

Wednesday, 26th April, 1654.—“ This night are come out new Farthings, weighing a quarter of an ounce fine Pewter, which is but the price of new Pewter ; that so the people may never hereafter fear to loose much by them ; with the Harp of one side, and a crosse on the other, with T. K. above it.”—Page 3802, No. 239, of *Severall Proceedings of State Affairs*.

That the issue of these farthings was unauthorised and contrary to the wishes of the government, appears from an official notice which was speedily published, prohibiting their circulation in these terms :—

“ An Advertisement.

“ Whereas several persons have presented unto his Highness and his Council, divers patterns for the making of a common Farthing for the use of the Common wealth ; and have attended several times about the same, and at this day the business is depending before his honourable Council, and their pleasure as yet not signified therein. And yet notwithstanding in the mean time several persons have presumed without any Authority or Declaration of the State to set the Common-wealth of *Englands Arms* on a piece of pewter of the weight of about a quarter of an ounce, and have procured intimation in Print to be made, that these pewter farthings are allowed to pass currant through the Commonwealth of *England, &c.*, and in pursuance thereof, have and do daily vend these unauthorized pewter farthings in *London* and other parts of this Commonwealth, to the great deceit and dammage of this Nation.

“ These are to give notice to all men, that if there be not a sudden stop of the making and vending of those pewter farthings, the Commonwealth will be greatly deceived, both by mixing the Pewter with Lead, and also every Tinker and other lewd persons will get molds and made the said pewter farthings in every corner. Therefore all people ought to take notice that no farthings are to pass, but such only as