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THE OBSIDIONAL MONEY OF THE GREAT  
REBELLION.

1642-1649.

BY PHILIP NELSON, M.D.

**T**HE period of the Civil war, 1642-1649, or as it has been termed by Clarendon, "The Great Rebellion," is a section of our national history unsurpassed in interest and the accomplishment of great purposes. Throughout this time intestine warfare was carried on with varying results between the party of the King, or the Cavaliers, and the supporters of Parliamentary Reform. From the austerities of their style of dress and habits the latter became known as the Puritan party or Roundheads; and this struggle, whatever its merits, by overthrowing the feudal system, initiated that liberty and sense of justice, which are among the proudest attributes of the English nation to-day.

Into the circumstances which led by insensible steps to the outbreak of the civil war, it is not within our province to enquire: it is sufficient here to remark that the questions in dispute between the King and Parliament were such, that both parties despairing of any settlement or compromise, determined to put the matter to the arbitrament of the sword and to "let loose the dogs of war."

Upon August 22, 1642, Charles erected his standard at Nottingham, a banner inscribed with the legend, "Religio Protestans Leges Angliae Libertas Parliamenti," an inscription expressing sentiments which in the opinion of the opposition were somewhat open to question. The first engagement, a cavalry skirmish, took place at Powick Bridge, near Worcester, September 25, 1642, where the Royalists under Prince Rupert, the King's nephew, were

successful, and Colonel Sandys, the leader of the Parliamentary horse, was among the slain. This initial success raised the hopes of the King's party, but to be damped by their somewhat Pyrrhic victory of Edgehill, October 23, 1642.

In the course of the following year were contested the battles of Chalgrove Field, June 18, where the patriot Hampden was mortally wounded; Atherton Moor, June 30; Lansdown, July 5; and Roundway Down, Devizes, July 13; in all of which engagements the party of the King was victorious. On July 26, the city of Bristol was carried by storm by the Crown forces under the command of Prince Rupert, and this stronghold proved a most important acquisition, since at that period Bristol was the first seaport in the kingdom. In the same year, September 20, was fought the first battle of Newbury, in which combat Lords Falkland, Sunderland and Carnarvon were among the slain, the former of whom thus attained to that peace he sighed for. The campaign of 1644 opened with the defeat, at Nantwich, in Cheshire, by Sir Thomas Fairfax, January 25, 1643-1644, of a body of Irish troops, which having landed at Mostyn, in North Wales, had overrun Cheshire on behalf of the King. England was, however, invaded from the north by the Scots at the instance of the Parliament, who were with difficulty kept in check by the Royalists under the command of the Marquis of Newcastle. At this time Fairfax returning from Cheshire, defeated Colonel Bellasis at Selby, and Newcastle, fearing to be surrounded by the two converging forces, retreated to York, where he was at once besieged. Prince Rupert marched to his aid, relieving on his way several beleaguered garrisons, among others that of Lathom House.

Acting upon the urgent commands of Charles, whose headquarters were then at Oxford, but contrary to the advice of Newcastle, with whose forces he had effected a junction, Rupert, who meant fighting, led forth the army to the moor near Long Marston, upon July 2, and joined battle with the levies of the Parliament, under the joint command of Fairfax and Cromwell. The results of this combat were disastrous to the cause of the King, as the fruits of apparent victory in the earlier stage of the action, were lost, owing to the

rashness of Rupert. On the morrow he withdrew his shattered forces into Lancashire and on July 16, York opened its gates to the victors.

One of the results of this battle was the withdrawal of the Marquis of Newcastle from the strife ; this nobleman, seeing the hopelessness of the Royalist cause, and disgusted that his advice had been disregarded, retired to Scarborough, whence he passed over to the Continent, and remained there until the Restoration.

Previous to the battle of Marston Moor, Waller had been routed at Copredy Bridge near Banbury on June 29, by the Royalists, who then marched westwards against the forces of Essex. The latter's army falling back, was cornered in Cornwall and compelled to capitulate, with the exception of the horse, which under Balfour passed safely through the Royalist lines in a mist and so escaped. Previously however to this surrender, Essex, who had abandoned his army, escaped by boat to Plymouth. After this Parliamentary reverse, there was fought, October 27, the second battle of Newbury, the results of which combat were upon the whole adverse to the cause of Charles.

In the beginning of the following year, January 30, 1644-45, a conference was arranged at Uxbridge, for an attempted settlement of the matters in dispute between the King and the Parliament, but the negotiations fell through and civil war was at once renewed.

As a consequence of the self-denying ordinance passed by the House of Lords, April 3, 1645, Essex, Manchester, Warwick and many others, relinquished their commands, and the chief military control passed into the hands of Sir Thomas Fairfax. From this point onward misfortune dogged the Royalist cause. On June 14, 1645, Charles sustained a crushing defeat at Naseby, at the hands of Fairfax and Cromwell, a result due, as ever, to the impetuosity of Rupert. The King in this battle lost nearly a thousand killed and some five thousand prisoners, together with what proved even more damaging to his cause, namely, his private correspondence, which was subsequently published by the Parliament. Charles retreated to the West, in the vain hope of raising more troops in Wales, and at the same time Rupert threw himself into Bristol.

Fairfax following into the south-west, rapidly captured in

succession the towns of Bridgwater, Bath and Sherbourne, and immediately proceeded to the investment of Bristol, which city capitulated after a very feeble resistance, September 11, 1645. So annoyed was Charles at Rupert's unlooked-for surrender of this stronghold of the west, that he recalled all his commissions, and it may be said that the fall of Bristol was the circumstance which finally decided the fortunes of the war. Meanwhile, upon the surrender of Carlisle, June 25, the Scots army had marched south and besieged Hereford, but was obliged to fall back into Yorkshire before the advance of the forces of Charles, who passed north to relieve Chester. Here at Rowton Heath, September 24, he suffered yet another defeat, which resulted in the immediate reduction of the west by the Parliamentary arms under Fairfax.

Charles, immediately after this battle, once more returned to Oxford, which, early in 1646, was invested by Colonel Rainsborough. On April 27, the King, disguised as a servant, effected his escape, and making his way to Newark, gave himself up to the Scottish army, which at the time, May 5, was besieging that town.

Newark, together with all other strongholds held for the Crown, was surrendered by command of the King, and the Scots fell back by easy stages upon Newcastle. At this city the King, upon January 30, 1647, was handed over to the English Commissioners, in return for a payment of £400,000, claimed as arrears of pay for the Scottish troops, and this transaction led to the saying:—

“Traitor Scot  
“Sold his King for a groat.”

Charles was removed to Homeby House in Northamptonshire, but after the raid of Joyce, he was conducted to Hampton Court. In November, he was induced to secretly retire to the Isle of Wight, where he was detained at Carisbrook Castle by Colonel Hammond, the governor, and later conveyed to Hurst Castle, where he remained a prisoner.

At this period, 1648, vain efforts were made to induce the King to accept the terms offered by the Parliament, which however Charles

refused. Risings now occurred in Wales, Essex and the North, in which latter locality the Duke of Hamilton was at the head of an invasion in July, and to which the King was privy. These attempts were however readily suppressed, Cromwell defeating in turn Langdale at Preston, and Hamilton a few days later. Ten days subsequently, namely on August 27, Fairfax captured Colchester, the headquarters of the Royalists in Essex, and this practically terminated the campaign.

For his alleged complicity in these events, it was determined to bring the King to trial. On December 23, he was brought to Windsor, thence to St. James, and lastly to Whitehall, January 19, 1649. Having been arraigned before a specially constituted tribunal, he was condemned to death on January 27, and three days later was beheaded in front of the banqueting chamber at Whitehall, being subsequently buried during a snow storm at Windsor.

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Upon the commencement of the civil war, extraordinary enthusiasm was shown by both sides, nobles and gentry gladly contributing their jewels and plate in order to supply the sinews of war, whilst the partisans of the Parliament were not to be outdone in their efforts, as will be apparent from the following lines culled from Butler's *Hudibras* :—

“ Did saints, for this, bring in their plate,  
“ And crowd as if they came too late.  
“ For when they thought the cause had need on't,  
“ Happy was he that could be rid on't.  
“ Did they coin trenchers, bowls and flagons,  
“ In't officers of horse and dragoons.  
“ And into pikes and musquetteers,  
“ Stamp beakers, cups and porringers ?  
“ A thimble, bodkin and a spoon,  
“ Did start up living men as soon  
“ As in the furnace they were thrown,  
“ Just like the dragon's teeth being sown.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Hudibras*, Pt. I, c. 2, l. 562 (revised).



Upon July 12, 1642, the two Houses of Parliament made an order to prohibit the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge from contributing their plate to the cause of the King. Information was however sent to Charles of the rich store of plate at these places, and the readiness of the authorities to contribute the same to further his aims, and, as a result of this, the King dispatched to the Vice-Chancellor of each University two representatives with letters of authority, so that the transfer of these riches might be duly effected. The University of Oxford and the majority of its colleges sent their plate, which was safely conveyed to the King; but that of the University of Cambridge was not sent, although many of the individual colleges contributed theirs. The treasures of St. John's and Magdalen, however, never reached their destination, but were seized by Cromwell whilst in transit to Nottingham. A portion of the University plate was used by weight at that town for the purpose of paying the troops, and much was converted into coins at Shrewsbury, at which place the King established a mint. Here coins of large size were issued, namely:—pounds, half-pounds and crowns in silver, one of which was respectively presented, to each colonel, sub-officer and private soldier. The wholesale destruction of silver plate at this period is no doubt largely responsible for the extreme rarity of pre-Carolian silver, which, in turn, accounts for the high prices now realised by any silver plate antecedent to 1640.

Following the overthrow of the Royalist cause at Naseby, the struggle to a large degree devolved into a succession of defensive measures on the part of the Cavaliers, who, on behalf of the Crown, defended numerous castles and towns throughout the land. It is during this period of 1645–1649 that the greater number of the siege-coins we are about to pass in review were struck, the majority being issued during the earlier years. Siege money was struck at the following places in England, namely:—Carlisle, Beeston Castle, Scarborough, Lathom House, Newark, Colchester and Pontefract Castle. These coins were doubtless used for paying the defending garrisons, and would probably also be accepted as currency by the neighbouring country-side. The majority of the coins are of the rudest

execution, since the necessities of the time did not admit of careful production, and in all probability no competent die-sinkers or moneyers would be available.

The coins were usually struck upon irregular pieces of plate, cut from trenchers, platters, cups, etc., of silver, in place of being struck upon flans specially prepared by melting down the plate. This is only what one would expect, under the trying circumstances in which the various garrisons found themselves placed. That this was the case is clearly proved by the many examples existing, upon which traces of the original decoration are still visible, in some instances even, particularly upon examples issued at Scarborough, the rim of the dish being still to be seen at the edge of the piece.

Additional evidence of this direct use of silver plate for the production of coin blanks is afforded by the existence of four siege-coins bearing hall-marks, which will be referred to presently in detail, and I believe that at Carlisle and Pontefract only was the silver melted down, prior to being struck into coins. It is recorded that during the second siege of Pontefract, Sir Gervase Cutler contributed £1,000 worth of family plate, in order to defray the expenses of the garrison.

We will first consider the various siege-coins struck in England during the civil war, and then pass on to review those obsidional pieces and other moneys of necessity issued in Ireland about the same period, taking the coins in their chronological sequence.

#### CARLISLE.

Carlisle was defended by the Royalist forces under Sir Thomas Glemham from October, 1644, until June 25, 1645, when it was surrendered to the commander of the investing Scottish army, David Leslie, afterwards Lord Newark. The city was never assaulted, the siege being rather in the nature of a blockade, and the surrender was brought about in part by the scarcity of food, and in part by the hopelessness of relief. For after the defeat of the King's forces at

Naseby, June 14, 1645, the garrison, realising that further resistance was vain, opened negotiations for the surrender of the city, and the



FIG. 2.—VIEW OF CARLISLE FROM STANWIX, *circ.* 1700.

defenders, who numbered some seven hundred, were permitted to march out with all the honours of war, June 25, 1645.

For much information relative to the events which occurred at this place, we are indebted to one of the citizens named Tullie, whose *Narrative of the Siege of Carlisle* still exists. From this work we learn that about Christmas, 1644, the corn in the town was taken from the inhabitants and placed in stores, and, he adds, "a good while after, an order was published to every citizen to bring in their plate to be coined, which they did chearfully."

From this domestic plate siege-coins of two denominations were struck, *viz.* :—three-shilling pieces and shillings, the minting of which appears to have been carried out under the control of the Corporation.

The following is a list of the plate obtained for the purposes of coining, amounting in all to 1,162 ozs., which, at five shillings per ounce, was equivalent to £280 11s. 10½*d.*, a considerable sum at that period. In preparing the rough metal for minting, there was lost, by melting, refining, etc., 86 ozs. which thus left

1,076 ozs. available for striking the coins. The metal so obtained

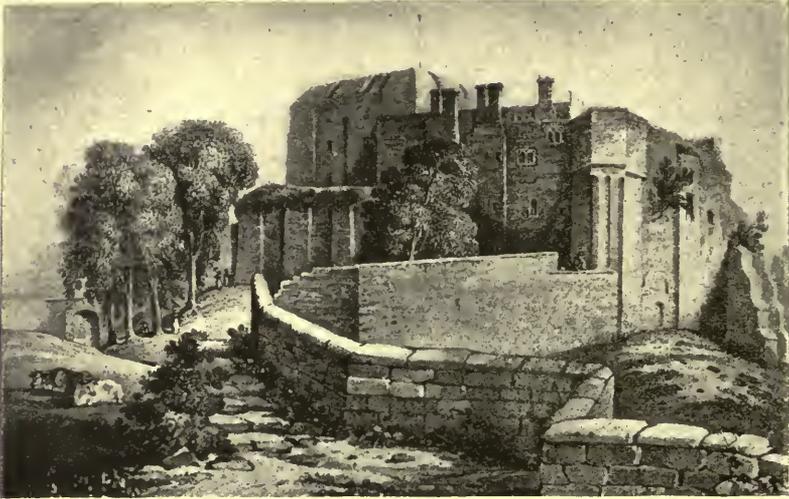


FIG. 3.—CARLISLE CASTLE AND CITY WALLS, *circ.* 1700.

was struck at the rate of six shillings to the ounce, which thus produced £323 worth of coins, or in other words 6,460 shillings,



FIG. 4.—CARLISLE. THE HALF MOON BATTERY, BRIDGE AND MOAT, *circ.* 1700.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Messrs. Burnham, printers of Carlisle, for permission to reproduce the three illustrations of old Carlisle.

and it is not improbable that this would be divided into 1,000 three-shilling pieces, and the balance into 3,460 shillings. From another source we learn that the coins were actually issued on May 30, 1645, and consequently they would only be in circulation for the space of about one month.

