army to Weston, near Newport Pagnell, and was there joined by Cromwell, who lodged himself in Lady Throgmorton's house,† and thence the united armies of the Parliament marched forward to engage the King upon the decisive field of Naseby.

Naseby battle was fought upon Saturday, the fourteenth of June, and the Governor of Newport ordered that a Public Thanksgiving for the victory should be celebrated in the Parish Church upon the following day. Two Captains of Fairfax's army, named Hobson and Beaumont, both belonging to Colonel Fleetwood's regiment, happened to be then at Newport with passes from Fleetwood to go to London. During the preceding week they had held religious meetings, and preached in various parts of the town, greatly to Luke's indignation. On Sunday morning these officers, instead of attending the Thanksgiving Service, collected a large crowd of men, women, and children, and taking them to Lathbury, a village about two miles distant, held a religious exercise of their own in a private house. Luke's anger, which had been hitherto only kept in check by the impending danger from the King's army, now exceeded all limits. Skilfully availing himself of an Ordinance of Parliament very recently passed, directing all Governors of Garrisons to apprehend and return all stragglers from the army, he ordered Hobson and Beaumont into custody, and sent them back to Sir Thomas Fairfax as prisoners under the charge of an Ensign and Provost Martial. Luke is guarded in his statement of this affair to Fairfax which accompanied the prisoners, but to his relative, Mr. Ford, he writes without reserve, *Cosin*, he says, "*your Lre I rec^d but shall bee glader of yo^r Company, if yu see I come not to yu soddenly I hope yu will come to mee, ye 2 Godly devines belonging to Col: fleetewoods Regim^t I have*

* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 38 and folio 14 b.

† Id, folio 15.

apprehended & sent as yu may see by these incloased, ye circumstances my L^t Col: will acquaint yu, who for his doggs sakes interceded much in their behalves, yet noe whitt at all pruailed, they were preaching all ye weeke long & I left ym alone, & now when I had ordered a publiqe thankesgivinge for Gods unspeakable mercy to us, for ym to draw my Parishioners away & soe leave ye Church empty I could noe longer endure if they retourne backe againe to mee I shall send ym up to yor Assembly, & then I hope yu will take order yt such Annabaptisticall Companions trouble us noe more, I heare ye preaching & praying Regim^{ts} as they terme ym, trusted more to earth than to heaven for their heeles were their cheifest reffuge wiz^t ye Ma Genalls, Pickerings, & Montagues, Regim^{ts} Raynsborrowes Rob^t Handons, & ye Genalls stood to it, Col: fleteewoods most of ym found foure Leggs under ym for ye Col: & his Maior I knowe noe pticulers but hope they did well, I pray remember mee to yor wife & assure yorselpe y^t my constant prayers shall be for both their healths & remaine

*Yor faithfull freind &
seruant.*

*Newport June 16th
1645.*

*S. L.**

Some additional information respecting the preaching of these Captains is contributed by Mr. Staines in his "History of Newport Pagnell," page 92—3. Under the year 1645, he states, 'we have met with two Exercises preached in Newport Pagnell during this year, by Captain Paul Hobson. In the advertisement to the impartial readers, the Captain-parson thus complains of the treatment he received: "It is now about a year and a half since, for delivering of this following treatise in a quiet and peaceful manner in Newport Pagnell and Lathbury, in the County of Buckinghamshire, I was imprisoned by the Governor of Newport; but since that, not myself alone, but the truth becomes a sufferer, through the sundry reproachful epithets of M^r. Pryne, his brother Grangena, and some that had a hand in my imprisonment, affirming that what I delivered there was blasphemy." It has been stated,' adds Mr. Staines,

* Egerton MS., No. 786 folio 20.

‘ by some, that Hobson was imprisoned for preaching
 ‘ against infant baptism, and by others, that he was a fifth
 ‘ monarchy-man; but as these discourses turn simply on
 ‘ the subject of religious experience, they afford no clue
 ‘ to elucidate the question in dispute.’ The letter to
 Mr. Ford, and the other correspondence of Sir Samuel on
 this subject leave no doubt that the two Captains were
 apprehended for an offence against the Governor’s ideas
 of Church discipline rather than of unsound doctrine.

