

of Commons, *viz.* The Lord SCUDMORES Sonne, Colonell HERBERT PRICE, SIR RICHARD CAVE, Lieutenant Colonell CONISBY, Master CONISBY, and besides them, SIR WALTER PYE, SIR WILLIAM CROFTS, Lieutenant Colonell THOMAS PRICE, Serjeant Major MINTRIDGE, SIR SAMUEL AMBY, Serjeant Major DALTON, Captaine SOMERSET, Captaine SCLATER, Doctor ROGERS, Doctor GOODWIN, Doctor EVANS, and divers others; who were all carried away to *Gloucester*.

Within three daies after that service, he surpris'd the Towne of *Leinster* in that County, twelve miles distant from *Hereford*, where he tooke good prize, disarmed many of the Kings Party there, and placed a Garrison in the Towne.

It was feared at that time by those of the Kings side, that SIR WILLIAM WALLER, going on in so prosperous a way, might perchance surprize *Worcester* and *Ludlow*: To prevent therefore his further proceedings, Prince MAURICE, with a good strength of Horse, was sent from *Oxford*; with whom also the Marquesse of *Hartford* was joyned, to fall upon him. But SIR WILLIAM scowring the Countries thereabouts with his active Forces, and having disarmed many of the other side in *Wilts* and *Somersetshire*, came to *Bath* with an Army much increased of late both in number and reputation; at which place SIR EDWARD HUNGERFORD, SIR JOHN HORNER, and Master STRODE, joyned with him to oppose Prince MAURICE and the Marquesse *Hartford*. About that part of the Country were frequent and fierce encounters, which lasted for a long time, and many retreats with great skill and courage were made on both sides, when night parted the fury of their fights. But SIR WILLIAM WALLER proved for the most part victorious (whose particular actions there deserve a more peculiar relation) and at last became Master of the field, chasing his Enemies so farre

farre as a Towne called the *Devizes*, to which place he followed and besieged them. The losses in all those severall encounters were very uncertaine, and variously reported, by reason that both Parties had many times liberty to bury their dead; but on the Parliament side were lost one Major, one Lieutenant, and two Cornets. SIR ARTHUR HASLERIG was there wounded, but the danger was not very great. On the other side, besides the uncertaine number of Common Souldiers, some of quality were slain, among whom was SIR BEVILLE GREENVILLE, Lieutenant Colonell WARD, Major LOWRE, with five or six Captains, SIR RALPH HOPTON, the Earle of *Carnarvan*, and the Lord MOHUN were reported to be wounded.

SIR RALPH HOPTON was besieged in the *Devizes* by SIR WILLIAM WALLER, and began to treat about the surrender of it; for Prince MAURICE and the Marquesse of *Hartford* were retired toward *Oxford*, where suddenly the fortune of warre changed, and SIR WILLIAM WALLERS Army, by an unexpected party of fresh Forces, which came from *Oxford* (for the Lord Generall ESSEX his Army was so much wasted by sicknesse, and other distresses, that he could not at all straiten *Oxford*, nor hinder any Forces from issuing thence) under the conduct of the Lord VVILMOT, was utterly defeated, scattered, and ruined, as was before mentioned. He himselfe for security at the present, retired into the City of *Bristol*; from whence within few daies he rode, accompanied with some Gentlemen toward *London*, and was there received with great affection, and many promises of their best indeavour to set him forth with another Army.

The Kings Forces seemed now to have done the greatest part of their worke, being in a manner sole Masters of the West, and most Northerne Counties of *England*, and having ruined the Lord FAIR-

FAX and Sir WILLIAM WALLERS Armies. Yet in all Counties the fortune was not alike; in many places those Gentlemen which adhered to the Parliament, were able not onely to guard themselves, but get ground upon their enemies, though those actions were for the most part performed in skirmishes betwene small parties, in preserving their owne strengths, or taking Townes from the other side, such as had been in *Cheshire, Lancashire, Staffordshire, Derby, Leicester, Nottingham,* and other places, which I shall briefly touch anon, after I have related in how contrary a condition to the North and West, which had beene the seat of a fierce warre, and a prey to the greatest and most potent Armies of either side; and how much happier then those other Counties, which had beene alwayes molested with Alarms and Skirmishes, and suffered by pillaging on both Parties; the Easterne Counties of *England* had remained all the foregoing Winter, and continued so during the whole progresse of this bloody Warre, which were the Counties of *Suffolke, Norfolk, Cambridge, Essex, Hartford, Huntingdon.* &c. who never were made the seat of any part of this civill Warre. These parts of the Kingdome had joyned themselves in an Association by Authority of Parliament, with power to defend each other, and leavy Forces against all enemies to that cause; this great happinesse of peace and quiet that they enjoyed, may be supposed to flow from the unanimity of their affections, which carried them all the same way; and true it is, that there was as much unanimity of opinion and affection in those Counties among the people in generall, as was to be found in any part of *England*, but it was especially among the common people; for a great and considerable number of the Gentry, and those of highest ranke among them, were disaffected to the Parliament, and were not sparing in their utmost endeavours to promote the Kings Cause, and assist his
Force

Force against it; which might have throwne those Countries (if not wholly carried them to the other side) into as much distraction, and sad calamity, as any other part of the Land had felt; nor could that Association have been possibly made, if those Gentlemen had not been curbed and suppressed by that timely care which the Parliament tooke, and more particularly by the successfull services of one Gentleman, Master OLIVER CROMWEL of *Huntington*, a Member of the House of Commons; whose wildome, valour, and vigilancy, was no lesse available in this important buinesse, then remarkable afterwards in the highest services, and greatest battels, of the whole Warre. Of this mans Actions (because it pleased God to raise him afterward into the greatest commands, and prosper in so high a measure all his undertakings, that he became within few yeares one of the chiefe props, on which the Parliament leaned, and greatest scourges of the other side) let it not seeme amisse if I discourse in a continued Series, during those Moneths that intervned the Battell of *Keynton*; and that low ebbe of the Parliament which preceded the siege of *Gloucester*.

The first Action that CROMWELL undertooke, was to secure the Towne of *Cambridge* for the Parliament, about the middle of January. Universities were of all places most apt to adhere to the Kings Party, esteeming Parliaments, and especially this, the greatest depressors of that Ecclesiasticall Dignity, in hope of which they are there nurtured.

Upon which reason they were packing up a large quantity of the Plate that belonged to all the Colleges, to send it away to the King, which would have made a considerable summe. This was foreseene by CROMWELL; who by a Commission from the Parliament, and Lord Generall *Essex* had raised a Troope of Horse, and came downe into that Country, with authority to raise more Forces as
occasion

occasion served; he came to *Cambridge* soone enough to seize upon that plate, which was going to *Oxford*; but before his arrivall there, he performed by the way another service: Sir THOMAS CONESBY, lately made High Sheriffe of *Hartfordshire*, had received a Proclamation from the King, to proclaime the Earle of *Essex*, and all his adherents Traytors; and was then at *St. Albons* upon a Market day, proclaiming of the same; CROMWELL with his Troope seized upon him, and sent him up to the Parliament.

Not long after he collected in convenient time the Forces of that County, and invited the neighbour Counties of *Essex*, *Suffolke*, and *Norfolke*, to their assistance, against an invasion of the Lord CAPPELL, who should have been seconded by Prince RUPERT also, to invade that place, and hinder the Association; which had been done, if that timely prevention had not been used. This made them forbear their intended invasion, and retire to other parts.

About the beginning of March CROMWELL having raised a Regiment of Horse, consisting of 1000. marched into *Suffolke* with much celerity, upon intelligence of a great and considerable confederacy held among those Gentlemen which adhered to the Kings Party, at a Towne in that County called *Lowerstoft*, a place of great consequence: He surprized them unawares, gained the Towne with small difficulty, and no shot at all. In which he tooke Prisoners Sir THOMAS BARKER, and his Brother Sir JOHN PETTUS, Master THOMAS KNEVET, two of the CATLINES, Captaine HAMMOND, Master COREY, Master TURRILL, Master PRESTON, and about 20. others of quality and substance. In that Towne he gained good store of Ammunition, Saddles, Pistols, Powder, Shot, and severall Engines for Warre, enough to have served a considerable Force. And certaine it was, that if CROMWELL had

had not surprized them in that nick of time, it had proved a matter of great danger to the County; for within one day after, as many more Knights and Gentlemen, that were listed before, had met at the same place. This was a timely service to the Parliament, and a great discouragement to all that Party in *Suffolke* and *Norfolke*, which adhered to the Kings side.

