Johannes Magnus a Swedish Historian pretends, that Magog son of Japhet, & Grandson to Noah, founded the Kingdoms of the Gothes & Sweden, that the latter is nam'd after his Son Sveno, & the former after his son Gethar or Gog.

Magnus also traces their rout to the Black sea, & irruption into the Roman Empire, where they founded two Kingdoms, the one in Italy, & the other in Spain.

Johannes Messenius another Writer, treats all this as fabulous, also the list of Kings before the Birth of Christ, & thinks this History very doubtful for some Centurys after the Christian Æra.

Most Authors agree that Woden or Odin about 60. Years before our Saviours Birth, was driven by Pompey out of Asia, conquer'd the Russians, Saxons, & Swedes, the last he preserv'd, & made all the Scandinavian Princes do Homage, from whence arose a Custom, that at the General Assembly of the Swedish States, the King of Denmark held the Bridle, & the King of Norway the Stirrup, when the Swedish Monarch mounted his Horse.

In 829. the Emperor Lewis the Pious sent the Bishop of Bremen to introduce Christianity in this Kingdom.

In 1160. St. Eric collected all the Laws into one Book that went by his name.

The same Year He defeated the Danes at Upsal, & built a Church there in Memory of it, which He nam'd Denmark.

Magnus was Crown'd King of the Sweder & Goths in 1279. which title had never been us'd except by Olaus II. but has continu'd to be the Regal title.

In 1364. Albert a Bad Prince was dethron'd by Margaret Queen of Denmark, who united the three Northern Crowns.

In the Reign of Gustavus Ericson in 1521. the Lutheran Doctrine made its way in Sweden, the King favour'd it, & declar'd in an Assembly of the States, that He would seize on some of the Revenues of the Clergy, & that all the Lands granted them since 1454. should be restor'd to the Antient Possessors.

The Clergy protested against this, whereupon He offered to quit the Crown; but on the earnest entreaties of the Stockholmers, who were greatly attach'd to Him, on the Clergy's giving up some of their Castles, & signing an Act for the regulation of Foreign affairs, He agreed to remain.

In 1528. He establish'd the Protestant Religion, made the Inferior Clergy embrace it, & in 1544. enforc'd it by a solemn Oath, & strictly prohibited the Romish Doctrine.

Sigismund's Reign (who was a Papist, & mounted the Throne in 1592) pass'd in continual Wars betwixt Him & His Swedish Subjects.

Gustavus Adolphus came to the Crown in 1611. when the States gave Him the whole management of Affairs, tho' but eighteen. He from the weakest made it the most powerful Kingdom in the North; indeed His first War with Denmark ended unsuccessfully, but He took Livonia & Ingermania from the Russians, which He secur'd by a Treaty in 1616. through the Mediation of James I. of Great Britain; then Wag'd War in Poland, wherein He obtain'd the rest of Livonia.

The Austrians having in that War assisted the Poles, Gustavus in return aided the German Protestants in 1630. beat the Imperialists at Leipzick in 1631. & drove them out of Saxony & Bavaria; then penetrating into Franconia, He vanquish'd the Spaniards at Stockstadt; His Foot routing the Austrians in the Plains of Lutzen He pass'd a small River at the Head of His Horse, & was found dead on the opposite Shore.

It is disputed whether this was owing to the treachery of Cardinal Richlieu, or to that of the Duke of Saxe Lauenburgh; however the Swedes exasperated by His death, defeated Count Papenheim a second time.

Gustavus was an Excellent Legislator as well as General, for He improv'd the Constitution, & if He had liv'd to return would certainly have put a finishing hand to it.

Christina a Princess of Six Years old was acknowledg'd as Successor by Gustavus's regulation, tho' the Crown had till then only been

settl'd on the Male Line.
This Minority prov'd the great Security of Sweden, the King of Denmark & the Elector of Brandenburgh keeping the promises they had made Gustavus, & the rest of the Allies being less afraid of the Power of that Crown than during the King's life, remain'd in Peace.
The Chancellor Oxenstern manag'd so ably the affairs in Germany, that at the end of the War Sweden had above 100. Fortify'd Places, & an Army of 100,000. Men, & by the Peace of Westphalia obtain'd Pomerania, Bremen, Werden, the City of Wismar, a Vote in the Diet of the Empire & Circle of Lower Saxony, & 1,000,000. of Crowns as an acknowledgement of the great Services performed by that Nation for the Protestant Cause.
The Young Queen was admir'd by all Europe for Her learning & Capacity. Her Subjects wish'd to see Her marry Prince Charles Gustavus Her Cousin; but they not liking one another, She resign'd the Crown to Him in 1654. reserving a Pension, turn'd Papist, & died at Rome in 1689.
Charles Gustavus was Son of John Casimir Prince Palatine of the Rhine & of Catherine sister of Gustavus Adolphus. When He mounted the Throne the State was in a weak condition, but in a Year He was able to attack the Poles who had oppos'd

His obtaining the Crown; in three Months took all Prussia except Dantzick, great part of Lithuania, Warsow, Cracow, & other places in Great & lesser Poland; so that most of the Poles took the Oaths of Allegiance to Him; but He soon left them, on account of the Emperor, Czar, & United Provinces joining against Him.

He appointed His Brother Prince Adolph Governor of Prussia whilst He went to Denmark, where by a Peace with that King He got the Provinces of Schonen & Blecking; but in the spring the War was renew'd; Charles then march'd to Zeeland & besieg'd Copenhagen, while General Wrangel attack'd Cronenburgh at the entrance of the Sound, which was taken; but the former was vigourously defended by the Danes till a Dutch Fleet came to their assistance, on which Charles return'd to Sweden to prepare for a brisk Campain the next Spring, but died of a Fever in 1660.

He left a Son of five of age engag'd in a War against six of the most considerable Potentates in Europe.

Charles XI. Mother was Regent during His Minority; She by the advice of the principal People in the Kingdom concluded a Peace with Poland; by it that King gave up all Claim to Sweden, & Charles yielded His right to Livonia; an accommodation was also made with Denmark; but when Charles became Major

He fatally join'd France, & by it lost great part of His German Dominions; but by a seperate Treaty before the General one, they were restor'd to Him, & He was Mediator at the Peace of Nimeguen.

He Marry'd the Daughter of Frederick II. King of Denmark, then seperated from the French, & apply'd Himself in correcting the abuses that had kept into the State whilst He & His Predecessors were engag'd in Wars, & left their Affairs in the hands & at the mercy of their Ministers.

He sate regularly in the Supreme Court of Judicature, & dispatch'd more Lawsuits in seven Years, than had before been decided in twenty.

He was so immensely belov'd by His Subjects, that they agreed to lessen the Power of the Senate, & by further alterations made Him as absolute as any European Prince, by their assistance He reunited to the Crown those Lands that had been alienated from it, & paid the National Debts by raising the value of the Coin.

A Militia was also erected by which 17,000. Horse & 45,000. Foot were kept at the expence of His Subjects. They also granted Him large Supplies, satisfy'd that they would be employ'd for their Good.

This King's Reign may serve as a Lesson to those who govern Free People, that no Prince is so absolute as He who rules in the Hearts of His People, & directs His actions by the Laws &

Constitution of His Country.

He was in His private Life a very Moral Man tho' He did not like His Queen. He humbl'd His Nobility, was obliging to the Clergy, & tender of His People.

He avoided War as much as He could, yet when the King of Denmark seiz'd the Dominions of His Ally the Duke of Holstein, He prepar'd to assist Him, which occasion'd the Treaty of Altena in 1689. that reinstated the Duke in His Dutchy.

He afterwards made a Defensive Alliance with the Danes, for the Safety of the North, lent 6,000. Men to the Dutch, & offer'd as many more to the Emperor in the War against France. Lewis XIV. forbid His Privateers to attack Swedish Ships, dreading so great a Northern Power. Charles expir'd in 1697. & was succeed by His Son Charles XII.

The King in dying left His Mother assisted by five Senators as Regent, whose power was to subsist till the Young King attain'd the age of eighteen; but He was declar'd Major before sixteen by the States. He the same Year was Mediator at the Peace of Reyswick.

The Kings of Denmark & Poland & the Czar Peter the Great, resolv'd without provocation to attack Him on all Sides. Charles no sooner saw the English Fleet in the Baltick as Guarantees of the Treaty of Altena, but He Landed & besieg'd Copenhagen, & in 1698. forc'd the Danes to make a Treaty at Travendahl, & to

abandon the Alliance. He in the same relieved Nerva, & beat the Czar with a very unequal force.

He then deposed Augustus King of Poland, & gave Stanislaus Lezinski Palatine of Pomerania the Crown. He afterwards followed Augustus into Saxony, exhausted that Country with Contributions, & imposed very hard Conditions on him in a Treaty near Leipzick. Then marched through Ukraine into Prussia with an intent to drive the Czar out of His Dominions, but lost in 1709. 70,000. Men in the Battle of Poltowa, & fled with a small retinue into the Territories of the Port; upon this Augustus recovered Poland, the Danes attacked Schonen, & took Bremen & Verden which were afterwards sold to the Elector of Hanover; the Czar made himself master of great part of the Swedish Dominions on the Baltick, & the Prussians overrun Pomerania.