But Sir Thomas Fairfax and Colonel Fleetwood were
 far from acquiescing in this treatment of their officers.
 Both replied to Sir Samuel Luke’s letter. Fleetwood,
 who was his kinsman, with a studied moderation, assuming
 that Luke’s subordinates had acted in this business con-
 trary to his wishes, and himself only writing “*out of
 tenderness to his Honour which might possibly suffer by
 such wayes;*” * Fairfax in a more peremptory style,
 asserting that the Newport officers had treated their
 prisoners with great harshness, and requiring that the
 Ensign and Provost Martial, who had taken Hobson and
 Beaumont into custody, should be both instantly cashiered. †
 Upon the arrival of this demand, Luke appointed a
 Council of War to hear and determine the whole affair,
 with orders that if after full enquiry they found the New-
 port officers to be guilty of improper usage of the two
 Captains, then to cashier them, but if not, to send up the
 depositions and their finding to the Parliament. The
 further conduct of this business was committed to Lieu-
 tenant Colonel Cockayne, the second in command at
 Newport. He was then, it will be remembered, a candi-
 date for the Governorship, and with an evident desire to
 conciliate Sir Thomas Fairfax, prevailed upon the Coun-
 cil of War, to cashier the Ensign and Provost Martial,
 informing Fairfax that *this was the least satisfaction w^h
 could bee given to those 2 Gentlemen,‡ Hobson and
 Beaumont,* while upon the same day in another letter he
 told Sir Samuel *that the Council of War had found
 nothing against Ensign Fish at all.* ||

* Egerton MS., No. 786 folio 48.

† Id., folio 47 b.

‡ Id., folio 45.

|| Id., folio 46.

The sentence of the Court Martial would probably have been otherwise had Luke remained at Newport. His prolonged command expired upon the 26th of June, two days before the finding of the Court Martial, and he immediately repaired to London, and resumed his attendance in the House of Commons, devoting himself with unabated diligence to the cause he had espoused. In July he was selected to carry down the Orders of the House, to the Committees and Deputy Lieutenants of Bedfordshire, directing them to raise the old levies as well as the new recruits for the army of Fairfax, and to put into speedy and due execution the Ordinance for punishing such impressed Soldiers as had run away from their Colours.* This service accomplished, Luke returned again to London. He served on the Parliamentary Committees for examining Petitions from the Earl of Stamford,† and Sir John Danvers,‡ upon the Select Committee to which a Bill entitled, "An Act for the better Observation of the Lord's Day," was referred on the Second Reading;‡ was appointed one of the Commissioners for the better settling of the Presbyterical Government;|| and was nominated with other members of the House to prepare and bring in an "Ordinance for Regulating of the University of Oxford."§ Early in the month of January in the following year of 1647, Luke obtained a final settlement of the arrears of pay due to him as Colonel of a troop of Horse, and Governor of Newport Pagnell, amounting altogether to 448*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*** From this time forward he appears to have been less active or less influential in the cause of the Parliament. By the death of the Earl of Essex he had lost a steady and valued friend. In every thought, principle, and action, Luke was identified with the Presbyterian party, so powerful at the beginning of the Civil Wars, but then rapidly declining before the more vigorous and fanatic spirit of Independency as embodied in the Army of the New Model. Even in the

* *Commons Journals*, Die Martis, Julii primo, 1645.

† *Id.*, Die Jovis, 10^o Septembris, 1645.

‡ *Id.*, Die Martis, 20^o Januarii 1645.

|| *Weekly Account*, from June 3 to June 10th, 1646.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 1^o Julii, 1646.