But when the Spring grew furrher on, and it was seasonable to make longer Marches, about the beginning of *Aprill*, CROMWELL having well settled the busineses of those Associated Counties, for the Parliaments use, and not confining his care and services within those parts onely; raised a greater Force, of such as came freely and heartily in to him; with whom he marched along towards *Lincolneshire*, with purpose to assist those of his side, that warred against *Newarke*. *Newarke* was one of the strongest Garrisons, which was then held of the Kings side, replenished with many Gentlemen of *Lincolneshire*, and other Shires, and some expert Souldiers, who inforced large Contributions from the adjacent Country, and made rodes often times even to the Walls of *Lincolne*. Colonell CROMWELL in his March thither, as he passed thorow the County of *Huntingdon*, disarmed many that were ill affected to the Parliament, and increased by that meanes his strength so farre, that he was growne above two thousand strong; and before he came to *Newarke*, receiving an addition of Horse from Captaine HOTHAM, he also joyned with some Forces of *Lincolneshire*. At his first approach neere to *Newarke*, it was his fortune to performe a good service for his side; for when Captaine WRAY with his *Lincolneshire* Horse, had too rashly quartered within a little of that Town, he was set upon in the night time by a strong Party from the Towne; where after some little bickering, not being able to resist so great a number, he was surprized

with his whole Troope; but the Alarum comming to CROMWELL, he advanced, and at ten a clock at night fell upon the Newarkers, rescued Captaine WRAYS Troope, and tooke three Troops of theirs, with the slaughter of many of them.

After this, when he sate downe before the Town, he was so vigilant upon all Sallyes that were made out, and so successfull, that he tooke many men and Colours at severall times; and with his Horse, watching all occasions, he once defeated a strong Party of the Newarkers, neere to *Grantham*, where the odds of number was so great on their side, that it seemed almost a miraculous Victory. At another time he fell upon a Party of the Earle of *Newcastles* Army sent toward *Newarke*, and quartering betweene that Towne and *Grantham*, of whom he slew many, tooke an hundred Horse, and forty Prisoners.

Such things as these were the beginnings of CROMWELL, at his first entrance into the Souldiery; those that must be called his deeds; were in the following yeares of this unhappy Warre, and will require a larger and more full expression.

In those other Counties which were named before this Discourse of the Association, the fortune of Warre, during the aforesaid Moneths, had been very various, and daily contestations happened, being for the most part betwixt small Parties, and in besieging, taking, and re-taking of Townes and Forts. In *Cheshire* Sir WILLIAM BRERETON, a wise and vigilant man, who from the beginning of these troubles had taken charge of that County, serving in Parliament as Knight thereof, had so well acted his part against the Earle of *Darby* (made by the King Lord Lieutenant of that County, as well as of *Lancashire*) that he was the chiefe instrument of delivering *Cheshire* out of his hands, and preserving it for the Parliament, though the greater part of Gentry there adhered to the King: But it pleased God to give many

Victories

Victories to Sir WILLIAM BRERETON against them.

He obtained about the beginning of *March*, a great Victory against those of the Kings Party at *Middlewich* in *Cheshire*; which Towne, after a sharp incounter in the fields before it, he finally tooke, with 500. Prisoners, whereof many were Commanders and Gentlemen of great worth; which Victory did much advance the Parliaments Cause in those parts.

He resisted with great successe the Lord CHOLMELLY, and Sir THOMAS ASTON, two powerfull men, and zealous for the Kings Party.

Having settled in some measure, by extraordinary care and wisdom, his owne County for the Parliament, and raised many stout and well armed men there, he was forward to give assistance to other parts; and advancing into *Shropshire* against the Lord CAPELL, he surpris'd a Towne called *Dreyton*, in which Sir VINCENT CORBET, a Commander of the Kings side, was quartered: But Sir WILLIAM BRERETON with small opposition entred the Town, and tooke two compleat Troops of Horse, and six Companies of Dragoners. Sir VINCENT CORBET escaped by flight.

He marched thence along thorow those Counties, and tooke some places of great import, as the affaires of both Parties stood at that time.

Sir WILLIAM went on prosperously, and within a short time after tooke *Whitchurch*, upon the edge of *Shropshire*, with great store of Armes and Ammunition, and many Prisoners of the Lord CAPELLS Forces.

But Sir WILLIAM BRERETON, when he joyned Forces with other men, or came in opportunely to the reliefe or rescue of ingaged friends, performed divers great and advantagious services to the side he tooke, especially when he joyned in Action with Sir JOHN GELL of *Derbyshire*, a constant and suc-

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cessfull Actor for the Parliament; of whom by himselfe, and together with Sir WILLIAM BRERETON, I shall make a further mention.

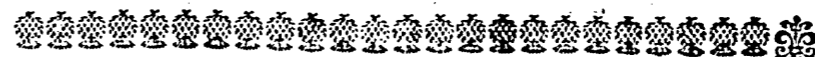
The County of *Derby*, full of Nobility and Gentry, was much wayed, even from the beginning of these distractions, against the Parliament; for scarce did any Gentleman in all that County, but Sir JOHN GELL, appeare for it at the first. He, with his brother, and some of his kinred, by the help of those Freeholders and Yeomen that inclined that way, made a Party to resist those great ones, at such a time, as must needs renoune his courage and constancy. And it pleased God to make him prosperous in that great and hazardous undertakings, and to carry it so during the whole Warre.

After the Battell at *Keynton*, he tooke a Commission from the Earle of *Essex*, with great care and cost he provided Arms, and timely seized upon the Town of *Derby*; which Town he so well fortified, that it proved a sufficient defence against the assaults of potent Enemies, and a refuge upon all occasions to the Parliaments friends; it was likewise, no doubt, a great encouragement to many of the neighbouring Counties, to stand upon their guard in the like kinde.

But the Walls of *Derby* could not immure Sir JOHN GELL, nor hinder him from acting his part abroad. In many Services he joyned himselfe (not without good successe) with Sir WILLIAM BRERETON, with Colonell CROMWELL, and marched sometimes with the Lord GREY of *Grooby* (before mentioned, Lord Lieutenant of those Counties) against Master HASTINGS, and against the Towne of *Newarke*.

In the Moneth of *February* he marched with those Forces which he had, under the conduct of the Lord BROOKE, into *Staffordshire*, to take in *Lichfield*, which was then possessed by a Garrison of the Kings side. Having entered the Towne, they found hot
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and sharpe resistance, from a place of great strength, called the Close, or Cathedrall yard, a place famous in the succeeding Warre, as being often gained and re-gained, with the losse of much blood on either side.



CHAP. V.

The death of the Lord BROOKE, and of the Earle of Northampton. A short mention of some Actions in divers Counties. The low condition of the Parliament at that time. The siege of Gloucester.



While the Parliament Army continued at the siege of *Lichfield* Close, their Generall the Lord BROOKE, as he looked out of a window, was unfortunately shot into the head, and dyed immediately; a man as much lamented by the Parliament, as any that ever fell on that side, and as much honoured for his Piety, Valour, and Fidelity.

After his death, Sir JOHN GELL succeeded in that Command, and about the beginning of *March* took the Close, with very little losse of blood, though they had their Mynes ready prepared to blow up the Walls of the Close, and had throwne Granadoes into it; which made the besieged cry out for Quarter, which they obtained; for the Souldiers thought it not honourable (being in cold blood) to revenge their Generals death, by putting them to the Sword. But they tooke a good and rich booty of Money, Bagge, and Baggage, about a thousand Armes, and very considerable Prisoners, the Earle of *Chesterfield*, with

his Sonne; and divers other Gentlemen of Ranke. About the middle of that *March*, Sir JOHN GELL with an Army of fiteene hundred Horle and Foot, advanced from *Lichfield* toward the Towne of *Stafford*; where it was his fortune to meet with the Earle of *Northampton* and his Forces, consisting of about twelve hundred Horle, at a place called *Cranock-Greene*, or *Salt-Heath*, almost foure miles from *Stafford*: The Earle gave a brave and furious Charge upon them, and being stronger in Horle, made Sir JOHN GELLS Horle to retreat and disorder at this first Charge; in which he tooke divers of them Prisoners, and surpris'd two Drakes. After that, he wheeled twice about their Foot, seeking his best advantage where to breake them: But Sir JOHN GELL, and his Commanders, did so well order their Battalia, that the Foot kept unbroken, and made good the field againe together with their Horle, and re-saluted their hot Assailants, fighting Pell mell for a long time.

At this fierce incounter the Earle of *Northampton* himselfe was slaine in the place, one Master LUCY and Captaine BAGOT, with many more, about whose number relations did not agree; a Cornet of the Kings also was here slaine, and his Colours taken, having on it a Crowne, and this Inscription, *Carolus Rex*. Two other Cornets were there taken, of which one was the Princes, for the King, and Prince his Troops were both there. They tooke Prisoner one of the Earle of *Chesterfields* younger Sons; and Sir JOHN GELL, by the timely comming in of Sir WILLIAM BRERETON to his assistance, before the fight was ended, obtained a great Victory, and drove his Enemies quite out of the field. Among the rest, Master HASTINGS (as was then reported) having been once taken Prisoner, and rescued, fled away wounded.

