

which would not be considered contemptible efforts in these days of steam and railway. Sir Robert Carey carried the news of Queen Elizabeth's death to King James at Edinburgh, four hundred miles, in sixty hours, transacting business as he went along; and this notwithstanding a bad fall which detained him on the road. And Stowe relates, folio 1032, edition 1631, that "On Saturday, the seaventeenth of July, 1619, Bernard Calvert of Andover, about 3 a'clock in the morning, tooke horse at Saint Georges Church in Southwarke, and came to Dover about seaven of the clocke the same morning, where a barge with eight oares, formerly sent from London thither, attended his suddaine comming: he instantly tooke barge and went to Callice, and in the same barge returned backe to Dover about three of the clocke the same day, where as well there as in divers other places he had layed sundry swift horses, besides guides, he rode backe from thence to St. Georges Church in Southwarke the same evening, a little after eight of the clocke, fresh and lusty."

I also take leave to enclose a copy of

AN ORIGINAL ORDER FOR FORTIFYING
NORWICH CASTLE IN 1643.

The Parliament, having expressed the necessity of preserving the kingdom against the "insolences and outrages," as they were called, of the soldiers of the King's army, and having succeeded in gaining to their interests and *associating* seven of the Eastern Counties, issued, under date of Dec. 22nd, 1642, particular instructions to the Lord Lieutenants, Deputy Lieutenants, and other Officers and Magistrates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Cambridge, Isle of Ely, Hertford, and the County of the City of Norwich; and among other

things declared, “eleventhly, that they had power to fortify and secure any Town, Hundred, or Hamlet, where the said Town, Hundred, or Hamlet were willing to do the same at their own proper charges.” Hence the occasion of this order respecting the Castle of Norwich. To the same sense of necessity that dictated this proceeding at the particular time, amongst other vigorous measures, we are most likely indebted for another ordinance, which passed the two houses of Parliament the very day before the date of the following paper, namely July 25th, for the raising *immediately* a body of horse to be placed under the command of the Earl of Manchester, where it is provided “that the number for Norfolk should be six hundred, of which the City of Norwich was to bear an equal proportion;” and copies of the act were ordered to be *forthwith* sent to the counties.

The signatures attached to this order are to be found, with others, in all the ordinances of Parliament relating to Norfolk, and were those of staunch and influential opponents of the Royal Party. Blomefield, in his *History of Norwich*, gives the names of many Norfolk gentlemen who espoused and were active in the cause of the covenanters, but is unusually brief in his notices of this stirring year.

The order is in these terms :

“Fforasmuch as it is conceived by the judgment of experienced men, that the fortefeinge of the Castle and yard therunto adioyned in the City of Norw^{ch}, belonging to the County of Norff., is of great consequence for the good and benefitt of the said Citty and p̄servacon of the magazine thereof, & so by consequence for the safety of the whole County of Norff., w^h we takeinge into consideracon upon the request of the Deputy Lieutenants of the said City of Norw^{ch}, doe hereby freely so farre as in us lye give consent and leave to the said Deputy Lieutenants of the said Citty and inhabitants of the same, to mak such workes and fortifi-

cacon upon, ni,* and about the saide Castle and yard and bridge therunto belonginge, as shalbe conceived most conduceinge for the strengtheninge of the same, to be kept & p̄served for the service aforesaid. This xxvith daye of July, 1643.

THO: WODEHOWSE.

JOHN PALGRAVE.

THO: HOOGAN.

MILES HOBARTE.

J. SPELMAN.

THO: SOTHERTON.

GRE: GAWSETT.”

Endorsed—“A note for the fortifienge of the Castell in Norw^{ch}.”

In the 19th of Edw. III. the Castle of Norwich was “confirmed to the Vicecomes of the County of Norfolk, to keep there the King’s prisoners in safe ward;” from that time it has been the County Gaol, and both the building and its precincts have been under the control of the Magistrates. In the above note, they give leave to the citizens to fortify it.

I remain, dear Sirs,

Yours very truly,

JAMES BULWER.

Aylsham, Aug. 20th, 1846.

* Nigh, or near.