** *Id.*, Die Lunæ, 11^o Januarii, 1646.

House of Commons, the stronghold of the Presbyterians, the influence of the opposite faction was strong enough to maintain Cromwell in chief command, notwithstanding the Self-denying Ordinance, till at length the Army became virtually supreme over the Long Parliament. Luke, it is probable, either finding his own services unappreciated, or disheartened at the prospect of affairs, retired to his house at Cople, and in the August following was suddenly arrested "upon some information," but shortly afterwards liberated. He was however too good a soldier to be entirely forgotten, and when previous to the Restoration the Militia was remodelled, he was offered a Colonelcy of Foot and a Captaincy of Horse, and his son Oliver Luke placed in the Commission of Assessment. In the new Parliament he again represented Bedford, but at its close took his final leave of public life.* At Newport Sir Samuel Luke appears to have preserved copies of his Dispatches and Correspondence, transcribed in folio volumes. Three of these volumes are now in the British Museum Library, under the title of the Egerton Manuscripts, Nos. 785, 786, 787, and have supplied a large portion of the materials of the present paper. They contain Letters from Cromwell, Essex, Fairfax, and other leaders in the Civil Wars, Reports of Spies, Muster Rolls, Lists of Prisoners, Warrants for Supplies, and intelligence of military affairs in various parts of the Kingdom, especially in Buckinghamshire, and well deserve the attention of any future Historian of this County. Another volume apparently from the same series is in the Library of the Earl of Ashburnham. It is described at length in Dr. O'Connor's *Bibliotheca MS. Stowensis*, vol. 2. page 445, and is stated to contain correspondences between the tenth of October, 1644, and the twenty-fifth of February, 1645.

At the present day Sir Samuel Luke is better remembered as the original of Butler's Hudibras, than the successful Scout-master of the Earl of Essex, or the resolute Governor of Newport Pagnell. In that poem, some of the peculiarities in personal appearance, some of the incidents in Luke's life are narrated, and as if to prevent

* *Memoirs of Sir Samuel Luke, Knt.*, Gent. Mag., 1823. Pt II. vol. 93. p. 123.

the possibility of misapprehension, the author indicates his name in the unfinished couplet, which every reader can fill up—

Tis sung, there is a valiant Mamaluke
In foreign land, ycleped

[Sir Samuel Luke.]

and then proceeds, marking the resemblance more distinctly—

To whom we have been oft compar'd
For person, parts, address, and beard;
And in the same cause both have fought;
He oft in such attempts as these
Came off with glory and success:
Nor will we fail in th' execution,
For want of equal resolution.*

It assists in confirming the identification of Hudibras with Sir Samuel Luke to find the latter mentioned by name and made to agree with the description of Hudibras (Part 1. Canto 1.) in the lines ascribed to Butler, and printed in an Edition of his Works, though not fully authenticated, entitled "The Tale of the Cobbler and the Vicar of Bray," and commencing—

In Bedfordshire there dwelt a Knight,
Sir Samuel by name,
Who by his feats in civil broils
Obtained a mighty fame;
Nor was he much less wise than stout
But fit in both respects
To humble sturdy Cavileers
And to support the sects;
This worthy Knight, was one who swore
He would not cut his beard,
Till this ungodly nation was
From Kings and Bishops cleared;
Which holy vow he firmly kept,
And most devoutly wore
A grizly meteor on his face
Till they were both no more.

There is undoubtedly much untrue exaggeration of Luke's appearance and foibles in Butler's Poem, and Dr. Johnson remarks with great truth, "In forming the character of Hudibras, and describing his person and habiliments, the author seems to labour with a tumultuous confusion of dissimilar ideas. He had read the history of the mock knights-errant; he knew the notions and manners of a presbyterian magistrate, and

* Hudibras, Part 1. Canto 1.



PORTRAIT OF SIR SAMUEL LUKE.

[Photographed by J. C. May.]

