

CONSPECTUS OF THE FIRST CIVIL WAR.

R = Royalist; P = Parliamentarian; C = Covenanter.

1642. **First Campaign.** Charles occupies Oxford, and sets up his standard at Nottingham.

(1) His plan was to *push forward towards London before the Parliamentary forces were ready.* To bar his approach, Essex places garrisons in a line of towns stretching from Northampton to Worcester.

The operations of the campaign are confined to the districts between Oxford and London.

(2) **Edgehill.** Charles encounters Essex (P), battle *indecisive.* Charles marches through Oxford and Reading towards London, Essex retreats to Warwick, and thence to London.

(3) **Skirmish at Brentford.** Rupert scatters the Parliamentary army under Essex. The trained-bands of London collect at Turnham Green to oppose the advance of the King. Charles does not venture to attack them, and retreats to Oxford, and henceforth makes that city his headquarters.

1643. **Second Campaign.** Charles's plan was (a) that Newcastle's army should press along the Eastern Coast into Essex; (b) that Hopton's forces should advance along the Southern Coast into Kent; (c) and that he himself should strike at London. *The plan was in the main defeated by Newcastle refusing to leave the North before Hull was reduced.*

The operations of the campaign are chiefly confined to three districts:—

The North and East.

- (1) **Adwalton Moor;** Newcastle (R) defeats Fairfax (P).
- (2) **Gainsborough;** Cromwell (P) and his army of the Eastern counties defeat Newcastle (R).
- (3) **Newcastle besieges Hull,** but finally is compelled to raise the siege.
- (4) **Winceby Fight;** Cromwell (P) defeats Royalists.

The Midlands.

- (1) **Chalgrove Field;** Rupert (R) defeats Hampden (P), who is mortally wounded.
- (2) **Siege of Gloucester;** Charles lays siege to Gloucester since that city cut off all communication between Oxford and the south and west. Essex and his trained-bands of Londoners march to relieve it. Charles is afraid to risk a battle in his lines, and so he raises the siege, and Essex enters the city unopposed.
- (3) **First Newbury;** Charles determines to intercept Essex on his return march to London, and meets him at Newbury. *Battle indecisive.*

The South and West.

- (1) **Stratton;** Hopton (R) defeats Stamford (P).
- (2) **Lansdown;** Hopton (R) defeats Waller (P).
- (3) **Roundway Down;** Hopton (R) again defeats Waller (P).
- (4) **Bristol stormed** by Rupert (R).
- (5) **Siege of Plymouth** by Royalists.

NOTE.—The Campaign of 1643 proved that the two sides were pretty evenly balanced, and so it became necessary for each party to look about for outside help. Accordingly,

(1) The King sought the aid of the Roman Catholic Irish in a treaty called the Cessation.

(2) The Parliament sought the aid of the Scots in a treaty called the Solemn League and Covenant. This alliance between the Parliament and the Scots was Pym's last work; he died December 8th, 1643.