May the 13th } A list of All the Plaite Brought in to be  
1645 } Coynd with the weight thereof.

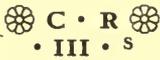
	oz
Will: Atkinson. Alder one Winde Mill Boule. a Trencher } salt & three spoones wt... .. } 012— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Widdow Craister one beare boule one beaker one wine } boule and six spoones wt ... .. } 024— $\frac{1}{4}$ —0	
Julian Aglionby one Boule wt ... .. 008— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Edmond Kidd 2 Bowles wt ... .. 015— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Thomas Kidd one Boule wt ... .. 007—0— $\frac{1}{8}$	
Will: Wilson Tanner one Bowle one Beaker wt ... .. 014— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Thomas Lowrie 2 spoones wt ... .. 002—0—0	
Robert Sewell one spoone wt ... .. 001—0— $\frac{1}{8}$	
Collnell Kirkebride one bowle 4 spoones wt ... .. 013—0—0	
Mary Carlile one bowle and 8 spoones wt ... .. 015— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Edward Dalton one bowle one Tumbler & 2 peeces of } broken plate wt ... .. } 022—0— $\frac{1}{8}$	
Mrs. Chambers 2 beare boules and one wine boule wt ... 034— $\frac{1}{4}$ —0	
Mr Glaisters 3 beare bowles & 6 spoones wt ... .. 034— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Widdow Baines Junior one bowle 2 spoones wt ... .. 011— $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$	
Thomas Jackson one bowle & 2 spoones wt ... .. 007— $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$	
Thomas Monke one bowle wt ... .. 008—0—0	
Josph Jefferson one bowle wt ... .. 010—0—0	
Mr Edward Orpheur one bowle 4 spoones wt ... .. 014— $\frac{1}{4}$ —0	
John Orbell 2 bowles one gilt bowle and 10 spoones wt ... 040— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Widdow Orpheur 4 spoons wt ... .. 005— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Mr Edward Fontaine one bowle one salt and 2 spoones wt 017— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Mr Richard Wilson 1 gilt bowle wt... .. 008— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Thomas Craggill 2 wine bowles and 3 silver spoones wt ... 015—0—0	
Henry Monke one beaker 4 spoones wt ... .. 011— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0	
Thomas Tallentyre one bowle 4 spoones wt ... .. 013— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Captaine Aglionby one bowle wt ... .. 010— $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$	
Sr Thomas Glemham 2 Candlesticks wt ... .. 044— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	
Mr George Barwicke one bowle 6 spoones wt ... .. 017—0— $\frac{1}{8}$	
Robert James one bowle wt ... .. 008— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0	

	oz
Isabell Holliday one sugardish wt ... ..	011— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0
Sr Henry Fletcher one tankard one salt 1 tumbler } 2 wine bowles 6 spoones wt ... ..	055— $\frac{3}{4}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$
Capt: Cape 2 beare bowles 2 gilt salts one Colledge pott } one Can gilt one gilt beaker wt . . . . .	089—0—0
Mr Fredericke Tonstall one dozen $\frac{1}{2}$ of plate wt ... ..	145—0—0
Mrs Tullie 5 spoones wt ... ..	006— $\frac{1}{4}$ —0
John Tomlinson one bowle wt ... ..	008—0—0
Edward James one bowle wt... ..	008— $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$
Sr Will: Dalston one greate salt one lesser salt one bowle } 8 spoones wt ... ..	063— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0
Mr Leo: Dykes one bowle one Tankerd 6 spoones wt ...	030— $\frac{3}{4}$ —0
Mr Lewis West 1 bowle wt ... ..	009— $\frac{3}{4}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$
Sr Tho: Dacre 2 bowles wt ... ..	019— $\frac{1}{2}$ —0
Capt Johnson one Tankard one salt wt ... ..	030—0—0
The Citties plate 2 Flaggons 2 gilt bowles one gilt salt } 2 beare bowles wt ... ..	233—0—0
	-----
	1162— $\frac{1}{4}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$
Received in plate 1162 oz— $\frac{1}{4}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$ at 5 <sup>s</sup> per oz Delivered } to Mr Dykes 300 <sup>li</sup> resting in o <sup>r</sup> hands 23 <sup>li</sup> —0—3 } stamped out of 1076 oz.— $\frac{1}{2}$ — $\frac{1}{8}$ at 6 <sup>s</sup> per oz ...	323—0—3
Gayned by Coyning at 6 <sup>s</sup> per oz ... ..	42—8—4
Lost in meltyng and working ... ..	21—10—0

(Endorsed)

May the 13<sup>th</sup> 1645.A note of  
plate Coynd.

As previously mentioned, coins of two sizes were issued at Carlisle, and of each denomination two distinct varieties are found. Each piece bears two reverse readings, which reverses are common to both values, and read respectively in two and three lines. These coins may be described as follows:—

1. Three shillings. *Obverse*.— beneath a large crown, within a double circle, the outer beaded, the inner linear.

*Reverse*.— :  
• : **CARL** : within a similar double circle. Weight, 238 grains.  
• **1645** •  


2. Three shillings. *Obverse*.— $\text{C} \cdot \text{R}$  with floral ornaments above and below, and  $\text{III} \cdot \text{S}$  below.

*Reverse*.— $\text{OB CARL}$  with a small 's' above the 'C', and  $\text{1645}$  below, within a double circle. Weight, 239 grains.



FIG. 5.—CARLISLE THREE-SHILLING PIECE.

3. Shilling. *Obverse*.— $\text{C} \cdot \text{R}$  with floral ornaments above and below, and  $\text{XII}$  below, beneath a crown, and within the usual double circle.

*Reverse*.—Similar to No. 1. Weight, 79·5 grains.



FIG. 6.—CARLISLE SHILLING.

4. Shilling *Obverse*.—Similar to No. 3.

*Reverse*.—Similar to No. 2. Weight, 80 grains.

All the above were struck upon circular and octagonal blanks.

#### BEESTON CASTLE.

Beeston Castle, in Cheshire, stands upon a hill nearly four hundred feet high, and commands one of the three approaches to Chester; it was therefore at the time we are considering a position of very considerable importance. Occupied by three hundred Parlia-

mentarian troops, February 21, 1643, it was held by them until December 13, when it was surprised by Captain Sandford, who with a



FIG. 7.—BEESTON HILL AND CASTLE.

handful of men scaled the walls and captured the stronghold, the commander, Captain Steel, being subsequently shot by his party on account of his supposed treachery. The castle remained in the hands of the Royalists, unattacked, until October 20 of the following year, 1644, on which date it was besieged and remained invested until March 17, 1645, when it was relieved by Prince Rupert.

In the course of the following month it was, however, again besieged, and, after a brilliant defence, was surrendered by the commander, Captain Valet, to Sir William Brerton, but the garrison who numbered fifty-six, were allowed to march out with all the honours of war, and retired to Denbigh, a place at that time held on behalf of the King. Upon the surrender it was discovered by the victors that no food remained in the stronghold, with the exception of a meat pasty and some live pea-fowl.

There is no documentary evidence extant to assist us in assigning the following coins to Beeston, but I think it will be agreed that there is a marked resemblance between the pictures of the castle gateway and the view which occurs upon the coins, more especially perhaps, in the case of Fig. 13. The coins issued from Beeston Castle are struck upon irregular segments of silver, evidently cut from trenchers, dishes,

etc. They are unifacial and bear impressed upon them a somewhat crude representation of the castle gateway, within a beaded indent ;



FIG. 8.—THE GATEWAY OF BEESTON CASTLE.<sup>1</sup>

whilst the value, which is expressed in Roman numerals, is punched in separately beneath.

Owing to the coins having been struck upon rough sections of plate, and therefore being of varying weights and intrinsic values, pieces of very numerous denominations occur, as will be seen in the subjoined list of coins.

The following pieces are found, viz. :—

<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2 0	1 3	1 0	7
1 6	1 2	1 1	6
1 4	1 1	1 0	

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Mr. Larkin, F.R.C.S., for Figs. 7 and 8.



FIG. 9.—TWO-SHILLING PIECE.

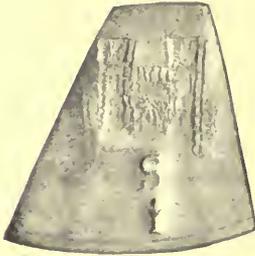
FIG. 10.—ONE SHILLING  
AND FOURPENCE.FIG. 11.—ONE SHILLING  
AND A PENNY.

FIG. 12.—SHILLING.



FIG. 13.—TENPENCE.



FIG. 14.—SEVENPENCE.

## BEESTON SIEGE-PIECES.

No doubt other denominations would be struck, but if such was the case, they have not survived to our time.

The values of these coins vary in proportion to the weights: for example, the two-shilling piece weighs 208 grains, and the seven-penny piece 53·5 grains.

## UNCERTAIN TWO-SHILLING PIECE.

The example of a siege-piece of the value of two shillings, having upon it the representation of a castle gateway with two tall flanking towers, is of much interest, since the coin is formed from the bowl of a spoon. In addition to the value II (punched in separately) this piece bears the leopard's head, the hall-mark of the period, impressed at a point opposite the juncture of the stem with the bowl, when in its

original state. It evidently was part of a seal-head or Apostle spoon, which spoons are always hall-marked thus, with the leopard's head

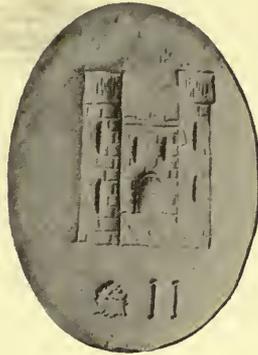


FIG. 15.—UNCERTAIN TWO-SHILLING PIECE BEARING A HALL-MARK.

within the bowl. This coin, which weighs 155·5 grains, was successively in the Webb and Murdoch cabinets. In regard to its attribution, I cannot agree that this piece emanated from Beeston Castle, since the resemblance between it and the pieces usually attributed to that place is not sufficiently close to justify the supposition.

#### SCARBOROUGH CASTLE.

Scarborough Castle, which was held by Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, surrendered, July 22, 1645, to Sir Mathew Bointon, after having withstood all the rigours of a twelve months' siege.

As at Beeston, pieces of most unusual denominations were issued from this stronghold, being struck upon irregular pieces of silver, which obviously were obtained by cutting up trenchers, dishes and other articles of domestic plate. This fact is clearly proved to have been the case by some few examples which have come down to us, upon which the raised and reeded rim of the original article still survives. Figs. 16 and 20 are good examples of this evidence.

The siege-coins struck at Scarborough have impressed upon them a rough representation of Scarborough Castle, showing the main entrance and five towers, whilst beneath is the value punched in separately.



FIG. 16.—SCARBOROUGH CROWN.

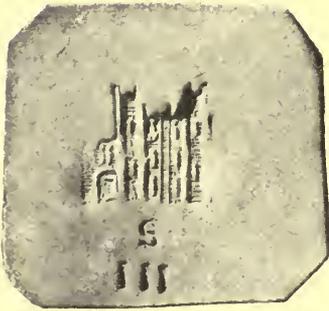


FIG. 17.—SCARBOROUGH THREE-SHILLING PIECE.



FIG. 18.—SCARBOROUGH TWO-SHILLINGS-AND-TENPENCE.

The reverse of these coins is blank, save for the few specimens which bear engraved upon them the words *Scarborough* which engraving, however, may possibly not be contemporary with the siege, but may have been added subsequently, as a memorial, about the date of the Restoration.

There appear to have been two dies in use for the striking of these coins; one gives us a somewhat sketchy picture of the castle with two of the towers much raised, Figs. 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 and 25, whereas the other portrays it with a greater wealth of detail

**OBS***Scarborough*  
**1645**

and in addition has S.C. beneath, in faintly raised capitals (Figs. 16 and 21).

It may be easily gathered that, owing to the lack of the necessary tools for sinking the dies and of the necessary engines for striking the pieces, these coins are of the rudest execution, and since the values are dependent upon the weight of the piece of metal upon which the design happened to be struck, specimens of the most varied denominations occur.



FIG. 19.—TWO-SHILLINGS-AND-SIXPENCE.



FIG. 20.—TWO-SHILLINGS-AND-FOURPENCE.



FIG. 21.—TWO-SHILLING PIECE.



FIG. 22.—ONE-SHILLING-AND-SIXPENCE.  
SCARBOROUGH SIEGE-PIECES.

In all, coins of thirteen different values are known, though doubtless other sizes must have been issued. The weights and values are as follows:—

<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>grs.</i>									
5	0	292	2	10	206	2	0	170	1	3	102
3	4		2	6	188	1	9	134	1	0	108
3	0		2	4			1	6		6	48
					4d.			40 grs.			



FIG. 23.—ONE SHILLING.



FIG. 24.—ONE SHILLING.



