

VI.—A FURTHER NOTE ON WILLIAM LARSON'S
STATUE OF JAMES II AT NEWCASTLE UPON
TYNE.

By MARGARET TOYNBEE.

When I wrote on the subject of Larson's statue of James II,¹ I was labouring under the disadvantage of not having seen the statuette at Dublin. I was forced to rely upon a photograph and upon the particulars supplied to me by the Registrar of the National Gallery of Ireland. I have now, however, had the unexpected opportunity of visiting Dublin and examining the statuette minutely for myself, facilities being readily accorded me by the authorities of the Gallery.

As a result I find that: (1) the correct inscription runs: BAXTER TAUGHT WYCK DREW LARSON IMBOST & CAST IT TOW; (2) the statuette is hollow. In other words, the inscription forms a crude but complete rhyme: *tow* is the obsolete form of two, here used for *too*. There is no more of the inscription passing, as I was told, under the saddle and figure: hence my conjecture that *tow* is the beginning of *town of Newcastle*, etc., falls to the ground.

I must also, in all honesty, admit that, on examining the features of the rider, they seemed to me, when seen full-face, to bear a decided resemblance to those of Charles II.

¹ *Archæologia Aeliana*, 4th series, vol. xxix (1951), pp. 108-17.