Thus it fell out, that these two Peeres, the Earle of

of *Northampton*, and the Lord BROOKE, who first of all the Nobility, at the breaking out of this Civill Distraction, had personally contested in one County, about the Parliament Ordinance of Militia, and the Kings Commission of Array, within a small distance both of place and time, ended their daies by this unhappy Warre. They were both much lamented by their owne Parties, both men of worth and courage, though much different in the manner of their lives and conversations.

As *Cheshire*, though a County where many Papists inhabited, was by the successfull care of Sir WILLIAM BRERETON and other Gentlemen, kept from deserting the Parliament, and able to resist the Earle of *Darby*, the Kings Lieutenant there: So her sister *Lancashire*, more full of Papists, and more fiercely assaulted by that Earle, under the same authority, being the place of his chiefe residence and power, was able not onely to resist him, but finally beat him out of the Country by the courage and industry of divers Protestant Gentlemen of that Shire; of whom I have named many in the precedent Book. But it is fit to give a little touch of the chiefe actions.

The Parliament, in midst of winter, when that County was in the greatest distraction, had sent down Sir JOHN SEATON, a Scottish Knight, an experienced and stout Commander, as Major Generall of the Forces in that Shire, that he might direct the unskilfull valour of that people, though many of those Gentlemen had done great services before, as appeared at *Manchester*, and some other places.

One of his exploits was at *Preston*: Sir JOHN SEATON having settled himselfe at *Manchester*, marched from thence about the beginning of *February* toward *Preston*, with Major Generall SPARROW, Colonell HOLLAND, Captaine BOOTH, Serjeant Major BIRCH, Master NOWELL of *Mearkley*, and some

some other, with about ten Companies, and almost two thousand Clubmen, to take in *Preston*, a Town well fortified, and very stoutly defended; but it was so furiously assaulted (Captaine *Booth* in person first scaling the Walls) by the Parliament Forces, that after two houres of extreme hot fight, the Parliament Forces were Masters of it: The Town was taken with small losse of the assailant side, which was wonderfull; not one Officer, and not above seven or eight Common Souldiers. On the other side many fell, the Mayor of the Town, *Adam Morte*, with his Sonne, *Sir Gilbert Houghtons* Brother, a Captaine of Horse, with divers others of quality; *Sir Gilbert* himselfe fled to *Wigham*. They tooke two hundred Prisoners, whereof many were Gentlemen of good ranke in the Country: They tooke three Peeces of Ordnance, many Muskets, and other Armes, with two or three Colours. The taking of this Town was of great consequence, both toward the maintenance of the Parliament Forces, and also to stop the passage from *Newcastle* to *Chester* and *Shrewsbury*.

Shortly after Serjeant Major *Birch* was sent from *Preston* to *Lancaster* Towne; who without any great opposition (for he came suddenly and unexpected) soone entred the Towne with his whole Company; and being entered, the Townesmen assisted him very freely to winne the Castle there; which he tooke into his possession for the Parliament.

Wiggon also in *Lancashire*, was taken in, with great store of Armes and Prisoners, by *Sir John Seaton*, with those Gentlemen that followed him, together with the Townesmen of *Manchester*, and other Clubmen of the Country, whom they had gotten together.

The Earle of *Darby* desisted not from his indeavours to reduce that County; but marched with a considerable strength to take in *Whaley*, which he had

had almost accomplished, but was notwithstanding repelled from thence by the Forces of the Country.

The same Earle had likewise possessed himselfe of *Warrington*, a considerable Towne in *Lancashire*; and left a Garrison in it; but at the beginning of *June*, that Towne was regained by the Forces of *Manchester*, with eight Peeces of Ordnance, and five or six hundred Prisoners; by which all *Lancashire* seemed to be reduced to the obedience of the Parliament, scarce any place of considerable strength being left in the power of the Earle of *Darby*.

The Lord *Gray* of *Grooby*, had been long possessed of *Leicester*, as the chiefe quarter where he resided; and besides his actions at other parts about that place, with various fortunes had opposed the Forces of Master *Hastings*, who kept a Garrison at *Ashby de la Zouch*, and acted with great fervour and constancy for the Kings Cause.

Hampshire had been much distressed by both Parties; but the Kings Garrison of *Winchester*, and that of *Basing-House*, the dwelling place of *Marquesse Winchester*, were there predominant, and at their pleasure forced Contribution from the adjacent Country; *Wales* was almost wholly at the Kings dispose, except very few places, which with much difficulty preserved themselves for the Parliament; and some Gentlemen, who with much hazard continued their fidelity to that side, such as *Colonell Glynn*, *Colonell Mitten*, and *Laugherne*, with other private Gentlemen. But indeed the Parliament was then in a low ebbe; and before the end of that *July*, 1643. they had no Forces at all to keep the Field; their maine Armies (as is before touched) being quite ruined, and no hope in appearance left, but to preserve a while those Forts and Townes which they then possessed; nor could they long hope to preserve them, unlesse the fortune of the field should change.

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Thus seemed the Parliament to be quite sunke beyond any hope of recovery, and was so believed by many men. The King was possessed of all the Westerne Countries, from the farthest part of *Cornwall*, and from thence Northward as farre as the Borders of *Scotland*. His Armies were full and flourishing, free to march whither they pleased, and enough to be divided for severall exploits; one part was sent to take in *Exeter*, where the Earle of *Stamford* was shut up, not able long to hold the place. The King in Person with a gallant Army, designed his March towards *Gloucester*, the onely considerable Towne in those parts, which the Parliament held. What the Kings Party conceived then of the other side, was expressed in many Writings, one in the nature of a jeering Epigram, was made at *Oxford*, which I thought fit to insert, because of the particular expressions of the Parliaments low Condition: The thing is written in an odde manner, and the names of the Parliament Commanders, *FAIRFAX* and *WALLER*, expressed by a *rebus* way of Latine, as likewise those of the Kings side, Marquesse of *Hartford*, and Earle of *Newcastle*. I leave it to the Reader without either Translation or Comment.

*Extincta Castro Fax pulchra novo est;
Nec Nante postea nec militi
Sit nota Pharos, Auster disparem
Haud tulit casum: Murus, cui addita est
Canina littera, mersa est suis
Cum turmis niper Leporis vado.
Euri ^{Barbore} Bristonia
Leporinos horrescens vertices.
Anglica Claudii timet pares
Vibs casus; Herois Teutonici
Myrmidones astant magno cum Duce.
Pacata Thule est; nec Noto timor
Popello aut Regi. Nihil relietum est*

Britanicum

Britanicum domare Casarem
Ni vnoqvovore preces Gregis.
Hec Sphinges raptim Oedipo suo.
Julii 20. 1643.
London was then altogether unfortified, no Works were raised; nor could they, if their Enemies, then Masters of the field, had come upon them, have opposed any Walls; but such as old *SPARTA* used for their Guard; the hearts of couragious Citizens. But at that time *London* began her large intrenchment; which incompassed not onely the City, but the whole Suburbs on every side, containing about twelve miles in circuit. That great worke was by many hands compleated in a short time, it being then a custome every day to go out by thousands to digge, all Professions, Trades, and Occupations, taking their turnes; and not onely inferiour Tradesmen, but Gentlemen of the best quality, Knights, and Ladies themselves, for the encouragement of others, resorted daily to the Workes, not as spectators but assistors in it; carrying themselves Spades, Mattoks, and other instruments of digging, so that it became a pleasing sight at *London*, to see them going out in such order and numbers, with Drums beating before them; and put life into the drooping people (being taken for an happy Omen) that in so low a condition they seemed not to despaire. But bootlesse in probability had that labour proved, and not timely enough to save *London*, if the King had marched thither instead of *Gloucester*.

But that storme of Fortune was strong enough to shake off divers of the loose leaves, that seemed to grow on the Parliament side, and unsettle the resolutions of such, as were not enough rooted in that Cause which they had chosen: For divers men of great quality, and Members of both Houses, some Lords, and many of the Commons, did at that time

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desert

desert the Parliament, and fly to *Oxford*: Whose names (though the Lords were named, who first deserted it) are here spared, because this latter revolt must needs carry the face of a crime; as being no matter of opinion or conscience, by which the first justified themselves; but proceeding, in all probability, from weaknesse, and feare for their private fortunes. They therefore lost much of their esteeme on both sides; becomming like a foile to set off the constancy of those few Members who durst yet continue there, and remaine firme to their first Principles, and publike Interest; wading thorow more difficulties and dangers, then any former Parliament had been enforced to do.

But in the Parliament it selfe there appeared no shew of despaire, as they observed who were then witnesses of their proceedings; and the City of *London* expressed much forwardnesse and alacrity in recruiting the Lord Generall *Essex* both with their persons and purses; besides their great indeavour to raise another Army for Sir *WILLIAM WALLER*, to be as a Reserve to the other, upon the great occasion then in hand.

The Earle of *Manchester*, to his lasting Honour, chose that very time to begin his Martiall imployment; and raising Forces thorow the Easterne Associated Counties (of which he was then made Generall by the Parliament, those Counties having been before prepared for that Association, by the wisdom and activity of the forementioned Colonell *CROMWELL*) performed that yeare and the next great services for the Parliament.