FIG. 25.—FOURPENCE.

## SCARBOROUGH SIEGE-PIECES.

To the same town may be attributed the following piece which was exhibited to the British Numismatic Society by Mr. Baldwin in January, 1905.—A Tower shilling of Charles I., mint-mark, plume, countermarked upon the reverse with a large S in ornamental script.



FIG. 26.—COUNTERMARKED SHILLING ATTRIBUTED TO SCARBOROUGH.

## NEWARK.

Newark-on-Trent, after having withstood several successive sieges, was upon May 6, 1646, surrendered by the command of Charles I. to the Scottish army, at that time besieging the town, and two days afterwards it was transferred to the Commissioners of the English Parliament.

Coins were issued here dated 1645 and 1646; of the former year we have pieces of the values of half-a-crown, shilling and ninepence, whilst of the latter year we have, in addition to these denominations, the sixpence. The general design of the coins is the same, the obverse having within a beaded border a crown between the letters **C R** and the value expressed beneath in Roman numerals; whilst

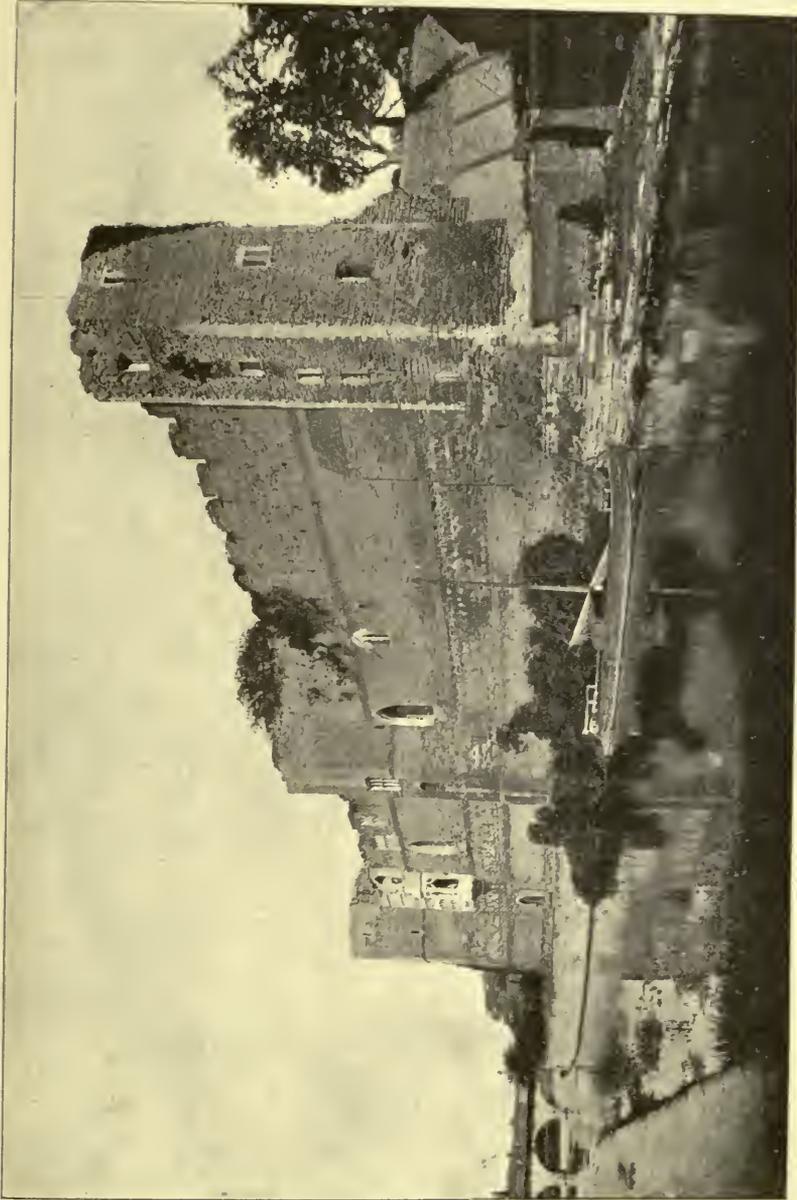


FIG. 27.—NEWARK CASTLE FROM THE TRENT.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This illustration is kindly lent by Mr. Cornelius Brown, author of the *History of Newark*.

upon the reverse is the legend in three lines **OBS NEWARK** or **NEWARKE**, with the date beneath, in Arabic figures.

All the coins issued from Newark are struck upon lozenge-shaped flans, which were apparently cut direct from the dishes, trenchers and other varieties of silver plate in the town, or which could be obtained from Royalist adherents in the neighbouring country districts.

We will now consider these coins in detail, in order, if possible, to determine their probable chronological sequence.



FIG. 28.—NEWARK SHILLING.

The first piece to appear would be the shilling, which bears upon the obverse a most curiously shaped crown, the jewelled band of which is straight across the front, whilst the reverse reads **OBS NEWARKE 1645**

The obverse of this coin is struck from two separate dies, viz. :

- (a) Nine dots in the left arch of the crown ; nine dots in the right arch ; C R and XII, in thin letters. Weight 94 grains. Fig. 28.
- (b) Nine dots in the left arch ; eight dots in the right arch ; C R and XII, in thick letters. Weight, 93 grains.

The occurrence of two distinct obverse dies for this coin, in my opinion, disproves the theory which has been advanced, that these pieces are forgeries ; more especially is this evident since we find that there are shillings and ninepences, which are admittedly genuine, combined with the selfsame reverse die.

The second coin to appear would doubtless be the shilling with

the same reverse reading, **NEWARKE**, but with a new obverse, the crown on which has a high arch and a richly jewelled band. It weighs 87 grains.

No doubt about the same time the ninepences reading **NEWARKE** would be issued, which pieces occur struck from two different obverse dies, viz. :

- (a) Eleven dots in the left arch ; eleven dots in the right arch of the crown, which has a richly jewelled band. Weight, 69 grains.
- (b) Eleven dots in the left arch ; nine dots in the right arch of the crown, which has a simple jewelled band. Weight, 68 grains.

Following this would be issued the shilling which reads **OBS :**  
**NEWARK**  
**1645**

which reading now appears for the first time.

The crown upon the obverse has ten dots in the left arch and eight dots in the right arch of the crown, the jewelled band of which is of a very simple character. This piece weighs 92 grains

Upon one of the shillings of this date the R upon the obverse is retrograde ; it therefore reads **С Я**.

Subsequently the ninepence (a) which reads **OBS :**  
**NEWARK**  
**1645** would appear.

The obverse die of this coin is identical with that of the ninepence (b) previously described, and has upon the crown eleven and nine dots in the left and right arches respectively. It weighs 64 grains.

United with the same obverse die we find another reverse in use. It is the same as that of the half-crown of this year, which is proved by the occurrence of a small dot beneath the 4 of the date, 1645. This ninepence (d) weighs 63 grains.

The last denomination to be struck in 1645 was the half-crown, the obverse of which shows us a crown with a crenellated arrangement of jewels on the band, whilst the reverse is from the same die as the **NEWARK** ninepence (d) of the same date. This coin, which weighs

221 grains, is of comparative rarity, and this would point to the fact of its having been struck very late in 1645, probably in March, *O.S.*



FIG. 29.—NEWARK HALF-CROWN.

With regard to the coins struck in 1646, it is evident that the three higher values would be issued simultaneously, and no doubt towards the end of the siege, probably in April, the sixpence would appear, which would account for its greater rarity. In considering the date of these coins it is necessary to remember that the year then began on March 25.

The issues of 1646 are as follows, the denominations being marked as before:—

Half-crown. *Obverse*.—From the same die as the half-crown of 1645.

*Reverse*.—From the same die as the shilling (*b*) and ninepences of 1646, as is proved by the occurrence of a flaw in the 6 of the date. Weight, 234 grains. Compare Fig. 30.

Shillings. (*a*) *Obverse*.—A crown with a simply jewelled band, having ten dots in the left arch and eight dots in the right arch.

**OBS :**

*Reverse*.—**NEWARK** in somewhat thin letters. Weight, 86 grains.  
**1646**



FIG. 30.—NEWARK SHILLING, 1646.

(b) *Obverse*.—A crown with a richly jewelled band, having ten dots in the left arch and ten dots in the right arch.

**OBS :**

*Reverse*.—**NEWARK** in thick letters, from the same die as the half-crown.

**1646**

Weight, 90 grains. Fig. 30.

Ninepence. (a) *Obverse*.—From the same die as the ninepence (c) of 1645, having eleven dots in the left and nine dots in the right arches respectively.

*Reverse*.—From the same die as the shilling (b) and the half-crown of 1646

Weight, 67 grains.

(b) *Obverse*.—A crown having the band elaborately jewelled, ten dots in the left arch and ten dots in the right arch.

*Reverse*.—From the same die as the shilling (b) and the half-crown of 1646.

Weight, 68 grains.



FIG. 31.—NEWARK SIXPENCE.

Sixpence. *Obverse*.—An elaborate crown between the letters **C R**.

**OBS :**

*Reverse*.—**NEWARK** Weight, 46 grains.

**1646**

Not a few examples of the shilling, ninepence, and sixpence of 1646 are found gilt, and these were doubtless struck upon flans cut



FIG. 32.—NEWARK NINEPENNY BEARING THE ROYAL ARMS ON THE FLAN

from a service of gilt plate, such as the "one gilt boule," mentioned in the list of Corporation plate presently quoted.

Some specimens of the shilling and ninepence of 1646 exist which have the Royal arms upon the reverse of the flan, and it appears to me that the coins so marked formed part of some Regal service of plate, which was thus sacrificed to pay the expenses of the siege. It will be seen that Fig. 32 also shows the original border of the piece from which it was cut.

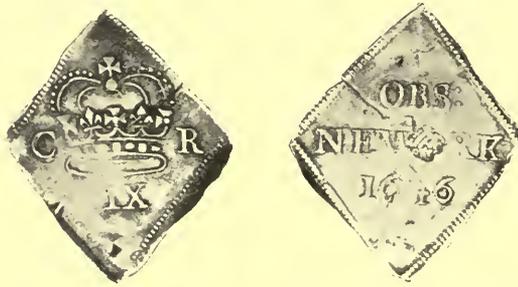


FIG. 33.—NEWARK NINEPENNY BEARING A HALL-MARK.

Two other coins struck at Newark deserve special recognition. Of these the first is a ninepence, in the collection of coins the property of the Corporation of Liverpool, upon which, beneath the **A** of **NEWARK**, appears a leopard's head, the hall-mark of the period. The second piece is a shilling, in the possession of Dr. Appleby of Newark, which coin bears upon the reverse a capital **M**, within a dotted indent, which appears to be a silversmith's private stamp, and indicates the source whence the piece of plate originally came.

There was in the Montagu Collection a specimen of a shilling bearing only an impression of the obverse die, the reverse being blank ; the coin is therefore undated.

It would appear that the Corporation of Newark, unlike that of Carlisle, did not contribute its plate for conversion into coin, or at least, all of it, as the subjoined extract from a letter from the author of the *History of Newark* to Dr. Appleby will show :—

The articles of surrender of Newark are dated May 6, 1646. A meeting of the Corporation was held May 15, 1646, for the election of an

Alderman in place of Mr. Richards, deceased, "and the better regulating of the towne in the time of visitation" (of the plague which prevailed at that time).

Immediately after the minutes of this meeting, but in a different hand and without date is the entry :—

"Plate deliuered to Mr Edward Standishe, Alderman, by consent to be sold for the townes use, and to supplie their p'sent want of money at the surrender of the towne.

Imprimis thirteene A'pple [Apostle] spoones  
 Itm twoe high Beere Bowles  
 Itm twoe wine bowles  
 Itm one guilt wine boule  
 Itm five Trencher salts  
 Itm one great stooped salt  
 The whole p'cell weighing [ ]"

The weight unfortunately is left blank.

UNCERTAIN SHILLING.



FIG. 34.—UNCERTAIN SHILLING.

The die from which the following piece of siege-money, of the value of one shilling, was struck, very closely resembles that of the Tower shillings of Charles I., but whence the coin was issued we have no means of determining. It is struck upon a lozenge-shaped flan, resembling in form those of the Newark pieces, and weighs 61 grains. It may be described as follows :—

*Obverse.*—Crowned bust of King to left, wearing a lace collar, XII behind the head.

*Reverse.*—The royal arms quarterly, upon a cross fourchée, within a dotted circle.

It may be that this piece was struck from the dies of a Tower shilling, from which the legends had been deleted.

## LATHOM HOUSE.



FIG. 35.—LATHOM SHILLING.

The following siege coin, which is preserved at the British Museum, and weighs 125·9 grains, may possibly have been struck at Lathom House in Lancashire, whilst that position was defended by Charlotte de la Tremouille, Countess of Derby, against Generals Fairfax and Egerton, from 1643 to 1644. This piece, which is struck upon a piece of trencher plate and is uniface, may be thus described.

Shilling. *Obverse*.—**C R** within a dotted circular indent, counter stamped **II**  
**X** within an oblong compartment, which doubtless indicates the value.

*Reverse*.—Blank. Fig. 35.

