

He then petitioned to have his Regiment made up to 1200 men, & garrisoned the Castle. - These troops however were not wanted much longer here - but were required with many others for the war in Ireland. -

March 25 & 26, 1646-7 (just at the end of the one & beginning of the other civil year then in use, Birch engaged to send 1000 foot & 200 horse to Ireland (for 2 months arrears & 1 month in advance = £6740). -

July 19, 1647. Those same troops were in Hereford in a state of mutiny - ~~no mention of Ireland, but refusing to disband except in their own way.~~ Fairfax was directed by the House on Birch's complaint to give order for sending them to Ireland speedily.

But so far were they from obeying, that on Jan. 19, 1647-8, they were still at Hereford, with no mention of Ireland, but resisting an attempt to disband them unless it might be on their own terms. Some arrangement was I

presume come to about this time - and it appears by an Order of Oct. 18, 1648 that they had not gone to Ireland at all - and had in consequence received only the 2 months arrears bargained for March 25, 1646-7.

From all this it appears as clear as possible that this force never quitted Hereford & its neighbourhood, though some of them were for a time carrying on exaction & rapine in Radnorshire - (as to Macaulay's finely-coloured picture of the army, it may have been true at headquarters - but at a distance - *credat qui vult.*)

But then I find ~~the~~ ^a memorandum of my dear Father's - to the effect that May 10, 1647, they were ready at Chester for embarkation, giving as his authority, Rushworth's Historical Collections, Part IV. c. 1. p. 482. It is evident that either he on his authority must be mistaken, I have not access to Rushworth, but believe and hope it would not give you much trouble to get at