

September he paid a visit to Chatsworth. He had been to Chatsworth before. Once in 1772, when he described it as "a very fine house." The fountains and cascades were played in his honour, but did not impress him. "I am of my friend's opinion," he said, "that when one has seen the ocean, cascades are little things." Such artificial trivialities seemed childish to his great mind. On this last visit "Young Mr. Burke" was a guest in the house, and introduced him to the Duke and Duchess, with whom he had a pleasant conversation, and dined with them in public. "I was at Chatsworth," he writes, "on Monday. I had seen it before, but never when its owners were at home. I was very kindly received and honestly pressed to stay, but I told them that a sick man is not a fit inmate of a great house; but I hope to go again some time." Alas! it was not to be; he would never see Derbyshire again. Returning in October to Lichfield through Birmingham to Oxford, from "magna parens" to "alma mater," he reached London in November, and on the 13th December the great sage breathed his last. *Ultimus Romanorum!*—as Carlyle calls him.

A Derbyshire Cavalier (Addenda).

By HENRY KIRKE, M.A., B.C.L.

Since the publication of my article in last year's *Journal*, certain facts have been brought to my notice which I think ought to be put on record.

It seems that I underrated the loyalty of our Derbyshire miners, as in Harl. MS. 6833, p. 67a, we find an account of Thomas Bushell, Esq.: "For raising 1,000 Derbyshire myners for His Majestie at 10s. per man, and conducting them to Shrewsbury, £500." And, moreover, the King wrote from Oxford on June 12th, 1643, to Thomas Bushell, master-worker of the mines royal, acknowledging his many services, and among them that of "raising us the Derbyshire miners for our life-guard at our first entrance to this war for our own defence when the Lord-Lieutenant of the County refused to

appear in the service." Colonel Henry Hastings (afterwards Lord Loughborough) also collected about 1,000 colliers from his father's mines in Derbyshire, and marched at their head to Leicester. And these colliers were afterwards of great service at Lichfield in driving saps under the defences of the Parliamentary garrison.

The dates of the letters from Sir Lewis Kirke to Prince Rupert are somewhat confusing. Both the dates and sequence, however, were copied exactly from the manuscript in the British Museum Library. The first letter on page 28 should be dated February 22nd, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$, the one quoted on page 31 having been evidently written before that date. Sir Lewis was not appointed Governor of Bridgnorth till early in March, 164 $\frac{3}{4}$, and Shrewsbury Town was not taken by the Parliamentary troops till the following February. "One Jobber" was, it appears, a man of considerable importance and social standing in the county of Salop—a deputy-lieutenant, a magistrate, and owner of Aston Hall, near Shifnal. This apparently contemptuous expression is characteristic of the times in speaking of an opponent. Sir Morton Briggs, Bart., was one of the Parliamentary Committee of twenty for the Association of the Counties of Warwick, Stafford, and Salop appointed by the Ordinance of April 10th, 1643. These men, Thomas Jobber and Sir Morton Briggs, were two of Kirke's leading opponents in the neighbourhood of Shifnal. The "challenge to give battel" was merely a threat that a strong Parliamentary garrison should henceforth be posted at Shifnal to prevent for the future such outrages, and this, indeed, was carried into effect. It would seem that Sir Lewis Kirke made himself obnoxious to both parties in Shropshire by his overbearing conduct.

Though the fortress of Bridgnorth held out till April 26th, 1646, when it surrendered on honourable terms, Kirke was suspended from his governorship for insubordination to Lord Asteley, and for not having his garrison under better control. When Prince Rupert was, in January, 1643-4, appointed Captain-General of all the King's forces in Shropshire and

the adjacent counties, he proceeded at once to supersede the governors of the various towns (who had hitherto been only well-meaning country gentlemen) by tried soldiers labouring under no drawback of local connection. These new officers soon made themselves unpopular by their demands and exactions; no one in Shropshire more so than Sir Lewis Kirke, for, according to the *Weekly Account* of December 25th, 1644, many hundred gentlemen of that county formally petitioned the King to remove him from Bridgnorth, and there are letters extant from Prince Maurice asking the reason why. Kirke's friendship with Prince Rupert seems to have enabled him to escape for a time, but at the end of 1645 his behaviour towards Lord Asteley was so mutinous that in the very beginning of January, 1645-6, he was transferred to Oxford, and Colonel Sir Robert Howard, K.B., was made governor of Bridgnorth in his stead.

With respect to my surmise that John Creswell received no compensation for the treatment his wife endured, the full appeal to the Commissioners for compounding proves that others besides Kirke were included. "John Cresswell, Bridgnorth, Salop . . . begs that Sir Vincent Corbett, Sir John Wilde, Sir Edward Acton, and Sir Francis Otley, the nearest delinquents, and especially Sir Lewis Kirk, may recompense him for his sufferings and losses." These four gentlemen were local landowners possessed of estates close to Bridgnorth, and all paid large fines, the average of each being £1,934.

For this additional information I am indebted to some notes on my article by the Rev. J. E. Auden, M.A., vicar of Tong, near Shifnal, a well-known authority on all matters concerning the history of the Civil War in Shropshire.