## COLCHESTER.

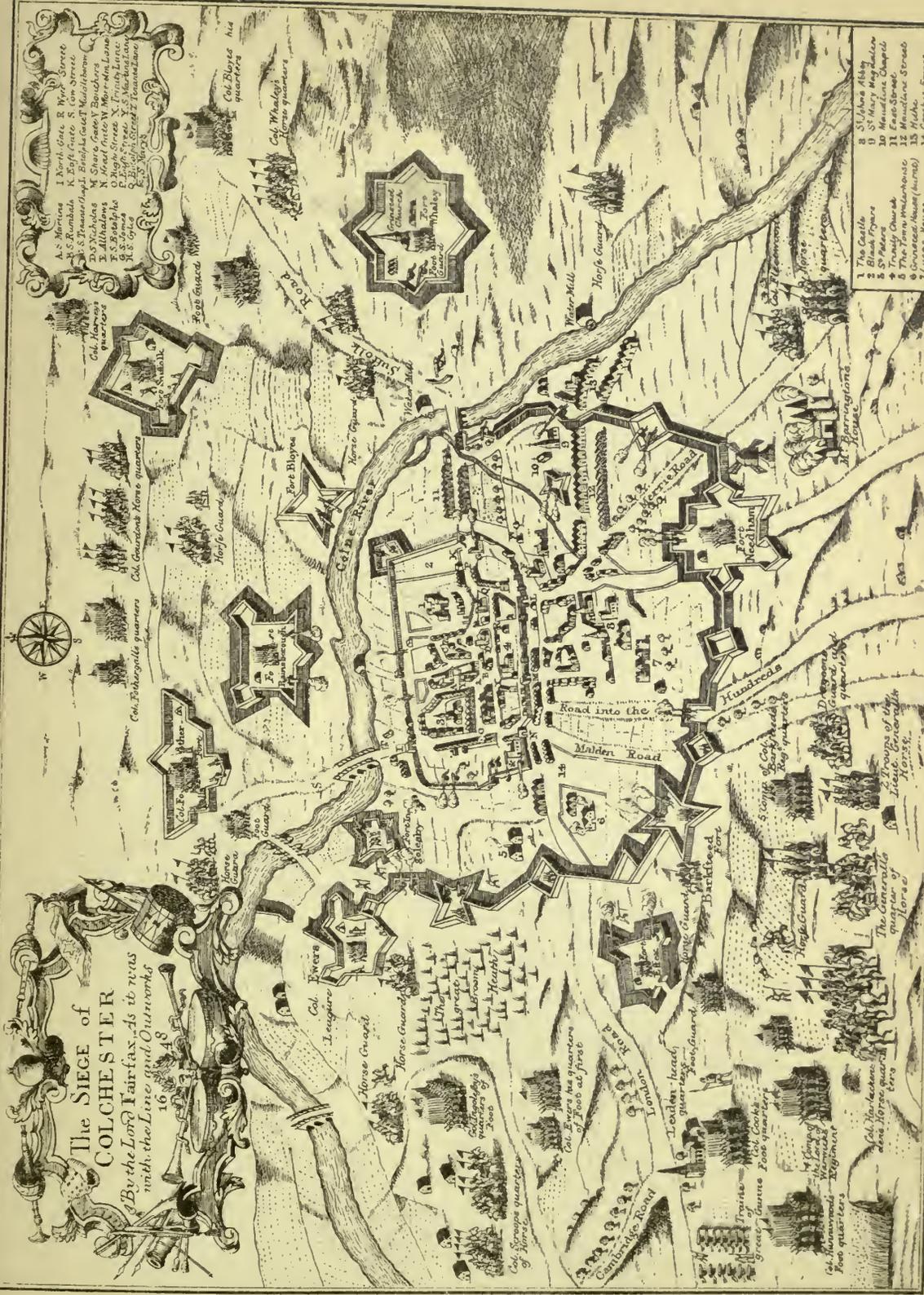
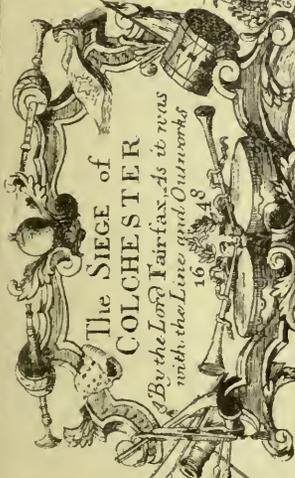
Colchester, the headquarters of the Royalists in the eastern counties during the rising of 1648, was besieged by Fairfax from June 13 to August 17, and throughout this time was defended by Lords Capel and Norwich, associated with Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle, all of whom, with the exception of Norwich, were subsequently executed.



FIG. 37.—COLCHESTER GOLD HALF-UNITE.

# The SIEGE of COLCHESTER

By the Lord Fairfax As to was  
with the Line and Outworks  
1648



- 1 The Castle
- 2 St. Andrew's Church
- 3 St. Peter's Church
- 4 Trinity Church
- 5 The Town Hall
- 6 The Town House
- 7 The Town House (N.W. side)
- 8 The Town House (S.W. side)
- 9 The Town House (E. side)
- 10 The Town House (W. side)
- 11 The Town House (N.E. side)
- 12 The Town House (S.E. side)
- 13 The Town House (W. side)
- 14 The Town House (E. side)
- 15 The Town House (N. side)
- 16 The Town House (S. side)



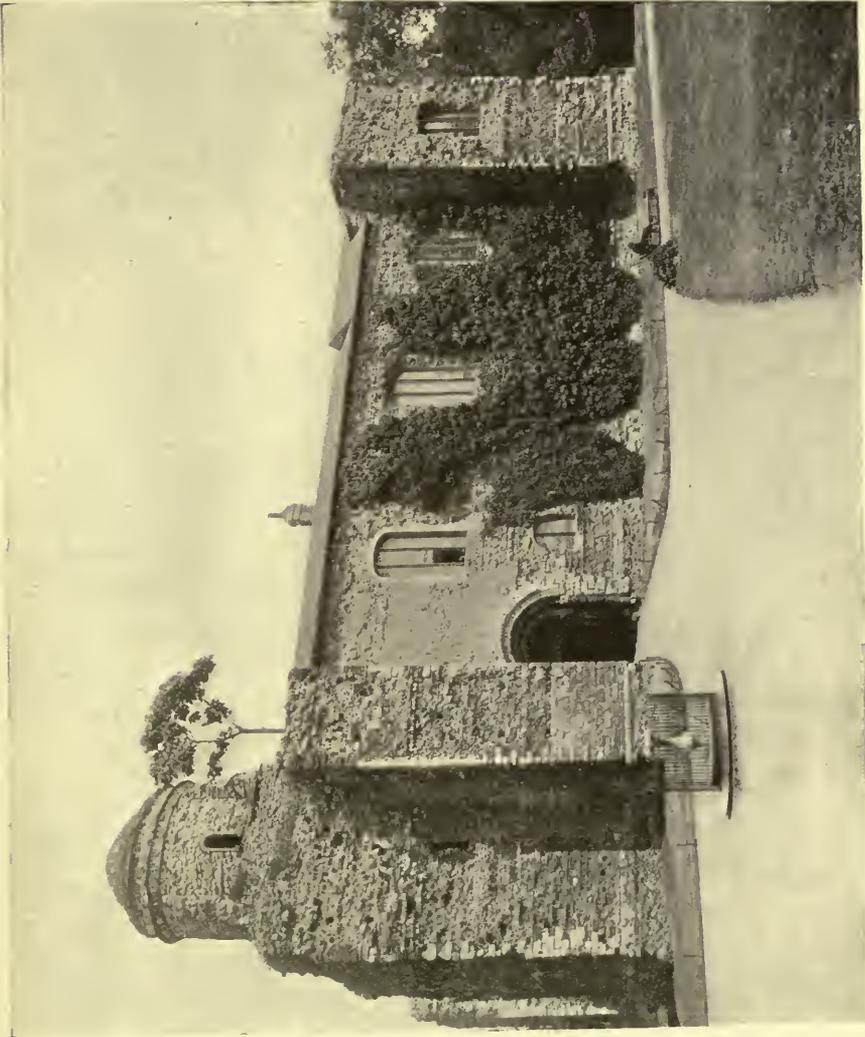
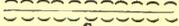


FIG. 38.—COLCHESTER CASTLE.

Coins were struck at this town in two metals, viz., gold and silver, and there exist the half-unite in the former and the shilling and ninepence in the latter metal. They are as follows:—

Half-unite. *Obverse.*—An embossed representation of the gateway of

Colchester between the crowned letters **C R**; beneath, **OBS • COL •**  
  
**16<sup>s</sup>48**

*Reverse.*—Incuse, the impression of the obverse die. Weight, 65·9 grains.

Fig. 37.

The shilling and ninepence, which occur struck upon circular and octagonal flans, are both from the same die and can only be differentiated by their weights, since the former weighs 94 grains and the latter only 66.

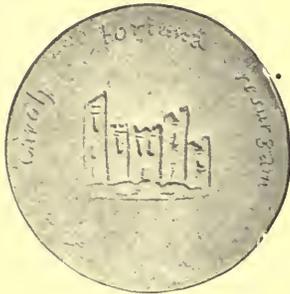


FIG. 39.—COLCHESTER SHILLING, ROUND. FIG. 40.—COLCHESTER SHILLING, OCTAGONAL.

These coins, which are uniface, have stamped upon them a representation of Colchester Castle, with five towers, and around are



FIG. 41.—MODERN IMPRESSION FROM DIE OF COLCHESTER SHILLING.

the words, *Carolj : Fortuna : resurgam.*, in script characters. The reverse shows incuse traces of the obverse impression. The original die for the above silver pieces, which measured about  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches square, was discovered about 1780, and for a time was in the possession of Dr. Gifford, when restrikes were made in silver, which can only be distinguished from the contemporary pieces, by the fact that the reverses are quite plain (Fig. 41). It has been said that the die was subsequently deposited in the Bristol Public Library, but nothing is now known as to its whereabouts. The contemporary plan, here reproduced, very clearly explains the dispositions of the investing forces (Fig. 36).

#### PONTEFRACT CASTLE.

Pontefract, at this period also known as Pomfret, Castle was seized on June 2, 1648, on behalf of the king, by a colonel in the forces of Sir Marmaduke Langdale, one John Morris or Maurice, who, with the aid of a few soldiers disguised as peasants, overcame the small garrison of this most important station, the key to the North.

The castle was invested by Cromwell in the following autumn, who, however, left General Lambert to conduct the regular investment, the plan of which will be seen from the accompanying diagram, executed at the time of the siege. Pontefract successfully resisted all attacks and only yielded March 22, 1649, *i.e.*, nearly two months after the execution of Charles I. Following the surrender, several officers, who had been excepted from "The Act of Grace," were executed, including the commander, Colonel John Morris, who might have escaped from prison, but loyally remained to succour a fallen comrade.

An item of interest relating to this siege, the third and last sustained by Pontefract during the course of the Civil War, is that according to some authorities it was here that Cromwell's veterans were first known as "Ironsides," a name, perhaps, by which they are best remembered at the present time. The siege-coins struck at Pomfret may be grouped into two main divisions; the one issued during the reign of Charles I.; the other subsequently to his execution,

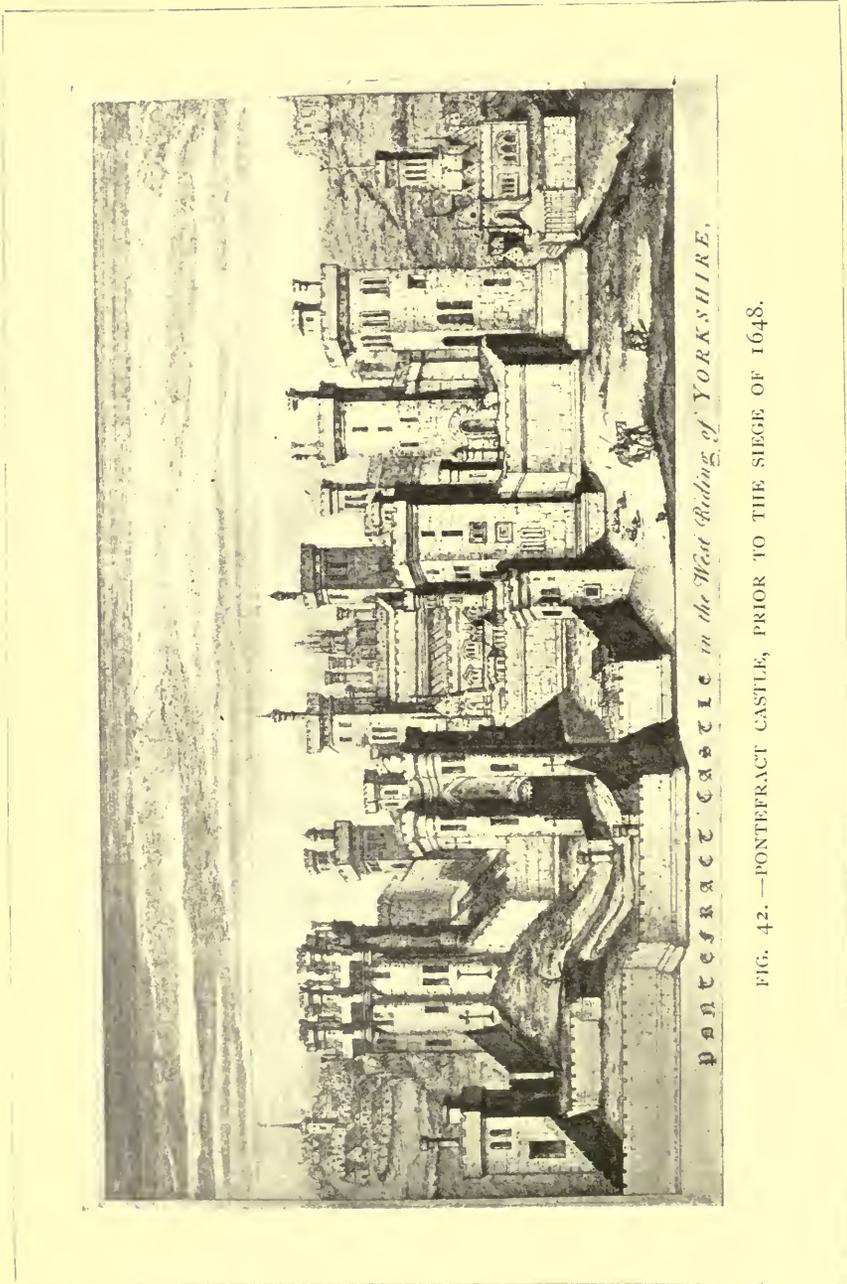


FIG. 42. — PONTEFRAC T CASTLE, PRIOR TO THE SIEGE OF 1648.

and in the name of his successor, for the garrison immediately acknowledged his son as King Charles II.