Charles returned in 1714. to His Kingdom, maintained His absolute Power, & revived the War with great resolution, still keeping in view His former projects; but invading Norway, He perished before Frederick-Hall in 1718.

His Sister Ulrica Eleonora was declared Queen, & Her Husband the Hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel General Elections; but embracing the Lutheran Religion was also in 1720. placed on the Throne, & Peace made with Denmark, also in the following Year with Prussia & the Czar.

By these Treaties the Swedes recover'd part of Pomerania, & the Town of Wismar, but the King of Prussia kept Stetin, Bremen & Verden were left to Hanover, the Czar preserv'd all his Conquests, & the King of Sweden & Poland were reconcil'd.

Foreign affairs being settl'd the Constitution was alter'd from what it had been for some Reigns, the Crown being made the most limited in all Europe, & the Senate recovering their Antient Priviledges, so that now the Kings can do nothing without the Consent of the States.

The Swedes kept firm to their Alliance with Russia & her Neighbours, & enter'd into strict engagements with Britain & the House of Austria.

The Diet assembl'd in 1738. & chose Count Tessin Marshal. It soon appear'd to be divided into three Parties, viz. the one was for retaking the Provinces from Russia, another for Peace, & the third for keeping a middle way. Contrary to custom the Diet sate eleven Months, when the first party had the Majority, & the five Senators who had been employ'd in renewing the Treaty with Russia were turn'd out.

The next Year a French Squadron commanded by the Marquis d'Antin came & anchor'd in the Road of Stockholm, for what purpose is even yet unknown.

On the Death of the Czarina Anne in 1740. the Swedes declar'd War against the Russians, which prov'd fatal to

them, loosing Finland, & being reduc'd to accept any Peace the Russians offer'd.

During this War in 1741. the Queen Died, & the King growing infirm a Successor was thought necessary to be fix'd on; four Candidates appear'd, viz. the Young Duke of Holstein Gottorp, Prince Frederic of Hesse-Cassel, the Prince of Denmark, & the Prince of Deux Ponts.

After very Warm Debates in the Diet, the Duke of Holstein in 1742. had the Majority of two Votes; the Crown was offer'd to him at Petersburgh by Deputies from the States, on condition that the Russians would restore Finland, but on their arrival He had embrac'd the Greek Church, with a view of succeeding to the Russian Diadem, to which He ~~laid~~ claim by Hereditary right.

Upon this the Peasants & Clergy espous'd the interest of the Prince of Denmark, & the greatest promoters of the War, were now for punishing those to whom they had given the direction of it.

The Swedes could neither bear the thoughts of loosing Finland, nor were they able to recover it by force of Arms; therefore through the Mediation of Britain, a treaty was concluded at Abo by which the Czarina yielded Finland, reserving only a small district, & the Swedes receiv'd from ~~Her~~ their future King in the person of Prince Adolphus Frederic Bishop of

Lubec, who was thereupon declar'd Successor; the Great Duke of Prussia solemnly renouncing his new acquir'd right to the Swedish Crown.

Whilst this was under consideration, the Dalecarlians march'd to Stockholm in support of the Prince of Denmark, they were encounter'd by the Royal Troops, & after a smart engagement force'd to lay down their Arms, & to submit to the King's mercy, which he gave them in the amplest manner; yet this did not lessen the resentment of the Peasants against Count Lacuwenhoupt, & Baron Budderbrok, & the King was oblig'd to deliver them up to Justice.

The King of Denmark was highly offended at the Bishop of Lubec's being prefer'd to his Son; he made great military preparations, but the Czarina declar'd to both Courts that she would with her whole force maintain the Election she had promoted.

To establish Peace more effectually the Prince Royal marry'd Ulrica Frederica sister of the King of Prussia, & then came to Sweden, where they gain'd the affection of the People. Soon after a Treaty was made with Prussia to which France acceded.

Prussia was much displeas'd at this, the Czarina attempted by letter as well as the Great Duke to alienate the Prince from Count Gylenburgh & the Country party; but he remain'd steady

to His engagements, yet always declar'd His obligations to the Queen & profess'd a great regard for Her as far as was consistent with His Duty in pursuing the Welfare of the Swedish Nation.

On the Death of Count Gyllenburgh, Sepin succeed in the Prince's favour, who was look'd on with an invidious Eye by Russia.

The old King was passive in all these transactions; His behaviour preserv'd Him the love & respect of His Subjects; His mild Reign, true concern for the good of His People, desire to promote every thing that tended either to heighten or secure their felicity; & averseness to give the sanction of His Authority to acts of party Violence; made His Subjects dread His approaching death, least it might occasion a change in Government; this event came to pass in 1751.

The Prince Successor was the next day proclaim'd King, when He declar'd by a solemn Act that He would keep to the form of Government, establish'd in 1720. & to the assurance He had given the States in 1742. & that He would look on that man as His greatest Enemy who should either publickly or privately endeavour to introduce Despotism or Arbitrary Power.

Yet from time to time there has been small dissentions betwixt Him & the Senate, but none of consequence till in 1756. when a private divulg'd to the Senate a plot by which

the next day the King was to have been absolute; on this being clearly proved, three Persons of Rank who were deeply concerned in it, were executed, & the King obliged to renew His Coronation Oath; the Queen was also forced to it, as she was supposed to be the chief Contriver of this Wicked scheme; all things seem dormant for the present; but the Senate have acquainted the King that if He should ever attempt any new Cabals, they would depose Him.

The Swedes are good Soldiers, tho' their Troops are greatly diminished; they are Zealous Lutherans, & tolerate no other Religion. Their Nobility have in all times been Loyal to their Kings & true Lovers of Liberty.

As to their Vices they are very fiercle, full of Vanity, particularly visible in their Furniture & Equipages, envious of Strangers thriving at Court, in the Army, or Trade, & even of their own Country particularly if of mean extraction.

The will never become a Maritime Power, or have an extensive Trade, tho' they have good Ships & Sailors, because they are impatient if their affairs don't instantly succeed, & have no turn to Manufactures & Trade; yet it is not likely they will diminish their Naval Force, as their Low

have made a competent provision for it.

After what has been said of the temper of these People, their frequent changes in Government are not wonderful; as the Love of Freedom is their predominant passion, they have not always known the proper Cures for evils that have arisen in the State, this has made them follow either the impulses of despair, or what those that promis'd them deliverance proposed. Since they have shook of the Danish Yoke, the two fundamental Rules of their Policy have been, the preserving the Legislative power in the States, & as much of the Executive in the Senate, as was expedient for the Public Good.

The States generally assemble every three Years, & oftner if the circumstances of Affairs require it. The Letters for summoning them are sent to the Governors of the Provinces, who write to each Nobleman & Gentleman in their District, & to the Bishops, who publish it in the Parish Churches. The Nobility & Gentry are represented by one of each family; The Colnel, Lieutenant Colnel, Major, & a Captain of each Regiment sit & Vote in the same House. Besides the Bishops & Superintendants, one is chosen in every Rural Deanery, which consists of ten Parishes, & maintain'd at the

expence of the Electors. The Representatives of the Burghers are elected by the Magistrates & Common Council of each Corporation, of which Stockholm sends four, other two, & some one. The Peasants have one in each district to appear for them, whose charges they bear, & to whom they give instructions.

At their first meeting the King & Senate are present, when the President of the Chancery makes a speech in the King's Name to them; wherein he mentions what has passd since their last meeting, & the principal points on which they are to consult; the Speakers of the four Orders then ~~make an~~ Answer, after which they retire to their Houses, where each body chuses a number of Members for the Secret Committee, who prepare the business to be laid before the States. Each order has a Negative, but in their own Houses the Majority decide.

The reason the officers have a seat in the Diet, proceeds from their employments being for life, & each of them enjoy a fond Revenue instead of pay.

The King shows great regard to the Clergy. The House of Burgesses is well affected to the Crown, but not that of the Peasants.

Each of the Houses present grievances to the King, who answers them; at the dissolution of the Diet, each Member of the Clergy, Burgesses & Peasants, receives an extract of the proceedings, & of the King's answers to their grievances, which they carry to their respective Electors.

The King can do nothing of importance without the concurrence of the Senate, who take an oath of fidelity to the Kingdom; & if the States should disapprove of their conduct they are liable to be removed. In the three last Reigns but one their authority was much diminished, but now they are restored & a great efficient part of the Constitution. The manage the Revenues, & have the Executive power in the King's absence. He appoints all Military Officers under Colonels, but in naming those & others of higher rank, the Consent of the Senate is necessary. Proclamations & other Public Acts must be issued also by the joint Authority of King & Senate.

By this Short Account Sweden appears to be the most limitted Monarchy in Europe & that the encroachments of Charles XI. & Charles XII. have taught these people to be more careful how they give Power to any King.

The Revenues are considerably lessened by the misfortunes in Charles XII. Reign, & in that of the last King, but as the expences of Government have been proportionably reduced there remains still enough for the Civil & Military establishments, & whilst these Funds are frugally administered foreign Subsidies won't be necessary, & provided they attempt no conquests, they may bid defiance to any thought of invasion.