While the Parliament and City of *London* were thus busied in recruiting their decayed Armies, *Gloucester* began to be made the chiefe Scene, on which this Civill Tragedy was acted, and place of great concernment in the Kingdome, where the first turne of Fortune grew. The City of *Gloucester* was then governed

governed by Colonell *EDWARD MASSEY*, a man of excellent skill to defend it; of such a courage, as no threats of a powerfull Enemy could shake; and such a fidelity, as no promises of a King could overcome. This *MASSEY* was brought to *Gloucester* by the Earle of *Stanford*, under whom he had served as Lieutenant Colonell, and by deputation from that Earle, had for many Moneths governed that City.

Now there was no more expectation of the Earls returne thither; and therefore *MASSEY*, as the fittest man, by consent both of Citizens and Souldiers, was appointed Governour, and made a Colonell by Commission from the Generall.

The surrender of *Bristol* to the Kings Forces (which was more sudden then could be feared, and for which afterward the Governour Master *FENNES* was questioned, and condemned by a Councell of Warre) must needs strike a great terrour, and sad amazement into *Gloucester*, which now seemed to stand forlorne, and without hope of any rescue, in the midst of a large Country, possessed by their victorious Enemies.

It cannot be denied, that the resolution which this City had taken up, of resisting the King at such a time, was very admirable, if a man consider the small strength they had within; the many discouragements round about them; the great distance of any aid that could be sent to them. Their strength within was very small; the whole number of Souldiers, Horse, Foot, and Dragoones, together with the Trayned Bands, and those Horse and Dragoones, which on a sudden they got from *Barclay Castle*, consisting of few more then fiftene hundred; forty Barrels of Powder was all their store, with a very meane and slender Artillery for such a Service: The Works were of a vast compasse, and little more then halfe perfected, when this rough storme did first threaten them.

The whole Country round about them; instead of encouraging this resolution of theirs; did rather endeavour to shake and weaken it; by intimations of the danger, and persuasions to make Peace with such an Enemy: For they had revolted from the Parliament, or resolved so to do; and wished, for their owne private Interests, that the King were quietly possessed of that City; for they conceived (not without reason) that the standing out of *Gloucester* would be unhappy for that Country; because by the falling downe of a great Army, they could not but expect a destruction of their Corne, Cattle, and all other Provisions; and at the last, if it should so fall out, that the King should faile of taking in that Towne, they must be enforced to stoope perpetually under two burdens, and be cast into a sadd condition of poyety and misery. Whereas if that Army did prevaile; they were sure to rest in the heart of the Kings Country, farre from spoile and plunder, and for an easie Contribution, enjoy free and ample Trade.

The succour which the City could expect, was as farre off as *London*, and in what condition the Parliament Armies then were; is before related. Notwithstanding all this, the Citizens of *Gloucester*, together with examining what strength they had, examined also the grounds of their perseverance. A Common-Councell was held, where the Officers of the Souldiery were present; their late Protestation was called to remembrance, and read there; by which they were all obliged, never to act or comply with the adverse Faction. Upon which consideration they heightened their courages, and unanimously resolved to refuse the tender of peace. Private cares were then forgotten, and not onely men, but women and children, acted their parts, in making up those defects that were in the Fortifications.

In this condition stood *Gloucester*, when the King

in Person attended with a great and gallant Army, full of the flower of English Nobility and Gentry, was come to besiege it, being the tenth of *August*, 1643.

Part of the Kings Forces, some daies before, had been discerned hovering on the top of the hills; and a Summons had been sent from Prince *Rupert* to the City: To which the Major gave answer, That he kept the Towne for His Majesties behoofe, and could not render it. Which Answer, though laughed at by those of the Army, the Major conceived very justifiable, and that he did truly hold it for the use of His Majesty, but according to the sense of both Houses of Parliament.

The King was full of indignation, that such a forlorne City should stand out against him; yet he desired to gaine it without blood, and losse of time, which seemed then pretious in his full carriere of Victory. To that purpose he came in Person before it, that the reverence or terrour of his presence might prevaile with them; and being come before the City, he gave this honourable Summons by two Heralds of Armes.

CHARLES REX.

Of our tender compassion to our City of *Gloucester*, and that it may not receive prejudice by our Army, which we cannot prevent, if we be compelled to assault it: We are Personally come before it, to require the same, and are grationally pleased to let all the Inhabitants of, and all other persons within that City, as well Souldiers as others, know, That if they shall immediately submit themselves, and deliver this City to us, we are contented freely and absolutely to pardon every one of them without exception; and do assure them in the word of a King, That they nor any of them, shall receive the least damage or prejudice by our Army, in their Persons or Estates: But that we will appoint such
a Go-

a Governour, and a moderate Garrison to reside there, as shall be both for the ease and security of that City, and the whole Country. But if they shall neglect this offer of Grace and Favour, and compell us by the power of our Army to reduce that place (which by the help of God we shall easily and shortly be able to do) they must thank themselves for all the calamities and miseries which shall befall them. To this Message we expect a cleare and positive Answer, within two houres after the publishing hereof; and by these Presents do give leave to any persons safely to repaire to, and returne from us, whom that City shall desire to imploy unto us in that businesse. And we do require all the Officers and Souldiers of our Army, quietly to suffer them to passe accordingly.

After some debate upon this Message, an Answer was drawne and consented unto, both by the Citizens and the Souldiers; which was presented to the King by Serjeant Major PUDSEY, and a Citizen; as followeth:

WE the Inhabitants, Magistrates, Officers, and Souldiers within this Garrison of Gloucester, unto his Majesties Gracious Message returne this humble Answer, That we do keepe this City, according to our Oath and Allegiance, to and for the use of his Majesty, and his Royall Posterity; and do accordingly conceive our selves wholly bound to obey the Commands of His Majesty signified by both Houses of Parliament; and are resolved, by Gods helpe, to keepe this City accordingly.

The King received this Answer to his Summons, without any expression of choller or indignation, seeming onely to wonder at their great confidence, and from what hope of reliefe it should proceed, using these words before the Messengers, WALLER is extinct, and ESSEX cannot come. But by this time the.

the Kings Army was drawne into the fields about Gloucester, Prince RUPERT and Generall RIVEN facing it on one side with about six thousand Horse and Foot, and two thousand Horse on the other; and immediately after this Answer, advanced forward into the Suburbs, on the East side of the City; but were there entertained with an hot Skirmish, and fired out. For upon the returne of the Messengers, the Suburbs were set on fire, and flaming round about, became an object of great terrour; by which the Citizens seemed more engaged to pursue their resolution; and the Kings Army to settle themselves for gaining by force what they perceived would not be yeelded on other termes.

That very night the Kings Army began their Intrenchments within Musket shot of the Walls, on two sides of the City, taking advantage for their security, of the shadow and shelter of some few Houses which the flames had not caught. Which being perceived, the Musketeers plyed them from the Walls, but could do little hurt so against the Pyoneers; which caused the besieged to make severall Sallyes by small Parties into thole Trenches, and at some places beat them out, gaining both Armes and Prisoners, and retreating safe.

SIR WILLIAM VAVASOR had advanced with his Welch Forces on the West side, and made neere approach that way, intending to joyne with other Forces that came from Worcester, and had drawne themselves together on the North-West side. On the South side Generall RIVEN placed his Leaguer, taking advantage of a rising ground in the midst, to shelter himselfe from the shot of the besieged. Sir JACOB ASHLEY, who in the first Skirmishes had received a wound, was quartered with a strong Brigado at the East side of the City.

Thus was Gloucester on all sides blocked up, and nothing expected but a most furious and bloody bu-

sineſſe. The Kings Commanders, being many of them Gentlemen of great ſkill, and experience of Conduct, had made their approaches (by the confeſſion of all) with as much advantage as could be; and placed their Batteries accordingly; the Souldiers on that ſide had ſhewed themſelves very ſwift and indefatigable in their Intrenchments, and as bold in all attempts which they made upon the Towne. Nor were the beſieged behind hand in courage, patience, and activity; as appeared not onely in their defences, but frequent Sallyes; the Governour MASSEY being admired by his Enemies, for the great ſkill and dexterity which he ſhewed upon all occaſions: Of which I ſhall diſcourſe the more particularly and at large, by reaſon of the great importance of this famous Siege; the condition of the whole Kingdome depending ſo much upon the ſucceſſe of it.

Many ſtrange and ſucceſſefull Sallyes were made by the beſieged.