Of the coins of Charles I. there occur two values, viz., the two-shilling piece and the shilling. Of the latter denomination there exist two distinct varieties. These coins may be described as follows:—



FIG. 43.—PONTEFRACT TWO-SHILLING PIECE.

Two-shillings. *Obverse*.—**C • R** beneath a large crown; around are the words **DVM : SPIRO : SPERO**.

*Reverse*.—The gateway of the castle, with a flag flying from a central tower, **P C** above, **OBS** vertical to left, whilst a hand holding a sword protrudes from the right hand tower. Beneath is the date 1648.

This coin, which weighs 148·7 grains, is struck upon a lozenge-shaped flan (Fig. 43).



FIG. 44.—PONTEFRACT SHILLING.

Shilling I. *Obverse*.—As on the two-shilling piece.

*Reverse*.—As on the two-shilling piece.

This piece, which weighs 85 grains, occurs struck upon lozenge-shaped, circular and octagonal flans (Fig. 44). For the striking of the coin two obverse dies were in use, one having **C R** in large, and the other in small letters.

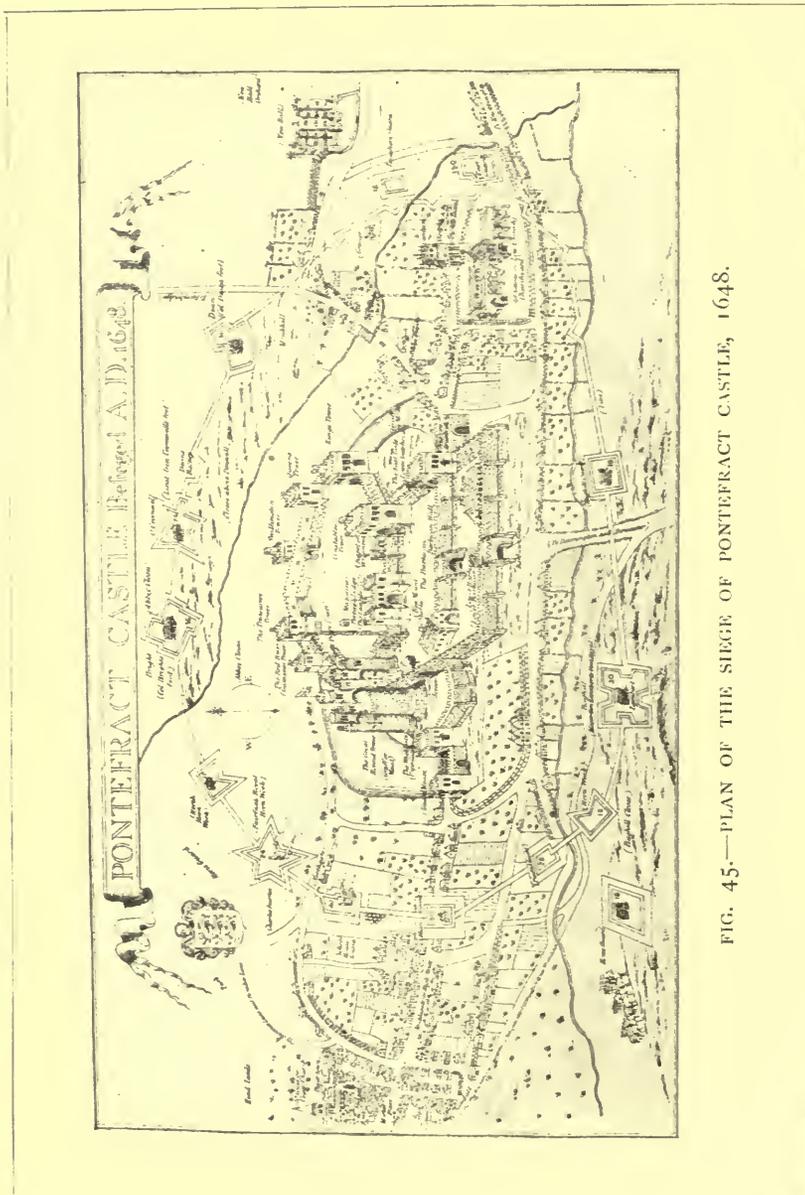


FIG. 45.—PLAN OF THE SIEGE OF PONTEFRACT CASTLE, 1648.

During excavations carried out at Pontefract Castle in 1882, a trial piece of the above shilling was discovered in the castle kitchen. This piece, which is somewhat corroded and indistinct, is preserved in the castle museum. It is struck in lead and has upon both sides an impression of the reverse die.



FIG. 46.—PONTEFRACT SHILLING.

Shilling II. *Obverse*.—**C · R** beneath a crown with jewelled band ; around is **DVM : SPIRO : SPERO**.

*Reverse*.—The castle gateway as before, but without the flag upon the central tower. **OBS** to the left. **XII** to the right, and the date 1648 beneath.

This coin, which weighs 80 grains, is struck upon both circular and lozenge-shaped flans (Fig. 46).

Of the coins struck on behalf of Charles II. two denominations are found, viz., the unite and the shilling, the former being struck in gold and the latter in silver. Of the shilling there occur four distinct varieties.



FIG. 47.—PONTEFRACT GOLD UNITE, STRUCK FOR CHARLES II., 1648.

Unite. *Obverse*.—Beneath a large crown with jewelled band, **C • R** ; around **DVM : SPIRO : SPERO.**

*Reverse*.—The castle gateway with a flag upon the central tower between **P C** ; **OBS** vertical, to the left of the castle, a cannon projecting from the right hand tower ; around are the words, **CAROLVS : SECVNDVS : I648.**

This unique coin is struck from circular dies, upon an octagonal flan (Fig. 47). It weighs only 138·5 grains, although the full weight of the unite at this period was 140·5 grains. The recent history of this coin is that it was presented by Bath King-of-arms, F. H. Barnewall, to Sir Thomas G. Cullum, Bart., and was for a number of years on exhibition in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge. His grandson, Mr. G. Milner-Gibson-Cullum, exhibited it at the Stuart Exhibition of 1885, after which it passed into the collection of the late Mr. Montagu. At the sale of his collection, it was purchased for the late Mr. Murdoch, from whose cabinet, at its dispersal, it came into the possession of Messrs. Spink.

Shilling I. *Obverse and Reverse*.—From the same dies as the unite.



FIG. 48.—PONTEFRACT SHILLING, STRUCK FOR CHARLES II., SECOND ISSUE, 1648.

**HANC : DE**

Shilling II. *Obverse*.—Beneath a crown with jewelled band, **VS : DEDIT**  
**1648**

Around, **CAROLVS : II : D : G : MAG : B : ET : H : REX.**

*Reverse*.—The castle gateway with flag on the central tower, on either side of which, **P C**, **OBS** to the left, a cannon projecting from the right hand tower, and around, **POST : MORTEM : PATRIS : PRO : FILIO** : The mint mark, which precedes the legend, is a pistol.

This coin, which is in the collection of Miss Helen Farquhar, is to the best of my knowledge unique, and weighs 79 grains (Fig. 48).



FIG. 49.—PONTEFRACT SHILLING, STRUCK FOR CHARLES II., THIRD ISSUE, 1648.

Shilling III. *Obverse*.—Beneath a crown with a jewelled band, **HANC : DE VS : DEDIT**  
1648

Around, **CAROL : II : D : G : MAG : B : F : ET : H : R :**  
*Reverse*.—The castle gateway, with flag upon the central tower, **P C**, on either side of the flag, **OBS** to the left, a cannon projecting from the right hand tower ; around, **POST : MORTEM : PATRIS : PRO : FILIO :** The mint mark, which precedes the legend, is a coronet.

This piece, which is unique, is struck upon an octagonal flan weighing 80 grains. It is in the collection of the city of Liverpool, previous to which it was in the cabinet of the Rev. Henry Christmas.



FIG. 50.—PONTEFRACT SHILLING OF CHARLES II., LAST ISSUE.

Shilling IV. *Obverse*.—Beneath a large crown with a furred band, **HANC : DE VS : DEDIT**  
1648  
**ET : H : REX.**

*Reverse*.—The castle gateway, with flag upon the central tower, **P C**, on either side of the flag, **OBS** to the left, a cannon protruding from the right hand tower ; around, **POST : MORTEM : PATRIS : PRO : FILIO.**

This piece, which weighs 83 grains, always occurs struck upon octagonal blanks (Fig. 50). A unique proof of this coin, preserved in the National Collection, exists in gold. As it weighs only 94 grains, it is impossible for it to have been intended to circulate as a unite, for it would have been 36.5 grains under the standard weight.

The subjoined lines, extracted from a contemporary journal, are of considerable interest, being as they are the only extant printed notice we have of English obsidional money.

The Kingdom's Faithful and Impartial Scout,  
*February 2-9, 1648-9.*

Monday, February 5th.

The intelligence from Pontefract is this, "The besieged have lately made two sallies forth, but repulsed without any great loss to us. In the last they killed but one man of ours, and we took two of theirs prisoners, one of which had a small parcel of silver in his pocket; somewhat square. On the one side thereof was stamped a castle with **P O** for Pontefract, and on the other side was the crown with **C R** on each side of it.

These pieces were made of plate, which they get out of the country, and pass among them for coyn.

With the description of the coins struck at Pontefract we arrive at the close of the series of siege coins issued in England during the Civil War, and I will now pass on to the consideration of the various obsidional coins and moneys of necessity current in Ireland about the same period, viz., 1641-1649.

### IRISH SIEGE-COINS.

In the month of October, 1641, the native Irish, under Phelim O'Neill, rose in open rebellion against the English, whom, on October 23, 1641, they massacred to the number of forty thousand, sparing neither age, rank, nor sex.

#### KILKENNY.

Banding themselves together, they proceeded to establish their seat of government at Kilkenny, under the title of "The Confederated

Catholics," and immediately arrogated to themselves many regal prerogatives, including the striking of money, proposing at the same time to establish an order of knighthood in honour of St. Patrick. The pieces so minted by the Confederated Catholics are of copper and silver; of the former metal there exist halfpence and farthings, whilst of the latter a half-crown alone would appear to have been issued at this period. The copper pieces were minted under the terms of the proclamation of "The Confederated Catholics," assembled at Kilkenny, November 15, 1642, which ordered, "that there shall be 4,000 lbs. of red copper coyned to farthings and halfpence with the harp and the crown on one side and two *Scepters* on the other."

It is obvious that the design of these pieces was obtained from the regal farthing tokens of this reign to which they are as superior in weight as they are inferior in execution. They are as follows:—

## HALFPENNY.

- No. I. *Obverse*.—**CAROLVS : D : G : MAG : BRI.** Within a circle two sceptres in saltire through a crown.  
*Reverse*.—**FRAN : ET : HIBER : REX.** Within a circle, a crowned harp between **C R.**

The mint mark which occurs upon both sides is a harp.



FIG. 51.—KILKENNY HALFPENNY.

- No. II. *Obverse*.—**CAROLVS : D : G : MAG : BRI.** Within a circle, two sceptres in saltire through a crown.  
*Reverse*.—**FRA : ET : HIB : REX.** Within a circle, a crowned harp. No mint marks. Fig. 51.

The weight of these halfpence varies considerably, 75 grains being about the average. Owing to the coarseness of design and roughness of their execution, it is only rarely that specimens are to be met with which show the complete design, though there were in the collection of the late Mr. R. A. Hoblyn three pieces, two octagonal and one circular, which displayed the entire impression.



FIG. 52.—KILKENNY HALFPENCE VARIOUSLY COUNTERMARKED

As a consequence of those imperfections forgeries became very frequent, and we now meet with examples variously countermarked in order to distinguish the genuine pieces from the contemporary forgeries. The following countermarks exist; five castles arranged like a cinquefoil; a shield bearing a castle over the letter K, and lastly a capital K within a shield-shaped indent (Fig. 52).



FIG. 53.—KILKENNY FARTHING.

#### FARTHING.

*Obverse.*—**CARO : D : G : MAG : BRI.** Two sceptres in saltire through a crown.

*Reverse.*—**FRA : ET : HIB : REX.** A crowned harp between **C R.** No mint mark. Weight, 34 grains. Fig. 53.

These farthings, as was the case with the halfpence, are very badly struck, and it is very infrequently that we meet with specimens bearing the entire design.



FIG. 54.—COPPER COIN COUNTERMARKED KILKENNY.

In addition to the copper currency struck at this town we also find not a few pieces of copper, countermarked KILKENNY in order to render them current at this place (Fig. 54).

By the excellent researches of Dr. Aquilla Smith we are now satisfactorily enabled also to assign to Kilkenny those silver pieces which from their rudeness of execution are known as “Blacksmith’s Halfcrowns.” They were struck at Kilkenny to the amount of £4,000 under the following ordinance of “The Confederated Catholics.” November 15, 1642, “the plate of this kingdom be coined with the ordinarie stamp used in the moneyes now currant.”

Hence it would appear that the coin so issued is the piece described below.



FIG. 55.—BLACKSMITH’S HALFCROWN.

HALFCROWN.

*Obverse.*—**CAROLVS • D • G • MA • BR • FRA • ET • HI • REX •**

Rude equestrian figure of the King, to the left, with a sword over his right shoulder. Upon the housings of the wooden-like horse is a broad cross and upon its head is a plume. Mint mark, cross.

