

relieve Oxford, which during the war had been his headquarters and capital, and which was then besieged by Sir Thomas Fairfax. The memorable Battle of Naseby was fought on June 14th, 1645. The King's army was almost annihilated by the terrible energy of Cromwell's Ironsides. Fairfax and Cromwell pushed on the advantage thus gained, and in October, Prince Rupert was compelled to surrender the important city of Bristol. The King retired to Oxford. His eldest son, Prince Charles, fled to Paris to join his mother, Queen Henrietta Maria. Meantime the slight Royalist successes in Scotland were more than counterbalanced by the disastrous Battle of Philiphaugh, where the Covenanters completely routed the army of Montrose.

38. Early in 1646, Fairfax renewed the siege of Oxford. The King, fearing capture, fled in despair, and surrendered himself to the Scottish army, quartered at Newark. Negotiations were then entered into between the English Parliament and the Scots, which resulted in the delivery of the King to the former. It was agreed that the Scottish army should retire from England, and receive £400,000 for its past services. Many, however, regard this sum as really a price paid for the person of the captive King.

39. Parliament, which was still under Presbyterian control, now proposed to disband the army and negotiate a treaty with the King.

These purposes were successfully resisted by Cromwell and other leading Independents. Cromwell caused the King to be seized and brought to the army at Newmarket. Soon afterwards, the great Independent leader was appointed commander-in-chief, and entered London in triumph. By the expulsion of prominent Presbyterians, Parliament was made increasingly subservient to the army. The King was closely confined at Hampton Court. His elder sons, the Prince of Wales, and James, Duke of York, were with their mother in Paris. Prince Henry and the Princess Elizabeth shared their father's captivity.

40. In November 1647 the King escaped from confinement, but was soon recaptured in the Isle of Wight and imprisoned in Carisbrooke Castle. Events occurred from time to time which kept alive his hope of regaining the crown. Early in 1648, the Scots, who were not pleased with his treatment in England, began to plan movements in his favor. Royalist risings also took place in Wales, in Surrey, in Kent, and in Lancashire, but were all put down by the resistless energy of Cromwell. At Preston, in Lancashire, the Scots under the Duke of Hamilton were forced to surrender. Cromwell then marched to Edinburgh, and placed the government of Scotland in the hands of the Marquis of Argyll. The last military event of the Civil War was the capture of Colchester by Fairfax on August 28th, 1648.

Charles surrenders to the Scots.

Quarrels between Parliament and Army.

Escape and recapture of the King.