“ tried to unite the absurdities of both, however distant, in one personage. Thus he gives him that pedantic ostentation of knowledge, which has no relation to chivalry, and loads him with martial encumbrances, that can add nothing to his civil dignity. He sends him out a *colonelling*, and yet never brings him within sight of war.”* The well known story that Butler was an inmate of Sir Samuel Luke’s family, and owed him many obligations, is noticed by the writer of the *Memoirs of Sir Samuel Luke, Knt.* in the Gentleman’s Magazine for August, 1823, who states it to be without sufficient foundation, and not mentioned by Wood or Aubrey, and to occur first in an anonymous life of Butler, prefixed to an edition of Hudibras. The first and second cantos of that poem were published during the lifetime of Luke. He died at his family seat at Cople in Bedfordshire, and was buried there on the 30th of August, 1670. Besides Butler’s satirical description, much is said of his personal appearance by Birkenhead, Cleveland, and Needham, writers during the Civil Wars, but happily, undoubted portraits of Sir Samuel, and Lady Luke, and their son Oliver, are preserved in the fine old Manor House at Adderbury, in Oxon, the property of the Reverend W. Cotton Risley, who succeeded to this estate after the death of the late Mr. Barbor, the lineal descendant of Mr. Barbor, brother-in-law to Sir Samuel Luke. The picture of Sir Samuel has never been engraved, and the members of the Society as well as the contributor of this paper, are much indebted to the Reverend W. Cotton Risley, for permission to enrich these pages with the accompanying Photograph of this, the only known existing Portrait of the Governor of Newport Pagnell, and the original of Hudibras, gratuitously executed, and presented to “The Records” by Mr. J. C. May, of Aylesbury.

After the departure of Sir Samuel Luke for London, on the 27th of June, the Committee for Supply of the Commands of the Members of the Armies and Garrisons invested Lieutenant Colonel Cockayne with the temporary command of the Garrison until further order should be made by the Parliament. During July, the active canvas

* The Works of the English Poets, with Prefaces, Biographical and Critical, By Dr. Samuel Johnson, London, 1810; vol. viii. page 91.

for the post, which had been commenced in the preceding May, was continued with unabated vigour, and conducted with considerable irritation on all sides. All the earlier candidates had withdrawn, with the exception of Cockayne, who upon the admission of his own friends, was ill-qualified for so important a command.* But a new competitor had appeared in Major Temple, a relative of Sir Peter Temple, and supported by Skippon, and Colonel Richard Browne, then Major General of the Counties of Buckingham, Oxford, and Berks.† With the view of damaging Temple's pretensions Cockayne procured various accusations to be raked up against him and embodied in a document, curiously illustrative of the bitter feeling which accompanied this contest.

To the Speaker of the house of Commons *At the Request of Lt: Col: Cockayne*
conrning ye carriage of Maior Temple, dureing his being Maior to Col: ffiennes (not soe much for ye satisfaction of ye s^d Lt: Col) as out of faithfulnessse to ye State, heareing Maior Temple standeth for ye Gounm^t of Newport a Towne of soe greate concernemt, wee whose names are here subscribed doe upon or Honors attest, w^t wee orseloes know (& can make good by diverse others) concerning ye carriage of ye said Maior, during his being in Col: ffiennes Regim^t.

I wee conceive him to be a man of a very timerous & fearefull spiritt, w^h wee offer to make good thus,

That when ye enemy was upon their march for ye releife of Banbury, Maior Temple in a terrible fright all bespattered wth dirt, came rideing from his Qrs at Blozham & brought Col: ffiennis (then comaunding the fforces there in cheife) a false allarum, affirming yt ye enemy mas in his Qrs: & y^t he had turned all his owne best rideing horses loose, and was necessitated to hide himselfe in a woodpile, for y^t diverse of his men were taken Prisoners, & this hee affirmed wth soe much confidence, y^t there was an Order prsently graunted for ye drawing away ye Dragoones from Aderbury Bridge, w^{ch} was there appointed for ye security of y^t passage, for had ye enemy beene come to Bloxam being betwixt ym & the Leagure, ye Guard being thus drawne of gave opptunity to ye enemy not long after to passe over ye s^d Aderbury Bridge, w^h in all pbability had been preunted, had not y^t Guard beene soe taken off.

* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 72 b.

† Id., folio 84 b.

That when ye Cout of Warr had ordered a retreat of ye fforges to Warwicke, and not to engage wth ye enemy, The management of ye Horse being entrusted to Col: Lydcott, Maior Temple gave orders to y^t division, hee was entrusted withall (ag^t order) to charge ye enemy being very neare ym & himselfe contrary to his trust left ym, prtending hee went to fetch up ffoote, w^{ch} he had noe order to doe, by w^{ch} meanes tis very pbable, was ye cause y^t devision faced about, seeing their Maior yt had talked soe much soe unworthily at ye prsent left ym.