Three daies after the Siege was layed, an hundred and fifty Musketeers, commanded by Captaine GRAY, ſallyed over the Workes, upon the *Worceſter* Forces, with whom the Welch had not yet joyned, fell into their Quarters, marched up to their Maine Guard, killed a Captaine, with eight or nine Common Souldiers, tooke five Priſoners, divers Armes, burnt their Guard, and retreated without the loſſe of any. Captaine MALLERY, with the like number of Musketeers, within a day after was commanded forth, to ſurprize ſome Ordnance of their Enemies, which were ſuſpected to lye at a certaine place; but finding none, retreated without loſſe, having killed ſome, taken a few Priſoners, and fired part of their Quarters. Within a weeke after, another Party of an hundred and fifty Musketeers, commanded by Captain CRISPE, ſallyed forth, and fell into their Enemies Trenches under the Towne Wall, marched above halfe way thorow them, performed ſtrangely, and killed

killed above an hundred men, as was confeſſed by ſome of that ſide, and by the help of the Musketeers on the City Walls, retreated ſafe, without the loſſe of any, only two wounded.

The Beſiegers proceeded with great ſkill and induſtry in making their Batteries, and undermining at ſeverall places; which labour of undermining, at ſome places was made fruſtrate by water ſprings, and in others by the extreme hardneſſe of rocky ground; and where the buſineſſe was more feaſible, the ſkill of the Governour prevented them by countermining. Many Granadoes were ſhot of great bigneſſe from their Morterpieces into the Towne, but guided by a ſtrange hand of providence into ſuch by-places, that they did very little hurt. One thing is worthy the relating; when the Welch and *Worceſter* Forces of the King came up, and foure Peeces of Ordnance were drawne a good diſtance before the place of their Leaguer, and one of them planted for battery; a Party of about foure hundred Musketeers, commanded by Major PUDSEY, and Captaine GRAY, aſſiſted by Captaine FAULKNER, and Captaine MASSEY, ſallyed forth of one of the Gates; meane while a Lieutenant with fifty Musketeers, was ſent over the Works to give them an Alarum, whilſt the greater Party got behind their Canon and Breſt-Works; fell upon their maine Guard, ſlew many Officers, two Canoniers, ſlew, or mortally wounded, about an hundred Common Souldiers; tooke a Lieutenant, with foure more Priſoners, nayled their Canon; and retreated with the loſſe onely of two ſlaine, and foure taken Priſoners.

Two Sallyes of ſuch Parties were not long after made, though not with the ſame ſucceſſe altogether (by reaſon of ſome miſ-guidance) yet ſo much, as that they retreated without any ſenſible loſſe; and were enough to amaze their Enemies, that ſuch ſmall Parties ſhould runne up to their head Quarters, force

their men, and be able in that manner to recover back. And it was observed by those who well understood Warre, that it was a more then ordinary providence, which did preserve and bring off those many severall Parties, when the vanquishing of any one of them, must needs run the City into extreme hazard; whose whole strength remained upon the Workes day and night, except the reserve of an hundred and twenty men at the maine Guard. One rare and slender ranke were to receive all the storme without seconds: Yet it was the opinion of best Souldiers, that the safety of the whole did require those frequent Sallyes, as the best remedies for so desperate a disease: Which did not onely retard their Enemies Preparations, but put them into an Amaze, that the besieged should continue in such an height of resolution; which resolution was to be kept up by the heat of Action. And it was the Governours care, to keep his Enemies waking by continuall Alarms, to wast and weary them.

The Kings Army were still preparing for a generall storme, and striving in the meane time to waste the Magazine of the Town, which they hoped would soone faile, they spent their owne store, and daily acted to the terrour of the besieged; shooting Grana- does and Fire-bals out of their Morter-Peecces; and from one Battery which they had planted, shot in one night above twenty fiery bullets, which flew thorow the ayre like so many falling Stars, some eighteene pound weight, others two and twenty; some of them passing thorow Stables and Hay-ricks, did notwithstanding by their swift motion, faile of kindling; and, which seemed strange, could not set one house on fire. Many Mynes and Countermynes were every day working with great industry on both sides, the Governour MASSEY, striving to animate his men, and prevent the Townes despairing, by shewing the probability of a sudden reliefe; withall adding, that

that their so late yeelding would not at all mollifie the Kings Army. On the other side, the King seemed loath to invite them to yeeld solemnly by publicke Summons, least he should detract from the honour of his enterprize. Yet many dealt with them underhand, by advertisements of the Kings displeasure; using also perswasions, and some intimations of the possibility of Grace.



C H A P. VI.

The Expedition of the Lord Generall ESSEX for reliefe of Gloucester. The great Battell of Newbury described.



Whilest Gloucester was thus besieged, and the Siege so straight, that no intelligence could possibly arrive at it; the Parliament, who after serious considerations and debates, had for the present resolved upon the reliefe of that City, as the onely meanes to preserve the Kingdome; were as much straightned how to proceed in the businesse, with that expedition which was required. To recruit an Army so much wasted as the Lord Generall was; seemed too slow for this Service; and therefore the Trayned Bands, of London, and their Auxiliaries, must of necessity be made use of: Those that were well affected to the Parliament encouraged each other to the Worke: The disaffected on the other side, laboured in all discourses to breed despaire of the Atchievement, and to discourage the Lord Generall from marching; false reports were every day raised in London, that Gloucester was taken. The Lord Generall Essex was foure-score miles off, with no present or visible Army at that

that time; his March lying thorow those Countries which were already harrowed by the Enemy: In-
somuch that all considered, it was a question which
was more wonderfull, that he undertooke it, or
that he did it. The Parliament was at that time so
farre sunke, both in strength and reputation, and so
much forsaken by those who followed fortune, that
nothing but an extraordinary providence could make
it againe emergent. The Cause, and very being of
it, was now at stake; by the successe onely of this
Expedition to be redeemed or quite lost. But it plea-
sed God, that according to that extremity, the reso-
lutions of men were fitted. The City Regiments
and Auxiliaries came cheerefully in, to performe the
Service; and that poore remainder of the Lord Ge-
nerals old Army was with all speed recruited. An
Army was likewise intended to be speedily raised
for Sir WILLIAM WALLER to march after, as a
Reserve. But that was not so suddenly done as the
occasion required; if it had, and that Sir WILLI-
AM could (as was intended) have come in with a sup-
ply at *Newbury*, it was the opinion of most men,
that the Kings side had received an irrecoverable
Defeat.

On the 24. of *August* the Lord Generall *Essex* on
Howslow Heath, ten miles from *London*; mustered
his men; where almost all the Members of both Hou-
ses of Parliament rode with him to survey the Army;
and toward evening tooke leave of their Generall,
who marched on, and that night lodged at *Colebrooke*.

Upon intelligence of this Armies advance, Prince
RUPERT, with the greatest part of the Kings Horse,
drew off from *Gloucester*, to oppose their March,
and take what advantages he could against it: But
the King with his maine Army continued the Siege,
resolving so to do till the last houre; hoping that
every moment might worke somewhat for his end;
either by failing of the Townes store of Ammunition,

or

or some other want that might happen. Neither
was that hope without reason. And so much more
wonderfull was the fortune of that Towne, to be
relieved at such a nick of time, when their Ammu-
nition was so farre consumed, that but three sin-
gle Barrels of Powder were left in their Magazine.

On Saturday the 26. of *August* 1643. the Lord
Generall *Essex* began his March from *Colebrooke* to
Beckensfield, and so forward to *Beerton*, where he
cloathed his Army, and marched on. The City Re-
giments and Auxiliaries joyned not with the Lord
Generals Army till the first of *September*, when the
generall Rendezvouze was on *Brackley* Heath. But
before the joyning of all their Forces, a small Party
of the Kings Army, consisting of 400. Horse, had
faced a part of the Parliament Army, and skirmi-
shed with them about *Bicifter*, but soone retreated
upon the approach of greater numbers. The Gene-
rall taking up his Head Quarter at *Aynow*, sent a
Regiment to quarter that night at *Deddington* under
the Conduct of Colonell MIDDLETON; who hea-
ring there of two Regiments of the Kings Horse, sent
two Companies of Dragoones, and a Party of Horse
to approach the Towne. But the Kings Horse retrea-
ted to a passage toward *Oxford*, where the Lord WIL-
MOT was with 50. Troops more. The next morning
two Parliament Regiments, conducted by MIDDLE-
TON and Sir JAMES RAMSEY advanced to that
passe; where their Enemies stood in two great Bo-
dies, and after some Skirmish gained the passe, pla-
cing Dragoones to maintaine it. But the Kings For-
ces drew up againe toward it, and were received
with a very hot Skirmish, which lasted many houres,
till at last the Kings Forces made a retreat; but per-
ceiving that Colonell MIDDLETON marched back
toward the maine Army (which he did by the Lord
Generals Command) they sent a Party of Horse to
fall on his Reare, who followed them thorow *Ded-*
dington

dington; but were beaten back thorow the Towne in some confusion. The losse of men in these Skirmishes was not much on either side; neither could it certainly be knowne, but was imagined by the Parliament side to be more on their Enemies Party then on theirs.