*Reverse.*—**CHRISTO • AVSPICE • REGNO •** The Royal Arms upon a garnished shield between **C R**. Mint mark, a harp. Weight,

222·6 grains. Fig. 55.

Many varieties exist which differ in respect to the obverse reading, of which the following occur :—

**CAROLVS • D • G • MAG • BRI • FRA • ET • HIB • REX •**  
**CAROLVS • D • G • MAG • BRI • FRA • ET • HIB • RE •**  
**CAROLVS • D • G • MAG • BRI • FR • ET • HIB • REX •**  
**CAROLVS • D • G • MAG • BR • FR • ET • HI • REX •**  
**CAROLVS • D • G • MA • BR • FR • ET • HI • REX •**

For the reverse three distinct dies were employed which vary the letters **CR**, as follows : **CR**, **CR**, **CR**. The design for these ill-executed coins was evidently obtained from the Tower Halfcrown of Charles I.

There is in the collection of Mr. C. A. Watters an Ormond sixpence, countermarked upon the reverse with a **k** within a shield-shaped indent, and this piece was doubtless so stamped in order to render it current at Kilkenny during the war 1641–1643.

#### *Ordinance.*

October 27th, 1642. It is this day ordered by the assembly, that there shall be a seal in this kingdom, for sealing and attesting such matters as shall be ordered, etc.

October 29th, 1642. It is this day ordered, that every person or persons whatsoever, talking or discoursing in writing or otherwise of the enemies, shall not call them by the name or names of English or Protestants, but shall call them by the name of Puritanical or Malignant party.

November 1st, 1642. It is this day ordered, by this great assembly that the (undernamed) committee shall consider of and lay down a model of civil government within this kingdom, etc.

November 15th, 1642. It is this day ordered, that all the generals, etc., shall lay down a model for the martial government to be established in this kingdom, etc.

Ordered, that the plate of this kingdom be coined with the ordinarie stamp used in the moneyes now currant.

Ordered. The supreme council shall nominate and appoint one or more agents to be employed to his majesty, hereby to inform his majesty's highness of the motives and causes of raising this holy war, and other the grievances of this kingdom at this present.

It is this day ordered by this assembly, that coin and plate shall be raised and established in this kingdom, according to the rates and

values hereafter mentioned, and that there shall be forthwith coined the sume of four thousand pound, to pass currant in and through this kingdom, according to a proclamation, or act published, by direction of this assembly in the city of Kilkenny, and not otherwise, etc.

November 19th, 1642. The supreme council to take care, that the king's revenue be daily gathered up, for the making of a common stock for the use of the Kingdom.

November 21st, 1642. It is ordered, That the right honourable the earl of Castlehaven, and such others as his lordship shall call to his assistance, shall present unto the supreme council of this kingdom an institution and order of knighthood, concerning the honour of Saint Patrick, and the glory of this kingdom, which the supreme council may confirm and ratify so far as they see cause.

#### INCHQUIN MONEY.

On January 5, 1642-3, an Act empowered Lord Inchquin, Vice-President of Munster, to issue silver coins of various denominations, struck from plate, which the well affected were directed to bring to the mint at Dublin, and for which plate five shillings per ounce was offered. Payment of this, however, was to be deferred, but interest at the rate of eight per centum per annum was to be paid as an inducement to the people to bring in their riches.

The coins issued in accordance with the above-mentioned proclamation are now known as "Inchquin money," and may be grouped into three main classes according to their design.

The first issue consists of coins struck in gold and in silver, which pieces, upon both obverse and reverse, have the weight of the coins indicated in pennyweights and grains, within a circle.

#### GOLD.

Double pistole. *Obverse*.— $\frac{8}{14}$  dwt: within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 205 grains.

Of this piece only two specimens are known.



FIG. 56.—1-INCHQUIN PISTOLE IN GOLD.

Pistole I. *Obverse*.— $4 \text{ dw}^t$ :  
 $7 \text{ gr}$ : within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 103 grains. Fig. 56.

II. *Obverse*.— $4 \text{ dw}^t$ :  
 $6 \text{ gr}$ : within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.— $4 \text{ dw}^t$ :  
 $7 \text{ gr}$ : within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear. Weight, 102 grains.

## SILVER.

Crown I. *Obverse*.— $\text{dw}^t \text{ } \overset{\circ}{\circ} \text{ gr}$   
 $19 \dots 8$  within two circles, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 462 grains.



FIG. 57.—1-INCHQUIN CROWN.

II. *Obverse*.— $\text{dw}^t$   
 $19 \dots \dots 8$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 463 grains. Fig. 57.

III. *Obverse*.— $\text{dw}^t \text{ } \overset{\circ}{\circ} \text{ gr}$   
 $19 \dots 8$  within a double beaded circle.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 461 grains.





FIG. 60.—INCHQUIN HALF-CROWN.

II. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt.}}{9} : \frac{\text{gr.}}{16}$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 230 grains. Fig. 60.

Shilling I. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt.}}{3} : \frac{\text{gr.}}{21}$  within a triple circle, the outer beaded, the two inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 93 grains.

II. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt.}}{3} : \frac{\text{gr.}}{21}$  within triple beaded circles.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 92 grains.

An example of this coin having the reverse blank occurs in the National Collection.



FIG. 61.—INCHQUIN NINEPENNE.

Ninepence. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt.}}{2} : \frac{\text{gr.}}{20}$  within a triple circle, the outer beaded, the two inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 67 grains. Fig. 61.

Sixpence. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt.}}{1} : \frac{\text{gr.}}{22}$  within a double beaded circle.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 46 grains.



FIG. 62.—INCHQUIN GROAT.

Groat. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt} : \text{gr.}}{1 : 6}$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 29 grains. Fig. 62.

The second issue similarly bears upon the obverse the weight of the coin, but the value upon the reverse is expressed by the number of annulets present.

SILVER.

Ninepence. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt} : \text{gr.}}{2 : 20}$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear, nine annulets. Weight, 68 grains.



FIG. 63.—INCHQUIN SIXPENCE, SECOND ISSUE.

Sixpence. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt} : \text{gr.}}{1 : 22}$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear, six annulets. Weight, 46 grains. Fig. 63.

Groat. *Obverse*.— $\frac{\text{dwt} : \text{gr.}}{1 : 6}$  within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear, four annulets. Weight, 30 grains.

Threepence. *Obverse*.— $\frac{8^r}{22}$ ; within a beaded circle.

*Reverse*.—Within a double beaded circle, three annulets. Weight, 21 grains.

Of the threepenny piece only three examples are now known.

Upon the third and last coinage the value is expressed in Roman numerals both upon the obverse and reverse and the issue, which consists of crowns and half-crowns, is as follows :—



FIG. 64.—INCHQUIN CROWN, THIRD ISSUE.

Crown. *Obverse*.—**V.S** within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 463 grains. Fig. 64.



FIG. 65.—INCHQUIN CROWN, RETROGRADE, THIRD ISSUE.

Several varieties of this coin exist : for example, the die for the coin illustrated in Fig. 65 has been engraved in a retrograde manner.



FIG. 66.—INCHQUIN HALF-CROWN, THIRD ISSUE.

Half-crown. *Obverse*.—<sup>S • D</sup>II•VI within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse*.—Similar to the obverse. Weight, 230 grains. Fig. 66.

*Ordinance.*

Whereas we the lords-justices, and councill, for the reasons expressed in an act, or order of this board, dated the fifth day of this moneth, declared, that we find it of absolute necessity for the reliefe of the officers of army, that (in this case of extremity wherein we now stand, and in the said act or order of this board is more fully expressed) all manner of persons of what condition or qualitie soever dwelling in the city or suburbs of Dublin, as well within the liberties as without, within ten daies next after publication of the said order, doe deliver or cause to be delivered half or more of his, her or their plate to William Bladen, of Dublin, alderman, and John Pue, one of the sheriffes of the same city, taking their hand for receipt thereof, to the end use may be made thereof for the present reliefe of the said officers. And this board by the said order did give the word and assurance of his majestie and this state, that as soone as the treasure shall arrive forth of England, due satisfaction shall be made after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as it true tuch, and the true value of such as it not of such tuch to the owner thereof, together with consideration for forbearance for the same, after the rate of eight pound per cent. per Annum; or otherwise, that the parliament in England according to their severall manifests in England in that behalf, shall and will see the same accordingly paid, and for as much as we conceive that there are divers of his majesties good subjects in the county of Dublin who have the like good affections for his majestie and his service, as the said inhabitants of the city and suburbs of Dublin have, and therefore we conceive they would be loath to be deprived or forclosed of the same meanes, and on the same security, for expressing those their good affections for his majestie and his service upon this occasion; we therefore, as well to doe them the favour to give them opportunity to express their readines and forwardnes in this particular, as for the furtherance and advancement of his majesties service therein, have thought fit hereby to declare and order, that they the said good subjects in the countie of Dublin, and every of them, that shall bring in halfe or more of his, her or their plate, for the necessarie service aforesaid shall be received and admitted so to doe, with the same favour and respect, and on the same securitie that those dwelling in the cittie and suburbs of Dublin are or



shall be, and with this enlargement of time and manner of doing it to both, that they may within ten dayes next after the date hereof, deliver or cause to be delivered to the said William Bladen, and John Pue, halfe or more of his, her, and their plate as aforesaid, taking their hands for receipt thereof, that the said William Bladen and John Pue doe meet every day (except the sabbath day) at the dwelling house of the said William Bladen, scituate in Castle-street, in Dublin, and there continue every forenoon from nine till eleven of the clock, and every afternoon from two till four of the clock, there to receive the said plate, and to give acknowledgements of the receipts thereof expressing the parties name from whom it comes, and the waight tuch, and value thereof, and it being intended that due satisfaction shall be made for the said plate to the owners thereof, after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as is true tuch, and the true value of such as is not of such tuch, together with consideration for forbearance of the same after the rate of eight pounds per cent. per annum we thinke fit that the said William Bladen, and John Pue doe call to their assistance Gilbert Tongues and Peter Vandenhoven, who with the said William Bladen and John Pue are to view the said plate, and the value thereof at the deliverie thereof as aforesaid, and to observe and try the tuch of every parcell of plate, so to be delivered as aforesaid, and by writing under their hands, and to be written under the acknowledgement to be given by the said William Bladen and John Pue for receipt thereof, to certiffie the tuch and value of every such parcell of Plate. And we do hereby give the word and assurance of his majestie and this state, that as soone as treasure shall arrive forth of England, due satisfaction shall be made to the respective owners of such plate, after the rate of five shillings the ounce, for such plate as shall be so certiffied as aforesaid, to be true tuch, and the true value according as the same shall be certiffied as aforesaid of such as is not of such tuch together with consideration for forbearance for the same as aforesaid ; or otherwise, that the parliament in England, according to their several manifests in England in that behalfe shall and will see the same accordingly paid. And we doubt not that all persons who are able, will now express such cheerfulness and forwardnesse herein, as may testifie the true sense they have of the present occasion, and the desires they have to advance the publike service, for the good and safety of this kingdome, and of their own persons and estates therein, which his majestie and this state will take in good part at their hands, and will retaine a memory thereof for their advantage. And we require the maior and sheriffes of the city of Dublin forthwith to cause this our order to be published and proclaimed in, and throughout the said cittie, and suburbs of Dublin,

that all persons concerned therein may take notice thereof. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin the 14th day of January, 1642.

## ORMOND MONEY.

Upon May 25, 1643, the King wrote from Oxford, where he then was, to the Lords Justices of Ireland, referring to the coining of silver money from plate. The contents of this letter subsequently appeared as a proclamation on July 8, 1643, namely:—

We the lords-justices and councell having received his majesties most gracious letters of the 25th of May, 1643, under his highness hand and signature, the tenor whereof is as hereafter followeth, viz.:

Charles R.

Right trusty and right well-beloved councellers, we greet you all; we taking into our princely consideration, that by reason of this most barbarous and bloody rebellion in Ireland, our good subjects there are reduced to that extreme penurie, that now (as their last helpe and refuge) they are inforced and desirous to have such little plate as they have left them, to be coined for their reliefe, into some small peeces of monie that might passe currant in exchange both there and in our kingdome of England, and that the quantity of plate or bullion there so to be melted down and coined, is of so small and inconsiderate value, that it is not worth the charges of erecting a mint there, according to our former intentions, which would likewise take up more time then their present and pressing necessities will permit, we are therefore graciously pleased for the releefe of our good subjects there, to require and authorize you, to issue forth one or more commission or commissions, under the great seale of that our realme, unto such persons or person as you shall thinke fit, thereby authorizing him or them to melt down such plate, coyne, bullion or silver, as shall be brought unto him or them, into small peeces, to the value of five shillings, halfe-crowns, twelve-pences, six-pences, or of any less value, which severall small peeces they shall make the same waight, value and allay, as our moneys now currant in England of those value respectively are, and shall stamp the same on the one side, with these letters (scilicet) C. R. for Carolus Rex, with a crown over those letters, and on the other side with the values of the said severall peeces respectively, and the same so made and stamped to redeliver to the bringers of the plate, coyne bellion or silver, so melted downe; and as further authorize you hereby to make all such peeces, as shall be so made, to be currant

by proclamation there, we intending to make the same currant in this our kingdome, and that you appoint such allowances unto the said person or persons, for their so coyning of the said peeces, as you shall thinke convenient, and that you take of them good and sufficient security for their true melting, making and deliverie of the said peeces in weight, value and allay, as good as our moneys of the like value now currant in England are, so that no fraud or abuse be done to our people herein; and for your so doeing, these our letters shall be your sufficient warrant. Given under our signet, and at our court of Oxford the twentiefifth day of May, 1643.

By his majesties command,  
Edward Nicholas.