The Revenues arise from Demesne Lands of the Crown, Customs, Coinage, Mines, Poll-Money &c. which are computed to amount to to 1,000,000. Sterling, whereof the Demesne Lands of the Crown are a third, & the Customs a fourth. The Poll tax is levy'd only on the Peasants from sixteen to sixty at 5s per annum each head.

It will not be improper to add here an Abstract of the solemn regulations made by the States of Sweden on the late King's accession in 1720.

The King's Male Heirs by Ulrica are to succeed to the Crown, but not till they attain the age of 21. before which time, the States have the power of appointing Governors with the King's approbation.

No new Laws is to take place nor Forces levy'd, nor Peace, nor War declar'd without the consent of the States.

No alteration can be made in the Coin without the States Consent.

The King is not to leave the Kingdom without it.

The Senators in case of Vacancy, to be chosen by the States, & consented to by the King in the following Manner, 24 of the Nobility, 12. of the Clergy, & as many of the Burghers meet & chuse 3. able persons to fill the vacant Seat, out of these His Majesty is to chuse one.

The Senate to be composed of 16. only besides the Governors of Provinces.

There can never be above two of a family in the Senate at the same time.

Matters are to be decided in the Senate by the plurality of Voices, & the King to join the Majority; but in cases of equality he has the casting Voice.

In case of the King's sickness or absence, the whole Government is in the Senate.

Half the Senate are to be employ'd in the administration of Justice, & foreign Affairs; the other half to assist the Secretaries of State, War, &c.

All Officers from Colnels to Feld-Marshals, with those answering to that rank in the Civil & Ecclesiastical State are given by the King in the Senate; that is on a Vacancy the Senate proposes several proper Subjects, out of which His Majesty chuses one.

As to all other Employments, the Colledges & others to whom they belong, present three persons for each Vacancy to the King.

Arch bishops are elected by the Votes of all the Consistories of the Kingdom, but the Bishops & Superintendants by the Majority of Votes in the Dioceses, in both which cases they are presented to the King for His approbation.

No Foreigner of whatever Rank can for the future hold any Office Civil or Military.

The Diet

The States are to assemble every three Years in the middle of January, the Nobility name their Marshal of the Diet, & the other Orders their Speakers.

If the King is absent the Senate call them together.

If there comes no Summons from the King or Senate in three Years every thing done in the interval is void & null, & the States are to meet of themselves.

One Member of every Family of Counts, Barons, & Gentlemen, ought to be at the Diet, provided of the age of 24.

The Bishops & Superintendants, or a Member of each Consistory elected by the Diocese. N.B. Sweden has 14. Bishoprick, or Superintendancys, including the Archbishoprick of Upsal.

One or more Deputys from every Town. N.B. there are 105. Towns great & small in Sweden that have a right of sending Deputys, several Towns may unite & send only one Delegate.

Lastly one Peasant from every Territory that has a fixed place of abode; several Territorys may if they please unite to chuse only one.

Each of these Bodies set in seperate places, & the Nobles having elected their Great Marshal, & the other orders their Speakers, they all assemble together with the King, who makes his speech from the Throne, that done, they resort to their respective Halls to proceed on business.

There is a Secret Committee elected compos'd of Deputys of the three higher orders, for business that demands secrecy; of this the Nobility have always double the number of the other two; the Great Marshal is President of this Committee.

Besides this there is another Committee for receiving petitions; the Members of these Committees that come too late or depart too soon are reprehended for the first offence & fined for the second &c.

During the Diet no military expedition can take place without the Consent of the States.

No one can be punish'd for any expression us'd in the Diet except by the States.

A Diet ought not to last above three Months, but may end sooner, if so determin'd by any three of the Orders, & communicated to the fourth.

When the time is come for their seperation, they all attend the King as in their first Meeting, the Marshal & different Speakers return Him thanks; then the resolutions of the States are read, & agreed to by the King, who makes them a gracious answer & dispolves the Diet.

The Courts of Judicature

There are four Courts of Justice one at Stockholm for Sweden properly so call'd, one at Jonkoping for Gothland

one at Abo for Finland, & one at Wismar in lower Saxony for the German Dominions of Sweden.

The Colledges or Boards.

Next to the Courts of Justice there is the Colledge of War composd of a President, Master of the Ordrance & four Councellors.

The next is the Colledge of the Admiralty composd of a President & all the Admirals present.

Then follows the Colledge of Chancery, where one of the Senators always precides, with another Assistant, three Secretarys of State, & four Councellors of Chancery.

To this Board belongs all the Regulations concerning the Kingdom in general, Alliances, Treatys of Peace &c.

The Chambers of Finances has a President & 4. Councellors, who are employd entirely in Revenue matters.

The Colledge of State follows next, where there is a President with two Commissarys, this has the Superintendancy of the Public Moneys & accounts, for as the former Colledge was imploy'd in collecting the Revenue, this is taken up in disposing of it.

The Colledge of Mines has also a President, two Councellors, & 4. Assessors; this has not only the inspection of Commerce, but of Manufactures, & a Superintendancy of the Customs.

The Chamber of Revision with its President & Assessors

has the final regulation of the Public Accounts, after they come from the Chamber of Finances; it appears also to be a Court of Law for Revenue Matters.
All these Colledges should assist one another reciprocally, & are obliged to make exact reports of every thing that passes in their respective departments to the Diet.

The Militia

The Swedish Militia is at present very much on the foot it was in former ages; they now follow the Regulations made in the Reign of Charles XI.
Before his time no levys were made of Foot, without the Consent of the fourth Estate, which occasion'd great delays & difficultys; but in that Prince's Reign, a proportion of Soldiers was allotted to each Province according to the number of Farms contain'd in it, & every Farm of 60. or 70. £ a Year, was oblig'd to maintain on Foot Soldiers in lodging, diet, ordinary cloaths, & 20s. in Money yearly, or else to build a small Wooden House with a sufficient quantity of land to keep a Cow, & supply him with bread, which last method the marry'd men were generally best pleas'd with, besides which a Farmer was oblig'd to advance the listing Money amounting sometimes to 20. £ a Man, & he was to repeat in case of death &c. for a new Recruit.

Over & above this there are twenty forms assign'd by the Public for extraordinary expences, & to provide subsistence for disabl'd or superannuated Officers, & a General Hospital for old & Wounded Soldiers, endow'd with a large Revenue to which every Officer contributes a certain sum on his promotion.

As to the Officers they are maintain'd out of the Crown Lands; every Officer has a House & parcel of land allotted him, where his Regiment is quarter'd; these Lands yield to a Colonel of Foot about £300. per annum & to the other Officers in proportion.

The pay of the Officers a Regiment amounts to £2500. per annum.

Every Officer on his promotion signs a paper obliging himself to leave the House & Estate in the same condition he found it.

This Army is subject to the Civil Magistrates while in quarters, & are only under martial Discipline when in actual service.

Every Company assembles once a month to exercise, & every Regiment or or twice a year, at which time only they wear the King's uniform.

No Private Soldier is allow'd to lyeout of his quarters, or be absent a day from the Parish he belongs to, & they are all inlisted for life; the Officers also are oblig'd to reside constantly with their Regiments.

There is at present about 28. Regiments of Foot on this establishment.

The Forces of Pomerania are not on this footing, but payd out of the Public Treasury.

While the Crown was absolute, in the Reign of Charles XI. & some of His Predecessors, the Kings levy'd any number of Troops they pleas'd, so that they frequently had fifty Regiments amounting to 60,000 Men, & in Charles XII. time there was double that number; but at present the Sovereigns can raise no forces without the consent of the States.

The Principal Magazines of Arms are at Stockholm, & Jonkoping, the only Fortify'd place in the Inland part of Sweden, where the train of Artillery is usually kept.

the Lands granted them since 1454. should be restor'd to the Antient Possessors.
The Clergy protested against this, whereupon he affected to quit the Throne, but on the earnest entreaties of the Stockholmers (who were greatly attach'd to Him) & the Clergy giving up some of the Castles, & signing an Act for the Regulation of Foreign affairs, He agreed to remain.
In 1528. He establish'd the Protestant Religion, made the inferior Clergy embrace it, & in 1544. enfor'd it by a Solemn Oath, & strictly prohibited the Romish Doctrine.
Sigismunds Reign was a continual war with His Swedish Subjects; that was chiefly owing to His being a Papist.

Johannes Magnus a Swedish Historian, pretends that Magog Son to Japhet, & Grandson to Noah, founded the Kingdoms of the Goths & Sweden; that the latter is nam'd after his Son Sweno, & the former was call'd after his other Son Gethar or Gog. Magnus also traces their rout to the Black Sea, & their irruption into the Roman Empire, where they founded two Kingdoms, 1st one in Italy, & the other in Spain.

Johannes Meserenius another writer treats all this as fabulous, also the list of Kings before the Birth of Christ; He thinks this History is very doubtful for some Centuries after the Christian Æra; most Authors agree that Woden, or Odhin about 60. years before our Saviour's Birth, was driven by Pompey out of Asia, conquer'd the Russians, Saxons, & Swedes, the last he preserv'd, & made all the Scandinavian Princes do Homage; from whence arose a custom,

that at the General Assembly of the Swedish States, the King of Denmark held the bridle, & the King of Norway the Stirrup, when the Swedish Monarch mounted his Horse.