The Lord Generall with his owne Regiment of Horſe, and the Lord GRAY, quartering at *Adderbury*, upon intelligence that some of the Kings Horſe from *Banbury* were abroad, ſent out a Party from both Regiments, who beat them in againe, and purſued them into *Banbury* Towne, whence they tooke divers Horſes and Priſoners, thoſe in the Caſtle not daring to ſtirre out. The Generall marched from thence to *Chipping Norton*, where ſome of the Kings Forces appeared againe, but ſoone retreated, as they did almoſt every day, during the March of that Army.

On the fourth of *September*, when the Lord Generall marched toward *Stow* the old, he ſent Colonel HARVEY with his Regiment of Horſe, and two Regiments of Foot, to advance a little before toward the right hand, and the City Regiments upon the left, under the Condu&t of Lieutenant Colonel BAILY, Generall Adjutant of the Foot. Prince RUPERT appeared with about 4000. Horſe, drawne up on the Hills, facing the Parliament Forces, and ſent a ſtrong Party of Horſe into a botto- me neere *Stow* on the old, to incompaſſe Colonel HARVEY'S Regiments. Which being perceived, three Regiments from the Vanne of the Parliament Army advanced to his reſcue, and made that Party of the Kings Forces retreat to their maine Body: Many Skirmiſhes there happened, but little losſe on either ſide.

From thence the Generall marched in the Foot of his Infantry, Sir JAMES RAMSEY in the Reare, and Sir PHILIP STAPLETON had the Van Guard. When

When the Kings Horſe againe appeared, and were by Sir PHILIP STAPLETON, and others of that Army encountered with divers Skirmiſhes; but they retreated in a great Body, and ſtill appeared before the Parliament Army, as they marched on, for the ſpace of ſeven miles.

On the fifth of *September* the Lord Generall advanced, and came to *Presbury* Hills; where he drew up his whole Army in view of the City of *Glouceſter*, and diſcharged foure Peeces of great Ordnance, to give them notice of his approach. Soone after he might diſcover the Kings Quarters on fire: For upon the Lord Generall his advance, they deſerted the Siege, and marched away all night. The Reere-Guard of the Lord Generals Army, ſome Ordnance and Ammunition, ſtayed on the top of the Hill, by reaſon of the ſteepneſſe thereof, darkneſſe of the night, and tempeſtuouſnes of the weather, whereby (beſides a famine of Vi&tuals) the whole Army had for three daies March before extremely ſuffered, through a Country that their Enemies had already deſtroyed. But the Lord Generall marched from thence to *Cheltenham*, though during his March, the Kings Forces ſkirmiſhed with ſome Parts of his Army, and divers times beat up his Quarters whileſt he ſtayed at *Cheltenham*, which was two daies, till the eight of *September*, when he marched with his whole Army to *Glouceſter*; and was there with great expreſſions of joy, and much honour, received by that long beſieged, and now reſcued City; The Generall much extolling the ſkilfull valour, and indefatigable induſtry of Colonel MASSEY, and praizing the patient conſtancy of the City; They on the other ſide highly honouring his Excellency for bringing them this reliefe, thorow ſo many difficulties, diſcouragements, and diſadvantages; both joyning in thanks to Almighty God, for his divine providence over them, and great mercy in ſending ſo timely a deliverance.

The Lord Generall lodged two nights in *Gloucester*, furnishing the City with Ammunition, Money, and other necessaries; and from thence marched to *Tewksbury*, staying betwixt the Kings Forces and that Garrison foure daies, to give them more time to furnish themselves better with Provision of Victuall; which was to be brought from *Herefordshire*, and parts beyond the *Sewerne*, since the other parts had been before ranfacked by the Kings Forces.

When the Generall with his whole Army arose from *Tewksbury*, and intended to quarter at *Cheltenham*, he was advertised, that a Body of the Kings Army were then in *Cirencester* (which were reported to be Prince MAURICE his Forces) and had there layed in great store of Provision for their Army. Upon that advertisement the Generall, his want of Victualls and necessaries still continuing, and miserably increasing upon his whole Army, made a long March with the Van-guard of his Army to fall upon them; which he did about one of the clock in the night, sending in a Party of Horse to seize upon the Centinels and Guards, whilest himselfe, with the rest of the Horse begirt the Towne; and a Forlorne hope of Foot, with his owne Foot Regiment, entred the Towne, and surprized two Regiments of Horse (belonging to Sir NICHOLAS CRISPE, and Colonell SPENCER) which were by the confession of some Prisoners taken, intended for raising a Commotion in *Kent*. The Lord Generall at that Towne of *Cirencester* took forty Loads of Victuall, which, under Gods providence, was the preservation of his Army, untill the day that the great Battell of *Newbury* was fought. He tooke there likewise six Standards, all the Officers, except the two Colonels, which were absent, with divers other Gentlemen of quality; above 300. Common Souldiers, and 400. Horse.

The Generall from *Cirencester*, in short Marches,
not

not above five miles a day, went to *Cricklade*, and to *Swinden*, from thence intending to passe to *Hungerford*. But when the Van and Body of his Army had marched almost all over *Auburne Chase*, a gallant Body of the Kings Horse, consisting of about 6000, approached hard to the Reere-guard of his Army; which not being a sufficient number to resist them, indeavoured to make an orderly retreat to the Body of their Army. But the Kings Horse pursued so hotly both on Reere and Flanke, that those Horse Regiments of the Generals Reere-guard could not retreat but with confusion, and some losse. But being come to the Body of the Foot, they were drawn up againe into order, and faced their Enemies, untill all the Foot were marched. Neverthelesse the Kings Horse againe advancing, put their Enemies the second time into the like disorder; till some of the Generals Regiments facing about towards them, charged the Forlorne Hope of the Kings Forces, consisting of 500. Horse, and put them wholly into disorder; and then charging the two Regiments which seconded that Forlorne Hope, they routed them likewise; but the Kings Horse came on bravely with fresh Bodies, and stopt their Enemies further pursuit. Immediately followed a brave Charge, made by two of the Parliaments Regiments, which was incountered with as much Gallantry on the other side, so that they both retreated at one time. Another Charge was made by some Regiments of the Parliament Army, and so answered by the other, that they were forced to retreat to their maine Body; at which time Sir PHILIP STAPLETON (who had the Van-guard of the Parliament Army that day) came purposely back, and drew up his Regiment to succour his friends, which caused the Kings Forces to retire altogether; and the night stopt any further proceedings.

On the Kings Party in these hot encounters, were slaine the Marquesse *De Vieu Ville*, with other Offi-

cers of good quality, whose worth and valour appeared highly, though I finde not their names recorded. Many Common Souldiers were there slaine, and one Lieutenant Colonell; two Lieutenants and a Cornet taken Prisoners. On the Parliaments side were slaine of Officers, Captaine MIDDLETON, and Captaine HACKET; divers Officers were wounded, some Common Souldiers slaine, and Colonell SHEFFIELD lost a Standard. The Lord Generall Essex marched that night with his Army to *Hungerford*; Sir PHILIP STAPLETON, who before had the Van, bringing up the Reere.

The next day the famous Battell of *Newbury* was fought; which Battell may deserve (because the condition of the whole Kingdom so much depended on the successe of it) to be related in a large and particular manner. But because I have found nothing written of it by those of the Kings Party; and that there was a punctuall Narrative published by some Colonels of the Parliament Army, Gentlemen of great and unstained Reputation, concerning this Battell; which Narrative I have heard some of their Enemies confesse to be full, not onely of modesty, but truth in the Generall, or for the most part; let the Reader be pleased to take it from their Relation. If any thing may hereafter appeare of greater truth, it will not trouble any honest man to see it published. Neither is it a thing unheard of, for men to describe their owne actions with impartiall truth; since JULIUS CÆSAR is acknowledged to have written his owne Commentaries, not onely of the *Gallike* but Civill Warre, with so much cleare integrity, that his Enemies had nothing to blame in it. Take it therefore in their Language.

On Tuesday the nineteenth of *September*, 1643. we marched from *Hungerford* towards *Newbury*; and when we approached within two miles of the Town, we might discover the Enemies Forces upon an hill; their

their whole Army having prevented us, were gotten to *Newbury*, and posselt the Towne. But the next morning, being Wednesday, by break of day order was given for our March to an Hill called *Biggs Hill*, neere to *Newbury*, and the onely convenient place for us to gaine, that we might with better security force our passage. But when his Excellency perceived that the Enemies Forces had posselt themselves of that hill, marching himselfe upon the head of his owne Regiment, Colonell BARCLAYS, and Colonell HOLBOURNES Brigades, he charged so fiercely, that he beat them from the hill, and kept it (rather gaining then losing ground) the whole day. His Excellencies Regiment, and those other Brigades, all the while they continued there, were hotly charged by the Enemies Horse and Foote, whilest much prowesse was shewed on both sides. The Generall in Person bestirred himselfe, giving directions where ever there was occasion, and present in all places of danger, discharged the part of an excellent Generall; as the Enemies themselves witnessed. But he considered not the danger of his Person, whilest he laboured to maintaine that place, which of all others was most advantagious for his prospect. By this time came up the two Trayned Bands of *London*, who, though they were often charged by the Horse and Foot, stood to it with undaunted resolution.