That Maior Temple goeing from Okeingham, to Ham neare Hungerford, wth a pty of 200 horse to beate up ye enemyes Qrs: and comeing to ye greate house at Aldermaston he there refreshed till such tyme as it was night, when drawing up his horse in ye Court towards ye psecucon of his designe, hee discovered a pty of Musketeers in ye Towne comeing up towards him wh by his knowledge Col: ffiennis had appointed to come thither to make good his retreat, having given them ye same word Maior Temple had, & acquainted him wth ye tyme of their comeing thither, notwithstanding this Maior Temple at ye sight of ye sd pty (before he had sent out to discover ym) was soe much affrighted yt hee gave orders to ye horse there under his comaund to betake ymselves to ye house for shelter whereupon all ye pty was in disorder & confusion, & had thronged into ye house, had not some officers wth him, pswaded him to ye contrary & to take ye ffield, since it was in his power to engage, or draw away as hee pleased.

2^{dy} Wee conceive him to bee a Man yt makes Religion a Cloake to psecute his designes by, when indeed he is altogether voyd of ye power thereof, w^{ch} wee offer to make good thus,

That hee maketh noe conscience of speakeing of all manner of untruthes, of w^{ch} wee have had sufficient experience.

That hee maketh noe conscience of curseing & sweareing, w^{ch} Religion will not admitt of upon any occasion.

That hee hath made noe conscience of abusing & oppressing ye Country w^{ch} wee are able to make good severall wayes.

That hee is a man of a very Covetous nature troublesome disposicon practyseing all mischeife ag^t those, yt will not comply wth his humours

Northton.
June 12, 1645.

Jo: White } Capt^u in Col John
Jo: Hunt } ffiennis, his
Tho: Breus } Regim^t

That ye said Maior Temple hath at his pting from ye Regim^t made a false Muster.*

* Egerton MS., No. 786, folio 41-2.

It is far from certain whether these Articles against Major Temple were ever put into the hands of the Speaker, for Sir Oliver Luke to whose charge they were committed for presentation to the House, advised delay, and stated that they would not be allowed, except upon the evidence of witnesses, who had seen the signatures attached.* But at length the question of the Governorship of Newport was brought to an issue upon General Browne giving Major Temple a Commission to assume the command in chief at Newport. Against this invasion of his authority, Cockayne at once appealed to the House of Commons in a letter dated the seventh of August. On Saturday, the ninth instant, this question came forward in debate—Cockayne's letter was read, and a counter-charge brought against him of using abusive language of Major General Brown, and ultimately referred to the Committee of the three Counties of Oxon, Bucks, and Berks, to hear and report upon to the House.† After a long discussion, during which was read the Ordinance appointing Major-General Browne to be Major-General of the Three Counties of Oxon, Bucks, and Berks, the House resolved—

“That Mr. *Lane*, and Sir *W^m. Lewes* do, from this House, go to Major-General *Browne*, and acquaint him, That by the Ordinance whereby he is appointed Major-General of the Three Associated Counties of *Oxon*, *Buck*, and *Berk*, there is no Power given him for establishing a Governor in the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*; and to desire him to write his Letter to Major *Temple*, to come away from that Garrison.”

“That it be recommended to Lieutenant Colonel *Cokayne* to take care of the Garrison of *Newport Pagnell*, till this House take further Order; and Sir *Samuel Luke* is appointed to prepare a Letter, to be signed by Mr. Speaker, and sent to Lieutenant Colonel *Cokaine*, to take care of this Garrison accordingly.”‡

At the same sitting a letter was read from Sir Thomas Fairfax, written from Sherrington, near Newport, on the eighth of June, recommending Captain D'Oyley for the future Governor, and the House at once nominated him.

* Egerton MS, No. 786, folio 52 b.

† *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 13^o Augusti, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, 9^o Augusti, 1645.

Sir Thomas Widdrington carried up this vote to the Lords, who gave their assent on the twelfth instant,* and, as the Editor of *The Mercurius Britannicus* observes, "a better *medium* could not have been chosen to end this *controversie*." Cockayne resumed his former position and duties in the garrison at Newport, and Temple was compensated for his disappointment by being made shortly afterwards Governor of Henley-upon-Thames.