In 829. the Emperor Lewis the Pious, sent the Bishop of Bremen to introduce Christianity in this Kingdom.

In 1160. St. Eric collected all the Laws into one Book, that went by his name.

The same year he defeated the Danes at Upsal, & built a Church there in memory of it, which he nam'd Denmark.

Magnus was Crown'd King of the Swedes & Goths in 1279. which title had never been us'd, except by Olaus II. but has since continued to be the Regal title.

In 1388. Albert a bad Prince was dethron'd by

Margaret Queen of Denmark, who united the three Northern Crowns.

In the R[illegible]gn of Gustavus Ericson in 1521. the Lutheran Doctrine made its way in Sweden, the King favo[illegible]ur'd, & declar'd in an Assembly of the States, that he would seize some of the Revenues of the Clergy, & that all the Lands granted them since 1454. should be r[illegible]t'd to the Antient possessors. The Clergy protested against this, whereupon he affected to quit the [illegible]own, but the Stockholmers attach'd to him, he chang'd his mind on their entreaties, & on the Clergy's giving up some of their Castles, & signing an Act for the Regulation of foreign affairs; in 1528. he establish'd the Protestant Religion, made the inferior Clergy embrace it, & in 1544. enforc'd it by a solemn oath, & made the strictest prohibition against the Roman Catholick Doctrine.

Sigismunds Reign (who was a Papist, he mounted the Throne in 1592) pass'd in continual war between him, & his Swedish Subjects.

Gustavus Adolphus came to the Crown in 1611. when the States gave him the whole management of affairs, tho' but 18. He from the weakest made it the most powerful Kingdom in the North; indeed his first war with Denmark ended unsuccessfully, but he took Livonia & Ingermania from the Russians, which he secur'd by a treaty in 1616. thro' the mediation of James I. of Great Britain; then wag'd war in Poland, wherein he got the remaining part of Livonia. The Austrians having in that war been aiding to the Poles, Gustavus to return the compliment assisted the German Protestants in 1630. beat the Imperialists at Leizick in 1631. & drove them out of Saxony & Bavaria; thence penetrating into Franconia, he vanquish'd

the Spaniards at Stockstadt. His foot having routed the Austrians in the plains of Lutzen, in 1632. he pass'd a small River at the Head of his Horse, & was found dead upon the Bank. It is disputed whether this happen'd by the treachery of Cardinal Richlieu, or by that of the Duke of Saxe-Lawenburgh; however the Swedes exasperated by his death, routed Count Papenheim a second time.

Gustavus was an excellent Legislator as well as General, for he mended the Constitution, & if he had liv'd to return, would certainly have put a finishing hand to it.

Christina a Princess of 6. years old, was acknowledg'd as Successor by Gustavus's regulation, tho' the Crown had till then only been settl'd on the Male line; This minority prov'd the great security of Sweden; for the King of Denmark, & the Elector of Brandenburgh,

kept the promises they had made Gustavus, & the rest of the Allies were less affraid of the Power of that Crown, than during the King's Reign.

The Chancellor Oxenstiern had manag'd the affairs of Germany so well that at the End of the war Sweden had above 100. fortified places, & an army of 100,000. Men; & got by the Peace of Munster, Pomerania, Bremen & Verden, the City of Wismar, a vote in the Diets of the Empire, & Circle of Lower Saxony, & 1,000,000. of Crowns as an acknowledgement of the great services performed by that Nation for the Protestant Cause.

The Young Queen was esteem'd by all Europe for her learning & capacity. Her Subjects wish'd to see her marry Prince Charles Gustavus Her Cousin, but they not liking one another, She resign'd the Crown to him in 1654. reserving a Pension, turn'd

Papist, & died in 1609. at Rome.

Charles Gustavus was Son of John Casimir Prince Palatine of the Rhine, & of Catharine Sister of Gustavus Adolphus. When he mounted the throne, the State was in a poor condition; but in a year he was able to attack the Poles, who had appov'd his having the Crown; in three months he took all Prussia except Dantzick; a great part of Lithuania, Warsaw, Cracow, & other places in Great & Lesser Poland; so that most of the Poles swore Allegiance to him, but he soon left them, because the Emperor, the Czar, & Holland, were join'd against him; he appointed his Brother Prince Adolph Governor of Prussia, whilst he went to Denmark, where by a Peace with that King, he got the Provinces of Schonen, Halland, & Blecking; but in the Spring the war broke out a fresh; Charles then march'd into Zeland & besieg'd Copenhagen, while General Wrangel attack'd Cronenburgh at the entrance of the

Sound, which was taken; but as to the former, the Danes defended themselves till the Dutch Fleet came to their assistance, upon which Charles return'd home to make preperations for a vigorous Campaign the next spring, but died of a Fever in 1660. He left a son of 5. years old, engag'd in a war against six of the greatest Powers in Europe.

Charles XI. was govern'd in his Minority by his Mother, who by the advice of the principal people in the Kingdom, made peace with Poland, by which that King gave up all claim to Sweden, & the Swedes yielded their right to Livonia; a Peace was also concluded with Denmark, but as soon as Charles was Major he totally join'd France, & lost a great part of his German dominions, but by a seperate Treaty made before the General one, He got them restor'd, & was Mediator at the Peace of Nimeguen.

He married the Daughter of Frederick II. King of Denmark; he then seperated from the French, & applied himself to the Government of his Kingdom; correcting the abuses that had crept into the State, whilst he & his Predecessors, were engag'd in wars, & left their affairs in the hands, & mercy of their Ministers.

He sate in the Supreme Court of Judicature, & dispatch'd more Lawsuits in 7. years, than had before been decided in 20. He was so belov'd by his Subjects, that they agreed to lessen the power of the Senate, & by further alterations, made him as absolute as any Prince in Europe; by their means he reunited to the Crown those lands that had been alienated from it, & paid the National debts by raising the value of the Coin. A Militia was settl'd, by which 17,000. Horse & 43,000.

foot were kept at the expence of his subjects. They also granted him large supplies, satisfied that they would be employ'd for their good. This King's Reign may serve as a lesson to those who govern a Free People, that no Prince is so absolute, as He who rules in the Hearts of his People, & directs his actions by the Laws & Constitutions of his Country.

He was in his private life a very moral man, tho' he did not like his Queen. He humbl'd his Nobility, was obliging to the Clergy, & tender of his People. He avoided wars as much as he could, yet when the King of Denmark seiz'd the Dominions of his Ally the Duke of Holstein, he prepar'd to assist him, which occasion'd the Treaty of Altena in 1689. that reinstated the Duke in his Dutchy.

He afterwards made a defensive alliance with the Danes, for the safety of the North, lest

6,000. men to the Dutch, & offer'd as many more to the Emperor, in the war against France. Lewis XIV. forbid his Privateers to attack Swedish Ships, dreading so great a Northern power. Charles died in 1697. He was succeeded by his Son Charles XII.

The King in dying left his Mother assisted by 5. Senators as Regent, whose power was to subsist till the Young King attain'd the age of 18. but he was declar'd Major before 16. by the States. He the same year was Mediator at the Peace of Ryswick. The Kings of Denmark & Poland, & the Czar Peter the Great, resolv'd without provocation to attack him on all sides. Charles no sooner saw the English Fleet in the Baltick, as Guarantees of the Treaty of Altena; but he landed & besieg'd Copenhagen, & forc'd the Dane to a reasonable peace, & to abandon the Alliance; this treaty was made in 1698. at Travendahl. He in the same year reliev'd Nerva, & beat the Czar with a very unequal force. He

then depos'd King Augustus of Poland, & gave Stanislaus Lezinski Palatine of Pomerania the Crown. He follow'd Augustus into Saxony, exhausted that Country with contributions, & impos'd very hard conditions on him in a treaty made near Leipzick.

He after this march'd thro' Ukraine into Russia, resolv'd to drive the Czar out of his dominions, but lost 30,000. men at the Battle of Poltowa in 1709. & fled with a small retinue into the dominions of the Port; on this defeat Augustus recover'd Poland, the Danes attack'd Schonen, & took Bremen & Verden, which were afterwards sold to the Elector of Hanover; the Czar made himself master of the greatest part of the Swedish territories on the Baltick; & the Prussians overrun Pomerania.

In 1714. Charles return'd to his Kingdom, maintain'd his absolute Power, & revis'd the war, with great resolution, still keeping in view his former projects;

but invading Norway he perish'd before Frederickshall in 1718.

His Sister Ulrica Eleonora was declar'd Queen, & Her Husband the Hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel General Generalissimo; but embracing the Lutheran Religion was also in 1720. sate of the throne, & Peace with Denmark; & in the following year with Prussia & the Czar. By these Treaties the Swedes recover'd part of Pomerania, & the Town of Wismar; but the King of Prussia kept the Dutchy of Stetin; Bremen & Verden were left to Hanover; the Czar preserv'd all his Conquests; & the Kings of Sweden & Poland were reconcil'd.

Upon this the Crown became the most limitted in Europe, the Senate recover'd their Antient Priviledges, so that the King cannot do any thing without the consent of the States. The Swedes kept firm to their Alliance with Russia, & her neighbours, & enter'd into strict engagements, with Britain & the

House of Austria.

