



Prince Rupert, from a Parliamentary account of his burning of Birmingham in 1643. Also shown is the Prince's dog, Boye.

Certainly Eydon for one felt itself to have suffered from the Royalists. When in 1646 it presented an account of Parliamentary damages to the village, it included at the bottom (later crossed out by someone) the line “~~But of ye Cavalleers, Honerilla lachrimae~~”.⁷ This is a Latin tag, “Hunc Illia Lachrimme”, meaning ‘and hence these tears’, implying that it is with the Cavaliers that their true troubles lay.

Although the evidence given here only relates to the events in south Northamptonshire, it is likely that similar stories could be told about all the villages in this disputed zone. We know for example that Islip was used as a Royalist regimental winter quarters in the first winter of the war and was

⁷ TNA/PRO Ref: SP28/239 - State Papers, Commonwealth. Eydon, Northants., Submission of costs to County Committee. 1646.