The new Governor of Newport Pagnell Captain Charles D'Oyley, now promoted to be Major, and shortly afterwards to be Colonel with command of a Troop of Horse, had distinguished himself on the field of Naseby. "The General" (Fairfax) writes MR. WHITELOCK, "had his Helmet beat off and riding in the Field bare-headed up and down from one part of his Army to another, to see how they stood, and what advantage might be gained and coming up to his own Life Guard commanded by Colonel *Charles D'Oyley* he was told by him that he exposed himself to too much Danger, and the whole Army thereby, riding bare-headed in the Fields, and so many Bullets flying about him and *D'Oyley* offered his General his Helmet, but he refused it saying, *it is well enough* Charles: and seeing a Body of the King's Foot stand, and not at all broken, he asked *D'Oyley* if he had charged that Body, who answered that he had twice charged them but could not break them.

"With that *Fairfax* bid him to charge them once again in the Front, and that he would take a Commanded Party, and charge them in the Rear at the same time and they might meet together in the middle, and bad him when *Fairfax* gave the sign to begin the Charge.

"*D'Oyley* pursued his Generals Orders, and both together charging that Body put them into a Confusion and broke them, and *Fairfax* and *D'Oyley* met indeed in the middle of them, when *Fairfax* killed the Ensign, and one of *D'Oyley's* Troopers took the Colours bragging of the service he had done in killing the Ensign and taking the chief Colours, *D'Oyley* chid the Trooper for his boasting and lying telling him how many Witnesses there were who saw the General do it with his own hand, but the General himself bade

* *Lord's Journals*, Die Martis 12o, Die Augusti, 1645.

“ *D’Oyley* to let the Trooper alone, and said to him, I “ have Honour enough, *let him take that Honour to himself.*”—*Memorials of the English Affairs*, page 151.

In this month of August, the King passed through Buckinghamshire from Woburn in his return to Oxford. His march was too rapid to permit him to make any attack on Newport. In accordance with their former practice the Parliament had continued to leave this garrison unsupplied with money, and had even permitted Major-General Browne to strengthen his army by drawing three Companies out of Newport, commanded severally by Captain Oxford, Captain Blodwell, and Captain Fishe.* But when this new danger threatened, they sent down Five hundred pounds, raised from a fine levied upon Sir John Tirrell’s Essex estate,† and hastily passed an Ordinance for placing the Associated Counties in a posture of War with the utmost speed, and for raising money to pay the Forces and support and maintain Newport Pagnell and some other garrisons.‡ Nor did Colonel D’Oyley allow the Newport soldiers to remain idle; Cockayne with seventy horse, cut off a party of fifteen men and twenty horses from the King’s army, and brought them prisoners to the garrison.¶ Major Ennis was engaged on three or four occasions, and captured nine officers and about sixty-one soldiers,§ and subsequently performed good service at the taking of Shelford House in Nottinghamshire, by the forces of General Pointz. On which the Editor of the “ *Perfect Passages*” remarks with justice, “ This Major Ennis is a deserving man and “ hath done many good services and his soldiers are stout “ men, he is the man that sallied out into the Kings Quar- “ ters so often with Sir Samuel Luke’s horse, and that in “ the Kings last plundering march fell so often into their “ quarters and brought away so many prisoners, when little “ else was done by any but him and Colonel Cocker “ (Cockayne?). Such pretious men and active souldiers “ must not be forgotten or neglected, who have neglected “ no opportunity to do the Kingdome service.”**

* *Commons Journals*, Augusti 23o, 1645.

† *Id.*, Die Martis, Aug. 26o, 1645.

‡ *Perfect Diurnall*; from Munday, 25 of August, till Munday, the 1 of September, 1645.

¶ *The True Informer*; for the Week ending 30 Augst, 1645.

§ *Heads of some notes of the Citie Scout*; Sept 2, 1645.