In 1738. The Diet assembl'd, & chose Count Tessin Marshal. It soon appear'd to be divided into 3. parties, viz. those who were for retaking the Dominions from the Russians; the others for Peace; & the third were for keeping a midle way; Contrary to Custom the Diet sate 11. months, when the first party had the Majority, & 5. Senators, who had been employ'd in renewing the Treaty with Russia, were turn'd out.

The next year a French Squadron commanded by the Marquis d'Antin came & anchor'd in the road of Stockholm, for what purpose has never been known.

In 1740 on the Death of the Czarina Ann, the Swedes took the opportunity of declaring war against the Russians, which prov'd fatal to them, loosing Finland, & being reduc'd to accept of any peace the Russians offer'd; the Queen died in 1741. during this war, & the King growing infirm, it was thought

necessary to fix on a successor; 4. Candidates appear'd, the Young Duke of Holstein Gottorp, Prince Frederick of Hesse Cassel, the Prince of Denmark, & the Prince of Deux Ponts.

After very warm debates in the diet, the Duke of Holstein in 1742. had the majority of two votes; the Crown was offer'd him at Petersburgh by Deputies from the States, on condition that the Russians restor'd Finland; but on their arrival, the Duke had embrac'd the Greek Religion, with a view of succeeding to the Russian Crown, to which he laid claim by Hereditary right.

Upon this the Peasants & Clergy, espous'd the interest of the Prince of Denmark, & the greatest promoters of the war, were now for punishing those to whom they had given the direction of it.

The Swedes could neither bear the thought of losing Finland, nor were they able to recover it by

arms; therefore under the mediation of Britain, a treaty was concluded at Abo, by which the Czarina yielded Finland, reserving only a small district, & the Swedes receiv'd from her their future King, in in the person of Prince Adolphus Frederick, Bishop of Lubec, who was thereupon declar'd successor of Sweden; the Grand Duke of Russia solemnly renouncing his new acquir'd right to the Swedish Crown.

While this was under consideration, the Dalecarians march'd to Stockholm in support of the Prince of Denmark, they were encounter'd by the Royal Army, & after a smart engagement, laid down their arms, & submitted to the King's Mercy, which he gave in the amplest manner, yet this did not soften the Peasants in their resentment

against Count Loeuwenhaupt, & Baron Buddenbrok, & the King himself was force'd to give them up to justice.

The King of Denmark was highly displeas'd at having the Bishop of Lubec prefer'd to his son, made great military preperations; but the Czarina declar'd to both Courts, that She would with all her forces maintain the Election She had promoted.

To establish the peace more effectually, the Prince married Louisa Ulrica sister of the King of Prussia. The Prince & his Consort acted so wisely on coming to Sweden, that they gain'd the affection of the People.

It was agreed to fall in with the King of Prussia's views; whereupon a treaty was made with him by the consent of the Diet, to which France acceded.

Prussia was much displeas'd at this, the Czarina tried by Letters as well as the Grand Duke, to turn the Prince from Count Gyllenburgh & the Country

party; but he remain'd steady to his engagements, always own'd his obligations to the Czarina, & profess'd a great regard for her, as far as was consistent with his Duty in pursuing the Welfare of the Swedish Nation.

When Count Gyllenburgh died, Tessin succeeded in the Prince's favour, who was look'd upon by Russia with a jealous eye.

The old King was passive in all these transactions, his behaviour was such as preserv'd him the respect as well as sincere affection of his People. His reign was very mild; He had a true concern for the good of his Subjects, promoted every thing that either tended to heighten or secure their felicity, & was ever unwilling to give his authority to acts of Party violence, which a good Prince will always disapprove of. It is therefore no wonder the People lov'd him; as they thought his death would make

a change in the Government, they trembl'd for that event which however happen'd in 1751.

The Prince was proclaim'd King the next day, & by a Solemn Act declaring, he would keep to the Government establish'd in 1720. & to the assurances he had given the States in 1742. & that he would look on that man as his & the Kingdom's greatest Enemy, who should either in Publick or private endeavour to introduce despotism, or arbitrary Power.

Yet from time to time there has been little disputes between him & the Senate, but none of consequence till in 1756. when a private Soldier discover'd to the Senate a plot by which the next day the King was to have been made absolute; this was prov'd, & 3. persons of rank who had been concern'd in it were executed, & the King forc'd to

renue his Coronation Oath; the Queen was also oblig'd to take it, as she was suppos'd to have been the principal contriver of the intended alteration. It seems to be over for the Present, but the Senate have declard to the King, that if he offers again to make cabals they will depose him.

The Swedes very good Soldiers, tho' their Troops are greatly reduc'd. They are zealous Lutherans & tolerate no other Religion. Their Nobility have a little smattering of Learning, but few have more than that; they were in all times loyal to their Princes, & true lovers of Liberty.

As to their Vices, they are very fiddy, full of vanity, which appears very plainly in their Furniture, & Equipages; very envious of Strangers who thrive, at Court, in the Army, or in Trade, & even of their own Countryomen, particularly if of mean birth.

They manage the Revenues, & have the Executive power in the King's absence. He appoints all Military Officers under Colonels, but in naming those & others of higher rank the consent of the Senate is necessary. Proclamations & other Publick Acts must be issued also by the joint Authority of King & Senate.

By this it appears that Sweden is the most limited Monarchy in Europe, & that the encroachments of Charles XI. & Charles XII. have taught these people to be more careful how they give Power to any King

The Revenues are considerably lessen'd by the misfortunes in Charles XII. Reign, & in that of the last King; but as the expences of Government have been proportionably redu-c'd; remains still enough for the Civil & Military establishment, & while their Revenues continue to be frugally

manag'd, they will be under no necessity of having recourse to foreign Subsidies; & provided they attempt no conquests, they may bid defiance to any thought of invasion.

The Revenues arise from demesn lands of the Crown, Customs, Coin, Mines, Poll-money &c. which are computed to amount to one million Sterling, whereof the Demesn Lands of the Crown are a third & Customs a fourth. The Poll tax is levied only on Peasants from sixteen to sixty at 12s. per Annum each head.

There is no danger of their being a Maritime power, or of there having an extensive Trade, tho' they have good ships & Sailors, because they are impatient if matters do not instantly succeed, & have no turn to manufactures & trade; yet 'tis not likely they will lessen their Naval force, as their Laws have made a competent provision for it.

After having given this character of them, their frequent changes in Government are not so wonderful; as the love of Freedom is their predominant Passion, they have not always known the proper cures for evils, that a brave Nation cannot bear; this either made them follow the impulses of despair, or what those who undertook their deliverance advis'd. Since they have shook off the Danish yoke, the preserving the Legislative power in the States, & as much of the Executive in the hands of the Senate, as was expedient for the

Publick Good, have been the two fundamental rules of Policy.

The States generally assemble every 3. years, & oftner if the circumstances of Affairs require it. The Letters for summoning them, are sent to the Governors of the Provinces, who write to each Nobleman & Gentleman in their district, & to the Bishops, who publish it in the Parish Churches. The Nobility & Gentry are Represented by one of Each family. The Colonell, Lieutenant Colonel, Major, & a Captain of each Regiment sit & vote in the same House. Besides the Bishops, & Superintendants, one is chosen in every Rural Deanery, which consists of 10. Parishes, & maintain'd at the Expence of the Electors. The Representatives of the Burghers are elected by the Magistrates & Common Council of each Corporation,

of which Stockholm sends four others two & some one. The Peasants have one in each District to appear for them, whose charges they bear, & to whom they give instructions.

At their first meeting the King & Senate are present, when the President of the Chancery makes a Speech in the King's name to them, wherein he mentions what has pass'd since their last meeting, & the principal points on which they are to consult; the Speaker of the Four Orders then gives an answer, after which they retire to their Houses, where each body chuses a number of Members for the Secret Committee, who prepare the business to be laid before the States. Each order has a negative, but in their own Houses the Majority carries it.

The reason the Officers have a seat in the Diet, proceeds from their employments being for life, & each of them enjoys a land revenue instead of

pay.

The King shews great regard to the Clergy. The House of Burgesses is well affected to the Crown; but not that of the Peasants.

Each of the Houses present their grievances to the King, who answers them; at the dissolution of the Diet, each member of the Clergy, Burgesses & Peasants, has an extract of the proceedings, & of the King's answers to their grievances, which they carry to their respective Electors.

The King can do nothing of importance without the concurrence of the Senate, who take an oath of Fidelity to the Kingdom, & if the States should dislike their conduct, they are liable to be remov'd by them. In the three last Reigns but one, their Authority was much diminish'd, but now they are restor'd & a great efficient part of the Constitution.

History of the Revolutions in Sweden from 1515. to 1544.

Sweden was antiently the dominion of the Goths, who overturn'd the Roman Empire, soon after it fell into oblivion, till the 14th Century when the opposite pretensions of the King, Clergy, Nobles, Towns, & People form'd a sort of Anarchy, the other Northern Nations were in the same savage, unmodell'd State, so that the superiority one might obtain over the rest could not spring from a greater refinedness of policy, but from the peculiar circumstances of the times in its favour.