The Battell thus begun by the Foot, Sir PHILIP STAPLETON, with his Excellency his Guard and Regiment of Horse, advanced upon the plaine of the Hill; when he had no sooner drawne up out of the Lanes end, seconded by Colonell DALBEIRES Regiment of Horse (no other Horse being advanced to the place) but the Enemy perceiving this advantage, being all drawne already in severall great Bodies of Horse, part of them advanced immediately, and charged our Horse; whom we so well received (giving no fire till we joyned close with them)

them) that the Enemy was wholly routed, and pursued with much execution neere to the place where their whole Body of Horse stood. From thence by order we drew back to our first ground; by occasion whereof, opportunity was gained to bring up the remainder of our Horse, which had the Van-guard that day: whereupon the Enemy drew out some fresh Regiments of his Horse, and with all possible speed advanced againe upon Sir PHILIP, but received no better entertainment then before, being againe routed by him. By that time that he had drawne up his Regiment againe into some order, the other Regiments (RAMSEY, HARVEY, GOODWIN) were come up to him, when the Enemy with their whole Body charged upon them bravely, and were as well received. Sir PHILIP STAPLETON was here charged both in Front and Flanke, his whole Regiment having spent both their Pistols, and was so encompassed, that the Enemy and ours, with both our whole Bodies, were all mixed together; and in this confusion many were slaine on both sides, and our men at last were forced towards the Lanes end, where they first came in; which being neere our Foot, the Enemies indeavoured to disengage themselves, and drew back to their owne Forces. Those that entred the Lane with ours were most of them slaine.

We tooke three Colours of Horse compleat, and a peece of another Colours. In the first Charge, Colonell DALBEIRE, and Commissary COPLEY, charging stoutly, were both wounded. In the third Charge Captain HAMOND, Captain FLEETWOOD, Captaine PYM, and Cornet DOLLY, were all wounded. Captaine DRAPER, who had a Forlorne Hope of Sir PHILIP STAPLETONS men, did good Service; as Captaine ABERCROMY, and Captaine SHILBORNE did with their Dragoones. The left wing of our Horse, commanded by Colonell MIDDLETON, and the right wing of the Enemies Horse, could not

not be engaged, but in small Parties, by reason of the hedges.

The actions of our Horse thus described wholly (because we were loath to interrupt the Series, for the Readers clearer understanding) returne we to the Foot. Major Generall SKIPPON in the morning, when his Excellency (as aforesaid) was engaged upon the hill, hastened to the top of the hill, where our Van-guard was in fight; having before ordered the March of our Traine of Artillery, and those that attended it (which were the Lord ROBERTS his Brigade, and his owne, Sir WILLIAM SPRINGERS, Colonell MANWARINGS, and the red and blew Auxiliary Regiments) to be neere to his Excellency. Looking from the Hill toward *Newbury*, he perceived a great strength of the Enemy, both Horse and Foot, in divers great Bodies advancing directly toward the way which all our Traine was of necessity to march. To prevent therefore what he suspected, which was, that the Enemy would fall upon our Traine, or upon the Reare of those that fought on the hill, or gaine that hill behinde us, our last nights Quarter, or all; he speedily disposed (which his Excellency did also send him a Command to do) Forces in places most convenient: Meane while the Generall sending for more Foot, that Brigade wherein his Regiment and SPRINGERS were, with the red Auxiliaries, were sent up; placing the Lord ROBERTS his Brigade, with foure small Peeces, just where the Enemy advanced, who gave them so warme an entertainment, that they made them run; and the Lord ROBERTS possesst the ground, which the Enemy came first up unto: His Lieutenant Colonell was shot in the face.

That Forlorne Hope which he had commanded the night before, being now strengthened with 300. Musketeers, and led by Major FORTESCUE, Major Generall SKIPPON placed on the left of the

Lord ROBERTS his Brigade, upon the high way that came from *Newbury* just upon us; upon which way foure Drakes were likewise placed, and well defended, though the Enemies came up so close, that they tooke away a Limmer of one of our Peeces, but it was with losse of many of their lives.

Colonell MANWARINGS Regiment was placed on the right hand, betweene the hill and the Lord ROBERTS his Brigade. This Regiment his Excellency a while after commanded away, to the reliefe of his owne Regiment, Colonell BARCLAYS, and Colonell HOLBORNES Brigades, which had been foure houres upon very hot Service. It fortun'd that this Regiment was no sooner brought on, but they were overcharged with two great Bodies of Horse and Foot so, that they were forced to retreat, and lose that ground which the forenamed Forces had gotten; which Colonell HOLBORNE perceiving, with his Brigade gave the Enemy a *Round Salvo*, and instantly his owne, and Colonell BARCLAYS Brigades, and the Generals Regiment againe advancing, beat back the Enemy, regained the ground, and made good the place all the day after.

The blew Auxiliary Regiment was commanded to relieve and assist the Forlorne Hope, which had been three or foure times in their turnes at the point. The Fight all along the Valley (more then half a mile in lenth) was continued as long as in any other part of the Army, which was till ten a clock at night; about which time the Enemy gave a good *Round Salvo* upon Colonell BARCLAY, and Colonell HOLBORNS Posts. These things ordered, the Major Generall rode up to the top of the hill, where he espyed an advantage to bestow eight or nine Demi-Culvering shot upon the Enemy; who out of an house pelted the forenamed Gentlemen at neere distance. Then he rallied the two Train-Band Regiments into one Body, drew them up, and placed them before, where the Train
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of Artillery did afterwards draw up to the top of the hill, and desired Major BOTELEER to draw the Musketeers of his Regiment on the right hand before the two Demy-Culverings that were placed at the end of the Lane, on the top of the Hill; and the red Auxiliaries he placed on the left hand of those Peeces, which before were slenderly guarded. The Artillery was well ordered that day, by the skill and care of Sir JOHN MERRICK.

While this was acting, two Peeces which belonged to the Major Generals Regiment, and one Drake of Sir WILLIAM BROOKES, were by the Generals Regiment, under the Command of Major BOTELEER, with the assistance of 200. Musketeers recovered; and the Enemy drew away from their Pikes (which with their Colours kept standing, with many great Bodies of Horse to guard them) five or six hundred Musketeers, besides Dragoones, to encompass our men on the right hand among the hedges; just at which time his Excellency sent to have 300. Musketeers of the Forlorne Hope, to go to the reliefe of Colonell BARCLAY, and Colonell HOLBORNES Souldiers. But then the Enemy falling on upon our right hand, diverted them, who with other of our Musketeers thereabouts, beat the Enemy off, who else had done us great mischief. This was about foure a clock in the afternoone, when all our whole Army of Foot was engaged in the Fight. But then he also caused some of the red Auxiliary Regiment to draw neerer to Colonell BARCLAYS Post, as he himselfe required. At length night drew on, when the Enemy, both Horse and Foot, stood in good order on the further side of the Greene, where we expected their stay till next morning; and that they were working (as was reported) to place their Canon, to make use of them against us when day should breake: Against which supposed encounter we encouraged our Souldiers before hand, and resolved by
Gods

Gods help the next day to force our way thorow them or dye. But it pleased God to make our passage without blows; for the Enemy was gone by night; so that the next morning we marched quietly over the same ground where the Battell was fought, and where the Enemy stood; for on Thursday early, his Excellency gave Command for the Armies March towards *Reading*; to which purpose it was all drawne up upon the Heath, where the Battell was fought; and after that his Excellency had given order for burying the dead, about ten a clock we began to march. Colonell MIDDLETON, with his owne, and three Regiments more (Lord GREY, SHEFFIELD, MELDRUM) and 400. commanded Musketeers under Colonell BARCLAY, had the Reere-guard: During which March, the Enemy at a great distance shot from severall hedges, but troubled us not. When we came to a long Heath, we drew up the whole Army severall times, and no Enemy appeared. But at the entrance of a narrow Lane toward the evening, the Enemy fell upon us with 800. commanded Musketeers, and most of their Horse, who caused our Horse then in the Reare, to make a very disorderly and confused retreat. But when Colonell MIDDLETON, with the rest of the Commanders in the Reare, hasted to charge the Enemy with our Foot, he made them retreat with as much confusion over the Heath, as they had us before; the losse not great on either side. Lieutenant BROWNE was taken Prisoner.

After this, the same evening the Lord Generall drew up the Army to *Theale*, and taking some refreshment there, marched the next morning, being Fryday, with the whole Army to *Reading*; where he stayed till the Sabbath was past, and gave publike thanks for the great Victory.