** *Perfect Passages*; November 5, to November 12, 1645.

As the summer wore away, and the King's cause declined, all danger to Newport had passed, and the Parliament set themselves seriously to consider how they might prudently reduce the cost of their garrisons, and passed an Ordinance for the resettling of *Newport Pagnell, Bedford, Lyn Regis*, and other Garrisons in the Eastern Association. By this Ordinance the former one for the fortification and garrison of Newport, of the eighteenth of December, 1643, was repealed from the first day of June last past, and it was ordered that from that date, instead of the sums formerly levied, there should be raised a monthly sum of 3746*l.* in different proportions from the Counties of Bedford, Hertford, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Northampton, and Buckingham, the Isle of Ely, and the City of Norwich, and applied for the maintenance of the Garrisons of the Eastern Association, and that the garrison of Newport Pagnell should be reduced to eight hundred foot and one hundred and twenty horse, and receive their pay from the Treasurer appointed under this Ordinance, only however upon Warrant or Order in writing, signed by five or more of the Committee for the Association.*

The reduced garrison at Newport appears to have become disorderly, and the Journals of the Lords record a complaint from Lord Bruce, that some of the soldiers had entered his Park near Newport, probably Houghton Lodge in Bedfordshire, destroyed most of the deer, threatened to kill the keeper, and stolen a deer from a carrier.† This disorderly conduct may have arisen, as on a former occasion, from the withholding payment of their arrears from the men, for it appears that within a few weeks after this affair had happened, and upon the Report from the Committee of Both Kingdoms upon a Petition of Captain Andrewes in behalf of his officers and soldiers, the House of Commons ordered a peremptory letter to be sent to the Committee of Newport Pagnell requiring them to pay the troop of Captain Andrewes,‡

* An Ordinance of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament, For the maintenance and pay of the Garrisons of *Newport Pagnell, Bedford, Lyn Regis*, etc., London, Printed for Edward Husband, Printer to the Honourable House of Commons, Septemb. 4, 1645.

† *Lord's Journals*, Die Veneris, 19^o die Septembris, 1645.

‡ *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, 8^o Octobris, 1645.

and shortly afterwards directed that a contingent of two hundred men should be sent from this garrison to the Army then forming for the reduction of Newark.*

In the month of November, a considerable force from Borstoll and Oxford, aware perhaps of the weakness of the garrison at Newport, made a rapid and successful predatory expedition through Buckinghamshire. They visited the neighbourhoods of Newport Pagnell and Princes Risborough, and carried away with them several of the principal inhabitants, detaining them till ransomed.† They penetrated to Wendover, Kimble, Edlesborough, Stoke, and Missenden, and advanced in such strength, as to give rise to a report that the King was marching from Oxford and had reached Bicester, a rumour, which though it proved unfounded, D'Oyley considered of sufficient probability and importance to communicate to London.‡

January, 1646.—The irregularities of the Newport soldiers seem to have increased rather than abated during the progress of the following autumn and winter, and whatever steps Colonel D'Oyley may have taken to repress them, proved insufficient, for towards the end of the month, an Ordinance for exercising Martial Law at Newport and Aylesbury was introduced into the Commons, and after some discussion with the Lords, passed with the addition of certain provisoes.§ In February Colonel Venn went down to take the command of the soldiers to be levied by impressment for recruits for Fairfax's army, and marched to Newport upon the 20th of the month. He was directed to maintain discipline, to issue warrants for the pay of these soldiers and their Commanders to the Deputy Treasurers at Newport, to defray all extraordinary charges, to assign quarters to the men, and give orders to the Commissary of the Ammunition, for the delivering of the requisite clothing, arms, and ammunition.|| Here Colonel Venn remained on this service until the 26th of March, when he was ordered to proceed to Northampton.**

* *Commons Journals*, Die Mercurii, Octobris 22^o, 1645.

† *The Scottish Dove*, November 19th, to November 27th, 1645.

‡ *A Continuation of Certain Passages*, November 14th, to November 21st, 1645.

§ *Commons Journals*, Die Sabbati, 31^o Januarii, 1645.

|| *Id.*, Die Veneris, 13^o Februarii, 1645.