At this period Margaret was possess'd of the Kingdoms of Norway & Denmark, the first by the death of her Son, the last by that of her Father; she foresaw a possibility of adding Sweden to these Territorys.

She had an unbounded ambition, a clear foresight, strictly observ'd the Laws & public decorum, when they did not jar with her views.

At the same time Albert K. of Sweden to humble his Subjects, & violate the Laws, fill'd his Kingdom with Germans; the Nobility upon this offer'd Margaret the title of Queen, intending her merely as a tool to dethrone the Tyrant; after a bloody seven years War, he was oblig'd to surrender the Crown to obtain his liberty which he had lost in battle.

The Queen now wearing the three Crowns, resolv'd to unite them forever, & therefore ~~[illegible]~~ assembl'd the Estates of the three Kingdoms at Calmar, where a Law was made, erecting them into one Monarchy, in it the following regulations were set down.

1. That it should be an elective Monarchy, & unless the King had near Relations fit to succeed him, that they should chuse alternatively out of the three Kingdom a proper person.

By the 2d the King was to live equally in the three Kingdoms, & spend in each of them their Revenue.

& 3. each Kingdom was to keep its Laws, privileges, & Senate, & the Bishops, Magistrates, Generals, & ever Troops, [redacted]

These ordinations proved of no effect; for the Queen resided entirely in Denmark, & those Estates treated the other Members of the Union with great contempt; if the Danes on the contrary had shown more prudence they would have undoubtedly subjected the other Kingdoms; but they on her death elected a Sovereign without summoning the other Estates; the Swedes refus'd to acknowledge the person chosen, & confer'd both the Legislative & Executive authority of their Kingdom on one who as well as his Successors was still Administrator. This occasion'd continual Wars with the Danes, that only subsided when both were in want of

the necessarys for carrying them on, but when recover'd, they engag'd with redoubl'd ardour.

Denmark had rather a monster then man in Christern II. who was naturaly vicious to the highest degree, without even the mask of virtue; in short his Cotemporarys with truth call'd him the Nero of the North; he attempted restoring the Union of Calmar not by gaining the Swedes, but by endeavouring to force them to submit to his Will.

Sturte Stur the last Administrator by a Wise & Vigilant conduct quieted the Swedish divisions; but on his death two factions sprung up, the first consisted of the Bishops, who were desirous of restoring the Union of Calmar, the rest of the Nation so much detested this, that the Prelates only dard propose Eric Trolle for Administrator, knowing his timidity, irresolution, & Old age, to be the best

method of bringing about what they in silence wish'd; the people on the contrary elected Stenson to Sweden Stur, & force'd the Clergy to acknowledge him.

The Clergy said the Election was unfair; the new Administrator looking on a Civil War as very dreadful for the Country, sacrifice'd his private resentments to the public good, & therefore appointed Trolle's son Archbishop of Upsal.

This man was jealous, ambitious, full of pride & arrogance; stuck at nothing when his interest was concern'd; he was the prime mover of all the following Swedish convulsions, tho ignorant of Men & business.

He never acknowledg'd his obligations to Stens, nor ever own'd as Administrator; their hatred daily encreas'd; the former with the Clergy join'd the Danes; whilst the latter assembl'd the Estates of the

Kingdom to punish this Rebel, & also attempted getting the Pope to stand neuter.

John Arcamboldi was at this time sent by Leo X. as Legate into the North with those famous Indulgences that gave rise to the Reformation; he first passed into Denmark where Christern greatly caressed him, knowing his success in Sweden depended entirely on the Clergy's assistance; He concerted the whole affair with the Legate who soon proceeded to Sweden; there found out some negociation was on foot, & drew the whole of it out of him, by making him great

presents & encouraging the Papal Indulgences; in short the Administrator assembl'd the Senate when he thought the intelligence would not be trac'd from the Legate, open'd to them the Danish project, & pointed out the Governors of Stockholm & Nicoping as two confederates in it; they were arrested, pleade'd guilty, & declar'd the Archbishop of Upsal was the chief Author of this Conspiracy.

The Militia was immediately drawn out, & the Archbishop besieg'd at Steke; but the Danes landing near Stockholm, Steno was forc'd to march towards them with his Cavalry, who he defeated at Wedel after a bloody & doubtful action, & those of the Enemy who escap'd, were forc'd to reimbark for Denmark.

The Victorious troops return'd to the Siege, which they soon master'd; the Estates of the Kingdom oblig'd the Archbishop to resign his dignity, & confin'd him in a Monastery; the Pope issu'd the Thunder of the Church against the Administrator & Estates for this conduct, & appointed the K. of Denmark to put this Bull in execution.

Christern on entring Sweden put every thing to the fire & sword in his way to the Capital, which he some time in vain besieg'd; on the Administrator's assembling the troops, & advancing, he retir'd to his Ships, but lost his Artillery, Baggage & rear Guard; & was detain'd three months on the Swedish Coast by contrary winds; he would have been starv'd if he remain'd in his Ships, or destroy'd if he landed; if the Administrator

had not very impolitically on his proposing peace, consented to a negociation; Christern sought to get Sten on board, for then either by detaining him, or putting him to death, he would have mastered Sweden; but this did not succeed.

Christern then offer'd to come to Stockholm, provided Hostages were sent for his security, on which six men of the first distinction were put on board his fleet; he then instantly sail'd for Denmark, hoping that the Relations of these would force Sten to an accommodation, but this also prov'd abortive.

Then Christern seiz'd on Arcambaldi's treasures, & rais'd foreign troops to enter Sweden but the discontent of his subjects prevented his going in person, he therefore sent
1519. Otto Gruper, the Swedes would have render'd this expedition of little importance had they

contented themselves with harrassing him, & cutting off his provisions; but the Administrator, ~~[illegible]~~ a battle which seem'd favourable to him, but he was slain; Sthoreccing the confusion on his death, push'd forward & dispers'd them; & also defeated the ~~[illegible]~~ of the Army who were intrench'd; thus filling the whole Kingdom into confusion, nothing but a new Administrator could have restor'd public order; but Stolle seized this opportunity to assemble a Diet at Upsal, where he propos'd the chusing Christian of Denmark for their King, this was agreed to, & the Kingdom oblig'd to acquiesce in it.

Christian came to Stockholm for his Coronation, & found the Estates assembl'd to receive him; the Archbishop of Upsal demanded justice for the siege of Steke, & the loss of his Mitre; the King pretended ~~[illegible]~~

ignorance with regard to this, & refused to take any cognizance of it, & referr'd it to two Danish Bishops to whom the Pope had directed his Bull, as an affair regarding the Church; He however was soon disgusted at the time this examination took up, & therefore had the Ecclesiastical & secular Senators who had given judgement against Stille, & the rest of the Nobility then at Stockholm put to death without allowing them any confession; to give as much as possible the air of justice to this unheard of cruelty; it was pretended that this was done in consequence of their excommunication, many others were also capitally punish'd because they had been censur'd by the Church; the Bishop of Lincopine was the only person spar'd, & that because

he had been forced to sign Trolle's condemnation.

Christian would not permit their bodys to be bury'd, & had the last Administrators remains taken up & burnt; & took his Widdow & the rest of the Women to Denmark as pledges for the good behaviour of their Relations, & massacred all persons attach'd to their Country & its Constitution.

Gustavus Vasa descended from the antient Kings of Sweden was also conducted to Denmark, & there confin'd, & would have been executed had not Christian dreaded the irritating that powerful House.

This Young man had every quality necessary for making a good General, he had indeed distinguish'd himself at the Siege of Steke, & Battle of Wedel; to this was added a true Sense of honour, great prudence, Spirit

affability, & eloquence; Eric Banner & Dare his Relation obtain'd the custody of him; nothing could ever drive out of his thoughts the misery of his Country; he escap'd from Banner's Government of Calo, [redacted] to Sweden, on his way to the province of Dalecarlia he was rob'd by his Guide, which oblig'd him to Work in the Copper Mines; when discover'd he struck up a friendship with Peter, on whose Valor he had been witness of, who betray'd him to the Danes; Gustavus fled to an Ecclesiastick, to whom he communicated his project of rescuing his Country from bondage, they together fix'd the method of executing it; this Caratt spread a report among the Dalecarlians that the Tyrant meant to oppress them as much as the other provinces; Gustavus then went to Mora, where a great concourse of people assembl'd every Christmas; his birth

reputation, misfortunes & dignity gain'd room them, that they annul'd their oaths to Christian, resolv'd to put all the Danes they met to death, & swore to restore their liberty.

Gustavus instantly at the head of 400 Men attack'd the Castle, the residence of the Governor of the Province, the darkness of the night, ardor shown, & surprize effected this bold enterprize, the Walls were scal'd & the Garrison slain.

If the Archbishop of Lunden Christian's Vice Roy had instantly advanc'd towards the malecontents, this rising would have been quell'd; but his timidity, voluptuousness & avarice kept him at Stockholm, till he receiv'd orders from Denmark to attack them; Christian was prevented from coming himself by the disturbances in Denmark on account of his Tyranny, which would

have broke out into a Civil War, had he gone to Sweden.

