



HASTINGS MANUSCRIPTS

Theophilus Hastings, 7th Earl of Huntingdon, was born in 1651, and succeeded to the title at the age of five. In 1685, he signed the order for the proclamation of King James II, and later the same year was made colonel of the 13th Regiment of Foot, and in 1687, Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire. In November, 1688, he was ordered to Plymouth, where his regiment was stationed, and was arrested there by Williamite forces later that month. On 16 December, he petitioned William, and on 23rd was allowed to go to London, but deprived of all his offices. He continued giving assistance to people exiled with James.

These letters are extracted from Historical Manuscripts Commission, *Hastings Mss*, ii, 1930.

P(?) Barkman to Theophilus, 7th Earl of Hastings, at Tunbridge Wells.

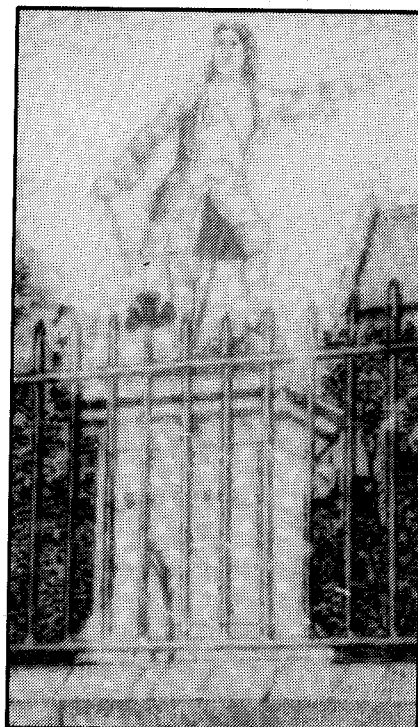
1690, August 12, London: We have news today from Ireland that the French have left Limerick and gone for Galway by land, and it is supposed they design (since there was a French garrison there too) to take shipping from that place for France, and that three or four Irish regiments have taken possession of Limerick, the rest of the army which was about Limerick having gone into the country of Kerry, which is very boggy and full of castles, so that if King William will send any forces after them, it must be all foot and no cannon.

[Neville Ridley] to Thomas Piddocke at Tunbridge Wells.

1690, August 21, [London]: Two expresses from Ireland say that Colonel Sarsfield, having intelligence of our cannon coming from Waterford, drew out 1200 horse and set upon them, putting the whole convoy to the sword



*Skirmish between the Inniskilling dragoons and Sarsfield's rearguard.
Painting by Ann O'Keeffe.*



*Sarsfield statue on a late
19th-century wall-plate.*

save Captain Poultney and six troopers, who brought the sad news to our camp. They seized 8 great ball guns, 2 mortars, 60-odd wagons. Some say the party was 200 horse, others makes them much more. This I have from a good hand.

James Lonyne to Theophilus, 7th Earl of Huntingdon, in Arlington Street.

1690, November 15, Dublin: I arrived here from Limerick on the last. When I came to General Ginkel he received me very kindly and placed me as lieutenant in Colonel Babington's regiment, formerly Sir Henry Bellasis's regiment. We were very hard put to it while the siege lasted before Limerick. Now they are in a starving condition; they want bread, shoes, stockings; they have no forage for horses nor iron to shoe them. There are a sort of people here called by the name of rapparees, which are a very ill sort of people; they come in great numbers to our frontiers, but the least opposition makes them run like a flock of sheep to the mountains or the bogs, where there is no following them. They have burnt a place called Philipstown in the King's County.