** *Id.*, Die Veneris, 20^o Martii, 1645.

From this time forward, nothing of importance occurred at Newport. The Diurnals contain no details of any interest, the Journals of both Houses are almost silent. The King's cause was fast becoming hopeless, and the flame of the Civil Wars scarcely survived except in Ireland. In the month of June a Report upon the state of the Garrisons in the Eastern Association was presented by the Members of that Association to the Committee of Both Kingdoms at Derby House, by whom it was afterwards submitted to the Parliament. The Committee accompanied it with a recommendation to disband the troops at Lynn Regis, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, and Ely. As however, no suggestion was offered respecting Newport Pagnell, the House of Lords in reply desired that the state of the Garrison of Newport should be represented to the Committee of Both Kingdoms.* And after a short interval of about six weeks, both Houses passed an Ordinance for dismantling the fortifications of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford, and the sending of the Forces of these Garrisons to Ireland.

"It is Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled. That the several garrisons of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford, be forthwith sleighted and demolished, and that the Committee and Deputy Lieutenants of the several Counties or any five or more of them where the said Garrisons are respectively, are hereby required and authorized forthwith to take some effectual course for sleighting and demolishing the said Garrisons, and to cause the said Garrisons to be sleighted and demolished. And that all officers and Souldiers and all other persons whatsoever, be aiding and assisting unto them in such commands: And if any opposition or mutiny doe happen in the execution of this Ordinance, That the Deputy Lieutenants and Committees of the severall Counties, in or neere such places where such a mutiny or opposition shall happen shall and may leavy what forces of the respective Counties they hold fitting to suppress such mutiny and oppositions and to commit the offenders to prison to be further punished, as both Houses of Parliament shall hold fitting.

* *Lord's Journals*; Die Martis 2^o, die Junii, 1646.

“ And it is further Ordered, That the severall companies of Lyn Regiment, belonging to the Garrisons of Lyn and Boston, and all the officers and souldiers, both horse and foot, of Newport Pagnell, Cambridge, Huntingdon, and Bedford be forthwith entertained and imployed for the service of Ireland, and such as willingly offer themselves in that service shall have one moneth's pay forthwith paid to them by the Treasurers of the said Garrisons respectively upon Muster, and their debenters forthwith cast up, and what is or may be due unto them, their Quarters being deducted, since their entertainment in the said Garrisons respectively from the 1st. of June 1645 shall be paid unto them or their assignes in their absence before any other, which sums of money are to be raised out of the Assessments for the Garrisons of the Eastern Association which is required hereby forthwith to be raised.

“ And it is further Ordered that such as shall be imployed for Ireland, as aforesaid, shall also have one other moneth's pay to be paid as aforesaid at the place of their Rendezvous, as shall be appointed by the Committee for Irish affairs.

“ And it is further Ordered that such common souldiers as shall refuse to go for Ireland shall be forthwith disbanded, and their horses and arms taken from them by the said Committees and Deputy Lieutenants of the severall Counties respectively and by them to be kept until further order.

“ And whereas the Order for the payment of the said Garrisons did expire the first of June last passed, It is Ordered that the said Ordinance and all assessments and payments and all powers and authorities therein mentioned shall continue to all intents and purposes to the first day of September 1646 now next ensuing and no longer.

“ And lastly it is Ordered, That the Committee of Lords and Commons for the Easterne Association doe take care and order that this present Ordinance be put in execution, And that if any persons doe mutiny, oppose, or hinder the execution of this Ordinance the said Committee or any five or more of them shall have power to send for him or them so offending, to commit them to prison, and therewith to acquaint the Houses that further punishment may be inflicted on them according to their demerits.”*

* *Perfect Diurnall*, from August 3^d, to August 10th, 1646.

Thus terminated the military occupation of Newport by the forces of the Parliament. It had continued two years and nine months, and during that time had rendered steady useful service. If the garrison at Newport is not remarkable for any brilliant exploits, it exhibited a firm courage whenever danger threatened; and if not free from some petty jealousies and intrigues, it was never tainted with the slightest suspicion of a treasonable correspondence with the enemy, a meed of praise which cannot be bestowed with truth upon all the other Parliamentary Garrisons in the county of Buckingham.

H. R.