The Duke Roy when arriv'd at the banks of the River Brunebec grew embarass'd, & on the sight of the Enemy, retir'd to Westeras Capital of Westermania, he soon return'd to Stockholm & gave himself up a prey to his pleasures.

The Male contents soon after took, both Wadestena, & Sudermania, Orebro in Servia, & Gyoal; Folle its Archbishop was offer'd the Chief direction of affairs, if he would join them, but he on the contrary march'd from Stockholm towards Gyoal at the head of 4000. Men in hopes of surprizing them; he was encourag'd to take this step by Gustavus's army being reduc'd to 700. Men the Dalecarlians having left him to reap their Corn; he would have been ensnar'd from neglecting to sent parties a reconoitring, had not

two Gentlemen gave him notice two hours before Trolle's arrival; upon this Gustavus retir'd to a neighbouring wood in sight of the Enemy, & lost but 12. Horsemen of his Rear Guard; the Archbishop then entered Upsal in Triumph; whilst the Young General assembl'd all his troops, was join'd by all the Swedes attach'd to the antient Constitution, & by 1200. Germans; with these he defeated Trolle in his return to the Capital, & after mature deliberation advanc'd towards it; the Vice Roy & Trolle retir'd to Denmark under pretence of hastening the succours from thence; Christiern was so irritated at the Swedish state of affairs, that he put Gustavus's Mother & Sister, & all the Swedes that had not bef[illegible] him to death; this unheard of cruelty hurry'd

on the Swedish Revolution.

The Estates of the Kingdom assembled at Wadestena, but few of the Deputy appeared, owing to the difficulty of avoiding the Troops, they ravaging every Province, & to the fear of the Danes every day getting the better; all allegiance was here renounced to Christern, Gustavus elected Administrator (whose authority till then was solely built on his Courage) & the War order'd to be vigorously prosecuted.

Gustavus on this raised money on his own Estate, & either corrupted or defeated the majority of the Danish Governors, & was advancing towards Stockholm, when he received an account that the Corps he had employ'd in blockading that Town, had retired,

Horbi a Danish Admiral effected this by equipping a fleet, & carrying it to that place, & then employing his sailors in a sortie, who defeated their blockaders.

The Administrators brought these fugitives again before the Town, wated out their private jealousys, & obtained a fleet & reinforcement of Troops from Lubec, on condition that Republic should be Mistress of the Swedish Commerce, & arbitrator both of Peace, & War.

+ Horbi met this fleet near Stockholm, after both sides having shown great valour, they were parted by the night & this Admiral forc'd to seek shelter off a small Island from a great storm that arose; the cold was also

very great, that his Ships were frozen up; Gustavus on this lead his troops on the Ice, some attempted to board these Ships, others threw lighted torches at them, they would have been all probably destroyed, had not the Lubec General who commanded his attack sounded the retreat; this was either occasioned by secret orders from his Republic, or by Norbi's gold; the Danes escaped in the morning.

The taking away Christier's authority in Sweden afford no more blood, he being deposed in Denmark by reason of his barbarous Tyranny, which disgusted his Swedish partizans, who would readily have surrendered Stockholm, but Gustavus chose

to delay this, that the Estates then assembled
1523. at Wegnez might be frightened into offering
him the Crown; when they had taken this
step, Stockholm was instantly given up, &
the Danes driven out of the Kingdom.

Frederic D. of Holstein elected K. of
Denmark on the Deposition of his Nephew
Christern, was too much occupy'd to think
of opposing Gustavus, till persuaded by
Trolle to be crown'd K. of Sweden in
Denmark, & to send Ambassadors there
to demand the allegiance of those people;
but Gustavus soon convinc'd him of the
necessity of their uniting against Christern
their Common Enemy.

Sweden now in a state of tranquility
the King rais'd Anderson a man of obscure
extraction to the post of Chancellor, as a
proper instrument for executing the great
projects ~~[illegible]~~ he had form'd to change

the Government; this Minister thought his own glory inseperable from that of his King & Country, tho' not of a mold to sacrifice himself for it; he knew how to hurry on events without too much precipitation, was steady, courageous & an adept in the Laws.

He propos'd the introducing Lutheranisme to correct the abuses the Priests had introduced in Religion, & Government; the Swedish Ecclesiastics were masters of several Towns, & form'd a sort of independant Republic in the State; they govern'd the Lower people, as Ministers of Religion, & had also sway with them by reason of their immence wealth.

Gustavus highly approv'd of clipping their Wings, Divines were invited from Germany Lutheranisme daily gain'd ground, the fines laid on some crimes by the Clergy were abolish'd

as also the right the Bishops had assumed of being Heirs to their inferior Clergy, & the endeavours made by the Clergy of examining into all causes that in the least regarded Religion; & even troops quarter'd in their Houses. also two tenths of their Revenues reserv'd for paying the Troops, & part of their plate & bells, to pay off the priviledges the Lubec Merchants enjoy'd;

All these changes were effected without any commotions of great consequence; indeed at the annual Fair of Upsal, some people complain'd of these alterations as an attack on their Liberty; but the King's appearing here, the immediate flight, & punishment of the discontented, only encreas'd Gustavus's power.

The Clergy at this time produc'd a Young Man whom they call'd son to the last Administrator; the King's resolution on this

occasion, destroyd the party of this Impostor, who fled to Norway, & was put to death by the Magistrates of Rostock.

1527. Gustavus then summon'd the General Estates at Westeras, to whom he propos'd the confirming the resolutions of the Senate concerning the tenths of the Clergy, the obliging the Bishops to yield up their castles, & the Clergy to give up what land they could not prove belong partcularly to the Church.

The Clergy, some of the Gothland Nobility, & many Deputys of the Peasants opposed this; they chose Fareiohanson Grand Marshal, who had married the last Administrator's Widow for their Chief; he was a vain Man totaly unfit for so difficult a post; Gustavus on this declar'd he would abdicate if they did not consent to this; & retir'd out of the Assembly.

Fareiohanson knew not how to take

advantage of this false step, & his party thought of nothing but rejoicing at their Victory; the Chancellor by threats, & promises brought back enough to the King's side to form a Majority; then the Clergy were expell'd the Senate, & the Marshal & his followers would have been massacred had they not precipitately retir'd.

The King then pass'd through the different provinces with the Cavalry to put the changes of Government into execution, then declar'd himself a Lutheran, & was followed by the whole Kingdom.

Entirely had he crush'd the Spirit of the Nation that at a meeting of the General Estates at Westeras, he got the Crown from elective [redacted] to hereditary on his family.

1544.

Gustavus was certainly a man of superior abilities, had he turned them

to supporting the Liberties of his Country instead of putting an end to them; he would have been admired by the just, but now detested by all true lovers of that greatest of blessings.

Sweden is situated between Denmark, Norway, and Russia; its length is about nine hundred Miles, and its breadth about seven hundred and twenty Miles; the soil is in general barren, and does not produce the most necessary articles of life, though good pasture; the Winters long and severe, the Summers short and intensely hot; there is neither Spring nor Autumn; yet the Air is healthy; the inhabitants are tall, robust, used to fatigues and frugality, and consequently make good Soldiers. Some Geometers pretend that Sweden contains sixty thousand Square Miles, but the number of inhabitants does not exceed four Millions.

The Crown was anciently Elective which gave rise to the civil Wars that were very destructive to the Kingdom. The Nobles aspiring to this dignity, mutually excluded each other and then placed Foreigners on the Throne; The Clergy more attached to their private interest than to that of the State, were the inviters of Christian II. of Denmark, who soon overcome the small Army consisting of 500. Men of the Administrator Young Sture who was wounded of which he died in a few days. Sweden upon this yielded to the Yoke of a most cruel tyrant who in defiance of the Oaths he had taken put the flower of the Nobility, of the Magistrates and Senators to death, and did not even leave the Corps of the Young Administrator at rest but insulted it in a manner that alone marked the brutality of his disposition

1521. Though without Troops, money, or Ships Gustaeus Son of Eric of the House of Vasa, and of Cecile of that of Sture,

at

at the age of thirty with fifty Dalecarlian Peasants undertook to drive Christian from the Swedish Throne, nothing but his success could have justified to posterity so bold though generous an undertaking, this was effected in two months, Christian also lost the Crowns of Denmark and Norway and passed the rest of his days in an obscure prison without other society than a Dwarf.

Gustavus Vasa was immediately elected Administrator of Sweden, his prudence, penetration and activity brought this King dom into a most flourishing situation, he established the Lutheran Religion, and at length engaged the Swedes to fix the Crown Hereditarily on his Descendants which had till then been
1544. Elective; this Act was named the Hereditary Union in opposition to the Union of Calmar whose foundation it destroyed.