And whereas by his majesties commission under the great seale of this kingdom, bearing date the seventh day of this month, in the nineteenth yeare of his majesties raigne, Sir John Veale, knight, Peter Vandenhoven and Gilbert Tongues, gold-smiths, are authorized to melt, or cause to be melted downe, such plate, coine, bullion or silver, as shall be brought unto them, into small peeces, according to his majesties said directions, and whereof an eight part is to be in Groats, Three-pences and Two-pences; and whereas the said Sir John Veale, Peter Vandenhoven and Gilbert Tongues, have entred into recognizance, of two thousand pounds sterling, for the true making of the said peeces of the same weighe, value and allay, as his majesties moneys, now currant in England, of those values respectively are, and for the redelivery of such peeces unto the bringers of plate, coyne, bullion, or silver, whereof the same shall be made, they first receiving for the coyning thereof, the summe of three shillings for every pound weight, every pound weight being three pound of sterling money, according to the weight of the tower of London, so to be melted down or coyned, and so after the same rate for a greater or lesser proportion, and no more. Now we the Lords Justices and councill, according to his majesties good pleasure, so to us signified as aforesaid, doe, by this proclamation in his majesties name, publish and declare, that all such peeces, as shall be by them the said Sir John Veale, Peter Vandenhoven, and Gilbert Tongues, melted or caused to be melted down, or coyned, according to his majesties said letters, and commission, doe and shall presently after the publishing of this proclamation, be currant money of and in this kingdom, and doe and shall passe as currant money in all exchanges and payments, as well of debts, as for any wares, merchandises or other commodities whatsoever. And we require the maior and sheriffs of the city of Dublin to cause

this proclamation to be forthwith published and proclaimed throughout this city and suburbs. Given at his majesties castle of Dublin, the eight of July, 1643.

The coins issued under the terms of the above proclamation are now known as Ormond money, the Viceroy at that period 1643, being James, Marquis of Ormond.

Pieces of seven denominations, viz., crowns, half-crowns, shillings, sixpences, groats, threepenny pieces and half-groats were struck, the last of which is of considerable rarity.

The general design of these coins, which weigh from 456 to 15 grains, according to their denomination, is as follows :—

*Obverse.*—**C • R** beneath a crown, within a double circle, the outer being beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse.*—Within a similar double circle, the value expressed in Roman numerals.



FIG. 67.—ORMOND CROWN WITH ORNAMENTED S.

Crown I. *Obverse.*—**C • R**.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S</sup>**V**, a spiral termination to the **S**. Fig. 67.

II. *Obverse.*—**C • R**.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S</sup>**V**, the **S** plain. Fig. 68.

III. *Obverse.*—**C ▲ R**.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S</sup>**V**, the **S** small.



FIG. 68.—ORMOND CROWN WITH PLAIN S.

IV. *Obverse.*—C ♦ R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S</sup>V, the S has curved ends. Weight, 456 grains.

Half-crown I. *Obverse.*—C • R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>II VI.



FIG. 69.—ORMOND HALF-CROWN.

II. *Obverse.*—C ▲ R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>II VI. Fig. 69.

III. *Obverse.*—C ▲ R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>II ★ VI, spiral ends to S.

IV. *Obverse.*—C ▲ R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>II VI, as III, but figures shorter.

V. *Obverse.*—C ▲ R.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>II VI, figures thinner. Weight, 227 grains. Fig. 70.



FIG. 70.—ORMOND HALF-CROWN, PLAIN TYPE.

Shilling I. *Obverse*.—C • R.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>XII. Fig. 71.



FIG. 71.—ORMOND SHILLING.

II. *Obverse*.—C • R, letters smaller.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>X•II, a pellet after X.

III. *Obverse*.—C • R, letters small.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>XII, large figures.



FIG. 72.—ORMOND SHILLING BEARING HALL-MARK.

There is in the cabinet of Mr. C. A. Watters an example of No. II, struck upon a flan, obviously cut direct from a piece of plate, since in addition to the design it bears on the flan the lion passant

together with the letter **b**, the date letter of Goldsmiths' Hall, London, for the year 1625. This coin is of considerable interest since it proves that all the plate was not melted down for the purpose of the coinage in the terms of the proclamation, but that in many cases the flans were cut direct from the plate.<sup>1</sup> Fig. 72.



FIG. 73.—ORMOND SIXPENCE DOUBLE STRUCK.

Sixpence I. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>**VI**. Fig. 73.

II. *Obverse*.—**C • R**, large letters.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>**VI**, figures large.



FIG. 74.—ORMOND SIXPENCE.

III. *Obverse*.—**C R**, large letters, no dot.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>**VI**, large figures. Weight, 46 grains.



FIG. 75.—ORMOND SIXPENCE BEARING HALL-MARK

<sup>1</sup> See also the Ormond sixpence, Fig. 75.

There is in the national collection a sixpence weighing 43 grains which bears upon the reverse the lion passant, a portion of an English hall-mark.<sup>1</sup> Fig. 75.

The Ormond sixpence in the collection of Mr. C. A. Watters which is countermarked upon the reverse with a **k** within a shield-shaped indent was, as already suggested, no doubt so stamped by the "Confederated Catholics" at Kilkenny in 1643, to render it current at that place.<sup>2</sup>

Groat I. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**IIII**, in thick letters.

II. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**IIII**, in thick letters.

III. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**IIII**, in thin letters.

IV. *Obverse*.—**C • R**, large letters.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**IIII**, **D** large. Weight, 30 grains.

Threepence I. *Obverse*.—**C • R •**

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**III**, small letters.

II. *Obverse*.—**C ▲ R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**III**, small letters.

III. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**III**, large.

IV. *Obverse*.—**C • R**.

*Reverse*.—<sup>**D**</sup>**III**, **III** large, **D** small. Weight, 22 grains.



FIG. 76.—ORMOND HALF-GROAT.

<sup>1</sup> Compare the Ormond shilling, Fig. 72.

<sup>2</sup> See page 332.

Half-groat I. *Obverse*.—C • R.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>I • I, large. Fig. 76.

II. *Obverse*.—C R.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>II, large.

III. *Obverse*.—C • R.

*Reverse*.—<sup>D</sup>II, II large, D small. Weight, 14 grains.

Not a few examples of the Ormond coinage are to be found in copper thickly plated with silver; these were no doubt contemporary forgeries.

In the collection of Mr. Lionel Fletcher are two silver flans, unstruck, weighing about 85 grains, which appear to have been prepared for the making of Ormond shillings.

#### REBEL MONEY.

During the year 1643, but previously to September 15, when peace was declared, the pieces known as "Rebel money" would probably be issued, and it is supposed that they were struck by the "Confederated Catholics" at Kilkenny. These coins were apparently designed in imitation of the pieces issued from Dublin by James, Marquis of Ormond, which, as regards the reverse at least, they somewhat resemble.<sup>1</sup>

The issue consisted of coins of two denominations, viz., crowns and half-crowns.



FIG. 77.—THE REBEL CROWN.

<sup>1</sup> *Vide* page 343.

Crown. *Obverse.*—A large cross potent within a double circle, the outer being beaded and the inner linear; mint mark, a star.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S</sup>V, the S having spiral ends within a similar double circle. Weight, 376 grains. Fig. 77.

On the coin illustrated the outer circle is omitted on both obverse and reverse.

A variety of the crown occurs with mint mark ¶ellet on the obverse.



FIG. 78.—THE REBEL HALF-CROWN.

Half-crown. *Obverse.*—A cross potent within a double circle, the outer being beaded and the inner linear; mint mark, a star.

*Reverse.*—<sup>S D</sup>IIVI, within a similar double circle. Weight, 188 grains. Fig. 78.

It will be remembered that the Blacksmith's half-crown issued by the "Confederated Catholics" at Kilkenny in 1642, bore upon the obverse a cross potent as a mint mark.<sup>1</sup>

During the years 1646–1647, the following towns, viz., Bandon, Kinsale, Youghal and Cork, were defended for the King by his adherents in Munster. Coins were issued at all these strongholds which may be thus described.

<sup>1</sup> *Vide* page 331.

## BANDON.



FIG. 79.—BANDON FARTHING.

Farthing. *Obverse*.—**B • B**, within a circle of lozenges.

*Reverse*.—Three castles, one and two, within a similar circle. Weight, 30 grains. Fig. 79.

This coin, which occurs struck upon an octagonal copper flan, is of very rude execution, and the letters **B B**, upon the obverse no doubt indicate Bandon Bridge, which was the original name of the town.

## KINSALE.

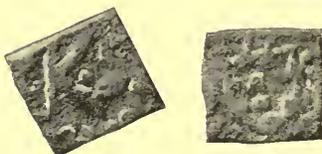


FIG. 80.—KINSALE FARTHING.

Farthing I. *Obverse*.—**K • S •** within a circle of pellets.

*Reverse*.—A chequered shield. Weight, 35 grains. Fig. 80.

II. *Obverse*.—**K • S •** within a dotted circle.

*Reverse*.—A shield bearing fourteen pellets. Weight, 50 grains.

The coins are both struck upon square copper flans and are of the rudest execution.

## YOUGHAL.

## FARTHINGS.



FIG. 81.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 1. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, beneath which is the date 1646, and above is a bird facing to the left; the whole within a double linear circle.  
Weight, 14 grains.

*Reverse*.—A galley, enclosed within a double linear circle. Fig. 81.



FIG. 82.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 2. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, above which is a bird within a double linear circle.  
Weight, 15 grains.

*Reverse*.—A galley enclosed by a double dotted circle. Fig. 82.



FIG. 83.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 3. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, beneath which is the date 1646. Weight, 54 grains.

*Reverse*.—A galley enclosed by double linear circles. Fig. 83.



FIG. 84.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 4. *Obverse*.—**Y T**, beneath which is the date 1646, and above is a bird facing to the right.

*Reverse*.—A galley enclosed by double linear circles. Weight, 27 grains.  
Fig. 84.



FIG. 85.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 5. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, beneath which is the date 1646, and above a branch  
Weight, 23 grains.

*Reverse*.—A galley surrounded by a double linear circle. Fig. 85.



FIG. 86.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 6. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, within a dotted circle. Weight, 9 grains.

*Reverse*.—A fish surrounded by a dotted circle. Fig. 86.

No. 7. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, within two circles of pellets. Weight, 20 grains.

*Reverse*.—A galley on shield enclosed by a circle of triangular dots.



FIG. 87.—YOUGHAL FARTHING.

No. 8. *Obverse*.—**Y • T**, in an elaborated circle enclosed by a circle of small triangles. Weight, 25 grains.

*Reverse*.—A shield bearing a galley, within a circle of triangles. Fig. 87.

With the exception of the last piece all the preceding coins are of rude execution, and, save Fig. 86, which is circular, are, as is also the last, struck upon rectangular brass flans.

#### TWOPENCE.

*Obverse*.—**II**  
**1645**

*Reverse*.—A galley enclosed within a double circle.

This coin is also struck upon a rectangular brass flan.

It will be noted that the arms of the city of Youghal are a punning allusion to the name of the town, viz., a yawl or galley.

#### THREEPENNE.

*Obverse*.—**D**  
**III**, within a circle of dots.

*Reverse*.—**CR**  
**1646**, enclosed by dotted circle.

This piece is struck in pewter.

## UNCERTAIN VALUE.



FIG. 88.—COPPER COIN ATTRIBUTED TO YOUGHAL.

*Obverse.*—**C • R** beneath a crown, within a circular indent.

*Reverse.*—Blank. Fig. 88.

The flan is formed from an indecipherable copper coin of Continental origin and is countermarked upon one side only. I have classed this coin with the Youghal pieces on account of its resemblance to the last piece described. The design of the countermark is very similar to the Ormond money issued in 1643.

## CORK.

In the course of the year 1647, the city of Cork was besieged and coins were struck at this place in the month of May during the stay of Lord Inchquin.

Pieces exist of four denominations, viz., shilling, sixpence, halfpenny and farthings, of which latter three varieties occur.

## SHILLING.



FIG. 89.—CORK SHILLING.

*Obverse.*—**CORK**  
**1647** within a double circle, the outer beaded and the inner linear.

*Reverse.*—Large **XII** within beaded circle. Weight, 68 grains. Fig. 89.

## SIXPENCE.



FIG. 90.—CORK SIXPENCE.

*Reverse.*—As on the shilling, but beaded circle only.

*Obverse.*—Large **VI** within a beaded circle. Weight, 34 grains. Fig. 90.

For this piece there were two reverse dies.

## FARTHINGS.



FIG. 91.—CORK FARTHING.

No. 1. *Obverse.*—**CORK** within a dotted circle.

*Reverse.*—A castle within a dotted circle.

This coin is struck on a square flan, and weighs 35 grains.  
Fig. 91.

No. 2. *Obverse.*—**CORK** within a beaded circle.

*Reverse.*—A ship issuing from between two towers.

This piece is struck upon a square flan, and weighs 41 grains.



FIG. 92.—CORK FARTHING.

No. 3. *Obverse.*—*Corke* (in italics) beneath the head of a lion, whilst below are two branches, all within a dotted circle.

*Reverse.*—Blank.

This coin, which occurs in brass, weighs 57 grains. Fig. 92.

## HALFPENNY.

*Obverse.*—**CORK**, within a dotted circle, enclosing a linear.

*Reverse.*—A castle.

This piece, which is in the Fletcher Collection, occurs struck upon a rectangular flan of copper, and weighs 84 grains.



FIG. 93.—FOREIGN COPPER COIN COUNTERMARKED CORKE.

We also find contemporary coins, both silver and copper, counter-stamped **CORK** or **CORKE**, and they were no doubt so overstruck for currency during the siege. Figs. 93 and 94.



FIG. 94.—SHILLING OF ELIZABETH COUNTERMARKED CORKE.

## DUBLIN.

AFTER THE DEATH OF CHARLES I.

