



# *In The News*

## *Compton Chamberlayne*

### **THE PENRUDDOCKES**

The 'St. James's Gazette' says that Mrs Penruddocke, whose case was mentioned in Parliament yesterday, is an aunt of a Cabinet Minister. The Penruddockes are descended from the same stock as Mr Walter Long, and "Penruddocke" was one of the Christian names of Mr Long's father. Lord Lonsdale, too, is a relative of the woman whose name has been a household word these last few days; and not far from Penrith, where the Kaiser has just been staying, is a village named after the Penruddockes of long ago. The Penruddockes have been used to fines—of more than fifty pounds. Sir John Penruddocke, who finally lost his head for rising against Cromwell, was fined £300, and again £1,000, for offences against the Commonwealth. He was one of the sturdiest friends of Charles Stuart, loyal to the last penny in his pocket, and he lost two sons, his estate, and his own head in supporting the Royalist cause. It was Sir John Penruddocke who, long after the Commonwealth had been established, startled his country by rising at the head of 200 men, seizing the judges at Salisbury, and proclaiming Charles II, at Blandford. Marching into Dorset and through Devon on the way to Land's End, the little band fell away for lack of enthusiasm and support, and at Exeter Sir John Penruddocke was beheaded for high treason. It is odd that the Penruddocke case should have been before the public during the visit of King Charles. Three centuries ago a King of Portugal was entertained at Compton Chamberlayne, and a vellum roll in the local archives at Salisbury has this interesting note :—

" A.D.1585. The King of Portugal came to Sarum, and was lodged at Mrs Penruddocke's, at which time Mrs Peuruddocke was delivered of a son and a daughter, and the King was godfather to them."

One of the historic relics at Compton.Chamberlayne is the pathetic letter, which has often been quoted, written by Sir John Penruddocke to his wife just before his execution.

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