1560. Gustavus died in an advanced age to the great grief of his subjects, he had been thrice married, the first was Catherine Daughter of Magnus Duke of Lace Lauenburgh, by whom he had Eric who succeeded him; the second Margueritta of the Swedish family of Lejonhufvud by whom he had John, Charles Father of Gustavus Adolphus, Sten and another Charles who died in their infancy, and Magnus who from imbecility took no share in the troubles that arose after the death of Gustavus I. besides five Daughters; the third Catherine Steenbock daughter of Olaf Stolar of his Second Wife

Eric XIV. his Eldest Son succeed to him, he was Choleric and Melancholy; John became Duke of Finland, Magnus of Ostrogothia and Charles of Sudermania; on disputes between the Young King
1563. and his brother the Duke of Finland, John was put into prison,
1567. but was released in a few years, and on Eric's marrying a peasant, the Swedish Nobility not brooking this affront, joined the

the Duke of Finland, the King was declared incapable of
1564. Reigning, John was placed on the Throne; Eric was confined
in Prison, and on the people shewing some compassion, the Nobility
1575. and Clergy signed a Decree that if this tyrant could not
be kept in safety it would be necessary to end his days for
the security of the State, he was two years after poisoned.

John III. gave great hopes at first wearing the Diadem, but in
time recalled the Jesuits and persecuted the Lutheran Clergy,
which gave great offence, by Catherine Jagellon Daughter of Sigismund
King of Poland he had Sigismond elected King of Poland and
John created Duke of Ostrogothia; the King with difficulty
consented to the departure of his son Sigismund; on finding
his death approach, he was reconciled to his Brother the
Duke of Sudermania, and desired him to take the reins
of government upon ~~until~~ the Arrival of the King his Son;
1592. Charles as soon as John was dead, persuaded the States to declare
that Sigismund could not succeed unless he embraced the
Lutheran Religion.

1350. Le Royaume de Suede etoit encore électif dans le 14me. Siecle, mais ordinairement ~~l'etoit~~ le choix tomboit sur un des Enfans ou proche Parens du Roi; ~~quoique~~ et les Suedois souvent déposoit leurs Souverains si ils donnoient atteinte à la liberté ou aux Privileges de la Nation.

Le Roy ne pouvoit faire la Guerre ni la Paix, ni levée des troupes, ni etablir des taxes, sans le consentement du Senat ou des Etats.

Le Domaine de la Couronne ne consistoit que dans quelques Terres proche d'Upsal, et dans un tribut fort leger que les Paysans payoient par tête.

1282. Le Senat sous le Regne de Magnus Ladaslaus réunit au Domaine du Prince les Mines de Cuivre, la propriété des trois grands Lacs, avec le droit de pêche sur les côtes de la Mer Baltique et ceux qui avoient acquis des Terres incultes ou le droit du Paturage dans les forets payeroient les redevances dont ils étoient affranchis à la faveur des Guerres Civiles,

Notes on some passages of the new form of Government given by the King of Sweden to his Subjects Aug.t 21.st 1772.

§. 1.

The beginning and the latter end of this first Article are the same as the form of 1720. the middle is altered and the words which relate to the Churches defence against Heresie and Fanatiks are left out: it is conjectured this may have been done with a view to leave a liberty of extending Toleration, or perhaps of admitting the Jews to settle here in consideration of a sum of money which has been often talked of: this paragraph is copied with some small additions from the form of Gustavus Adolphus as settled after his death by the States in 1634.

§. 2.

Is quite altered, as one may easily imagine from the words "He and no other"; by the form of 1720. the King was restrained to act in some points with the advice of the Senate

NB. the Statute of the Royal Prerogative is the Kong: Balken mentioned at the beginning of the general remarks here annexed and is so called in the original Swedish of the new form of 1772

§. 3.

Nothing is altered in the succession to the Crown; as it stood before, the States in 1544. settled it upon the descendants in the Male line of Gustavus I. and in case of their failure direct that the Election of a new King should depend on the Senate and the States. the resolution of 1604. sets aside King Sigismond and his Posterity, and the reference made to it is, as I suppose, for the sake of the power there given the King to appoint a Regency in case of a Minority, by his last Will and Testament.

§. 4.

§. 4.

The paragraph relating to the Senators is the 12th in the form of 1720. which directs the manner in which they shall be elected and that the places which become vacant between the Diets shall not be filled till the next Diet meets; this is all changed and they are now no more than simple Privy Counsellors, and the King may as Charles XI. forbid them to call themselves for the future the Kingdom's Counsellors.

§. 6.

Negociations of Peace &c are treated in the 7th paragraph of the form of 1720. by which it is enacted that the King shall deliberate upon these weighty matters with the Senate, with them conclude and execute what is most advantageous for the Kingdom, but that an Account shall be given of it to the next following Diet, and that during the Assembly of the States nothing of this kind is to be proposed or concluded without their knowledge and consent. By this new form all these transactions depend totally on the King since it is hardly probable that a whole Senate nominated by him and who can be put in arrest, perhaps deposed by him, should be unanimously against him in any thing he thinks fitt to propose. The power here given of making Offensive Alliances implies a power of making War in consequence of them and seems to render the 46th paragraph entirely insignificant; this Majesty must have by all forms of Government, had a power to fulfill the Engagements once entered into.

§. 8.

This is entirely new, the King is absolute in all affairs of the Government except in those of Justice, where however he has reserved to himself a certain Vote. In foreign affairs He has already shewn that he will reserve them particularly for his

own

own Inspection and Direction, having deprived the Senate of their antient right of having the foreign Ministers letters read there yet it is remarkable that the passage where the King only is said to be answerable to God, for the Government of the Kingdom, appears to have been taken from Charles XI.th Approbation of the 10.th Dec.r 1680. hereafter mentioned.

§. 10.

By the 10.th paragraph of the form of 1720. the Senators could Vote upon the person named by the King to these high Offices in case they thought the promotion to be against the Law, the form of Government, or a prejudice to any other subject, but now the disposition is solely in the King, and what is more a latitude left to prefer Foreigners.

§. 11.

By the old form the King could make Nobles, but the introduction so as to sit at the Diet depended upon the House of Nobles, in 1760. they resolved that no more introductions should be admitted till the number was reduced to 800. they were upwards of 1000. at this last Diet, and the additional 150. will entirely prevent the effect of that Resolution.

§. 14.

This agrees with the 22.d Paragraph of 1720. and the 25.th with the 23.d except some few Alterations, among which, that the Chancellor of Justice shall make his report to the King instead of the States, as is directed by the form of 1720.

§. 17.

Is much the same as the 25.th of 1720. but the Clause added at the end which directs the College to act according to „those Instructions, Ordinances, and Royal Letters as now exist or shall „be given hereafter„ renders the King entirely absolute as to all the affairs of this College.

§. 20.

The 27.th paragraph of the form of 1720. is much the same as this as to the sense of it in every point except the last three lines which subject

the

the whole to be altered by a letter from the King.

§. 21.

This differs from the 20th. of 1720. by the King's being now able to add one ~~or more~~ Senator to the College of Chancery besides the President, whereas by the old form he could add one; by the power of the Chancery to propose subjects to be foreign ministers being now changed into that of dispatching them; by the omission of the passage that the Work of the Secretaries of State shall so divided that one shall have the foreign affairs, the other that of War, and the third all home affairs; by the direction to the Secretaries of State to observe that all Expeditions are made agreable to the King's decision and the Protocol, instead of according to the resolution of the Senate and the Protocol, as is enacted by the 26th. paragraph of the form of 1720. and by the dismission of the Secretary of State and be otherways punished if he makes any Expedition contrary to the King's decision, whereas these punishments were before to be inflicted on him for making it with the King alone in those matters which were to be resolved by the King in the Senate.

§. 22.

The President of the Chancery was nominated by the Secret Committee according to the late form of Government.

§. 23.

Is entirely in the substance and almost word for word the same as the 30th. paragraph of 1720.

§. 24.

All this is the same with the 31st. of 1720. till the last three or four lines, where the alteration is very remarkable; the old form says that the Extraordinary Expenses shall be disposed of by the King with the advice of this Senate; the new one leaves it to the King's own disposition and liable also to such alterations as his future Instructions and orders may direct, and the 25th. paragraph gives the King the power of naming the President and Commissioners of this College.

§. 26.

§. 26.

No mention is made here of the Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction of the College of Mines as was in the 32d. paragraph of the Old form.

§. 27.

Tis very remarkable that in the old form the College was directed to see that the Regulations concerning the Licent, Postmony, Customs and Excises N.B. granted by the States be duly taken care of &c. which last words are left out.

§. 31.

These are called the places of confidence and which were disposed of by the Senate according to the last form of Government as by the States if the Vacancy happened while they were assembled they exercised this right in the last Diet by giving the post of Grand Governor of Stockholm to General Stedbeck.

§. 32.

By the conclusion of this paragraph the Colleges are obliged to give an account of their transactions to the King; by the former one they were to do it to the States

§. 37.

It appears by the latter end of this paragraph that the King of Sweden has the same desire as other absolute Princes have had before him, of governing after his death, and subjecting the Kingdom to his Testamentary disposition.

§. 38

According to the old form of Government the States were to assemble every third Year or at the time they themselves had fixed at the foregoing Diet, but now this is quite changed, no limited time is fixed and it depends on the Kings pleasure.

§. 39

Tis to be observed that all Fundamental Laws made since (in the Swedish form) 1680. are repeated in this paragraph: it might perhaps admit of a dispute whether this repeal is to take place at the beginning or at the end of 1680. if the King had not put it out of doubt by the assurance he swore to the 21st. of Augt. when this

new

new form was established; in that assurance He used the Swedish word before 1650. so that year is exclude d.