Subsequently to the execution of Charles I., money of necessity was issued in Ireland though at what date and whence, no information now exists. Two pieces occur, namely, crown and half-crown, which are believed to have been struck at Dublin in 1649 by James, Marquis of Ormond, who proclaimed Charles II. as King in Ireland.



FIG. 95.—DUBLIN CROWN OF CHARLES II.

Crown. *Obverse*.—**CAR • II • D : G • MAG • BRIT**, m. m. lys surrounding an arched crown.

*Reverse*.—**FRA • ET • HYB • REX • F D** and enclosing  $\overset{\text{S}}{\text{V}}$  within a linear circle, m. m. lys. Weight, 329 grains. Fig. 95.



FIG. 96.—DUBLIN HALF-CROWN OF CHARLES II.

Half-crown. *Obverse and Reverse*.—As on the crown, but  $\overset{\text{S}}{\text{II}} \cdot \overset{\text{D}}{\text{VI}}$  for value. Weight, 164 grains. Fig. 96.

There are two dies for the reverse of the half-crown.

With the description of these Irish siege-coins we complete the record so far as our present knowledge extends, of the various coins issued during the great Civil War.

In conclusion I desire to thank all those who have rendered me so much assistance in preparing this work for publication, and in particular I would thank the following :—

The Proprietors of the *Connoisseur* for the use of Figs. 5, 9, 10, 13, 19, 22, 29, 33, 35, 38-40, 45, 48-50; Messrs. Spink and Son for Figs. 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 44, 47; Mr. John Murray for the loan of the map of England illustrating the Civil War; Messrs. Longmans for the plan of the siege of Colchester, and Messrs. Thurnam of Carlisle for the three contemporary views of that city. I also wish to thank Mr. Cornelius Brown for the block which portrays Newark Castle and also Dr. Appleby of Newark for the use of his coins in illustrating the coins issued at that city. Finally I must express my grateful thanks to those members of the British Numismatic Society who so generously contributed to the exhibition of Obsidional Money of the Great Rebellion on January 18, 1905, on which date I read this paper to the Society.



Brown & Co. had a distillery on the Shannon, in Limerick, which some thirty years ago passed into the possession of Messrs. Walker and Son. This token was a tally used by the firm in the Distillery.



PRIVATE TOKEN OF JOHN ARNOTT AND CO.

3. Private token in copper, farthing size. Obverse: JOHN ARNOTT & Co., around, SILK MERCERS DRAPERS, etc., in four lines. Reverse: PAYABLE IN BELFAST AND CORK, a rose between two pellets; in exergue ONE FARTHING in two lines. Sir John Arnott & Co. are a well-known firm of Drapers in Ireland.

Mr. W. Machado Maish.—(1) William I., penny of the Cambridge Mint, Hawkins 237; (2) Henry VII., Angel, with roses throughout, as stops; (3) Edward VI., Testoon dated MDL, mint mark Y; (4) James I., two gold half-crowns, plain cross; (5) Charles I., shilling and sixpence of the Bristol mint.

Mr. W. Wells.—Medal or Badge. On the obverse engraved "We stand firm to each other," and on the reverse "In love and friendship. Sir Robert Black, Knight of the Privy Seal of Lasecy. August 14th, 1749."



INSCRIBED SCEATTA.

Sceatta. Obverse: bust to right + LEDNG. Reverse: degraded head to left.

Sceatta. A variety of B.M. catalogue, Plate VI, No. 12.

*Siege Pieces.*

The following coins are more fully described by Dr. Nelson in his Paper commencing on page 291 of this volume, the principal specimens, many of which are unique, being illustrated.

Miss H. Farquhar.—Carlisle shilling. Circular. Obverse : under a large crown · C : R. Reverse in three lines XII

·OBS·

CARL, above, a rosette, *cf.* Ruding XXVIII. 3.

·645

Newark. Set of four pieces, namely, half-crown, shilling, and ninepence, of 1645, from the Murdoch sale, lot 344. *ex* Thorburn, lot 176, and sixpence 1646, half-crown, *cf.* Ruding XXVIII, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The ninepence reads NEWARKE.

Pontefract Castle. Three different octagonal shillings :—

1. Before death of Charles I. as Ruding XXIX, 10, *ex* Murdoch, Bergne, Brice and Montagu collections. Obverse : large crown above C · R ; around, DVM : SPIRO : SPERO : within circle. Reverse : a castle, with flag on central tower, P.C. above ; on left, OBS vertical : on right, a hand holding sword ; below, 1648.



A RARE PONTEFRACT SHILLING.

2. After death of Charles I., as Ruding XXIX, 13. Obverse : large crown above HANC : DEVS : DEDIT, 1648, in three lines ; around, CAROLVS :

II : D : G : MAG : B : ET : H : REX within circle.  
Reverse : a castle with flag on central tower, above,  
PC ; on left, OBS vertical ; on right, mouth of  
cannon. Around, POTT : MORTEM : PATRIS :  
PRO FILIO. See also p. 326, Fig. 48.

3. After death of Charles I., as Ruding XXIX, 12.  
Obverse : larger crown over C · R ; around, DVM :  
SPIRO : SPERO, in rather smaller letters than the  
earlier type. Reverse : a castle with flag PC,  
OBS, and cannon as before, but CAROLUS :  
SECUNDVS : 1648 around.

Blacksmith half-crown.—Obverse : King on horseback, sword  
in right hand directed over the shoulder. Horse  
trappings decorated with large cross. Reverse : oval  
shield garnished, shield divides CÆ, the R being  
retrograde and reversed.

Set of Ormonde money. Seven pieces, from crown to  
twopence inclusive. Obverse : large crown over CR,  
within two circles, the outer beaded. Reverse : value in  
Roman numerals, Ruding XXVII, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.



CORK SIEGE-SHILLING.

Dr. Philip Nelson.—Countermarked Cork shilling, and the  
coins illustrated on the following page.

Mr. Oswald Fitch.—Charles I., Colchester shilling, from the  
Murdoch sale, lot 343. Newark shilling. 1646.  
Ormonde crown. Inchiquin crown. Charles II.,  
Pontefract shilling, 1648, from the Garratt sale, 1898.



COPPER COIN ATTRIBUTED TO YOUGHAL. BEESTON ONE-SHILLING-AND-SIXPENCE.

Mr. Bernard Roth.—Eight Pontefract shillings belonging to Mrs. Tew, The Grange, Carleton, Pontefract, who kindly lent them for exhibition. Most of the specimens were found in gardens at Pontefract. Three specimens are similar to No. 672 in the *Handbook of the Coins of Great Britain and Ireland*, 1899, two being lozenge shaped and weighing 79·1 grs. and 70·1 grs. (pierced); the third is circular and weighs 65·7 grs. only. Two others are octagonal, and similar to No. 673 in the same work, weighing 90·2 grs. and 77 grs. respectively. Two, also octagonal, are similar to No. 674 in the Handbook, weighing 80·6 grs. and 69·7 grs. respectively, although the heavier coin is much the more worn. The eighth is also octagonal and similar to No. 675 in the Handbook, weighing 76·5 grs.

Also the extremely rare Pontefract, so-called, *two-shilling piece* from his own collection, which was stated in the Moon Sale Catalogue in 1901 to weigh 152 grs., but its real weight is only 148·7 grs. It has passed through the Devonshire, Bergne, Brice, Montagu (1888), and Moon Collections. See p. 323.

Mr. S. M. Spink.—A remarkable series of obsidional pieces, many of which are unique :—

#### BEESTON CASTLE.

Two-shilling piece, oval.—Front view of Beeston Castle, showing the gateway and two towers; below, the

value II. ; the type of castle somewhat resembles that depicted in Ruding XXIX, 6. On the left of the II, but on the flan, is the London hall-mark of a leopard's head crowned, the coin having been made from the bowl of an old seal-top or Apostle spoon, a spoon in vogue at and prior to the Great Rebellion. Unique. See p. 307, Fig. 15.

Shilling of irregular shape.—View of Beeston Castle ; below, S. Struck upon a piece of silver cut from the  
I

edge of a salver or paten. From the Martin, Lord Hastings, Addington and Montagu Collections. See p. 306, Fig. 12.

Sevenpence, triangular.—View of the castle, very similar to that of the two-shilling piece : below, the value VII. From the Hugh Howard, Brice and Montagu collections. See p. 306, Fig. 14.

#### CARLISLE.

Three-shilling piece, 1645. Circular.—Obverse : C · R beneath a large crown, a rosette each side of the Royal initials, the value ·III<sup>s</sup> below, and all within a beaded circle. Reverse : OB<sup>s</sup>CARL / · 1645 · in two lines. A rosette below the date, and a beaded circle as on obverse. Ruding XXVIII, 5.

Shilling, circular.—Obverse : : · C : R · : beneath a large crown ; below, the value ·XII ; beaded circle. Reverse : inscription in three lines, OB<sup>s</sup> : / · : CARL : / · : 1645. A rosette above and below, Ruding XXVIII, 3.

#### NEWARK.

Half-crown, 1645, lozenge shaped.—Obverse : CR at the sides of a large crown, the value XXX beneath. Reverse : Inscription in three lines, OBS : / NEWARK / 1645. Ruding XXVIII, 7 (varied).

Half-crown, 1646.—Similar to the preceding, but with date 1646. Ruding XXVIII, 7.

Shilling, 1645.—Similar type, but with the value XII. Ruding XXVIII, 8.

Ninepence, 1646.—Similar type, but with the value IX.

Ninepence, 1646.—Similar to the preceding, but gilded, and bearing upon the reverse the shield of the Royal Arms. Ruding XXVIII, 9. See pp. 315–16, Fig. 32.



NEWARK SIXPENCE.

Sixpence, 1646.—Similar type, but with the value VI. Ruding XXVIII, 10.

#### PONTEFRACT CASTLE.

Gold. Unite or Sovereign, 1648, octagonal. Obverse: CAROLVS : SECVNDVS : 1648. View of the gateway and flanking towers of Pontefract Castle, with centre tower and flag above; at the sides OBS vertical, and the muzzle of a cannon; above, at the sides of the central tower, the letters PC. Reverse: DVM : SPIRO : SPERO. C·R beneath a large crown. Weight  $138\frac{1}{2}$  grains. Type similar to Ruding XXIX, 12. Unique. See pp. 325–26, Fig. 47.

Silver two-shilling piece, 1648, lozenge shaped.—Obverse: DVM : SPIRO : SPERO. CR beneath a crown. Reverse: view of the Castle with PC and the flag above, but at the sides OBS vertical, and a hand holding a sword; below, the date 1648; weight

- 152 grains. *Cf.* Ruding XXIX, 10. From the Duke of Devonshire's cabinet. See p. 323, Fig. 43.
- Shilling, 1648, octagonal.—Type as the preceding. Ruding XXIX, 10.
- Shilling, 1648, octagonal.—Similar type to the gold unite. Ruding XXIX, 12.
- Shilling, 1648, circular.—Obverse: DVM : SPIRO : SPERO · CR beneath a crown. Reverse: Pontefract Castle, but  
 P  
 no flag; at the sides OBS vertical and XII; below,  
 O  
 the date 1648. Ruding XXIX, 11.
- Shilling, 1648, lozenge shaped.—Type as preceding.  
 SCARBOROUGH CASTLE.
- Three-shilling piece, octagonal.—View of Scarborough Castle with gateway on the left side; below  $\begin{matrix} S \\ III \end{matrix}$  Plain reverse. Type of Castle as Ruding XXIX, 3. Weight 246 grains. Unique. See p. 308, Fig. 17.
- Two shillings and tenpence. Irregular shape.—Similar view of Scarborough Castle; below  $\begin{matrix} S & D \\ II & VV \end{matrix}$  Plain reverse. Weight, 206 grains. Unique. See p. 308, Fig. 18.
- Two shillings and fourpence, oblong.—Similar delineation of the Castle; below  $\begin{matrix} S & D \\ II & IIII \end{matrix}$  Plain reverse. This is cut from a plate or dish, the rim being reeded and thicker than the rest of the piece. Weight, 214 grains. *Cf.* Ruding XXIX, 3. Unique. See p. 309, Fig. 20.
- Two-shilling (?) piece, nearly square.—Obverse: similar view of the Castle, but the design occupies almost the whole field and the details are more amplified. Value omitted. Reverse: engraved in contemporary lettering. OBS / Scarborough / 1645, in three lines. Weight, 154½ grains. Unique. See p. 309, Fig. 21.

Shilling, nearly square. Type as the three-shilling piece ;  
 beneath the Castle,  $\frac{S}{I}$ . Plain reverse. Weight, 98  
 grains. Ruling XXIX, 9 (varied). See p. 310, Fig. 23.  
 Mr. A. H. Baldwin.—Shilling of Charles I. of the Tower  
 Mint, Hawkins' type 2A, but countermarked on the  
 reverse with an ornamented letter S. See p. 310, Fig. 26,  
 where this remarkable piece is attributed to Scarborough.

*Paper.*

DR. PHILIP NELSON.—“The Obsidional Money of the Great  
 Rebellion, 1642–1649.”

In this Treatise, which is printed in this volume, the writer  
 sketched the history of the troublous time of the Civil War, both in  
 England and Ireland, and illustrated his subject by about seventy  
 magic lantern slides, showing by maps and views the position and  
 appearance of the strongholds whence the siege pieces were issued, also  
 the principal coins referred to. He also gave particulars of all the  
 known varieties of siege pieces of the period, and explained their  
 origin and circulation.

After a general discussion of the subject and of the coins  
 exhibited, the President proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be  
 accorded to Dr. Nelson for his very interesting paper, which was  
 carried with acclamation.

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ORDINARY MEETING.

*February 15th, 1905.*

P. W. P. CARLYON-BRITTON, ESQ., F.S.A., D.L.,  
*President, in the Chair.*

The Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING held on the 18th  
 January, 1905, were read, confirmed, and signed by the President.





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