This was a Victory not denied to the Parliament, nor at all disputed; although the Lord Generall *Essex*, for want of Victuals, marched away to the necessary
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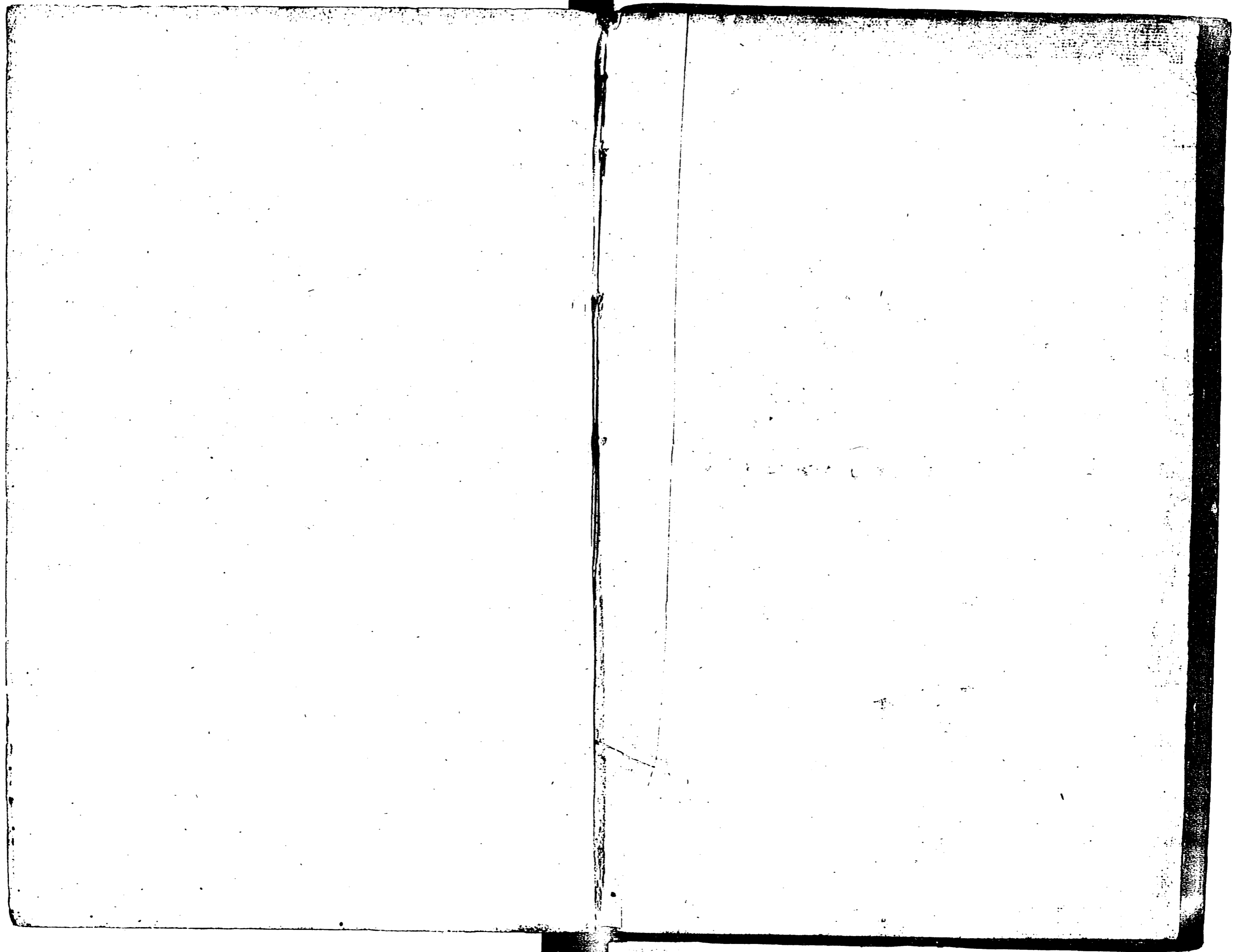
reliefe of his Army, and could not stay to pursue the Victory which he had gotten. The number of slaine in that Battell, were judged to be, by those who speak most moderately, foure times as many of the Kings Party as of the Parliaments; but others have spoken of a farre greater difference. Divers Captains, as Captaine MASSY, and Captaine HUNT, with others, were slaine on the Parliament side; but scarce any of higher ranke. Three of the Nobility fell on the Kings side, the Earle of *Carnarwan*, the Lord SPENCER (newly made by the King Earle of *Sunderland*) and the Lord Viscount *Fawkland*.

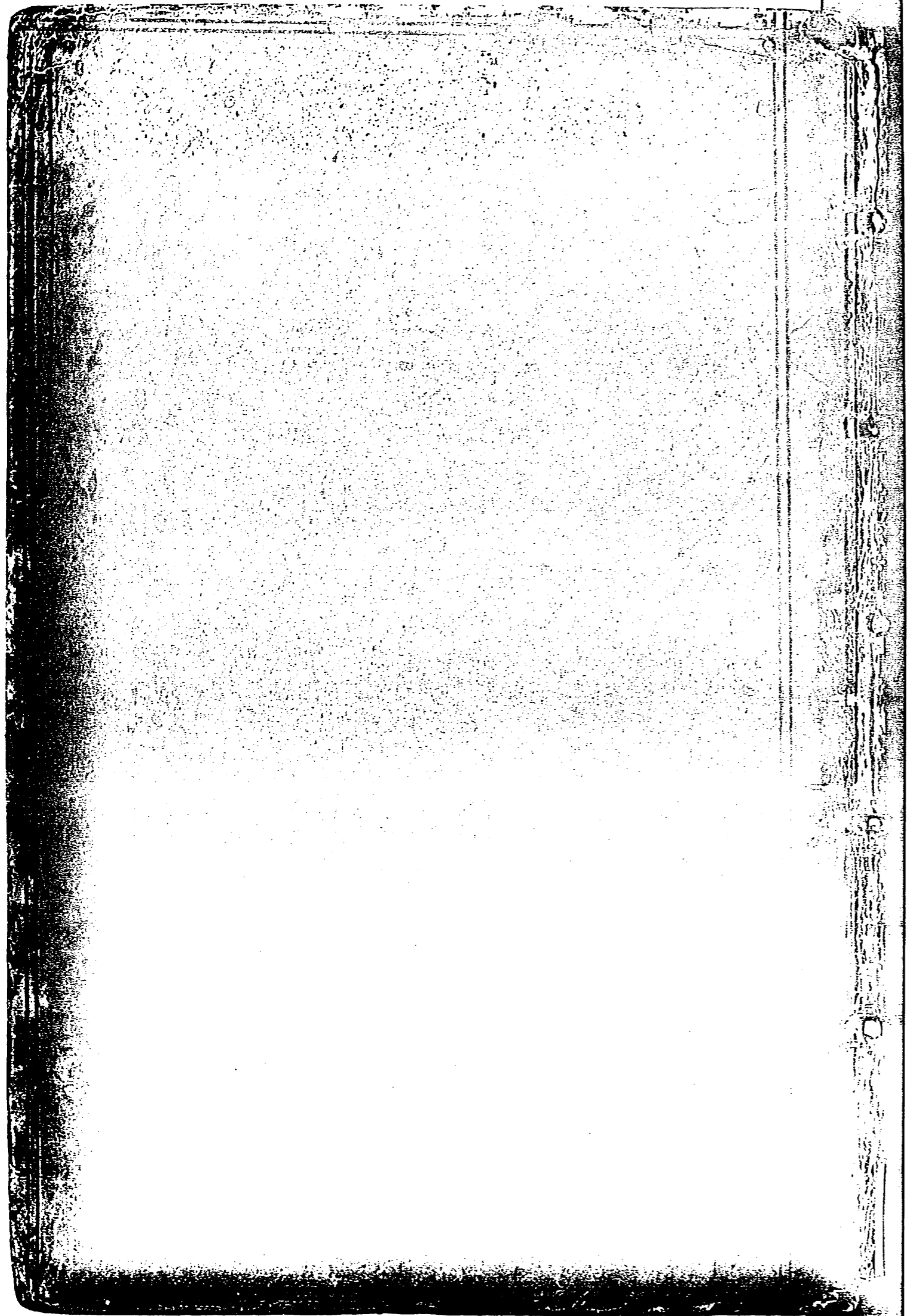
After this Victory, the Lord Generall was received at *London* with great joy and Honour. The Trayned Bands and Auxiliaries of *London* marched home in full Companies, and were welcomed by their friends; and met by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen at *Temple Barre*: And now the face of things seemed much to change, and the reputation of the Parliament rise higher.

At the time of this Expedition for reliefe of *Gloucester*, a Cessation of Arms was made by the King with the Irish Rebels; of which, together with the great Victories which small numbers of the English Forces obtained over great multitudes of those Irish Rebels, before the time of that Cessation (which was here omitted, as not to interrupt the Relation of proceedings in the English Warres) there may be a larger Discourse in the continuation of this History; as also of the Covenant which the Parliament, and that part of the Nation which adhered to them, about this time entred into with their Brethren of *Scotland*, for maintenance of the Religion, Lawes and Liberties of both Kingdomes.

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